

TECHNICIAN

TUESDAY

MARCH

30

2004

Raleigh, North Carolina

Court case puts pledge in spotlight

Students express their opinions about the U.S. Supreme Court case dealing with the removal of "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kate Renner
Staff Reporter

California atheist Michael A. Newdow, a physician who also has a law degree, asked a California federal district court to strike down the 1954 federal law that added "under God" after "one nation" in the Pledge of Allegiance. Students on campus have their own views about the case.

"I think the 'under God' should be left in the pledge, the pledge is something we've been saying for a long time," junior David Taylor said. "If parents have a problem with the phrase, their kids just shouldn't say it."

The case, Elk Grove Unified

School District v. Newdow, began four years ago and has been appealed to the Supreme Court with a decision expected by July. Newdow argued that the 1954 vote passed unopposed because "no atheist can get elected to public office."

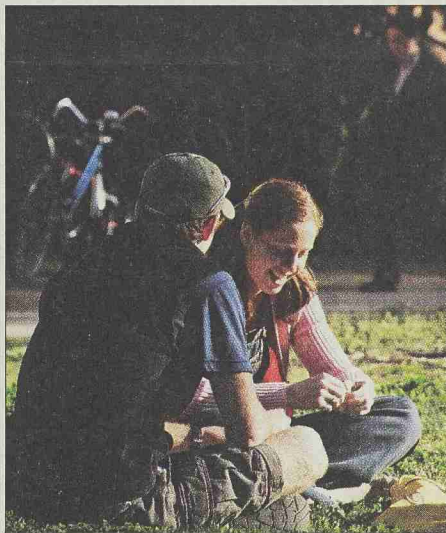
"I think an atheist could be elected into office," Jason Lacourse, a sophomore in pulp and paper science, said. "It would be hard to run as a minority since the majority of voters are not atheists, but it wouldn't be impossible."

According to The Washington Post, the law passed at the height of the U.S.-Soviet conflict to distinguish American beliefs from those of the officially atheist Soviet Union. Newdow said the phrase amounted to a declaration that monotheism was the official religion of the United States, and thus violated the First Amendment.

"I just thought in elementary

PLEDGE see page 2

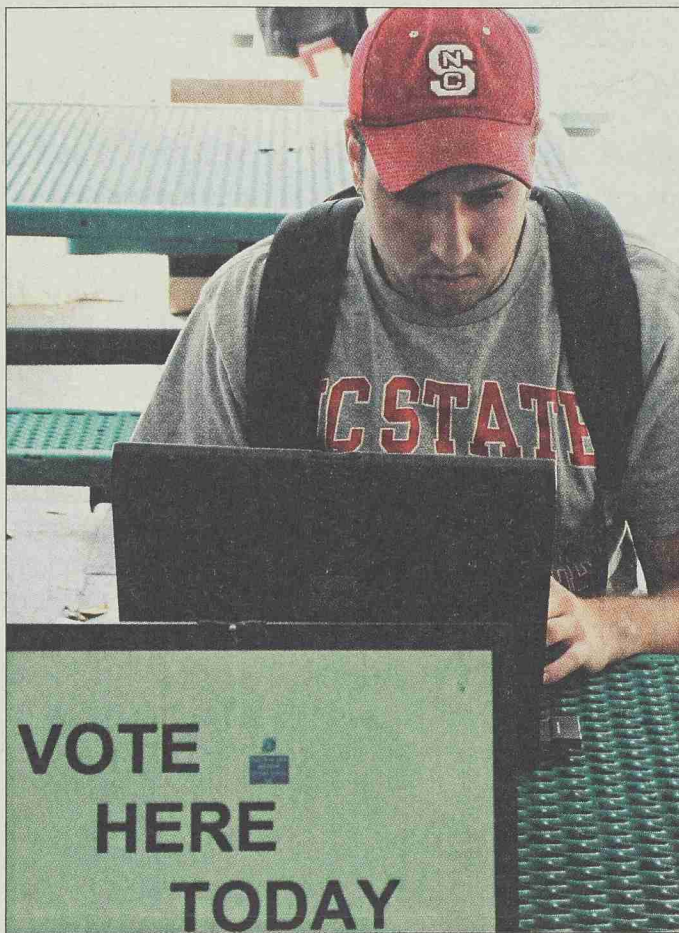
STUDY BREAK



Making effective use of the late-afternoon sun, Andy Smith, a sophomore in natural resources, and Richelle Hollingshead, a junior in math, discuss summer plans in the grass between Alexander and Turlington residence halls. "I was studying," said Hollingshead. "But he distracted me."

RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Students head to polls



MELIH ONVURAL/TECHNICIAN

Benjamin Sparger stops to vote before going into the Atrium for lunch. Students were able to use laptops setup outside the Atrium to vote for Student Government candidates Monday. The laptops will stay in front of the Atrium through the election.

Voting kicks off with out a hitch as candidates vie for elective offices

Kenneth Ball
Senior Staff Reporter

Polls opened yesterday, marking the climax of weeks of campaigning for students seeking office in next year's Student Government. Elections will run through today as the student constituency selects their representatives.

The opening of polls yesterday raised a number of important issues not only for candidates, but also for those managing the electoral process and the students that are casting their ballots.

Student Government is administering the voting process online this year at vote.ncsu.edu. They have also set up a number of polling stations at various campus locations. The polls consist of a few laptop computers through which students can access the election site and cast their vote.

"We will be running them at the Atrium and Caldwell, and at the two dining halls Fountain and Clark at night," Lucy Tatum, a senior in psychology and chair of the Elections Commission, said.

According to Tatum, election organizers ran into some minor difficulties with the polling station at Mann Hall yesterday.

"There was a lot of noise from the construction, and there was glare and dust on the screen. It was just a very bad polling site. Hopefully tomorrow at Caldwell will be a little bit better situation," Tatum said.

Voter turnout at the polls has been slow, but Tatum does not feel that this has been significant problem for the electoral process. Lucy recognizes that since students can cast their ballots over the Internet, most students will vote at home.

"I think part of the purpose of polling stations is not just to get people to vote at the polling stations, but to raise awareness so they'll go home and vote as well," Tatum said.

POLLS see page 2

Views split on 'Unborn Victims' act

Pro-choice fans believe new act undermines the legality of abortions.

Charles Duncan
Senior Staff Reporter

The U.S. Senate passed a bill Thursday that makes harming a fetus during a federal crime separate from harming a pregnant woman.

The Senate passed the Unborn Victims of Violence Act with a 61 to 38 vote after the House passed

the act on Feb. 26 with a vote of 254 to 163.

The most controversial part of the legislation recognizes a fetus as a person.

Pro-choice activists, including Sarah Blackmon, a senior in landscape architecture, say the legislation "undermines Roe v. Wade" and the legality of abortion.

Blackmon called the act "a sneak attack on a woman's right to choose."

The act refers to a "child in utero" as "member of the species homo sapiens, at any stage of development, who is carried in

the womb."

Blackmon said the act "is designed to erode the legal foundation of a woman's right to choose by elevating the legal status of all states of prenatal development under federal law."

Rachel Collins, a freshman in political science and vice-chairman of the College Republicans, took the other side of the debate.

Collins said, "This bill states that it does not include abortion to which a woman has consented."

Collins continued, "This clearly shows that it will not affect women's right to choose."

Blackmon disagreed, saying "This legislation recognizes, for the first time under federal law - grants person hood rights to a zygote, blastocyst, embryo or fetus as a person."

Blackmon argued that using these definitions for personhood could bring legal challenges to abortion.

Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein from California put forth an amendment to create two separate charges for harming a pregnant woman and a fetus while

UVVA see page 2

FACES IN THE PACK

Medlin brings passion to track, classroom

Running cross country and track is Karen Medlin's passion while still balancing class work and personal time.

Kristen Healey
Staff Reporter

Karen Medlin's passion for track started long before college. In fact, when she started running track in middle school she realized she had a unique talent.

Ever since, it has been her goal to be among the top runners on N.C. State's cross country and track teams. Three years ago, NCSU accepted Medlin to run for both.

"There are so many benefits of being on the track and cross country teams," the junior in history education said. "The team becomes some of your closest friends and we travel for track meets to some cool places and stay in hotels for the weekends."

Medlin spends Monday through Friday in a rigorous schedule practicing for the meets, which are usually over the weekends. Her strongest event is the 800-meter run, which is two laps.

"I enjoy it because it is very exciting and it is over in two minutes," Medlin said. "My weakest event is the shot put. I'm not sure if I could pick up the ball."

One of the perks of being a student-athlete is getting the

opportunity to live in the Avent Ferry Complex. In these dorms, athletes are able to form close relationships with their teammates.

"It's a dump and a really long walk to campus, but living in the Avent Ferry dorms is probably the best experience I've had in college," Medlin said. "I met so many new and awesome people and we created so many fun memories."

Other advantages that student-athletes have access to are tickets to football and basketball games, excuses from class to participate in sporting events and eligibility to register first for classes.

MEDLIN see page 2



RAY BLACK III/TECHNICIAN

Karen Medlin spends much of her time outside the classroom practicing with the N.C. State track and cross country teams.

insidetechnician



Florida bound
The dance team will perform at Nationals on Thursday and Friday. See page 8.

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IN THE KNOW

NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, NATION & STATE

WORLD

SUICIDE BOMBINGS, ATTACKS KILL 19 IN UZBEKISTAN

A series of bombings and attacks linked to Islamic militants, including the first known suicide missions in Uzbekistan, killed 19 people and injured 26, officials said Monday in this key American ally in the war on terrorism.

The oppressive regime of President Islam Karimov, the former Communist boss, had held Islamic extremists in the Central Asian in check through brutal policies that forbid political or religious freedom. The last known terrorist attack of this magnitude came in an assassination attempt against Karimov in 1999 that led to the arrests of thousands. Prosecutor-General Rashid Kadyrov said the blasts Sunday and Monday were connected and aimed at destabilizing Uzbekistan.

-Wire Reports

PAKISTAN CLAIMS TO HAVE KILLED AL-QAEDA SPY CHIEF

Intercepted radio conversations indicate fighting in Pakistan may have killed Al-Qaeda's top intelligence chief, intelligence officials said Monday, but they admitted that they have found no body.

The radio transmissions disclosed that a man named Abdullah had been killed and that the death caused a great deal of distress among the Al-Qaeda forces, a Pakistani intelligence official said on condition of anonymity.

Pakistan's sweep through western tribal areas to root out suspected terrorists resulted in the deaths of 63 suspected militants dead and the arrest of 167 more, army spokesman Maj. Gen. Shaikat Sultan said Monday.

-Wire Reports

NATION

AS NUMBER OF DEPRESSED COLLEGE STUDENTS RISE, MORE ARE SEEKING HELP

Colleges across the country are reporting that increasing numbers of students are seeking mental health services for illnesses or conditions ranging from bipolar disorder or schizophrenia to depression, anxiety, eating disorders and stress.

A survey by the American College Health Association last spring reported that an estimated 38 percent of college students reported depression severe enough that they had difficulty functioning on at least one to 10 occasions in the past year.

The survey also showed that 9 percent of students seriously considered suicide during the same period. The results were based on responses from 19,497 students on 33 campuses.

-Wire Reports

CLARKE SAGA FRAUGHT WITH POLITICAL PERIL FOR BUSH

Week two of the Richard Clarke saga began with a bang Sunday, as the former White House counterterrorism chief contended on national television that the Bush White House is conducting a "taxpayer-paid character assassination campaign" to wreck his reputation.

Clarke's allegations, contained in his new book and amplified on TV talk shows and in sworn testimony before the Sept. 11, 2001 commission, are distracting voters from the message of the Bush campaign's current TV ad that the President offers "steady leadership in times of change."

Although Clarke said under oath last week that he seeks no position in a John Kerry administration, the inescapable truth is that every day he is out there contending that Bush was soft on Al-Qaeda, that Bush's greatest perceived strength is really his prime weakness, the Kerry campaign and the Democrats do not need to spend a dime on the issue.

-Wire Reports

STATE

DRY SEASON REVIVES THOUGHTS OF DROUGHT IN N.C.

A dry but not record-breaking winter is reviving memories of the four-year drought that ended last year after nearly emptying some of North Carolina's lakes and streams.

The U.S. Agriculture Department has placed much of the Southeast in the "Abnormally Dry" category, the first of the five drought alert levels.

On Monday, the state's drought Web site showed abnormally dry conditions poking north from South Carolina and extending around 60 miles to the north, east and west of Charlotte.

Charlotte is a few more dry days away from setting a record for the driest March, with only a half-inch of precipitation fallen so far. The city's lowest rainfall mark for the month is 0.58 inches, set in 1985. Forecasters say showers are possible Tuesday, but no heavy rainfall is expected.

-Wire Reports

N.C. senator Reeves won't seek reelection

Sen. Eric Reeves, D-Wake, announced Monday he will not seek reelection to the General Assembly this year.

Reeves, 40, is currently serving his fourth term in the chamber, representing residents largely in Raleigh, Morrisville and Cary.

The one-time U.S. Senate candidate told friends and colleagues in a letter that he was leaving in part to start a law firm with some friends and look after his business interests.

"Many may ask why. It is a difficult question. I can say that a combination of many small issues, none of which are singularly important, explains my decision," Reeves said. "It is time to step back and make room for other well-qualified candidates."

-Wire Reports

POLLS

continued from page 1

Many candidates gathered outside the Atrium polling station in the Brickyard yesterday, hoping to sell themselves to potential voters a final time. Other candidates, such as Scott Stephenson, a senior in economics running for senior class president, have taken a lower key approach to the elections.

"I've got fliers and sandwich boards up, but I haven't spent a lot of time campaigning this week," Stephenson said.

While Stephenson feels that the overall election process

has gone smoothly, there are some issues he believes need to be addressed. Scott said that candidates should have been given more time to campaign prior to the election, and that some positions should have the spending caps relaxed.

"You've got to think about inflation," Stephenson said, "As prices get higher overtime, we need higher spending limits for some of the elective offices."

Matt King, a freshman in materials science and engineering, thinks that it is particularly important for a candidate to get his or her name out.

"If you don't know any of the candidates, and you just saw a flier, that name is going to pop

into your head, whether or not you really mean it to or not," King said.

However, as a result of such superficial campaigning, some students feel that they don't know much about candidates' stances on relevant issues.

"I just want to know whether or not they're Republican," Charles Barrett, a sophomore in engineering, said.

While many students may not be overly concerned with a candidates political affiliation, students do seem to respect candidates that put a great deal of time and energy into their campaigns.

In particular, Barrett and Jacob Morgan, a freshman in

technology-agronomy, both support Will Langley because they saw him chalking campus in support of his candidacy by himself.

"He didn't want to have a bunch of people that were crazy out there doing it, he was out there doing it, he was out there pounding the pavement himself," Morgan said.

While many students and candidates may have taken issue with particular aspects of the electoral process, Lucy Tatum is content that the polling process has gone relatively smoothly.

"We really haven't had anything extraordinary happen today, it's been pretty good," Tatum said.

MEDLIN

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As Medlin explains, being part of a varsity sports doesn't mean it's all fun. It requires a serious commitment both physically and emotionally.

"You have to force yourself to manage your time to get all the important things done. It means making sacrifices like spending time with your friends or going out to a movie," Medlin said. "I have to force myself to study or go to sleep early for practice. It is most challenging finding the motivation to do school work at night right after a long, tiring practice. Being on the track team is very similar to having a part-time job. In both cases, you have to learn how to use your time efficiently."

Even though time between school and practice is sparse, Medlin is involved in other campus activities such as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Action, Campus Crusade and Phi Eta Sigma. She also enjoys working with children, watching movies and listening to different types of music.

"I like just having a nice relaxed evening, kicking my feet up and watching reality television shows with my friends and roommates," Medlin said.

After Medlin graduates from college, she plans to teach high school social studies and coach track on the side.

"I don't plan on teaching all my life, so I look forward to one day becoming principal or some other position in administration," Medlin said. "Education is really important to me, and I really want to be able to make a difference in our schools."

PLEDGE

continued from page 1

school that the pledge was something you had to say, part of the day and then school got started," Taylor said.

However, some students do not share the same monotheistic beliefs as the majority.

"I am Buddhist and I don't feel offended by the phrase, 'under God,' the people who came to America were Christian and most people are Christians," Julie Charoensawatsiri, a freshman in the Transitions Program, said. "My religion has a god, and I'm not Christian. Every religion has a god, it doesn't have to be 'God' god."

Many elementary school students do not understand the significance of the phrase "under God," nor do children usually comprehend the concept of an optional pledge.

"I recited the pledge until about fourth grade, and if you didn't participate in the whole speech you were punished at my school," Lance Hall, a sophomore in First Year College, said.

The majority of students agreed that the phrase "under God" should remain in the pledge because of the ceremonial connotation.

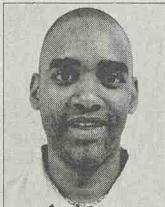
"I can't really say anything about atheists, you have to have some kind of value in your life or you're just wasting your life," Lacourse said. "They don't have to believe in my God, but I don't see why me blessing my country under God should bother atheists too much."

Election Guide

Student Body President

TONY CARAVANO

CLASS: Senior
MAJOR(S): Criminology
ACTIVITIES: Student Body President (2003-04 school year), 2 years as a Resident Advisor for Tucker, 2003 Leader of the Pack, Former Judicial Board Member, Caldwell Fellow



SCOTT DWORKIN

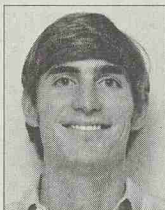
CLASS: Junior
MAJOR(S): Sociology and Political Science
ACTIVITIES: Senate (CHASS Junior), University Affairs Committee, Intern for Bob Etheridge, 3rd District Congressman



Student Senate President

WILL QUICK

CLASS: Freshman
MAJOR(S): Biomedical Engineering and Political Science
ACTIVITIES: Senator (First Year), Benjamin Franklin Scholars Program, Park Scholar, Member of Sigma Chi, Member of Inter-Fraternity Council



LOCK WHITESIDE

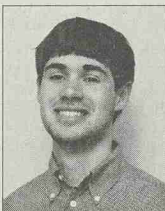
CLASS: Sophomore
MAJOR(S): Political Science
ACTIVITIES: African American Student Advisory Council (AASAC), CHASS-MASS, First Year Student Senator, Student Media Board Representative, UNC Association of Student Government (ASG), Sr. Associate Director of Internal Affairs in SG



Student Body Treasurer

WILL LANGLEY

CLASS: Freshman
MAJOR(S): Political Science (Public Policy)
ACTIVITIES: Senator (First Year), Liaison between Inter-Fraternity Council, Senate Vice-Chair of Campus Community Committee



MITAL M. PATEL

CLASS: Junior
MAJOR(S): Computer Science
ACTIVITIES: Member of Students Protecting Animals Responsibly and Compassionately (SPARC), Member of Ektaa, Member of Service Leadership Consultants, Student Government Coordinator for Extension and Engagement, Student Government Advisory Coordinator for Appropriations



Senior Class President

PATRICK CLEARY

CLASS: Senior
MAJOR(S): Pulp and Paper Science, History, Chemical Engineering
ACTIVITIES: Student Senator, Natural Resources, Active with Catholic Campus Ministries, Member of Phi Delta Theta, Work with Benjamin Franklin Scholars Council



JANET OGBON

CLASS: Junior
MAJOR(S): Psychology and Biological Sciences
ACTIVITIES: Student Senator for two years, Member of the Board of Directors for Carmichael Gymnasium, Member of the NCSU Transportation Appeals Board



SCOTT STEPHENSON

CLASS: Senior
MAJOR(S): Economics
ACTIVITIES: Student Senator, currently representing PAMS, Jazz Band, piano, saxophone, Concert Band, saxophone



Student Chief Justice

ANNA EDENS

CLASS: Junior
MAJOR(S): Biology
ACTIVITIES: Park Scholar, Judicial Board Assistant (Nov. 03-present), Member of Inter-collegiate Ethics Bowl Team, Outreach Co-Chair Officer for NCSU's Habitat for Humanity, Volunteer for WakeMed Children's Emergency Department, Co-founder and current Vice President of March of Dimes Collegiate Council



UAB President

ASEEL ELBORNO

CLASS: Junior
MAJOR(S): Political Science
ACTIVITIES: Union Activities Board Secretary, Member of Union Board of Directors, Founder and President of Middle East and North African Student Association (MENASA), Member of Muslim Student Association.

KIM TRAN

Get out and Vote:

Voting continues today and will end at midnight.

Students can vote at vote.ncsu.edu or can visit the following polling sites on campus: The Atrium and Caldwell Hall

from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.
Fountain and Clark Dining Halls from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Sixty candidates are running for positions in this election, including the position for student body president, student body treasurer and student chief justice.

UVVA

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not giving a new legal status to the fetus. The Senate rejected Feinstein's amendment with a 50 to 49 vote.

Blackmon said, "Sen. Dianne Feinstein's substitute amendment would increase penalties and make violence against pregnant women a greater crime without granting separate personhood rights to all stages of development and eroding a woman's right to choose."

Blackmon added, "Congress' failure to include this amendment clearly demonstrates the anti-choice goals of the legisla-

tion."

Collins said, "Feinstein's amendment doesn't do justice to these crimes," because they don't define the fetus as a person.

"Murder of a pregnant woman is a double homicide because it is the taking of two lives," Collins said, "I don't think this particular act threatens abortion because it specifies that [abortion] doesn't fall into this category."

Adding, "This bill is in keeping with the prohibition of the execution of pregnant women on death row. The principal behind that is that two should not die when only one is guilty. In that case, the fetus is under-

stood to have a life of its own."

Blackmon said, "Lawmakers should enact strong and meaningful laws that prevent and punish violence and support services for women and their families. Instead, anti-choice lawmakers have promoted and passed the deceptive Unborn Victims of Violence Act."

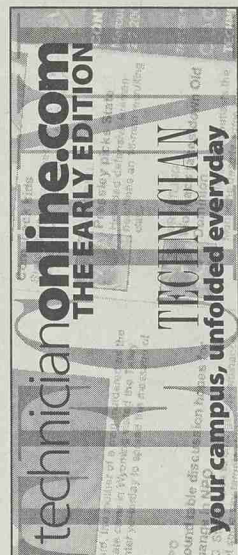
Collins said, "I think it is good to specify that these children are alive before birth because any woman who wants her baby doesn't think of it as a fetus, she thinks of it as her child."

The act is the second recent victory for the anti-abortion movement, following the partial-birth abortion ban passed in November. This controver-

sial bill comes amidst increased activity in the pro-choice community.

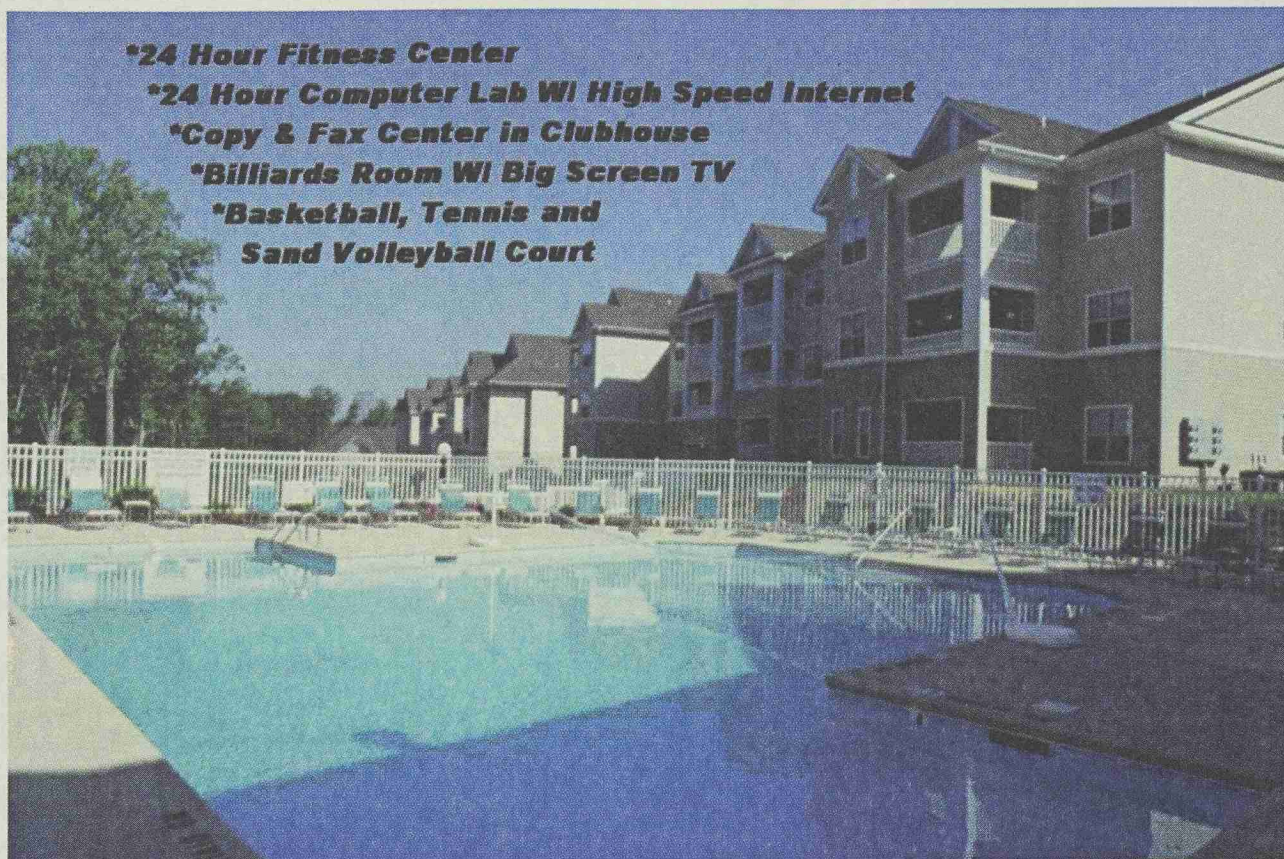
NARAL Pro-choice America and the National Organization for Women are organizing a large march on April 25 in Washington D.C., and Kate Michelman, president of NARAL Pro-choice America, is touring colleges and universities across North Carolina and the country to gain support for the pro-choice movement.

Michelman will be on campus today at 11 a.m. in front of the Free Expression Tunnel to discuss the recent legislation, the march and the right to choose.



TECHNICIAN (TUESDAY, MARCH 30 2004) 3

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University Theater's presentation of A.R. Gurney's "Another Antigone" features Francis Arthur Sarnie IV as Dave, Catherine Rodgers as the conflicted school administrator Diane and Kate Isley as Judy Miller.

Not just another Greek tragedy

University Theater presents A.R. Gurney's "Another Antigone" as its final production for the 2003-2004 season.

Ashley Hink
Senior Staff Writer

University Theater will present "Another Antigone," a play that embodies the perplexed environment of modern-day academia through flawed characters possessing unyielding pride, at Thompson Theater through April 4. As the last production of the season, A.R. Gurney's thought-provoking "Another Antigone" challenges the convention of fairness in the classroom with a twisted modern-day presentation of Sophocles' Greek classic. Set in a modern Massachusetts university, the tragic flaws of pride in "Another Antigone" prove to be equally detrimental as they did in ancient Greece.

Well-known playwright and author A.R. Gurney began writing plays while serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War to entertain soldiers. Upon his return, he attended Yale and later taught drama and English at a boys prep school and M.I.T.

in Boston. Some of his popular works include "Love in Buffalo," "Love Letters" and "Sylvia," but the off-Broadway production of "Another Antigone," written in 1989, reflects his personal experiences as a professor in Boston.

The play opens after the over-achieving Judy Miller (Kate Isley) receives an assignment to write a paper on Sophocles in her Greek classics class. Deviating from the given prompt, she instead submits a contemporary version of Sophocles' "Antigone" with absolute confidence in her unconventional approach. Her professor, Henry Harper (Rick Lonon) is hardly pleased with her submission and harshly refuses to discuss its content. Going against the advice of Diane (Catherine Rodgers), a conflicted school administrator, he demands a rewrite, but Judy feels that her work is fantastic and unworthy of the cold critique from her professor. With the support of her boyfriend, Dave (Francis Arthur Sarnie IV), she stubbornly refuses to write another paper and, in protest to Harper's unwillingness to consider her view, Judy organizes a school production of her version of "Antigone" in order to gain support and recognition for the effort put into her work.

The plot thickens as rumors begin to circulate about Professor Harper's reputation as students speculate his discrimination towards Jewish students. Although she doesn't particularly care about her Jewish heritage, Judy is enraged when learning about Harper's suspected anti-Semitism. She then modifies her play, making Antigone a persecuted Jewish girl at odds with a prideful professor. Her contemporary play brings light to her own situation with Professor Harper, but accurately reflects the hubristic King Creon in Sophocles' "Antigone," whose pride results in the deaths of other characters and ultimately leaves him alone and guilt ridden.

Despite its multi-layered plot seemingly lost in seriousness, "Another Antigone" is humorous and entertaining. Rick Lonon gives a wonderful performance as the intelligent yet slightly quirky Professor Harper.

Seen in numerous plays like "Cabaret," "Dinner at Eight" and "A Midsummer's Night Dream," Kate Isley's performance as Judy Miller will be her last with University Theater. Isley appropriately gives Judy extra attitude to compliment her character's unyielding and

outspoken ways. Isley identifies and finds similarities with Judy, but she is not nearly as "assertive and aggressive." Yet, she recognizes the possibility of students contesting professors, "Some people feel entitled to like my character." Whatever her stance, Isley superbly plays the rigid and bratty Judy Miller.

Gurney's play cleverly delivers the themes of Greek tragedies within a conflicted setting of modern-day higher learning. Professor Harper allows his pride and discrimination to manifest into the academic setting where educators should embrace and encourage neutrality, acceptance and creativity.

His tragic flaws and Judy's steadfast, emotional struggle lead audiences to second-guess the legitimacy of integrity and fairness within the classroom. With its passionate characters, "Another Antigone" has a thick and humorous plot that will surely invoke emotion and thought about the perils of modern-day academia.

University Theater will present A.R. Gurney's "Another Antigone" through April 4 at Thompson Theater. Tickets are available at Ticket Central.

MUSIC

Cellar Door

John Vanderslice
Barsuk

★★★★★

Drew Barrymore's character in the movie "Donnie Darko" says that "cellar door" is the most beautiful phrase in the English language. "Cellar Door" is also the name of the brilliantly crafted new album from John Vanderslice. He combines incredible piano with amazing guitar riffs and his own haunting voice to paint a picture that is both vivid and stunning.

"Cellar Door" starts with the guitar-heavy song "Pale Horse," and as you're sitting there listening to it, you're thinking, "man, it can't get any better than this." But, oh, it can and does.

"Up Above the Sea," the second track, has a Faint-like sound and the combination of synthesizers, distortions, samples and Vanderslice's flowing voice create a laidback sound. Lines like "streaming clouds tore into my tranquility" leave you feeling like the words you never had to describe a work of art suddenly appeared. Admittedly, "Up Above the Sea" is probably the best song on the album but with so many choice

nuggets, it is worth listening to the whole thing just to get the full effect.

Vanderslice uses his soothing voice and prose to tell a story that is at times confusing, at times heart wrenching but always beautiful. Whether his characters are friends fighting in Afghanistan, forced to go from cave to cave and put a bullet in the head of each person he comes across or an opiate junkie who sells all of his mother's possessions for a fix, you can't help but feel for them.

Although this is not the first LP he's put out, John Vanderslice is your new favorite American singer you've never heard of. Regardless of whether you've heard of him or not, one thing is clear — John Vanderslice's "Cellar Door" is a truly amazing album that only gets better with each subsequent listen. So go fork over your \$14 and grab a "slice" of some great music.

John Vanderslice sounds like equal parts The Faint, Ben Folds, Death Cab For Cutie, Eels and Rufus Wainwright, with a little Bjork thrown in, but he really has a style all his own, which sets him apart from the rest.

- Chris Scull

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UNBORN VICTIMS ACT TOO VAGUE

OUR OPINION: THE RECENTLY PASSED UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT IS TOO VAGUE TO BECOME LAW. THE AMBIGUITY OPENS THE DOOR TO JUSTIFY FUTURE SITUATIONS THAT ARE NOT WHAT THE ACT IS INTENDED FOR NOW.

The controversial Unborn Victims of Violence Act, passed by the U.S. Senate March 25, recognizes the fetus as a person, stating that courts can bring charges against a criminal if they commit a crime against a fetus by way of hurting the mother. By legal definition, the fetus is a being at any point after conception.

Thus, in cases like the recent Peterson trial, Scott Peterson may face murder charges for his wife as well as their unborn child.

Concerns arise when lawmakers use this law as a stepping-stone towards the ultimate outlaw of abortion. Republicans vouch that the act is not a back door toward anti-abortion laws. Democrats see this as opposition to a woman's

The unsigned editorial that appears above are the opinion of the members of the Technician's editorial board except for news editors and are the responsibility of the editors in chief.

right to choose.

The best chance to clarify the issue, an amendment by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., was vetoed 50-49. The amendment would have allowed the prosecution of a criminal with a charge against the fetus, but would not concede legal status to the fetus.

The current bill, awaiting signature by President Bush, does not explicitly address abortion. So it blows the doors wide open to all of the act's uses. It can essentially be a basis of argument for supporting anti-abortion. And where would it stop?

If a woman does not yet know that she's pregnant and is involved in a car accident and dies, then should the suspect be charged with double manslaughter? Perhaps a pregnant woman is in a fight, is knocked down and is only injured, however, her baby dies as a direct result. Should murder against the fetus be implicated?

This is ultimately what the bill can

be used to support. And this, as the act stands now, is not what it is intended for.

The act is simply too vague and obscure. If the act were limited only to acts of violence against pregnant women, then why would Sen. Feinstein's amendment be vetoed?

The Senate voted to recognize the fetus as a person from conception, and this is where the discrepancy lies. This is the source of the debate between Democrats and Republicans and why pro-choice activists are fighting against it and pro-life activists are diligently supporting the act.

The issue of whether or not the fetus is granted legal status should not be included in the bill if the bill is designed to only target attacks against pregnant women.

This bill takes two separate and independent issues and juxtaposes them into one.

Separate the two, and then decide.



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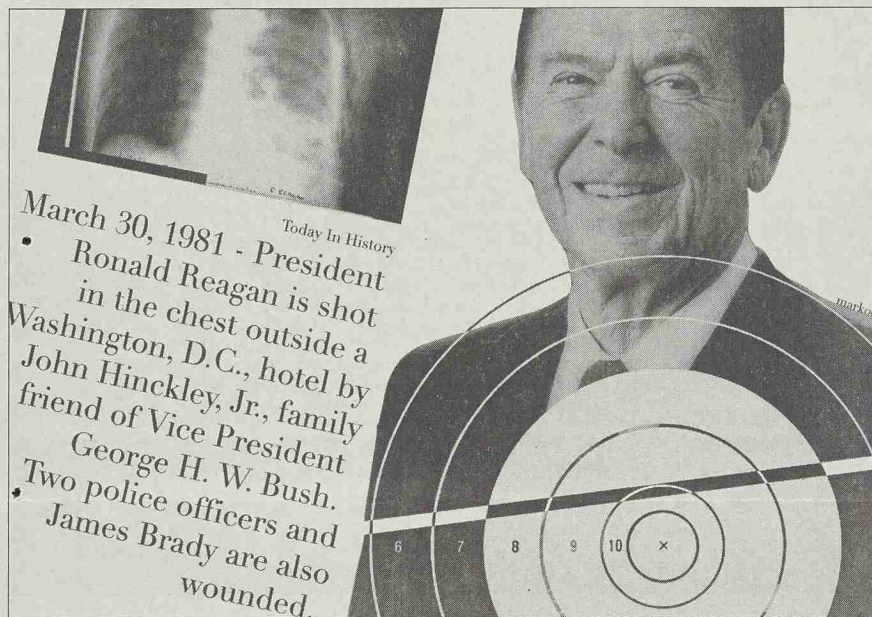
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NCSU Campus Raleigh, NC
27695-8608
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News
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Digital paper - not so fast

Robert Jallall tackles the up-and-coming issue of digital paper and the possible effects of it on society and technology.

For more than a decade, futurists have predicted the rise of the paperless office and have been disappointed as they have waited for technology to catch up with the dream.

Last week, Sony marked an important milestone on the way to a paperless future with its release of an e-book reader based on digital paper technology.

Digital paper aims to be as thin, flexible and

readable as real paper and offers to add the convenience and power of computer technology. One sheet of digital paper can substitute for entire volumes of encyclopedias while still compact enough to slide into a notebook (if not replace the notebook altogether).

Sony's release of a reasonably priced consumer digital paper device offers the first real tangible evidence that paperless office technology might be around the corner. What Sony's release does not offer is evidence that our government or society is equipped to handle the technology. Make no mistake, technology still limits the minimum timeframe for the arrival of digital paper.

Before we kick paper out for good, digital paper still has to implement features such as higher resolution, color, the ability to write on the digital paper, intuitive interface and format standardization. In addition, we can most certainly expect to see "bonus" features, such as wireless technology. No amount of technological perfection, though, can make the paperless office feasible without certain legal accommodations.

One of the major problems with digital paper is the paper trail, or the lack of one. The permanency of paper, perceived or actual, lends a distinct sense of comfort in the context of legal contracts, financial documents and historical documents. Paper by its very nature leaves a record, and one has to try actively to erase that paper record (indeed, this is also one of paper's nuisances).

Digital paper is the opposite, where one has to actively try to keep a record of a digital paper trail. This subtle difference opens up a huge hole for worries of accidentally or intentionally changing the legal, financial or historical.

We can look at the Internet as a model of a medium for the moment. Web pages are ephemeral, with no one keeping track of their changes. Translated to a world dominated by digital paper, one must worry about identities lost through hard drive crashes, history lost through software upgrades or changing the political present by Orwellian manipulation of the past.

Inevitably, digital paper users will contend with problems created by feature creep. Feature creep increases susceptibility to error and exploit as software and hardware systems become more complex.

Users can face viruses or electronic invasions that threaten the integrity of data whose only backup is susceptible to the same thing.

Spyware, which currently plagues computers, will likely find its way over to digital paper, especially digital paper with network connectivity - a feature sure to appear through feature creep.

One can also envision contemporary headaches such as spam and advertisements transferred to a paperless future. Imagine turning the page

in a digital chemistry book and being greeted by an ad for a holographic X-10 camera.

In response, the government will need to make several legal preparations to mitigate some of the digital paper problems.

First, ownership and usage rights need to be defined. If digital paper works are treated the same way as movies or music today, shifting from paper to digital paper would mean a reduction in de facto rights. People often share and copy printed material without anyone complaining too much.

However, when works become digital, content producers have proved to be much less lenient legally.

Next, one wonders what rights publishers have after a digital work is purchased. Even now, when consumers buy books, they buy the right to read a book but do not own the information contained within.

When the divide between publisher and consumer becomes digital, one has to worry about publishers altering their works without consumer consent or even with consumer consent.

Ultimately, lawmakers would have to enshrine a digital paper trail to deal with the problems of a paperless world. If digital paper developers do not tackle the problem themselves, they can look forward to meeting government mandates in the future. Switching over to digital paper will not be easy; a decade of failed predictions exists to show that.

Nevertheless, futurists can look forward to a reliable process - incremental evolution of technology and incremental evolution of laws - finally rendering their vision of a paperless future obsolete.

Email Robert with comments at viewpoint@technicianstaff.com

Vote: Just do it

Heather Cutchin harps once again on the voting issue and attempts to encourage students to vote for Student Government candidates today.

My three loyal readers may recall a column about a month ago I wrote explaining the high need for students to start voting again. That goes for student elections on campus too.

Student Government candidates have been busting their rears by putting up fliers all over campus, talking to student organizations while maintaining their schoolwork, just to convince us to vote for them. So the least we can do is vote. It is so easy to vote too, so just do it!

Polls open up Monday at midnight, and those of you who happen to be awake at that time can take the opportunity to be the first to vote. You can do it from your computer right there in your bedroom or you can wait until Talley Student Center opens up and vote from one of the kiosks there.

Polls will stay open for 24 hours, so those of you that say you have no time will have no excuse. What? You get up at 6 a.m. and go to class from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., then work from 5:30 to 11:30?

That is OK, just skip brushing your teeth this once. I promise every Student Government candidate will thank you. Bad breath and all.

You do not know where to vote? Oh, that is easy, go to <https://vote.ncsu.edu/>, then click on polls. It is self-explanatory from there, just point and click. It is easier than WebAssigns in a PE course.

You do not know who to vote for? Well, go walk around the Brickyard. You will see plenty of fliers and sandwich boards that tell you who to vote for. The best way is to talk to the candidates themselves, and find out what they really stand for.

I have heard students complain about Student Government not really doing anything and having too many positions and such. Also, I have heard that they are hurting our campus when they bring up silly rules like not allowing administration speak.

That is one of the reasons we need to listen to the candidates that are running now and vote for the ones that will keep things like that from happening.

It is hard to miss these candidates too, unless you never go through the Brickyard, do not look at any signs posted around campus, do not read Technician or are not involved with any organizations.

Last week I saw Tony Caravano falling into a dunking booth in the Brickyard and Mital Patel was dancing just a few feet away. These two, along with

Will Quick, are running on the "Get Real!" ticket.

Also, a good number of these candidates showed up at the Agri-Life Council meeting a few weeks ago. They want your vote badly enough to put aside personal commitments and come to a meeting where they have to wait around to talk, get bombarded with questions, then stay after to talk some more. I think commitment like that from them warrants the small amount of time it would take for you to go online and vote.

Also, with the number of students on this campus that do not want their tuition or fees to be increased there should be quite a few students voting for the candidates that are going to make sure that does not happen. Of course, the first phase of increases has already gone through the Board of Governors, but if we fight hard enough, we could stop future increases before they happen.

However, if we do not listen to the candidates that are running and figure out what they stand for, how are we going to achieve the goal of blocking tuition increases?

This year the student voice was almost taken out of the tuition and

fees process entirely because of rules that Student Senate tried to impose. We need to make sure the upcoming senate president and senators are not going to do this kind of thing again. How can we do that if we do not vote?

I, along with many other folks, have mourned the lack of traditions here at N.C. State.

Aside from the newly instated Dance Marathon, there is

not much else to brag about when telling your friends about the fun times you have at college. Some of these candidates have promised to bring traditions back to NCSU as well as implement new ones.

Tony Caravano has promised to build up Homecoming 2003 and Scott Dworkin wants music festivals that involve the entire campus. Both of these candidates for student body president have great ideas, but how many of us have listened to them?

And how many of us are going to vote for one or the other? I encourage everyone to go online Tuesday and spend just a minute or two making your voice heard.

You may think that it is only one vote, but your vote may be the one that breaks the tie and puts one candidate ahead of the other.

Obviously, I will be voting on Tuesday.

Will you?

Heather is going to wait until Tuesday night to vote and then vote for only the candidates that respond to her column at viewpoint@technicianstaff.com.

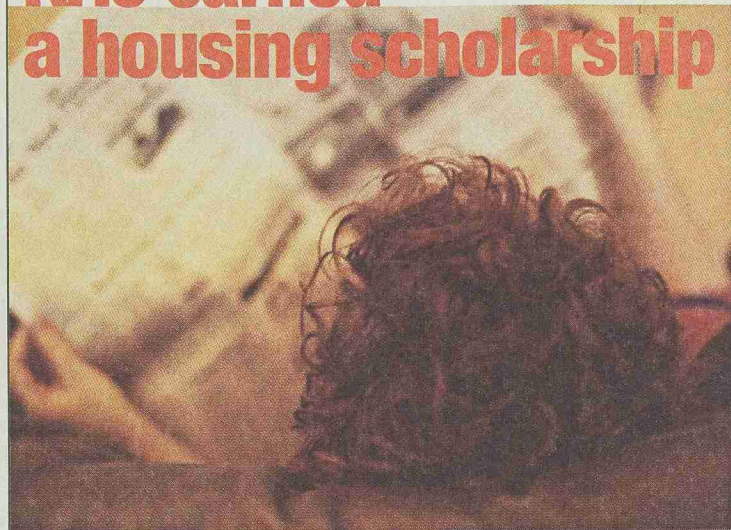


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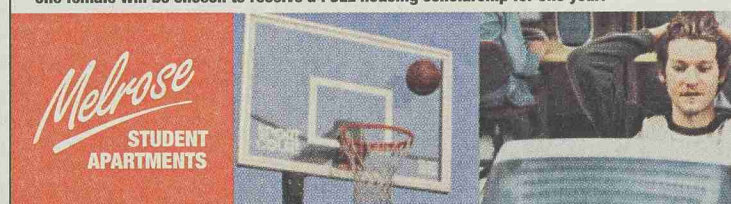
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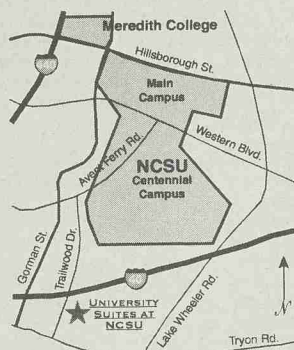
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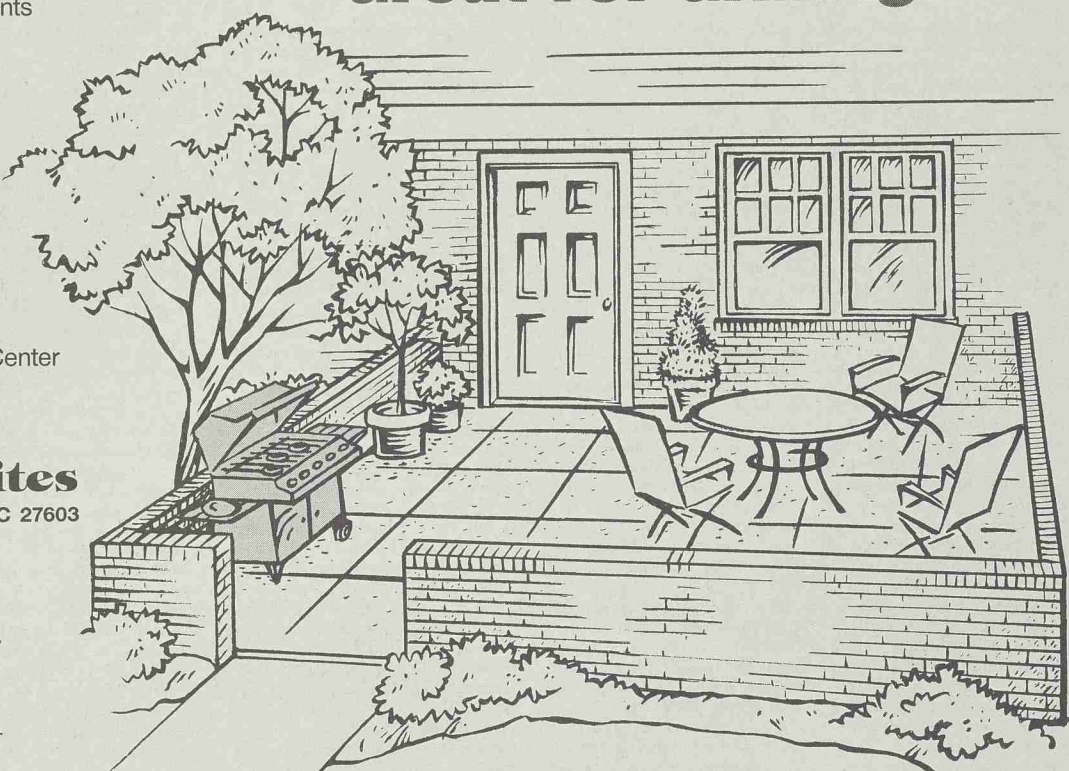
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CLERICAL, P/T, working at a law firm in Garner, about a 12 minute drive from campus. We need someone to work 3 or 4 hrs/day now and then full time during the summer. Call 772-7000 for an appointment.

MARKETING COORDINATOR POSITION Zaxby's is looking for an energetic, outgoing student for a Marketing Coordinator position. Display your entrepreneurial spirit while having fun and gaining hands-on marketing experience. Candidate must demonstrate strict attention to detail as well as understanding the larger aspects of marketing and how these details affect the rest of our business. Key responsibilities will include making contact and developing relationships with key community and collegiate leaders in an effort to grow our brand recognition within the Raleigh market. Position is available immediately for 10-15 hours per week. Summer availability a requirement. Send resume to zaxbysraleigh@yahoo.com.

ENGINEERING CAMP COUNSELORS. Supervise girls on field trips, during lab experiments, and for fun evening activities. Live on NC State Campus for the month of June. Training, room and board provided. Contact Wendi Ellsworth at (919)-782-3021 or 1-800-284-4475, ext 3334 or wellswor@pine sofcarolina.org. EOE

Kennel Worker-Veterinary assistant needed on weekends at small animal hospital. Pre-veterinary student preferred. Call 553-8468.

Lifeguard and Swim Lesson Instructors needed at the Falls River Club in Raleigh. Call 848-0776 for more details or to apply.

Swimming pool company looking for retail, service and construction personnel. Must have valid d/l. Please call 873-1777 for further info.

Office staff - Personal self-starter with good phone and computer skills for busy North Raleigh office. 25-35 hours. Great pay call 847-1843.

Yard Work/Odd Jobs. 5-7hrs/wk. Must be dependable have experience with equipment, in Raleigh for summer. \$10/hr. 919-622-2323.

PT weekend warehouse help at Ecco Home Furnishings in Raleigh. Apply in person.

YMCA of the Triangle Area Swim Team is accepting applications for PT coach-

Contact

Technician business hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday. Call during these times to place an ad with your Visa or Mastercard.

Phone: 919.515.2029

Fax: 919.515.5133

Deadlines

Line ads: 1 issue in advance at noon
Display ads: 2 issues in advance at noon
All line ads must be prepaid - no exceptions.

ing positions for summer and fall 2004 Candidates should have experience working with children and enjoy working in a team environment. Swim team experience preferred, not required. Contact Ron Turner at 919-832-9088 or ron.turner@ymcatriangle.org

VETERINARY ASSISTANT needed for one of the best-equipped animal hospitals in NC. Applicant must be able to work 2-4 full days per week (M-SAT) during school year. Employee will learn venipuncture, intubation, intravenous catheter placement, and become proficient in performing laboratory tests. Fifty percent of time will be spent in training or performing skilled tasks; fifty percent of time will be spent with general cleaning or kennel duties. Ideal position for someone with veterinary school aspirations. Veterinary scholarship program available for individual completing 1 year of full-time work. Call Dr. Mike at Clayton Animal Hospital 553-4601.

BARTENDERS NEEDED!!! Earn \$15-30/hr. Job placement assistance is top priority. Raleigh's Bartending School. HAVE FUN! MAKE MONEY! MEET PEOPLE! Call Now About Spring Tuition Special. 919-676-0774. www.cocktailmixer.com.

NOW HIRING outgoing sales/marketing associates for PLANET BEACH TANNING SALON, opening on Aventura Ferry Road near NCSU. Call 919-859-9600, email resume heather.love@planetbeach.com

PT help needed for small, well-established LANDSCAPING COMPANY. Flexible hrs. Some Saturdays. Starting pay \$8/hr. Some experience required. Carpentry experience helpful. Call Cody 779-2596.

Work Wanted

Enjoy baseball? Come help run the Carolina Mudcats' audio/visual equipment and cameras at Five County Stadium this summer. Email what you'd be good to stummreck@gomudcats.com

Notices

\$450 GROUP FUNDRAISER SCHEDULING BONUS. FRATERNITIES-SORORITIES-STUDENT GROUPS- 4 hours of your group's time PLUS our free (yes, free) fundraising solutions EQUALS \$1,000-\$2,000 in earnings for your group. Call TODAY for a \$450 bonus when you schedule your non-sales fundraiser with CampusFundraiser. Contact CampusFundraiser, (888)-923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.

Wanted

WANTING TO ADOPT SWF seeks birthmother for independent adoption of newborn. Homestudy approved by Nathanson Adoption Services on 2-27-04. (919)-776-8787.

Found

Ring Found outside Carmichael. Silver band with stones. Call 515-6828 or email kala@unity.ncsu.edu

CARTER

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minute. No. No he wasn't. Hey Andrew! Your article on Chuck Amato titled "Excuses 101" reminded me of an article that I think you wrote defending the job Herb Sendek has done at N.C. State. Do you have the article saved in a word file (or whatever) that you could send to me? I can't find it anywhere and just wanted to re-read that article. M.B.

It's always nice when an Internet visitor like message board poster Mr. O takes time to write. I was honored.

America didn't make a mistake on by picking Ruben over Clay you racist, America just recognized singing talent over Clay. D.P.

Ah yes...it's always a memorable moment the first time a reader arbitrarily accuses you of racism. What a moment.

...This was the first game I couldn't get tix to and I was puzzled by the chant at first too. But no matter what they/we

said, I can't believe you sold us out. You should be ashamed of yourself. Why don't you just go ahead and transfer to UNC's journalism school? Maybe there you can continue [doing naughty things] and let us know for sure whether or not the rumor is true. Sincerely - J.E.

Like so many others, this e-mail proved my original point better than I ever could have. Thanks, J.E., to you and yours.

Andrew, loved your article on Dave Libbey. That hit really close to home for me and a group of friends who are Santa Clara University grads. Every year we make an annual trip to watch the entire West Coast Conference tournament, and our disgust with and heckling of Dave Libbey has become an annual tradition. R.M.

This, along with many others, outlined a nationwide hatred for basketball official Dave Libbey, who still hasn't returned my calls. Then again, I'll take a letter.

Andrew Carter can be reached at 515-2411 or andrew@technicianstaff.com.

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floor space, to host the meet," he said. "The host school also needs the proper technology and several practice sites to be considered by the NCAA."

After assessing all qualifications, the NCAA determined that State was capable of hosting the gymnastics Southeast regional meet.

"Two or three years ago we put a bid in but had to take the bid back because the facilities were already scheduled by a little kids basketball tournament, so we had to withdraw our bid," Stevenson said.

"Last year we took the same bid and revised it a little bit, and we confirmed that we could use Reynolds Coliseum."

Stevenson has had a direct

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years, and the dance and other elements are harder."

The Pack had early success in the nationals last year, placing in first after the preliminary round. But some mistakes in the final performance dropped

involvement in most of the processes included in hosting a regional.

Hotel accommodations for the teams and judges has been another task that he has had to handle over the past couple of months.

"Judges have to have their own rooms, and we didn't know that," Stevenson said. "We had them all partnered up because we thought that would save money."

Setting up the gymnastics equipment is a process Stevenson usually endures for every home meet.

Because there are other sporting events played in Reynolds Coliseum, Stevenson usually spends the morning before a meet setting up and often stays until the morning hours of the next day taking the equipment down.

Because there are no other athletic events scheduled to take place in the coliseum during the

State to eighth place in the final standings.

"We got real caught up in getting first, and it was real tough because right before we went on floor we heard Louisville's score, and they set a record," George said. "That dropped us down a little bit because that was hard to beat."

Head coach Harold Trammell

next few days, the gymnastics staff is planning on setting up the equipment on Wednesday. The early preparation allows the coaching staff to focus on preparing the team instead of making sure the facilities are adequate.

Despite the hardships of preparing for a home regional meet, it's actually less expensive for the Pack than participating at a regional event in another state.

"If we took our team to a regional championship in Florida it would roughly run us \$5,000," Stevenson said.

"To have the meet here and do all the things to make it successful is actually a little less expensive. That part is a selling point for bringing a regional here."

If the Pack finishes as one of the top two teams in the meet, it will travel across the country to compete in nationals at a school it just hosted — UCLA.

shows no signs of worrying about last year's result having an effect on the 2004 national team.

"We have a lot of young people on the team this year that don't even know what happened last year," Trammell said. "We're younger overall and younger people usually bring a little bit of spark to the team."

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Schedule

Baseball vs. Old Dominion, 3/30, 7
Gymnastics hosts NCAA Regionals, 4/3, 6
Softball at Campbell, 3/31, 3
M. tennis vs. Duke, 3/31, 2
W. tennis at UNC, 3/31, 3
M. golf in Augusta Invite, 4/3-4
W. golf in Bryan National Collegiate, 4/2-4

TECHNICIAN



Best of the mailbag

When I leave this newspaper in the coming weeks, I'll miss almost everything about it and this job.

What I'll miss most might be the letters I've received in response to over two years worth of columns. More than 300 e-mails have come to my inbox and, with the help of my secretary, I've responded to

about 5 percent.

It hasn't been easy answering all those e-mails, and that's why I'm setting aside this space to answer my fan (notice this is singular) mail. Names are withheld to protect the guilty.

Andrew: Duhmass Fann was very enjoyable to read. It reminds me of a lot of my friends and relatives. I even e-mailed a copy of your article to my mom, she loved it too! Before I transferred to State I played a sport at another college and it is so nice to see that not all fans are crazy and that other people see how crazy some fans are! Anyways, I love your column you always keep me laughing. Thanks! Sincerely, M.

Thanks for that. Glad you're not a duhmass. How does it feel to be in the minority?

Hey Andrew: I am a frequent reader of your articles and like the sports insight you contribute to the Technician. This is in regards to your article in the Technician for Nov. 16th. COME ON MAN!! DON'T KNOCK MY STATE LIKE THAT...I mean there are 50 states in the U.S. why does jersey have to be the worst why can't it be Wyoming. You lucky we not in Jersey or else I get my rabid parakeet to go after you. Unsigned.

To this day, this remains among my favorite letters ever. Rabid parakeet? Only in New Jersey are there rabid parakeets.

I've become addicted to and embarrassingly good at an NES emulator version of RBI baseball (god I'm playing like at least one game a day for the last couple of months). Anyway if you actually still play the game, write me back. I'm from Raleigh and drop by State fairly often so let's see what you're made of. J.K.

This is how Internet stalking begins. Needless to say, I never contacted this person.

Hey, I read your article in the paper on Tuesday, and thought it was great. And I was wondering, did you really propose? Cause that was a great way to do it. G.S.

I received this exact same e-mail from different people 10 times. Yes, it was a real proposal. Unfortunately, the engagement crashed faster than the stock market in '29. Just kidding — it's still on.

Your articles are why I started reading the Technician! Hilarious! Just thought I'd let ya know :) K.G.

On a related note, that's the same reason so many people stopped reading Technician.

You pompous ass... You saying those things really burns my ass. Hell as far as I am concerned anyone with the name Andrew must be a [gay person]... I can tell by your name Andrew and your article you never played anything more athletic than hop-scotch with your [gay person] friends... Unsigned.

Here we have an example of wrath — one of the seven deadly sins.

I do not care what you say, Sendek is out of his league... Let him do us a favor and leave so these great players can enjoy a season like they deserve. He is a nice guy but very depressive type who lacks the ability to get himself motivated much less his players. stop the bleeding Herb, go far, far way. Unsigned.

This guy was so right. Wait a

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Wolfpack hopes to bounce back in Sunshine State

THE N.C. STATE CHEERLEADING SQUAD IS USING LAST SEASON'S EIGHTH PLACE FINISH AS A LESSON FOR THE 2004 NATIONALS.

Ryan Reynolds
Staff Writer

A small group of people stood out among the crowd of around 400 that had accumulated in Reynolds Coliseum around 6 p.m. on Sunday. The group, sitting near the rafters in the upper deck, repeatedly screamed one word in unison that bounced off the concrete walls of the old gym and projected to the basketball court — "Chris!"

They were referring to N.C. State cheerleading captain Chris Gregory.

Gregory acknowledged their presence several times, as did other cheerleaders, but not with the enthusiasm that cheerleaders often have during football and basketball games.

That's because the 2004 Nationals are on the horizon, and this is a serious and pressure-packed time for the Wolfpack cheerleading squad.

The squad performed twice in front of the crowd at Reynolds Coliseum, garnering a standing ovation from many of the people in attendance.

It was one of the few opportunities that parents and students could see the cheerleaders perform before nationals.



TIM LYTVINENKO/TECHNICIAN

The Pack perfects its routine during a practice at Reynolds Coliseum Sunday.

"There was some pressure performing in front of the crowd, and there will be even more when we are down at nationals, but the pressure is what makes us perform better," junior Jackie Piscitelli said.

Nationals are set for Thursday and

Friday in Daytona Beach, Fla., and the Pack feels its routine could earn the team a national championship.

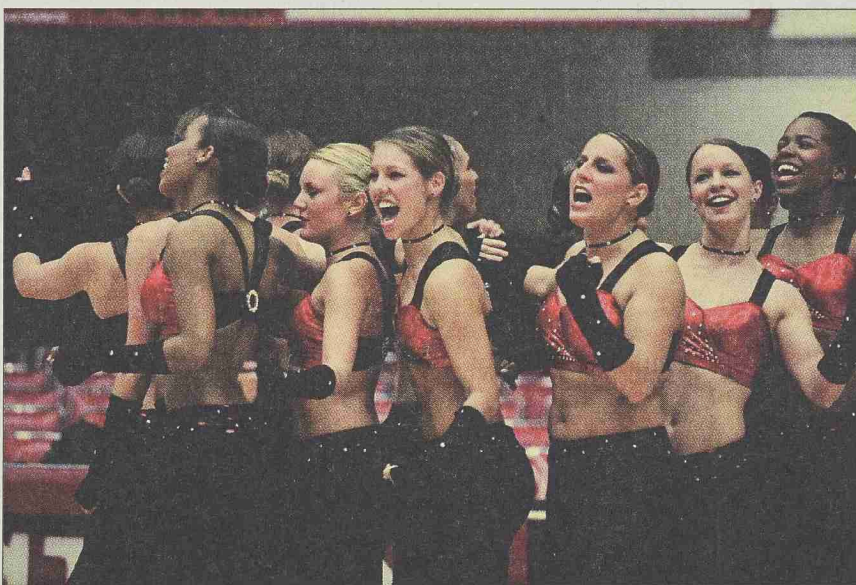
The performance is a little more than two minutes long and has a stunt section and a tumbling and dance section. Basket tosses, pyramids and the scorpion stunt are some of the routines performed in the stunt section.

Mistakes were rare during the first practice performance on Sunday night, but by the second go-round the Pack was even better, seeming more comfortable and smooth through the whole routine.

"Tumbling is definitely a step above last year," junior Andrew George said. "No routines are easier than in previous

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Dance team Florida bound



Dance team members, including Katie Jordan (center), show off their smiles during a rehearsal for nationals, which begin Thursday in Daytona, Fla.

Head coach Jaqui Moore believes the hands-on approach by the team will lead them to success.

Ryan Reynolds
Staff Writer

Jaqui Moore sat on her knees, crouched down on the floor of Reynolds Coliseum, often shouting words of encouragement to the N.C. State dance team during the routine it practiced three times on Sunday night. She acts like a member of the team, joking around and practicing dances, but she has taken on a different role after graduating two years ago — head coach.

Moore is eager to see if the effects of her second-year approach will be a national championship.

"This year I let the team help me make a lot of decisions, and last year it was more me, me, me," Moore said. "Everything we're doing this year the team has been very hands-on and I listen to them and use the tools to make

it happen."

The squad, consisting of 14 members, performed its routine in front of an estimated crowd of 400. The 2003 National Dance Alliance Nationals are set for Thursday and Friday in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Roderick Harrelson from New York and Jonathan Lewis from California choreographed the 2:15 routine.

"Last year we just used Roderick Harrelson," Moore said. "This year we also used Jonathan [Lewis], who we used in the past, and we wanted them to collaborate and knew it would be good work."

The Pack is encouraged that the practice spent on the routine will lead to success in Florida.

"We learned the routine in November, and then we really started working on it over Christmas break," sophomore Shondra Washington said. "We practiced four times a week and we practiced the routine three or four times each time."

The dance team's outfit for nationals

will consist of black leather-type pants with rhinestones and a red top with black shoulder straps. While the costumes may be different in style from the team's usual basketball-game garb, the difference does not affect the dancers, said senior captain Ashley Zimbaum.

Short performances during halftime of men's basketball games at the RBC Center are often how the dance team is recognized, but those in attendance on Sunday night witnessed a long and professional routine.

The length of the performance does take its toll on the performers.

"The most difficult part of the routine is definitely keeping the stamina up," junior Katie Jordan said. "We've got the costumes, we've got the choreography, so all we need to do is hit it [the routine] like we can."

Three years ago, the dance team finished second at nationals.

Practices like the one on Sunday have the team confident that it can be among the nation's elite once again.

Coaches' planning leads to regional

The 2004 Southeast Regional Gymnastics Championships, hosted by N.C. State, will mark the first time a North Carolina school has held a gymnastics regional.

Ryan Reynolds
Staff Writer

N.C. State and UNC have revitalized collegiate gymnastics in North Carolina over the last 23 years. Wolfpack coach Mark Stevenson and Tar Heel coach Derek Galvin are solely responsible for raising the two programs to national prominence.

The dedication to gymnastics by the two coaches will culminate when the Pack hosts the 2004 Southeast Regional Gymnastics Championships in Reynolds Coliseum on Saturday.

Saturday marks the first time North Carolina hosts a gymnastics regional and the two coaches are the main reason the Pack will host the event.

Besides State and UNC, defending national champion UCLA will highlight the meet. Rounding out the field will be Nebraska, Maryland and West Virginia.

"The last time North Carolina had a meet of this caliber with this type of gymnastics was 1987 at the Olympic Festival," Stevenson said. "So this should be an awesome event with the defending national champions competing."

Even though the regional will only last a couple of hours, there have been months of planning involved to ensure that the event is a success.

A potential host must meet several requirements before applying to host a regional.

According to David Horning, senior associate athletics director, several things need consideration when hosting a significant athletic event.

"An inventory of the venue has to take place, which includes adequate seating and

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