

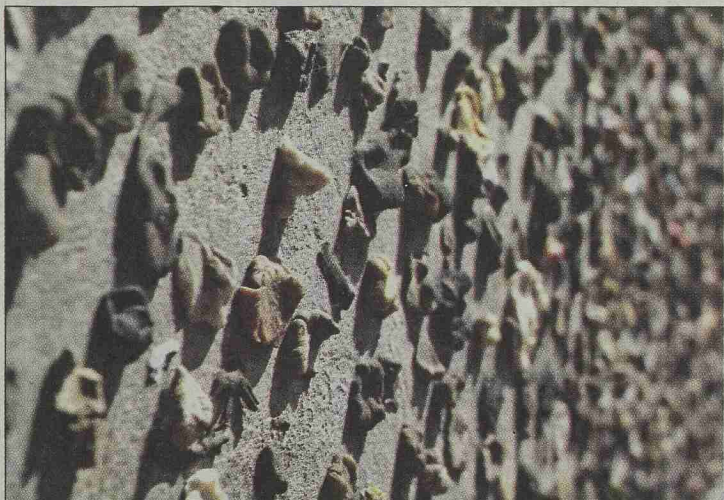


TECHNICIAN

TUESDAY
AUGUST
24
2004

technicianonline.com

Raleigh, North Carolina



Dried gum placed by passing students accumulates on the bridge over Dan Allen Drive. Such unsightly ornamentation may have contributed to N.C. State's ranking of 17th-ugliest campus.

Review ranks N.C. State

Annual publication lists NCSU as eighth best bargain public school; seventeenth as tiny and/or unsightly

Kenneth Ball
Deputy News Editor

The 2005 edition of the Princeton Review report of the nation's top colleges and universities included N.C. State and other North Carolina institutions in its rankings of schools in various categories. The annual report, available online and in the guide The Best 357 Colleges, named NCSU as the eighth "best bargain" amongst public schools in the country.

"I kind of think that NCSU is a good bargain, but it's a state school and most of the tuition is paid by the state," Liz DiNatale, a sophomore in environmental

science, said.

"Not to mention it's a southern school, and southern schools are much cheaper in comparison to northern schools," DiNatale added.

Leslie Jimison, a senior in material science engineering, agreed that education at NCSU is a good bargain.

"I feel that I am getting just as good of an education as I would at a place like Duke, at a much, much lower cost," Jimison said. "As long as you're self-motivated, take the right classes and take advantage of opportunities, the education here is first rate."

NCSU was also ranked by the Princeton Review as 17th in the category "campus is tiny, unsightly, or both."

"I admit NCSU isn't known for its aesthetic appeal, but the newer construction is modern and eye-catching, creating a clean and high tech atmosphere

in Centennial [Campus]," Jimison said.

Daniel Lewis, a sophomore in parks, recreation and tourism, felt that NCSU is not as small as the Princeton Review's ranking may imply.

"I think it's B.S. really, because [NCSU] is freaking huge when you consider Centennial Campus," Lewis said.

"In the fall or spring I personally think it looks great," Lewis added. "It can look bad on a rainy day, but what doesn't?"

According to a Princeton Review press release, the rankings are based on a survey of over 110,000 college students at 357 campuses across the nation.

The average number of students polled at each campus was approximately 300. According to www.princetonreview.com, about 90 percent of the surveys used in the rankings were completed online.

SCHOOL	RANK	CATEGORY
Catawba College	2	Great College Theater
UNC Chapel Hill	4	Students Pack the Stadiums
Davidson College	1	Best Quality of Life
Duke University	6	Jock Schools
Elon University	18	Beautiful Campus
Wake Forest	6	Little Race/Class Interaction
Warren Wilson College	1	Students most Nostalgic for Bill Clinton
UNC Greensboro	2	Best Values - Public
Guilford College	8	Great College Radio Station

SOURCE: PRINCETON REVIEW

insidetechnician



Innocence loss

As high schools memories begin to fade, students start to shed their reservations and take on new experiences. See page 5.

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weather today tomorrow

87°/65° 86°/67°

Campus crime startles students

Three students approached at gunpoint over weekend.

Abby Hunter
Staff Reporter

According to university police officials, three students were approached on Saturday around 11:30 p.m. between Carmichael Gym and Student Health Services on Cates Avenue by a group of individuals demanding money and possibly carrying weapons.

Campus police reported that nothing was stolen and that the incident ended with both groups walking away unharmed. Ac-

cording to students involved, the three suspects left the scene and walked towards the Talley Student Center on Cates Avenue.

According to Captain Joe Goodrow, the incident was the only gun-related crime this year. The last weapon-related incident occurred last November. Goodrow also stated that over the last two weeks, the overall crime on NCSU's campus has been typical for a new school year.

Despite this fact, news of the event has startled some students.

CRIME continued on page 2

STAT helps to build student/alumni relations

New campus group offers link between students, alumni

James Scott Truax
Staff Reporter

They say that connections are everything in life.

A new N.C. State student organization, Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow, hopes to help students foster those links.

Taylor Moore, President of the NC State Alumni Association Student Ambassador Program, says that the new organization is designed "to build relationships with students and alumni down the road."

Moore, a junior in communication, pointed out that NCSU students are invited to

join the Alumni Association once they graduate, while the STAT program provides a way for students to get started on those relationships early.

Rachel Bumgardner, a senior in French and political science, serves as vice president of STAT added that the organization is "a way for students to feel part of NCSU and get involved at an earlier age."

Expectations for the organization are already running high with members.

"I anticipate networking with alumni in my career field and having an open dialogue with them about what they found to be true in a certain field," David White, a new member of STAT said.

White, a junior in industrial engineering, also sees the program as a natural bridge to

the Alumni Association. He says that he would like to stay involved with the NCSU community after graduating.

Building relationships between students and alumni is a key focus of the organization.

Members will receive members-only access to STAT's Web site which includes an interactive feature facilitating contact between members and alumni.

The process will list alumni who wish to be contacted by students for career advice and networking by their major and present career field.

STAT members would then be able to contact alumni directly as part of an online mentoring program enabling students to get real world advice about

STAT continued on page 2

GOING GREEK - SUMO STYLE

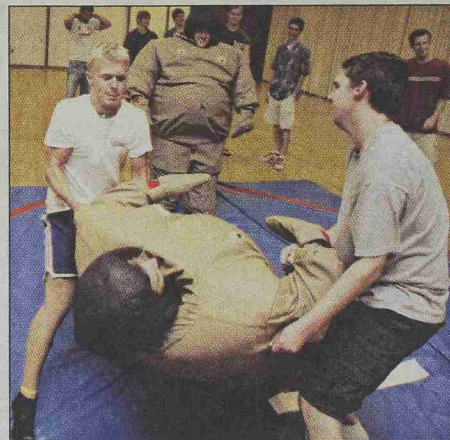


CHRIS DAPPERT/TECHNICIAN

Climinology senior Brad Bardon, is struck in the head by a glove after his match as he cheers his victory. The suit he wore restricted his movement, making him unable to evade the incoming glove.

ROB BRADLEY/TECHNICIAN

After being floored by some of the brothers, John Fuller has to be helped to his feet by Todd Mack (left) and Trent Caves. FIJI held a sumo wrestling event as part of its Fall Rush schedule in the Talley ballroom last night.



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Botany department loses valued professor

Ana Pardo
Staff Reporter

Scott Chilton, professor emeritus in the Department of Botany, died Aug. 5 during a hiking trip in Washington from an apparent heart failure. He was 71 years old.

Professor
Scott Chilton

Chilton was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated summa cum laude from Duke University in 1955 with a degree in chemistry.

After researching in Germany and teaching at various universities, Chilton joined N.C. State's Department of Botany in 1983. His research focused on phytochemistry and plant-based medicine. Chilton taught several different courses, the most popular being medicinal plants,

a class that combined chemistry and ethnobotany. This course attracted students from a variety of academic backgrounds.

Although Chilton retired in 2003, he continued to teach and conduct research within the department.

Eric Kaufman, a graduate student in chemistry, remembered Chilton as someone who possessed "an amazing wealth of knowledge."

"He could sit and talk to you about phytochemistry and ethnobotany all day long," Kaufman said. "He had a real love for the subject matter and a real love and skill for teaching. I feel lucky to have been able to take a course with him. He was an irreplaceable resource to the school and to science as a whole."

In addition to his academic expertise, many students remember Chilton for his outgoing personality.

"As a person, he was just a really cool guy. He was very approachable and he remembered

everyone's name," Richard Giles, a senior in botany, said. "He always made a point of saying 'hi' when he saw me."

Chilton also garnered the respect and admiration of his academic colleagues. "He was a true man of science, with a passion for helping others," associate and longtime friend Dennis Dreihmel said. Dreihmel will teach the medicinal plants course while the department searches for a new ethnobotany professor.

Margaret Daub, botany department head, says filling Chilton's shoes won't be an easy task.

"Scott Chilton was simply an amazing person. He had an enormous breadth of knowledge and experience. He was one of the most sought-after collaborators among faculty on campus," Daub said. "He also brought an undying commitment to educating students, both in the classroom and as a mentor for hands-on research experiences. He will be sorely missed by all that knew him."

STAT

continued from page 1

tailoring their resumes and job interview skills, as well as general career advice from alumni in the field.

"It will be beneficial to juniors and seniors as they think about their career and what they want to do," Bumgardner said.

"STAT helps build lifelong relationships with one another, alumni and their university," Moore said, via "programs that promote traditions, spirit, and

pride."

Members will have opportunities to participate in Homecoming, Founder's Day and other NCSU traditions as well as attend specially chartered arrangements at university sporting events Moore said.

STAT's kick off event will be a cookout, on Thursday, Aug. 26 at 5 p.m. at Harris Field.

Speakers include Interim Chancellor Robert Barnhardt, and Student Body President Tony Caravano.

STAT plans to hold monthly functions, including workshops

Stats on STAT

- Membership open to all students
- Dues: \$20/year
- \$75/four years
- For more info call 1-800-627-2586
- Or online alumni.ncsu.edu/students

SOURCE: STAT

to help students with career skills.

With a current membership of 55 members, the group has set a goal to have 1,000 members by the end of the school year.

CRIME

continued from page 1

Rebecca Rolfe, freshman in communication media, is a current resident of Owen Hall, located on Cates Avenue.

"It's a little nerve-wracking being a freshman and living right across from where the crime took place," Rolfe said. "As a woman on NCSU's campus I don't feel safe walking by myself at night."

Students looking for more information about the three suspects involved in Saturday's incident can look on the campus police Web site, www.ncsu.edu/police. It contains composite drawings of each suspect. In addition, Goodrow reported that any other crimes on campus would be reported on their Web site and students could find any information needed there.

Students are advised to walk in groups or use Campus Escort Services, 515-3000, should they feel threatened in any situation on campus. Any additional information about the incident on Saturday night can be reported to Campus Police Investigations, 515-2498.

POLICE BLOTTER

8/22/04

3:24 P.M. B/E VEHICLE AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Police responded to Armory Lot in reference to a Jeep Wrangler soft top window being cut and an unknown suspect entering the vehicle and removing items from the glove box. During the process, the suspect also slashed two tires.

7:06 P.M. TRAFFIC ACCIDENT - \$1000

A student and a non-student were involved in a minor traffic accident on Dan Allen Drive. No report of injuries.

9:28 P.M. SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

A student reported a suspicious vehicle parked in the fire lane at Sigma Nu. Officers checked, and found two non-students sitting in vehicle. They stated they were lost and trying to find Sullivan Drive to pick up some friends. A check on trespass warnings and outstanding warrants came back negative. Subjects were given directions to Sullivan Drive.

SOURCE: NCSU CAMPUS POLICE

"OVERHEARD"

PHOTOS BY TAYLOR TEMPLETON

Do you agree with N.C. State's rating as the 17th ugliest campus?

Derek Beam
Senior

"No. We've got great urban space, and trees. It's great."

Yolanda Mercer
Freshman

"Compared to some campuses, this is nice."

Sarah Medearis
Freshman

"I've seen other (campuses) that are a lot uglier. There is a lot of brick."

Drew Ulrich
Sophomore

"It's functional. It doesn't take us a half hour to make it to class."

Steven Tam
Senior

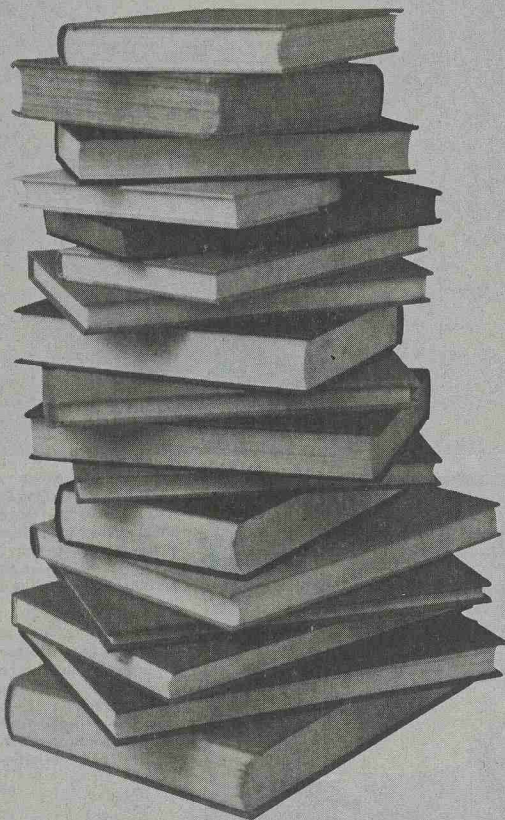
"Ehh...yea...all the bricks."

Vanessa Morgan
Freshman

"No. There's nothing wrong with it. It's nice to me."

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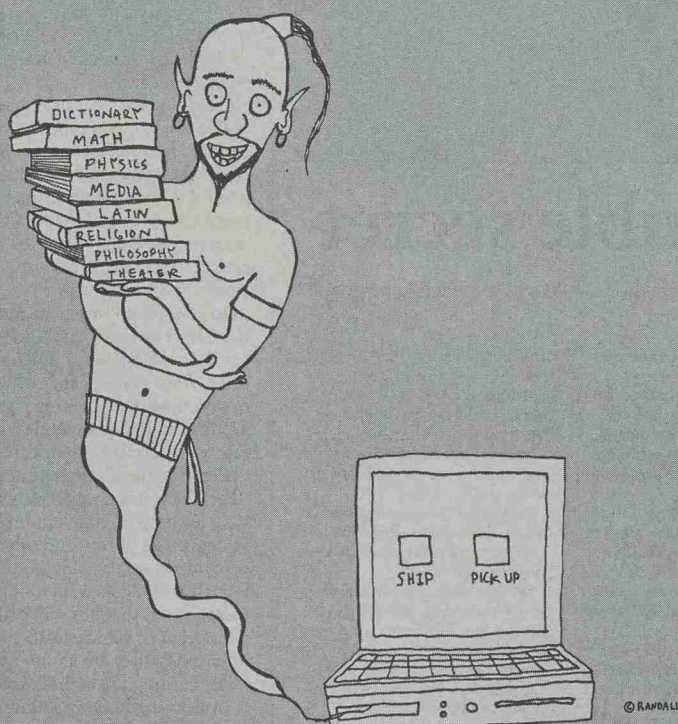
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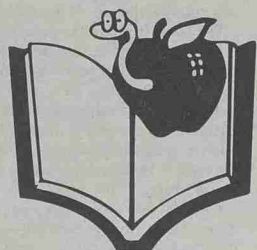
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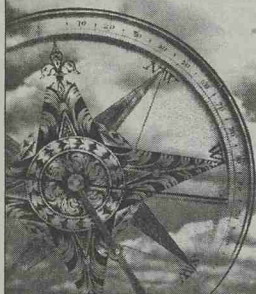
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FLY ACROSS THE
UNITED STATES
NON-STOP.



MARKO.082404

Search is double secret

Andrew Payne analyzes the chancellor search committee's decision to keep the candidates secret and the pros and cons of closed searches versus open searches.

Although there are no "Help Wanted" signs hanging in the windows of campus buildings, there is a search for N.C. State's next chancellor. A 13-member search committee is in the process of finding NCSU's 13th chancellor and they are doing it behind closed doors.

The committee will conduct a nationwide search of possible candidates, passing along about three individuals to the entire NCSU Board of Trustees. The Trustees will then recommend these candidates to UNC System President Molly Broad. Broad will take her final appointment to the UNC Board of Governors who will elect our new chancellor.

Unfortunately you and I will not have a chance to meet the candidates. That's right — the search committee and its chair Bob Jordan, member of the NCSU Board of Trustees, decided that the chancellor hunt should be closed, clandestine, underground, hush-hush, under wraps, confidential — top secret.

So secret in fact that all committee members had to sign oaths of secrecy about the search process or they would be criminally prosecuted under North Carolina law.

You might be asking yourself why this is such a big deal. Well, most position searches in higher education unfold like this. A committee forms, takes nominations, reviews resumes, narrows the field, interviews some candidates, narrows the field again and then names a number of finalists. At this point the finalists are publicly announced, visit campus and speak with the interested parties.

Behind closed doors, the committee deliberates, reviews the comments from the candidates, visits and makes their recommendation to the appropriate administrator or board.

This is a model of a typical search in academia which allows the entire campus to be involved. And this is the route that NCSU used to pick our current Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Dr. James Oblinger. However, there is some logic behind NCSU's secret search. For example, let's say I am the current president of Harvard University and I've held that position almost 7 years. I like my job but I am ready to move on to a more prestigious institution. Through a colleague I learn about the opening at NCSU. I would like to throw my name into consideration for the position but if the Harvard community, especially the university's governing board, finds out that I am looking somewhere else, I might lose the campus' trust and support.

And that's the justification for the secret search.

Highly qualified candidates, especially sitting presidents and/or chancellors, will be reluctant to enter into the process because of the backlash that may occur at their existing campus. Search consultant Bill Funk with Korn/Ferry International (who by the way will make about 10 to 15 percent of the new chancellor's yearly salary, which could add up to almost \$40,000) told the committee that a search at Michigan State University had to be halted because a newspaper published all the candidates names which made all the candidates withdraw from the process.

The problem with closed or secret searches is that they are never secret.

In almost every secret search the names of the finalists appear on the front page of the newspaper. The secret search ends up causing the same problem it hoped to avoid.

Trust me — the suspected NCSU chancellor finalists will be made public. It is hard for people to keep their mouths closed.

Just like we now know that the search committee is looking at campus administrators at Arizona State University, Clemson University, University of Cincinnati, Virginia Tech University and University of Illinois-Chicago.

There are examples of highly successful searches for institution leaders that were open like the searches for the president of the University of Tennessee System and the East Carolina University chancellor and Appalachian State University.

In all of these executive searches the finalist participated in open campus interviews. For the University of Tennessee president search, the interviews were broadcast on television and over the Internet.

Both searches attracted qualified candidates including sitting university presidents.

What makes these closed searches different from NCSU's quest? I don't know. However, I do know that both searches took place after some controversy. But they are evidence that an open search can work.

To peer behind the cloak of secrecy attend the final chancellor search open forum — Thursday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Walnut Room of Talley Student Center.

Email Andrew with your opinions at viewpoint@technicianonline.com

TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

HOW SAFE IS CAMPUS?

OUR OPINION: EVEN THOUGH THE NUMBER OF REPORTED CRIMES ON CAMPUS HAS BEEN RELATIVELY SMALL, OTHER INCIDENTS THAT MAY NOT BE REPORTED AND STILL OCCUR CONTRIBUTE TO A FEELING OF THREAT AND A POSSIBILITY OF HARM.

According to the American Medical Association, approximately half of rape crimes do not get reported. Crimes such as assault or harassment can occur in an instant, or over a period of time. A lot of these incidents go unnoticed, unreported or even untold.

According to Campus Police, N.C. State had two rapes reported in 2003, zero murders, six robberies, 13 aggravated assaults and a number of other theft-related crimes. So proportionally, NCSU does very well with reported crimes considering the size of its student population.

However, even minor incidents that affect students' perception and feeling of safety occur much more often. A simple exchange of words or an unplanned meeting between groups can make someone feel unsafe as they walk to their car after the leaving the library late at night.

Parking is not always easily accessible to those leaving buildings late at night. The library and other labs on campus are not close to parking lots; thus students walk in the dark to a location that has very little pedestrian or vehicle traffic. And oftentimes, they are alone.

The lighting throughout campus is weak at night. Dim, yellow lighting in various places on campus create an atmosphere of isolation as students travel back to dorms or their cars late at night.

Students do have the option of

Safety Escorts. The response time, however, is inconsistent and sometimes long, thus students are left in one location, unsure of their safety — which was the reason they called them in the first place.

There are emergency lights across campus so students can call Campus Police and report an incident while signaling a blue light that only a police officer can deactivate. However, these are located far apart leaving certain areas of campus unavailable to help.

It is also the duty of Student Patrol to walk through campus to ensure the safety of students walking as well. Their presence is not as well-known as it could be so that students, and even faculty, walking through campus could feel safe.

The lighting at night should be drastically improved throughout campus. The Safety Escort team should always be prepared to pick up and arrive at a call promptly. There should be more emergency phone towers so that anyone in virtually any place on campus can reach one in a very short period of time. Also, increase the presence of student patrol so that students and potential threats alike know they are there to keep safety a top priority.

With additions such as these, students and faculty walking back to their car at night would not be a problem and, more importantly, they would feel safe doing so.

The unsigned editorial that appears above is the opinion of the members of Technician's editorial board and is the responsibility of the Editor in Chief.



TECHNICIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

News Editor
T.S. Amarasiriwardena
news@technicianonline.com

Viewpoint Editor
Jason Eder
viewpoint@technicianonline.com

Sports Editor
Austin Johnson
sports@technicianonline.com

Arts and Entertainment Editor
Jake Seaton
diversions@technicianonline.com

Features Editor
Ashley Hink
diversions@technicianonline.com

Photography Editor
Taylor Tripleton
photo@technicianonline.com

Graphics Editor
Patrick Clarke
graphics@technicianonline.com

Advertising Manager
Claire Saunders
advertising@technicianonline.com

Classifieds Manager
Zach Patterson
classifieds@technicianonline.com

Deputy News Editor
Charles Duncan
news@technicianonline.com

Editor in Chief
Matt Middleton
editor@technicianonline.com

Managing Editor
Ben McNeely
ben@technicianonline.com

Deputy News Editor
Kenneth Ball
kenneth@technicianonline.com

Deputy News Editor
Tyler Dukes
news@technicianonline.com

Deputy Sports Editor
Ryan Reynolds
sports@technicianonline.com

Deputy Photo Editor
Ray Black III
photo@technicianonline.com

Deputy Graphics Editor
Jessica Gluck
graphics@technicianonline.com

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Gay marriage and gay adoption are flawed

With gay marriage on the horizon as a hot topic in the upcoming presidential election, Jeffrey Gaither lets people know the downfalls of gay marriage and gay couples adopting.

I disagree with George W. Bush on just about everything. I disagree with his tax policies, his drug policies and the way he is conducting the war on terror. But there is one issue (and only one) on which I actually agree with the man (or the boy, rather), and that is the issue of gay marriage and adoption.

I have nothing against gay people. Actually, no, that is not true at all. I do have something against gay people. I do not dislike them and I recognize they cannot change the fact that they are gay, and I pity them, in that they live in the wrong world, so to speak. I suppose this comes down to the fact that I fear the unknown.

Be that as it may, I still would not want a gay man around me. It would be too weird. See, with women, it's easy; it's always understood that if they're attractive, I want to sleep with them. I believe women understand that this is true of most men (if they don't know it, they do now). But it's understood that there is probably an attraction. That's the way it works.

But if a gay man is around me, he might want

to sleep with me, and that's just too weird. The concept is so alien, like orange grass or a green sky, that I could never be comfortable in such a situation.

I suppose that I am a homophobe, but oh well, I suspect most people are. (I wish to stress, however, that I do not hate gay people, or think they are somehow worse than me; they just make me uncomfortable; or they would, if I were ever knowingly around any. Perhaps this all has to do with the fact that I have lived my entire life in the South.)

And this brings me to my main point. Homosexuality is unnatural. You can cite all kinds of examples of great gay people from history — Alexander the Great, Plato, Leonardo da Vinci — and the fact that they were gay does not detract from their accomplishments. But the fact remains that homosexuality is contrary to what nature intended. From a biological standpoint, I mean. From a physical standpoint, too, as I have heard it expressed, the pieces of the puzzle do not fit together.

Now, marriage, from immemorial time, has consisted of a husband and a wife. That is what a marriage is. But now, all these gay people wish to marry their "partners," and become husband and husband, or wife and wife. Do you see anything wrong with those phrases? I sure do.

Now, of course there will be lots of people who say, "Well, customs are made to be changed, rules are made to be broken."

Perhaps. But not this custom. There is no older, more sacred institution than marriage.

If we are going to keep anything sacred, and the way it has always been, it ought to be marriage.

Even if homosexuality was natural — if homosexual couples could have children, say — I would still be opposed to gay marriage, simply because the marriage club has been exclusive to heterosexual couples for so long that it is nobody's place to change it.

I am not saying that there shouldn't be gay "unions." They can become "partners," or a "couple," and be given all the legal status of heterosexual couples. They just shouldn't call each other husband or wife, and shouldn't be considered married. Yes, it is a matter of principle, but so what? Lots of things are a matter of principle. It is a matter of principle that we should not wipe our rear ends with the American flag — and marriage is older than America.

Now, as for the adoption of children by gay couples, I oppose this even more strongly. First of all, the poor child will be mercilessly teased from about the age of 10 onward, or at the very least will be ashamed of his parents. Perhaps this

is not the way it is should be — no child should be ashamed of his parents — but that is the way it will be. And, even if he is not bothered by the fact that his parents are gay, certainly his classmates will be bothered, by the time he reaches middle school. It would be as though his mother was a prostitute. He would be a brick wall for insult-hurlers; they could not miss.

The poor child would never learn to defend himself — it would be impossible, and he would give up before long — and would develop an inferiority complex. (This might sound funny, but it's true.) He will never be able to have his friends sleep over, for instance. People should be allowed to be gay if they want, but nobody has the right to impose gayness on a poor, defenseless newborn.

Though I don't think gay people should be allowed to get legally married, or to adopt children, as long as they are not doing these things, or hurting anyone, or hitting on me, I have nothing against them. A mean straight person is far worse than a nice gay person.

Finally, I wish to stress that though I agree with Bush about gay marriage and adoption, I disagree with him on everything else.

Email Jeffrey with your comments at viewpoint@technicianonline.com

Diversions

Innocence Lost

For some students, the bittersweet memories of high school are fuzzy and half-forgotten, partly due to the years that have passed since then and because the once high schooler isn't quite the same person as they near graduation at N.C. State today.

[Editor's note: Due to the nature of the article, student's last names will not be given]

STORY BY ASHLEY HINK

How could we forget? In high school, daddy's little girl danced along to Dixie Chick girl power songs with friends till 2 a.m. at sleepovers. She sang in the church choir, cared for younger siblings, prepared six months in advance for the prom and proudly announced plans to become a civil rights lawyer to help change the world. Mom's sweet son played baseball on warm spring nights, helped out with chores, nervously asked crushes out on dates, volunteered to help needy members of the community and brought home straight A's. Well, loving mom and dad wanted to believe this was all we were doing.

Depending on the town one was raised in, the crowd one hung out with and the degree of curiosity for pushing the limits of punishable activities, surely even the most angelic teens weren't as innocent as they seemed. Sneaking dad's Budweisers, making it to second base with our sweethearts while the parents weren't around, toilet-papering houses, taking that first joint hit, dancing on tables at house parties and finding a lame fake I.D. to buy cigarettes with were the thrills that drove parents crazy, got us grounded and made us feel like Friday night rebels.

Goodhearted, naive, ready to take on the world and believing that most people are good deep down, we clung to childhood innocence yet had our typical high school fun.

The risks of getting caught in the midst of fun were high; they made it all the more fun. Now, these risks are gone, making it all the more easy to frequently be involved in all the things parents pray their darling child will avoid.

"Sneaking dad's Budweisers, making it to second base with the sweetheart while the parents weren't around, toilet papering houses, taking that first joint hit, dancing on tables at house parties and finding a lame fake I.D. to buy cigarettes with were the thrills that drove parents crazy, got us grounded and made us feel like Friday night rebels."

These activities include smoking weed, being reigned the keg-stand king, giving the nearby fraternity lap dances, dropping certain four-letter words in every sentence, having sleepovers with that seemingly cute business (or was it biology) major, clogging up computer memory space with internet porn, all while forgetting the first week's webassigns and reporting to the first day of work. It's really easy to get caught up in the new freedoms college brings.

College is supposedly the best time of our lives when inhibitions are few and real life responsibilities are still a few years away. Some argue that this is the time to go wild. When does it become too wild? Before now, the consequences included grounding for a week and extra chores. College offers new fun, but also brings about an entirely new and far more costly set of consequences. From drug addictions to alcohol-related crimes and the consequences of unprotected sex, NCSU students pay the price for such freedoms and fun. Now free of restrictions, freshmen face the challenge of determining their limits and deciding what risks are worth taking. For some seniors, long since letting go of their once-treasured innocence becomes something they probably regret.

Closed doors and condoms

Mom and Dad aren't around to hover behind the bedroom door, listening for the popping of buttons and zip-pers coming down. Lack of parental watch dogs, raging teenage hormones and all too often lowered inhibitions from alcohol consumption set the stage for sex, and a lot of it. Attitudes toward sex often change too. Relationships are no longer a pre-requisite and promiscuity becomes a non-issue.

Ronnie, once taking sex very seriously and waited a

INNOCENCE continued page 6

ENTERTAINMENT FOR MEN

Diversions

TECHNICIAN

INNOCENCE

continued from page 5

year to have sex with her first boyfriend in high school, has significantly changed her thoughts on sex after coming to NCSU. She claims, "I used to be more precautions, now sex isn't that big of a deal, there's just no meaning behind it. Without love, it just doesn't mean anything."

Noting that her number of sexual partners has increased, she says, "I have more hook-up friends," with whom love certainly isn't an issue.

Ben, a freshman in First Year College, says that his biggest temptation in college will be girls. With "hooking-up" mainly on his agenda, he says, "I don't know if I'll ever date in college, but I'm not just gonna be a player."

He and roommate Austin, also a freshman in FYC who left behind a two-year relationship in high school, have already

had girls stay over in their dorm room. Both had strict parents and many household rules, including some pertaining to girlfriends. They have quickly taken advantage of new college freedoms, but they have yet to experience the dangers of them.

Ben, who "most of the time" uses a condom, like many other college students, probably underestimates the risks involved in unprotected sex. An online survey conducted by the Society for Adolescent Medicine found that of the nearly 60 percent of sexually active college students, 73 percent reported having unprotected sex and 68 percent didn't believe they were at risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease.

According to the American Social Health Association, at least one in four Americans will contract a STD at some point in their lives and two-thirds of all STDs occur in people 25 years of age or younger. Precisely the

demographic that should be concerned most is the group that also seems most complacent about the risks involved.

Unwanted pregnancies are also high among young collegians; the abortion rate is highest among women ages 18 and 19 (accounting for 56 in every 1,000).

The fun and thrill of unattached sex with cute coeds might be welcomed by some freshmen, but there are consequences that can be life-altering if one is not careful. Attitudes about sex might change, but the risks surely don't.

The substance of college fun

On Ben's second day at NCSU, he and Austin ventured to Fraternity Court, book bag of beer in hand, where they expected to experience some first weekend at college fun. Walking along the side of the road, the two were stopped by campus police. Ben was given an underage drinking ticket.

His penalty includes paying a \$40 fine, writing a two-page paper and attending an alcohol awareness class. While this won't keep him from drinking while underage, he says, "I will now be more cautious when drinking."

One thing he won't be doing is telling his parents. Ben says, "If my parents knew, I'd be in deep s***. I don't want to even think about it."

Among the things parents worry most about when their children go away to college is alcohol. Austin, who was given the typical "don't screw up cliché'd parental lectures" nearly everyday before coming to NCSU, says that his parents knew he'd be drinking here. He says, "The only thing that they really don't want me to do is drink and drive."

While many students use their substance of choice, alcohol certainly is the favorite. Freshmen got alcohol in high school from there dad's refrigerator, older brothers and sis-

ters, the kid with the fake I.D. or Joe on the corner who hangs around the local gas station, but the accessibility is much easier in college.

According to the Core Institute, nearly 75 percent of college students drink alcohol any given month and about 50 percent partake in binge drinking. Of the students who reported to the Institute, 30 percent drove drunk, 17 percent had trouble with authorities, 13 percent had been taken advantage of sexually and 41 percent did something they later regretted when under the influence.

Aside from killer hangovers, ridiculous conversation and otherwise stupid behavior, excessive drinking can lead to serious consequences to those not careful of their consumption and aware of their behavior. For freshmen with the freedom and accessibility to drink, levels of tolerance may not be realized and a certain degree of self-control might be lacked.

Finding moderation

Drunk driving and STDs are just some of the forseen risks of careless "fun" that many freshmen partake in when going to college. Surely, drinking and sexual exploration are associated with the fun and youthfulness of the college experience. With every thrill there are and measures that can be taken to prevent the sometimes life changing consequences of them.

Austin and Ben both think they "have the self-control" to resist their temptations enough to protect their grades and overall well-being. Being mature and intelligent, they might be alright.

College can still be fun, but clinging to some discipline, structure, self-control and the innocence of youth might be in one's best interest.

Afterall, daddy's little girl turned slut surely doesn't want to return home for Thanksgiving with a case of genital warts.

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Sports

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2004

Schedule

Football vs. Richmond, 9/4, 6
M. Soccer vs. Brevard College, 9/1, 4
W. Soccer at Campbell, 8/27
Volleyball hosts Wolfpack Classic, 9/3-4
Cross country in Raleigh Invitational, 9/18

Scores

No games scheduled



TECHNICIAN

COMMENTARY

Losing basic skills

Last Tuesday I completely wasted a little over two hours of my life. That's a hard thing to do for a person who will

spend three hours recruiting for their dynasty on NCAA Football 2005 instead of doing biochemistry homework. The scene

of this waste was the parking lot of the RBC Center. The event was tryouts for the And 1 basketball game.

Hundreds of people showed up to the outdoor court around 4 p.m. with aspirations that they would be picked to play later that evening, in the main game inside the arena.

The selection process was pretty simple. Anyone could sign up to play, and they would be assigned to a team. The teams played five-on-five for five minutes.

If a certain player impressed the judges enough, then they would get a wrist band and make it to a round of 20 players. The players then played in three games, and the top three players were chosen to play in the arena game.

Maybe my expectations were a little high, but I've been more excited watching kids play ball at the YMCA than I was watching the performances of some of the local players I watched on Tuesday. A couple of guys impressed me, but a majority of the games were more boring than synchronized diving.

A typical game went a little something like this: one player dribbled down the court and tried to pull off a move, then have the ball stolen. If he managed to get off a shot then it usually clanked off the rim. Repeat.

While watching these performances, I started daydreaming. I imagined these guys practicing their one-trick dribble move over and over again at their homes. They would practice it all day and all night, thinking it looks like "The Professor" from the And 1 videos on ESPN.

They would not practice taking shots, just that one dribble that will propel them to a huge television career.

This is happening with the rest of the United States. We've forgotten the art of the jump-shot in a game that we created. Now it's all about who has the flashiest dunks or the best handle. This is what the NBA game has turned into. It's exactly how the USA basketball team is (poorly) representing our country in the Olympics.

Not only are there no shooters on the US Olympic team, but there are very few all-around players in the NBA.

This is evident when LeBron James, the savior of the NBA, had a .417 field goal percentage and a .290 percentage from behind the arch last season.

But his numbers seem golden compared to how Team USA has been playing in the Olympics. In the first preliminary game against Puerto Rico,

If the first rule of Fight Club is, as the late '90s book and movie both suggest, you don't talk about Fight Club, then — fundamentalists be damned — the Wolfpack football team is making its own rules for its own club.

For just one night every other week during summer workouts inside the multi-million dollar Wendell Murphy Center's weight room, a pair of teammates clash to form a punch-throwing main event.

They fasten on the red gloves, put in the red-and-white mouthpiece and become veritable brawlin' ballers. Once preseason practices begin, the bouts vanish just like the carefree days of the summer, not to be heard from again until next season.

As far as the rules go, they're not hard to decipher. Pick a player. Go on, ask a question. Anything.

What exactly are the pillars of N.C. State's version?

"We wear gloves, mouthpieces, no helmets and someone usually films it," junior tight end John Ritcher said. "They usually last one or two one-minute rounds."

How often does it convene?

"Every other week or so during the summer, instead of going out on a Friday to run...the [strength] coaches say that if two guys will box, we don't have to run or something like that," senior center Jed Paulsen said. "Usually, someone is willing to do it."

Is the whole team involved?

"Mostly everybody has to box once when they're here," freshman kicker Tyler Lewis said.

Which players put on the best fight?

"Man, there's so many, it's hard to pick one," sophomore defensive tackle DeMarcus "Tank" Tyler said. From nearby, senior linebacker Freddie Aughtry-Lindsay flashes a smile at the question and promptly agrees with his defensive teammate.

Their lively reactions exemplify the meaning behind the fights: an idea strength coaches came up with to alleviate the mundane methods of off-season training. Per NCAA rule, only strength and conditioning coaches are allowed to conduct non-mandatory, formal training with players during the nine-week period leading up to a team's first permissible preseason practice.

"Our strength coaches came up with it — they're pretty nutty guys...it's just a fun thing for guys to get out there instead of conditioning," Paulsen said. "[It's] good exercise and fun for everybody to watch and a good way to end the week. Besides, it's all fun, we're not really fighting against each other."

That's not to say the players take it lightly, though.

In a bout early this summer, a 260-pound Ritcher stepped in the "ring" against 300-pound John McKeon. The two went at it so hard in the first round, throwing as many punches as they could, according to Ritcher, they had no energy left to continue.

"We looked at each other and just went, 'Wow.'" Ritcher said. "All I could do was go home and go to sleep."

Boxing, much like wrestling, requires enormous amounts of total-body movement, causing it to more than suffice as a conditioning substitute, players say.

"[Doing] the full-body movements for a long time will get you real tired," Paulsen said.

And they also produce some good team-bonding memories. Asked to name a memorable or favorite fight, Ritcher calls upon a popular boxing movie for an analogy.

"The best fight I've seen was between [freshman kicker] Tyler Lewis and [freshman long snapper] Corey Bass," he said. "It was just like 'Rocky II' when Apollo Creed and Rocky were sparring and they throw that right hook and both connect and it freezes."

"That's what happened. They both hit each other and fell back at exactly the same time."

Lewis told a slightly different version, however.

"He [Bass] got me three times, and I got him about six times real good," Lewis said. "All the coaches said I won."

But that's not his favorite fight.

"So far, the best was [former linebacker] Shawn Price against [junior] Dwayne Herndon," Lewis said. "Shawn's a pretty good boxer, real quick, but Dwayne knocked him out in the end."

Paulsen agreed, "Those guys [Price and Herndon] can throw hands."

And what happens if anyone declines to step into the mythical ring? Blasphemy.

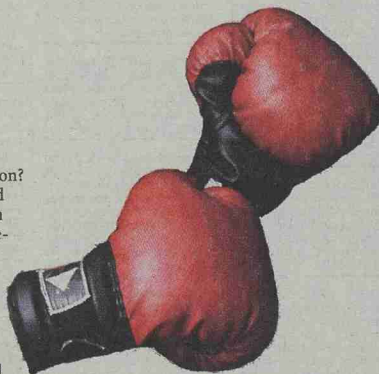
"If you get called out, you have to go out there, because you don't want to not fight in front of your friends," Paulsen said.

Besides, that might be considered breaking the rules.

Pack's Club

THE FOOTBALL TEAM LIVENED UP ITS SUMMER CONDITION PROGRAM BY ADDING AN OCCASIONAL INTRA-TEAM BOXING MATCH.

STORY BY MATT MIDDLETON



RYAN continued on page 7

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