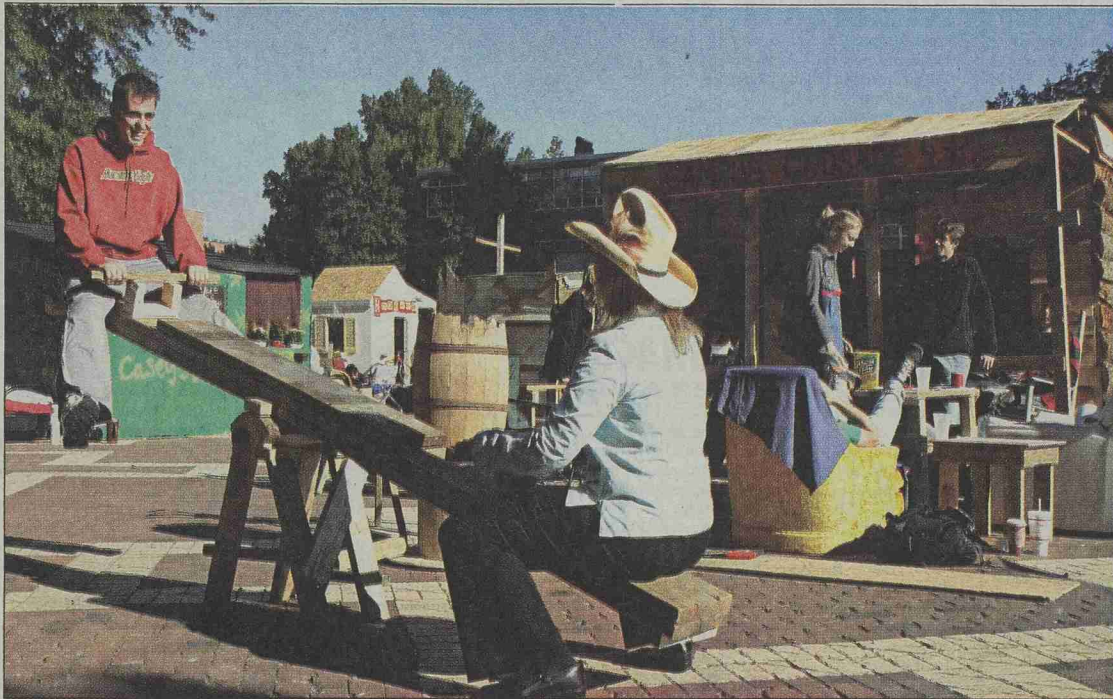


# TECHNICIAN

WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER  
22  
2004

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Raleigh, North Carolina



Shane Zimmerman and Avery Cress take a break from classes on a homemade see-saw in front of Campus Crusade for Christ's shack in the Brickyard on Tuesday.

## Effort aims to curb alcohol abuse

The "Amazing Facts" campaign is aimed at killing some misconceptions college students have about drinking.

Tyler Dukes  
Deputy News Editor

When most Americans think "college student," a similar image pops into their head.

The vision of an entire culture of heavy-partying, beer-guzzling young adults is often hard to drive from memory and is a stereotype that people like Chris Austin have been fighting against for years.

Austin, a substance abuse prevention health educator with Student Health Services, is one of the primary figures behind the "Amazing Facts" campaign, which proclaims that students at N.C. State "consume 0-4 drinks when they party."

Because of some oft-held beliefs, however, this message is something often difficult to get across, Austin notes.

"If you are fed over and over again that college students drink a lot, that is going to play to our mindset," Austin said. "If we see drinking going on, we expect it, and we might even overplay how much is going on, even though we don't have a clue."

The statistics in the campaign come from several studies conducted at the university during the last three years and are the results of anonymous surveys filled out by students from numerous areas of the campus.

The most recent study, conducted in 2004, found that about 45 percent of students reported consuming five drinks or more in one sitting.

The campaign has been part of a growing trend on college campuses across the country called "social norming," a method that has been shown to reduce substance abuse by combatting misconceived notions of what's normal.

According to Austin, social norming began in the mid-80s when two sociology professors noticed that most college students overestimate their peers' participation in certain behaviors.

"Wherever they have done the survey, regardless of what has actually been reported regarding what's conceived and what's actual, there has always been a variance," Austin said. "The perception has always been higher. If the rates drop, then the perceptions may drop, but [perceptions] are still higher. It just runs this parallel course."

By presenting actual drinking levels much lower than what is expected, says Austin, some students may become more comfortable with what are often low-risk drinking habits.

"Many may see this and think 'I'm in that range, there's nothing for me to aspire to.' So it kind of gives them an out," Austin said.

On some college campuses, getting the word out has made a difference.

"Some places have dropped their drinking rates by 40 percent, just by doing campaigns like this," Austin said.

Despite the statistics, some students are skeptical of the hard numbers.

"I think it's correct, but it's deceiving," Blake Edwards, a sophomore in aerospace engineering, said. "It's a hard stat to follow, because you're looking at a wide

## The shacks give back

WHILE RAISING MONEY FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, STUDENTS ARE FINDING FELLOWSHIP BOTH WITHIN THEIR OWN AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS' ORGANIZATIONS AT SHACK-A-THON 2004.

Katie Brannan  
Staff Reporter

Students that crawled out of bed early Tuesday morning had nothing on the scores of people already up and about in the Brickyard.

Shack-a-thon 2004 was officially up and running, even in the wee hours of the morning.

Students across campus built a shack for the week in an effort to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. Collectively, they have a week-long goal of raising \$10,000.

The Inter-Residence Council/Multicultural Sorority/Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies shack glistened with a strand of red lights hooked up to a car battery within their shack. A small black radio, also powered by the battery, faintly played music with the shack.

"The night is young," Patrick Johnson, a freshman in biomedical engineering, proclaimed.

Johnson spent the majority of Monday in the IRC/Multicultural Sorority/BGLA shack.

He left only to attend class and meetings and for the occasional meal or shower.

Members of the Lutheran Student Movement and Phi Sigma Pi, a co-ed honors fraternity spent, the first hours of Tuesday morning playing a game of Four Square in the dim light in front of the Atrium.

"We're trying to stay warm," Margaret Rode, a sophomore in First Year College, jokingly said about the members of the Campus Crusade shack.

This year Campus Crusade chose to use a Western theme for its shack to go along with the wood donated from a local lumber yard. This year's shack is complete with a porch and rocking chairs to give it a more rustic appearance.

According to Rode, appearance isn't everything. Shack-a-thon gives its members an opportunity for fellowship.

"As an organization, we're so big you don't get to know a lot of people," Rode said. "It'd



SHACK continued on page 2

## Weekday night lights

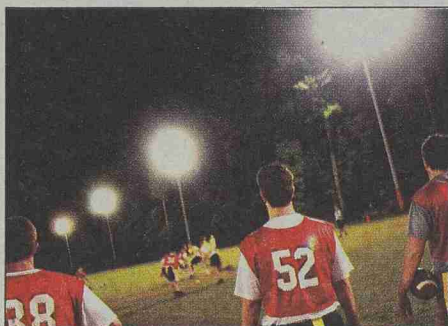
Miller Fields becomes a bit like Carter-Finley Stadium every weeknight.

T.S. Amarasiwardena  
News Editor

The lights go on at 7:12 and it's game time.

Standing high above Miller Field, 18 posts with an array of high-wattage lamps wash the field in light. At any given moment, footballs, Frisbees, soccer and rugby balls can be in midair in one of the many games played by students that go on late into the night.

"I didn't touch him," one player yelled to an official calling his flag football game.



Intramural sports play late into the night on Miller Field daily.

Fruitless attempts by the player to sway the referee left him storming back into formation,

telling a teammate that the ref could use a pair of glasses, in well, more terse words.

"The same stuff you hear at an N.C. State football game, you hear here," David Parker, director of intramural sports, said.

Students get into it, real into it, he said.

"The shirt is the Holy Grail," Parker said, mentioning the shirts that flag football champions get to don.

Campus champions have gone on to play at nationals in New Orleans, bringing home five trophies, he said.

With upwards of 2,000 students playing flag football in 177 teams, the sport is, by far, the most popular one sponsored by intramural sports,

LIGHTS continued on page 2

### insidetechnician



#### Focused

Diversity is always a hot topic on campus, since a university is defined by how diverse its student population is. Technician examines just how important diversity is to N.C. State. See page 3.

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ALCOHOL continued on page 2



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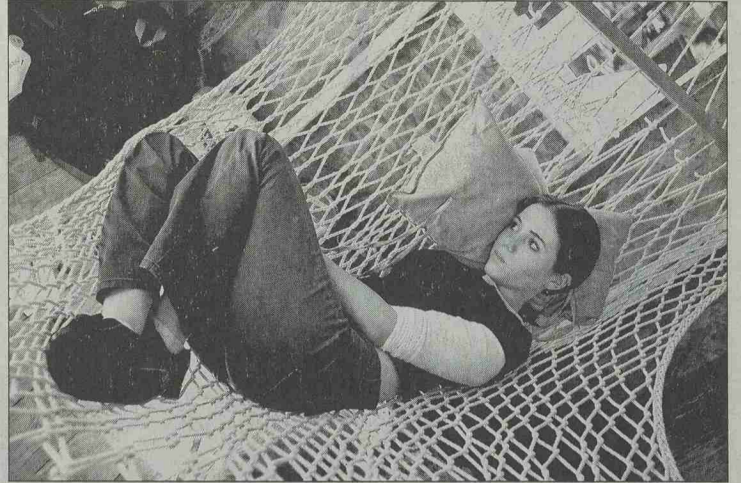
## LIGHTS

continued from page 1

Parker said. At any given moment, there can be six teams on the field and 30 games playing a day. The program has gotten so large, he said, that games go on every Sunday through Thursday night. Played on 60-yard fields, with players donning flag belts, the games are played over two 17-minute halves, Lee Aiken, a graduate student in business and game supervisor, said.

Having played a role in intramural sports for four years, Aiken said, that refs can receive a lot of flack from players. "Sometimes there are teams that will argue with every call," he said. "Usually, the teams that argue with the calls don't know anything about the rules." While most of the referee's job is to ensure that the game is played according to rules, he said, "In the heat of competition, you can hear anything from the players. That's when it's the job of the referee to make sure it ends right there." Calling infractions is the job of

the referee; calling out some of the wild team names that come by isn't he said. "Most of the interesting team names get censored by the office because its best that some team names shouldn't be yelled out by referees," Aiken said. One team, whose name got truncated to just the "Blockers," played last night, donned in their shirts emblazoned with a large rooster. Other team names that could be heard from the field included the "Flying Wombats," and the "A-Team." "The names get worse every year," Parker said. He said that he was particularly fond of a team last year called the "Jeff Gordon Fan Club." No one in the office likes Jeff Gordon, he said. To help teams pick more appropriate names, the intramural sports department added a name generator to its Web site. "He didn't touch him," Kevin Corchiani, a senior in history, yelled from the sidelines to a referee with the fervency of a fan at Carter-Finley. As the athletics director for the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, he said that playing in the intramural games has helped the fraternity build brotherly bonds with each other. Accompanying a contingent that served as the fraternity's fan base, Natalie Parsons, a sophomore in business management, said that intramural sports, such as soccer, which she has played offered "a way to get to know people you wouldn't get to know otherwise." The intramural sports department plans to add another sport to its list, Parker said - Quickball. An amalgamation of two sports where "whiffleball meets extreme baseball," he said that a tournament planned for next Thursday at 6:00 p.m. would kickoff the introduction of the game at NCSU.



"A little tired from panhandling," Carrie Withrow, a sophomore watches people walk by Tuesday.

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## SHACKS

continued from page 1

be great to have a shack year round. [Crusade members] are always stopping by, and we're raising money at the same time." At the Presbyterian Campus Ministry shack, members were realizing just how fortunate they truly are. "Last night was pretty chilly - bearable but cold," John Homer Jenkins, a sophomore in Math Education, said of his first night in the shack. "It makes you think about how much you take for granted." Up the "street," members of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship spent their morning hours building a table to adorn their shack. The table will build fellowship for the members of their shack

by providing them with a gathering place to pass time and ask for donations. Besides raising money for habitat for humanity, shack members say fellowship is the most important part of the fundraiser. "It [Shack-a-thon] brings us all together," Courtney Peterson, a senior in biology and member of Phi Kappa Pi, said. "We get to talk to other organizations while we're out here." Some groups even went to extremes to build fellowship within their organizations. Members of Students Advocating for Youth (SAY) spent early Sunday morning in trash cans around Centennial Campus. "We went Dumpster Diving for all of it," Jenny Hinson, a sophomore in agricultural education, said of the wood they used to build the shack they share with three other or-

ganizations. "That's what made it so fun." The Students Advocating for Youth/Women in Science and Engineering/Teaching Fellows/AASE shack is self-dubbed "The Love Shack." Members of this shack are extending love to everyone who is less fortunate. "Mama ain't got nothing but love," Tresea Barlage, Lee Residence Life Coordinator, said as she dropped several rolls of coins into one group's box. Students at the American Civil Liberties Union/Campus Greens/Students for Sensible Drug Policy shack are extending their fellowship to members outside their organizations while in their shack on the this week. Today and tomorrow, the group is planning a drum circle. Thursday night they will be showing "Grass," a documentary on marijuana prohibition throughout American history.

## ALCOHOL

continued from page 1

number range." But the "Amazing Facts" campaign is no stranger to skepticism. In fact, challenging previously held beliefs, according to Austin, is the primary purpose of the system. "You almost expect they're not going to believe it because there is a perception," Austin said. "It is hard to break away if you think that perception is a reality." Although the effectiveness of the "Amazing Facts" program at NCSU has not been fully assessed due to its fairly recent status, Austin pointed out that the campaign doesn't work for

everybody. "For some people, it's not going to change anything," Austin said. "There are some sub-groups that feel like they're different from the rest of the community. They see this blanket message, and it doesn't mean anything to them." Although the survey states that a majority of students on campus drink less than the binge drinking level, Austin still cites alcohol as a major issue on campus. "It's probably our No. 1 problem, but I think you'll find that on any college campus," Austin said. "If you look at the statistics that come out of student conduct, if you look at campus appearance tickets, that makes it a problem."

But for Andrew Hawley, a junior in parks, recreation and tourism management, drinking is not as large a problem as he thought. Hawley was a previous resident advisor for the first-year Tucker dorm and currently serves as an RA in Alexander Hall. "I'm actually surprised how little influence [alcohol] has on campus," Hawley said. "It's not as big a deal as I thought it would be." For some students, the "Amazing Facts" offer more than just statistics, but a piece of mind about the make-up of the university. "It's nice to know that most people aren't belligerent," Edwards said.

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## BEYOND THE COLOR LINES

WITH THE RESULTS OF A CAMPUS-WIDE DIVERSITY SURVEY ON THE HORIZON, STUDENTS WONDER IF ENOUGH HAS BEEN DONE TO MAKE CAMPUS A DIVERSE AND WELCOMING PLACE.

STORY BY ERIN WELCH

With more than 29,000 students from all 50 states and approximately 100 countries, N.C. State, on the surface, comprises a diverse community. The Office for Diversity and African American Affairs has been working to meet the needs of such a diverse environment for more than 20 years.

The Undergraduate Admissions program features diversity as a focus of life at NCSU.

But Angela Traurig, an alumna of NCSU, did not feel that NCSU did its best to embrace diversity while she attended the university. Although NCSU did not completely address the issue of diversity in her four years of undergrad, Traurig said she did see improvements.

"There were some things improving as a result of student pressures," Traurig said.

During her senior year, Traurig experienced conflict in the Free Expression Tunnel over the war in Iraq, which spurred her interest in the university's response to diversity.

After Traurig and others painted the tunnel with anti-war phrases, another group of students walked through the tunnel and opposed their view. At this point, only a conversation of opposing views took place.

Later that night, however, Traurig and members of her group found their statements repainted over with pro-war dialogue.

As a result of "a lot of hard work by a lot of students," as Traurig said, administration proceeded to take action.

According to Traurig, administration took action because of the pressure they had faced previously regarding Najja Baptist and an incident in his Political Science 205 course.

In February 2002, a year before Traurig's tunnel incident, Baptist faced issues of racism while in class.

Baptist claimed that while he offered his opinion that Native Americans did not experience discrimination as severe as African Americans, a white female in the class entered into the class discussion screaming at him.

The discussion ended with the female saying, "Why don't you just go back to Africa," directed at Baptist. Baptist took the issue to his adviser, Floyd Hayes, and the two approached administration.

Baptist and Hayes did not receive the reaction they expected. According to Hayes, "university officials...denied the existence of anti-black racism."

"NCSU is doing very little to fight back against racism," Hayes said, "Celebrating diversity does not fight racist culture."

Hayes deems the term 'diversity' as one "that has little or no real meaning... it is

not merely about differences as diversity suggests."

**'We all have stories to tell'**

Diversity is a topic filled with numerous definitions, such as the one Hayes expressed. NCSU's Web site says, "N.C. State embraces diversity as essential for effective participation in the global community."

After surveying 3,296 undergraduate students and 1,320 graduate students, the Office for Diversity and African American Affairs hopes to show "how student's perceive their diversity experiences at N.C. State University."

In its survey, 72.2 percent of the undergraduate students and 60.5 percent of the graduate students who responded agreed or strongly agreed that NCSU has achieved its goal of a diverse community.

Regarding the statement that "Diversity is good for NCSU," 85.4 percent of the undergraduate students and 90.7 percent of the graduate students who responded agreed or strongly agreed with that statement.

Under several new authorities, the Office of the Vice Provost of Diversity and African American Affairs has already planned numerous events and programs to increase awareness and appreciation for diversity at NCSU.

Last fall, Dr. Jose A. Picart took over at the OVPDAAA as vice provost for Diversity and African American affairs, and Dr. Karrie Dixon was appointed to the new position as assistant vice provost for student diversity this August.

Other Triangle universities also recognize the need for faculty specifically focused on diversity on campus. UNC has a minority affairs office while Duke has an office for institutional equity. Each university focuses on advancing diversity on their campus.

The vice provost for diversity and African American affairs "has the primary responsibility of forging a shared vision concerning the recruitment, retention, and graduation of a diverse student body," as stated on the OVPDAAA Web site.

Dixon said that the OVPDAAA created

### TECHNICIAN'S VIEW

## A UNIVERSAL OBLIGATION

**OUR OPINION:** DIVERSITY IS NOT JUST A RACIAL ISSUE, IT IS AT THE CORE OF THE UNIVERSITY MISSION. THE UNIVERSITY HAS AN OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND OPEN ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LEARN.

The purpose of a public university is to educate the masses and to be a place where the free exchange

of ideas is encouraged and protected. The university has an obligation to present a diverse collection of opinions, facts and ideas to anyone who chooses to learn. By that same logic, the university should be inclusive of anyone who wants to learn about anything under the sun.

N.C. State is a collection of people from all kinds of backgrounds, geographic

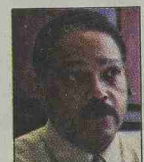
regions, ethnicities, religions and identities. Taken in a strict definition of "diversity," NCSU is diverse, all things being equal.

But everything is not equal and diversity, at least on the collegiate level, seems to be an issue drawn along racial lines.

Diversity is a term on

VIEW continued page 4

## NCSU achieves; work still left to do



**Dr. Jose Picart**  
Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs

Recently, I was asked "Is N.C. State making progress towards its goal of diversity?" My response was "Yes and no!"

This response might sound like a politician's flip-flop, but it is exactly how I see it after one year on the job as the Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs. Here is what I mean by

PICART continued on page 4

## No need to draw the line



**Ian Booth**  
Guest Columnist

A student who is generally apathetic about diversity is a distinction that might seem, given today's social climate, somewhat dubious.

It is taken as a compliment, however, because real diversity is achieved when people from different groups and backgrounds can coexist without having to change the way they live. The goal is to create an

BOOTH continued on page 4

## Diversity a universal issue



**Lock Whiteside**  
Vice-chair African-American Student Advisory Council

When N.C. State hired Vice Provost for Diversity and African American Affairs Dr. Jose Picart in October of 2003, that alone sent a strong message to our campus and the community regarding diversity on campus.

Dr. Picart is committed to fighting on behalf of diversity. He has worked tirelessly building rela-

WHITESIDE continued on page 4

## Diversity concept needs to help gays



**Robb Ellis**  
President BGLA

When asked by a fellow student if I thought N.C. State was diverse, taking the viewpoint of a gay male student, I gave a simple "No."

It's not that I feel that this is a bad thing, but I don't believe that the student diversity on campus reflects the diversity outside of the fish bowl we find ourselves in. I know of very few other gay people on campus and

ELLIS continued on page 4

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## PICART

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“Yes and no!”

YES! If we measure our progress towards diversity based on the quality of interpersonal relationships among diverse groups on campus, then NCSU is making good progress towards achieving its goal of a diverse and inclusive campus. It has been my experience that many students, faculty and staff are very comfortable talking about diversity and working with people who are different from them. For example, we have had several well attended Dialogues on Diversity. The conversations at these campus-wide events have been excellent.

Furthermore, most students on campus report feeling welcomed, included and respected. The results of last spring's student climate survey suggest that most students feel positive about the relationship among diverse groups here at NCSU. Of course, not everyone feels this way. There are some folks that will disagree and will tell you that for them NCSU has not been a supportive or affirming campus. For example, recent campus events (a Technician article on same sex marriages and the defacing of an LGBT poster in the Free Expression Tunnel) show that our LGBT community continues to experience some harassment, discrimination and lack of respect.

NO! If we measure our progress toward diversity using numbers and we compare these numbers against our own past performance and our own standards of excel-

lence, then NCSU's progress toward its goal of diversity has been slow at best. In recent years, we have made little or no progress increasing the number of historically underrepresented students (especially Hispanic and Native American students) or senior administrators. In our undergraduate population, we have made very little progress in the retention and graduation of historically underrepresented students. In some areas, such as in our LGBT community, we have targeted resources to promote diversity, but in other areas, such as the African American Cultural Center, state budget cuts have slowly eroded diversity programming dollars.

When we look at numbers related to equality of outcomes, again we see little or no progress in recent years. For example, given comparable qualifications and potential, minority students earn lower grades and graduate at a lower rate, and in some disciplines minority faculty earn slightly lower salaries and are promoted at a slower rate. Data also show that minority employees receive fewer awards for excellence than majority white employees. In recent years there has been significant progress toward increasing diverse candidate pools for faculty lines, admissions has improved minority student recruitment efforts, and a much needed Progress Toward Degree program has been developed.

There is good news, however, when we compare our NCSU numbers (number of minority students, number of minority faculty, number of African American graduate students completing

graduate school, total resources committed to diversity, etc.) to our peer institutions, our progress towards diversity is excellent. For example, NCSU consistently ranks among the country's top producers of African American masters and doctoral graduates.

So, how do we move forward? First, we must continue to improve interpersonal relationships among the diverse groups on campus through dialogue, conversation, and diversity education. In particular, we must continue to have open and candid discussions about racism, white and male privilege, religious bigotry and how to prepare this campus for a potential increase in the number of Hispanic/Latino students who enroll at NCSU.

Second, we need to increase funding for diversity. This must be accomplished through grant writing, fundraising through donations and gift giving, as well as increased state funding. Third, we must change university policies and procedures to increase both individual and organizational accountability for diversity education, minority representation at all levels and for the quality of our interpersonal relationships. For example, offer letters to new hires and incorporate employee work plans. Performance evaluations must be explicit about each individual employee's responsibility to promote diversity at NCSU. Progress toward our goal of a diverse and inclusive campus is everyone's responsibility.

Guest columnist Jose Picart is NCSU's vice provost for diversity.

## VIEW

continued from page 3

campus that has acquired several meanings in the last decade. Some view diversity as an equal number of races, while others view it as an exchange of ideas or an absorption into a culture.

But diversity is not just a racial issue, it is a human issue. It affects all of us and is central to the educational mission of the university.

There are many groups on campus that cater to specific groups of people: the African American Student Advisory Council, the Asian Student Association, the Middle Eastern/North African Student Association, EKTA and Bisexual, Gays, Lesbians and Allies, just to name a few.

These groups are member-oriented. They offer an environment where people of a like culture can get together, celebrate and further their culture. But they also serve a unique purpose: to educate the campus community about the many cultures represented on campus, through events and educational opportunities. CHASS also offers classes about dif-

ferent cultures through the history, Africana Studies and anthropology and sociology departments. Many majors require students to take a certain amount of humanities courses.

In this respect, NCSU is very diverse. There are plenty of events and plenty of groups a student can choose from to learn about different cultures.

The key word is choice. Just because these groups and classes exist does not mean students have to attend and learn. The university certainly does, and should, encourage students to attend, as a part of their educational mission. And cultural groups should be open for intrigued students to inquire about them. That's what the campus groups need to work on. Let's not ostracize the outsiders to a specific group.

Above all, the Office of Diversity should work towards “human-centered” events, where cultural exchange and learning for all are fostered.

Diversity is a shared issue that is beyond skin color, sexual orientation and gender. Enlightened people want to learn about others.

The university is merely the springboard for that curiosity.

## COLOR

continued from page 3

the assistant vice provost for student diversity position this year, “because we wanted a position that was more student-focused and student-driven.”

“The OVPDAAA wanted to establish someone who could interact with student programs,” Dixon said.

Dixon said that in order to keep students at NCSU for the duration of their college career, social integration, as well as academic integration, must be considered.

“Though we have differences, we have a lot of similarities, too,” Dixon said, “We all have stories to tell.”

### African-American affairs and beyond

Last year, OVPDAAA celebrated the 50th anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education. The African American Cultural Center put on a year-long series of programs relating to the anniversary to incorporate a broader campus community.

NCSU also worked with Duke, NCCU and UNC-Chapel Hill to develop an anniversary celebration for the entire Research Triangle community.

The OVPDAAA also worked last year to establish a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered subcommittee of the Diversity Advisory Council.

Anticipating an increase in Hispanic and Latino students at NCSU in the future, OVPDAAA said it plans to establish relationships with several Hispanic and Latino organizations on and off campus last year.

“I really hope to promote conversation with students about diversity issues,” Dixon said.

She said that through connecting student programs together, she hoped that these organizations would get to know each other better and establish a larger support system.

Another focus of the OVPDAAA last year revolved around overall funding for their office. In collaboration with the NCSU Graduate School, the OVPDAAA submitted grant proposals during the 2003-2004 school year to fund a new faculty recruitment program and to fund a Diversity Research Conference for graduate students.

The OVPDAAA currently plans to focus on several new initiatives to increase awareness of diversity on campus. By Nov. 1, a new NCSU diversity Web site is hoped to launch and will be maintained by the Office for Diversity and African American Affairs.

During the 2004-2005 year, the OVPDAAA also aspires to host a two-day conference bringing African American students, faculty and alumni together for Pan African Week to celebrate achieve-

ments of black alumni.

OVPDAAA also has plans in the works for diversity workshops for faculty and a review over current employee hiring documents, work plans and annual performance review procedures to ensure that all organizations promote the goal of diversity are also on their agenda for this year.

**Complete student interaction**  
The OVPDAAA defines diversity as “an inclusive collection of individuals and groups who bring varied human characteristics, backgrounds, interests and points of view to enrich the university community.”

According to Tom Stafford, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, diversity can be defined a number of ways from geographical to cultural backgrounds. N.C. State comprises a number of these different definitions of diversity, he said.

Mercedes Marshall, chair of Student Government's Diversity Committee, said that NCSU has a diverse campus in regard to having students and student organizations from different backgrounds.

“The key here is to have interaction between them and that is where our university is lacking,” Marshall said.

Pat Monigle, a sophomore in geology, agreed that NCSU has a diverse campus and that certain groups have better representation than others.

“But that is out of the control of the university,” Monigle said. “It is more a reflection on society than anything else.”

Dixon shared similar ideas as Marshall and Monigle. According to Dixon, some student organizations on campus feel excluded from the university climate.

Dixon hopes to see more partnerships between these student organizations during her tenure.

“Through partnering on programs, student organizations can be more visual and make a presence on campus,” Dixon said.

Marshall said that faculty positions specifically focused on diversity are necessary for the university to help pass along the work and goals of current students to student leaders in the future.

“It is important to build these relationships because students' time at N.C. State is short in comparison to how long faculty and staff will be staying here,” Marshall said.

However, Marshall said that she does not think students utilize these faculty positions but that student leaders on campus were always trying to improve relations with faculty and staff.

“It takes work, it takes determination, but most of all, it takes the desire of students truly wanting diversity in order for there to be change,” Marshall said. “In order to improve, we all need to get involved — everyone from students all the way up to administration.”

## BOOTH

continued from page 3

environment where people treat everyone else the same regardless of religion, race, or political belief.

If this goal is how we define diversity, then N.C. State has failed in achieving it by creating such things as the Minority Career Fair and the Office of Diversity and African American Affairs, which do not encourage diversity or tolerance. They are diametrically opposed to it. All they serve to do is divide us up, create schisms between us and then treat us differently based on irrelevant factors.

Are “minorities” different in some fundamental, relevant way that warrants special treatment with regards to jobs? Are they less competent and thus in need of special help, or are they so superior to the rest of the population that they have earned their own career fair? Are African-Americans a group

to be kept distinct from the rest of the student body as their own entity with which the university has exclusive relations? To be sure, such university constructs are beneficial to the groups they deal with, and if that is the real goal of N.C. State then they are probably succeeding. Such a goal, however, should not be confused (as it currently is) with diversity.

I think the university is right to offer classes that focus on diversity or teaching about different groups. A familiarity with various cultures is crucial to a balanced education. Furthermore, if there is widespread interest in a given diversity-related subject — African-American history, for example — then, of course, classes should be offered to meet demand for a valid area of study.

My only caveat with regards to classes is that there should be equal opportunity for courses on all backgrounds. The Office of African American Affairs is anti-

diversity because it does not have counterparts for all other groups, but a course in African-American studies is acceptable because it exists alongside comparable courses regarding people of Asian, Latin American or European descent.

In spite of the university's misguided efforts at diversity, rather than because of them, the concept seems to be widely accepted by its student body.

Virtually every background and point of view is represented in our student body and faculty, and the overwhelming majority accepts this without consciously deciding to. One can be pleased that in a given walk to class one can see white, black, Arab, Latino and Asian students co-mingling as though it were no big deal — because it is no big deal. We don't need an office of diversity to tell us that.

Guest columnist Ian Booth is a sophomore in political science.

## ELLIS

continued from page 3

find that when I tell people that I am gay, they react in much the same way.

The first reaction is shock, considering I don't follow the common (and very outdated) stereotype. Then curiosity sets in, followed by indifference. Most people do not care either way. Sure, there's always a bad seed to spoil the bunch, but overall, I feel well accepted and have never felt my safety was in jeopardy because of it.

Much of the reason for the reduced visibility of gay people on campus is the school itself. NCSU at its core is an engineering and agricultural university — majors that traditionally are less accepting.

This concept varies greatly from our rival in Chapel Hill, which

most would agree has a more visible bisexual, gay and lesbian population. In fact, I've heard a few politically incorrect individuals refer to the town as Chapel Queer. Do I think that our lesser “gayness” is detrimental, or that anything should be done? Not really. It's just the nature of the beast.

At the recent Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies meeting, however, I found it very difficult to believe that at a school of nearly 30,000 students, only three or four dozen were interested in being active in an organization that looks out for our interests and safety.

Where are all the gay people? Maybe they're scared because, according to a recent survey conducted by NCSU, students perceive gay and lesbian students to have the least supportive classroom environment of any grouping of students.

Outside of feeling occasionally out of place in a university in which testosterone and a macho-esque attitude run rampant, there are instances that come up.

Recently, a classmate was reacting to the restrictions set on tailgating during the football games and said aloud, “That's so gay.”

While I realize that he is not commenting directly on homosexuality, I do find it somewhat offensive.

I feel lucky, because so far these are the only instances that have come up, especially when there are many cases elsewhere of intolerance and even violence.

I hope that people learn to look at this diversity with understanding as a very positive thing.

Guest columnist Robb Ellis is a junior in meteorology and president of Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies.

## WHITESIDE

continued from page 3

tionships with faculty, staff, students and community leaders.

For instance, Dr. Picart is a strong advocate of the African American Cultural Center and its mission. There is a wide variety of majors students can major in; however, I would encourage the university to add more programs, such as Native American Studies, for instance.

I feel that the university as a whole is accepting the concept of diversity.

Our challenge now, is to reach out to those students, faculty and staff members that are not accepting the concept.

This is the leading objective for all of us to work toward achieving. In order for the university to achieve its goal of diversity, we must start from the ground and work our way up. We need to continue to stress that everyone is welcome at NCSU.

The administration should continue to be promoters of diversity and attend diversity programs and forums across campus.

Diversity is not a white vs. black issue, it is an American issue. When we achieve this goal it will make our university stronger and a beacon of opportunity and inclusiveness for everyone.

Guest columnist Lock Whiteside III is a junior in political science and vice-chairman of the African American Student Advisory Council.



# TECHNICIAN

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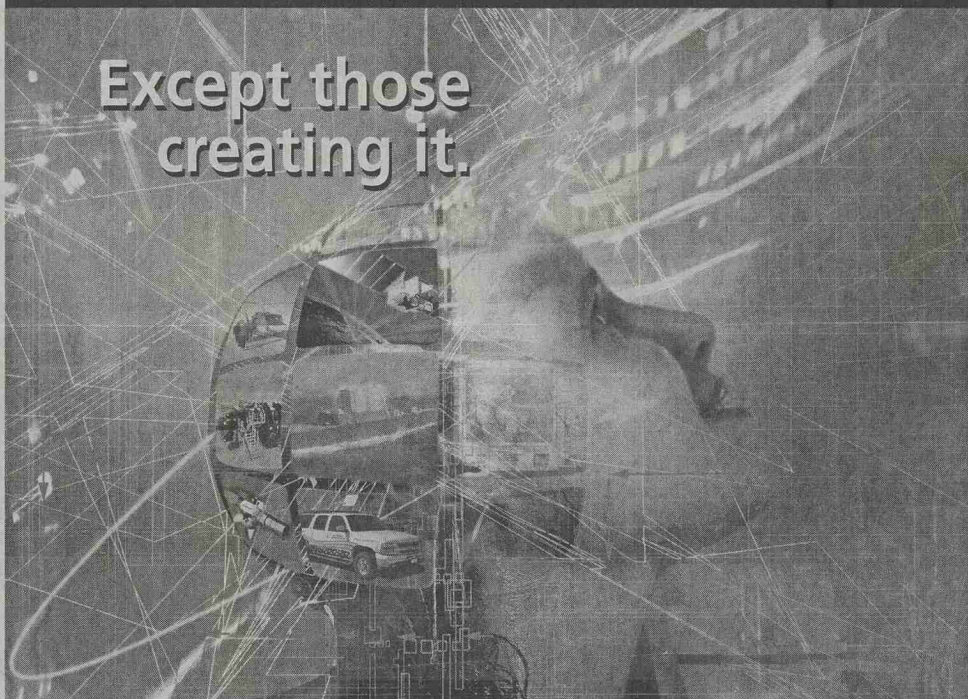
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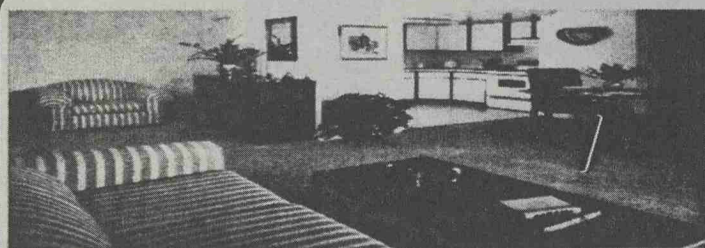
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# Sports

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**Schedule**  
 Football at Virginia Tech, 9/25, Noon  
 M. Soccer at Clemson, 9/24, 7  
 W. Soccer vs Clemson, 9/24, 7  
 Volleyball at Georgia Tech, 9/24, 7

**Scores**  
 No games scheduled.

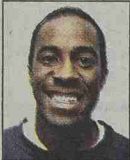


TECHNICIAN

COMMENTARY

## The sibling rivalry

For all of you out there with siblings: You know how it is when you fight with your brother or sister on who is



**Memie Ezike**  
 Staff Writer

would get a cookie for being the best kid. Fifteen years later, you still competed: Who would come back with the best grades or who would be the tallest in the family?

Fast forward to July 2004. I find out that my sister is going to attend Ohio State. Within a couple of weeks, she is already Buckeye bonkers, proclaiming the greatness of Ohio State University all the time.

She even got me a T-shirt, which I don't plan to wear for a while. It's sickening.

She doesn't know about the game that still leaves a sour taste in the mouths of Pack fans. I look at her scheduled date for move-in — Sept. 16. What a coincidence. Her first football game as a Buckeye is going to be against Big Brother's Pack.

Fast forward to Sept. 18. This game had so much meaning for me, for I knew that in Columbus, Ohio, Little Sis was intently watching.

We jarred back and forth about the game. She guaranteed a win for Ohio State. I promised a Wolfpack victory.

I thought, "She has no idea what she is talking about." I remembered seeing the disappointment on Philip Rivers' face on ABC when T.A. McLendon fell short by a half-yard last year.

This game was ours, I told her. "We'll see," she said.

And I didn't like what I saw. After the Buckeyes recovered the onside kick with the score at 22-14, I dreaded the call from Little Sis.

She's always been a talker, but armed with college pride and five Mike Nugent field goals, she was going to talk like never before.

After the game, I called the family expecting a bit of encouragement. Dad didn't watch, Mom took a neutral stance, but Little Brother wouldn't get off the fact that we lost. I was speechless — now my little brother was siding with Ohio State, too?

A couple of hours later, I got the call from Little Sis.

You all can imagine what she said. But with all her bragging, part of me felt happy for her.

Yeah, her team won, but I felt a sense of joy that she was able to celebrate her first college football win, a moment that I have experienced many times over the past four years.

I guess my joy reiterated the fact that family love transcends anything a football game victory can ever achieve.

Memie can be reached at 515-2411 or sports@technicianonline.com

CAMPUS REC

## Wakeboard Club back in the water

THE WAKEBOARD CLUB HAS REGAINED ITS BOAT PRIVILEGES AFTER SPENDING ONE YEAR ON PROBATION.

**Ryan Reynolds**  
 Deputy Sports Editor

There are only a couple of boats scattered across Lake Wheeler on a mild fall afternoon.

Senior Bret Paterson stands at the back of one of the boats and rubs soap on his feet, so he can easily slide into the tight bindings of his wakeboard.

Within moments, Paterson is jumping the wake from behind the boat as it speeds through the open water, pulling off grab front flips and a 540, while getting as high as 15 feet in the air.

Last year none of this was possible. But it wasn't because Paterson wasn't a good wakeboarder — he's been one of the best in North Carolina for a couple years, judging by competition results.

It was because the Wakeboarding Club was placed on probation last year after its former officers failed to attend mandatory club sports meetings and file the proper paperwork to keep the club running.

"Nobody in the club knew there wasn't any leadership," Paterson said. "The old officers got the club suspended, so the boat was locked up all last year."

Even though the 19-foot Mastercraft boat used for wakeboarding was inaccessible, Paterson wanted to get the club off probation.

He allocated a lot of time last year to doing the necessary things to get the wakeboarding club active again. Paterson also took over as president and appointed new officers to the club.

"They were pretty upset when the club fell into probation," said Lisa Hanson, assistant director of club sports. "They did all they could to get back on track."

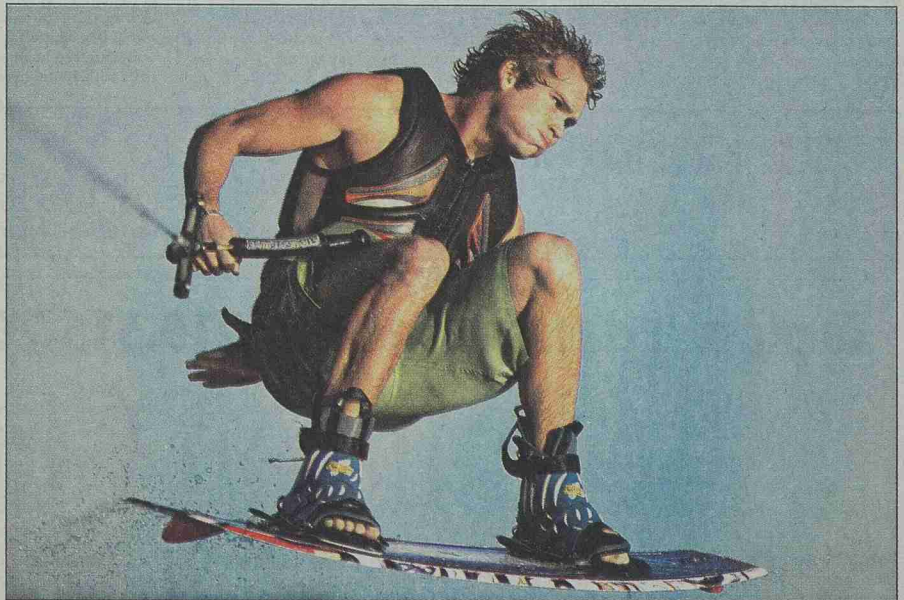
The Wakeboarding Club got off probation and got access to the boat early this summer. Since then, the club has grown to 26 members, and more students still want to join, Paterson says.

"The membership is too full as it is, so we have a wait list of around 10 people," Paterson said. "We only have one boat to use, so we can't have a very big club."

Each member has to pay \$70 per semester to be in the club, but the fee is subject to change, according to Paterson.

"We have some of the most expensive equipment to use, and anyone who joins the club doesn't have to have a wakeboard because we can provide all of that stuff," Paterson said.

The Wakeboarding Club takes the



Wakeboard Club President Bret Paterson reaches behind his back to complete the rotation of a 540 at Lake Wheeler Tuesday evening. The wakeboarding club is currently on its first year off of probation and practices up to four times a week at the lake.



Sophomore Justin Hollingsworth reaches for the tow rope during a late afternoon Wakeboard Club practice at Lake Wheeler. He joined the club this semester.

boat out to Lake Wheeler as many as four days a week to practice, depending on the weather and how many people want to go. The only thing required is

that the boat always has nearly a full tank of gas, so whoever takes it out, has to refill it.

Justin Hollingsworth, a sophomore

from Savannah, Ga., has been wakeboarding for three years but just joined the club earlier this semester.

"I try to go out once every two weeks or so," Hollingsworth said. "A lot of guys that were better than me and taught me tricks back at home have moved away, so these guys are who I learn from."

It's not a bad thing to have Paterson as a teacher.

He's been wakeboarding for six years and has placed in several competitions throughout high school, earning him sponsorships with Aussie Island Surf Shop, Rip Curl and Liquid Force. Paterson also finished second at the Wakeboarding Southeast Advanced Division in 2001.

He also did some wakeboarding instructing over the summer, and is still riding in competitions.

One of the events Paterson and a couple other Wakeboard Club members will be competing in is the Riverfest Wakeboard Tournament, held in Wilmington this

WAKE continued on page 7

WOMEN'S SOCCER

## Warman balances time-consuming days



N.C. State senior midfielder Katherine Warman wins a header during a 7-0 win over Fairfield early this season. She spends the daytime as a T.A. for a high school English class.

Katherine Warman juggles student teaching with Wolfpack soccer.

**Brian Grossman**  
 Staff Writer

Imagine trying to come up with a lesson plan for a high school English class. That English class just happens to be a class full of seniors. Oh, and it's an Advanced Placement course.

Imagine playing Division I soccer in the toughest conference in the country where one team, North Carolina, has more national championships than all other schools combined. There are practices multiple times a week combined with some of the most physical and toughest games played anywhere in the country.

Either activity is guaranteed to take up serious time. Extreme amounts of dedication, poise and self-discipline are necessary to participate in each, let alone excel. Now imagine doing both of those activities concurrently.

That's Katherine Warman. During the day she teaches 12th grade AP English at Cary High School. After school gets out, she rushes back

to N.C. State where she's a redshirt senior captain on the Wolfpack women's soccer team, making a comeback from a torn ACL that caused her to miss all last season.

"I'm late every day for practice," Warman said. "I don't really have a break in between the two, so I can't get ready for it. I just come in and jump into practice. Soccer is a great outlet. I'm stuck in the classroom all day long. It's just really fun to get out and kick a ball around."

Being stuck in the classroom isn't all that bad since teaching is something she feels like she's meant to do.

"Teaching is just something I've always wanted to do, and I've always thought I could be good at it," Warman said. "I think a lot of people have had bad teachers, and I want to learn from them and be that teacher that gets through to a kid. And I think English is a very undervalued subject, so that's why I chose that — so people can appreciate it the way I do."

One thing is for certain, and that's how much Warman's teammates appreciate her and respect her for her dedication to them and her teaching,

according to State Coach Laura Kerrigan.

"She has tremendous respect from the players," Kerrigan said. "They've seen what she had to go through with her knee injury, and they've seen her leadership and how hard she works on the field. She has the respect of all of our players."

Erin Griswold, a senior teammate of Warman's, said personality is the key for Warman's successes both on and off the field.

"She's a great person all around," Griswold said. "She's a great people person and she knows how to form relationships with everyone on the team. She's a great captain for us. She loves soccer, and she shows that when she's here. And she loves to teach, and she gives that her all too."

There are many lessons to be learned in the classroom not only for her students, but for Warman as well.

"Any time you're a teacher, you learn to be a better student," Kerrigan said. "Kat has always been very coachable, and we're just happy to have her here

WARMAN continued on page 7

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