North Carolina State University's Newspaper Since 1920

Thursday



Intramural sports and other recreation and fitness programs are an important part of the college experience for the thousands of students who take part in them. Whether for fun or fitness, over a third of the NCSU community participates. That means more students take part in intramural sports than live on campus.

Because of the numerous teams and sports involved, the athletes and referees involved receive little attention from the media or campus community. But the games, players and officials represent such a large part of what NCSU is about that we felt we should devote this issue of Techtoo to intramurals.

Technician can only rarely cover individual intramural games or players. In this special intramural edition, though, we hav tried to given an overview of the athletic system with feature stories on the rivalries, traditions and officials, among other

topics.

Whether you participate in the games or not, we hope you enjoy this issue.

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TECHNICIAN

Serving North Carolina State University since 1920. Editor in Chief Managing Editor Joe Johnson Mark Toscak

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On the Cover

Illustration by Laura Allen

Intramural program keeps four goals in mind: safety, equity, continuity and fun

By John B. Harrington Staff Writer

Intramural sports are an integral part of the college experience for nearly one-third of the N.C. State University population. Around 9,131 students participate in some employed as supervisors and officials.

Samuel Halstead, director of the Intramural-Recreational Sports Program, said the intramural program is very strong 'because we identify the students' interests, we have a very strong organization and we are very concerned with the time constraints of the students."

"We realize that most students have a lot of academic and work demands to contend with also."

Halstead says that the four goals of the program are continuity, equity, safety and a quality and fun-filled experience for all involved. "Our program has national recognition, we have interns from all over the country applying for positions here."

The operational budget for the intramural program is \$350,997. Of that amount, \$256,125 is allotted to active managers and facility managers such as graduate assistants, interns, officials and supervisors for all the activities and facilities. This includes the 450 students employed as officials. The remaining \$94,872 is used for supplies, equipment, student travel, printing, awards, rentals and communications.

The major sports offered in the intramural competition are fiveplayer basketball, flag football, soccer, softball, volleyball, bowling, cross country, track and field, pitch and putt, golf and swimming.

The minor sports are badminton, racquetball, table tennis, tennis and recreational "C" League versions of five-player basketball, flag football, softball and volleyball. Each of these activities carry their own individual point structure.

The intramural sports are divided into six different units: the men's residence, men's fraternity, women's residence and sorority, men's open, women's open and co-recreation. Men and women participate together only in the co-



A quarterback watches as his receiver (#13) tries to catch his pass. Open League Intramural sports such as this game are open to all students of the right gender.

recreational unit. The open divisions are offered to faculty and staff as well as students.

Some of the activities are further divided into the "A" and "C" leagues, with the "A" leagues described as being a little more competitive and intense.

The schedule for these activities is posted on the walls of the intramural office in Room 1000 in Carmichael Gymnasium and is also listed in the Intramural Handbook. Team captains are responsible for registering their teams before the posted deadlines.

Most of the activities are played on Upper Miller Field, on Lower Miller Field or in Carmichael Gymnasium. Combined, these three locations contain three soccer fields, eight football fields, seven flag football fields, seven flag cotball fields, 11 basketball courts, 17 badminton courts and eight volleyball courts.

Most games are conducted Monday through Friday between 5 and 11 p.m.

"It's not unusual to see a 100 spectators out there watching a game," said Halstead, "The students really get into it,"

"We keep the games from

getting out of hand by having clear guidelines and rules. Also, there are always supervisors on hand."

One of the main highlights of the intramural year is an extramural event known as "Big Four Sports Day." This once-ayear event, which started 46 years ago, pits the intramural teams of UNC-CH, NCSU, Wake Forest and Duke against one another. The sports showcased in this event are basketball, volleyball, softball, badminton, racquerball, table tennis, tennis, swimming, crosscountry and golf. NCSU's record in this event has been very impressive. For the past nine consecutive years, the men's intramural team has scored the highest in overall, points. The women's team lost last year, but they had won nine years straight preceding that.

The prizes offered for victory in the intramural program come in the form of T-shirts, photo displays and a vast array of plaques and cups.

The most popular prizes, however, are the T-shirts. Over 1,270 of them are given out in a year. They come in a multitude of colors with the sport that was played denoted on the front. According to Randy Bechtolt, the assistant director of the Intramural Program, the competition for them can be quite intense. "I've had people come up to me and beg me to sell them one." The T-shirts are symbols of pride and accomplishment among the players who have earned them.

As of October 26, 1992, the rankings for the intramural teams were as follows:

Women's Residence/Sorority Point Totals

1. Alpha Delta Pi	190
2. Sigma Kappa	172.5
3. Delta Zeta	170
4. Chi Omega	146.5
5 Zoto Tou Alabo	145

Men's Residence Point Totals

1. Bragaw North	25	4
2. Owen II	240	
3. Bragaw South	11 21	5
4. Bragaw South	1 20	7
F W 1 .	***	

Men's Fraternity Point Totals

1. Delta Upsilon	179
2. Phi Delta Theta	179
3. Sigma Chi	170
4. Pi Kappa Pi	170
5. Sigma Alpha M	tu 165

Samuel Halstead encourages anyone who is interested in getting involved in the Intramural Program to come by the Intramural Office at Room 1000 in Carmichael Gymnasium or call 515-3161.

Referees keep games lean

By Maria McKinney

Referees are the people who hold the fate and fairness of a sporting event in the palms of their hands, and at N.C. State University, any student can be

Referee positions for university intramural sports are open to anyone with an interest. There are no class or age stipulations.

"A grad student, freshman, sophomore, junior or senior can do this," said Tommy Perkins, a graduate student in parks and recreation tourism management who directs the intramural referees. "Just show up at the

The clinics for refereeing different sports are advertised all over campus. And a student need not commit himself before the clinic begins; he just needs to show up.

The clinics are small training sessions for students interested in refereeing. An official must attend one lecture and one field clinic, according to Perkins.

"In clinics we go over the rules of the sport," Perkins said. Would-be referees must then pass a test on the rules, scoring at least 70 of 100 points, in order to officiate an intramural game Brian Teague, a senior double-

majoring in accounting and business management, referees intramural volleyball. He said he was not intimidated when he went to his first clinics.

"They weren't very difficult," said Teague, who was already familiar with the sport. "They were pretty much review for

Mark Pickett, a freshman occer referee, called the lectures informative. Pickett said they are usually given by someone with

experience as a referee. "In the lecture, they have someone who has refereed before," Pickett said. "He was basically telling us everything we needed to know."

The field clinics thrust the soon-to-be referee into situations that may come up during actual intramural events.

"They took us out on the field to adjust us to what it's like," Pickett said.

Once the lecture and field clinics end, the referees sign up to officiate games. Sign-up is on a weekly basis, with students at liberty to choose the games they would like to referee. The students also give Perkins' office a list of the hours they are

available to officiate

For soccer intramurals, a referee signs up for the playing field of his or her choice. There are six fields, each with three officials, Pickett said.

Though there is no set schedule, many student officials dedicate a lot of time to refereeing

"The [volleyball] games are in one-hour increments, and I usually ref seven or eight a week," Teague said.

Pickett also often dedicates his expertise to the soccer intramurals

"Usually I ref about two games a day and three days a week," he

Intramural referees are paid for their dedicated time.

"It's a way to make money," Teague said. "I think they pay regular university wage.

A possible downside to refereeing is the love/hate relationship with the players. But this isn't a negative for most intramural officials

"Sometimes [the players] vent their frustration toward the referee," Pickett said, "but I understand that because I used to play soccer.

Teague said he has also had some tense moments during



Football players confer with a game official. Referees must have onfield experience before they are allowed to work games.

games, but said the player reaction is mostly positive. "You get your initial outburst

on the court," he said, "but most of the time everyone tells you that you did a good job.

Hard work needed before fun

By Mark Schaffer nior Staff Write

Organization is the key to intramurals

Last year with over 9000 participants, organization was critical. And for the intramurals to be a success for the event participants, others had to give their time to making sure the games ran smoothly. These people were the officials. Love em or hate 'em, they are necessary for the continuation of

"All officials are students," said Tommy Perkins, a graduate assistant working to schedule officials.

These students are sometimes participants in other sports or just interested in helping out and earning a little money along the way. But they sometimes have more personal reasons.

According to Mark Pickett, a new official and freshman in engineering undesignated, he became an official "to help me to

meet more people, get exposed to more of the people here. I like it - I play soccer and referee it. too. It's been a lot of fun.

No matter how much fun. though, it is still an important job for which the officials get paid. "Officials are paid the first year \$5.25 and get a quarter raise if they come back the next year, budget provided," said Perkins. Students interested

See REFEREES, Page 8



Thanks to the Intramural staff, students can be quarterbacks.





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Past, present full of excitement for intramurals Intramurals oldest in state

By Michelle LeFaivre

Any night you drive through campus you are likely to see the brightly lit intramural fields filled with determined athletes and cheering crowds. The large gathering on the fields gives you an idea of the importance and popularity of intramural sports here at N.C. State University.

Perhaps

reason for the growth

of the intramural and

recreation programs at

NCSU is the terrific

facilities available.

opened in May 1961.

Carmichael

But do you know_ when and how this program began? As a matter of fact, NCSU has the oldest intramural college program in North Carolina

Students organized the first competitions at NCSU in the early 1900s. These were class teams football, baseball, track, tennis and . later, basketball

The first formal intramural program in the state was organized by John F Miller in 1924. He was director of intramurals for over 30 years, during which time he led the program under his philosophy that students used the skills learned in required PE courses to motivate them to participate in intramurals.

Miller established an advisory board of students from various groups on campus. These representatives from dorms, fraternities and independent groups assisted in establishing policies, activities, rules, protests, publicity, officials and rewards. The program was primarily student run. The Student Intramural-Recreation Sports Board still acts in that capacity today.

In 1926, the program was organized into a dormitory league and a fraternity league. These leagues competed in touch football, volleyball, handball, wrestling, basketball, swimming, table tennis, boxing, softball, track, tennis and horseshoes. The school also convened open tournaments. encouraging all students and faculty to participate regardless of skill level.

Today, there are six divisions of the intramural sports program - women's residence/sorority, women's open, corecreational, informal recreation, men's residence and men's fraternity. There are 20 activities in the fall and spring semesters ranging from flag football and soccer to golf and handball.

And since 1947, NCSU has been competing in Big Four Sports Day with Duke, UNC-Chapel Hill and Wake Forest. This event involves participants in intramural programs from each school

Perhaps another reason for the growth of the intramural

another

and recreation programs at NCSU terrific the facilities available.

Carmichael Gym opened in May 1961. The 200,000 square feet facility was built for a student population of 8,000. In the 1960s, the playing fields beside Carmichael were

developed for use and named in honor of Miller.

Because of growth in the student body beyond the capacity of the facility, the school added a 130,000 square feet building in 1987. This addition includes a rock wall, pool, multi-use gym, gymnastics area, dance studio, indoor track, weight-training rooms and 18 handball and racquetball

The outdoor facilities have courts and areas to accommodate archery, golf, tennis, basketball and track. The Miller fields are available for flag football, soccer, softball and other field sports.

In 1988-89, the university placed additional lights on the lower Miller Fields to increase opportunities for sports programs previously hindered by

Also, the school added office space to Carmichael for the staff and directors of the intramural-recreation program. This is the year that faculty staffing was increased to full-time status.

Current Intramural-Recreation Director Sam Halstead vouched for this, saying that his job goes beyond the nine-to-five hours common around the country. He said that the office stays open late to allow for more

See ORGANIZATION, Page 8

Rivalries add spice to sports

Bechtolt said that,

at times, matches

between some of

these rivals have

gotten out of hand.

However, their

always been resolved

differences

By Randy Saunders

Rival: one of two or more striving to reach or obtain something that only one

Rivalries exist in our competitive world. Only the strong survive, and may only the best win.

Rivalries affect our lives. N.C. State University and UNC-

CH are big rivals. They strive and work for the same goal; supremacy across the Tar Heel State. Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola fight for superiority in the soft drink realm. Amongst

Intramural Sports Program teams there are some pretty intense rivalries that have formed over the

Randy

Bechtolt. assistant director of intramurals, said that the biggest rivalries among intramural sports teams at NCSU are within the fraternities and the sororities. Bechtolt said that these organizations have great rivalries because there is more unity in a Greek house than in a residence hall.

Many students that begin college in a dorm will more often that not move off campus within two years. Bechtolt said that with more students moving off campus, the residence halls are being filled with freshmen. In many cases, a residence hall's athletic director will be a freshman, as well as the participants. This prevents intense rivalries from forming between residence halls. However, Bechtolt recognized a few on campus rivals.

The biggest one is probably between Bragaw North and Bragaw South. These two squads not only live in the same hall, but Bragaw South finished first place last year and Bragaw North finished in second place.

On the Greek side, Bechtolt pointed out several strong fraternity rivalries. Last year's champions, Sigma Phi Epsilon and the runners-up, Phi Delta Theta, are classic rivals. Each matchup between these two is a grudge match

have an intense rivalry. Another one is between Sigma Alpha Mu and Pi Kappa Phi.

Bechtolt said that, at times, matches between some of these rivals have gotten out of hand. However, their differences have always been resolved through sportsmanlike actions. Bechtolt also said that the most active sports for these rivals are basketball, football

baseball.

Let's not forget the women's Intramural Program. While not as many women Intramurals, there are some rivalries among them. Because there aren't enough sororities or female participants from

residence halls to have two separate leagues, the sororities and residence halls compete together in one league.

The premier rivalry is between Alpha Delta Pi and Sigma Kappa. These two sororities share the same house on Fraternity Court, so there's extra incentive to establish which is the superior sorority. They earn the right to brag at the other's expense around the house

There isn't, however, much rivalry between the women of the residence halls. Except for Bowen Hall, no residence hall finished better than the worst sorority.

But Bechtolt said that there is potential for a rivalry between Sullivan and Metcalf this year. Both groups are off to a good start. Bowen, last year's runner-up for the championship, considers all sororities to be their rivals. But their nemesis is Chi Omega, the 1991-1992 intramural champs.

Bechtolt said that rivalries, for the most part, change from year to year. There are several factors that can dissolve the legacy of tradition that is a good rivalry. First of all, students are graduating or leaving every year. Plus, as stated earlier, there isn't the unity in residence halls that fraternities have. And Bechtolt pointed out that

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recreational	Sports
Wed., Feb. 17	Wed., Feb. 24 — 7:00
Organizational Meeting	Play Begins:
Wed., Feb. 17 — 7:00	Mon., Mar. 8
Play Begins:	
Mon., Feb. 22	
	*Big Four Sports Day at N.C.
	State
•Softball	Wed. Apr. 7
Registration:	Awards Presentation
Mon., Feb. 15	Thurs., Apr. 22 — 4:30
Wed., Feb. 24	
Organizational Meeting	
	Wed., Feb. 17 Organizational Meeting Wed., Feb. 17 — 7:00 Play Begins: Mon., Feb. 22 *Softball Registration: Mon., Feb. 15 Wed., Feb. 24

An Intramural

Women's Open/Residence

•Swim Meet

•5-Player Basketball (A&C) Registration:

Mon., Nov. 30	Registration:
Thurs., Jan. 7	Tues., Jan. 19
Organizational Meeting:	Mon., Jan. 25
Thurs., Jan. 7 — 5:00	Play Begins:
Play Begins:	Thurs., Jan. 28
Mon., Jan. 11	
	*Softball (A&C)
	Registration:
*Faculty/Grad. Basketball	Mon., Feb. 15
Registration:	Wed., Feb. 24
Mon., Nov. 30	Organizational Meeting:
Mon., Jan. 11	Mon., Feb. 24 — 5:00
Organizational Meeting:	Play Begins:
Mon., Jan. 11 — 5:00	Mon., Mar. 8
Play Begins:	
Mon., Jan. 11	*Faculty/Grad. Softball
	Registration:

., Feb. 15 ., Feb. 23
nizational Meeting:
., Feb. 23 — 5:00
Begins:
., Mar. 8

Registration:	
Wed., Jan. 6	*Badminton
Wed., Jan. 13	Registration:
Play Begins:	Mon., Feb. 8
Tues., Jan. 19	Sun., Feb. 21
	Play Begins:
Squash	Sun., Feb. 21

•Table Tennis

Registration:	
Wed., Jan. 6	•Golf
Wed., Jan. 13	Registration:
Play Begins:	Mon., Mar. 8
Tues., Jan. 19	Wed., Mar. 17
	Play Begins:

	Fri., Mar. 19
*Bowling	
Registration:	•Track Meet
Wed., Jan. 6	Registration:
Wed., Jan. 13	Mon., Mar. 29
Organizational Meeting:	Wed., Apr. 7
Mon., Jan. 13 — 5:00	Play Begins:
Play Begins:	Tues., Apr. 13

Tues., Jan. 19

Sports calender/guide

Men's Open Sports

*5-Player Basketball (A&C) *Faculty/Grad. Softball Registration: Registration: Registration: Mon., Nov. 30 Wed., Jan. 6 Mon., Feb. 15 Thurs., Jan. 7 Wed., Jan. 13 Tues., Feb. 23 Organizational Meeting: Play Begins: Organizational Meeting: Thurs., Jan. 7 - 5:00 Tues., Jan. 19 Tues., Feb. 23 - 5:00 Play Begins: Play Begins: Mon., Jan. 11 *Bowling Mon., Mar. 8 Registration:

Wed., Jan. 6 *Faculty/Grad. Basketball Wed., Jan. 13 Registration: Organizational Meeting: Mon., Nov. 30 Mon., Jan. 13 - 5:00 Mon., Jan. 11 Play Begins: Organizational Meeting: Tues., Jan. 19

Mon., Jan. 11 - 5:00 Play Begins: Swim Meet

*Handball Registration: Wed., Jan. 6

Mon., Jan. 11

Wed., Jan. 13 Play Begins:

Tues., Jan. 19 •Table Tennis

Registration: Wed., Jan. 6 Wed., Jan. 13 Play Begins: Tues., Jan. 19 Play Begins: Thurs., Jan. 28

Registration:

Tues., Jan. 19

Mon., Jan. 25

*Softball (A&C) Registration:

Mon., Feb. 15 Wed., Feb. 24

Organizational Meeting: Mon., Feb. 24 — 5:00 Play Begins:

Mon., Mar. 8

•Badminton

Registration: Mon., Feb. 8 Sun., Feb. 21 Play Begins: Sun., Feb. 21

•Golf Registration:

Mon., Mar. 8 Wed., Mar. 17 Play Begins: Fri., Mar. 19

•Track Meet Registration:

Wed., Apr. 7 Play Begins:

Tues., Apr. 13

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Informal recreation a good way to keep fit

By Mark Schaffer

If intramurals take up too much time for your schedule, you

might like to try two relatively new also programs sponsored by intramural sports: Informal Recreation and Fitness

Informal Recreation is in its second year, while the Fitness program is in its first

year. Both have been well received by students, faculty and staff, said Assistant Director Robin Bell

"Last year, there were about 250 people in Informal," Bell said, "and so far this year there are 128 people in the program. In Fitness, their are 1000 people enrolled in just the aerobic's classes.

Informal recreation was designed to actively support the activities that students enjoy with a few more atypical activities thrown in," said Bell.

Some have been better accepted than others. For example, 31 people enjoyed the badminton tournament and about 20 are expected for the table tennis, but some games were not as popular.
"Pickleball and Wallyball have been

some of the more atypical activities that have been widely enjoyed," said Sam Halstead, director of the Intramural-Recreational Sports Program.

Informal recreation is organized in a

way for everyone to take advantage of it, Bell said.

"We reserve the place where everyone is going to play, set everything up and have a supervisor there to register and monitor the event," Bell said. "We give away Tshirts to the winners and have random

drawings for shirts. as well. All you need to do to play is come by where the event is being held with your student ID and sign

Other popular events include the Hot Shot Free Throw Contest and

the Schick's Super Hoops Three-on-Three Tournament. Some unusual upcoming events include Broomball and Innertube

Where Informal Recreation is set up with a variety of different activities throughout the year, Fitness aims to best provide students and faculty with a way to increase their physical fitness

'We want to help provide a way for everyone to get up and do something,' Bell said. "You don't have to get up and run a marathon — you can run or swim, do a lot of things.

To provide this opportunity, the staff has organized a variety of levels of aerobics that take place numerous times daily throughout the week. High and low impact is offered, along with a popular aqua aerobics class.

There are over 100 people enrolled in the aqua aerobics," said Bell. All of the aerobic's classes are taught by

student instructors volunteering their time. "Anyone interested in teaching can just come by and talk to me. We will help get them some instruction and look at

everyone's teaching style to Informal Recreation is in its see what best suits them," Bell second year, while the Fitness program is in its first Also part of year. Both have been well Fitness is a self-

received by students, faculty and staff, said assistant directed program. There are two director Robin Bell. parts of this program: Fit Pack

Walking/Running/Swimming. In Fit Pack, you earn points for various activities toward a point goal you set. "When you achieve your goal, you get a T-shirt," said Bell. Fit Pack is a 15-week program designed to force you into a regular routine so you can achieve the goal you

The Walking/Running/Swimming is totally self directed. Again, a goal is set but no time frame for meeting that goal is enforced.

You work at your own pace during the year. You just come in during the day after you've worked out and mark your mileage points on the chart so you can see how you are doing to get to your goal, said Bell. "You can work on a team goal as well as an individual goal - you can make a team to walk to the Mississippi River, swim the East Coast or run across America with your accumulated team mileage. When the goal is achieved, you get a T-shirt and a certificate.

Finally, a series of workshops have been set up to help educate students, faculty and staff. "It was mainly designed to offer them something they might not ordinarily get or have an interest in," said Bell Nutrition, weight training, back care, yoga and others have been scheduled to help provide more knowledge and information.

"In weight training for women, we had 50 women come in and had 20 men for their own weight training. We got a room for them and showed them all how to use the machines, gave them information they needed to have a good exercise routine For walking and running program, we had a physical therapist to come in and talk about proper care and mechanics for those activities

Bell added that a therapist came in for the back care workshop as well. She also said that in the future, they wanted to further expand the workshops

At the end of all workshops and other activities in both Fitness and Informal Recreation, participants are asked to evaluate their experience. These evaluations are used to help make both programs better in the future and suggestions for activities and events are encouraged.

Participation in Fitness and Informal Recreation is open to all students, faculty and staff. For more information, drop by the intramural office.

Good organization is the key to smooth intramurals

Continued from Page 5

interaction with the students. With games starting as late as 9 p.m., the staff is there to assist the students and often to watch the games

Halstead has been the director of the Intramural-Recreational Department since 1982.

With the current activities in place, students almost constantly use the fields and courts on campus. The intramural

careful evaluation of the variables, said Randy Bechtolt, assistant director for intramurals. Considerations are the facility (Is there enough field or room space for the activity?), the budget and personnel (Can it be managed? Are enough officials available?).

The evaluation process begins with substantial interest recommendation of an athletic director. Bechtolt said that they are currently evaluating the variables for the addition of Ultimate Frisbee into the intramural program. "It takes time to evaluate the variables," he said. The current problem in adding Ultimate Frisbee is getting the field space. Field space is an important factor because other activities such as flag football, soccer and several club sports must all use the same fields.

The success of an activity or sport in the NCSU Intramural Program depends on the organization, quality of field and equipment, officials and the support of students, faculty and supervisors. The

students to provide these criterion and to ensure the success of the program.

This formula worked in the beginning under Miller and has continued through the years. Perhaps that is why N.C. State has one of the finest physical educationrecreational sports programs in the

With the winning combination of great leadership, interest and support from all students, faculty and directors that exist now, the program should continue to grow

Referees

Continued from Page 4

participating as an official are not thrown unprepared onto the field, though.

Students must attend a lecture and one of the field clinics we offer for them to become an official," said Perkins, "They go through the rules and how they are scheduled and then are given a test.

There are a large number of students that participate as officials. "Last year there were about 220 officials. This year in soccer we have 35, football 50, volleyball 35 and basketball will have around 60," said Perkins.

"We have a lot of dedicated officials that work consistently some even more than one sport. If an official is able, we will encourage them to broaden out and look at officiating a different event as well. We need quality officials to go along with the quality players that participate."

Officials have a very flexible schedule. "We put on poster boards the games and times of the events and how many officials are needed. It is the official's responsibility to come in and sign up for events. It works out well for everyone," said Perkins.

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Fiction

"October 28th"

by Ulrick Casimir

Ulrick Casimir is a junior English major trom Fayetteville, N.C. He became seriously interested in writing about a year ago. The idea for the story came to Casimir as he walked through the Free Expression Tunnel.

Casimir, 19, is now enrolled in his second fiction writing course at NCSU.



It's funny how time changes things.

"October 28th - God is coming! October 28th - God is coming!" Except they were Korean immigrants, so it was more like "October 28th - Godiscoming! October 28th - Godiscoming!" Town criers, is that what they used to call those people, the village criers? (Once I'd run past them, scared for some reason, my feet stepping on and carrying with them several ripped pages of psalms.) They, all short, mismatched four of them, the meat of blue and white sandwich signs, paced at the end of the subway tunnel where steam rose like smoke from a dragon's mouth. Back and forth, "October 28th," back and forth, "Godiscoming!" Now I see their short stumpy morning shadows lengthen and darken to skyscraper umbrae, their voices deepening to the rumbles of a volcano's stomach, and lo! I look up and oh me oh my they've changed to match their shadows, their heads surrounded by dirty clouds. Gigantic Oriental Cassandras.

It's really funny how time changes things. Really. It is.

My park bench moves not from me, my house still belongs to me, my car and debts are still mine — and my world, the world has been toppled upside down. The bench is solid, my hands bleed from the splinters of it. I watch the people in the building through the trees spit out like loosened teeth. Automations, Punch in and

punch out.

I say we go
back to
when things
weren't
changed.
Not that it
makes a
goddamn bit
o
f
difference,

but it might soothe my mind, soften the sharp splinters in my hands. And soften the razor that cuts my world apart. No! No divisions, no structure

here. That's all I wanted before, you know. I craved it. I wanted a

structure in chaos, understanding in confusion. Now that's all I have. Remember when prayers against Communism were included in Catholic mass? I wonder what we really were

66

Two days later I drive home and park in the driveway, befuddled, scared, and utterly, utterly confused, too involved with myself to notice the stagnant smell of electicity, too inside myself to notice the lack of light in the garage — I walk outside around the house and both my wife and Joshua float face down next to the poolside television that jitters every once in a while,

and throws sparks.

praying against.

Anyway, won't divide this You know what happened. I know if you read this you Across the street the loosened teeth are spit out clockwork regularity and vou want structured thought here? Fuck you.

Ten days ago, I know because I mark them now in grooves from my broken thumbnail on my left arm,

things changed. Before, smog was smog, people walked about with children, they talked, they fought, they killed each other over twenty dollars and a pair of sneakers.

I once saw a woman lose an eye because

she wore gold-rimmed glasses in the wrong part of town.

Things weren't great. Sometimes they were good.

Once I stood on the balcony of my mistress' apartment, and pillars and crossbeams of light from the city's adulation made a dramatic cross in the skyline. We'd noticed it before, 'Specially when we made love on the balcony. She said it signified our unity. Tonight it disgusted me, she disgusted me.

I remember twelve days ago playing with my son on his swing set, my wife looking on from the pool, smiling and sipping a lemonade. I pushed Joshua and she laughed high and shrilly.

Two days later I drive home and park in the driveway, befuddled, scared, and utterly, utterly confused, too involved with myself to notice the stagnant smell of electicity, too inside myself to notice the lack of light in the garage — I walk outside around the house and both my write and Joshua float face down next to the poolside television that jitters every once in a while, and throws parks.

Oh no! Don't even think about it. That was not the, what, the "straw that broke the camel's back." I'm not mad, you know. I'm not crazy. I only wish I were. "October 28th — Godiscoming!" It's

See FICTION, Page 10

Players' reasons for participation vary widely at State

By Andrew Lloyd

Not all students participate in Intramural and Recreational Sports for the same reasons. And others, who are involved behind the scenes, are there to help bring competition to other students.

"Meeting the challenge of developing and maintaining a comprehensive program is a direct result of the needs and interest of the university community," said Sam Halstead, the director of the Intramural-Recreational Sports Program.

"We are meeting the needs of a non-captive audience," Halstead said

The purpose of the Intramural-Recreational Sports Program is to incorporate students who want to work into a system that strives to provide sports and activities to participate in.

participate in.
Freshmen living on campus
have an opportunity to join
intramural teams in their
residence halls. Greeks can join
their house teams, and for those
pioneering students, there are
men's and women's open sports.

"I enjoy sports. It's good

exercise," said Marija Balic, a sophomore on the Sigma Kappa soccer team. "It's fun meeting people and working with them."

Dan Crotty, a member of the men's open soccer team, "Mr. Johnson and the Juice Crew," said intramurals gives him a chance to continue playing sports in college. "I played [soccer] in high school," Crotty said. "At State, I heard of the intramural program by word of mouth." Crotty said he also participates because he enjoys playing soccer with his friends.

Other students watch the game from the sidelines. "I'm just here watching my suite-mate play," said Thomas Morgan.

Some students take part on a level beyond participating in the games and continue working at that different level, showing other interests besides playing.

Dawn Potter became involved in her freshman year as an athletic director in her resident hall. Now a graduate student in adult education, she is the chair of the Student Intramural-Recreational Sports Board.

"Experiences from participation correlate to the real world," Potter said, "developing



Mahncke/Staff

Phi Kappa Alpha spectators support their fraternity's team as it wins the soccer championship.

your leadership and teamwork skills in an informal arena to use in a career."

Potter also sees intramural programs as an opportunity for freshmen who don't know people to make friends.

Tommy Perkins is another graduate assistant who works to make sure officials are at every game. His initial interest began when he was at Western Carolina

University in Cullowhee.

Perkins interned at N.C. State University for 13 weeks and after graduating from WCU was offered a position in the NCSU Intramurals Office.

"Being in charge of the officials is a big responsibility," Perkins said. "If an official doesn't show up, the heat's on me."

Perkins said there were a lot of

benefits he gained as an intern at NCSU and as an soccer official at WCU. He has to be assertive and in control of the game, otherwise he'll do a bad job and no one will enjoy the game.

Whether students choose to play or officiate, they have their own reasons for participating and enjoying — the competition.

OUR NAME

SAYS IT ALL

RALEIGH

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Fiction

Continued from Page 9

November 8th now.

But 1 do remember being young once. 18 or 19. Hurt many times by gitlfriends; my friends said it was because I was too stupid. I would meet a girl once and forget her face. I would hope on our next date she would hope on our next date she would remember me better. Next time I might remember something, usually not. And again and again. Unless I saw her every day for a month I needed a photo to picture what she looked like. I never understood why.

Every day I go back to the pool and watch their faces. I won't forget them.

Once I saw the pool guy come to clean the pool, right on schedule, about five days ago, by the scars. I looked from my bedroom window as he pushed the bodies around with his scooper. I put his head on the concrete with my machete before I knew what I was doing. His body finished cleaning the pool and walked to the van, started it up, and drove away as I sat on the deck on crumpled

Look it up somewhere and I'm sure you'll find it: "Night of the Living Dead." It reminded me of that movie. George Romero did I only wish I had night. Oh yea, no nights too, no nights since ten days ago. Two hundred and fourty hours of pure sunshine. Sometimes I feel the sun on my neck like a torch flame, ready to set me afree.

If any of them live, none of them know. I'm convinced of it. None of them know that ten days ago the world ended, the earth stopped spinning on its axis, that God came quietly, took what was his, and left. Not one of them know that, I've chopped off one or two of the heads of the people that work in the building in front of me and watched then come back to work again, day after day. They don't know. Not one of them realized know. Not one of them realized

and the Koreans. Not there. Gone, My Oriental Cassandras; gone. Sandwich boards and all. Is this hell? Probably. I feet the sun's flame licking my neck sometimes, I told you that. No, probably; definitely. This is hell. I think.

Eloi, elai, lama sabacthani? What have I done to deserve



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