

# Technician

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Wednesday, November 23, 1977



Staff photo by Chris Seward

Brandishing banners and posters, this group of Arab students prepares for a rally on the brickyard to protest the visit of President of Egypt Anwar Sadat to Israel. About 30 Arabs participated in the protest, while others with different or mixed feelings watched from a distance.

## Sadat visit criticized

# Arabs stage rally

by Robin Ludlow  
Staff Writer

A group of about 30 Arab students gathered in front of the Student Center Tuesday afternoon to protest Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Israel.

Carrying posters and banners and chanting "Long live PLO" and "No more Sadat visit to Israel," the students marched around campus and then held a rally on the Brickyard.

Sadat's 44 hour visit has brought much criticism from other leaders of Arab countries and the threat of a division among the Arab world has become apparent.

This possibility was reflected during Tuesday's protest when a group of Egyptian students divided from the Arab group and would not participate in the event. However, they did stand by looking on.

The Egyptian students are divided on their opinions about Sadat's visit.

Hossein Ghamain, one of the Sadat sympathizers, said the Israelis have "the right to believe what they want and it is time for Israel and Egypt to reconsider

the situation as it stands now and come up with a peaceful solution."

E.M. Elssamadisy, another State student from Egypt, said Sadat does not have the right to visit Israel.

"Egypt is a democracy and Sadat is one man and cannot decide for the majority," Elssamadisy said. "He does not have the right to jeopardize Arab unity."

### Nothing accomplished

Elssamadisy also attacked the value of the historic visit.

"Sadat accomplished nothing," he said. Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin said nothing of Palestine. As an Arab I could never accept a peace agreement which sold out the Palestinians. All of the Arab deaths were for nothing.

"The only thing that the visit did was cancel the feeling that this our enemy," Elssamadisy said. "The Arabs will not be for the Geneva peace talks unless the Palestinians are represented."

"What the Israelis want is the biggest Israel and they want to establish a larger country for more of their people," he said.

The political rally went without incident and was termed "successful" by Fawzi Said Mahamad, one of the people responsible for the protest.

"What we wanted to do was reflect our feelings about Sadat's visit," Mahamad explained.

"I doubt if his visit will bring peace. All it did was show pity for the Israelis."

"I am not against the visit itself if it brings peace, if it lets me go home and live with the Israelis in Palestine and enjoy

the democracy that is there," said Mahamad.

"Americans think we are out here because we are against peace," he said. "But the Israelis who greeted Sadat did not cheer because they wanted peace. They think they are going to get something."

Many Arab students did not participate in the protest but sat nearby and watched.

Mahamad said that many of these students would have participated but were scared of the secret police and informers from their countries.

"They did not have time to prepare masks to wear," he added.

### Rally welcome

Jeff Mann, director of Student Development, commented on Tuesday's event saying, "political protests of any kind are welcome by the administration as long as they go through the proper procedures and meet certain guidelines about noise and classroom disturbance."

"And the Arabs did these things," he added.

About 15 State students claim to be Palestinians but only one is registered with the university as a Palestinian citizen. Brita Tate, assistant programs director, explained that since Palestine is not a country none of the foreign students should be listed as a Palestinian.

According to Tate, who is in charge of international programs, there are 720 foreign students at State and about 140 of these are from Arab countries including 34 from Egypt.

## Crime rate on campus remains high

by Joanne Vetter  
Staff Writer

"Crime on campus has not slowed down," Chief of Security W.T. Blackwood said in an interview Monday.

"Security is making more apprehensions this year," he said, noting a rise in both the number of vehicles broken into and the number of bicycles stolen.

Violations occur all over campus, particularly in parking lots, Blackwood said. An analysis of violations for a six month period in 1975, for example, shows that over 60 per cent of all violations occurred in the parking lots or on the streets.

"We have a great deal of break-ins in the Sullivan Lot," Blackwood said.

Blackwood cited one incident of breaking and entering which occurred in the gravel portion of the Sullivan Lot on the night of Nov. 10.

According to Blackwood, seven vehicles were broken into and various items were stolen from them.

Security officers stopped two youths, non-students, after they noticed that the youths were acting suspiciously.

A camera, a pair of sunglasses, four tape players, three speakers, and a set of spark plugs, all stolen from the vehicles, were found either on the youths or in their car.

### Police cooperate

Security officers called in the Raleigh police to make the arrests, which is sometimes done, according to Blackwood, when Security is "having a really busy night."

"Our men," Blackwood added, "work very closely with the Raleigh Police Department."

According to Blackwood, the larceny of

bicycles on campus also continues to rise.

Blackwood estimated that five thousand bicycles are on campus and pointed out that only 623 are registered.

He said security does not make an effort to trace a stolen bicycle unless it is registered.

"If it is registered," Blackwood said, "we will make an honest effort to get it back."

He requested that students have their bicycles registered and to insure the safety of their bicycles, recommended that students purchase the bike lock that is sold at the Student Supply Store.

"It is theft proof," Blackwood said. "No damage can be done to it."

Blackwood pointed out other measures which students can take to insure the safety of their property.

He said students should always lock their doors, "even when going out for only five minutes," and students should never

open their doors to strangers, especially at night.

He further noted that the Crime Awareness Program offers students hints on how to protect their property.

As part of the program, 10 engraving pencils have been made available to students to mark their property, Blackwood said.

by Terry Martin  
Staff Writer

Whether you're in the market for a used car or a new bridge, the ultimate goal is generally the same—avoid getting stuck with a lemon. To that regard, Raleigh and State have come out ahead with the recent completion of the new Pullen Road Bridge, according to Director of Security Bill Williams.

"I've received no word of any complaints or defects in the structure," Williams said Friday. "The built-up approaches posed no problem even with all the rain we had last week. Most people I've observed are glad to have it open."

Freshmen and other newcomers to the State campus unfamiliar with the rickety old structure which formerly spanned the railroad tracks may not fully appreciate the convenience and safety the new structure represents.

### Condition deteriorates

Bits and pieces of the old bridge regularly fell on the tracks and trains below. Traffic was restricted to exclude virtually all trucks—and a proliferation of signs warned vehicles not to remain on the bridge for any extended length of time.

Wagers and contests abounded—attempts to determine who would be on the bridge when it fell. A strong wind or extraneous moan from the old bridge would often prompt the hasty assembly of expectant gawkers—as if the structure could actually be coaxed into taking the final plunge.

Sam Schlitzkus, State's liaison with the city of Raleigh on the Pullen Bridge project is well pleased with the new bridge.

"Whereas the old bridge could carry about three tons, the new bridge has a virtually unlimited carrying capacity," Schlitzkus remarked.

"We expect it to be comparable to or better than the Western Boulevard overpass." That bridge's signs boast a capacity of 28 tons.

Presently the new bridge has no tonnage signs—nor have the traffic lights which once stood at each end of the old bridge made a return appearance.

Schlitzkus responded, "A decision was made, way back when the city decided to replace the bridge, that there would be a trial period to determine if the lights would be needed."

"In the first place," he said, "the light at the East Dunn Street intersection was erected because of the poor sight the old bridge afforded approaching drivers."

And the light at Pate Drive was necessary to keep stopped cars from remaining on the old bridge," he explained.

"At this point, we've yet to see a need for the lights present itself," Schlitzkus said.

Car owners who once found Pullen Road an ideal place to park may have noticed

## State basketball players arrested; future eligibility may be threatened

by Charles Lasitter  
Interim News Editor

Two State basketball players were arrested and charged with larceny at the K-Mart on Western Boulevard at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Raleigh Police said.

Linwood "Tony" Warren, and Kendal "Tiny" Pinder, were arrested for allegedly switching a price tag on a pair of \$1.98 underwear, then released on their own recognizance, according to S.L. Parker of the Raleigh Police department, the arresting officer.

The two had allegedly exchanged the \$1.98 price tag for one of 50 cents, and had then tried to purchase the product, she said.

"Naturally, we're very disturbed about the incident," said Head Coach Norm Sloan, "but the action we will take is unknown at this time, because we haven't

talked to all the people who are involved."

Sloan stressed that he made no assumptions on the basis of what has happened so far, and said he did not know when he would have enough information to make a decision concerning the two.

He did say, however, that he was very concerned, and that he would investigate the issue fully.

### Embarrassing situation

"This is most embarrassing to the school, to us, and to the alumni. Even though they were just arrested and nothing definite has been determined, it is still embarrassing to us," he said.

He said the players would continue to practice with the team, and play in preseason games until such time as he had sufficient information about the incident to

make a decision about what disciplinary action, if any is needed.

He did say, however, that he thought a determination would be made concerning the two players before State's season opening contest Saturday Nov. 26.

Sloan said he saw no point in rushing into a decision at this time since all that is going on now is practice.

"With this case, as it is everywhere else, people will see what they want to see," Sloan said. "The people who like us will look at the incident and won't generalize to other situations."

"But the people who don't like us will probably go back to incidents in the past and say that this is just a continuation of them," he said.

S.A. Sloan, the security guard at K-Mart who reportedly witnessed the alleged crime, was unavailable for comment, as were the players involved.

## Complaints of students heeded

## New dryers to be installed

by Debbie Hill  
Staff Writer

Six new steam dryers will be installed in Lee Hall during the Christmas break, according to Eli D. Panee, director of Residence Facilities.

He said the dryers came in four weeks early and were put in the Lee basement.

"Students ripped the cardboard containers and took parts off the dryers," Panee said. "I put the dryers in storage until

semester break."

He said the maintenance staff could not begin planning for the new dryer installation until they had them on site to figure connections, sizes, and proper locations.

### Different system

Panee explained that since the new dryers are steam, a different exhaust system has to be used.

"The steam lines supply return has to be angled properly," he said. "The exhaust vent system will be important so that all hot air can be exhausted without any backflow of air."

"It will take three or four days to get the new dryers installed and fitted properly," Panee said.

Panee wants to wait until semester break for installation so that there will be no interruption of service.

Students have complained to Panee that the old dryers don't work well. They had complained of its faulty operation which had driven up the expenses for doing laundry.

Panee said the new steam dryers are larger and will dry the clothes quicker.

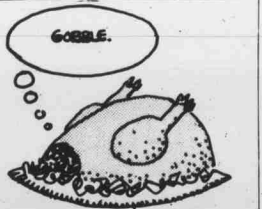
He emphasized that he knew there was a lot of laundry equipment on campus which needs replacement. The campus laundry mechanic identified some equipment which needs replacing, he said.

Panee has purchased 19 dryers and seven washers, and will buy seven more washers.

Carroll and Metcalf dorms will get the first seven washers, he said.

## Vacation begins today at 1 p.m.

Thanksgiving Vacation officially begins today at 1 p.m., and classes will not resume until Monday. The Technician will not be published on Friday or Monday due to the holiday.



some changes necessitated by the new bridge's construction. Ten to 15 parking spaces once available on the campus side of Pullen road are now marked with "No Parking" signs.

### Vision improved

This was due partly to the fact that the area approaching the bridge had to be built up to insure that the bridge crossed the railroad tracks by at least 21 1/2 feet. The action was also deemed necessary to insure adequate vision for drivers entering from East Dunn Street—since no lights control the intersection.

In addition, several large junipers were

cut back and removed from the bridge's approaches to improve these drivers' vision.

Removal of the parking spaces provided room needed to allow a separate lane for cars turning left off Pullen Road onto East Dunn Street. "This will improve the traffic situation immensely," according to Schlitzkus.

Unfortunately, no such improvement was noted in the city's budget affairs. The bridge—initially estimated to cost in the area of \$300,000 wound up costing the taxpayers \$444,420. State will provide approximately \$30,000 of that—for work done expressly for the university's benefit and campus road maintenance.

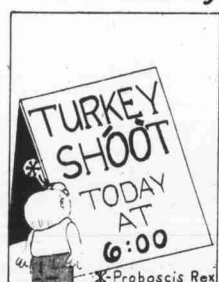


Staff photo by Chris Seward

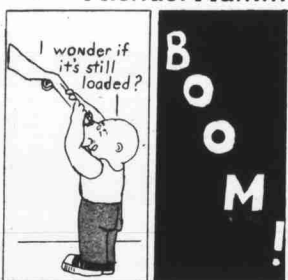
## Shake your booty!

These students appear to be enjoying the multiple sclerosis dance-a-thon that was held last Thursday in the Morgan Street Extension Disco. More than \$2,000 was raised in the project, which was sponsored by the campus YMCA.

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# Dixie Classic play advances

by Bob Fuhrman  
Staff Writer

The Dixie Classic began last Monday, and the original field of 157 teams has dwindled to eight teams today. The quarterfinals will be played next Monday, the semi Tuesday and the final game is slated for today at 6 p.m. Fraternity and residence hoopers begin their regular seasons Monday and Wednesday, and the independent and wildcard campaigns get underway the following week. Friday night, Faculty, and Women's Leagues do not start until after Christmas.

Eighteen of last year's top 20 teams are entered in the DC, some under new names. Campus champion Swish has won impressively twice, 75-24 over the Chi Eppers and 64-42 over PKA. The Backstabbers knifed the PE's, 75-43, and LCA, 58-47. SAE slammed the Rednecks II, 72-33, and the Streetkids, 50-42, and Alexander thrashed the Power Pack, 38-27, and Spastic, 54-40. Rounding out last year's league champions, the IMForce attacked Pig Farm, 53-39, and AGR, 61-40. Other teams remaining from last year's powerhouses include SWAT, Rednecks I, B.C. Spades, Kappa Sig, Onyx, Plague, Gypsies,

and Parakeets. Also returning is Stuff, formerly the Black Spirits. These teams have all recorded two victories in the tournament.

Others of last year's top teams are gone from the tournament. The Mean Machine and Farm House were both surprised by ENT, the former losing by 53-50 in overtime and the latter by 37-32. ENT also smashed Sullivan I, 63-21, to become one of a handful of three-time winners. Tucker, Tequila Sunrise, the Abusers, AWB, PKT, Owen II, and Just Net are other members of that select circle. The Gypsies, Lee, and Becton are the last trio of losers from the top twenty.

Volleyball is the biggest news from the rest of last week's abbreviated schedule. Farm House defeated Sigma Chi to force a final, do-or-die game for the Fraternity championship. Bagwell, however, was not so lucky. The two-time defending Residence title was unable to duplicate its feat for a third time. Gold swept to the championship without losing a game. The Harvey Ball Bangers defeated Question Mark to claim the Co-Rec title. The Farm House-Sigma Chi rematch was played Monday. Meanwhile, King Village and Becton are the two remaining unbeaten teams in Residence.

Badminton with a host of teams in the losers bracket, and SPE knocked off Theta Chi to take on the role of favorite in the Fraternity tournament. The Residence Bowling playoffs will begin next week.

The Women's Table Tennis and handball finals were both played Monday night. Off Campus was one finalist in both tournaments, with Metcalf and Lee providing the opposition. A Lee victory in the handball would force another match, but

the table tennis is all over no matter who won the match.

Carroll I and Carroll II will probably be the teams to beat when the Women's Volleyball playoffs run after Thanksgiving. Carroll I (4-0), needs only to beat Metcalf (2-2) to win the Red League. BB&W (3-1) must defeat Bowen (2-2) to clinch second place and avert a possible three-way tie. In the White League, Carroll II takes on Alpha Phi with the chance to clinch the title, and Off Campus (2-1) meets winless Sullivan in its finale. All of these games will be played Tuesday. Only one team stands undefeated in the Independent League. That is the Hellacious Honeybuns (2-0) of the Gold League. Games were played last night and the Regular season winds up Tuesday.

## Julie Shea finishes third

AUSTIN, Tex.—State's Julie Shea finished third Saturday in the AIAW national championship.

Shea was clocked at 17:27. The Wolfpack's Joan Benoit was ninth with a 17:57 time.

## classifieds

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## Men and women capture 13 events

by Tom Reimers  
Staff Writer

State's men swept all ten of their events, and the women added three first place finishes to lead the Pack swimmers to an excellent showing in the Sixth Annual Atlantic Coast Swimming and Diving Relays highly ranked squads would have been victorious (the women also took four second places and three thirds) if the total was added up.

The Wolfpack divers, coached by former Olympian John Candler, won both the women's and men's 1 and 3-meter boards.

The women—Laurie Clark, Micki McKay, and Allyson Reid—scored a 368.10 total on the 1-meter board and a 293.35 on the 3-meter, beating out South Carolina and UNC both times.

All-America Mike Tober teamed with Frank Duffey and Paul Miller for 407.45 and 428.65 finishes in the same events, with their main competition coming from Duke and North Carolina.

Harrigan and Houchin lead

Leading the men swimmers were Dan Harrigan and Eddy Houchin, who took part in six winning relays each, but neither really had the type of meet that they are capable of. The two All-Americans were on the same relay together five times (4:40 medley, 1,000 freestyle, 600 IM, 600 butterfly, and 800 freestyle).

Joe Rhyne and Duncan Goodhew scored in three events

each, and both enjoyed fine evenings. After his performance in the red-white meet, Goodhew must have been swimming tired, but he still looked awesome in the breaststroke. Rhyne had what coach Don Easterling called "a very good meet," and big things are expected this year from the freshman from Winston-Salem.

Described as having had a "super meet" by coach was Jim Cundenstock, a Junior All-American. He swam on the 400 medley and 400 free relays, and gave the Pack excellent splits in both.

Sophomore Kevin Weldon also helped two relays to victory, the 1,000 freestyle and the 800 free. He participated in several other relays as well.

### New meet records

The eight relay wins by the men were not done in any slack style, as new meet records were established in every single one. Easterling said that he never thought State would "win all the men's events, let alone break records in all of them."

Once again freshman Beth Harrell had an excellent outing for the women, and she "did everything but the high diving and run the concession stand," according to Easterling. The Alexandria, Va., product swam all of her splits under or very close to existing Pack records, and impressed whatever crowd was there with her outstanding efforts.

Jane Holliday, the Raleigh native who has worked especially hard in the weight room, continues to amaze Easterling, who was very pleased with her 2:55 time in her 300 split of the 1,000 freestyle relay. Easterling feels that the race tired her out, but he is happy to note that Holliday swam near her career best in the events she participated in.

Trace Rucker swam her best times ever in the 200 free and 100 breast during the course of the meet, and was a member of the women's 400 medley relay along with Harrell, Holliday, and senior Michele Dunn that set a new pool and meet record of 4:00.74. Easterling appreciates the fact that she is a "workhorse," who "goes hard every time."

Though he does not want to be caught "second guessing the situation," Easterling points out that a healthy Eileen O'Brien would have given the Pack victories in at least a couple of more events. He particularly singles out the 400 free relay as an example, since State lost it by only two-hundredths of a second, and says that "there ain't no way Eileen O'Brien wouldn't have made up for that difference."

The women must now prepare for the North Carolina AIAW's, which State will host on December 2-3. Easterling is not happy with the set-up of the meet at all, because points will be given to 16 places, which means that the depth that UNC

and Duke have will give them a definite advantage. This is the reason that the Pack lost to UNC last year by 143 points, even though it defeated the Heels in its dual meet.

Easterling is happy with the hard work both teams have put in so far this year, but is looking for bigger and better things ahead.

## Vallerio and Gelnow lead State fencers

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA.—Junior Peter Vallerio and sophomore Bill Gelnow headed a field of State men and women fencers who traveled to the Penn State Invitational Tournament this past weekend. Vallerio and Gelnow were State's lone finalists, finishing sixth in sabre and fourth in epee, respectively, in a tournament that featured many of the best fencers on the east coast. The tourney included the Pack's ACC rivals, Maryland, Carolina, and Clemson.

Sabre Mark Barrett and Diane Knoblach were kept from the finals on indicators (the records were equal but they lost out on touches against them) and foil Rodney Irizarry suffered a similar fate to miss the quarterfinals.

## Reese paces Pack wrestlers to success

by Denny Jacobs  
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL—Paced by senior co-captain Terry Reese, State's wrestling team turned in an encouraging early season performance in the North Carolina Invitational Tournament held last weekend in Chapel Hill. The Wolfpack captured three individual championships and finished second in two other weight classes despite the absence of several starters due to injuries.

Reese won top honors at 158 with a 5-3 decision over Carolina's Mike Benzel in the finals, and was named the outstanding wrestler in the tournament.

Other first place finishers for the Pack were sophomore Jim Zenz, who defeated Tom Passino of ECU, 10-2, at 118, and Joe Lidowski, who bested Mike Purser 7-2 for the 190 crown.

Mike Koob, 150, and Joe Butto, 134, also made it to the finals, but Koob dropped a 4-0 decision to Tar Heel Jeff Reintgen, and Butto was unable to wrestle due to illness.

Coach Bob Guzzo was pleased with his team's overall performance and eagerly awaits the upcoming season.

"I thought we responded really well to the pressure of tournament wrestling and for this stage of the season I'm happy with what we were able to accomplish. Perhaps we could have had more individual champions but we didn't take some of our starters because of some minor injuries that we didn't want to take a chance on aggravating."

Most notable of those missing was Rick Rodriguez, a freshman All-America last year, who reinjured his shoulder in the Monarch Open the week before.



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# Technician Opinion

## Sadat praised

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat this past weekend has been burned in effigy and called a traitor by many Arab nations protesting his visit to Israel, but in the hopes of a possible Middle East peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, he has to be called a hero and world statesman.

In a statement unthinkable for years now, Sadat stood in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, and declared Sunday: "We accept to live with you in a lasting and just peace."

The declaration, broadcast around the globe, was the closest any Arab leader has come during the 30 years of intermittent wars to recognizing Israel as an independent nation.

Sadat's weekend stay in Israel, marked by this famous statement, was a mission of imagination, courage, and concern for world peace. Praised by some, and condemned by others, Sadat took the first bold step of any of the Arab nations to attempt to settle the disagreements that have ravaged this portion of the world since the mid-1940's.

Although many countries in the world, most notably the United States, praised Sadat's actions, many other countries such as the Arab nations, saw Sadat's visit to Israel as a concession or give-away to the country they so despise and hate for, according to them, taking away their homeland.

Yet Sadat's statement, when examined in context, does no such thing. To achieve peace in the Middle East, he reiterated his position that

Israel withdraw from Jerusalem and other lands occupied in 1967 and that uprooted Palestinians must receive a homeland.

Nowhere did Sadat back down from the Arab nation's past positions in reference to Israel. All he said was that peace should be a reasonable and obtainable goal for Israel and the Arab nations.

But the other Arab nations simply haven't looked at the situation in that light. Their hatred has gotten in the way of realism. The 1948 war in which Israel became a state is over; so is the 1967 war and all of the other skirmishes the two countries have had for over three decades. They are all over now. It's time to live in the present, and not in the past.

Sadat stuck by his guns on the Arab position concerning Israel and yet he has possessed the realistic perspective that the past is meaningless and the future of world peace is in the hands of the Arab nations and Israel to compromise and work out a suitable agreement.

Clearly the Middle East situation is one of the most potentially explosive areas of the world. The meeting between Sadat and Begin came none too late.

It can only be hoped that both Egypt and Israel continue to keep an open mind and a spirit of compromise in working towards a Middle East settlement. The time is ripe for such a settlement. We only hope the final results are as fruitful as the initial ones have been.



## Letters

### Wall cartoons

To the Editor:

Just a short comment about the cartoon by Mike Turner that appeared in the 11/9/77 Technician issue. I hope with all my heart, Mike, that you gain more from your stay at NCSU than the ability to waste your artistic talent on an obscene use of the English language.

Such language is seen too often on the walls of our school bathrooms but in the school paper... What disappointments are next?

Dianne Gray  
Fr., CE

### Defense important

To the Editor:

Now that football season is over I would like to make a few observations about NCSU fans.

I have noticed all too often that a great number (possibly a majority) of fans are more than willing to stand and cheer for any number of offensive plays or T.D.s; but in order to get them to their feet in support of the defense there must be a spectacular play such as an interception or the sacking of the quarterback.

It is time that the fans realize that without a strong defensive unit the offense unit is useless and that the defense needs just as much support as does the offense.

I make these statements from the number of times when I stood to cheer for the defense only to be told to sit down by the "fans" behind me. This was especially true if the Wolfpack was behind on the scoreboard. These same persons were more than ready to stand and cheer for the

offense and rejoice in a T.D.

Another grievance is the act of throwing articles ranging from water to apple cores at persons supporting the opposing team. I am referring to an incident at the Duke game in which there was a Duke fan standing in front of me. He was not obnoxious, he would merely stand and applauded a good Duke play. He had garbage thrown at him during the game which ended up hitting me.

It was not so much the fact that I was hit that bothered me, but the fact that it was thrown in the first place. It is a person such as this, through his childish behavior, that gives NCSU a bad name.

I am personally proud to be a student at NCSU and resent anyone downgrading it by such childish and unsportsman-like conduct.

S. W. Smith  
Jr. CE

### Master of truth

To the Editor:

Why doesn't the Technician pay more attention to the academic achievements being made on this campus?

For what it's worth, you guys do a beautiful job covering all that sports nonsense. As a matter of fact, I'm so tired of hearing about basketball and football that I could just throw up.

The games are always the same, only the players are changed to protect the innocent. The ball is always moving, but never forward. Sometimes I wonder if Lynne Griffin is a cheerleader instead of an editor.

People I meet always make a point to talk about how State is "doing" this year. I mind my patience and simply reply that I don't have time

to keep up with sports.

"You aren't a fan?," they shriek in horror,

"That's un-American."

"No it isn't," I respond sheepishly, "I'm trying to get an education so that I can accept a responsible position in our society. That's totally American."

Let's hear it for the Aggies! Even the romanticists write better on a full stomach. Give 'em hell Engineers! I like being able to see at night. Hurray for the Biology majors! I want to live to see cancer wiped out.

Is this not what N.C. State is all about? Is this not worth getting excited about? Cartoons, editorials, and the other trivial filler comprising the Technician are fine because simplicity is easy to appreciate. But the Technician is "NCSU's Student Newspaper Since 1920."

As a student, I want to read about some of the sideline action the ME's are into. I want play by play coverage of the latest student projects in nuclear fission lab. Students that make 4.0's deserve to be followed and recognized, not just hastily mentioned during time outs.

Now the romanticists will no doubt argue that such coverage would be excruciatingly boring. I can genuinely understand your sentiments, but try to understand the classical viewpoint:

Angeline M. Maletto  
Contributing Writer

This column is the first in a two-part series on how to get involved in the governmental process. This first part analyzes how citizen participation has affected both national and local elections. The second part, coming Wednesday, Nov. 30 will explain how citizens can get involved at a less partisan level.

—Ed.

Recently a spry woman in her seventies catapulted to national prominence by becoming the first woman mayor of Raleigh. What was even more astounding about Isabella Cannon's upset victory was that she toppled a wealthy incumbent who was considered unbeatable.

The key to Ms. Cannon's success rested in her organization. There were no professional pollsters, no expensive media analysts, and no wealthy businessmen backing her.

Instead, Ms. Cannon's supporters consisted of housewives, neighborhood groups, ministers, students, lawyers, teachers, bank tellers, supermarket check-out clerks, and people from all walks of life—real people—some of whom never before had been involved in politics. But they got involved, worked hard, and got their candidate elected.

In the 1976 presidential election, an almost unknown, Jimmy Carter, upset an incumbent president. Again, his victory was due in part to a strong grass roots effort by regular people who took an active interest in electing a candidate in whom they believed.

From a political scientist's perspective, these types of situations prove that citizen participation can and does pay off. But for an awfully long time political observers worried about the apathy of the American public.

In 1960, 63.1 per cent of the voting age population in the United States participated in the presidential election. The percentage has dropped consistently every election since then. In 1964, only 61.8 per cent of the eligible voters exercised their rights; in 1968 it was 60.7 per cent; in 1972, 55.4 per cent. In 1976 pollsters feared that 80 million eligible citizens would not vote. They were fairly close—only 54.4 per cent of the eligible population decided who would be president. Even more frightening is the realization that less than half of the voting public actively participates in local and state elections—

A showman is a master at exaggerating insignificance, a scientist is the master of truth.

Ty Tyson  
Sr. EE

### Vandalism

To the Editor:

We would like to mention a situation which has some of us quite bothered. We live in the west campus area (Bragaw) and the situation which we are referring to is increasing automobile vandalism in both the residence and fringe parking lots.

The problem first became obvious a month ago when on one particular Saturday night, two cars (one in the Bragaw lot and one in the Fringe) had their wheels and tires ripped off. Also, as if adding insult to injury, the "rip-off artists" left the victimized cars lying helplessly on the ground with their disc brakes grinding into the pavement.

In the time that has passed since the problem arose, we have noticed at least a half dozen other cars in the area falling prey to the "wheel-stealers." The situation is getting to the

point that each day you awaken and wonder "Did they get my wheels last night?"

Our overall concern is over what actions (if any) are being taken to stop the rip-offs. Obviously security cannot "babysit" the parking lots. Also, any concerned students who might spot something strange going on in the parking lots have no quick means of alerting security of the problem. Therefore, one of the things that we feel should be done is for emergency phones to be installed at centrally located positions in the parking lots.

Also, we wish to enlist the efforts of all students to "look around" when they return to the dorms in the evening. Only student concern and cooperation can put a stop to these "tire-takers."

Glen Allen  
Jr. EE  
and two others

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words. Letters should be typed or written legibly and must include the writer's address or phone number along with his or her classification and curriculum. Letters containing possibly libelous or obscene material will be edited.

## Involvement is key to politics

just what I expected!

Many people feel that voting is just a token gesture of democracy. Others feel that their one vote has no impact on the final outcome. They couldn't be farther from the truth. Had one or two pro-Ford people shown up in precincts in key states across the country in November, 1976, the election outcome may have been very different.

For those people who feel there is no difference between one candidate or another (they are both presumed to be all bad), I say HOGWASH. Citizens need to find out that everyone in politics is not a "crook" by taking an active part in the political process, and getting their feet wet.

Where do you begin? If you have never been involved in any political activity, you usually do not know where to go, what to do, and you are bound to feel insecure because of your ignorance of the issues. Don't feel alone. Most people do not know where to begin. We all must start somewhere. I'd like to let you know how you can become informed and involved, and, as a result, feel very good about your contribution to our system of government.

Here on campus there are two political groups, the College Democrats and the College Republicans. Each group can offer you a chance to meet some exciting people, and learn about the function of the part in politics.

the levels of government where the most important decisions are made that directly affect day-to-day existence.

The United States has the worst voting record of any democracy in the world. In the 1972 elections, West Germany had a 91 per cent turnout; Italy, 95 per cent, and Sweden had 90 per cent. Austria recorded a 97 per cent turnout, France, 82 per cent, and Canada, 74 per cent. American Supposedly represents the epitome of democracy. Yet half of our voting public sits on its duff in absolute indifference. Why?

### Political Forum

Political scientists, sociologists, and other groups do not have a clear cut answer. The U.S. Census Bureau, after the 1972 election, reported 43 per cent of the public stating a lack of interest in the voting process.

Ogden Nash stated the problem quite succinctly:

They have such refined and delicate palates  
That they discover no one worthy of their ballots,  
And then when someone terrible gets elected,  
They say, There, That's

### Technician

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