

# Technician

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Photo by Attila Horvath

# Opinion

A paper that is entirely the product of the student body becomes at once the official organ through which the thoughts, the activity and in fact the very life of the campus are registered. It is the mouthpiece through which the students themselves talk. College life without its journal is blank.

Technician, vol. 1, no. 1, Feb. 1, 1980

## From The Editor...

This summer has been quite a unique one for me as I have had the honor to be the summer editor of the *Technician*. The honor is not derived from the title of being editor, but rather from the opportunity to work with the dynamic individuals of the summer staff.

It has been both an honor and a privilege to associate with each of them.

I would like to personally thank Lyn Wilson for the outstanding job he has done as advertising and business manager. I would also like to single out Roger Winstead, Scott Keeper, Chuck Hicks, Larry Ridenhour, Attila Horvath, Kim Davis, Shishir Shonek, Cindy Baity, Dennis Draughon and John Austin for their creativity and sense of humor which kept the paper operating amidst the many crisis which inherently occur in the production of a publication.

In a departure from the standard editorial column expressed by the editor, I have used this column to discuss issues not of controversy, but rather of deeper importance — issues which deal with the abilities and achievements of individuals.

It has been my goal to shed some flicker of light on the vast potential each of us harbors within ourselves. The opportunities for personal achievement abound.

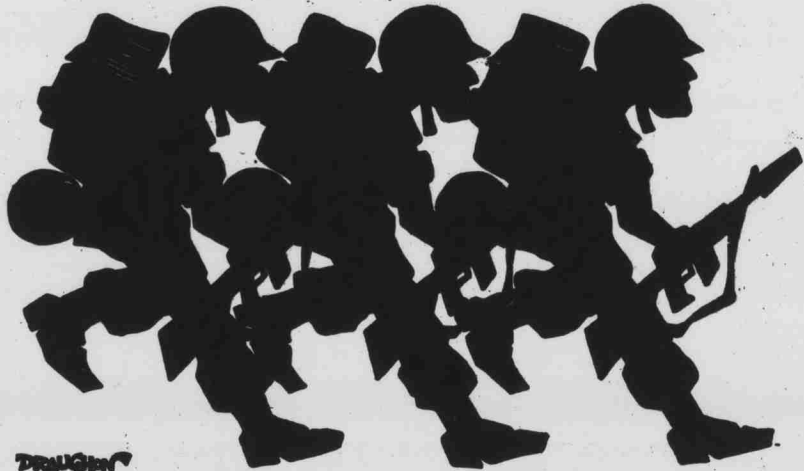
If in devoting this space to this goal, I have helped even one individual see a situation with a different perspective, then I am satisfied that my efforts have been rewarded.

I would like to close by reiterating a thought which I expressed in the previous column. The true importance in any effort one undertakes is not that the effort was met with the highest level of success or that the person won the highest reward, but rather that the effort was made — the real importance is not in the winning but in the trying.

Good luck to each of you!

*Bill Ridenhour*

## DO THE LATIN AMERICAN HUSTLE



# U.S., U.S.S.R. fake diplomacy Nukes harass kids

How many times do we hear that arms talks have resumed? How many times have we heard that arms talks were successful?

It seems the United States and the Soviet Union do a lot of talking, but that's it. Talk, talk, talk. Bicker, bicker, bicker. They talk about having talks; they talk about the talks they have had; they talk about the talks they wish they had, but our respective governments never accomplish anything. It's about time they did.

The volume of nuclear, chemical, biological, space and even conventional weapons must be contained. The planet has become

**If the point of defense is to provide security, why are we terrorized by the threat of world annihilation?**

a vast warehouse for exotic weapons. There is no longer room for people to live without fear. If the point of defense is to provide security, why are we terrorized by the threat of world annihilation?

The reason lies in the fact that defensive weapons are no longer defensive but offensive in nature. You can't call a weapon that can blow away millions of innocent citizens "defensive." Military weapons should be restricted to military targets. Sure, the missiles are aimed at military targets, but the fallout and its effects will kill us all, soldiers and civilians.

We not only dread nuclear weapons but the Reagan regime's insistence on stockpiling newer and deadlier chemical and biological nasties. These seeds of destruction will roam free on the planet looking for fresh meat. And that's you, buddy.

Children today live in the shadow of the bomb and many believe they won't reach maturity. That's pretty sad. The dismal prospects of superpower negotiation nourish their pessimism. The kids know there is no negotiation.

### The Kids

**EDWARDS,  
AUSTIN and  
DRAUGHON**

— Editorial Columnists

We all know. It's just political posturing.

Each side deliberately offers proposals known unacceptable to the other side. They are determined to offer propositions that will be rejected. They don't want agreements but the appearance of successful accords. Meanwhile, both sides continue to build new weapon systems to be used as chips on the bargaining table. These new weapons lead to more bogus talks while fueling the arms race.

The development of enormously costly but dubiously effective defensive systems such as the anti-satellite weapons (ASAT) typify the administration's unwillingness to adjust differences with the Soviets. The Pentagon claims the Soviets have the upperhand, possessing a clumsy, limited range, highly detectable satellite mine. Our ASAT can be launched by air with low visibility and greater range and accuracy. We refuse to agree to a pact even though we have a clear technological advantage.

The government uses so much energy to convince the public of our own military superiority, but in the same breath uses our alleged inferiority for an excuse to refuse concessions. Who's to say who's ahead? The public is flooded with a sea of propaganda lulling them into a false sense of security. Then, they shatter it with the news of a new and improved Soviet Domsday weapon and demand to build a God-fearing, freedom fighting American version. The credibility of our government is in question. They've lied to us before; they'll lie to us again.

No country will ever sustain a clear-cut advantage over another country so let's strike a balance. If we place a ceiling on our destructive powers, that's a step in the right direction. Then and only then could we start reducing the world's arsenal of mega-weapons. Perhaps

then we could control the proliferation of destructive technology. Our diplomats should sit down, nailed to the chair if need be, until they come to terms. Political maneuvers associated with election years should not intervene.

We're damn tired of the diplomatic thrust and parry of political rhetoric. The wanton disregard for

**Our diplomats should sit down, nailed to the chair if need be, until they come to terms.**

the lives of citizens of the world makes our skin crawl. It's time for compromise, folks. Give and take with the Soviet dogs will assure a modicum of decent living on this planet for generations.

We live under Damocles' sword, held by an unravelling thread. There is just one solution; get rid of the sword.

We don't want the Russians over here forcing us to drink Stolychnaya instead of Jack Daniels; however, world obliteration over a simple border dispute doesn't tingle our toes either. So before you accuse us of being soft on communism, of allowing the Red Tide to swallow us on the playing field, listen to these words of caution: if we don't have a firm commitment to arms control, there's only one thing to do. Go get a sixpack; you're doomed.

*John Austin, Craig Dean, Dennis Draughon and Albob Edwards are The Kids. We're bugged by blind devotion to faceless authority figures. We question them. Wonton disregard for civil rights harasses us. We know our rights. (We're from another planet; what do you want from us?) And if we don't make you mad, or at least think, we're not doing our job. Calm down, relax and have a beer on us.*

## TECHNICIAN

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# Law condemns and law saves

I would like to wish all summer school students success on their final exams and a safe trip home. I would like to thank the Technician staff for the diligence they have shown this summer in trying to produce quality work.

According to Ezekiel 18:4 "the soul that sins shall die." Recently I was accused of excluding people from heaven because of my 'interpretation of sin.' Naming sins is an easy way to make a point. I guess the point was not made.

I came to realize during this summer that there is more to sinning than just the outward physical sign like fornication, homosexuality or drunkenness. The outward action of sin results from an improper attitude of the heart towards God and a lack of restraints (e.g. parental values, social mores, or peer acceptance).

The Pharisees of Jesus' time were morally upright men because of the pressure and expectations of that society; however, Jesus said woe to them for being hypocrites. God looks at the heart for that is where sin is conceived.

Just after I came to know Jesus, I was sharing my experience with a close friend, and that person told me that they never sinned. It stumped me for awhile until I realized what sin truly was. In Romans 8 Apostle

## The soul that sins shall die.

Paul describes living according to the sinful nature as setting the mind on what that nature

## C. HEYWARD RIEDELL

Editorial Columnist

desires. That mind is death, hostile to God, not submitted to God's law, nor able to do so. The

sinful nature is inherently in control of a sinful man.

Romans 1 shows how the sinful nature deceives a person until they neither glorify God nor give thanks to Him. They exchange the truth about God for a lie. Their minds become futile in thinking and their foolish hearts darkened. Since Romans 3:23 says, "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God", my friend has in essence called God a liar.

Paul said in Romans 7:25 that the sinful nature makes one a slave to sin. In other words one can't escape committing sin or its punishment by himself. The problem with being a 'sinner' is found in Romans 8:13. "If you live according to the sinful nature you will die" — (complete separation from God and no heaven).

Ah, but amidst all this bad news is the good news. Romans 8:2 says that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus sets one free from the law of sin and death. Are you living according to the sinful nature or according to the Spirit of life? The test is found in Romans 8:9.

Those set free from the sinful nature are controlled by the Spirit of Christ. If anyone has Christ living inside, he is dead to sin (no longer bound to sinning). Who is this Christ? If

you don't live daily using the power of Christ to put to death the sinful nature, that is a good indication you are still under its control and curse.

## Spirit of life sets one free.

I was brought up in a Presbyterian church. I therefore thought I was somehow 'saved' through that association and having heard all about God. So did the Pharisees. I found out I was still under the curse of the law of sin and death. I don't write this column as a joke. I believe there are many people who have false conceptions about God. I want you to have the same chance I had to hear what I now know to be the truth.

## Forum Policy

Technician welcomes 'forum' letters. They are likely to be printed if they:

- deal with significant issues, breaking news or public interest,
- are typed or printed legibly and double spaced,
- are limited to 350 words, and
- are signed with the writer's address, phone number and, if the writer is a student, his classification and curriculum.

Technician reserves the right not to publish any letter which does not comply with the above rules or which is deemed inappropriate for printing by the Editor-In-Chief.

Letters are subject to editing for style, brevity and taste. In no case will the writer be informed before that his letter has been edited for printing.

Technician will withhold an author's name only if failure to do so would result in clear and present danger to the writer. Rare exceptions to this policy will be made at the discretion of the Editor-In-Chief.

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# Economic Perspective

## Economics needed by all students

On nearly every college campus I have had any contact with there exists a peculiar stigma about studying economics. It seems that those first two semesters of principles of economics, required by most business and social science majors, are the "dreaded courses" — an obstacle to be tolerated by the smart and survived by the not-so-smart.

I seriously doubt that I can dispell those fears about economics. I am not even precisley sure why such feelings exist. Admittedly, economics is not a "cake" subject. Nonetheless, the course material is usually only as difficult as the individual student makes it. What I hope to do here is explain what economics is really all about, and why it is important that everyone take the principles courses.

Throughout the duration of this column, I have taken the reader through a maze of topics

which are not often thought of as having any direct relationship with the field of economics. Generally, when we hear the term "economics" used, we immediately think about the *economy*, that nebulous monster out there on the evening news that takes its cues from Wall Street or the Federal Reserve or even the President. That thing called *economy* is nothing more than a big mess that no sane person can comprehend. It is not the goal of economics courses to try to explain that televised Armageddon. The real purpose is much simpler — too simple, as a matter of fact. Economics is all around us, and the courses intend to show this through models.

When you have a dollar bill, you have a decision to make. You can spend it, save it, or give it away. But the same situation arises with regard to *time*. You have to decide what to do on your time: work, play, or do

**CHUCK HICKS**

— Economics Editor

nothing. Your decision is just as economically significant as the decision regarding money (remember, Ben Franklin said "time is money"). Since *time* is something that all living beings are constantly budgeting, it follows that economic decisions are being made *continuously*. Every way that you choose to spend your time will affect your personal economy — your income, wealth, expenditures, and leisure.

Getting back to models, economists have derived thousands of neat little models, both mathematical and descriptive, to explain the behavior of us economic units given various restrictions and environmental

conditions. A *model* includes a number of assumptions made about the units and conditions in order to keep the explanations simple. The classic of all economic assumptions is that economic units (people, countries, etc.) behave rationally. It seems logical that a person is going to do everything possible to maximize his or her wealth, profits and leisure. Unfortunately, human beings and their countries are *not* at all rational — at least not when it comes to behaving as the model predicts. Some people just don't want to earn large incomes, some are content with maintaining an economic status quo, and others are just plain crazy. Hence, the models seldom represent reality as we know it — reality being the confusing mess we see on the evening news, which is enough to scare off anyone from studying the conventional wisdom.

Why study a subject that is so theoretical?

I believe it is important for the student to learn to think in *economic* terms. It's easy for all of us to think like accountants — we either have the money or we don't. But there is more money than the green strips of paper that we have in our pockets. Money has a *time value* (don't forget about time). We have to consider opportunity costs — the costs of forgoing one activity to perform another. I also believe that it is useful to learn to develop and understand models, no matter how accurate or inaccurate they are. There are always some truths to be found in spite of the fallacies of the economic units, and the exposure to mathematics and logic has never killed anyone. But most important of all, we need to recognize just how

great an impact each of us has on that monster called the *economy*. Gee whiz, people! If we were all a little better educated on the mechanics of the *economy*, we (the people) could solve alot of the wild fluctuations that plague us from one period to another. We might all realize that we can spend ourselves out of a recession and save ourselves out of inflation (instead of asking Big Brother to hit the gas and slam on the brakes via fiscal policy).

Now that you are thoroughly intrigued by the field of economics, a quick word about what to expect in those principles courses.

Economics is broken into two vague areas, each a part of and exerting influence on the other. *Macroeconomics* deals with that big economy in general and how all the various segments interact and affect each other. *Microeconomics* is concerned with the study of those individual units and how they behave. There...that was an easy explanation, but the courses cover an enormous amount of ground. In addition, the student finds out that many preconceptions about the economy which he or she bases on personal beliefs (called *value judgment*) are untrue. For example, the U.S. economy is *not* purely competitive as many of us like to think. And monopolies do not have consumers by the throat — they can go under, too. Other surprising topics come up which can incite alot of in-class discussion...

Everyone ought to have a little economics. We are constantly making economic decisions — doesn't it seem like a good idea to know a little bit about what is going on?



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# Linville Gorge: Wilderness Experience

Dawn. I have descended the trail, through the clouds which cover the mountain tops, to a rocky overlook. The view into the gorge reveals large cliffs which stand out from the heavily wooded area. Although the river is still 800 feet below, I can here the roar of the water as it cascades over the rocks. The humidity is extremely high causing the sixty degree temperature to feel like ninety. Looking left and right, I have an unrestricted view into the gorge, underneath the low cloud cover. This is one of the most beautiful sights of unspoiled wilderness in North Carolina; Linville Gorge Wilderness Area.

The Gorge offers many attractions for different types of people. Linville Falls is a favorite spot for many. As the Linville River makes its last bend before entering the Gorge, it creates a pair of waterfalls that are beautiful. The upper are twin falls, dropping into a large pool. The lower fall begins at the opposite end of the pool, twisting around huge boulders and finally falling over a hundred feet to the gorge bottom. For visitors, a trail

leads to an observation area between the upper and lower falls. The trail is about a half a mile long. From the observation area you also have an excellent view into the northern section of the Gorge. Two other trails lead to overlooks to the south which give good views of both falls. Anyone passing through the area should not pass up visiting Linville Falls. The trails are relatively short and easy to hike. To get there, from the hamlet of Linville Falls go south on NC 183 to the junction with the Kistler Memorial Highway (State Road 1238, which is a dirt road). Signs along the road will direct you to the Falls parking area.

Gorge hiking is very different from regular mountain trekking. Normally you begin at the base of a mountain and hike to the summit. In a gorge you start at the rim, hike down into the gorge, and then when you finish and are dead tired, you still have to climb back out of the gorge.

Linville Gorge is a very popular spot. In order to protect the area and prevent overcrowding, a permit is re-

## LARRY RIDENHOUR

— Outdoors Editor

quired for any overnight camping in the Gorge from May 1st through October 31st. No permit is needed from November 1st to April 30th or for hiking without camping. Permits are issued without charge from the following places; District Ranger, U.S. Forest Service, East Court Street, P.O. Box 519, Marion, N.C. 28752, phone (704)-652-4841, or the Linville Falls Texaco Station at the junction of U.S. 221 and N.C. 183.

To the backpacker or hiker, Linville Gorge offers many opportunities. A trip can be planned for one day or as long as ten days. On the west side of the gorge there are seven different trails that will take you to the bottom of the gorge; all are very strenuous trails. Each of these trails is a little over a mile long and all begin off of SR 1238. Signs along the road



View of upper and lower falls from Erwin's Lookout

mark each trailhead. All of these trails connect with the Linville Gorge Trail which runs 13.2 miles along the bottom of the gorge.

Before beginning a trip, it is helpful to first drive to Wiseman's View off of SR 1238. From here you have a view of the entire Gorge. Hikers can familiarize themselves with the general outlay of the area and

can pick out possible stopping points along the way.

The hiking is strenuous and any trip of a few days or more should not be attempted if you are not in good physical condition. During the summer months, temperatures at night can easily drop down into the forties. A wool sweater or

(see "Wilderness," page 13)

## Don't get lost without it

A simple day hike can turn into a frightening experience for someone lost in the mountains. This problem can easily be corrected if you have the proper equipment and the knowledge to use it. The tools you need are a compass, a map of the area, and a marking pen. Anyone traveling in the outdoors should have a basic understanding of how to use a map and compass. They are easy to use if you take a few minutes to learn.

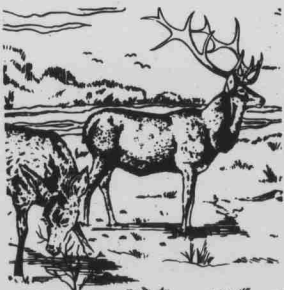
Here are a few preparations that should be made before beginning a hike through unfamiliar terrain. Mark on your map where you are beginning, any spots where you plan to stop and your destination. Also try to calculate how long it is going to take to hike from one point to the next. You can compare this time to the actual time it takes while hiking. This will tell you if you are covering more ground than you planned or if you need to pick up the pace.

The first thing to do when you realize that you are lost is to relax. Then try to find a high spot in the area so you can see your surroundings. Pick out a predominant landmark (i.e., a mountain top or nearby lake). Next, take out your map and find this feature on it. Now, pick another feature in the same line-of-sight as the first. When you have located the second landmark on the map, draw a line passing through these two points. Your location is somewhere along this line. To find out exactly where, turn left or right about ninety degrees and repeat the above process. The point where the two lines intersect is your location.

Now that you know where you are, which direction do you go?

First find your destination point on the map and draw a line from there to the point where you are now. This will be your new line-of-travel. Next, you need to orient the map to the area. To do this you need your compass. Place the compass on the map. Holding the compass still, rotate the map until the north arrow on the map points parallel and in the same direction as the needle on the compass. This may sound silly but I'm going to say it anyway: the red end of the needle points north. Your map is now oriented. From here on out do not move the map because that will give you an incorrect reading for your directions.

Place the compass directly over the point of your location. Now, turn the degrees scale until the 0/360 aligns with north. The degree heading you need to follow can now be found by reading the degree number that aligns with your new line-of-travel. This is the direction you need to follow to get to your destination.



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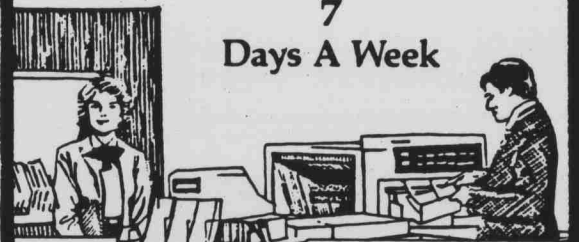
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# Science & Technology

## Professor develops research method

Did the Ice Age spell doom for the dinosaurs or was it merely the passage of time that meant the end for the prehistoric creatures? Well, a NCSU statistician has come up with a research method which may help answer this question.

Dr. Kenneth Pollock, associate professor of statistics, says that by using his method, scientists can estimate the rates at which prehistoric animal species came into existence and died out. To gauge the numbers and kinds of prehistoric species which roamed the earth before man arrived, Pollock has adapted a technique long used by zoologists to estimate the number of live animals in a geographic locale: the capture-recapture method.

Working with Dr. James Nichols, a researcher with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Md.,

Pollock used the capture-recapture method to study the fossil records of about 200 species of marine invertebrates such as mollusks and trilobites.

In the "capture" phase of the study, the two counted fossil species which have been discovered in certain layers of the earth's crust, with each layer representing a different prehistoric era. However, to "recapture" fossils, they counted those of the same species which have been found in other layers.

The deepest, oldest layer in which a fossil species was found indicates the time period when that species came into existence. The highest, most recent layer in which the same species is found shows when it became extinct. This also helped the two fill in the gaps for layers where no fossils of a certain species were present. Sometimes they found a layer in which a fossil species was

**SHISHIR SHONEK**

—Science Editor

absent. But if this portion was between two layers where the same species was present, they knew that the species must have existed during all three time periods.

Using this data, the two came up with a statistical model of the number and kinds of marine invertebrates which existed during the various periods of prehistory.

"This is the type of information which is needed to settle current arguments about rates of evolutionary change," said Pollock. "It will help scientists estimate the rates at which old species died out and new ones took their place."

Although Pollock admitted he is not a scientist and does not want to make statements about evolutionary theory, he did venture to say that changes in species may have occurred more rapidly than was first thought by the founder of evolutionary theory, Charles Darwin. Darwin believed that only time, on the order of millions of years, was needed to fuel evolutionary changes in species.

But Pollock, like some scientists, thinks the evolutionary "clock" ticked somewhat faster and that animal species died out and others took their places during relatively short periods, especially when the animals were being affected by the environment, such as a change in climate.

"For example, we are finding that mammalian species appeared during the same time frame," Pollock said. "There must have been a reason."

Pollock says he thinks his method of estimating prehistoric animal populations is more accurate than those used by paleobiologists—scientists who study fossils—because his method is based on the assumption that the fossil record is incomplete. Although paleobiologists know that the fossil record does not represent all the creatures who live their methods for estimating prehistoric populations are based on the assumption that the fossil record is complete.

Pollock says the fossil record is, at best, data which can help scientists mentally reconstruct a model of the number and kinds of species that existed during prehistory. He noted that Darwin himself described the fossil record as "a history...imperfectly kept...only here and there a short chapter has been preserved: of each page, only here and there a few lines."

## State professors helping Malay farmers

Why would anyone want to plant peanuts between rows of rubber tree plants?

Well, if you were a subsistence farmer in Malaysia, such intercropping would keep you from having to buy expensive nitrogen fertilizer for your rubber trees, because the trees' roots would get nitrogen produced by bacteria living on the roots of the peanuts.

Also, your water buffalo could graze on the peanuts. And you could sell the peanuts to add to your \$200 per capita income while you waited 10 years for your first rubber harvest.

American farmers have known about intercropping and nitrogen-fixing bacteria for generations. But farmers in Malaysia are just learning about these farming methods through

a program sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the National Research Council. The project is being led by two scientists at N.C. State University: Dr. Johnny Wynne, professor of crop science, and Dr. Gerald Elkan, professor of microbiology.

The rising cost of petroleum in the mid-1970s gave new life to the ailing natural rubber industry because synthetic rubber is made from hydrocarbons, which are petroleum products. "We hope that this practice of planting peanuts near the rubber tree plants will help the farmers replace expensive, petroleum-based fertilizers," said Elkan.

The project is a joint effort between the American scientists and local farmers and scientists. By working with Wynne, the farmers are learning how to put nitrogen-fixing bacteria into the acidic soils. Wynne is also advising the

farmers on how to space the plants and how to rotate crops to maximize crop yield. Elkan predicts that the project will enable the Malay farmers to achieve a 108 percent increase in crop yields through the use of peanuts and the nitrogen-fixing bacteria.

Elkan is trying to "optimize the natural system for making nitrogen" by coming up with just the right combination of peanut plant, bacteria strain and environmental conditions. When the bacteria infect the roots of the plant, they live by drawing nitrogen from the air down through the plant. The bacteria then give the nitrogen back to the plant as ammonia, which the plant can use as food.

For reasons that scientists do not yet understand, tropical soils such as those found in Malaysia do not contain enough nitrogen-fixing bacteria. "If the bacteria isn't there, you have to add chemical fertilizer to supply plants with nitrogen," Elkan

said. "We're trying to come up with an effective substitute for chemical fertilizer."

Only one family of bacteria, the *Rhizobia*, will work, and these bacteria will only work with certain plant species. By matching the right bacterial strain with the right plant variety, the farmer can produce the equivalent of 250 pounds of nitrogen fertilizer in one acre, he said.

In his NCSU lab, Elkan is identifying the most rugged and efficient strains of nitrogen-fixing bacteria he can find. "The bottom line is, can you grow a crop with the strain without adding nitrogen fertilizer?"

Elkan injects peanut seedlings with *Rhizobia* strains sent to him by scientists from all over the world. After the seedlings grow for several days, he analyzes them chemically to see which plants have the greatest nitrogen content. The bacteria which pass this test then compete in NCSU greenhouses and later in open fields. The results will help scientists determine which type will nurture the most plant growth.

Most importantly, Elkan must find bacteria which will thrive in the acidic Malaysian soils. And he must identify those that will compete successfully with other bacteria already present in the soil for attachment sites on the peanut plant roots.

He also hopes to find *Rhizobia* strains which would help peanut farmers in Eastern North Carolina increase their crop yields. However, it will be more difficult to increase yields this way because large numbers of nitrogen-fixing bacteria are already present in the soil.

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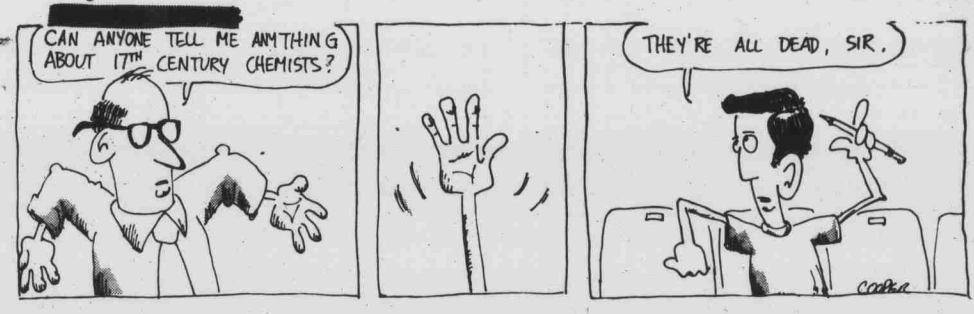
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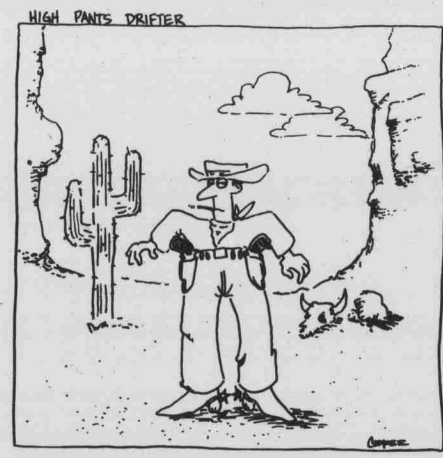
# Serious Page



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# ENTERTAINMENT

This is it. My last official column as entertainment editor. Gloom spreads throughout the free world.

I promised you my best last week. Apologies must soon follow. I am so sorry, but I could not think of anything to top my "zenith-zombie" column which appeared some time ago. I gave up hope. This is what I came up with: a conglomeration of tid-bits and trivia to infatuate and hopefully stimulate.

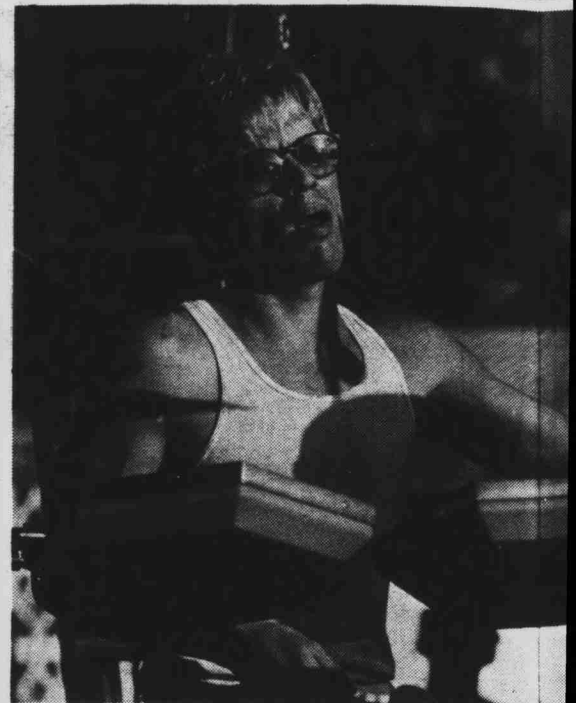
**ROGER W. WINSTEAD**

— Entertainment Editor

If you are interested in television and/or radio, how they work and why they do what they do, there is a fantastic class in the Speech-Communications department. It's SP 304 and taught by Ed Funkhouser (yes, the same golden voice that announces for the NCSU marching band at football games). Even if you are not a speech major (such as I, I strongly recommend this class. Sports Editor Scott Keeper (he's in forestry or some buggy kind-of-thang) and I quote: "I'm glad I took that class. I have learned a lot." The class delves into the history of communication and how the system works. From the sinking of the Titanic to *I Love Lucy*, this course really offers a great deal of knowledge about such a great part of our lives. It is truly an interesting learning experience.

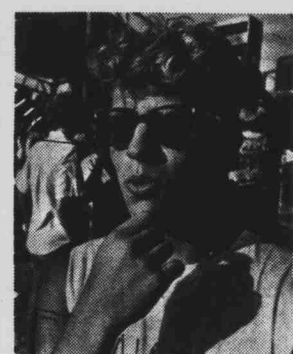
Ain't it great being an American? Are you keeping up with the Olympics? Me. Of course. At first I said to myself that it was all a bunch of mindless hype and refused to have any part of it. Well, needless to say I went home (Rocky Mt. NC — you know the town. The place where the sign at the city limits says "Welcome to Rocky Mount. Please set your watch back 100 years") and my father forced me (and the rest of the family) to watch the opening ceremonies. As the minutes went by, a tremendous swelling started at my heart, and I haven't felt the same since. Every time I hear the national anthem, my throat tightens, my stomach tingles and my arms get goose pimples from fingers to shoulder. What is it? I've heard that song a million times and never before have I felt this way. I guess you could call it patriotism. I still feel it. *Oh say can you see...*

A fun time was had by all Saturday. If you were not one of us, tough ta-ta's, you missed one heckuva show. It was called **OUT & UNDER 84** (see photos). It should have been called **HOT & HUMID 96**. Geez, it was warm. I must confess, I did not see the whole show. I had to work (yes, a real job) until five and



**OUT & uNDER**

missed *The Leeds, The Proles, The Pressure Boys, Bad Checks* and *Johnny Quest*. I really wanted to see these bands because I have heard very good things about each one. I arrived just in time to catch the tail end of *UV Prom*. Give you a tip: see *Glassmoon* in concert. They sounded good. Really good. I was pleasantly surprised at the sound quality and enjoyed every danceable minute of it. Next was *O-Boy* and the ever popular *Control Group*. I think that the idea of having a new music "festival" is a fantastic idea and pray that it will continue. Besides getting to hear some newer music, I got the chance to see some people that I haven't seen in a while and that I care very much for. I had a fantastic time. My thanks to everyone at CMC Productions (esp. Sharon Johnson) for the



passes and their generous cooperation. Thanks.

I believe that I have just about said all I can say for now. My reign is now officially over.

Tim Ellington will be entertainment editor this fall and I'm positive you'll enjoy his work. By the way, for my loyal readers: Tim is going to allow me to continue writing my column on an occasional basis and some story stuff too.

I want to thank Bill Ridenhour for hiring me at this position. He was quite brave to take on as an editor someone who has never had newspaper experience. Also, I am proud to be listed as the only male Bill hired for the summer. I wonder why no more than one male? Prejudice? Nope. Sexist? 'Fraid not. Atheist? Far from it. Loneliness? You bet your bippy. Thanks Bill. It's been fun.


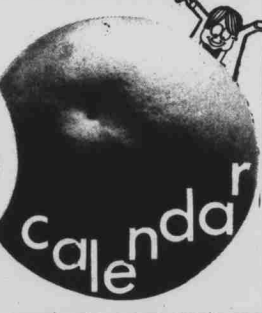
To everyone who has ever read anything I wrote: thank you. I have truly enjoyed writing for you. If I have informed you, entertained you and/or entertained you, I have done my job. It has been a unique experience working as a *Techie*. From here, I will continue my duties as photo editor of the *AGROMECK*.



This is where I get off. Summer is over and real school will begin soon. For all of our warm nights, alone or in a crowd, the cold ones lay just ahead. My best wishes to each and every one of you. Take care. Goodnight and have a pleasant tomorrow.



entertainment

calendar

AUG. 8	.....	Bad Checks, Cafe Deja Vu
		PKM, The Bear's Den
		Turnstyle, The Switch
9	.....	Bad Checks, Cafe Deja Vu
		PKM, The Bear's Den
10	.....	Rolly Gray and Sunfire, Cafe Deja Vu
11	.....	Rolly Gray and Sunfire, Cafe Deja Vu



# ENTERTAINMENT

## MUSIC

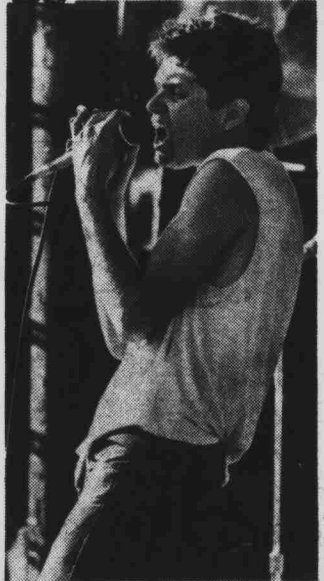
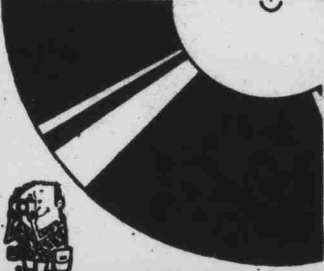


photo by Santi Norton

### THE G-MEN

"Less is More." Throughout history, this adage has been proven time and again, and last Thursday's show at the Cafe Deja Vu was no exception. Performing with the bare essentials: bass, drums and one guitar, **The G-Men's** first solo attempt at the Cafe was an exercise in simplicity and humor. Their musical style is laid-back folk, underscored by the Winston Salem pop sound.

The trio's stage presence is at times that of three comedians in front of an audience to entertain rather than merely play their music. At other times it is uncertain what they are doing onstage, but the outcome is still the same - fun music reminiscent of Buddy Holly's "Slippin' and Slidin'."

The songs are filled with emotion and humor, however the speed at which the songs are played make most of the meanings undecipherable.

Unlike the many bands who hide their drummer backstage, **The G-Men** bring

drummer Herb Campbell (who doubles as a teen-age sex god) out where he can be easily seen, and therefore primed to lead the band through many of their crazy antics, which are a major part of the band's appeal.

These antics were greatly appreciated by members of the audience, some of whom joined in singing background vocals for a Beatles song and a unique version of Roger Miller's "King of the Road." Guitarist Kenny Shore, who writes all of the group's music, laughed almost as much as he sang, and bassist Mark Ussary, usually quiet onstage, even joined in on the fun singing The Clash's "Brand New Cadillac."

**The G-Men** are beginning to get frequent bookings in the area, including a show tomorrow night at The Brewery. With the style and energy seen in their shows, it won't be long until Triangle listeners will be hit by the "G-Force."

-Susan Coble

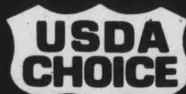


staff photos by Roger W. Winstead

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# Human Perspective

Refugee gives personal account of journey

## Danger faced crossing the sea

I hope that you have enjoyed the Olympic games as much as I have. It's good to feel the special sense of pride for America our athletes have generated. Even though our country has shortcomings in many areas, we still are the best this world has to offer. America is the envy of all nations. There are people in this world who would risk their lives just to have a chance at legal immigration to our country. I personally know four families who have fled the communists in Cuba and Vietnam. One of those families had to dodge machine gun bullets as they fled Cuba with just the shirts on their backs. The Vietnamese families tell similar stories of communist brutality and of danger when escaping Vietnam.

The following paragraphs are Phamduc Tam's own account of his escape from Vietnam. He is still in a Malaysian refugee camp awaiting the day that he can become an American citizen. The story is graphic and may shock some readers.

### Memories About Crossing The Sea

From the time the Communists attacked and occupied forcibly South Vietnam many people have tried very hard to look for ways to flee out of the "red hell" on this earth both legally and illegally.

My parents, who then lived in Hanoi, North Vietnam, experienced the communist attack in 1954. Hanoi was the capitol of Vietnam from ancient times. When the attacks came in 1954, thousands of people consisting of plantation owners, landlords, businessmen and learned persons were all regarded as bourgeois. Their property was confiscated. They were even killed, threatened or buried alive. The communist tragedy of 1954 was a vivid memory to my parents.

According to my mother's description, my grandparents, uncles and aunts were horrified and made many sacrifices, communists are not only the enemy of my country, but also of my family. I can never forget such an enemy in my life. My parents have tried hard to look for ways to flee out of Vietnam. For years after South Vietnam's overthrow, we failed many times to escape. In view of the fact that it is quite impossible for my whole family to flee out, my mother plans to let us escape one by one, although we have heard (orally) stories of such events as shipwrecks and pirate robberies while crossing the sea. My family doesn't despair. My parents do their best to look for a safe way for us.

I never thought that "I would succeed." My brother failed seventeen times in the sea crossing plan.

One day I was told to make preparation for a secret escape. A person in the organization lead me to an appointed place. No one in my family was allowed to see me off. I did not suspect that this was the last time I would see my parents. Everyone in my house was fast asleep. I said naturally, "Mother, you needn't worry. Maybe I'll be back home after a few days."

But I would not be back home anymore, I succeeded on the way to look for freedom through suffering, controlling all dangers plus hunger and thirst on the sea, I left my beloved family at last.

It was early morning that day. It was cold and dark. Nobody was on the road. The leader walked at a distance ten meters in front of me. I followed quietly; not talking. My two bags were a little heavy. They contained some clothes, one sweater, some heart and headache medicine, some ginseng and dried food. All these were things I would need if I got sick. I looked back and saw my mother in the distance. She was crying, but hoping I would succeed. She was very sad when I left

her; but for her children's bright future she is glad to receive and suffer all the sorrow.

I succeeded, but I'm very unhappy. I left my family too early. My parents love me very much.

From Saigon, the appointed place is about two hundred fifty kilometers. We could not go directly but had to change many station buses to avoid the police. I began to worry. This wasn't an ordinary trip.

The bus had moved for about one-half an hour. I gasped on seeing some police stopping the bus. I spoke in a low voice to the leader. He kept silent and didn't pay attention. A fellow passenger let me know. "This is a medicine checking station." I gasped again and worried so much. My bags were full of medicines and seaisack medicine too. Upon seeing this kind of medicine they may immediately know where I was planning to go. I let the leader know about the medicines. He got angry and asked, "Which one?" I pointed. He kicked the bag to the front of the bus. After checking everyone the police found the bag and asked about it. Nobody recognized it.

They seized the bag and brought it to the police station. Later they came back and said "Some people are planning to cross the sea and are in the bus." They checked everyone again. I worried very much. I was praying they would not arrest an innocent one. My conscience would prick me if this happened. Finally they quit and allowed the bus to move on.

On the way to the appointed place there was a total of twelve checking stations. I was very excited and also worried. I was not calm enough when we prepared to pass each of these stations. At the time I felt sorry for myself and my brother too. He had failed seventeen times and suffered many hardships. I said to myself, "I must try to pass all dangers and trials." At 5:30 p.m. we arrived at Rach Aia province. From the bus station to the appointed place we walked about twenty kilometers. The leader went in front of me. I followed him closely. I was so tired that I could go no further. I sat down on the roadside. The leader called and ran back to me and lifted me up. I didn't know whether it was true or just a threat when he said: "Hurry up, hurry up — the tigers will look for food when the night begins to fall." But his saying was very effective to me, I walked faster and did not feel tired anymore.

That evening I came to a thatched house walking noiselessly and terrified. But I was glad that it was the last appointed place. From this place I was shown to a big boat. The boat's door was opened and inside it was very dark. A ray of fire flashed; I saw about thirty people sitting and lying everywhere. I did not know where I could stand. I finally found a seat. After a few minutes I became acquainted with the darkness. The boat house was very small (4 square meters). All the people waited without talking and at midnight we were able to go out. The bad smell evaporated as we suffered patiently for about three hours in the boat. The door lock was finally opened. A man called us to stand up in a line and we walked in a stoop. We had to take our shoes off, roll our trousers up and walk across a stream and a muddy road. At that time I thought about leeches. I'm afraid of leeches and all kinds of reptile crawlers.

Everyone walked in the quietness. We were just like the thieves — the thieves who steal freedom. When we arrived at the river bank, three small boats were waiting for us there. We had to wade to the deep place. The water reaches our neck. Everyone is in a hurry to climb up. These three small boats were very small to carry one hundred twenty-three people.

### JAMES WALKER

— Editorial Columnist

They closed the lid on the hold over us and spread the fish net on the floor pretending to fish on the way. On the way the boat rocked with the waves. Everyone was vomiting. Some people were burned by lying close to the boats engine. The smell of oil and smoke made the people choke and become dizzy — very uncomfortable. It took more than seven hours for us to come to the big boat. Hearing the voice of the engine stop and the lid of the hold being opened made everyone glad. We had passed by all the police stations. Upon seeing the boat for our long trip all the people were surprised. The boat was very small. How can we cross the sea in it? My mother had been told "The boat is 17 meters in length, 3.5 meters in width, only will contain 70 persons." The boat instead is so small to carry 123 people and it looks very old. A man, perhaps the owner of the boat, ordered us to sign a paper to inform our family that we are safe on board and then they collect our gold, our tuition for crossing the sea.

#### The First Day

We started on the sea route out of the territorial waters of Vietnam. That evening all the people were notified, "Must save water; it is going to run out." Everyone was fearful. One hundred and twenty three people have only sixty liters (about 15 gallons) of water provided for the trip. How can this be enough? The man who organized this sea crossing was very careless and had no conscience. The boat was made of wood and was very rotten. There was no marine compass or no sea chart to confirm our location or direction. There was no binocular to see the sights in the distance. Everyone had to obtain food from food because of not enough water to cook and wash rice. The sea crossing started to have signals of danger...we worried.

#### The Second Day

Many people could not obtain water. The water in stock was going to run out. The scene on the boat was very tragic. Each person only got two small spoons of water each day. Everyone was the same. There was much confusion on the boat almost causing it to turn over many times.

In the evening we saw a black point appear on the horizon. A ship? No binoculars; we could not see clearly what kind of ship it was. In more than one hour the ship appeared clearly. It was a Thai ship. All our hopes went out (left us). The pictures of evil went through our minds...robbing, raping and blood "breaking." Men had been stabbed by bayonets through their bodies and then thrown into the sea. After the girls had been ravished, the pirates sometimes mutilated them and left them swelling and drifting on the sea. The children were said to have been beaten to death with sticks.

Everyone prayed and trusted God with their life. Most of the people on the boat were from Saigon. They climbed up and waved to the Thai ship and made signals to ask for water. On the other hand, we requested the steerman to turn our boat to another direction, but not in time. A sturdy Thai man from the other boat signalled for everyone to sit quietly. Then they called our boatmen, one by one, to their boat. Then they jumped to our boat to check everywhere. They took all the knives on the boat but didn't take anything of ours. Our fears became less. Then they gave us cooked rice and water. All the girls

were given more food. We thought, "They are very polite and kind!" They led the girls into the hold of their ship and told them to rest there and stay warm. They told half of the people to return to our boat and promised to pull our boat to the territorial waters of Malaysia.

Nobody knew that all their cordiality was a sham; and if we know, what can we do except obey them. They misled us by lying!

That night the pirates took their turn to rape the Vietnamese girls. They rummaged everyone to take their gold, dollars, diamonds and even clothes.

#### The Third Day

At 3 a.m. they called all the people to their ship and rummaged one by one. We had to take off all our clothes and let them check. They robbed and ravished and then they checked one more time. They then called three other ships and went away. Three other ships came. They continued to check and took all things away, even a small engine. Some women were thought to hid gold in their body and were beaten. They forced all the people to take off their clothes to check again. After they had carried off all the things they wanted, they left.

Later on, two more ships came and the view of robbing took place again. All that day we were robbed by Thai pirates for four times. That evening we were allowed to continue the trip.

We did not know by that time where we were. We had lost our direction. The steerman had to wait for the night to orientate our location and follow the stars in the sky. He is an experienced steerman; very lucky for us.

#### The Fourth Day

Ten hours later; the water pump breaks. At the same time the wood in the bottom of the boat is cracking because it is very rotten. The sea water pours into the hold of the boat. All the people, both male and female, had to take turns to bail the water out of the boat. We were very tired because of hunger and thirst. Death and life were very near. It made people become senseless. We had struggled for many days with hardships. Some people drank sea water then got a high fever caused by dry throat and salty water.

If this situation keeps up longer we will die of thirst in the boat. A woman became senseless and tried to carry her son, about 3 or 4 years old and drown herself. At that time, very luckily someone realized in time and saved her.

At that time the speed box (engine) broke. Some of the pistons of the speed box were broken and cracked. Everyone thought, "We will not survive to the island alive!" Someone suggested that we tie clothes together for sailing and drifting by the wind and water currents. But all our clothes had been robbed and taken away.

That night it was stormy. Although feeling very tired, we had to bail the water out of the boat. Nothing was as tragic as this. The speed box (engine) was broken! The boat was going to sink! The high waves and strong winds caused the children to become very cold. While looking around the boat for some coal to burn to warm them someone discovered a tool box for the engine. The box holds all the things needed to fix the engine. It was camouflaged by an instrument to avoid the checking by the Vietnamese police. It had been pried open by the sea robbers looking for gold. The steerman declared, "We'll arrive on the island soon." This saying raised our spirits up and we believed him. All that night the steerman and two men worked hard to change the new pistons into the speed box. We had hopes to arrive on the island.

#### The Fifth Day

After finishing fitting the speed

box, the steerman urged me to go to sleep. I was tired after working hard all night but I could not sleep...hearing the voice of the engine working. All the people were very excited and joyful.

Thanks to God! God did not abandon us. He is always near to us and helps us come to the land of Freedom. In Vietnam I did not like to go to the Holy Places because the religious leaders have long been taken advantage of by the communists for their purpose. I don't like to see monks or ministers wearing the noble formal dress to serve the communists. They have taken advantage of the faith of the people to do unrighteous affairs. I looked down on them. The days after I left school and lived with reality I saw clearly the real face of communism. I was tired of the communist regime. All my hopes, which were planned when I completed the technical high school program, became discouraging. Our life became a colorless existence. Some people looked for ways to cross the sea to live a simple life. Others continued to go to the university and tried to adjust to new living conditions. Some others joined resistance organizations. They gather these patriots in the forests to prepare a long standing resistance and begin a quiet struggle. We want to let the communist know and prove that "in the quiet life of the lost country, people always have a wish to revolt if they get the opportunity." We long for liberty and freedom although we purchase freedom with our blood and tears.

We lost our country, not because our armies were weak or cowardly, but we were cheated by the communist with the arrangements which they signed (Geneva in 1954 and Paris in 1972).

#### The Sixth Day

We saw many of the boards of our boat drifting by which were broken by the heavy water. At the same time birds began to appear. Everyone guessed, "Is there an island somewhere?" By noon of that day we had met many foreign ships, but no one saved us. We had to continue the trip without the help of anyone.

#### The Seventh Day

This day will be memorable for all my life. We saw Malaysia. It was the same calendar day that we had lost our country (April 30th). We arrived at the strip of land belonging to Trengganu. We were spirited and swam to the seaside. We were given water by the local people. Then they led us to the local police station and we rested there for an hour before going to Marong Station and then to Pulau Bidong Camp (an island camp).

We had survived seven days on the sea, suffering many unbelievable hardships. We thank God for His protection and loving care to us. This ordeal which I have been through resulted in our arrival in Malaysia — a life risk unforgettable trip in my life.

Now, as I sit here, writing this memory I feel very sorry for all the people who are still being held in the red hell of communism; those who failed in the sea crossing plan and have been put in communist prisons. They are unlucky people who were on the way to look for Freedom. I think of all the nameless soldiers (dead forever) who protected our independence, our place and freedom before 1975.

I pray God to give me the belief and patience in order for me to pass over all the trials in my resettlement to go to the United States of America, the promised land which all the refugees desire.

Phamduc Tam (Pb 578 - B1262)  
Sungei Besi, Malaysia

# Conservation

## Natural conservation essential

The issue of natural resource conservation has reached a critical peak in North Carolina. Population explosion has given us the cause; technological advancement has given us the tools for exploitation of natural resources and land development at a rate unsurpassed in history. Along with several private conservation organizations, the North Carolina state government has recognized the need for the protection of natural ecosystems through the establishment of several special programs. The Natural Heritage Program, the Plant Conservation Program and the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program form a triangle of state programs dedicated to natural resources protection.

We are all familiar with such limelight issues as acid rain, phosphate usage, endangered species and toxic waste. Yet none of these issues exist in isolation; each is merely an indicator of a far more complex problem. We must turn our attention toward our overall "land ethic," and the multiple ecological problems before us, generated by our basic attitudes and often thoughtless treatment of the earth which sustains us.

Although plant and animal species have lived and vanished throughout the history of life on earth, it is speculated that the rate of extinction has increased by 1,000 times since human

domination, primarily as a result of land use practices. We are not only losing species of interest and beauty. Many plant species of important medical value have been discovered in the past; how many are we losing which remain undiscovered? Contemporary life is our most important clue into the mysteries of evolution and natural history, and holds much scientific possibility for the future improvement of human life. Perhaps most importantly, with the rapidly diminishing diversity of plant and animal life, we are interfering with a complex, balanced ecosystem we have not yet begun to understand. It is quite apparent that we are not independent of this "web of life." Because plants and animals cannot speak or vote, it is the responsibility of us all as humans to treat these natural systems with wisdom.

The most imminent threat to the delicate web of plants and animals is the destruction of the natural habitats which they require to survive. Begun in 1976 by the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development with assistance by The Nature Conservancy, the Natural Heritage Program is dedicated toward identification, and protection of important natural areas.

The Natural Heritage Pro-

### KATIE GREENBERG

Guest Columnist

gram inventory focuses on "elements of natural diversity" that make a specific natural area unique. This includes information on geomorphic features, plant communities and critical habitats, as well as rare plants and animals. The information is maintained in a data management system that includes a computerized data bank, manual files and topographic maps. The inventory data is valuable not only as a record of occurrences, but it is also frequently used in the land planning process to help avoid inadvertent destruction of significant areas or rare species. The Program also reviews and provides information for many Environmental Impact Statements each year, and assists in protection planning through a variety of channels.

One means of protection of significant natural areas is to arrange voluntary conservation agreements with landowners. The North Carolina Registry of Natural Heritage Areas recognizes those who voluntarily pledge to protect important areas, and serves as a means for educating landowners.

The Natural Heritage Program also works closely with The Nature Conservancy, and identifies land for acquisition by The Nature Conservancy. State parks are state owned land, some of which are maintained as nature preserves. Both land acquisition by other organizations, and Natural Heritage Program registry agreements are important in natural preservation.

To date, over 150 areas have voluntarily committed to the State Registry of Natural Heritage Areas. The physiographic and biological diversity of North Carolina is exemplified by the variety of the coastal plain. Several clay-based "Carolina Bays" are on the registry. These wetlands harbor several rare plant species. They also provide excellent habitats for a variety of amphibians, reptiles and birds, and are perhaps the last remaining refuge for the eastern black bear. Most Carolina bays have been drained and converted for agricultural uses. The addition of several to the registry is important in preserving this valuable habitat and the life it supports.

Other registered areas range from mountain bogs and spruce-fir forests of high elevations, Appalachian heath balds to granite flatrocks of the Piedmont, swamp forests, peat bogs of the coastal plain and barrier islands on the Outer Banks. Each area represents significant features of our state's natural heritage. The voluntary registry offers an alternative to traditional means of land preservation, and an excellent opportunity for individual landowners to contribute to the conservation effort.

The voluntary registry is one step among many to preserve North Carolina's natural heritage. Unfortunately, many

species of animals, including bald eagles, mountain lions and indiana bats; and plants, including bunched arrowhead, small whorled pogonia and Blue Ridge goldenrod are already in danger of extinction. Not only is the critical habitat of these and other plants and animals being sacrificed to development, but many of these species have been reduced to critically low numbers by hunting, trapping and collection.

The Plant Conservation Program in the North Carolina Department of Agriculture was established in 1979 with the passage of the "Plant Protection and Conservation Act." This program is primarily responsible for the listing and protection of endangered and threatened plant species. This is accomplished by research, surveillance and monitoring of species of concern. The listing status of a plant species is determined by evaluating its range, the number of known populations and the distribution of the habitat in which it occurs. The Natural Heritage Program works closely with the Plant Conservation Program in maintaining a data bank of listed plant occurrences. As with wildlife, the biggest threat to many plant species is the destruction of habitat.

The Plant Conservation Program is also responsible for the development and enforcement of regulations pertaining to rare plants. Collection and trade of endangered and threatened plants is illegal. However, permits are issued for domestic propagation and sale. Public education is vital for plant conservation as well, and efforts are currently in progress to develop such a program.

The North Carolina Legislature recently established

(see "conservation," page 13)

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# N.C. Outdoors

## Wilderness

(continued from page 5)

jacket should be taken. The trails are rocky, so a sturdy boot is advisable to be worn. There are springs for fresh water in the area but any water taken from the river or creeks should be treated with purification tablets or boiled before using.

Many varieties of wildlife can be seen in the area. Deer, wild turkeys, ruffed grouse, and occasionally bears can be found along the ridges. Two poisonous snakes, the copperhead and timber rattler, are also common to the area. Fishing in the Linville River may reward you with brown or rainbow trout.

For those not interested in hiking, there are still many things to see. Wiseman's View is also a popular spot for just visiting and taking pictures. Directly across from Wiseman's

View is Hawksbill Mtn. (4020 ft.) and to the right Tablerock Mtn. (3909 ft. and the site of the N.C. Outward Bound School). Both are favorite picnicking areas because of the gorgeous views and easy accessibility. Go south on NC 181, from the junction of NC 183, about three miles to the Tablerock Picnic Area sign. Turn right onto the road and follow it. The Hawksbill Mtn. Trail is reached after 4.5 miles. The Tablerock Trail is reached by continuing on another 2.2 miles to Forest Service Road 210B and following it to the end. The trail leads north to the summit and to a Lookout Tower.

A good place to visit if the weather happens to be bad is Linville Caverns. They are located about three miles south of Linville Falls on U.S. 221.

The Linville area offers many different activities for all types of outdoor people.



Upper twin falls of Linville



Hikers rest during trip through northern section of Linville Gorge.

Photos by Larry Ridenhour



Linville River along Pine Gap Trail

## Conservation protects environment

(continued from page 12)

the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program which is administered by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, which has traditionally concerned itself largely with game species. Some of their projects include the restoration of peregrine falcons in the North Carolina mountains; the release of four bald eagles at Lake Matamuskeet; and monitoring nests and sex ratios of federally endangered loggerhead turtles to determining future protective management actions.

Realizing that little progress can be made for nongame wildlife protection until the public is made fully aware of its urgency, the Nongame Program is developing a comprehensive conservation education package for young people in grades K-12. A component of the package "Project Wild," will be introduced to North Carolina's

children this fall and is intended to develop an awareness of the earth as a home shared by all forms of life, and a commitment to its stewardship.

Future objectives of the program include developing management programs for nongame wildlife, especially endangered and urban wildlife; developing additional environmental education materials; influencing land and water resources planning for the benefit and protection of nongame species and their habitat and conserving natural areas and critical wildlife habitats.

The Nongame Program is largely funded through private donations from North Carolina State income tax returns. Additional contributions can be made to the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, 512 Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611, or call 919-733-3391 for more information.

The primary goal of the three

programs is to protect the natural resources of North Carolina. Each program focuses on one major aspect of natural systems: information coordination regarding natural areas, plants and animals, and landowner contact (Natural Heritage Program); nongame and endangered wildlife (Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program); and the identification and protection of rare plants (Plant Conservation Program). The programs work closely together as well as with a network of public and private agencies, the scientific community, and citizen conservation organizations.

Further coordination of these groups is necessary for working effectively toward a common goal. Strengthening of the programs through funding and volunteer support is critical. The seeds for a strong environmental movement in North Carolina have been planted. The growth and effectiveness of these efforts depend upon us all.

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# Forum

## Columnist insults readers

I am glad that the American Constitution allows for freedom of the press. I would never have believed that such ignorance and primitive thinking still exist in the South or anywhere else in the country. James Walker's editorial column was in itself a fiasco. It was simply a play on words that relied on the simplemindedness of the readers to be an interesting article. Mr. Walker considers Reverend Jesse Jackson, House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, and New York Governor Mario Cuomo to be hypocritical liars. Well let's review some basic facts that Mr. Walker neglects to take into account in his editorial.

Mr. Walker says that he prefers "Reagan on his feet looking our enemy to the South in the eyes. . ." The reason the Cuban dictator remains our enemy is because President Reagan refuses to meet and negotiate with Castro after Castro has shown that he's interested in opening a line of communication. Is it reasonable, Mr. Walker, to remain politically distant from a country that is physically so close? Mr. Walker then criticizes Reverend Jackson for being "on a bended knee begging for release of drug smugglers. . ." Is it unreasonable, Mr. Walker, for one American citizen to beg for the homecoming of another American citizen? Please understand, whether they are drug smugglers, political prisoners, or innocent tourists, they are still American citizens.

And, by the way, Mr. Walker, when was your last trip to Cuba? When did you see these "enslaved Cuban people" that you refer to? Fidel Castro has brought stability and some prosperity to his people.

Regardless of the fact that he uses Communism as a tool, his concern is the welfare of his people. Does his strong sense of patriotism warrant assassination and military overthrow attempts by our very own government?

Now, think carefully, is a hand clasped in friendship with Israel really in the best interest of our country? If Israel is our only ally in the entire Middle East, then something must seriously be wrong with our foreign policy. The only reason Israel has survived since its origin in 1948 is because of the strong Jewish money bloc that exists here in America. Now call this anti-Semitism if you will, but is it really anti-Semitism because I believe that it was wrong for the United Nations to annex land from the Palestinians to give to the Jews because of the continued discrimination that they met in Europe. How would you react Mr. Walker, if the United Nations annexed the Carolinas to give to the 16 million South African blacks who live under slave-like conditions? Or better yet, how would you react if the U.N. annexed the Carolinas to give to Minister Louis Farrakhan and his Nation of Islam? Think about it! Were the American Indians murderers for objecting to colonialism? Were the French and English murderers for objecting to the threat of Nazism? Then why are Yassir Arafat and the Palestinian people classified as murderers for defending their original homeland?

You then repudiate Reverend Jackson for "refusing to condemn the sins of homosexuality and abortion. . ." For Jackson not to condemn these sins does not mean that he necessarily condones these

sins. It is not the place of any man to condemn another. Judgment day is left for our Lord. Reverend Jackson and the democratic party simply realize that homosexuals and pro-abortionists are people who must be acknowledged and treated as American citizens.

President Reagan standing shoulder to shoulder with anti-Communist crusaders actually concerns me. The result might be a situation similar to that of old Iran. American foreign policy has made some critical mistakes, such as supporting the Shah of Iran while he drained his country of its resources. He lived in luxury while only miles from his palace, children

were starving. In his short-lived campaign, Jackson brought such urgent issues into the public eye. It seems clear to me that Reverend Jackson is on the side of justice, and anyone can see that he does not speak for you Mr. Walker!

The attempt at making House Speaker Tip O'Neill look like a fool is both ruthless and in poor taste. Mr. O'Neill is called a contemptible bum for supporting programs such as welfare, medicare and free housing. If it were not for such programs that he supports, the financially lower class and the old would wind up poverty stricken. I find it ironic that under the present administration, military spending is

increasing and taxes for large corporations are declining, and then you, Mr. Walker, try to blame Tip O'Neill for the budget deficit. Common sense says that something is wrong.

I hope that in the future, your editorials will be somewhat more objective, based on cold facts rather than with personal thoughts, ideas and prejudices. And in the process, please do not underestimate and insult your own readers.

Nelson Jones  
SO Business

## Pornography harms society

This letter is in response to James Walker's article, "Miss America Pageant," which appeared in the *Technician* last Wednesday.

Although the article is well written and gets the idea across, it fails to point out the roots of the problem of pornography in our society. It should be clear in our minds that the problem of pornography is not only the problem of the people who participate in the act of posing and displaying or the people who promote pornography by looking at the magazines like *Penthouse* or *Playboy*, but the problem is of the entire society because it affects us in one way or another, or it can affect us in the future. The danger of being victimized is to everyone whose mother, sister, wife or girlfriend is degraded by the institution of pornography. Therefore, a person who is promoting an institution of pornography by looking at such debase

magazines is not only doing harm to himself, but he is doing harm to the entire society. If a human being realizes the enormity of his act, he will not indulge in such activities. We as a civilized society have the responsibility to help each other in seeing the enormity of the whole situation.

It is a fact that the institution of the Miss America pageant or any other beauty contest engages in exploitation of the participants and promotes other institutions like pornography. The noted columnist Richard Reeves of the *News and Observer* remarked about Miss America pageant in one of his articles, "They give her a crown for showing her body in a swimsuit, but they are shocked when she takes it off." The question we should ask is why do women participate in the Miss America pageant or pose for corrupt magazines like *Penthouse* and *Playboy*? If we closely examine the two we

find in both cases women, driven by greed and desire for fame, prestige and money, use their bodies as a means to achieve this end. Who gives these women the fame, prestige and money? Obviously our society. Our puritan society glorifies the Miss America pageant, but raises hue and cry when the pictures in *Penthouse* such as those of Vanessa Williams invite public attention. My focus is only on the hypocrisy which our society promotes. The roots of hypocrisy lie in the greed and the desire to succeed no matter what the means or the consequences.

The time has come when we should pay close attention to the elements of greed and self-gratification which are slowly taking firm roots in our society.

Gurvinder Singh  
JRECE

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### Miscellaneous

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All members of the Royal Tiger Tae Kwon Do Club who anticipate training during fall semester should attend mandatory meetings on August 27 and 29, 4 p.m., Carmichael Gym, Room 111. Applications for new members will be accepted on August 27 and 28 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Carmichael Gym, Room 111.

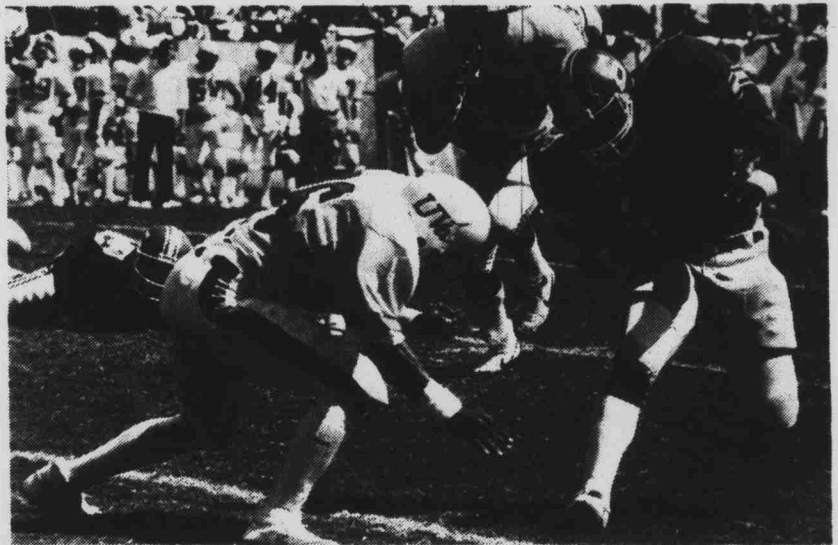
ATTN: GAY AND LESBIAN STUDENTS  
The new Gay and Lesbian Association (G.A.L.A.) will be meeting soon. For time and place write:  
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Box 5351  
Raleigh, NC 27650

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## See YOU . . .



Technician file photo

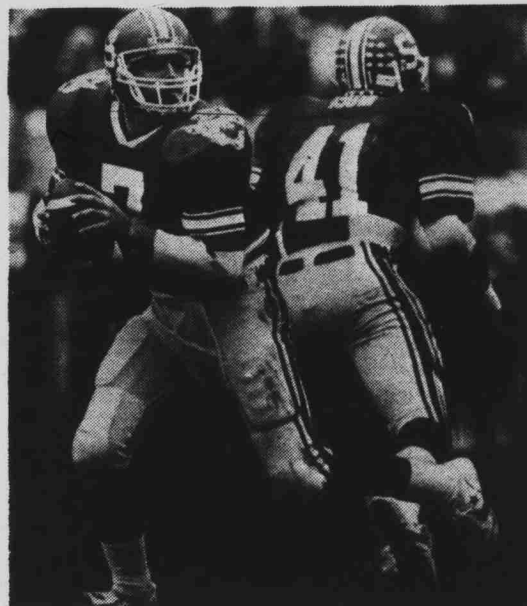


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## . . . at Carter-Finley!



Drew Armstrong



Clayton Brinkley

### 1984 N.C. State Football Schedule

Sept. 8	<b>OHIO*</b>	Oct. 20	North Carolina
Sept. 15	<b>FURMAN*</b>	Oct. 27	<b>CLEMSON</b>
Sept. 22	<b>WAKE FOREST*</b>	Nov. 3	<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>
Sept. 29	<b>EAST CAROLINA*</b>	Nov. 10	Virginia
Oct. 6	Georgia Tech	Nov. 17	<b>DUKE</b>
Oct. 13	Maryland		Home games in caps. *Night games.

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## Sports

## Retton captures hearts in L.A.

UCLA's Pauley Pavilion was in an uproar Friday night. And it wasn't the legendary Bruin's of the hardwood causing all the commotion.

Instead, the instigator was a diminutive — but incredibly powerful — 16-year-old gymnast with USA written all over her face. With a smile and bubbly personality all her own, America's latest national hero spun, flipped and landed — directly atop the uppermost level of the winner's stand.

By now, Mary Lou Retton has become a household name. I can easily imagine little girls imitating her every move in living rooms across the country for the next few months. Countless numbers will be donning a pair of tights and prodding their parents for tumbling and gymnastics lessons. Probably no one has done so much to inspire those aspiring young Olympians since, well — Nadia.

Everyone remembers Nadia. The fact that her last name is Comaneci is inconsequential. She needs no further introduction, thank you. Nadia will do just fine.

In 1976, this graceful Roma-

nian won the gold and captured the hearts of all at the Olympic games in Montreal. It was as if the entire world had adopted the irresistible — and perfect — Nadia.

But now, precisely eight years and two Olympics later, the United States doesn't have to look elsewhere for an adoptable darling. This time she belongs to us.

With Nadia watching unemotionally from ringside, Retton stole the show in L.A., fatefully upending a favored Romanian to win the gold in the women's all-around competition. But it was the manner in which she catapulted to the top which remains an indelible memory.

Trailing Romania's Ecaterina Szabo by four-tenths of a point with two events remaining, Retton pumped herself up and responded with consecutive perfect 10 scores in the floor exercise and vault.

Flatly stating that she performs best under pressure, Retton proved herself true in the vaulting event. After pacing impatiently while awaiting the final event, Retton confidently mounted the runway, waved to

SCOTT  
KEEPFER

Sports Editor

the judges and barreled toward the vaulting horse with a sprint that would impress Carl Lewis. A full-layout Tsukahara and perfect landing later, the Pauley Pavilion crowd erupted, sensing the perfect score.

It came. And it came again a minute later when the supercharged Retton used her second attempt to record yet another 10. Retton — all 4'9½" and 94 pounds of her — had become the first-ever American female medal-winner.

Mary Lou, a native of Fairmont, W.Va., is the youngest of five children in the athletic Retton family. Her father, Ron, was a co-captain (the other was Jerry West) on the 1959 West Virginia basketball team which advanced to the finals of the NCAA Tournament.

Two years ago Mary migrated to Houston, Texas to begin training under Comaneci's

former coach, Bela Karolyi. A masterful educator of the sport, Karolyi quickly developed Retton into his sixth Olympic champion.

So, in much the same way that her predecessors — Olga Korbut and Nadia — became internationally-known, so has Retton. For many of us, her accomplishments and personality will be the highlight of the games in Los Angeles.

Although there are many champions to be crowned before the games of the 23rd Olympiad come to a close, they don't stand a fighting chance in my book.

I found my Olympic hero Friday night.

This has indeed been an incredible week in Los Angeles. The United States Olympic team had accumulated a whopping 56 medals, including 31 gold and 21 silver through Saturday. The closest challenger is West Germany with 23 total medals.

What particularly stands out about these efforts is the respective sports in which the hardware has been won. Until now, one didn't mention the United States in the same breath when speaking about such international sports as gymnastics, Greco-Roman wrestling, volleyball, cycling, rowing and judo. But now, the Americans have — or have a chance to win — medals in each of these once-weak sports. And the Americans longtime forte — track and field — is only beginning.

The initial hint that these games would be the most successful in United States history came on the opening day of competition when slender-bodied cyclists Connie Carpenter and Rebecca Twigg pedaled their way to a one-two finish in the women's 79-kilometer race. By day's end, the Americans had added five more gold and a

pair of silver medals. Since then, many heroes have emerged for the home team.

Members of the men's gymnastics team became the first heroes, surprising the favored Chinese team by capturing the gold in team competition. The following night, heavyweight Jeff Blatnik won the second Greco-Roman wrestling medal for the U.S. in as many days with a 2-0 win over his Swedish challenger. Afterwards, Blatnik was so overcome with emotion that he was unable to speak. Blatnik, who had won a more important bout with Hodgkin's disease two years earlier, dedicated his gold medal to his brother David, who was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1977. Inspiration and desire for the U.S. team reached an all-time high.

Seemingly spurred by its absence in Moscow four years earlier and the emotional victories in the opening days, the Americans continued to dominate in a variety of sports. A U.S. victory and world-record effort in the final swimming event — the men's 400-meter medley relay — gave the team its 21st gold swimming medal, equalling the all-time high set at Mexico City in '68.

Also through Saturday the American boxing team had yet to lose a representative, and the basketball and baseball teams had not been seriously challenged.

Sunday morning action saw former N.C. State runner Joan Benoit lead the women's marathon for virtually the entire distance and capture the gold medal by more than a minute over runner-up Grete Waitz of Norway.

Now, with a bevy of medals expected in track and field and excellent gold chances in basketball and boxing, the closing days of the games appear to be as rewarding as the first for the United States.

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