

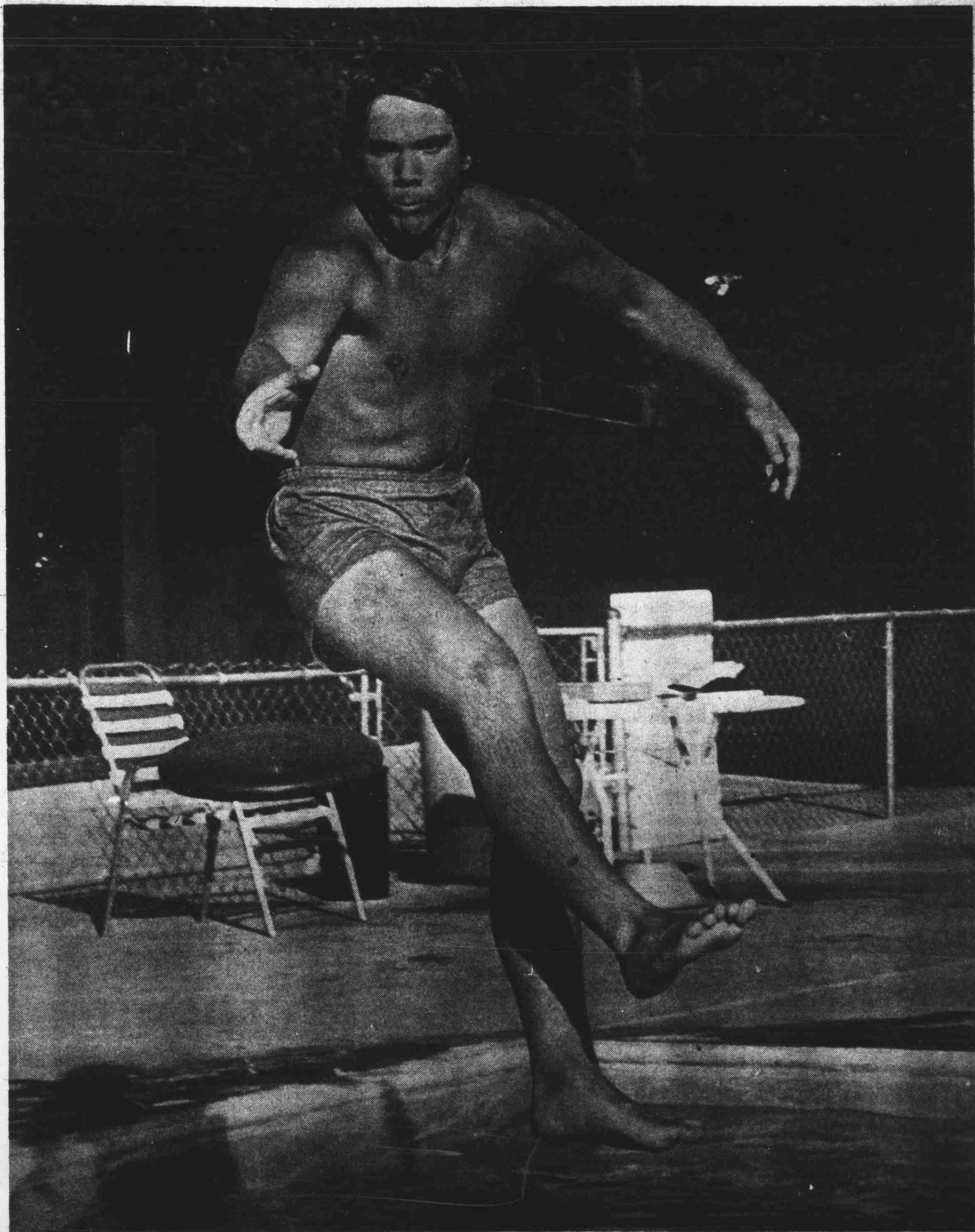
Cover photo by Lynn McNeill

Technician

Summer Volume VI, Number 4

North Carolina State University's Student Newspaper Since 1920

Wednesday, June 11, 1980



Elections policy will clarify problems

by **Barrie Eggleston**
Staff Writer

A new elections policy which will clarify door-to-door campaigning and manning of election polls by groups without vested interest in candidates is being formulated by Student Body President Joe Gordon and Treasurer Steve Rea.

Election validity was questioned after last spring's elections in two written complaints alleging that Gordon and an unnamed can-

didate for student body treasurer had violated Student Government statutes by soliciting votes door-to-door in the residence halls.

Student Body Statutes state that "University policy does not permit any person, organization or agency to solicit, conduct business or raise funds on campus without the approval of the Student Development office."

Other Student Government projects include an increase in student campaign funds allotted

to individual candidates, an extension of CAT bus service, budget increases for the various school councils, binding and printing of Student Government materials and assistance with the freshman orientation program.

Campaign funds are currently set at a maximum of \$75. Rea is working to increase that figure to \$95.

"Candidates often don't have enough money to finish out their campaigns in such cases as a runoff," Gordon said.

Both Rea and Gordon were involved in runoffs for their respective offices during the spring elections.

Gordon is planning an extension of CAT bus service to include Fraternity Court and one-half mile of Avent Ferry Road.

If the plan goes through, there will be a two-month trial period with Fraternity Utility (money allocated by Residence Life to pay for utilities used by fraternities) paying for one month and the city paying for the second month, Gordon said.

Rea is working on a school councils' budget increase. This would mean a 25 to 30-cent increase per student in student fees.

This increase is not an addition to the Student Government increase passed last year.

There has not been a fee increase for school councils in seven years and inflation has made it difficult for the individual councils to operate, Rea said.

A public forum will be held in September for students to voice their opinions on this issue.

Bound volumes of documents, minutes, and major addresses from Student Government meetings from the past year will soon be available to students, Rea said.

Gordon and Ron Spivey, Student Senate President, are assisting with freshman orientation.



A new elections policy may clarify last spring's problems of staffing the polls.

Together they are addressing the freshmen in orientation sessions about Student Government, and Spivey is an orientation counselor.

Rea and Gordon, who are both working in full-time outside jobs over the summer, told the Technician in an interview last week they keep office hours from 6:30-11:30 p.m. during the week.

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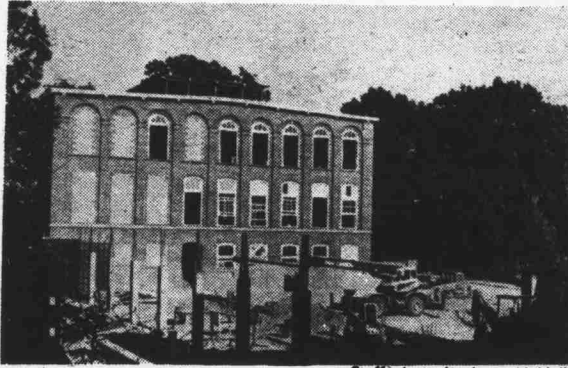
8-BALL TOURNAMENT

Wednesday
June 11
7:00 pm

8

SIGN UP
ROOM 3114
Student Center

English Department plans move to Tompkins Hall



Staff photo by Lynn McNeill

After 20 years in Winston Hall, the English Department will move to Tompkins upon completion of its renovation in spring, 1981.

by Margaret Britt
News Editor

The Department of English at State will move to Tompkins Hall upon completion of renovation processes in that building, said Dr. Larry S. Champion, professor of English and head of that department.

In addition, the department has submitted a request for funding of a computing center in Tompkins to be used as a writing and editing laboratory.

The English Department has been housed in Winston for at least 20 years, Champion said in an interview.

The English Department will fill Tompkins to capacity upon moving in, he said.

"Right now, we are teaching any and everywhere," Champion said. "We do desperately need the space."

Renovation of Tompkins is scheduled to be completed in March of 1981.

"We will start moving piecemeal in March, but the major move will be after exams next spring," he said.

The main reason the computers were requested is to enrich the Writing-Editing program, according to Carolyn R. Miller, instructor of English. Miller is in charge of developing text-editing instruction.

"It's a way to simulate the conditions students would find on the job—on a newspaper or in a business," Miller said.

Students will use terminals with video display screens which will display texts for editing. The terminals will be hooked by telephone line into the Triangle Universities Computation Center (TUCC) used by State, Carolina and Duke, which is based at the Research Triangle.

Miller recently received a \$500 "mini-grant" from the Provost's office to develop an introductory instruction unit in computer text editing this spring.

Miller said \$500 is the highest amount awarded through a "mini-grant."

"This is also an educational process for faculty. We don't have that kind of background," she said.

Security plans for the Tompkins terminals include a key system with a separate lock unlike others in the building, Champion said.

The funding request for the terminals will be part of a change budget for new programs which are not ongoing.

Champion said that as far as he knows, the approval of the plans thus far has no relation to the North Carolina Japan Center planned by Governor Hunt.

The campus road behind Winston and Tompkins will be taken out, except for a small access area.

"We want to bring (pedestrian) traffic flow through this area instead of Hillsborough Street," Champion said, citing students' safety as the reason for the removal.

The road area will be landscaped into the Court of the Carolinas, he said.

With respect to renovation progress on Tompkins, Champion said, "I think they (construction workers) are to the point now that very little will hold them up."

Summer program increases by 400

by Lise Thorabush
Staff Writer

A program that will help freshmen get better grades has been expanded this summer to assist over 470 incoming engineering students, according to Byard Houck, director of special programs in the School of Engineering.

Last summer 70 students went through the Summer Transitional Program (STP) and their grade point averages (GPA) were significantly higher, Houck said.

Students earn four credits during the Second Summer Session for the program, which involves extensive tutoring and individual programming.

The major reason for installation of the summer program, according to Houck, is the high 40

percent dropout level of students in their first two years of college. In 1978-1979, 60 percent of all students taking Chemistry 101, a basic prerequisite for any engineering program, got a "D" or "no-credit" in the course.

Houck said that the School of Engineering confronted the chemistry department, accusing it of flunking all its students.

"But what we found was that they were not sabotaging the students at all. They were providing the same material, the same course work. They proved us wrong," Houck said.

Lack of background preparation was deduced to be the main problem, according to Houck.

"It's not engineering that's flunking them out," Houck said. "It's basic math, English, chemistry and physics."

"We try to identify their strengths in each area," Houck said. "Students who are very conversant in nine or 10 of the 13 areas can exempt Math 111."

Last year, of the 160 students who were encouraged to take part in the program, only 70 did. But this spring's grades show the result of that summer spent in study, he said.

Houck attributes this year's large attendance to the fact that "we're leaning on the parents, sending them letters."

Although he has only one year's statistics, he said his study has proven that of those students predicted to produce a 2.0 GPA, those who closely adhered to the STP program earned a 3.2 GPA while the group that "didn't want to be led around by the hand earned a 2.3 GPA."

classifieds

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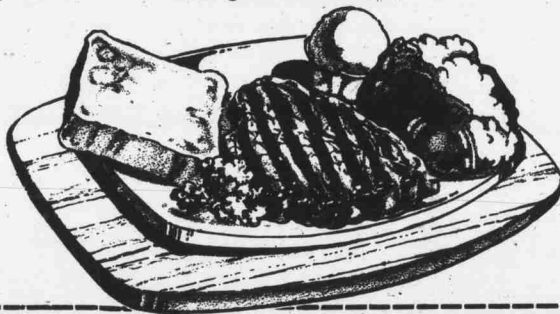
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Now is the best time to find off-campus housing

by Dan Dawes
Staff Writer

So you haven't found an apartment. All is not lost, if you are looking for fall accommodations.

But roughly 12,000 of State's 18,000 students will be living off-campus in 1980-81, according to Charles Oglesby, Director of Residence Life.

The March 12 lottery threw 1,400 people into an off-campus housing search, several hundred more than in 1979, he said.

Apartment complex managers in the south Raleigh area are urging students to select their apartments for August by June at the latest.

Beth Mood, resident manager of The Orchards Apartments on Avent Ferry Road, says, "The market is very tight now in Raleigh and our apartments have filled earlier this summer than anticipated since students aren't waiting until August."

Gerry Walton, manager of Kensington Park Apartments, agreed the summer market for apartments is tight between May and September.

"It's a slim chance you'll find an apartment for the fall if you wait until July and August to start looking," Walton advises June as the latest date for apartment hunting.

One of the best ways to start apartment hunting, according to Bill Guy, State's Coordinator for Off-Campus Housing, is to use 201-A Harris Hall as a "clearing-house" of housing information.

The Off-Campus Housing office maintains listings of rooms for rent, apartments for rent, apartments to share, houses and mobile homes and roommates wanted.

Guy stresses that each individual, not Off-Campus Housing, is responsible for contacting

the landlord or apartment manager.

Besides looking through the notebooks and lists, Guy also suggests using his office's "Living Off-Campus Apartment Guide Supplement," the *News and Observer* classified section, the "Apartment Finder" magazine (in most stores), bulletin boards on campus and realty companies.

"It would be nice to say it is an effortless process but unfortunately it is not. You can expect to invest two or three days searching for an apartment or room," he said.

The "Living Off-Campus" information packet, produced by the Association for Off-Campus Students (AOCS) and distributed in 201-A Harris Hall, is a valuable supplementary guide in apartment hunting.

The packet includes a listing of major apartment complexes in Raleigh with basic information on each one and a booklet outlining legalities of tenancy which tenants should know before they move in.

Information in the "Apartment Guide Supplement" can be used in tandem with the listings in the Off-Campus Housing office. It includes: apartment distances from campus, number of people allowed per bedroom, rent deposits, length of leases, rules on subletting, utilities and furnishings, along with other factors considered in apartment hunting.

The "Living Off-Campus" booklet summarizes tenant and landlord responsibilities outlined in the "North Carolina Tenants' Handbook."

The booklet covers information which should be known before signing a lease and acts as a guideline to questions tenants should ask. These include questions on what rent includes, average monthly costs of utilities, and which deposits are refundable.

The booklet also answers questions about terminating, renewing and extending a lease, subletting, rent, non-discriminatory housing, eviction, landlord responsibilities and rooming houses.

The booklet strongly urges students to "make rental agreements in writing to avoid any misunderstandings of terms and conditions."

According to several apartment managers at Kensington, King's Row, The Orchards, Broadmoor and Western Manor, full-time students need a parental signature to vouch for income statements and credit references.



Staff photo by Lynn McNeill

From 'apartment for rent' to 'roommate wanted,' the Off-Campus Housing Office may be the quickest way to find a place to live.

Architects chosen for new facility

by Lisa Thornbush
Staff Writer

Architects have been chosen for the \$4.5 million athletic dormitory to be built just east of Morrill Drive and south of Western Boulevard, according to Edwin Harris, director of State's Facilities Planning Division. Construction is due to begin in December.

Clark, Tribble, Harris and Li, an architectural firm from Charlotte, was chosen by the University Board of Trustees to design the new building.

The 500-bed residence hall will be used primarily to house male and female athletes.

"The architects have submitted drawings that are about 30 percent complete," Harris said.

"We'll probably receive bids (for construction) in 1980."

"We're in the planning phase right now," Harris said.

As for resident parking, Harris said, "We're still working on that. There's not room on the site."

Harris expects to furnish 23 percent (118 of the dorm residents) with parking spaces. State provides 23 percent of all students with designated parking places.

At one time the possibility of assigning spaces along Morrill Drive was considered.

"We still don't know," Harris said. "Right now those are computer spaces and we'll have to find new spaces for the computers. We're working on finding adequate parking."

"It's moving along," Harris

said about the dormitory. "It will conceivably be (open) in the fall of 1982."

Harris said plans for the athletic dorm will follow the NCAA's guidelines for housing athletes.

There was some controversy when the Athletic Department purchased the College Inn because it had facilities (TVs, swimming pool) that other dorms did not provide. These facilities are no longer available to College Inn residents.

"This is not going to be an athlete's palace," Harris said, citing the University of Kentucky as one place where "a palace for athletes was built."

"We are following the college guidelines," he said. "It is one of the criteria on which we are building."

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SECOND SOLE

Murphy makes State history

by Stu Hall
Sports Editor

Another first in State athletics.

On Saturday, javelin thrower Mike Murphy recorded a throw of 252-7. The important part of that throw is it gave Murphy second place in the javelin competition, which is the highest finish by a State athlete ever, at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field

Championships in Austin, Texas. The second place finish produced eight points, which is all the Wolfpack received, and a tie for 25th with Iona, Fairleigh Dickinson and Fresno State. Texas El-Paso took first-place honors with 69 points.

Murphy, who finished second in the ACC championships, was second only to San Jose State's Curt Ransford with a toss of 269-3.

A series of 252-7, 245-4, 243-10, foul, 245-2 and foul were the most consistent throws in the meet, yet were still outdone by Ransford.

The Wolfpack's other participants in the championships were Ron Foreman and Ed McIntyre.

In the 400-meter hurdles, Foreman qualified for the semi-finals with a third-place time in his heat of 51.60. The semi-finals was as far as Foreman would go, as he placed seventh with a time of 52.72.

McIntyre failed to advance past his first heat in the 400-meter dash. McIntyre placed sixth with a time of 48.54.



Staff photo by Lynn McNeill
Ron Foreman was one of three State participants in the NCAA Track and Field Championships.

Cockerton honored

State attackman Stan Cockerton and goalie Bob Flintoff have been named to the 1980 All-ACC Lacrosse team.

It marks the fourth straight year that Cockerton has been chosen, while it is only the se-

cond time for Flintoff, who shares this years honor with Virginia's Joe Bottner.

Cockerton broke the NCAA career scoring record this year, as he netted 192 goals breaking the old record of 191 held by Cornell's Mike French in 1977.

Flintoff was a main factor in the Wolfpack's turn around during the season. After losing four straight, State put together a six game winning streak, before losing it season finale to Hofstra.

Pack's Andrews surprising 2nd

Houston's David Dowlen defeated State netter Andy Andrews in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1, Sunday in the finals of the USTA 21-and-under National Hardcourt Championships at Corpus Christi, Texas.

The junior All-America, seeded fourth in the tournament, made it to the finals by defeating No. 1 seed Glenn Michibata of Pepperdine 6-4, 6-1.

Andrews also defeated Harvard's Don Pompan and No. 12 seeded Chris Jochum of California.

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Entertainment

Dance festival opens with "Salute to Vaudeville"

The audience at Page Auditorium in Durham, N.C. will suffer a few shocks when the curtain rises on the 1980 American Dance Festival on June 17. Instead of a traditional modern dance program, the Festival's opening night will make a "Salute to Vaudeville" that will be highlighted by performances by leading artists and dance "acts" of that historic era in American entertainment.

The program will include two classic works by modern dance pioneer Ruth St. Denis that she created for vaudeville over 60 years ago; entertainment by one of vaudeville's wittiest magicians, Jay Marshall; a comedy act by vaudeville veteran Joe Roth (Mr. Roth has played vaudeville for 77 years); quick-stepping dance routines by tap man Sandman Sims; and a new dance rollicking with vaudeville's zany humor by Pilobolus dancer Michael Tracey.

"Our opening night performances have traditionally taken a look back to our roots," said ADF Director Charles Reinhart. "For this summer's 'Roots' program, we decided to salute vaudeville because of its impact on American culture and its influence on American modern dance. Many of our early modern dancers performed on the vaudeville circuit. Though the focus of the program will be the dance in vaudeville, we will also include other variety acts typical of the period."

The evening will open with two modern dances by Ruth St. Denis—"The Nautch" and "The Red and Gold Sari"—that Miss St. Denis performed in vaudeville and close with Michael Tracey's "The Empty Suitor," a dance, though created in 1980, reflects the hold that vaudeville humor still has on modern dance.

Ruth St. Denis' influence on modern dance is regarded equal to that of Isadora Duncan. (From

the dance company she created with Ted Shawn developed dancers and choreographers such as Martha Graham, Charles Weidman, Doris Humphrey, artists who were to change the face of American culture) Miss Denis' dances received great critical and public acclaim for their exotic spectacle and fusion of mysticism and sensuality.

"The Nautch" and "The Red and Gold Sari" will be performed by Elisa Monte, presently a leading dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company. The dances were taught to her by Klarna Pinsker, who had been Miss St. Denis' assistant for many years.

The program will also include "Something That May Have Happened to You On A Day At The Beach" by pantomime comedian Joe Roth. The 84-year-old Mr. Roth who has been performing in vaudeville since he was 7 years old has played in all the vaudeville houses in America and Europe as well as in cabarets and on television throughout the world.

Worldwide performer

The evening's events will include an appearance of Jay Marshall, who had been one of the first acts on the Ed Sullivan Show. Mr. Marshall has performed throughout the world and on BBC Television and on Eurovision.

Howard (Sandman) Sims, who claims he never studied tap dancing—he "was born dancing"—appeared at Harlem's Apollo Theater for 17 years, first as a comedian and then as a dancer. He has travelled throughout the world and danced with such Big Bands as Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Lionel Hampton. Everyone in vaudeville has a speciality, and Mr. Sims' speciality, dancing in a sandbox, originated because "I was a boxer and used to dance in the rosin box. People enjoyed me

dancing more in the rosin box than they did me boxing."

Continuing its tradition of community service, the American Dance Festival will offer special Community Classes to enable Triangle residents to take advantage of the ADF's distinguished faculty and faculty assistants. These classes, to be held on Duke University's East Campus, will begin on June 16 and 17 and continue for six weeks, ending on July 22 and 23.

During this period, the ADF will offer two series of classes.

The Master Class series, designed for more advanced level dancers, will be taught by Ruth Carrier, Diane Gray, Lucas Hoving, Sharon Kinney, Sara and Jerry Pearson and Lawrence Rhodes. The classes will be held on Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m., from June 17 to July 22; the cost for the entire series is \$35. Classes in Beginning Modern, Ballet and Jazz Techniques, Intermediate Modern Technique and Bodysense will be offered on Monday and Wednesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m., from June 16

to July 23; the cost for twelve classes is \$50. Both series will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

To register for classes, or for more information, contact: ADF Community Classes, P.O. Box 6097, College Station, Durham, N.C. 27708, or call (919) 684-6402. All tickets are \$5.50 and may be purchased at the Page Auditorium Box Office, West Campus, Duke University, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by calling (919) 684-4059.

Beethoven and Strauss

INTERMEZZO: Quintets with Winds

Tuesday, June 17, 8 p.m. Ballroom, N.C. State University Student Union.

Wind Quintet, op. 43 Carl Nielsen
Quintet for Piano and Winds in E flat major, op. 16 Ludwig Van Beethoven
Til Eulenspiegel noch einmal Richard Strauss

Wind chamber music often involves unusual combinations of instruments rarely heard in the concert hall. Here we heard three different groups of five instruments.

Carl Nielsen's important Wind Quintet was written for five friends whose personalities influenced the musical content of the work. Beethoven's early

Quintet is similar in style to his first two piano concertos and is directly related to a work by Mozart for the same instruments. In "Til Eulenspiegel Once Again", Strauss revives his merry prankster, Til, who met his end in the famous orchestral tone poem, and arranges the complicated score for five instruments, a true tour de force.

Sly attempt at unclad humor

by Greg Lytle
Entertainment Writer

Don Adams returns as the bumbling Agent 86, Maxwell Smart, in the movie, *The Nude Bomb*.

Slapstick humor is the hallmark of this satire on modern disaster films. The object of the satire is a bomb which will disintegrate all known fabric. The disintegration of the clothing will allow the mad fashion designer Norman San Savage to control the world's supply of fabric and thus, the world itself.

The plot is subjected to a variety of subplots which dilute its effectiveness. These diversions often come as Smart's female assistants who bail him out of many impossible situations. An example of this is Andrea Howard, the elusive female assistant who "majored in vanishing" at the spy academy.

Don Adams' performance is as zany as ever. His use of the special agent equipment defies all logic and if he used any of it right he'd be a minor miracle.

The special equipment for Smart's assignment includes a new shoe phone with touch-tone dialing and answering machine. His apartment has also been refurbished to include special protective devices.

The apartment is entered by knocking on the doorbell, ringing

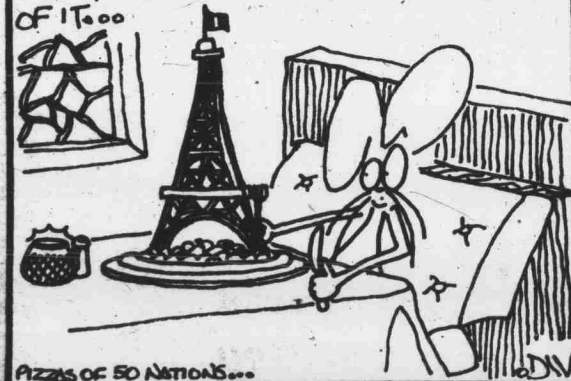
the door knocker and walking through the sliding wall. There is also an elevator in the center of the room which is concealed by a sofa and chairs, and which leads to the garage.

The desk is not a standard office model and has been developed at a cost of \$12 million. It features twin machine guns, a cannon, and runs well on the

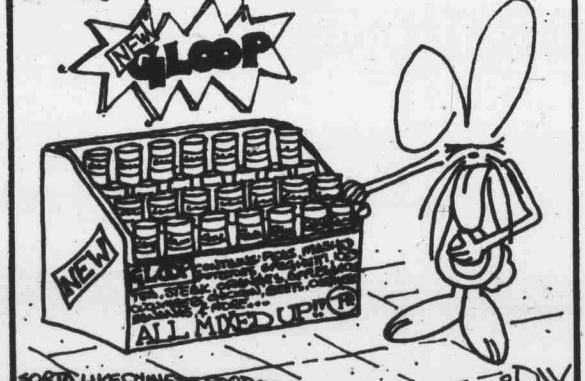
open road on a special mixture of ink (Iranian of course). The desk also held his telephone, in a stapler.

The performance by Don Adams represents his characteristic accidental nature. He becomes an American "Inspector Clouseau," the ultimate bumbler who succeeds in his mission through a bizarre series of mishaps.

IT'S AMAZING HOW PIZZA JOINTS CAN COME UP WITH NEW VARIATIONS ON A SIMPLE PASTA & TOMATO THEME... THERE'S TACO PIZZA WITH REFREED BEANS AND GERMAN PIZZA WITH SAUERKRAUT... EVEN PIZZA FROM PLACES THAT HAVEN'T EVEN HEARD OF IT...



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STATE'S SILVER SCREEN

by Eric Larsen
Entertainment Writer

This week of films at State is filled with laughs from some of the masters (new and old) and a fair sprinkling of shudders from a rediscovered thriller.

suffice that Bill Cosby, Richard Pryor, and Walter Matthau can be very funny. Simon gives them the chance to prove it here.

California Suite
Thursday, 8 p.m.
Stewart Theatre
Admission: Free

Neil Simon transported the tone of his successful *Plaza Suite* successfully 3,000 miles to Los Angeles and a plush Beverly Hills hotel. The cast would take as long to recite as the movie plot, but let it

The Barber Shop
Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Erdahl-Cloyd Theatre
Admission: Free

This short Fields gem shows the loveable lush at his usual games: looking out for himself and trying to make a buck no matter how dangerous it is. If you can imagine trusting a man like Fields anywhere close to you

with a razor, you can see the potential for comedy. Elsie Cavanna is fine as Fields' teatotaling wife.

Gaslight
Monday, immediately following the above
Erdahl-Cloyd Theatre
Admission: Free

This type of thriller seems as powerful as ever despite the 36 years since its release. Simply, a man is trying to drive his wife insane. He very

nearly succeeds. Along the way, there is plenty of tension for us and a great deal of appreciation for the fine directing by George Cukor. A young Joseph Cotton will stun you.

2ac Business
Tuesday, 8 p.m.
Stewart Theatre
Admission: Free

Few people realize that the marvelous Marx Brothers were not the only ones guilty

of insanity under the above title. In this 1952 comedy, Cary Grant in a super comedic performance plays a scientist that discovers a youth serum. The most famous line from the film has lived to today: Charles Coburn to his secretary Marilyn Monroe: "Get someone to type this."

A rare chance to see this gem.

That's all for this week. Next week Woodstein and Jane Fonda's first science fiction picture.

SOME TELEVISION COMMERCIALS CAN REALLY BE IN BAD TASTE (NOT SAYING THAT I HAVE ANY) AND SOME JUST SCREW UP YOUR LIFE INSTEAD OF AIDING THE PROBLEM THEY WERE MEANT TO SOLVE... I MEAN IT USED TO BE A SIGN OF INTELLIGENCE TO SIT AND SCRATCH YOUR HEAD, BUT THANKS TO NEW DANDRUFF SHAMPOOS, PEOPLE THINK YOU HAVE LEPROSY SO YOU TRY YOUR DAMNDEST TO RESTRAIN YOURSELF.



New Who album

A mellow mix of songs

by Shannon Crowson
Entertainment Writer

Now that The Who has redeemed itself by renewing that July 13 concert date in Greensboro, fans in the area have but a month to wait for the eardrum-perforating event.

Until next month, however, Who-maniacs have the new Pete Townshend solo effort, *Empty Glass*, to comfort themselves with. But perhaps the best feature of Townshend's third solo album is a new clarity of style and an establishment of his vocals as a new force to be reckoned with.

There is a new Who album destined for late summer release, and perhaps Pete of the bombastic guitar solos will sing a bit more. But until then, *Empty Glass*, a lyric

mixture of love and street life, will more than suffice.

With this mellow mix of songs, Townshend, chief songwriter, guitarist, and bottlewasher for The Who, establishes himself as a stronger vocalist than ever before. Obviously, outstanding and able assistance on back-up by all-but-fifth member of The Who, keyboardist "Rabbit" Bundrick is a plus factor, because Townshend's voice shines, wails, and cuts above the surprising lack of power chords.

And on the subject of keyboards, some of the synthesizer fills here are rivalling any around, especially "Let My Love Open the Door," and "A Little Is Enough." The latter is a good, strong representative of the entire LP.

These are love songs, but with the Townshend brand of lyricism and chord progression that sets them apart. Townshend sees himself, or perhaps the hero of the songs, as a tough one, raspy enough to drink and worry that "they don't give a shit Keith Moon is dead." But on the flip side, he constantly pursues the lady in question, in songs like "Gonna Get Ya," and "I Am An Animal."

The fighting Townshend spirit's back, the laziness of the Moon days are gone, no matter what he professes. One line from the title track says it best.

"I stand here at the bar, I hold an empty glass."

That glass is anything but empty.

Dungeons and Dragons

— more than a game

Editor's Note: In past civilizations, when it was time for young people to cross the threshold into adulthood, myth and ritual guided the way. Today, as there is no more clear threshold and roles are blurred, some young people are inventing new myths and rituals. One of the most intriguing is a game called Dungeons and Dragons, played by bright young people across the nation. Rasa Gustaitis is an editor of PNS.

Guest Opinion

Rasa Gustaitis
Pacific News Service

BERKELEY, CA.—It's Friday afternoon, no school work for a while, and at Michael Rosenbaum's house it's once again time for Dungeons and Dragons. As soon as a couple more players show up they will resume where they left off last week, though this time they won't go till morning. Michael's parents want them out by 10. The house is small and when they get carried away, the rest of the family can't sleep.

Dungeons and Dragons (D and D to insiders) is a game played nationwide, mostly by high school age boys with an intellectual bent, the kind of boys who like to play chess, read, invent things and collect hero comics. Some become so obsessed with D and D they spend most of their non-school time playing it, while other classmates go out for team sports, customized cars and the pursuit of girls.

To call D and D a game, however, is misleading because it is less like Monopoly and baseball than it is like ancient Greek theater or tales from Arabian nights. It can be a vehicle for a mythic search into the profound questions the human soul confronts in its time.

The game involves a mythical journey through a dungeon or world. Each player assumes a character, who has particular qualities, strengths and weaknesses, and stands in a certain relationship to the universe, ranging from fully lawful to fully chaotic. The idea is to complete the journey without getting killed, to have as many adventures as possible along the way, to stay true to your nature and to acquire experience. There is no competition. But there are many levels of skill and creativity.

So intricate is the game that it defies description. Parents of D and D fanatics puzzle over it, but then usually sigh in relief that at least the kid is home, right there in the dining room, huddled over a piece of graph paper with his pals, instead of out somewhere smoking dope

and getting into trouble.

Some adults perceive D and D as educational. The Wasatch Middle School in Heber City, Utah, has gone so far as to offer it as part of the curriculum to above-average students, to help them develop decision-making skills and creativity.

Others fear it. A Utah State School Board member objected, calling D and D "satanic." She warned it "brings out murder, poisons and assassinations, negative kinds of things."

The game was invented in the early 1970s by Gary Gygax and Dave Arneson, who design war and fantasy games in Wisconsin. But it has since been modified many times by players who like to invent their own versions.

When asked why they play it, D and D addicts give answers that suggest the game is far more than a pastime. "The only limits are imagination and time," said David Woolsey, who has been playing with Michael Rosenbaum for about four years. "It satisfies my need for a universe that is both finite and unbounded," said Michael.

"Just to let the mind go free," said Roland Brown, a high school student in Mill Valley, Ca., who is gifted in art.

Said a classmate of Roland's: "You take a character and work him through. You do it yourself and that does a lot for your self-esteem. And the characters are always doing something you don't expect."

"We try to simulate life in some ways," added Michael.

Like other mythic tales and rituals, the game allows its players to try out new roles and perspectives, preparing them for roles they will later assume in the adult world. It can be a rite of passage.

"It has always been the prime function of mythology and rite to supply the symbols that carry the human spirit forward, in counteraction to those other constant human fantasies that tend to tie it back," wrote Joseph Campbell in his book, *Hero of a Thousand Faces*. At the heart of all myth, he pointed out, is the quest of the hero, which is the quest of self.

The only objects needed for playing D

and D are graph paper, pencil and five sets of dice. Three-by-five cards and small figures representing characters are also often used, though they are not essential. The action takes place mostly in the mind and is talked out, like improvisational theater.

The shape of the adventure is outlined by the dungeon master, who must design a dungeon through which the other players will travel, meeting monsters, aliens and other hazardous creatures he introduces. They move in accordance with the dictates of their nature, the choices they make and according to the throw of dice.

Michael, as the god-like dungeon master, has chosen to design not a dungeon but a world, which has a continent and islands. He keeps its map hidden behind a propped-up book. The players get to see only that portion of the world which is immediately around them. It is drawn on a separate piece of graph paper. As they move on, they see more. They have to figure out where they are and how to travel.

Michael sums up the action thus far, for the benefit of Carl Yost, who is picking up a character, a giant, that another player ran last week. Two elves, a palladin ("a kind of knight in shining armor, only more so") and two giants were transported by a dragon to an island where the dragon's father lived. A battle ensued. The survivors—the palladin, one giant and one dragon—were left in front of a cave which has a floor like an Escher painting (with creatures and shapes changing from negative to positive, depending on whether you focus on the black or the white spaces in the design.)

Tonight's challenge is to get off the island.

"Think I'll try to find out where we are," David begins.

Michael: "In front of the cave you see rubble and you hear a moaning."

David: "I go over and investigate."

Michael: "Looks human. You turn him over. He's mildly Asian. Long beard, bushy eyebrows, thick vest, pants, heavy boots and gloves. You don't detect evil. He looks seriously damaged."

David picks up a card on which the special characteristics of his palladin are listed. These are a combination of qualities all palladins have, plus personal quirks, strengths and weaknesses established before the start of the game

by a throw of the dice, plus personal history. One of his qualities is the ability to cure serious wounds. He indicates to the Dungeon Master he will now exercise that.

Michael throws the dice to see the result: "Seriously better," he says.

David now turns to Tim Bodine, across the table from him, who is to play the awakening character, as Eskimo lord: "Can I help you?"

Tim: "I think you already have."

David: "What happened?"

Tim: "I was on my sled. And I woke up in this rubble."

The game is underway. Another mystery has been introduced. Breaking only once, for some stew, the group will continue over the next seven hours in getting off the island and reaching the mainland, while in the other world around them, Michael's sister Sarah will go off to a dance and return, his mother and father will occupy themselves in the living room, then retire to their bedroom.

David and Michael, both of whom have been playing D and D for more than four years, have much in common. Both are keen-minded, intense and self-possessed. As they approach the end of their senior years in high school, they are taking different directions. David will go to San Francisco State University to study physics, astronomy and electronics. Michael is headed for the University of California, Berkeley, to major in humanities and become a writer. Though they both stress that they do not confuse the world of the game with the world outside it, some of the questions that arise in the playing will clearly preoccupy them as they go on in life.

Today, before the game began, they had discussed whether it was possible, within the game, to have a mage (magician) who was also a technician. The question had come up during lunch at Berkeley High.

There is a split among D and D players between those who go in for Star Wars-type fantasy and those who prefer to deal in the realms of unicorns, gnomes and wizards. David has been trying to work out a synthesis.

Anything is possible in D and D—if it's thought out. And this may be its most important message to its players: that their imaginations, more than anything else, will both limit and extend the potential of their future.



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