



Technician

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Time of the season for building, rebuilding

By Jeff Drew
Assistant News Editor

In most places, summer is a time for weekend beach trips and cross-country vacations and for back yard barbecues and baseball Saturdays. At N.C. State University, however, summer is a much different time: it is a time for reconstruction.

With most of the 25,000 undergraduates off campus until late August, the NCSU Construction Management Division and the Physical Plant have scheduled several summer construction and renovation projects to be worked on over the next few months. When completed, these projects should help keep the students dry, safe and maybe even cool.

The biggest project for the summer, according to building system engineer Jorge Quintell, will be a \$1.4 million improvement to the "Centennial Campus infrastructure."

"We will be constructing several water quality

lakes and we will also be adding a 600-foot extension to Capability Drive," Quintell said.

The construction management office will also oversee a \$310,000 renovation of Bragaw Snack Bar as well as a \$97,000 lab uplift at Riddick Hall.

"In the Bragaw Snack Bar, the vending area will be renovated and we will install a new ceiling and new lights," Quintell said. "There are spaces at Riddick Hall that are lab-ready. We will just be installing the shelves and the lab structure. We will also install fume hoods."

Other Construction Management summer projects will include a 250,000 brick replacement on the D.H. Library towers and a \$310,000 upgrade of North Hall electrical systems. Future project possibilities range from a renovation of the track to a renovation of the University Student Center.

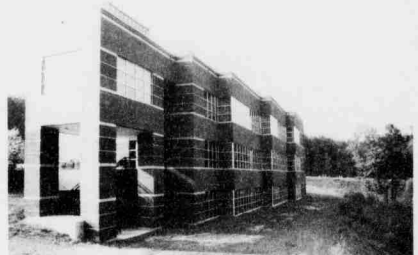
In addition to the Construction Management summer activities, the Physical Plant has scheduled a series of campus improvements for the next two months. Chief among those projects are

roof replacements at Riddick Hall and Withers Hall.

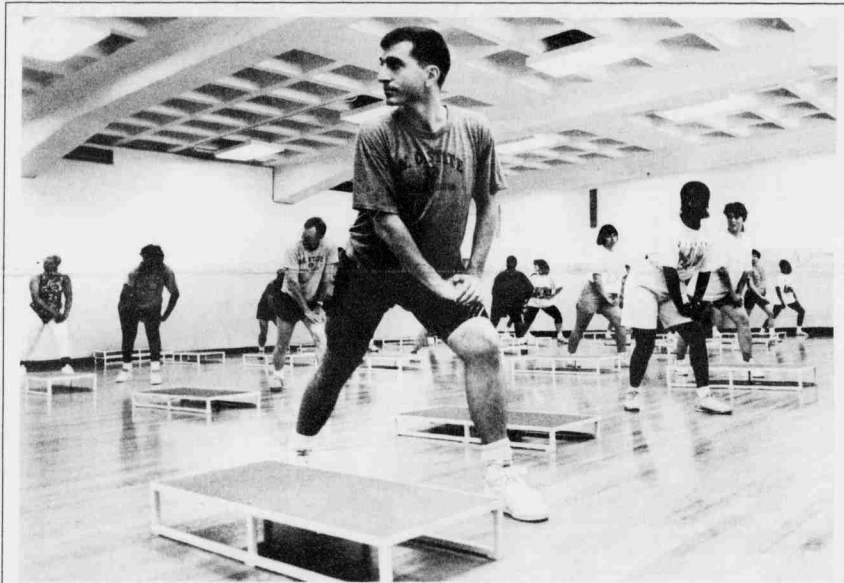
"We will be completely replacing the roofs at Riddick Hall and Withers Hall," Physical Plant engineering director Carl Fulp said. "The roof cost at Withers Hall will be \$84,724 and the roof cost at Riddick hall will be \$96,981."

In addition to the roof replacements, the Physical Plant is also improving the electrical system and fume hoods at Dabney Hall, according to Fulp. Furthermore, the Physical Plant is continuing to make curb cuts and bathroom renovations in an effort to make the campus more accessible to those in wheelchairs, Fulp said.

"We are also hoping to start the air conditioning project in the Carmichael Gym locker rooms," Fulp said. "If all goes well, we should be done by Christmas, but there are a lot of potential problems that must be overcome. We don't know how much the return of the students in the fall will slow down the project."



Creating better access to Centennial Campus buildings like these is the summer's biggest project for Physical Plant workers at NCSU.



Kevin deMiranda/Staff

Work that body

An opportunity to exercise is never wasted by attending one of N.C. State University's rigorous aerobics classes. This class is for faculty and staff members at NCSU and starts at 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Interested students also have a chance to take the class.

Program teaches new educators some old tricks

Program seeks to reduce attrition rate, build self confidence
News Staff Report

For public school teachers across the state, it's the time of year for book counting and classroom clean-up. It's also a time for many new teachers to reflect on their first year in front of the class.

This year, beginning teachers in 13 public school systems in Eastern North Carolina had additional help in their first year of teaching thanks to the N.C. State University Mentor Network.

The 10-year-old program pairs novices with trained, veteran teachers who offer sustained support assistance and opportunities for professional development to newly certified teachers, according to program director Lois Thies-Sprinthall, an associate professor in the NCSU college of Education and Psychology.

The Mentor Network aims to bolster the teaching effectiveness, competence and confidence of beginning teachers, and, in the long run, reduce the high rate at which beginners leave the profession.

Thies-Sprinthall said the NCSU Mentor Network evolved in a series of steps beginning in the mid-1980s when the state mandated a "quality assistance program" for beginning teachers. NCSU faculty developed a model program built on cooperation between the university and public school systems. Initially, a small number of mentors were prepared to train teachers in their own district to be mentors.

Now, according to Thies-Sprinthall, school-based teachers conduct local training programs in 13 school districts.

She said the mentor training program is based on theory and research about teaching, adult learning, moral and conceptual development, clinical supervision and coaching. Mentor teachers must complete six credit hours of theory and practice, and mentor teacher trainers add another three-credit-hour internship.

Principals and school communities alike benefit from lower staff turnover in schools participating in the mentor program, according to assistant program director Alan J. Reiman. In Wake County, for example, the retention rate of new teachers rose from 68 percent in 1987 to 88.9 percent in 1991.

Academics is the new name of the game for varsity athletes

University athletes post steady gains in cumulative grade point averages

News Staff Report

The cumulative grade point averages of almost all of N.C. State University's athletic teams have improved during the last two years, according to a university report.

The report, which was sent recently to the NCAA by NCSU, also revealed that the athletes' five-year graduation rate had improved to 50.4 percent — nearly matching the overall graduation rate of 51.1 percent. Just three years ago only 38.5 percent of the athletes had graduated in five years as compared to 52.6 percent of the overall student body.

The men's basketball program, the subject of enormous scrutiny and criticism in the mid 1980s, recorded a cumulative average of 2.20 for the 1992 spring semester, according to the report. The mark was an improvement over the 2.09 average recorded in August 1990, and was the highest GPA produced by the program in the last two years.

Football, NCSU's other revenue sport, has also shown marked improvement over the last two years. Under the guidance of head coach Dick Sheridan, the squad improved its group GPA from a 2.19 in August 1990 to a 2.31 last spring.

In addition, the report showed that 12 of the 25 scholarship players who entered the university in the fall of 1986 had graduated by last spring, and another was slated to graduate in the summer sessions. Six walk-ons in the class have also graduated.

The highest GPA sported by a Wolfpack athletic program in the spring semester was the 3.08 recorded by the women's track team. Ironically, the high GPA actually represented a drop from 3.25 notched in spring of 1991.

Athletes moving up:

Varsity athletes at NCSU have made some progress in recent years but still lag some segments of the campus population. Following is a listing of grade point averages for varsity athletic teams and some other campus groups. All GPAs are from the Spring 1992 semester.

Group	GPA	Group	GPA
Men's basketball	2.20	Fencing	2.86
Football	2.31	Men's swimming	2.86
Baseball	2.40	Chi Omega	2.92
Men's track	2.44	Women's swimming	2.92
Women's track	2.44	Rifle	2.99
Wrestling	2.44	Women's cross country	3.08
Women's basketball	2.46	Phi Delta Theta	3.17
Fraternity average	2.54		
Men's tennis	2.55		
Cheerleading	2.60		
Men's soccer	2.61		
Women's tennis	2.61		
Women's soccer	2.63		
NCSU men average	2.63		
NCSU student average	2.69		
Golf	2.71		
Gymnastics	2.75		
Sorority average	2.79		
NCSU women average	2.79		
Volleyball	2.80		
Men's cross country	2.82		

'Struggling' athletes graduate at higher rate than four colleges

By Dee Henry
Staff Writer

Despite their much publicized academic struggles, N.C. State University athletes graduated at a higher rate than students in four NCSU colleges, according to university records.

While over 50 percent of athletes entering NCSU in 1986 graduated in five years, the NCSU report showed that students starting in the College of Textiles, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the College of Forest Resources and the College of Education and Psychology graduated in the 40 percent range. The textiles students graduated at the lowest rate, 42 percent, while the forestry resources students graduated at a 46 percent clip, education and psychology graduated at a 47 percent rate and humanities students graduated at a 48 percent figure.

The School of Design was the only NCSU college to graduate over sixty percent of its incoming freshman, according to the report.

Sixty-seven percent of design students graduated in five years with 62 percent earning a design degree.

In comparison, the next highest graduation rate for a college was the 54 percent rate posted by the College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. Only 48 percent of those students graduated in that college, however.

The records also showed that the cumulative averages of NCSU athletes was comparable to the averages posted by the student body. Nine of the 21 NCSU athletic teams compiled cumulative GPAs greater than the overall average of 2.69, and four other squads compiled averages greater than 2.60.

The average GPAs for fraternities and sororities proved comparable to the athletes' GPAs according to the report. The overall Greek GPA was listed at 2.63 with the sororities compiling a 2.79 average, and the fraternities posting a 2.54 mark. Phi Delta Theta posted the highest Greek average, 3.16, while Chi Omega recorded the highest sorority average, 2.92.

Pack athletics pioneer, 71, dies

Former AD Willis Casey suffers heart attack Sunday

By Bill Overton
Sports Editor

Former N.C. State athletics director Willis R. Casey, who pioneered the Wolfpack athletic department for 40 years, died Sunday from a heart attack in his West Palm Beach, Fla. home. Casey, who retired in 1986, was 71.

Casey's contributions to N.C. State were numerous. The Goldsboro native began his stint in 1946 after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Casey started as Wolfpack business manager and helped direct the Dixie Classic basketball tournament, the most successful in-season basketball tournament at the time. Later he would help organize the Atlantic Coast Conference basketball tournament, which would be held at Reynolds Coliseum. He helped shape the tournament into the event that it is today.

One of Casey's other endeavors

was the Pack swimming program. From 1946 until 1969, he led the program to 11 ACC titles.

"N.C. State has lost one of its greatest, most innovative leaders," Wolfpack athletics director Todd Turner said Monday in The News and Observer.

"Willis Casey was the man who mapped out the modern-day direction for N.C. State athletics. He was also a national figure, a man ahead of his time in athletic administration."

Casey was responsible for building the athletic program into the 22 sport, \$13 million empire it is today. He always found a way to keep the program running efficiently, even with the astronomical increases in maintaining the Wolfpack facilities.



Casey

His biggest contribution may have been Carter-Finley Stadium. The 47,000 seat stadium was completed in 1966 with a financial plan to pay for it with private donations and a 40-year bond issuance which would expire in the year 2004. However, through gate receipts and tremendous contributions, the stadium was completely paid for in 1978, 26 years ahead of schedule.

Casey was not a wild and free spender and the athletics program at N.C. State flourished, regardless.

"He was a very shrewd businessman," associate athletics director Frank Weedon said in Monday's N&O. "I don't think there's another AD in the country who could have managed the way he did, running the program for 13 years with no revenue. He was always two to three steps ahead of everybody else."

Willis could come across as being gruff and very tight fiscally. He loved to argue and was often misunderstood by those who didn't know him. But he could also be very giving.

Casey also hired some of the winningest coaches in collegiate athletics. In 1971, he hired Lou Holtz, who was then a youthful football coach in Williamsburg, Virginia. Holtz would direct State to four bowls in four years during his stint.

Later, Casey surprised everyone with his replacement of long-time basketball coach Norm Sloan. The choice was Iona head coach Jim Valvano and the result was a 1983 national championship.

Casey also helped bring women's sports to a new level, hiring basketball coach Kay Yow, who quickly turned the sport into a national power. Today, women's basketball is one of the three largest revenue sports at State.

Former swimmer Pat Gavaghan probably summed it up the best. "Willis Casey loved N.C. State," Gavaghan said.

Intramural Announcements

Summer Session II

Sport	Registration opens/closes
Badminton	Monday, June 8 Thursday, July 2
Racquetball	Monday, June 8 Thursday, July 2
Softball Open League	Monday, June 8 Tuesday, June 30
Tennis	Monday, June 8 Thursday, July 2

Softball organizational meeting will be Tuesday, June 30 at 5:15 p.m. in Room 104 of Carmichael Gymnasium. Team captain must be present at the meeting.

Baseball card enthusiasts need to understand the real meaning

I, like a lot of baseball fans, am a baseball card collector. Since my inception into this world back in 1971, I've collected at least some type of card every year. I remember growing up in New York, when my dad would bring home a couple of baseball packs. I loved the sheer thrill of possibly getting a Reggie Jackson, Nolan Ryan or George Brett card. I loved card-collecting because my dream was to be on that card one day.

The times are a changin'. Today, it seems that more and more people are getting involved because of the dollars. Ah, yes, if you have been stuck in the woods somewhere, baseball cards are now worth a substantial amount of money. They are investments ... very good investments.



Bill Overton

Off the Bench

There are several documents now just devoted to baseball cards. And it's not just baseball card collecting anymore. We've got basketball, hockey, football, NASCAR, Batman, Freddy's Revenge, Lethal Weapon III, rock stars, muppets ... just about anything you want to put on a piece of cardboard.

When you take a walk to your local Circle K, you'll see all of these cards on display for your enjoyment. They range in price, but every card seems to have a buyer.

All of these cards are worth something. Some are worth more to others but everything seems to have a price. I, for one, am beginning to worry that maybe these cards aren't being bought for the right reasons. And it's beginning to take the fun out of card collecting.

I am a product of this as well. Every time I pick up a pack of cards at the store, one of the first things I do is go home and grab my Beckett's Baseball Card Monthly and see what the going rate is for that card. It seems like everything is becoming a money game.

Everybody is producing a baseball card now. For 30 years, Topps Chewing Gum Company inserted a card to escort the chewy stick of bubble gum that it was trying to sell. The man who came up with

baseball cards with bubble gum wasn't trying to sell baseball cards; he was trying to sell bubble gum.

It has gotten so bad now that this year, for the first time, Topps did not insert bubble gum in its card packages. Too many collectors complained that the gum stained the cardboard backing of the card and lessened its value. So, the collectors speak and as a result there is no more bubble gum. A tradition, since 1951, has ended.

But, it's not just Topps anymore. There are so many card companies on the market today, it's tough to figure out which one to buy. Donruss and Fleer established themselves on the card market back in 1981, and to their credit, they have taken strides in improving the quality of cards made today. This

year, Fleer has, without a doubt, marketed the most-impressive card ever made with its Fleer Ultra series.

But, in 1988 the Score Company joined the action, producing a baseball set to rival Topps, Donruss and Fleer. And one year later, Upper Deck pretty much cornered the market, producing the most attractive card until this year's Fleer Ultra. Add to that literally hundreds of smaller sets ranging from 10 cards to 1000 and you can see why Circle K has so many varieties of cards.

What bothers me is that it seems like the hobby has become cut-throat. I've gone to several shows lately and I felt really out of place. I feel like card collecting is becoming a game for the wealthy. I'm seeing fewer and fewer kids at card shows.

The funny part is, as much as some of these cards are worth, it's very difficult to sell them. If you have a Ricky Henderson rookie card, try to sell it to a dealer somewhere in Raleigh. Good Luck. I've tried to sell my \$150 Henderson, to four different dealers with the same response: we already have too many of these. It's all a matter of supply and demand. As valuable as these cards are, you won't sell anything if a particular person doesn't want it.

Card-collecting is fun. But, it was fun for a long time before its value began to become a chief component. Whether you collect for fun or for investment (like me, you probably collect for both) just remember that it was meant for kids and it's important to have a little kid in you.

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Confessions of a leather fetish

So, while in line for "Batman Returns," the thought hits, "Hey, this film isn't showing till next Friday." That's this Friday for those playing at home.

Stupid me. The Thursday midnight showing is not confirmed at this time because Burton did a last minute edit on the film. This sequel appears by the trailer's

Joe Corey Party Favors

view to be better than the first, which was rather lame. Catwoman is the big draw in this battle with the Dark Knight of Gotham City.

Catwoman was my favorite comic book villain. Sure she didn't have any super-powers other than the ability to yank out a man's will from across a crowded room. That's better than seeing through walls. Plus she knew how to use a rope like Betty Page.

Even though Michelle Pfeiffer looks good in the stitched up leather outfit, Julie Newmar is still the ultimate Catwoman. Sure the TV show was campy, but when Newmar stalked across the tiny screen and purred her words, scars were left on this lad's mind. She was a kitten with a whip.

Between Newmar's Catwoman and Diana Rigg in "The Avengers," boys raised in the late '60s are a group prone to leather-clad women. Heads turn quick at the Cafe Five-O when a pair of thigh length boots marches through.

And now it is time for a little punishment as Friday approaches.

Double Pleasure

It's rare to be able to see a group for less than the price of their latest album. Tickets for a mega-band at a coliseum cost the same price as their complete discography.

But within one week, you can catch two music groups that are worth the paltry five-dollar ticket price. That's how much the service charge on the tickets and the parking fee is at a stadium show.

Don't play it cheap. Indulge. Andy Griffith's favorite food is playing tonight at Cat's Cradle in Chapel Hill.

Cracker is led by David Lowery. Lowery is best known for being the lead singer of the now-dead Camper Van Beethoven.

Cracker's debut record picks up where Camper left off. Lowery's lyrics show that he is sensitive to the plight of the mobile home set. "Can I Take My Gun to Heaven" speaks of a prison guard just looking for a little love.

"Another Song About the Rain" is a nice mixing of love song with cynical disbelief. "Cracker Soul" rips through a posing of false R&B stars like Mariah Carey.

This is a band that deserves to sit on a Ritz.

L7 is the hardest all-girl band since the Brodgers let a guy take over the drumming chores. They'll hit the Cat's Cradle Tuesday night.

The band is all the rave with it's debut album, "Bricks Are Heavy," getting hailed by "Entertainment Weekly."

The four women in L7 look and sound like the Bangles after a wicked tequila party. "Wargasm" shows how pornographic a victory celebration can be turned into. A parade is merely block-wide masturbation.

The band's name comes from a



Michael Keaton slips on the cape once more for "Batman Returns," playing Cat's Cradle on Saturday, June 27.

Advanced tickets can be bought at School Kids Records on Hillsborough Street.

This week's top billings

UAB Now Showing

SHAMPOO
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PUMP UP THE VOLUME
Thursday 8 p.m. Free Annex Cinema



Metallica is scheduled to play Walnut Creek Amphitheatre Thursday, June 25. Metal Church will open the show. Also, tonight The Beach Boys will take center stage at Walnut Creek Amphitheatre. Opening up the show is America.

Notice

This column is not a forum for gay bashing.

The jokes about the double life of the actor that portrayed Mr. Brady were not intended to incite a riot and lead to hate crimes.

The talk of Mr. Brady frequenting bars came straight from tabloid newspaper reports.

What was even more disturbing was a definition of what the '90s are supposed to be about.

I don't believe the '90s are about equality, tolerance, acceptance and respect for all cultures and minority groups. The '90s will be about wheezing and dealing. I don't believe in minorities, because, in the long run, we are all alone and can be screwed over by each other.

This column can be accused of people bashing. After years of working at a bookstore and dealing with the public, this columnist is sick of idiots.

Turn on the news and the idiots are all around. Whether they're gunning down their neighbors in Los Angeles or Yugoslavia or trying to cash a check without a driver's license. I'm sick of idiots.

While watching the fools running for presidency, the question of what ever happened to Thomas Jefferson keeps coming up.

This is an unwell time and the nausea hasn't even kicked in yet.

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Answers To Today's Crossword On The Classified Page

Answers to crossword puzzle: 1. SOLIA, 2. TOTT, 3. SKIP, 4. AVON, 5. PITNA, 6. TICKET, 7. PIG, 8. GIBHU, 9. EDLIES, 10. NICKEL, 11. BERT, 12. GINS, 13. BOB, 14. MIDE, 15. BOETT, 16. WHITES, 17. GIBHU, 18. DECAL, 19. MIA, 20. MEA, 21. RILEY, 22. AMA, 23. ABLE, 24. NOELIS, 25. ALAE, 26. NICK, 27. JACK, 28. MOLT, 29. ETTIE, 30. ETTIE, 31. EITS, 32. ROL, 33. SHOW

Answers To Today's Cryptiquip

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Answers to Cryptiquip: 1. Turpentine, 2. solvent.

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Technician

June 17, 1992

A paper that is entirely the product of the student body becomes as one the official organ through which the thoughts, the activity and in fact the very life of the campus are registered. College life without its journal is blank.

Technician, vol. 1, no. 1, February 1, 1920

Editorials

UNC priorities in order

The UNC-System's recent \$300 million bond proposal did not include money for North Carolina State University's proposed \$60 million Centennial Center, a fact that disappointed many supporters of Wolfpack athletics. But the UNC-System's decision to not include the arena in their request for building funds was the correct one.

Considering the state budget crunch, which threatens to cripple the UNC-System, as well as the community college and public school systems, asking for the \$20 million that arena supporters desired would have been a horrible example of misplaced priorities.

Including the arena in the proposal would have also severely hurt the proposal's chances of being approved by the General Assembly. Legislators are surely aware of a political reality—Wolfpack fans and Raleigh businesses are the only supporters of the arena. These factions do not come close to making the arena a politically popular project. And even among Wolfpack fans and Raleigh businesspeople there are those who realize how superfluous the proposed arena is in this time of legitimate educational need.

The UNC-System's proposal, for the most part, demonstrates its awareness of this political and educational situation. Unfortunately, the proposal includes a request for approximately \$9.5 million to build an athletics and entertainment arena at Appalachian State University. An otherwise solid, properly prioritized proposal is sullied by this request.

But ASU's need for an arena is at least as great as NCSU's and the cost is much less. The proposal would have been stronger without the ASU request, but its inclusion should not dampen support by legislators or voters.

Consider NCSU. Although it did not get the UNC-System to request money for the Centennial Center, it did get them to request approximately \$32.5 million to build an Engineering Graduate Research Center. Also requested for NCSU was \$3.3 million for a much-needed hazardous waste facility and waste site study, \$4.1 million for an agricultural communications building and \$3.5 million for agricultural programs and laboratory animal facilities.

The UNC-System's requests for NCSU, and for the other members of the system, are designed to improve each school's strengths and, therefore, the UNC-System as a whole. Thankfully, they understand that two of NCSU's most important strengths are engineering and agriculture, not basketball.

The General Assembly would do well to pass the UNC-System's bond proposal. And voters would do well to vote for it if it appears on their ballots. Improving education, at all levels, must be our state's number-one priority. The UNC-System's proposal shows that it will be responsible in spending money allocated to achieve that goal.

NCSU drags feet on stairs

The mysterious closing of the main stairs in the D.H. Hill Library is now more clear. Darrin James, a student at North Carolina State University who fell down the stairs last October, filed a civil suit against the university through the state Industrial Commission. James was one of three people who fell down the stairs and required medical attention during a 10-day period. James also organized a petition of over 100 students who complained about the safety of the stairs.

The actual date of completion of the replacement stairs is also more clear; NCSU has revised its earlier estimated date of completion. According to NCSU building systems engineer Karl Lehmann, the repairs "were contracted and initiated at the spur of the moment," and, now, the entire process is taking longer than expected. At present, it is not clear if construction in the library will be complete by the start of the fall semester.

Throughout, the university has appeared to ignore the problem. During that 10-day period last fall when paramedics were called to the stairs three times, the university did not act, despite the fact that, according to library employee Maude Jones, there was a list of people who had complained at the circulation desk. It was not until March, when James presented his petition, that the stairs were closed. NCSU, which determined that the stairs were faulty, should have reached that conclusion with their own investigation in the fall, instead of waiting for their hand to be forced in March.

If NCSU had taken care of the problem when it first became a problem, the stairs would already be fixed, and headlines about lawsuits and completion dates would be old news. Instead, NCSU looks like it's dragging its feet.

"The golf swing is like sex: you can't be thinking of the mechanics of the act while you're doing it."
- Dave Hill

TECHNICIAN

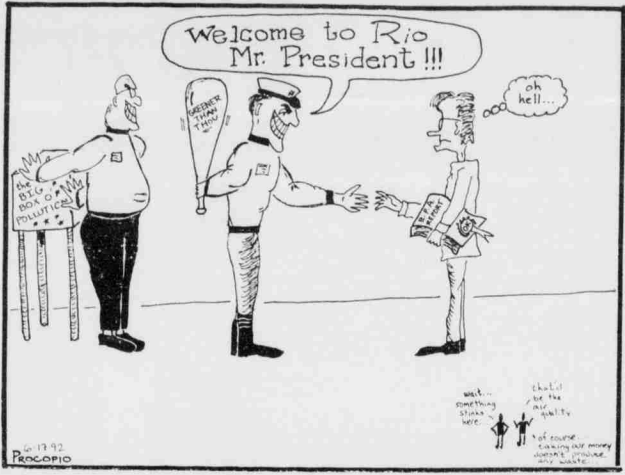
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Columns

Summer classes don't measure up

Summer is a wonderful and carefree season. The days are long and warm, and the pace of life slows to whatever speed you wish it to.

Except for the pace of education. This is the second consecutive year in which I have attended summer classes. I have done so for several reasons.

First, I wanted to be able to take additional courses that I felt were valuable to my understanding of "The Big Picture." Second, I wanted to concentrate my available time on fewer subjects than I would have during the regular year. Third, and most important, I assumed that the class sizes would be smaller and would therefore allow more instructor/class interaction.

Boy, was I wrong. Both summers have been preceded by a somewhat agonizing process involving which course to take. Not to say that I had too many to choose from. Quite the opposite. There was comparatively little offered; it was almost a struggle deciding which of the few courses even interested me, let alone which one fits into the grand scheme of things.

As far as being able to develop a deeper understanding of the subject matter—well, forget it. A 15-week course squashed into five weeks does not allow enough time to even begin to understand the material.

I will grant that the classes are smaller than those of a regular semester, which should imply greater class interaction. This, however, is not the case. The professor has to cover so much ground in so little time that there is no time for extended discussion.

All told, I really have to wonder about the purpose of summer sessions.

I am told that the initial intent of summer



Steve Crisp
Opinion Columnist

classes was a remedial one. Students would fail or take an incomplete on the regular semester course work and be forced to retake the class. Others would have a pathetic overall grade-point average and use the summer to raise the grade. I understand that, now, most people are here, not because they have to be, but because they want to be.

Many attend other universities but have family in Raleigh. They use the summer as a productive time by taking courses to advance their education. Others take courses which are not offered at their home university. Still others take courses because they love the quest for knowledge and summer allows them the time to do so.

Summer sessions have turned into a venue where the better students desire to round out their education, rather than a last resort for those who probably shouldn't be in college anyway. Yet so much information is shoved down our throats so quickly that very little is understood or retained and what is learned is done without enjoyment. Let me illustrate a case in point.

I teach astronomy at NCSU. Many of the concepts of celestial mechanics and astrophysics do not lend themselves well to verbal explanation alone. Physics, besides being heavy on the math, is heavy on the graphics. The first session, I am enrolled in Design III. I took this course specifically to learn how to express abstract concepts in a real sense.

U.S. should stop playing policeman

Two very important things have happened in the world lately. I think they're good. They deal with foreign policy, both the United States' and the European Community's.

If we look around the world, we're living in a time of revolution: Thailand, the former Soviet Union, the former Yugoslavia.

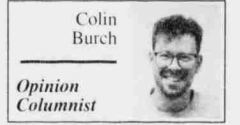
Christ did say there would be "wars and rumors of wars" as the world approached a certain point in history.

Smart foreign policy decisions are needed to navigate us through the waters of worldwide change.

Here's a good starting point. According to the News & Observer on May 28, James Baker "publicly admonished" the European Community for not doing anything about the fighting in the former Yugoslavian republics, particularly the Serbian assaults that are killing and seriously injuring men, women and children.

Way to go, Baker! We need to get some of this weight off of our shoulders. It seems that the United States is expected to be the world's problem-solver these days.

It isn't right for the United States to over-extend itself in the world when we don't have a sizable portion of peace ourselves and our money has more than run out. We have inner-city problems and a runaway deficit. Nobody's even noticing it. We can



Colin Burch
Opinion Columnist

at least say that the Los Angeles riots bring attention to the inner-city problems. Here's the second good starting point. The European Community has decided to impose an embargo.

The presence of the European Community looks like it will, thankfully, take some pressure off the United States to be the world interventionist policeman. Baker said, in effect, "You guys are now a superpower. You can take some of the burden."

Some have argued that if there was oil underneath the Yugoslavian republics, the Bush Administration would have jumped over there, leading a United Nations pack on a "peace-keeping mission" in the name of the poor people getting shot up.

We heard this before, about the Kuwaitis and the Kurds. Unfortunately, Bush had to lie about why he went to Kuwait, because if he had said it was about oil, which it was, there may have been political problems. That's an understatement.

Perot pro-choice, not involved in Iran-Contra

On June 3, Technician featured a Scott Brewer opinion column titled, "Informed voters are the best voters."

I agree with Brewer wholeheartedly. In the column, he says, "If you plan to vote, please take the time to form an intelligent opinion. Study the issues and the candidates' stances on them." These principles also apply to opinion writers. If you are going to write an opinion column, educate yourself on the issue at hand before doing so.

Brewer says that Ross Perot, "hoped to take a clear stand on one issue." In his June 3 column, he says that we have no idea where Perot stands on abortion and other issues. However, on April 16, Perot stated

Now, don't get me wrong. My instructor is more than knowledgeable on the subject of design. Her presentation is lively and informative as well. But imagine what I'm going through. I don't draw well. I have found that the reason for my deficiency is that I am ignorant of the underlying principles of shading, value, color theory, weight distribution and texture expression. Yet I am expected to learn all this and more in five weeks and I also must construct a series of projects, not only to practice my new-found skills, but to show (for a grade) that I can put these theories into practice.

I may get a grade, but do you really think that I can learn all this in five weeks. Keep in mind that this same course is taught over 15 weeks in a regular semester—15 weeks of knowledge assimilation, practice and project development, which, even then, is difficult and time-consuming.

Others are in the same boat. English papers, which in the regular year are written over five weeks, are now written in five days. Math concepts, which people struggle with night after night, are now expected to be learned in a quarter of the time. Research projects, which are assigned with two months leeway to "research" are now due with 10-days notice. There is no way that any meaningful, significant learning is going on.

My suggestion is that we go to a 12-week term in the summer. Recognize that most of us are here to advance, not just catch up, and teach us accordingly. This university needs to treat the summer as a third term. Give us a reasonably full selection of courses while you're at it.

And if I'm wrong, then someone tell me how to read 1200 pages of history, 400 pages of math, write two papers, take eight tests and two final exams and learn anything in five weeks.

Technician Campus Forum

on CNN's Larry King Live that he is pro-choice!

I would also like to clear up a few points that missed by Russell Deatherage in his "Perot not the best man for president" column, also featured June 3.

First, Deatherage attempts to portray Perot as a lifelong Republican. There is no denying that Perot was buddy-buddy with then-president Richard Nixon. However, Deatherage fails to mention that Perot was appointed by William Clements, the democratic governor of Texas, to head the Texas War On Drugs Commission in 1979.

Second, Deatherage feels that Perot was involved in the Iran-Contra scandal. His logic is this: "Reason tells me that Perot was in on the deal simply because he used his own funds to finance a mercenary rescue

attempt of the hostages himself, with no American (Carter) government support. To the press, Perot said that he did it to save his workers from being terrorized by Muslim extremists."

Mr. Deatherage, the facts are clear: Perot directed a successful operation to rescue two employees of his company, EDS, who were, in fact, being held hostage in Iran. I do not see how your distorted premise can logically lead to the conclusion that Perot was involved in the Iran-Contra scandal.

To voters and columnists: Please take the time to research the facts before making your decisions. Look at all sides of a story, and don't rely on the media as your only source. The media is going to print or broadcast material that will attract readers and viewers.

FRANK WILLIAMS
Senior, Communication

J-Man by Joe Procopio



Good Knight by Sean McLean



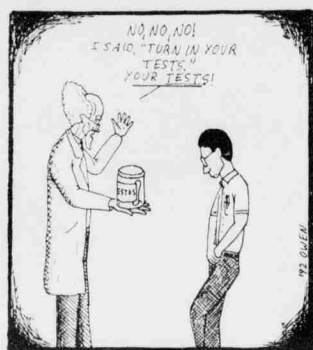
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