

Technician

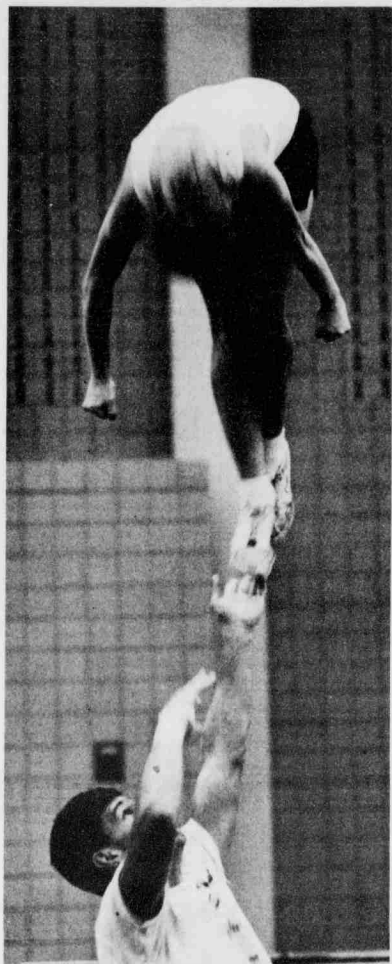
North Carolina State University's Newspaper Since 1920

Volume LXXIV, Number 38

Monday

November 29, 1993

Wheeeeeeee!



The NCSU cheerleaders' white squad prepares for a strong season of Women's Wolfpack basketball.

Rate of growth slows, but unemployment goes down

■ It got harder in the third quarter to run a business but easier to find a job, according to a study.

By J. KEITH JORDAN
Senior Staff Writer

An N.C. State University economics professor says the local economy's growth slowed somewhat in the third calendar quarter of 1993. But the news wasn't all bad.

In a report prepared for the Triangle Business Journal, a local weekly business newspaper, economics professor Michael Walden said the third quarter saw a decline in retail sales, stagnant manufacturing earnings and a drop in service sector employment — but also an 11 percent drop in unemployment.

Labor market information director Robert Cottrell of the Employment Securities Commission said the decline in unemployment fits a pattern.

"There's strong evidence of a continual economic improvement in the state and area," Cottrell said. "It's not a dramatic change, but we've seen over the past year a good outlook."

The decline in unemployment could come from a seasonal shrinkage in the work force, Cottrell said.

"It looks like we've got a contraction in both employment and unemployment," he said. "A lot of that is likely to be because of students going back to school."

"A person who is not in the labor force is not counted. For instance, a full-time student is not counted. A person has to be seeking employment to be counted as a part of the labor force."

But Cottrell said it's not all illusion. "We are getting some positive news there," he said. "A good deal of the growth seems to be in the service area."

The Triangle's growth reflects North Carolina's evolution into a more developed place, he said. Things aren't as rosy in the world of retail. Bill Kinney, sales manager of Raleigh Office Supply, agreed that recent sales have been a bit

sluggish.

"It was a moderately good quarter," he said. "But we were a little stronger in the second. September was soft, and October came back pretty strongly."

Kinney said the Triangle market is a solid one despite fluctuations. "Sales have been fairly stable, with a slight upward trend," he said. "This is a growing region, and business tends to grow along with the area."

Walden's report would seem to bear out that belief. The Index has risen at least slightly every month since July of 1991.

The Index, a composite number that comes from many economic indicators, climbed in each month of the quarter and reached an all-time high in September. It was up 1.4 percent from the second quarter — 5.9 percent on an annual basis — and 8.8 percent from the same time in 1992.

Walden bases all Index numbers on July 1982. For instance, the Index lists the unemployment rate as 68.344 — meaning, for instance, that unemployment is at 68.344 percent of 1982's numbers when adjusted for seasonal and irregular factors.

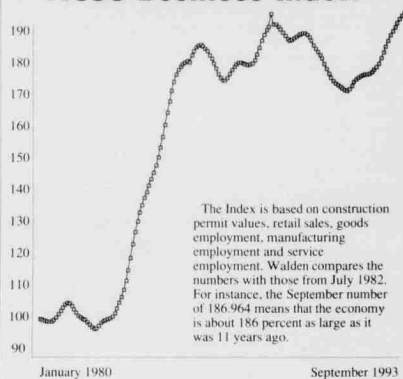
There are six components of the Index, four of which improved during the third quarter. In addition to the falling unemployment rate, real construction permit values rose 2.1 percent. And service employment, goods employment and manufacturing earnings all posted small gains when adjusted for inflation and seasonal fluctuations.

In addition to the lower retail sales, service employment decreased slightly. But that likely was caused by students going back to school and probably does not threaten the area's economic well-being.

The area most changed from 1982 is construction value. Indexed at 229.437, it is well over double the number from 11 years ago. That is a tribute to stability and interest rates, said Chuck Wilson, president of Durham's C.T. Wilson Construction Co.

"Low interest rates make it easier for people to pay for construction,"

Triangle Business Journal-NCSU Business Index



Wilson said. "In construction, there's an unusually large amount of fluctuation from month to month and quarter to quarter for each company. But we've seen a favorable market lately."

Like many other construction businesses, C.T. Wilson gets most of its contracts from schools and other large institutions. "That insulates us from a lot of fluctuations," he said. "But you can still tell if an area is growing. If it's growing, you'll need more schools. For instance, if you're not growing, needs won't be as great for new construction."

The low interest rates have stimulated some industries. But they've hurt others.

For instance, they have put some banks in a minor bind. "People aren't as interested in saving money or buying CD accounts when rates are so low," said James Smith of the UNC-Chapel Hill Kenan-Flagler School of Business. "Consumers are looking for better profits that can come from mutual

funds and stocks. Banks are trying to diversify, to add more services to keep attracting customers."

The Triangle economy continues to outperform the national one, according to Walden's report. The National Coincident Index increased only 0.6 percent in the third quarter — less than half as rapidly as the local economy.

The area appears to be an unusually fertile one for growth, many experts agreed. Attractions such as high quality of life, nearby research universities, a mild climate and favorable business regulations helped the Triangle be ranked as the best place in the United States to do business.

And with the state receiving growing name recognition from two new professional sports teams — the National Basketball Association's Charlotte Hornets and the National Football League's Carolina Panthers — in addition to a new London gateway at Raleigh-Durham International Airport, that growth could accelerate.

Author visits State for signing

■ A popular novelist is on the N.C. leg of his promotional tour. His books have inspired at least two movies.

By Aaron Trudo
Staff Writer

Writer Lawrence Block stopped at D.H. Hill Library Tuesday as part of a promotional tour for his new novel "The Devil Knows You're Dead."

The special lecture, hosted by Friends of the Library in the Erdahl-Cloyd Wing, was open to the general public.

Block, who writes mystery and detective books, read a passage from his new novel and answered

audience questions. His new novel is the 11th in a series featuring detective Matthew Scudder.

Block said writers usually don't have another author they try to emulate the way some musicians do.

"The ultimate goal is to try and sound like yourself," Block said.

Block's storytelling style has earned him nearly every existing prize for mystery writing. He has two Edgar Allen Poe Awards, two

Shamus Awards, two Maltese Falcon Awards and the Nero Wolfe Award to his credit.

His work, including short stories and nonfiction, has appeared regularly in crime magazines as well as The New York Times Magazine, Redbook, Playboy and Writer's Digest.

Twenty years ago, Block dropped out of college to pursue his career — making him one of the small group of authors who have

supported themselves throughout their adult lives solely by writing.

Block avoids nonfiction, finding fabrication much more satisfying.

"I don't find fiction that easy by any means," Block said.

Several of Block's novels have made their way to the big screen including "Eight Million Ways to Die," which starred Jeff Bridges and "Burglar," featuring Whoopi Goldberg.

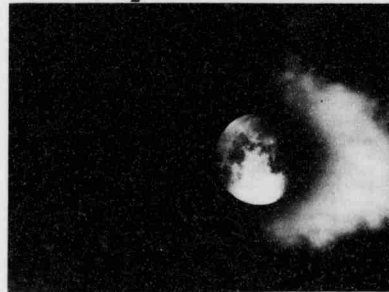
His two N.C. stops, Raleigh and Charlotte, were part of his month-long, 25-city promotional tour. The author also appeared at The Quail's Corner, a North Raleigh bookstore.

Block is the author of more than 30 novels including "The Sins of the Fathers," "A Slab in the Dark" and "The Burglar Who Studied Spinoza."

"The ultimate goal is to try and sound like yourself."

— Lawrence Block, writer

Now you see it ...



In this lunar eclipse the clouds are only part of what is obscuring the moon. The eclipse peaked around 1:30 a.m.

Burlington Labs' reactor safe as ever

■ A harmless water leak at the campus nuclear reactor has officials trying to find a flawed gasket.

J. KEITH JORDAN
Senior Staff Writer

Thanks to a water leak 18 feet below the ground, the N.C. State University Nuclear Reactor Program has shut down the nuclear reactor at Burlington Labs.

The reactor, built in 1972, normally loses about a gallon of water per hour in cooling the radioactive core. But that rose by about 10 percent on Nov. 18, prompting officials to close it

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E-Mail: techforum1@ncsu.edu
Mailing address: Technician, Box 8608, Raleigh, NC 27695
Offices: Suite 323, Student Center Annex, NCSU Campus

Tailgater charged with violation but is innocent

■ When a Public Safety officer issued an inappropriate alcohol citation, it left doubt about whether the campus police understand the regulations.

By DEBBY DEESE
Staff Writer

A recent misunderstanding has some wondering if Public Safety is equipped for Carter-Finley Stadium's alcohol policies.

A Public Safety officer issued an alcohol citation to a football fan Nov. 13 at the N.C. State University football game against the University of Maryland. But the fan's son, an NCSU alumnus, said his mother was not breaking the law.

The officer did not realize Tor Ramsey's mother was drinking unfortified wine, which is OK to drink on the grassy parking lot, the

unfortified wine on Carter-Finley property. Unfortified wine is 14 percent alcohol by volume. Although this policy is public knowledge, Tor Ramsey and his mother said Public Safety officers do not understand the law.

"At the Maryland game my mother had a bottle of wine on the table where we were tailgating,"

— Tor Ramsey, NCSU alumnus

1990 NCSU graduate said. When the officer saw that the bottle was unfortified wine, he insisted that she was still violating NCSU rules. He wrote on the back of the ticket that it was fortified wine, Ramsey said.

Public Safety has since rescinded the charge.

"The citation was inappropriate and invalid, and we dismissed it," said Crime Prevention Officer Larry Ellis.

The law allows only beer and

wines and beer were allowed on Carter-Finley property. The bottle of wine was shown to Moody to prove that the wine was 11.5 percent alcohol by volume. Moody later told Bryant that when he issued the ticket, he did not know the difference between fortified and unfortified wine, Ramsey said.

Ramsey said officer Moody poured out the wine.

"The following Monday the head of Public Safety apologized to my mother and father. Officer Moody also called and apologized to my mother, and my father was reimbursed for the bottle of wine," Ramsey said.

"This is a question of how properly trained are the Public Safety officers. What other laws are they not aware of? This is not a bad reflection on Public Safety officers but on the training techniques," Ramsey said.

No other sources were available for comment.

News Notes

Surgery professor becomes dean

David DeYoung of Raleigh has been appointed associate dean and director of services in the College of Veterinary Medicine at N.C. State University. The appointment, effective immediately, was announced by Chancellor Larry Monteith following approval by the NCSU Board of Trustees.

DeYoung succeeds Richard Ford, who returned to teaching and research at NCSU.

DeYoung, a professor of surgery, will oversee the college's veterinary teaching hospital, its training program for house officers and its continuing education program.

Noted for his work in orthopedic surgery, DeYoung helped develop an unmet hip prosthesis for dogs with hip deterioration.

He received his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He was recognized by the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists and the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1979 and 1981, respectively.

Easter Seals names new leaders

After another successful year of working in communities throughout North Carolina to increase the independence of the disabled, The Easter Seal Society of North Carolina has chosen a new board of directors. Topping the list of new board officers is Sandra Bouwman of Charlotte, who was selected as chairman, according to Adele Foschia, president and chief executive officer of the Easter Seal Society of North Carolina. Bouwman is a health care consultant in Charlotte.

Other newly elected board officers include: Marsha Walston of Raleigh, chairman-elect; Kenneth Miller Jr. of Whiteville, first vice chairman; James Griffin Jr. of Raleigh, second vice chairman; Bob Hales of Sanford, treasurer; and Jayne Felton of Raleigh, secretary.

Easter Seals is a community-based health agency dedicated to opening the doors of opportunity for people with disabilities and individuals affected by those disabilities. Easter Seal services include: residential camping, stroke and post-polio support groups, respite care, physical therapy and client public information.

COMPILED BY DAVE BLANTON FROM STAFF REPORTS AND NEWS RELEASES

Windhover NCSU's literary and visual arts magazine is now accepting submissions from students, faculty, staff and alumni for the 93/94 edition. Deadline for submissions is January 14, 1994. **w**indhover drop boxes are located in Caldwell Lounge, Student Center, D.H. Hill Library, Brooks Hall, Leazar, Hall, and Cup a Joe on Hillsborough Street. Questions and submissions can be addressed to: **w**indhover 314 student center Annex, box 7318 Raleigh, NC 27695-7318 919 515-3614

Answers

Crossword Puzzle

SAL	WAR	OMAHA
ALL	EVIL	SEIS
TIM	PITCHFORK	ARK
UBI	TALLS	
PITTA	REA	SWAY
RAY	MA	
ALLAS	RENEW	
DANISH	UKE	
OWAD	ANN	PITY
OWAD	SLOT	TWO
PITCHFORK	HID	
ADTEU	KUE	ANE
MONET	SEW	DEL

Cryptoquip

AT THE GROOM'S SECOND WEDDING, A CUTUP POSTED A SIGN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

What's Happening

TODAY

EXHIBITION — AIDS memorial quilt will be displayed today through Dec. 10. See two sections of the "Names" project, one in the University Student Center and one in the Student Center Annex. A complimentary response to AIDS.

EXPRESS YOURSELF — Be a NCSU tour guide. Interested and outgoing students should come by Peele Hall, Room 112 or call 515-2434 to get an application.

WORKSHOPS — The fall Leadership Development Series has come and gone, but you can pre-register for spring 1994 workshops now. Come by the Student Center, Room 3114, or call 515-2452 for details.

CHARITY DRIVE — Help earthquake victims in India. Please make checks payable to The Hindu Society of North Carolina. Mail before Sunday to ISC Program Office, Box 7306,

NCSU, Raleigh, NC 27695-7306. For details, contact Ashwini at 515-7604 or Rajat at 515-3323.

BOOK DRIVE — Wanted: books. The Friends of the Library of NCSU needs books of all types, CDs, video and audio tapes for its fifth annual book sale. Call 515-2841 for information about drop-off points.

WANTED — An experienced magician to perform for the 1993 Madrigal Dinner. Contact Charles Martin, Thompson Theatre, 515-2405.

EXHIBIT — Sheila Wright's exhibit, "Volatile Natures: African-American Women in Management Positions," will be displayed at the African American Cultural Center Gallery. The exhibit is running today through Dec. 17.

VOLUNTEERS — Organizers need volunteers for the Martin Luther King Cultural Festival on Jan. 22. Interested faculty, staff

and students should attend an information session Jan. 19, 4-5:30 p.m.; Jan. 19, 4-5:30 p.m. and Jan. 21, 6:30-8 p.m. Call Davis at 515-5210.

TUESDAY

INFORMATION SESSION — A discussion — for opportunities to serve migrant workers in nonprofit or government agencies in rural North Carolina. Pre-school, education, health, Spanish-speaking placements are available. Tuesday at 3 p.m. in Nelson Hall, Room 240. Bring a friend.

MEETING — Students for Choice organizational meeting is Tuesday at 6 p.m. Refreshments provided. Call Cindy at 832-6832 for more details.

MEETING — Pre-med Pre-Test Club will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m.

in Boston Hall, Room 3722.

WEDNESDAY

LAST MEETING — The Society of Women Engineers will have the last meeting Wednesday. This is a mandatory meeting to elect next term's officers.

CIRCLE K — Were you in Key Club? Are you interested in doing community service? Come join NCSU's Circle K International Club. Meetings are Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. by Taco Bell at the Student Center. Call Debbie at 512-4852.

AIDS DAY — Wednesday is World AIDS Day — a time to act to end AIDS. Events at 10 a.m. in the Student Center and 2 p.m. in the Student Center Annex. For details, call 515-7034.

THURSDAY

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS — Learn about them Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in

Harrison Hall, Room 129. A discussion about opportunities to serve migrant farmworkers in rural North Carolina. Pre-school, education, health, Spanish-speaking and legal placements are available. Call 515-2441.

MEETING — Hillel — the foundation of the Jewish community — invites you to our planning meeting, 6:45 p.m. in the CCM office in the Student Center. All are welcome.

PRIME TIME — Everyone is welcome to come check out Prime Time, sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ. Every Thursday in Carmichael Gymnasium, Room 104 at 7:30 p.m.

SYMPOSIUM — The Self Knowledge Symposium meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Tompkins Hall, Room G123. The symposium is a non-denominational student group in search of the life worth living.

FRIDAY

MEETING — Gaming Club meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m. in Tompkins Hall, ground floor. Many role-playing and strategy games offered. Members get discounts at Foundation's Edge and Hobby m a s t e r s . Questions? Call Donna Nolen at 851-8010.

SATURDAY

BOOK SALE — The Friends of the Library will hold its annual book sale Saturday from 9:30

a.m. - 5 p.m. in D.H. Hill Library. Books, CDs, videocassettes and audio cassettes will be on sale. **TAIWAN NIGHT** — Saturday from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Stewart Theatre. Free admission. Learn about Taiwan's present and past through musical performances.

SUNDAY

MEETING — The Happy Atheist Club meets Sundays at 2:30 p.m. in Caldwell Hall, G107A.

What's Happening Policy

What's Happening items must be submitted in writing on a What's Happening grid, available in Technician's offices, at least two publication days in advance by noon. Space is limited and priority will be given to items that are submitted earliest. Items may be no longer than 30 words. Items must come from organizations that are campus affiliated. The news department will edit items for style, grammar, spelling and brevity. Technician reserves the right to not run items deemed offensive or that don't meet publication guidelines. Direct questions and send submissions to Dave Blanton, Assistant News Editor.

EXAM SCHEDULE

December 13 - December 21

	8 - 11 a.m.	1 - 4 p.m.	6 - 9 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 13	9:10 - 10 MWF (9:40 - 10:30 MWF)	12:25 - 1:15 MWF (12:55 - 1:45 MWF)	6 - 7:15 MW (5:45 - 7 MW) ACC 220 Common Exam EC 201 Common Exam
Tuesday, Dec. 14	9:50 - 11:05 TH (10:20 - 11:35 TH)	1:05 - 2:20 TH (1:35 - 2:50 TH)	6 - 7:15 TH (5:45 - 7 TH) PY 205 Common Exam PY 208 Common Exam
Wednesday, Dec. 15	8:05 - 8:55 MWF (8:35 - 9:50 MWF)	2:35 - 3:25 MWF (3:05 - 4:20 MWF)	7:30 - 8:45 MW (7:45 - 9 MW) 7:20 - 10:10 p.m. M or W BUS 307, 320 Common Exams
Thursday, Dec. 16	8:05 - 9:20 TH (8:35 - 9:50 TH)	2:35 - 3:50 TH (3:05 - 4:20 TH)	7:30 - 8:45 TH (7:45 - 9 TH) 7:20 - 10:10 p.m. T or H ACC 210, 310, 311, 312 PSY 200 Common Exams
Friday, Dec. 17	10:15 - 11:05 MWF (10:45 - 11:35 MWF)	3:40 - 4:30 MWF (4:10 - 5 MWF)	FL, GRK, LAT 101, 102, 105, 201, 202 Common Exams MAT 200, 201 Common Exams
Saturday, Dec. 18	CH 101, 105, 107 Common Exams	CSC 110, 112 Common Exams	
Monday, Dec. 20	11:20 - 12:10 MWF (11:50 - 12:40 MWF)	1:30 - 2:20 MWF (2 - 2:50 MWF)	Arranged Exam
Tuesday, Dec. 21	11:20 - 12:35 TH (11:50 - 1:05 TH)	4:05 - 5:20 TH (4:35 - 5:50 TH)	Arranged Exam

Centennial Campus times in parentheses

Leak

Continued from Page 1

The leak is not dangerous, said nuclear engineering student Lisa Morgan. "It's not a radioactive problem," she said. "The water that went out is like the water from your bathtub."

Program director Charles Mayo agreed. "The water itself is very pure," he said. "It's not radioactive. It's within federal and state limits for unconditioned release."

This is the fourth plant at NCSU and the only one at a university between Atlanta and Charlottesville, Va. The original NCSU plant, which opened in 1953, was the first on a college campus.

The Burlington reactor can produce up to about one megawatt of power — far less than the two to three thousand megawatt capacity of most commercial plants.

"It's not a high-energy operation," Mayo said. "The 14,000 gallons of water in the cooling pool are about 105 degrees Fahrenheit when the plant's on."

Mayo said he thinks the problem comes from a bad gasket. Repairs will take place over the semester break, he said.

The water is completely harmless and meets all legal standards to be freely released, Mayo said.

Morgan said the shutdown won't be too disruptive — as long as it doesn't take long to pinpoint and fix the problem.

"I think having it shut down mostly over Christmas break will be OK," she said. "It's supposed to be back up by early next semester, and that won't cause any big problems."

Looks like a Vivarin night.

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Sports

November 29, 1993

Page 3

Pack to battle Wolverines in bowl

■ The Wolfpack will make a sixth-straight New Year's Day road trip, hooking up with Michigan in the Hall of Fame Bowl in Tampa Jan. 1.

SPORTS STAFF REPORT

Pre-season bowl predictions had both Michigan and N.C. State in a bowl. But not the same.

Both the Wolverines and the Wolfpack are 7-4 and headed for the Hall of Fame Bowl in Tampa, Fla., the bowl's committee announced Wednesday afternoon.

While State expected to go a bowl on the level of the Fame game, Michigan, ranked as high as No. 2 in the pre-season, accepts the bid as consolation for a lackluster season.

State is still enthusiastic about the chance at a team with tradition. The Fame Bowl will be the first meeting between the

"To be playing against the Wolverines in my last college game is quite a thrill. The seniors on this team have been to a bowl game every year. That's a good track record to keep going."

—Tyler Lawrence
N.C. State senior linebacker

State and Wisconsin, eventually tumbling out of the rankings. But by clobbering Ohio State 28-0, Michigan peeked back into the AP Top 25 at No. 23 last week.

State appeared to be locked on for the Hall of Fame after downing Virginia 34-29 Nov. 6. A loss to Duke 21-20 the next week and Florida State's 62-3 obliteration did little to hurt the Pack's chances.

State still found the Fame committee's favor each week while Virginia, at 5-3 in the conference, 7-4 overall, received a bid only because Louisiana State lost to Arkansas 42-24. The Tigers could have gone to the Carquest Bowl, where the Cavaliers are headed, with a victory.

The conventional wisdom on State is, despite its record, the Wolfpack is a more exciting team. The Pack provided its fans with seven straight fourth-quarter pulse-poundingers in the later half of the season, outscoring its opponents 105-23 in the final stanza.



JAY STRICKLAND/FILE

N.C. State will be playing in its sixth consecutive bowl Jan. 1 in Tampa.

State rebounds with one win in Shootout

N.C. State 83
Hawaii 48

SPORTS STAFF REPORT

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — After posting a shooting percentage better suited to batting averages in its first two games, N.C. State's men's basketball team blasted Hawaii 83-48 and avoided a last-place finish in the Great Alaska Shootout.

The Wolfpack rebounded from 32-percent shooting over its first two contests to pound the Rainbows on 30 of 63 accuracy from the field. The Wolfpack also improved its three-point shooting, hitting six of 10 shots behind the arc. State junior college transfer Lewis Sims led all scorers with 16 points.

State hit five of its first six shots en route to a 17-5 opening run. Hawaii struggled to a 17 of 34 night from the floor.

Freshman Jeremy Hyatt started in

place of Curtis Marshall at point guard. And State head coach Les Robinson rotated his frontcourt with Marcus Wilson, Bryant Feggins and Todd Fuller.

Wilson scored 13 of his 15 points in the first half, leading State to a 41-24 advantage.

Fuller led the team in rebounding for the third time, bagging seven boards. Four players had over 20 minutes. McCuller and Hyatt getting 17 and 18, respectively, as Robinson switched his players often, a luxury he did not have last season with eight players.

Wisconsin-G.B. 76, N.C. State 56
N.C. State stumbled early against Wisconsin-Green Bay, hitting but nine of its first 36 shots while the Phoenix rolled to 52 percent shooting and a 20-point victory.

Fuller was the lone bright spot for the Wolfpack as the only State

See ALASKA, Page 4

Wrestlers head into year without Terkay, with hope

■ The loss of unbeatable national champion Sylvester Terkay shouldn't dampen the Wolfpack's title hope this season, according to State coach Bob Guzzo.

By PAUL GRANT
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

No doubt about it, N.C. State wrestling coach Bob Guzzo is excited about the 1993-94 season.

"The outlook for the season is pretty good," Guzzo said. "We've got a lot of strong people back. If you look at it on paper, overall, we're going to be a stronger team this year than we were last year."

That's good news for State, which has finished in the top 10 for the past two seasons. The Wolfpack has been ranked seventh and ninth during the past two seasons, respectively. The Pack will be back, but without national champion Sylvester Terkay.

"Losing someone like that will certainly effect any team. He was a consistent winner for us for four years," Guzzo said. "Not only was he the national champ, he also got most of the pins for us. So if we were anywhere within five points you could count on winning."

"[Terkay's] loss is going to be felt not only at the national level but in

See WRESTLING, Page 4



LIZ MAHOCKE/FILE

The Pack will look to improve on its defense this week.

Question marks still remaining

■ N.C. State was still working out the kinks in its final exhibition of the season Tuesday.

By KEVIN BREWER
SPORTS EDITOR

Instead of resolving any unanswered questions about N.C. State's women's basketball team, Tuesday's 71-59 exhibition loss to Tunggram, a Hungarian club team, only created more uncertainty.

First, does State have enough depth heading into its regular season Wednesday against Howard?

The team does have 11 players, including walk-on Tami O'Connell, after losing five players from last year's team, but swing players Lisa Hodges and Umeki Webb did not play Tuesday

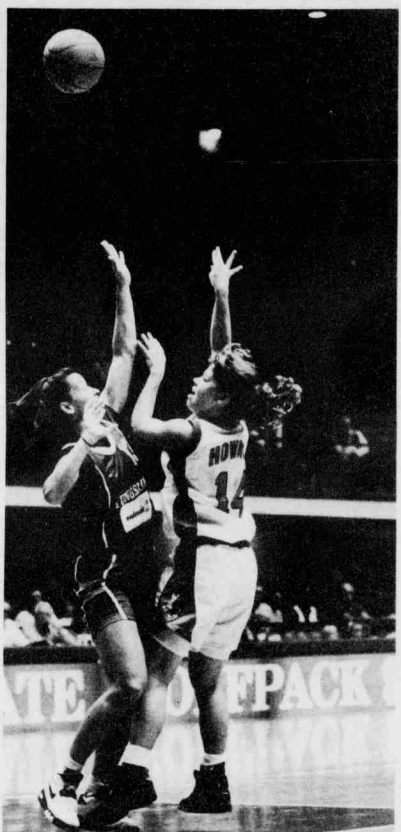
because they haven't met the team's seven-minute mile requirement. And since O'Connell did not play against Tunggram, that left the Wolfpack with eight players.

"They need to be in the kind of condition they can be in," State coach Kay Yow said. "When Kolleen [Kreul] and Quicha [Floyd] got a break, it made a difference. Our perimeter people need a break."

With Hodges and Webb out, guards Jennifer Howard and Tammy Gibson were forced to play the entire game. Gibson had 16 points and 10 rebounds, while Howard totaled 15 points and four assists.

The rest of the Wolfpack's questionable play — shooting 33 percent for the game, falling

See BASKETBALL, Page 4



LIZ MAHOCKE/FILE

Freshman Jennifer Howard totaled 15 points and four assists against Tunggram Tuesday night in Reynolds Coliseum.

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Tradition should take a back seat to a national champion

■ Nebraska? Florida State? West Virginia? Notre Dame? There's only one way to decide this thing — once and for all.

NCAA, an organization that acts as the governing body for college athletics. Simple, right? The National Collegiate Athletic Association. Its abbreviation is only four letters and it sounds like it's spelled. It's meaning is even pretty clear-cut, but it's not doing the job when it comes to this college football season.

Nebraska and West Virginia have had the best seasons. But Florida State and Notre Dame have the best teams. Now, the NCAA needs to find a way to reward all four teams and adopt a playoff system.

poll, a survey of a sample group that ranks the top 20 to 25 teams in almost every college sport. *ex. Associated Press. CNN-USA Today.*

These polls determine college football's national champion. And it's the only example of a writer or a coach determining the champ in pro or college sports. If two teams never play, then there is no way to know which team is better.

And usually the nation's top two teams compete in different conferences and play

completely different schedules. In 1990, the AP poll selected Colorado as the top team and the coaches' poll opted for Georgia Tech. The national title was split, and of course, the two never played.

This system also lets sportswriters and coaches believe they are smarter than they really are. The writers are making the news — possessing the ability to set the matchup they want this year — instead of reporting it. And the coaches have the opportunity to vote their team number one and their rivals as low as possible.

Bowl Coalition, a system adopted by the NCAA last season to match up the two highest-ranked teams and to squelch any talk of a playoff system.

But a coalition is supposed to be an alliance, a union of sorts. The Bowl Coalition, which also has its own poll, only matches up the top two teams if they come from the ACC, the Big East, the SEC or if one of them is Notre Dame. But if Washington was ranked number one and Florida State was ranked number two, they would not play on New Year's.

Washington is in the Pac-10 team and the Pac-10 champion must face the Big 10 champ in the Rose Bowl. No exceptions. This only works if those two first-place teams are ranked one and two. A coalition

that doesn't include over half of the Division I-A teams isn't exactly a solidified front.

Kevin Brewer
Take It Personal

bowls, pl. a post-season reward for a good season or a sort of okay season. *ex. Rose, Fiesta, Orange, Carquest.*

Too many. Nineteen to be exact. Nineteen teams will call themselves winner at the end of this season, giving 38 teams post-season invitations. That's 38 out of 106 Division I-A teams. If every team had a good season, then no team had a good season. If 19 teams are winners, then all of them must be champions.

Hear that, Nebraska? Florida State? West Virginia? You may have to share your national title with Kentucky, Texas Tech or Ball State. Or maybe all three.

And only a few bowls have any semblance of tradition left. After the Rose, Sugar, Orange, Cotton, Citrus, Fiesta and Gator, most football fans couldn't even name another bowl. And except for those,

only the John Hancock Bowl began before 1959, but it was the Sun Bowl prior to 1989.

Plus only five of the 19 bowls remain sponsor-less this year and one is still bowl-less, but with a sponsor — the Carquest Bowl. The Poulton/Wedecater Independence, the Thrifty Car Rental Holiday and the Outback Steakhouse Gator are all bowls. Really. *Honest.*

If Alabama loses to Florida in the SEC Championship, I would like to see Crimson Tide coach Gene Stallings rev his team up by talking about Tradition, Bear Bryant and steaks.

playoffs, n. the way a national champion in every pro and college sport is determined. *ex. Super Bowl, World Series, NCAA Basketball Tournament.*

Division I-AA, Division II and Division III football seem fine with their playoffs, the NCAA does a great job with its basketball tournament every year.

So where do they start? Easy. With the winners. Take the conference champions from the eight major Division I-A conference and seed them. If Notre Dame or another independent is ranked higher than the lowest ranked conference champion, then they join the field. Let the Mid-American and Big West conference

have the Las Vegas Bowl to themselves. That leaves nine teams. The NCAA could drop the ninth-best team because they're probably going to come from the Western Athletic Conference anyway.

With a field of eight, the NCAA would have seven playoff games, including the title game, giving them plenty of money. The NCAA could call the title game whatever it wanted, and the other six games would be the Rose, Orange, Sugar, Cotton, Fiesta and Citrus bowls.

Now, the schedule is going to have to be fixed. Well, since the ante has been upped for each team's conference schedule, each team will be limited to 10 total games, regardless of how many teams are in its conference. Then, limit each team's by weeks to one.

For example, this season would have begun for most teams Sept. 4, just like it did. But it would have ended for all teams two weeks ago on Nov. 13. Then, the SEC Championship would have been played last week on Nov. 20.

That lets the NCAA spread four first-round games out over Thanksgiving weekend, which is about what they do anyway. Then, play the Final Four in the first week of December and the National Championship on New Year's Day.

Wrestling

Continued from Page 3
the duel meets where we could always count on Tom Pitts." Filling the void left by Terkey will be seniors Tom Best and Chris Kwortnik. Kwortnik, a three time All-American, is sidelined with an injury and will not return to the lineup until the second semester. The 167-pounder's return will virtually sure up the 160-pound weight class and give the Pack a shot at the national title. "Of course we're expecting the return of Chris," Guzzo explained. "He's a three time All-American going into his fourth year, and there are not too many individuals that were four time All-Americans. Although [Kwortnik] has not won a national title, he is certainly the caliber of individual that could win one."

Best, a 150-pounder suffering from an elbow injury, will not return until the second semester either.

"We're hoping he'll be back in the line up in the second semester," Guzzo said. "Injuries have slowed him down, but we expect him to return to good form."

Best and Kwortnik are not the only ones that will be out for the first couple of matches. Nagging injuries and skin infections have sidelined many of State's wrestlers.

"We're really thin going into the first semester," Guzzo said. "But I feel these things will clear up for us in the second semester. We feel if we can work these things out we'll have an excellent team."

This year the Pack is solid at every weight class. Junior college transfer Wayne Jackson will wrestle at 118 pounds, and Guzzo is already pleased with Jackson's skills.

"Wayne is off to a great start," Guzzo explained. "He beat a kid from Navy and won the tournament, and he looked very good. It was the first chance we really had an opportunity to see him

1993-94 Wrestling Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 4	at Lehigh Invitational (Bethlehem, Pa.)	10 a.m.
11	N.C. State Duels	3 p.m.
29-30	at Midlands Open (Evanston, Ill.)	10 a.m.
29-30	at Wilkes Open (Wilkes Barre, Pa.)	10 a.m.
Jan. 2	at Penn State	1 p.m.
8	at ACC-IWEA Challenge (Chapel Hill)	9 a.m.
18	North Carolina	7:30 p.m.
22	at Bucknell	1 p.m.
23	at Rider College	2 p.m.
30	Maryland	1 p.m.
Feb. 6	Virginia	4:30 p.m.
9	at North Carolina	7:30 p.m.
12	at Clemson	7 p.m.
19	Navy	1 p.m.
22	at Duke	8 p.m.
Mar. 4-5	ACC Tournament (Charlottesville, Va.)	
17-19	NCAA Championship (Chapel Hill)	

because he was a JC transfer. We feel really strong at 118."

State should feel even better about its chances at the 126 pound weight class. Senior Michael North returns after taking second place in the conference and qualifying for the national tournament last year.

"I really think he's going to have a good season for us," Guzzo said. "He's got a lot of experience and the fact that he missed being an All-American by one point says a lot for him."

Kenny Johnson, a 167-pounder, has been filling in for the injured Kwortnik. Johnson's versatility gives Guzzo plenty of options.

"We can have some flexibility and use Kenny at 158 sometimes and at 167," Guzzo explained. "He's in excellent condition now and he's looking very good."

The return of Dan Madson will insure some victories for the Pack. Madson was a conference champion and a national qualifier last year, and Guzzo is expecting a lot from the 190-pound junior.

"Madson defeated an individual who was ranked third in the nation last year," Guzzo said. "He's competed against some of the top

caliber kids in the country, and he's done very well. Now he's a junior and he's really maturing."

For the past couple of seasons, Terkey have dominated the heavyweight division for the Wolfpack. Guzzo expects this dominance to continue, despite the loss of Terkey. In the form of Damien Covington, who is a starting linebacker on State's football team.

"Damien was an excellent high school wrestler," Guzzo said. "I defeated one of the top wrestling recruits in the country who is now at Arizona State when he was in high school. So coming out of high school, Damien was considered a top wrestler."

If Covington does wrestle it will add depth for the Pack at the heavyweight division. Guzzo feels that Covington's maturity will make him a contender for a national title.

"We're returning a very strong team," Guzzo explained. "I think we're going to be very competitive with the other teams in the conference and eventually bid for a conference championship. We have that caliber of team."

Alaska

Continued from Page 3
player to hit double figures in both points and rebounds. Fuller damped in 17 points and grabbed 10 boards to lead both teams.

State went on a 7-0 run to pull within 30-21, but a Green Bay buzzer-beater gave the Phoenix an 11-point advantage at the half.

The Wolfpack began the second half similar to the first, scoring on two of its first 10 shots. After Green Bay built a 23-point lead with nine minutes left, and the closest State got was 17 points.

Basketball

Continued from Page 3

behind 16-7 early in the first half and letting the Hungarian team have a number of open baskets — was explained by Yow.

"I think it's poor execution," Yow said. "First, we need better execution. Then we will be a lot better. Execution and effort are two things you judge a team on. We have to give a greater effort at times."

"Our lack of going to the boards, our lack of playing defense, our lack of shot selection put us in a hole. We didn't get loose balls. We reverted to some old habits I thought we were past. There's no excuse to be beat down the floor, to the boards."

But State did out-rebound Tungsram 45-43 although Tungsram held a slight height advantage and staged a comeback in the second period after tightening the halftime score to 34-24. The Pack also pulled to within eight

Weber St. 94, N.C. State 80

An impatient and overconfident N.C. State basketball team lost the opening game of the Great Alaska Shootout on horrendous 26 of 80 shooting to Big Sky representative Weber State.

State built a 34-31 lead at the half with two late three-pointers. But Weber State's run destroyed the Pack's patient first-half game plan.

The Wildcats 17-4 stretch two minutes into the second stanza forced quick shots and turnovers from an impatient and frustrated Pack.

Three-point wise, guards McCuiller and Marshall accounted for State's six long-range scores,

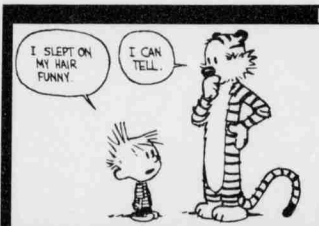
but also 19 of the team's 32 misses beyond the arc.

Fuller contributed the most of any Wolfpack player, bagging 18 points and 12 rebounds. Marc Lewis corralled 14 rebounds, but State's 46 cars were more an indication of missed shots than backboard dominance.

Bryant Feggins had four points and two rebounds in his first regular season game in two years, but fouled out in 12 minutes of play.

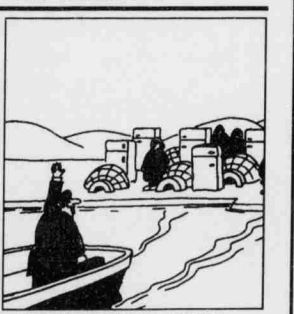
Robinson used a revolving door policy with his substitutes, giving all of his players time on the court. Eleven of 13 players had 10 or more minutes.

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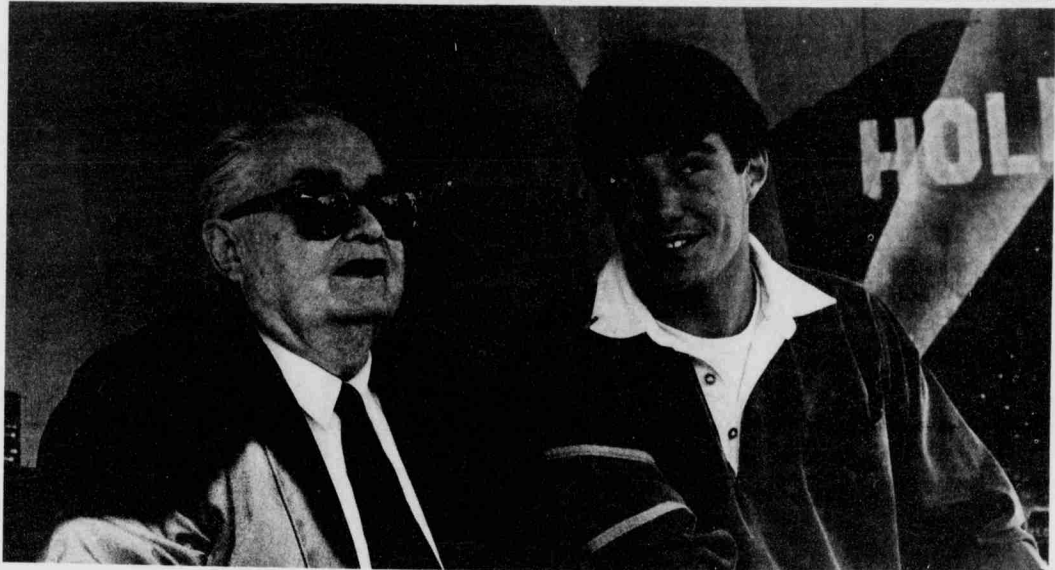


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"Who's the man behind the cool shades?" None other than the illustrious Calvin DeForest, signing autographs for State students.

ULRICH CASIRRI/STAFF

Students love Larry 'Bud' Melman

Recently the "Late Show's" Calvert DeForest appeared on CBS's Circus of the Stars. And if you think that's hard to believe ...

By KEVIN BREWER
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The scene was just a little strange. During CBS's College Tour on Nov. 2, Calvert DeForest was mobbed by N.C. State University students who wanted his autograph. DeForest is an elderly man. His only known talent is talking loud and missing cues on late night television. And the students have never caught more than glimpses of DeForest during his sporadic appearances on David Letterman's two late-night shows.

"I never thought I'd be on television. Everybody should be so lucky," DeForest said. "I like meeting people and college kids are the greatest."

But it seems there is no conceivable explanation for why the students thought he was the greatest. And, for the most part, the rest of his career has been about the same way.

DeForest, who has played over 90 characters and performed various stunts as Larry "Bud" Melman on NBC's "Late Night with David Letterman," including being hurled through a Berlin Wall replica, is now doing the same thing on CBS's "Late Show with David Letterman."

But how Letterman discovered DeForest in 1982 is just as inconceivable as DeForest's star-studded welcome earlier this month. Basically, Letterman saw him in a New York University student film,

"King of the Zs," which was submitted as a writing sample — DeForest played a movie mogul — and had to have him.

He thought Letterman's first job offer was a practical joke. But DeForest, along with the student writers, was eventually hired.

Eleven years later, he's doing the same wacky bits, not letting the network change have any effect on him.

"I think it was great," DeForest said of the show's new home. "It was the best thing that could have happened to David. It couldn't have happened at a better time."

But DeForest, who began his career acting in off-Broadway productions and community theater, has reaped his own benefits from the move to CBS too. Now, he has a more specific contract that requires the show to give him more notice

on when and if he will be needed. DeForest reads his script, rehearses and finishes his part in one day — and always on Friday.

That's right. He just works on Fridays, no matter when his skit will air. Inconceivable?

"They have to give me advanced notice. This way, it's worked out better," DeForest said. "I never know what they have in store. David is the main one who gives me instructions. They set the tone and I follow."

And DeForest wants to be with the show as long as he can.

"As long as Dave needs me, I'll be there," he said.

Letterman without DeForest? That's, well, ... inconceivable.



Calvin DeForest is better known from David Letterman's shows as Larry "Bud" Melman.

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A paper that is entirely the product of the student body becomes at once the official organ through which the thoughts, the activities 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

'Sleep Out' unites races

■ This year's "Sleep Out For The Homeless" helped unite different races on campus while raising money for a good cause.

Phi Beta Sigma has got a good thing going with its "Sleep Out For The Homeless." For the second year, Phi Beta Sigma has solely sponsored this event. But this year several other campus organizations combined forces to raise money for the Raleigh Homeless Shelter.

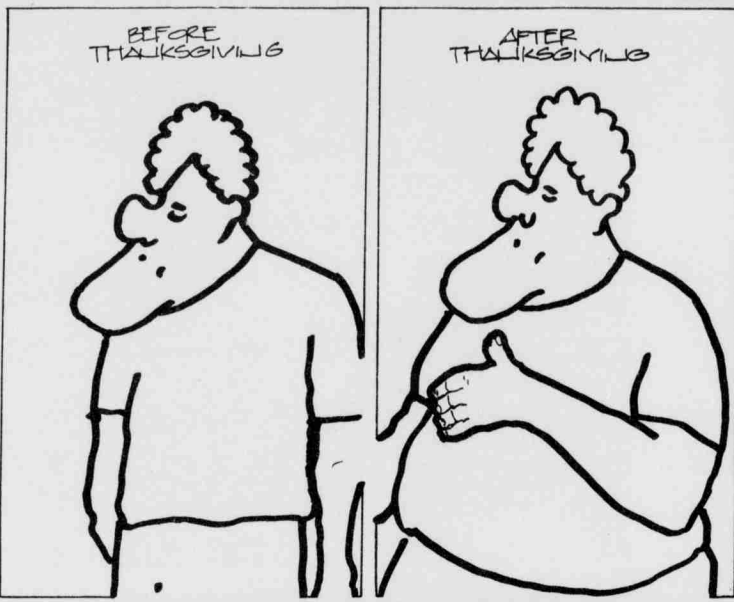
Those groups included Sigma Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Alpha Phi Alpha, Chi Omega, Alpha Kappa Alpha and the Black Students Board. They raised approximately \$800 for the shelter. On Nov. 8, "Sleep Out" participants spent the night outside huddled together for warmth. Their public display of concern for the homeless attracted media coverage that caused residents of the surrounding community to focus their attention on the plight of the homeless. As representatives of N.C. State University, "Sleep Out" participants demonstrated that students are aware of social ills and are eager to lend a helping hand.

The participating organizations combined efforts not only to reach out to the homeless, but to join hands across a racial barrier that, thankfully, continues to crumble at NCSU. Sigma

Chi, a historically white fraternity, worked closely with the event's sole sponsor, Phi Beta Sigma, a historically African-American fraternity, to make the event a success. At a time when student panels are debating the issues of multiculturalism and diversity, and the African American Cultural Center is trying to earn a reputation as being a resource for all NCSU students, this year's "Sleep Out" is another much-needed step toward student unity.

George Barksdale, Phi Beta Sigma member and "Sleep Out" participant said, "I think it might have opened up relations between the two races." Besides encouraging interracial cooperation and gaining media attention for the homeless problem, the "Sleep Out" taught its participants about the severity of the homeless situation. By spending a night out in the cold, they were made more aware of the tragic living conditions many members of the surrounding community are forced to endure. "If I become wealthy, I'm going to put some time into helping the homeless," Barksdale said. "No one should have to live like that."

All in all, the "Sleep Out" participants increased their awareness of the homeless problem while setting a good example for others and working together to help bridge racial gaps. The world needs more activities like the "Sleep Out."



Commentary

Time to revamp university is now

Last year it was plus/minus grading. This year it's the course repeat policy. And somewhere looming in the background is the prospect — tussled over last year by the faculty and the chancellor — of an academic honor code or at least something intended to forestall cheating.

But it's time to move the debate over academics farther out into the public's eyes and look at a broader range of issues. It's time for us — students, faculty and administrators — to begin an examination of what and how people learn here.

The core of any university, and certainly of N.C. State University, is its academic programs. And the guiding principle for those programs ought to be this: educating students.

Since Phillip Stiles became provost this summer he's shown an admirable focus on academic issues. He's added more money to this year's classroom improvement budget; he's held a seminar on how to be a good classroom teacher; he's taken action, though sometimes inarticulate, on issues such as the Women's Studies program and diversity. Phillip Stiles is a real, genuine academician, and it looks like he might even be a competent, involved administrator, something this university needs more of.

So Provost Stiles, try this list of issues that are begging for examination: — academic and non-academic advising; — the quality of classroom teaching; — tenure; — teacher evaluations; — course content; — course offerings; — degree requirements; — placement of freshmen in appropriate classes;



Mark Toseczak

— teaching academic success skills to freshmen and transfer students; — measuring what students have learned.

This is a short and surely incomplete list. Without trying hard I can probably think of another dozen items we need to discuss.

The point is, though, that it's time to bring together ideas about education and consider revamping everything this university does.

Long-standing institutions like NCSU get built piece-by-piece. A department or college gets added every few years, special academic support programs for some students are put in place, additional faculty are hired and new administrators entrusted with coordinating it all.

It's time we stepped back and looked at what 106 years of budget battles, campus politics and General Assembly muddling have wrought. It's time we tried to tie everything on campus closer together so every professor, administrator and student is working towards the same goal: the finest education to be found in this state or any other.

The time is ripe for this because we are already re-examining so much of what we do. The university is up for re-accreditation this year and the General Assembly has mandated that the UNC System find a way to graduate students sooner.

NCSU is also struggling with funding and ethical issues. With a drop in recent years of state appropriations as well as in research money from the Department of Defense, the university is forming new relationships with corporations as well as more traditional sources of money, such as alumni. This presents new challenges — will corporate interests unduly influence scholars and researchers? — as well as new opportunities.

A report in the N&O recently called for a new partnership between universities, like NCSU, and the communities that surround them to help cure social ills that plague modern society. Although the report was short on details, the idea behind it is one that should be explored. And that civic partnership could present valuable educational opportunities for students.

These, and other issues that have been in the headlines recently, make now the perfect time to begin re-make NCSU. I envision a university where students don't fail classes because they're poorly prepared, can't manage their time or have lousy teachers. I envision a university where academic programs, academic support services and extracurricular activities all move students in one direction down an educational path. I envision a university that represents the best in a liberal education at a technically-oriented research institution. I envision a university that teaches citizenship as well as scholarship.

Provost Stiles, Chancellor Larry Monteith and Faculty Senate Chair Charles Carlton can get this ball moving — if they choose to. If not, NCSU will continue to muddle along as it has for too long, as a university without a vision.

closed because we were trying to sleep. He opened the door and started talking to us. From the first word out of his mouth, you could tell he had been drinking — and, by the way he looked, a lot. He asked about our organization and what we were doing. He then told us that he was rocking for the Ronald McDonald House. I find it appalling that someone would come out to an event to raise money for a charity drunk, and on top of that not even know what the charity was.

Later in the night, around 3:30 a.m., some of the young men decided to build a fire. If you walked through the Brickyard Nov. 19, you probably noticed the burnt trashcan — that was their fireplace. They started with twigs and limbs. When that ran out, they decided that sandwich boards would work. Over the next several hours, they burned the SEAL, Equestrian Club, half the Animal and Human Nutrition Club and part of the Outing Club signs. This blatant lack of respect for other people's property is disturbing.

The Sigma Kappa members never said a word against the burning of the signs and neither did any of the Sigma Chi members.

Trautt Thompson Sophomore, mechanical engineering

Participants in Sleep Out

National Society of Black Engineers
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Sigma Chi Fraternity
Society of African-American Culture

Black Students Board
Black Repertory Theater
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Chi Omega Sorority
Student Mentor Association

Let's spend the night...

■ The Board of Trustees at UNC-Chapel Hill should keep out of private student affairs — including sleepovers.

The controversy over UNC-Chapel Hill's visitation policy, which was to allow overnight, opposite-sex guests in campus dorm rooms, is over. The school's Board of Trustees overruled the briefly enacted policy. But the question that remains is whether the board did the right thing.

Regardless of moral and religious arguments about sexual behavior, one fact remains — one way or another, many college students are going to be sexually active. The trustees should not be policing this aspect of students' business. After all, the age of 18 affords U.S. citizens the right to vote. It is also the age at which one can be drafted. And an 18-year-old can be tried as an adult in criminal court. It is not a question of whether the

university has the right to control the visitation policy on campus. The question is whether it did the right thing. UNC is a state-owned university, yet that does not take away rights to privacy and freedom of association.

It's true that the trustees have the right to control what goes on in the residence halls because parents have put their trust in the university, and the state funds the university through tax dollars. But should the students be so closely monitored when they are, legally, adults?

The question of legal adulthood is not the only issue, though. The students are adults, and if two of them mutually want to spend the night together, they are consenting adults. Should the trustees get in the way of the decision of two adults?

The visitation policy was fine. As the sleepovers continue, rest assured that it was the trustees — not students who struggled to stay warm under one blanket — who got cold feet.

Cantwell wrong on Sigma Chi, DWI

Once again, the arrogant views of journalism have pointed their pompous finger at an underserving source. David Cantwell's article on drunk driving states, "Operation Eagle...it doesn't scare enough fraternity boys from doing it." Well, Mr. Cantwell, let's lay it all on the table and dispel these myths that you and people like you enjoy conversing about while at your ice-cream socials. Let me ask how much of your free time has been spent raising money for worthwhile charities such as United Cerebral Palsy, The Make A Wish Foundation, The Ronald McDonald House and The Cleo Wallace Center? How many times have you slept in the freezing cold to benefit the homeless? How many times have you gone door to door collecting food for the Raleigh Food Bank? How many Christmas parties have you thrown for underprivileged children who would not have a Christmas otherwise? As a matter of fact, what have you ever done to advance the interests of anyone besides yourself? Without worthwhile organizations such as The Sigma Chi Fraternity and others like, literally millions of dollars over the last fifty years would not have been donated to help those people who may not be fortunate enough to support themselves. Was the seventeen year old drunk driver that hit you in a fraternity? What on earth could have prompted you to bring innocent fraternity men into an editorial that involves the entire driving population? It must be a personal grievance with the Greek system. We, the Greek community, invite you to our

The Campus FORUM

upcoming Spring rush. I am sure that you will find that the fraternal organizations serve not only the interests of the North Carolina State campus, but the entire Raleigh community as well. This is a lesson that a pompous, overblown journalist such as yourself will surely appreciate. On a final note, the next time you sit down to watch an old John Wayne movie, reruns of Tom Selleck and Woody Harrelson in Magnum P.I. and Cheers, or even Late Night with David Letterman, keep in mind that these fine Sigma Chi are a part of the Greek system that you have severely mistreated.

Jason Grier
Sigma Chi Fraternity

Sigma Chi burning signs for charity

On Nov. 18, I had the chance to stay in the shack that Habitat for Humanity had in the Brickyard. On that particular night, Sigma Kappa and Sigma Chi were having their Rock-a-thon.

When I got to the shack, I went over and asked what they were doing. The young ladies told me they were rocking for Alzheimer's disease. Later that night, after their shift had changed, a Sigma Chi brother came over to the shack, which was

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Mrs. Doubtfire's life is not 'A Perfect World'

Despite likeable performances by its stars, "My Life" doesn't quite reach its potential.

By MICHAEL J. LEGEROS
STAFF WRITER

Writer Bruce Joel Rubin makes his directorial debut in "My Life," a light, but somber study of discovery through death. The story introduces Bob Jones (Michael Keaton), a successful L.A. public relations man diagnosed with terminal cancer.

As the film opens, Jones is speaking into a video camera. His wife (Nicole Kidman) is pregnant, so he's nagging himself talking to his unborn child.

Reviewing his life, Jones realizes that he can't remember much of his youth. In his panic he resorts to a Chinese healer (Oscar winner Haig S. Ngoy) who explains that his suppressed memories contain suppressed anger — anger which is fueling the cancer.

For Jones to heal, he must find himself. With only a few months to live, Jones sets out to explore his memories, revisits his childhood and even attempt a reconciliation with his parents.

Despite likeable performances from both Keaton and Kidman, "My Life" is just too light, too slow and too antiseptic to be taken

seriously. The film's message is never entirely explored in the film. "My Life" does not adequately address all the grief, rage and burning questions a dying man like Jones would feel. Instead Rubin opts for a few easy speeches and plenty of feel-good moments. The sickening 10-minute new-baby montage of Keaton, Kidman and Kid is too cute to be taken seriously.

Still, there are some highlights in this mostly mediocre movie. The film's exposition is mercifully short, most of Keaton's home video segments are amusing and there's even an ethnic wedding thrown in for good measure. Add one good John Barry score and "My Life" should at least make a good date movie.

Grade: B-

"A Perfect World" is not a perfect film. But Clint Eastwood's return to the director's chair after "Unforgiven" is an entertaining, but overly long thriller with some surprising psychological overtones.

The story is deceptively simple: Kevin Costner plays an escaped killer, fleeing across 1963 Texas with a 7-year-old boy (T.J. Lowther) as his hostage. Not-so-hot on their heels are the state police, led by Red (Clint Eastwood) and a criminologist appointed by the governor (Laura Dern). Costner's in a Ford, Eastwood's in a mobile command trailer.

For the first hour or so, "A Perfect World" plays like a lazy update of Spielberg's "Sugarland Express." Costner and the kid buy groceries,

steal cars and play trick-or-treat. Costner is a sensitive sicko, which makes the first hour all the more charming.

Equally amusing is watching the stern Dern hold her own against the bureaucratic boy's club. She trades quite a few barbs with Eastwood, who falls back from the foreground to play a more subdued character this time. Listen for Dern's classic under-the-breath comments regarding male anatomy.

But things get serious in the second half. Costner's troubled past is revealed, explaining his earlier actions and foreshadowing those to come. His really bad moment comes in a protracted scene where he smolders with intensity while terrorizing a farm family.

It's a scary scene, despite the stuffing. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the ending. It's simply too long.

The lazy pace of "A Perfect World" is made less uncomfortable by a host of good performances.

Even with a modified "J.F.K." accent, Costner does some of his best work ever. Eastwood stands strong on the sidelines. Dern is quite good, gapping in believable disbelief at her treatment by the "boys." Finally, young Lowther is a find — a sharp kid who is very believable expressing the conflicting emotions he feels in the company of Costner.

"A Perfect World" is also a very funny film. In addition to a witty script and an unusual amount of physical humor, Eastwood toys

with Costner's image by surrounding him with infatuated store clerks and waitresses.

Lengthiness aside, "A Perfect World" is an example of Eastwood's ongoing maturity as a filmmaker. As he did in "Unforgiven" (among others), Eastwood continues to address the issues of violence and the responsibility of those who inflict it. His message is just a bit diluted this time.

Grade: B

How do you fuse Robin Williams' maniac wit and documented dramatic strengths into a successful, live-action role? Ask "Mrs. Doubtfire," which dresses him in drag as a prim British nanny. The end result is a very warm and very "broad" comedy with enough appeal for any age.

Daniel Hillard (Robin Williams) is a flaky voice-over artist, out of work and out of the house. The latter is the decision of his wife Miranda Hillard (Sally Field), who can't live with him anymore.

But when the court grants child custody to her, limiting visitation rights to once a week — Dad dons a dress (as well as a latex mask) and takes a job as the family's

housekeeper. The goal — more time with the kids.

"Mrs. Doubtfire" may be as close as Williams ever comes to the perfect vehicle. When out of "uniform," he can be completely unrestrained. In one terrific moment, in the company of a court-appointed liaison, Williams impersonates all three of the Marx Brothers! But when he climbs back into costume, the actor must channel his energy into a very demure and soft-spoken role.

It's a nifty method of managing a maniac who, as the core of the film, works very well. Unfortunately, the rest of the film isn't so sharp.

With director Chris Columbus ("Home Alone") at the helm, "Mrs. Doubtfire" suffers from a number of excesses. Both the build-up and the wrap-up may be too dramatic for the film's own good. Clocking in at just over two hours, "Mrs. Doubtfire" feels padded.

But, in its own peculiar way, the film works wonders. The humor is so broad and the emotions are so honest that only a Scrooge could keep from smiling.

In fact, the humor may be a bit too broad. For every knowing non-sequitur — Williams beams costar Pierce Brosnan with a lime and lies

that it was a "run-by fruiting" — there's a quick bit of slapstick or, heaven help us, a musical montage. The film's high-low point comes as Williams bumps and grinds to Aerosmith's "Dude (Looks Like a Lady)."

Needless to say, Williams gives a virtuoso performance that may very well land him an Oscar nomination. He is backed by a comfortable cast, which includes Pierce Brosnan as the film's PC villain.

Only Field sticks out sorely — she's a miscast Mom, hardly believable as the object of both Williams and Brosnan's attentions.

"Mrs. Doubtfire" is, ultimately, a bizarre mixture of drama and comedy. For every hilarious, ingenious moment — such as Williams, dubbing "Largo Al Facturum" (from the Looney "Barber of Seville") onto a Chuck Jones cartoon — there's a sickly-sweet counterpart, usually involving a hug or a speech.

Even the ending is bizarre: an odd bit of wish-fulfillment that elevates the film into the realm of near-fantasy.

Though both a bit squishy and a bit long, "Mrs. Doubtfire" is one of the safest bets for holiday humor.

Grade: B+

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Movies

All films are to show on the Student Center Annex Cinema.
Much Ado About Nothing Passport International Film Series. Shakespeare's sexiest and most sparkling comedy. Set in Sicily, this tale of two intermingling love stories, one mischievously funny and the other sweetly poignant. Fraught with mistaken

identity, false accusations, break-ups and make-ups, this film features a star-studded cast that includes all aspects of love. Stars Kenneth Branagh, Emma Thompson, Keanu Reeves, and Denzel Washington. Thursday at 8 p.m.

Theatre

The 14th Annual Madrigal Dinner In a festive Yuletide celebration, royal entertainers, food and festivity fill the Great Hall at Rosamund Castle. The Lord and Lady of Nottingham are hosts for the Siquel which includes a toast with Wassail. The presentation of the Boar's Head and a visit by the Star. Jesters, wandering minstrels, jugglers and fencers will help to usher in the holiday season. Dec. 1-4, and 6 & 7 p.m., also Dec. 5 at 5 p.m., Thompson Theatre SOLD OUT



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