

Sail of a good time



Bond Park in western Cary offers a variety of summer activities such as sailing and hiking. Families enjoyed the park and the weather Saturday and other days of the weekend.

Witherspoon dies of cancer

Friends and colleagues of the long-time administrator said his death is a serious loss for the university.

By Dave Blanton, News Editor

Augustus "Gus" M. Witherspoon, N.C. State associate provost and professor of botany, died Monday of cancer. He was 64.

Witherspoon came to N.C. State as a graduate student and was the second black to earn a doctorate at NCSU, in 1971. His retirement, scheduled for August, was celebrated April 24 at a reception in his honor.

He was the university's first black teaching assistant, its first black instructor and its first black full professor.

Witherspoon earned a reputation for himself in his 30 year career. He was a man who had strong convictions and the gumption to apply them, colleagues said.

"A close friend has fallen, but his spirit lives on," said Lawrence Clark, associate provost and affirmative action officer, who

worked with Witherspoon for many years. "He'll be missed by students, faculty and staff, who owe him a tremendous debt for his fortitude and leadership."

Witherspoon was also popular among black students by providing them with his selfless and wise guidance.

He was an adviser for students who founded a chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity at NCSU.

During the height of the Civil Rights movement, he led the effort to desegregate NCSU in the early 1960s. Less than a decade later, in 1968, he helped organize support for the African American Cultural Center — ultimately seeing to it that it was built.

For those and other accomplishments in the community, he was awarded a Citation of Appreciation by the NCSU Board of Trustees in September 1993.



Witherspoon

See PROFESSOR, Page 2

Library called top-notch

Not many things are more important to library planners than disseminating information lightning fast and conveniently.

By Ron Batcho, Assistant News Editor

An advanced computer system and fifty set of plans for the future recently won N.C. State libraries some accolades.

That's the word from the Association of Research Libraries, the organization that named D.H. Hill Library and its sister branches one of the six "Libraries of the Future." The ARL is composed of the top 108 research libraries in North America.

At its annual meeting in May in Austin, Texas, ARL originally wanted to select eight libraries. But only six met the group's criteria.

"It is really meaningful for N.C. State to be selected as one of six," said Jinnie Davis, assistant director of planning and research.

NCSU showed its work on Mosaic and the World Wide Web as well as a program called Mr. Serials.

Those programs allow students to link to large data files and search catalogues of information. It gives computer users the ability to browse other libraries' offerings.

Mr. Serials was created by Eric Lease Morgan, a systems librarian. He also helped create the libraries' World Wide Web pages and gopher structure, as well as other data-base access systems that help locate information faster.

"Mr. Serials is a robot that organizes electronic journals," Davis said. "It subscribes to



Students may have noticed the construction that seems widespread across campus. The repairs are a part of an effort to get ahead of some troublespots before traffic is too heavy in the fall and spring.

Parking lots get facelifts

Some renovations are making parking scarce — for the summer anyway.

By Ron Batcho, Assistant News Editor

You've probably seen the eyesores. But there's good reason behind the dozen parking lots filled with scores of workmen and heavy machinery. N.C. State's Division of Transportation is just cleaning house — and catching up on some refurbishing projects that are long overdue, said Cathy Reeve, transportation systems manager.

"There has been no routine maintenance, other than fixing cracks and potholes, since the parking lots were done," she said. The maintenance is part of a five-year plan to repave all campus parking lots made before the mid 1980s, Reeve said.

The total project cost will be \$400,000, which will come from revenue generated by parking stickers, the meters and pay lots on campus and parking tickets, she said.

"It makes everything easier," she said. "We only have to deal with one contractor, we end up saving money and we increase quality control."

Reeve said there would be enough parking on campus to allow for the repaving during the summer.

"There are significantly fewer cars on campus during the summer," she said. "There is no way this could be done during the spring or fall."

Accommodations will be made for vehicles that need certain parking lots. "We are keeping the Dining Hall lot open to allow for parking and deliveries," Reeve said.

She also said the "C" spots south of Harris Field near the Student Center

Annex will be converted to handicapped parking for students that have to get to the handicapped services office and Student Organization of the Differently Able (SODA) meetings in Harris Hall.

Visitors to campus can use the Dan Allen pay lot, she said. "Signs will be posted four to five days in advance before we close a parking lot for repairs," Reeve said.

The improvements will take place during most of the summer, Reeve said. "The crews were out the day after graduation and will finish by August 18," she said.

Some projects are being held off to coincide with other construction work, Reeve said.

"The Student Center loading dock will not be done until construction on the traffic light at the corner of Morrill Drive

Liz Mahnick/Staff

See PARKING, Page 2

College starts new group

A May 6 ceremony inducted the honor society's first members.

By Dave Blanton, News Editor

N.C. State's newest college is off to a good start in establishing a good reputation among its peers.

Two years after its conception, the College of Management is already a founding chapter of one of the country's newest honor societies.

Sigma Beta Delta National Honor Society was formed this year to recognize scholarship in business, management and administration at business schools not nationally accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

A ceremony on May 6 inducted the chapter's first members. Ninety-five faculty members and 12 students, all members of NCSU's College of Management, were inducted into the chapter, said Jon Bartley, assistant dean of the department.

Bartley said Richard Lewis, dean of NCSU's College of Management, helped bring the honor society to NCSU. Lewis has close ties to another business honor society, Beta Gamma Sigma. That society is older and attracts business programs that have earned accreditation.

"Dean Lewis was the key player in forming the honor society," Bartley said. "He really made things come together nationally. It was his involvement with Beta Gamma Sigma that made things come together."

NCSU joined Baylor, Louisiana Tech, East Carolina University, the University of Missouri at St. Louis, Belmont University in Nashville, Morehouse College in Atlanta, McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill. and Southern University in New Orleans.

Founding the new honor society is only an interim development. Soon it will join Beta Gamma Sigma, the society that recognizes nationally accredited programs. Of course, NCSU must first earn that accreditation. That's something that Bartley said the college couldn't be more confident about.

"We have no worries about being accredited. It's not gonna be a problem," he said, adding that the university has pledged to provide the funding for an adequate number of professors. Achieving a good student-instructor ratio is a key factor when the accreditations are awarded, Bartley said.

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INSIDE

Sports

With pro baseball calling, Terry Harvey may not return as NCSU's starting quarterback.

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et cetera

Speed adds nothing new to the action genre, but it's still a lot of fun to watch.

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The Flintstones get rave reviews.

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# News Notes

## State prof winner of leadership award

George Baker III, an N.C. State professor, has received a 1994 Leadership Award from the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC). The Leadership Award is the highest honor bestowed by the AACCC. It is presented for outstanding lifetime service to the nation's community college system. Baker is the Joseph D. Moore Distinguished Professor of Community College Leadership at NCSU. Called "one of the nation's most respected authors and scholars on community colleges" by Community College Times, Baker is an internationally recognized expert on community college leadership. During the past 24 years, he has worked with more than 750 community colleges in the United States and Canada.

## Arboretum is money source for growers

Money doesn't grow on trees. But for North Carolina's \$200 million ornamental nursery industry, it does sprout from trees, shrubs and perennials grown at the N.C. State University Arboretum. This year, the state's ornamental growers are expected to gross about \$10.8 million from plants introduced or distributed free to the industry as cuttings by the NCSU Arboretum, according to an estimate from the North Carolina Association of Nurserymen (NCAN). The arboretum's total operating budget is \$425,000. It was established in 1980.

### TODAY

**AEROBICS** — Evening aerobic sessions will be held weekdays from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. in Carmichael Gymnasium, Room 1206. For more information, call the Intramural-Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.  
**DEBATE** — N.C. State will have a debate squad this fall. If you are interested, contact Jamie

Larsen at 515-4124 or John Weaver, president, at 859-5472.  
**INFORMATION** — Muslim? Interested in Islam? For information about activities, call Tarek, 755-0888.  
**WORKSHOP** — A Yoga workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 9 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Carmichael Gymnasium, Room 1211. For

additional information, contact the Intramural-Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.

### THURSDAY

**FRISBEE** — Ultimate frisbee will be held on Thursday, June 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. on the Lower Miller Field. For additional information contact the Intramural-Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.

### FRIDAY

**TABLE TENNIS** — will be held on Friday, June 10 from 6 to 8 p.m. Carmichael Gymnasium, courts E3-E9. For additional information, contact the Intramural-Recreational Sports office at 515-3161.

### SATURDAY

**HAFI** — Sponsored by Triangle Lebanese Association, Saturday, June 11, Shearaton Imperial, RTP, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dinner, dancing Arabic music by Amine Sultan & Band, dabke performance, belly dancer, \$35.85-51.87 or 781-1330 for more information.

### 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 Ron Batcho, Assistant News Editor.

## Professor

Continued from Page 1

But a citation of that caliber was nothing new to Witherspoon. Throughout his career as a teacher and an administrator, Witherspoon won praise for his contributions

both in the academic and civic arenas. "Gus Witherspoon's life and his tenacious pursuit of programs to aid students was an inspiration to so many people," Chancellor Larry Monteith said about him. "As a scholar, a mentor, a leader in community service, he always excelled."

Witherspoon's talents seemed to be as diverse as his admirers.

He was the principal investigator in 10 federally-funded environmental studies. He also was the author and co-author of a combined 15 publications on botany and black affairs.

In addition to his academic and

social pursuits, Witherspoon served as a pastor of St. Luke African Methodist Episcopal Church in Wilson since 1981.

He is survived by his wife, Cookie and his adopted son Ademola Egire. The Witherspoons adopted Egire when he was an adult.

The Egires allowed the

Witherspoons to adopt their son as a token of appreciation for the care Egire received from the Witherspoons when he was a student at NCSU.

Funeral arrangements, which are being handled by Lightner Funeral Home, are incomplete. The funeral home will be releasing obituary information.

## Library

Continued from Page 1

electronic journals and indexes them, doing the job of an acquisitions department. It then adds the information to a list available to the community." At the meeting, NCSU also talked about its support of electronic journals. NCSU publishes two electronic journals — the "Journal of Statistics Education" and "Postmodern Culture."

It's considered unusual for research libraries to take on the role of publisher, Davis said. But "Postmodern Culture's" office is housed in the library, she said.

Credit is due to Susan Nutter, director of NCSU Libraries, for having the vision to see where the future of research libraries is going, Davis said.

Davis said the number of electronic journals is on the rise.

"NCSU sponsored a lecture on

scholarly electronic journals in 1990 and there were only eight publishers," Davis said. "There are now 440 electronic journals."

The library wants to see if electronic journals can be produced the way scholarly journals in print are. Articles in print journals are currently subject to peer and board review.

"Postmodern Culture" will send a message to see if people want to review articles that have been submitted," Davis said. "Discussion lists associated with the journals allow an international group to have instantaneous discussion about an article."

Mr. Serials was demonstrated during a presentation titled "Mosaic and Mr. Serials: Publishing, Collecting, Indexing, Delivering and Archiving Electronic Publications Automatically (sic)."

Demonstrations from the other schools included Rice University's electronic studio and the University of Iowa's information arcade.

## Parking

Continued from Page 1

and Cates Avenue starts," she said. Throughout this summer, improvements will be made these areas:

- A lot located between the University Student Center and Reynolds Coliseum
  - Pullen Lot
  - A lot that sits east of Bragaw Residence Hall
  - A lot designated for Lee Residence Hall parking
  - A small lot adjacent to the West Dunn Building
  - A Sullivan Residence Hall parking lot
  - Brooks Hall lot
- Reeves said in five years NCSU DOT plans to give the parking lots a new coat of pavement, as part of a



LIZ MAHOCKE/STAFF  
The NCSU Division of Transportation has decided to repair some parking lots this summer.

routine maintenance plan. Reeves said maintaining the lots costs about 10 to 20 percent of repaving. "It is only a fraction of the cost,"

she said. "We have a responsibility to keep up the maintenance." Next summer E.S. King Village will get repairs, and Fraternity Court will be repaired the summer of 1996.

## Chapter

Continued from Page 1

The acer-editing process takes about six years, said Bartley, who also serves as secretary-treasurer

and faculty adviser of the new chapter.

Until now, Beta Gamma Sigma was the only society available to business and management programs.

"There are probably 1,000 schools that could join this new society," Bartley said. That includes small schools and ones still too young to qualify.

Bartley said Sigma Beta Delta's

first objective is to build a base so its members will have an opportunity to share ideas about projects and goals for their respective campuses.

The honor society is open to juniors, seniors and graduate students.

Juniors must have a 3.2 GPA. Seniors and graduate students must rank in the top 20 percent of their class.

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CHRIS LEITH CHEVROLET

## We made a mistake!

Steve Crisp's e-mail address was incorrectly listed in last week's editorial "Only an e-mail away."

His correct address is [crisp@sma.sca.ncsu.edu](mailto:crisp@sma.sca.ncsu.edu) or [Steve\\_Crisp@ncsu.edu](mailto:Steve_Crisp@ncsu.edu)

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## Harvey weighing his pro options

■ The two-sport star says he's not sure if he'll return as the Wolfpack's starting quarterback this fall.

BY JEFF DREW  
SPORTS EDITOR

Less than a week after Major League Baseball's amateur draft, N.C. State baseball coach Ray Tanner has already lost one underclassman to the pros. The big question now for Turner — and Wolfpack football coach Mike O' Cain — is whether Terry Harvey will leave as well.

Harvey, a right-handed pitcher who is also the starting quarterback on the football team, was selected in the 11th round by the Texas Rangers in last week's amateur draft. Harvey has one more year of eligibility remaining in baseball and two more in football.

Deliberations with Rangers officials began with a meeting on Sunday. The conversation focused on a deal that would allow Harvey to continue playing college football at State.

A college athlete who plays a professional sport cannot play the same sport in college and cannot be on scholarship.

"They talked a lot about letting me play football," Harvey said Monday from his home in Dacula, Ga. "Well, I'm pretty much leaning to doing one or the other. I'd like to sign a contract. If not, I'll come back to school."

Though he has been successful in baseball and football during his three years at State, Harvey said the physical and mental demands of playing both sports have made it advisable to concentrate on one sport. If the Rangers offer enough

money, he'll choose baseball. If not, football remains an option.

"I'm completely open to the possibilities," Harvey said. "I want to get some incentive. I want the organization to invest in me."

Harvey said he has not discussed money in detail with the Rangers and he wouldn't comment on how much he's seeking. He also isn't sure how long it will take him to make a decision.

"The ball's kind of in their court now," Harvey said. "I'd like to get this taken care of as soon as possible but I'm going to hold my ground. I want something that's advantageous."

Harvey and Tanner each rated the chance of signing at about 50 percent. O' Cain could not be reached for comment.

Another 11th-round selection, junior Mark Wells, has already signed with the Colorado Rockies. Wells led the Wolfpack in home runs with 24 last season.

Reserve pitcher Pork Wallech was drafted by the Cleveland Indians in the 18th round.

Three Wolfpack recruits were also drafted. Right-handed pitchers Bubba Scarce and Jacob Robbins were drafted in the 11th round. Curt Blackman, another right-handed pitcher, was selected in the 18th round.

Larry Edens was not drafted but did sign a free-agent contract with San Diego Padres.


Wallech saw time as the Wolfpack's closer last season, and Tanner said he expects him to sign.

"At this level, scouts look for potential more than production," Tanner said. "And Pork has a very strong arm."


See DRAFT, Page 6 ▶

**Major League Baseball  
1994 Amateur Draft**

*Juniors*




**Player:** Terry Harvey  
**Position:** RH Pitcher  
**Drafted by:** Texas Rangers  
**Round:** 11th  
**Previous Drafts:** New York Yankees, 1991, 1993




**Player:** Mark Wells  
**Position:** Center Fielder  
**Drafted by:** Colorado Rockies  
**Round:** 11th


*Incoming Freshmen*




**Player:** Pork Wallech  
**Position:** RH Pitcher  
**Drafted by:** Cleveland Indians  
**Round:** 18th



**Player:** Bubba Scarce  
**Position:** RH Pitcher  
**Drafted by:** Oakland Athletics  
**Round:** 11th



**Player:** Jacob Robbins  
**Position:** RH Pitcher  
**Drafted by:** New York Yankees  
**Round:** 11th



**Player:** Curt Blackman  
**Position:** RH Pitcher  
**Drafted by:** San Diego Padres  
**Round:** 18th

## Taitt's leap falls short of repeat

■ Defending NCAA champ finishes third in triple jump.

BY DAVID HONEA  
STAFF WRITER

For a moment it looked as if Tyrell Taitt had struck again. But the measuring tape revealed that a second NCAA title wasn't in the cards for the Wolfpack senior.

A year ago in New Orleans, Taitt claimed the NCAA triple-jump crown on the final jump of the competition, moving all the way up from eighth place. At this year's meet in Boise, Idaho, Taitt again uncorked a big final attempt, but this time managed only a close third.

Taitt's jump of 54 feet 10 3/4 inches left him only two inches out of second and six inches out of first behind Arkansas' Erick Walder who won the event while teammate

Jerome Romaine finished second. "Tyrell had already had two fouls that were clearly long enough to have won the meet," said State head coach Rollie Geiger. "When I saw how far he got on the last jump, and saw the white flag go up (indicating a fair jump), I thought 'he's done it again, just like last year.'"

Although he was not able to win, Taitt did clearly establish that he is among the nation's best, despite struggling to qualify for the meet. He improved his seasonal best by more than 19 inches and established a new school record. His mark of 55-5 at last year's NCAA meet was wind-aided and is not eligible for record consideration.

Sophomore Neil Chance earned all-America honors for the first time by placing ninth in the long jump. Chance, a former world

See NCAA, Page 6 ▶

## Search continues for womens soccer coach

■ The athletics department is weeks away from naming a replacement for Larry Gross.

BY JEFF DREW  
SPORTS EDITOR

More than three weeks after the resignation of women's soccer coach Larry Gross, N.C. State Assistant Athletics Director Eric Hyman is in no hurry to find a replacement.

Hyman, who is heading the search for a new coach, said Monday no

deadline had been set for naming Gross's successor. Gross had coached the women's program since its inception in 1984.

"We want the best person possible and we're willing to wait as long as it takes to find that person," Hyman said. "We will be taking applications until the position has been filled. It's hard to set a date at this time. We would like to have someone in place before the soccer season."

But who that someone will be is

See SEARCH, Page 6 ▶

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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 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

## A friend is gone

■ A mentor's passing will leave a big void.

When A.M. "Gus" Witherspoon attained God's peace Monday, N.C. State lost more than an associate provost and botany professor. The university also lost an important leader. Witherspoon, the pastor of St. Luke

African Methodist Episcopal Church for 13 years, helped desegregate NCSU in the 1960s. He reached many firsts for blacks on campus — he was the first black teaching assistant, instructor and full professor.

But more than his titles, students will miss his wisdom and guidance. NCSU can hire another associate provost. It can't hire another Gus Witherspoon.

## Turner doing his job

■ Does the head of the booster club know more about sports administration than the Athletics Director?

Wolfpack Club President Steve Stroud wants to hire a replacement for Athletics Director Todd Turner. A dictator, Stroud calls Turner.

Stroud may be right about Turner running a tight ship. He is wrong about that being a problem.

Since Turner's arrival, N.C. State has gone from having athletics programs that seemed unconcerned about academics to running one of the cleanest, most academically-oriented athletics departments in the region.

The most vivid example of the change is in men's basketball, where Coach Les Robinson has had more luck stockpiling players with high GPAs and SATs than ones with high PPGs and RBPs.

Robinson has proven he has the class and the commitment to academics Turner seeks. He hasn't proven he can make State competitive on the court. But his vision of stressing off-the-court performance matches Turner's.

Stroud complained that Turner has hurt recruiting. That's a silly accusation. The athletics director

doesn't go on recruiting trips; and many programs, notably the football team, have had great success in landing talented athletes. It's only in men's basketball that the Wolfpack has clearly suffered on the court since Valvano's departure, and much of Robinson's recruiting woes stem from the turmoil his immediate predecessor's academic laxness caused.

Stroud also said Turner is hindering fund raising. That could be, but it's hard to prove. The State athletics budget has gone from \$12 million when Turner arrived to \$15 million now.

The real problem between Stroud and Turner is one of background. Turner is a preppy UNC-Chapel Hill alum; Stroud, a businessman who attended but didn't graduate from NCSU in the 1960s, is more comfortable on a tractor than in khakis.

Turner's Tar Heel pedigree is a legitimate problem in his present job. Many State fans dislike UNC-CH and its graduates, and that can hurt unity.

But that doesn't mean he's doing a poor job. Turner may hope to move to a bigger-budget athletics department by proving himself at NCSU. And in the long run, that probably would be good for all concerned.

## Fault lies with department

■ A lecturer's diploma problems reflect more on his bosses than on him.

Steve Snyder is one of the shining stars in his field. Oceanography experts seem agreed he's among the best at what he does.

But one thing he doesn't do is own a doctorate. For years, he wasn't even sure he had a master's degree. (It turns out it was lost behind a filing cabinet.)

Yet he teaches graduate-level courses at N.C. State. He served on a student's master's committee. He mistakenly signed letters as an assistant professor, a position he doesn't have.

Little of this confusion seems to be Snyder's fault, though. The blame belongs to the department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

Snyder should have tidied up the loose ends in his resume years ago.

But administrators were responsible for making sure that happened, and it never did.

Snyder was hired in 1988 with the understanding he would quickly finish his work for a doctorate — practically a rubber-stamp formality he had never made time for — and be promoted from lecturer to assistant professor. The mistake is that MEAS assumed the doctoral diploma was in the mail. Snyder is listed as a doctor in the graduate catalog, and as an assistant professor in the most recent campus telephone book.

Many are quick to fault Snyder for what they see as dishonesty. But there appears to be no corruption or lies here.

The problems that do exist are ones of bungling management and paperwork mistakes. And those are the kinds of problems that separate good and bad department administrations.

## MICHAEL KEARNEY, THE YOUNGEST COLLEGE GRADUATE

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE 6 YRS. 5 MOS.

OFF TO JR. COLLEGE 6 YRS. 7 MOS.

COLLEGE GRADUATE 10 YRS. 5 MOS.



## Commentary

### Wilson's reporting ability questionable

There are times when I'm ashamed to be associated with the mass media. The News & Observer's recent publication of a story by reporter Trish Wilson is one of those times.

Wilson wrote a news article that, in my opinion, was a biased attempt to destroy the distinguished academic career of Dr. Steve Snyder, a noted researcher in geology. Her article was based on statements made by Chris Spaur, a former student of Snyder's. Wilson accepted most of what this student said without checking the facts.

Snyder is an instructor in the department of Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences (MEAS) at N.C. State. Through a series of administrative oversights, he was listed as an assistant professor in several university publications, though he held the rank of instructor. Let me explain how this confusion occurred.

Snyder was hired in 1988 by then-MEAS department head Henry Brown. The terms of the job included Snyder's hiring as an assistant professor contingent upon the completion of his doctorate work, then in progress. He had successfully completed his master's degree. (I'll return to that fact in a moment.)

Snyder would only be formally installed as an instructor when his Ph.D. was completed. He was also expected to teach at least one 500-level course.

The post was accepted in June 1986. At the same time, the university telephone directory was being compiled. Snyder's information card was sent to Telecommunications listing him as having a doctorate and the title of assistant professor, the rank everyone expected him to shortly attain.

Not only did these errors appear in the telephone book, but similar errors were sent to other databases, such as the one used for the Undergraduate Catalogue. In this publication, Snyder is noted as having his Ph.D. but is listed as an instructor. All this was done without Snyder's knowledge.

Upon Snyder's arrival at NCSU, he was assigned several courses to teach, including MEA 510. Brown then retired from NCSU.

When Len Pietrafesa replaced Brown as the MEAS department head, Snyder was teaching 500-level courses. He had his master's (again, remember this). He had never been elevated to the rank of assistant professor because his doctorate was not yet completed. Everyone knew this who needed to know.

However, the submission of a particular piece of paperwork to the Graduate School is required before any faculty may teach a 500-level course or formally serve on graduate committees. This document was never filed by Brown. Snyder, who never knew of the requirement, simply performed his duties as assigned.

Pietrafesa, seeing Snyder performing as if he had already been accepted into the graduate faculty, had no reason to wonder if the proper paperwork had been filed.

It is important to note that Snyder was never listed as a member of the graduate faculty in the Graduate Catalogue, the only official public record that has any meaning to graduate students. No one bothered to check.

In 1992, Chris Spaur, then a master's candidate in MEAS, asked Snyder to chair his committee. Snyder accepted. The appropriate paperwork was filed with the Graduate School. They sent back a confirmation that W. H. Snyder was



Steve Crisp

acceptable to serve as chair of a master's committee. But who is W. H. Snyder? "W. H." Snyder is an adjunct professor in MEAS who was then on the graduate faculty. The Graduate School made an error assuming this was Steve, "S. W." Snyder.

Pietrafesa immediately corrected the confusion. It was only then that Pietrafesa discovered Brown had never filed the proper paperwork on Snyder. Since Snyder was clearly about to finish his doctorate, the decision to officially remove him from Spaur's master's committee was delayed for a short time.

When his Ph.D. thesis was not forthcoming, Snyder was removed as a voting member of Spaur's committee, but kept on as a technical consultant. The four other members of Spaur's master's committee remained. Spaur was kept informed of these events as they unfolded.

Spaur finished his master's in 1993, after four years total study, and was accepted into the doctoral program.

His wife, meanwhile, had accepted a job in Bethesda, Maryland. Spaur made plans to transfer his doctoral program to the University of Maryland under a joint arrangement with NCSU. A \$66,000 NASA grant was also transferred.

On December 8, 1993, Spaur suddenly withdrew from the doctoral program.

Spaur had completed his master's three months faster than the MEAS average. He was accepted into a doctorate program. He had a NASA grant. Snyder had not been a voting committee member for over a year. The administrative confusion surrounding Snyder never hurt Spaur in any way.

Now, about Snyder's master's degree: In her story Wilson stated that Snyder did not have a master's degree. Spaur said the same. That is not exactly the truth.

Snyder successfully completed all the requirements for a master's degree at UNC-Chapel Hill in 1982. Every one of his committee members approved the awarding of his degree. All that was left for his master's to be officially conferred was the paperwork. Part of this process involved submitting three copies of his thesis. Snyder sent off the thesis to be bound, then moved back to Florida.

Snyder, and all others concerned, knew he had his master's. To make a long story short, the three bound volumes of Snyder's thesis were found in 1993 sitting on a shelf in a storage closet at UNC-CH. They had never made it to the UNC Graduate School. No degree had been officially conferred because the paperwork had not been properly completed.

No one knew until 1993. In fact, Snyder's official UNC-CH transcript submitted for his doctoral admissions application listed him as having his master's. Even Snyder did not know that the master's was officially conferred.

This has been an unfortunate case where a person has fallen through several administrative cracks. There is no fraud. There is no misrepresentation.

But Wilson would have you think otherwise. Here, however, are the correct facts — the non-Snyderized realities.

• Snyder never signed any grant (or any other document) as Dr. Snyder.

• Snyder never signed any grant application representing himself as an assistant professor. He did sign two letters where the title of assistant professor was typed in under his name. The first was Spaur's grant acceptance letter. Spaur typed this letter himself. Spaur knew (or should have known) that Snyder was not an assistant professor. The other document concerned Spaur's grant progress to NASA that Snyder did not type. Both these instances were simply oversights on Snyder's part. He accepts full responsibility for the errors. Neither letter had any bearing on the grant process.

• Other than the one case detailed above (which was corrected), Snyder never served as a voting member of any master's committee for another student. Apparently, Wilson has no idea of the meaning of the term adviser nor of the processes involved in academic committees.

• Accrediting regulations do not require a master's degree to teach undergraduates. Under extremely rare circumstances, one does not even need a high school diploma to be a full, tenured professor.

• Wilson said that Spaur decided to pursue his doctorate at NCSU in 1989. Wrong. He never entered into the doctoral program in 1989. Because of Spaur's lack of qualifications, he was first required to complete a master's. He spent three years at NCSU before he even formally put together a master's committee.

• One does not necessarily need to hold a degree or a position on a university faculty to apply for a federal grant. It is recommended, but is not necessarily required. There was no need to misrepresent qualifications. Federal grant agencies pay little attention to titles, only qualifications and past performance.

Bottom line: Chris Spaur, for some reason, has a bug up his butt. Spaur apparently relied solely on the NCSU phone book and other non-official publications for his information about Snyder. He never looked in the Graduate Catalogue. Pure stupidity on Spaur's part.

Nonetheless, he has not been harmed in any way. Rather, Snyder has bent over backward to help a student who was not fully qualified to be in a geology graduate program to begin with. Spaur obtained his master's.

Spaur, on his own, withdrew from a doctoral program and left a full grant lying on the table. His own personal problems are no reflection on Snyder.

Snyder is a respected, widely published researcher and an excellent adviser to students. He has been caught in a series of bureaucratic errors.

I do not feel any blame-laying is necessary. Not on Snyder's part nor anyone else's. Things happen. He has successfully defended his doctorate and presented his thesis. He will have both his master's and doctorate officially conferred by August.

Trish Wilson really blew this story. Reporters have a responsibility to check out every fact in context. She did not do this.

I have spoken with 60 people around the nation about Snyder. I have scanned thousands of documents at four different agencies. Most of the people I spoke with were never contacted by Wilson.

If anyone's qualifications and abilities need to be questioned, it is Wilson's. Particularly since she is assigned to cover academia.

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## Live-action Bedrock romp a delight for young and old

■ This comedy about a modern Stone-age family is fine fare for any age.

By MICHAEL LEGEROS  
CORRESPONDENT



If the very first scene — a dusty quarry filled with giant boulders and earth-moving dinosaurs — doesn't

fill you with giddy nostalgia, then you're probably in the wrong film. The Flintstones is an immensely enjoyable all-ages attraction that's the first true treat of the summer.

Remember Fred (Goodman)? He's that hearty, blue-collar bloke who spends his days in a quarry and his nights in a bowling alley. As the film opens, his day is nearly done and, astride his 'saurus, he's ready and waiting for the 5 o'clock bird. Watching from afar is Cliff Vandercave (MacLachlan), a young exec who's scheming with his secretary (Betty) to steal funds from the firm. All Cliff needs to get

rich quick is to find the perfect patsy...

John Goodman is probably the closest we'll come to a man called Flintstone. His enthusiasm is bigger than his shirt size (no small feat there) and, though he never gets the accent quite right, he's the obvious anchor of the film. He's not the focus, though. "The Flintstones" is an ensemble effort with a barefoot cast that works overtime to be as obviously appealing as Goodman. Elizabeth Perkins is the best of the rest. She nails her role of Wilma square on the red-head, right down to her priceless delivery of the word "Fred!" Less effective are the Rubbles. Rick Moranis plays Barney dumber than his cartoon counterpart, but he's still more believable than Rosie O'Donnell, passable but still all wrong as Betty. Hee hee hee hee.

Remaining roles include Elizabeth Taylor, looking good and sounding great as Fred's mother-in-law, Halle Berry as the seductive secretary Sharon Stone, and Harvey Korman as the voice of a persnickety "dicta-bird." Living cartoons Jay Leno, Richard Moll, and Jonathan Winters also make appearances. And watch for cameos from William Hanna and Joseph Barbera.

"The Flintstones" isn't as manic as one might expect and you can blame director Brian Levant for that. The happy helmer never tries too many of those Barry Sonnenfeldish tricks that made "Raising Arizona" and "Addams Family Values" such perfect cartoons. His camera stays still, but, with so many gags already in the film, any lack of tricky technique goes by almost unnoticed.

The writing, done a la "round table" despite three "official" credits, is great. Steven Spielberg and company have unearthed every Stone-age pun possible and then some. Sample dialogue from Fred: "There's 4,000 people in the world! Who needs the Rubbles?"

The production design is equally rich and boasts more background gags than a Zucker/Abrahams/Zucker film. A newspaper reads "All the news fit to chip." A drive-in theater shows George Lucas' "Tar Wars." And, best of all, a Stone-age Warhol hangs on the wall at Slate and Co.

With so much obvious effort both in front of and behind the camera, "The Flintstones" is surprisingly clunky. The climax is rickety and many other scenes seem shortened.



That modern Stone-age family is back. (From left) Rosie O'Donnell (Betty), Rick Moranis (Barney), John Goodman (Fred) and Elizabeth Perkins (Wilma).

Were the producers afraid to take a good thing too far? Running a mere 92 minutes, "The Flintstones" should be more seamless than it is.

Since the entire film is a special-effect, some things look better than others. The props are all foam, of course, but, the dinosaurs are real — and I mean real — and that's what counts in Bedrock.

The music, by David Newman, incorporates both songs and cues from the TV show. The only gripe is that "The Twitch," performed by the renamed BC-

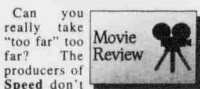
52's, adds a '60s flavor that isn't needed. Not alongside jokes about CNN. How about Jurassic grunge from Seattle rock? (Sorry.) NOTE: Grips to Pleasant Valley and Six Forks Station Cinema for a double-dose of had sound. PV forgot to start their surround-sound or laser-sound or whatever-passes-for-sound on screen 3. Six Forks, on the other hand, has a recurring problem on screen 2 that distorts higher-frequency speech and music.

Grade: B

## Nail-biter 'Speed' more fun than a bus full of monkeys

■ Fast, funny, and furiously far-fetched, this no-brainer is the best reason, to date, to avoid public transportation.

By MICHAEL J. LEGEROS  
CORRESPONDENT



Can you really take "too far" too far? The producers of *Speed* don't think so.

Audacious action doesn't get any better than "Speed," a non-stop nail-biter about a SWAT-team specialist (Reeves), a brilliant bomber (Hopper), and a bus rigged to blow when it slows below 50. Cross "Die Hard" with "Airport" and you've got the idea.

"Speed" stars Keanu Reeves, trying to look tough after his recent upgrade from Most Excited to Most Enlightened. The dude can't do drama, no duh, but he's nimble enough for the job. (From "Buddha" to Bruce and he even does his own stunts!) Bullock is a better bet as the poor passenger with driving duties. She showed her strength in "Demolition Man" and, here, she's the best bargain on board.

Dennis Hopper plays Dennis Hopper, chipping on scenery while spitting out sentences like "Do not attempt to grow a brain." (Good advice if there ever was any.) Bill Pullman-look-a-like Jeff Daniels has a modestly meaty role as The Partner, while "T2" alumus Joe Morton plays the commanding officer.

The script, by Graham Yost, has enough humor to keep you smiling

while you're sweating. Even better: the story never tuns Reeves into a wisecracking hero. Thank you for small favors.

Of course, the best bursts of "Speed" are those without words. First-time director Jan DeBont — a former cinematographer who handled such heavies as "Lethal Weapon 3" — gets everything right, from the credits to the close. And those details! Watch for the reflection of a burning bus on a pay phone. Or a banner beside Reeves that reads "To avoid personal injury, do not stand in stepwell!"

As the stunts get bigger, the film only gets better. Collisions, explosions, and big-things-sent-flying. Even the throwaway stunts are spectacular. Blink and someone's stepping from a speeding vehicle.

Blink and someone's dangling from an elevator car.

Implausible as hell, but it works. Credit a pace that keeps you from thinking: credit some stunts that just can't be faked. Let them just try to duplicate the simplicity of Reeves really jumping from car onto a moving bus.

(If nothing else, "Speed" is a great exercise in wish fulfillment. Who hasn't wished that they could barrel a bus around slow drivers and through busy intersections?)

"Speed" could be reduced. Earlier scenes run a bit too long and the ending is clearly too much. But, that's the joke. The producers know that everything in the film is too much and so they damn the torpedos and take over-the-top right over-the-top.

Nitpickers can enjoy the plot-holes, while the more, ahem, "retentive" viewers will have a field day finding the continuity errors that occur in nearly every scene.

Except for the ending, all technical credits are tops. Obvious miniatures and mangy mattes undercut the film's next-to-last scene. But, by that point, who cares? "Speed" is a full-scale tinkertoy set that makes the beginning of "The Fugitive" look like a little Lionel train.

Twenty years ago, "Speed" would've starred Charlton Heston, Karen Black, and George Kennedy. No guns would've been needed —



Keanu Reeves is Jack Traven and Sandra Bullock is Annie in "Speed." They're trapped on a bus that will explode if its speed fall below 50 mph. Dennis Hopper plays himself in this film that has both its funny parts and its hot action scenes.

but a plane would crash, and a nun would sing, and the girl would get kissed at the end.

But this is the nineties and, with "Die Hard" dollars still fresh on the

brain, set-piece is plot. Add some fireworks, and blow a few bombs, and it's Jennings Lang all over again.

Grade: A-

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