

# Technician

North Carolina State University's Newspaper Since 1920

Raleigh, North Carolina

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Our 75th Year, Number 51

## Pottmyer presents visitation plan

■ Plus-minus grading and student evaluations of instructors are discussed at Wednesday's Chancellor's Liaison meeting.

By CHRIS BAYSDEN  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

If Inter-Residence Council President Laura Pottmyer gets her wish, some N.C. State residence halls will be open to guests 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

At Wednesday's Chancellor's Liaison meeting, Chancellor Larry Monteith agreed to consider a proposal that would allow 24-hour visitation in some halls.

Pottmyer submitted a proposal that would allow students to choose what kind of visitation policy they want to live.

The current NCSU visitation policy allows visitors in rooms to stay with a student from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. the next morning Sundays through Thursdays, and from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. the next morning on weekends. Same-sex visitors are supposed to check in and out with the host's resident adviser if they stay in the room overnight; opposite-sex visitors cannot spend the night.

The Pottmyer plan would designate three different types of halls. One type would have the current visitation policy. Another would allow visiting from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. Sundays through Thursdays and 24-hour visitation on weekends, by negotiation with roommates. The third type would allow 24-hour visits at any time.

Under the plan, students would fill out a roommate agreement that would address several issues, including when visitors would be allowed.

Pottmyer said surveys indicate that 96 percent of NCSU students are in favor of being able to pick

which policy they want to live. "My constituents feel very strongly about this matter," she said. "The students want this change."

Pottmyer said all she's asking for is the same privilege 20,000 off-campus students have.

"It's kind of like there's a big hand over us," she said. "We should have the responsibility to choose."

The current regulations aren't enforced anyway, Pottmyer said. Students are already allowing visitors to stay overnight without being reprimanded by RAs or other housing officials.

Tasha Youngblood, the student body treasurer, said the failure to enforce the current policy is a good reason to change it.

"We need to beef up something," she said.

Tim Luckadoo, director of Housing and Residence Life, said HRL worked with Pottmyer on the plan and endorses the proposal. "Our position is that it can be done if the Board of Trustees approves it," he said.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Tom Stafford said he wasn't sure if the options should be open to everyone. He said most 18-year-old students aren't ready to deal with certain kinds of freedom, and this might be one of them.

Monteith said he would consider the proposal at a later date, when he could meet with Pottmyer and go over her research.

Student Senate President Megan Jones brought up another important student issue: plus-minus grading. She said the Student Senate only wants to know one thing.

"It's come up again, and again and again," she said. "That's the only question we have — 'Why do we have it?'"

Eric Young, chair of the Faculty



Student Body President Bobby Johnson (right) and other student leaders met with Chancellor Monteith (left) Wednesday to discuss a new visitation policy and other topics.

Senate, said plus-minus grading is in place because 65 percent of the faculty who voted on the issue approved it. He said just over 60 percent of the faculty voted, and called that a good turnout.

Stafford said plus-minus grading helps students by reducing the intervals between grades, making it easier for students to see improvement for extra efforts. The policy is still open to

changes, Young said.

"We have to see what happens this semester and next year and

See LIAISON, Page 2 ▶

## Two men rob student

■ The victim hands over his wallet without a fight and escapes injury.

By CHRIS BAYSDEN  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

An N.C. State student was robbed at gunpoint while walking across campus late Wednesday night.

Patrick Schmiedel was walking along East Dunn Avenue in front of the north side of Reynolds Coliseum at 10:28 p.m. when he was approached by two black males, said Corporal Larry Ellis, a Public Safety spokesman.

One of the perpetrators asked Schmiedel where Reynolds was. When Schmiedel pointed to it, the man put a silver handgun on Schmiedel's side and said, "Gimme your wallet."

Schmiedel handed over his wallet without any resistance.

Ellis said Schmiedel immediately walked to the blue light phone in front of the Free Expression Tunnel and called Public Safety.

Schmiedel, a master's degree candidate in integrated manufacturing systems, had about \$10, along with assorted credit cards, in his wallet.

Public Safety is still investigating the crime and doesn't have any suspects yet, Ellis said.

Ellis said complying with the perpetrators was the correct decision.

"He did what he needed to do," Ellis said. "When it comes to money, hand over the wallet."

Ellis said Public Safety is taking steps to improve campus safety.

"Our level of awareness has gone up," he said. "We're going to get the bike [patrols] active."

One suspect is a black male in his early 20s, about 5'10" tall and 165 to 175 pounds. He was wearing dark pants and a black coat with the words "L.A. Kings" written on the back in silver letters.

The second suspect is also a black male in his early 20s. He is dark or black pants and a dark or black coat that may have had a hood. Schmiedel was unable to create composite drawings of the subjects.

See MUGGING, Page 2 ▶

## Shooting spree leaves two dead near UNC-CH

■ A gunman fires off 10 to 15 rounds near Franklin Street in downtown Chapel Hill. His motive is still unknown.

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

A gunman with a high-powered rifle killed two people and wounded several others early Thursday

afternoon near the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

Reuter News Service reported that he shot Ralph Walker, a McDonald's restaurant manager, on the porch of a halfway house and then gunned down a bicyclist a half-block away. The bicyclist's identity wasn't known as of last night.

A civilian, a female police officer, and the suspect were injured and taken to the UNC-CH hospital.

Their injuries aren't life-threatening, said Dr. John Ma.

The News & Observer and The Durham Herald-Sun reported that 26-year-old UNC student Wendell Williamson allegedly was the gunman.

The N&O reported that Jason Howard, a doctoral candidate in microbiology, was the gunman's first target at about 2 p.m. Howard walked by the gunman, who was

carrying what looked like a high-caliber rifle.

"He looked right at me," Howard told The N&O. "I was scared."

According to The N&O, the gunman fired at Howard, but the bullet ricocheted off his keys after going through his pants.

The man fired 10 to 15 rounds, several going into the back of the post office, which is in the courthouse building.

Reuter reported that Williamson and the police traded gunfire for about five minutes before William Leone, a Gulf War Marine veteran and a college senior, raced across the street and tackled the gunman. Leone was shot in the shoulder.

Police officer Demetris Stephenson was wounded in the left hand. The gunman was shot in the leg and apprehended by police.

See MUGGING, Page 2 ▶

## DOT to provide more parking spaces for commuting students

■ Students will soon have a new place to park and catch the Wolfline.

By JENNIFER SORBER  
STAFF WRITER

A 190-space park-and-ride lot on Varsity Drive will open next month to relieve some of the traffic problems around campus.

The lot, on Varsity Drive between Avert Ferry Road and Marcom Street, will be the third lot that allows students to park for free and take a bus to campus.

The lot was scheduled for completion earlier this month, but

weather and a possible contamination problem delayed work.

The soil was tested for pesticide residue by the Environmental Health and Safety Center. The tests came back negative and construction has begun again, but the work was already behind schedule.

"It took one month for the results to get back, and that was a major holdup," said Floyd Williams, project manager of campus construction.

Now the opening has been pushed back until the middle of February. "As long as the weather holds out,



This lot on Varsity Drive near Fraternity Court is scheduled to provide 190 parking spaces for commuter students.

we can get this finished," Williams said.

The lot still needs to be paved and lit, which could take up to a week. Then come signs, landscaping and blue light phones. A bench and

covering will be added soon after the opening.

The lot can't be finished soon enough, said Transportation

See LOT, Page 2 ▶

## Watching football games educational, prof says

■ Want a free lesson in physics? Watch Super Bowl XXIX on Sunday.

By CHRIS SCOTT  
STAFF WRITER

Ever wonder how it would feel to play in the Super Bowl?

David Haase says he has a pretty good concept of pro football's intensity, even though he's not a player or a coach. The N.C. State physics professor uses science to explain what happens on the field.

"How far a quarterback's pass goes, how much hang time it has, how hard a lineman hits — all these are governed by the laws of physics," Haase said.

Attempting to give average spectators a better understanding of

the sport, Haase compares on-field actions to every-day occurrences.

He said taking a hit from a 250-pound linebacker moving 20 mph would feel something like falling off the top of a 12- to 15-foot ladder in protective pads.

If you were caught between two 220-pound players colliding at full speed, the impact on your body would be roughly equivalent to trying to catch a bowling ball dropped from the 13th floor of a building.

And physics explains how a 225-pound defensive back can hit harder than a voracious 300-pound defensive lineman. Momentum is the key, Haase says.

Since momentum is mass

See FOOTBALL, Page 2 ▶

### Inside Friday

**Men's Basketball:** Todd Fuller goes crazy, but it's not enough. Page 3 ▶

**Women's Hoops:** Wake Forest came to Raleigh but shouldn't have. Page 3 ▶



Swimming: Swimmer Chucky Cox fights injury to get back to his old form. Page 3 ▶

### How to Reach Us

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Address:  
323 Witherspoon Student Center  
Box 8608, NCSU Campus  
Raleigh, NC 27695-8608

# News Notes

## Workshop applications now available

Applications are now available for the 1995 Summer Veterinary Workshops sponsored by the N.C. State College of Veterinary Medicine for rising sixth graders. Two week-long sessions, each for 36 North Carolina students, will be held beginning June 11. More than 600 students have applied for the 1994 workshops. The application deadline is Feb. 1.

The program, led by nationally recognized veterinary faculty, students and staff, is designed to introduce participants to the veterinary profession and encourage their interest in science. Activities include science labs, hands-on work with animals and special field trips.

The registration fee of \$325 covers room, board, transportation, materials and supplies related to the workshop. Participants will be housed at University Towers near the NCSU main campus. A limited number of scholarships are available.

For information, call Rhonda Waters at (919) 829-4214.

### TODAY

**HOCKEY** — The Outdoor Adventures Committee and IRC are providing transportation to the Icecaps vs. Birmingham hockey game at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$5. Sign up in the University Student Center, Room 3114.

**PREFARE** — For the CHASSNET career fair: Humanities and social science students should meet with a Career Planning counselor before the Feb. 1 fair. Maximize your fair time by preparing today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Caldwell Lounge.

**REGISTRATION** — Build leadership skills now. Registration for the Leadership Development Series is now in progress. Stop by Student Center, Room 3114 and sign up for a workshop.

**MEMBERSHIP** — CAT, the Computer and Technologies Theme Program, is now accepting applications for membership. To get more information or to arrange a tour, e-mail membership@cat.ncsu.edu

membership@cat.ncsu.edu

**INTERNSHIP** — Paid summer internships helping migrant farmworkers and their families. Interns work in health clinics, schools, law offices and community organizations. Earn course credit and have fun while helping others. Call 512-0244 for more information.

**SENIORS** — Spring commencement will be held May 13. Your application for degree card must be submitted to your department no later than Jan. 31, all financial holds must be cleared, all courses transferred for credit, incompatible grades removed and re-examinations scheduled by 5 p.m. May 11.

**INFORMATION** — The Society for Paganism & Magic's interests include new age, Celtic, occult and more. No religious affiliation necessary. Everyone welcome. Call Jenna at 512-3944 or e-mail jenna@pagan.edu for meeting information.

**AMBASSADORS** — The Admissions office is recruiting student ambassadors. Primary responsibilities include conducting tours and assisting prospective students. If interested, contact the Admissions office at 515-2434.

**SENIORS** — Applications for Phi Kappa Phi fellowships offering up to \$7,000 for full-time, first-year graduate study are available to seniors with 3.75 GPA or better. Applications available in Peele Hall, Room 204. The deadline is Feb. 8.

### SATURDAY

**PARTY** — The Chinese Student Association and International Student Committee will present Chinese New Year Night at 6:30 p.m. in Stewart Theater, with Chinese songs and dances to celebrate the upcoming year of the pig. Tickets are \$3.50, on sale at Ticket Center. Call 515-5918 for more information.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

information.

### SUNDAY

**FESTIVAL** — Come celebrate Super Bowl Sunday with a Chinese twist. Chinese spring festival at 2 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. Games, refreshments, door prizes and karaoke to celebrate Chinese New Year. For more info, call 515-5918.

### MONDAY

**MEETING** — Are you entertainment literate? If so, get involved with the UAB Entertainment committee. Meetings are Mondays at 4:30 p.m. in the Student Center, Room 3124.

**MEETING** — Buzz in! Joining College Bowl practice at 5 p.m. in the Student Center. Everyone welcome! Call 515-5918 for more information.

**DISCUSSION** — A doctor, a lawyer and a minister present their views on mercy killing in a euthanasia panel

discussion at 8 p.m. in the Annex Cinema. Moderated by Clayton Stalnaker. Sponsored by UAB Lectures Committee and University Scholars Program.

**MEETING** — The Union Activities Board will host a town meeting at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. The topic of discussion will be the Free Expression Tunnel and its impact on the university community.

**LECTURE** — Scott Allison will discuss "The Outcome Bias in Social Perception" at 3:45 p.m. in Poe Hall, Room 636. Allison is the consulting editor of Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin.

### TUESDAY

**SEMINAR** — Career planning seminar. A four part workshop for students wanting to explore or make changes. Attend all sessions, today, Feb. 2, 7 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 515-2396 to register. A \$5 fee covers materials.

**ORIENTATION** — Do you want to interview for full time or summer jobs? Attend career planning and placement's "How To" orientation session from 4:45 to 6 p.m. in Mann Hall, Room 216. Graduate students, seniors, juniors and sophomores can participate.

**PRACTICE** — Hey women! Come out and

play with the NCSU women's ultimate frisbee team. We practice every Tuesday and Thursday on the lower intramural fields. Interested? Call Erika at 834-6616.

**ORIENTATION** — Want major-related work experience while in school? Attend a cooperative education orientation at 4 p.m. in Caldwell Hall, Room G110 or call 515-4427 for other times.

### 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 Chris Baysden, assistant news editor. You may also e-mail items to TechCal@NCSU.edu.

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## Mugging

Continued from Page 1

The gun was a small silver revolver, possibly a snub nose. Anyone who has information on this crime can call Public Safety at 515-3333.

## Answers

### Crossword Puzzle

Solution time: 27 min.

S	H	E	G	A	M	S	R	O	L	L	
L	I	B	E	A	D	A	M	E	R	T	
A	B	E	R	A	M	A	L	E	M	A	
P	O	S	T	A	G	E	S	T	A	M	P
A	G	E	H	E	R						
S	N	A	K	E	B	U	X	H	I	S	
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## Liaison

Continued from Page 1

reevaluate it," he said. In other business, Provost Phillip Stiles told the student leaders that he had been unable to set up a process that would allow student evaluations of faculty members to be published. Stiles said any plan would have to cost NCSU little money or extra work.

A possible solution would be to put student questions on departmental evaluations and collect the data from there.

Jonathan Bost, co-chair of the Student Senate student life committee, suggested setting up a news group where students could voice their opinions of professors on the Internet.

Stiles said his office may select five courses to put on the Internet and "see what happens."

Monteith said he liked Bost's idea. "I thought that was a creative concept," Monteith said.

Technician needs staff writers. If you are interested, call 515-2411.

## Lot

Continued from Page 1

Systems Manager Cathy Reeves. She believes students need more options.

"It's close to campus and accessible from Gorman Street, Western Boulevard and Avert Ferry Road," Reeves said. Along with the new lot, a Wolfline bus route to Varsity Drive has been added, and will start running as soon as the lot opens.

"It will be an express route, just like K-Mart," Reeves said.

Some are worried that the lot will increase traffic in the area. But Reeves said the lot will actually decrease traffic.

"The lot will hopefully take some of the cars off [Varsity and Marcom] streets," said Reeves. "It will help improve the safety of the streets by getting the cars off the road."

The lot will be open Mondays through Thursdays from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. and on Fridays from 7 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. It will be unavailable for parking when Wolfline isn't running.

## Football

Continued from Page 1

multiplied by velocity and the heavy lineman probably can't match the velocity of the defensive back, the force of his hit isn't necessarily more than the back's.

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# Sports

Technician

January 27, 1995

## Pack holds a Wake for Deacons

BY MICHAEL PRESTON  
Assistant Sports Editor

It's getting to be routine. Freshman Chasity Melvin leads the Wolfpack to an impressive win.

Her latest victim was Wake Forest on Wednesday. She dumped in 21 to lead the Wolfpack to a 93-73 victory.

The Pack got Melvin the ball on the blocks, and the overmatched Deacons

couldn't stop her despite an occasional triple-team.

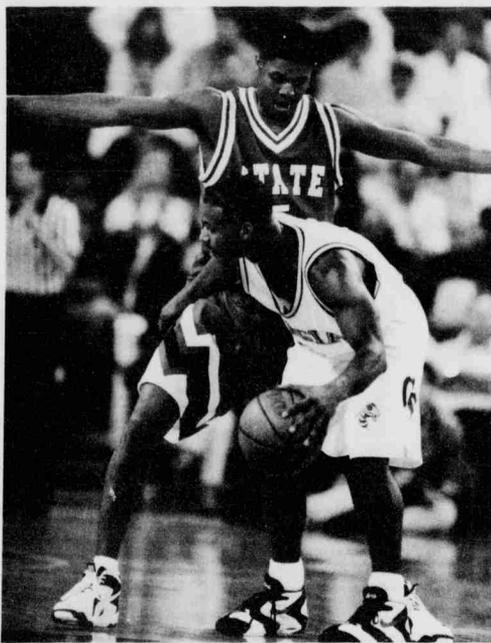
"When I'm posting up, I'm going to try to score," she said. "But it's kind of hard with three people on you."

Melvin went 9 for 11 from the floor while going 3 for 3 from the line. Plus, she pulled down seven rebounds and added one ferocious blocked shot — all in just over 20 minutes of play.

"She has a lot of poise and confidence for a freshman, and she is maturing rapidly," State coach Kay Yow said. "She's our starting center, the conference's second leading scorer and a major contributor to our team."

"She is a serious, serious candidate for Rookie of the Year, but that is for the people to decide."

See DEACONS, Page 5



HUNTER MORROW/STAFF

Travis Best (foreground) and Georgia Tech held Ishua Benjamin and the Wolfpack in check down the stretch to pull out the ACC win.

## Fuller runs free in paint, but Jackets run out with the win

BY OWEN S. GOOD  
Sports Editor

ATLANTA — N.C. State center Todd Fuller scored a career-high 28 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for N.C. State, but the Wolfpack lost to Georgia Tech 75-71.

N.C. State fell to 10-6, 2-4 in the ACC. The Jackets improved to 12-6, 3-3.

Fuller easily had the game of his career by exploiting a three-inch height advantage over Tech's James Forrest. But Forrest got the last laugh.

He scored eight of 10 points during a 10-3 second half run that brought Tech back from a two-point disadvantage to a five-point lead with five minutes left.

Point guard Travis Best then iced the victory with a 19-foot two-point shot at 23 seconds that sustained the Yellow Jackets' five point lead and effectively sealed the victory.

"Fuller was beating us down the court, he was beating us period, and making us look bad," said Tech coach Bobby Cremins. "We needed to respond and the players responded."

Best, who had 15 points, responded in a big way to Fuller's presence. After Marcus Wilson hit a running jump shot with 58 seconds left and the Wolfpack called timeout, the Jackets let the clock run down to 23 seconds until Best hit a long jumper.

State opted not to foul on the possession.

See GIT, Page 5



STEVIE EGAN/STAFF

Chucky Cox remains one of State's premier swimmers even through an elbow injury.

## Out of the swim of things

■ Despite a recent injury, Chucky Cox is doing everything he can to get back to full strength and help the Pack swim team.

BY MICHAEL TODD  
Staff Writer

Chucky Cox, co-captain of the N.C. State men's swimming team, is currently the one place he doesn't want to be: out

of the pool.

After undergoing major elbow surgery in August, a recent flare-up has sidelined the senior co-captain for at least this weekend's meet against Miami and maybe until the ACC Championships next month.

"It's been acting up again," Cox said. "I think that it's just worn out. I've been doing lots of pulling and stuff, trying to get my upper body in shape again. That probably didn't help. I'd rather miss these

couple of days now than miss them later."

This is the second time in his Wolfpack career that injuries have hampered Cox during the swimming season. As a sophomore, elbow trouble plagued Cox, but it didn't stop him from winning an ACC title in the 100-meter backstroke and being named to the all-ACC team.

This latest injury has not been cause for worry for the coaching staff.

See COX, Page 5

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WHEN: TUESDAY, JAN. 31 at 7:00PM  
WHERE: 1404 WILLIAMS HALL

Attendance at this presentation is required to interview for the Summer/Fall '95 College Program.

Interviews will be held Wednesday, February 1. The following majors are encouraged to attend: Business, Communication, Recreation/Leisure Studies, Theatre/Drama, Horticulture, and Agriculture.

Lifeguards are needed to work at our many Water Parks and Resorts. Students with ANY major are eligible to apply. You need to hold lifeguard certification OR be a strong swimmer and we'll provide the training needed for an exciting experience this summer or fall!

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# Opinion

January 27, 1995

Technician

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 a blank.

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

## Freshmen need faculty mentors

**The Freshman College should provide students with a mentor rather than an adviser.**

In a bold attempt to change the way students at N.C. State look at their freshman year, Chancellor Larry Monteith, Provost Phillip Stiles and a 31-member task force have completed a proposal that would create an intermediate step between high school and college.

Unfortunately, they did not revise the role of the academic adviser. Freshmen need the individual attention of a faculty member in their field of study more than once a semester — freshmen need faculty mentors.

The Freshman College proposal, completed last December and now awaiting Provost Stiles' approval, is a move that would help students get used to their new environment, both physically and mentally, by grouping them with other new students, and allow them to build a stronger sense of community.

This step would allow students to adapt to NCSU's more demanding academic and personal responsibilities while building a network of fellow students on whom they can rely.

Beginning this fall, new students can enroll in the Freshman College without declaring a major. As a member of this college, a student can explore and discuss a variety of academic options with a counselor before committing to a plan of study. Planners hope to one day have a

separate residence hall and curriculum for the new students, but for now, the new program will start on a more limited level.

While the new college will be a boon to students, it may not go far enough. Students should be paired or grouped with people of similar interests rather than just those of similar ages. While the proposal looks to construct cross-college links between NCSU students, it misses the more important links between those who know and those who want to learn. It misses the student-mentor angle.

An adviser, rarely seen more than once a semester, is hard pressed to give advice to a student he or she doesn't know. By matching new students with those of like interests, students will forge stronger bonds and learn more about the school that they attend.

Interests-matching is hardly new; it is used in groups as diverse as sororities and multi-national corporations, but the effects are the same — new members feel more at home and more relaxed. They can become better members of the group.

Such cohesion is undoubtedly what the task force envisioned when writing its proposal. However, this minor adjustment could easily enhance the Freshman College's ability to help new students.

The proposal can be read on the Internet at: <http://www.acs.ncsu.edu/uga/taskforce/taskforce.html>

## Capital punishment ineffective

**The death penalty is inefficient due to the long delay between sentencing and execution.**

Tuesday at 2:12 a.m., Kermit Smith became the 369th person to be executed at Central Prison — after waiting over 13 years for the executioner's needle.

Though a penalty of death should make any would-be killer stop and reconsider a life of crime, capital punishment is just not effective in our state.

The endless appeal process effectively undermines the validity of the death penalty as a system of justice. Under the current statutes, a death row inmate can spend well over a decade waiting for his last supper while the large majority of these convicted killers will never face the executioner.

There is absolutely no evidence that shows that the incidence of violent crime is substantially lower in our state than in others which do not have the death penalty.

Capital punishment costs more than life imprisonment with absolutely no parole. Appeals are expensive. The

legal costs incurred are footed by the taxpayer in cases where guilt is often obvious.

If North Carolina keeps the death penalty as a means of punishment, the number of appeals for a convicted criminal who denies his or her guilt should be unlimited. Since doing otherwise is sure to result in the deaths of some innocents, the efficiency of the system breaks down here.

But the more hotly debated moral questions hardly matter if capital punishment's big advantage of reduced crime doesn't exist.

North Carolina needs to rewrite its capital punishment legislation. Lawmakers need to step decisively in one direction or the other. Either the process for appeals needs to be streamlined or the death penalty should be abolished.

The current system of capital punishment serves justice to no one. It would be more beneficial for our state to simply sentence these killers to life without parole rather than wasting the financial and legal resources to execute them. Instead, these resources could be better used by putting more criminals behind bars.



## Commentary Returning students have different priorities

You walk into the lecture hall the first day of classes, and there she is, sitting on the front row — the older, returning student. There goes the grading curve.

"Why me?" you groan as you take an inconspicuous seat in the middle of the class. It's not that you don't think these people have a right to come back to college. After all, these are the politically correct '90s, when everyone has rights. You just don't want one of them in your class. They ask too many questions and they always read ahead. How annoying.

What's driving these people anyway? Don't they have lives outside of class? No one could possibly read every single assignment on time and still have a social life. Besides, if they were really all that great, they would have gone to college right out of high school like everyone else and finished them. Right?

Wrong. There are many reasons why people don't head to college directly from high school. And there are even more reasons why many of us don't finish our degrees the first time we try. However, there seems to be a pervasive thought in our society that says there is something wrong with returning to college once you've stopped. Of course no one criticizes you directly, but the digs are there.

I'm in the dentist's chair with a new dentist and the question comes: "So Sharon, what do you do?" I tell him I'm a student. "Oh, with a laugh) one of those career students." I don't bother answering because I can already tell he's made a judgment about me based on the fact that I did not finish college in four years, directly out of high school.

No, I'm not a career student. I took three

years off from school, and it was a very difficult decision to come back. But that doesn't matter to you.

My adviser frowns when I tell him I want to take a few more semesters to graduate because I want to add another line of study to my plan. "We need to be concerned about getting you out of here," he says. And I read between the lines, "because you've been here too long."

Yes, I have been here too long. But I'm here because after three years of dead-end jobs, I'm ready to make the sacrifices and try again. I'm changing my curriculum because I know now what I didn't know, and what no one should be expected to know, at 18 — what I want to do for a living. But that shouldn't matter to you, either.

I'm at a party and someone hears me mention school, and the comment is always, "Are you a graduate student?" When I say no, I'm still working toward my undergraduate degree, I get the usual "oh." Why does my educational status make people so uncomfortable? You should be glad that another member of society has taken it upon herself to become educated. What difference should it make if it takes me twenty years?

Everyone should know by now that not finishing a degree in four years is more of an economic indicator than a sign of laziness. For once I would like someone to

say, "That's terrific, keep up the good work!"

"Oh" is as encouraging as a wet sock. I'm letting my hair grow longer because I've been told it makes me look younger — my form of assimilation.

I feel awkward talking to the Jostens' rep because I feel I don't deserve to have a college ring since it will take much longer than four years for me to graduate. I ask her if I can order one without the date so no one will do the math and realize that my age and my date of graduation don't match the norm — I'm tired of explaining.

Why do I study so much? Because I have more to prove. I'm a little more sure of myself outside of the classroom, but inside you have me beat. Falling out of the mainstream does a lot of damage to one's self concept. I'm just trying to catch back up.

Why do I ask so many questions in class? Because I really want to take an active part in my education. Plus, and I know you don't want to hear this again, I do value my education more than you do.

How do I know how much you value your education? I was there. As a freshman in college. I thought I had a right to be there. Everyone I knew went to college directly out of high school. There was never any question about going, just where to go. I felt I had as much right to be in college as I had to go to junior high.

But I didn't finish in four years, and I've been suffering the consequences ever since. I never thought I'd be the "girl most likely to drop out of college," but it can happen when you least expect it.

"No," you say. "I'm going to finish my degree in four years and be out of this place." Good luck, I hope you do.

Chandler Duncan

the super rich in the form of tax cuts. Bill Clinton has shown his weakness in the face of tough-minded professional politicians like Dole and Gingrich.

After fighting for and achieving a refreshingly tough fiscal budget in 1993, including serious increases in government revenues plus painful cuts in popular programs — our unfortunate president now seems to have joined the Republican chorus of "Santa Claus is coming to town."

So what's the answer? During the Christmas break, I followed some congressional hearings on the balanced budget amendment. The committee discussing the amendment had invited Paul Tsongas to talk about the fiscal problems confronting our nation in the 1990s and into the 21st century.

Tsongas, a former Democratic senator from Massachusetts, together with Warren Rudman, a former Republican senator from New Hampshire, have devoted the past two years to establishing the Concord Coalition.

The Coalition's purpose is to wage a political fight against the annual federal budget deficit and ultimately to eliminate the national debt. When Tsongas ran for

president in 1992, he was defeated in the primaries by Bill Clinton, who overcame the more business-minded Democrat by outflanking him from the left.

I voted for Tsongas believing Bush (and Reagan) had done nothing to ensure that our national economy would be stronger and more secure today than it was when the Republicans first took office in 1980.

The Bush administration borrowed a billion dollars a day because the president feared raising taxes and eliminating excessive government spending. Clinton (at the time) was advocating deficit-expanding tax cuts and increased spending on health care. Tsongas seemed to be the only candidate with a realistic view of what our country must expect to pay for government and what we can honestly afford given our fiscal crisis.

Having learned from what they believe to have been the president's mistake of attempting fiscal responsibility, the Democrats are teetering on the edge of a mutinous overthrow of Bill Clinton and a return to the long outdated liberal tax-and-spend strategy of LBJ and FDR.

As 1996 approaches, problems from 1992 persist and Tsongas' Concord Coalition is often heard as a lonely voice speaking out for our generation. Balanced budget amendment or no, Americans of our age must understand the gravity of our nation's situation and make our concerns for fiscal responsibility known before it's too late.

## Growing debt will soon destroy economy

As the 104th Congress convenes this year, the national debt exceeds \$4 trillion. And that's a low estimate.

The day is fast approaching when massive tax cuts and spending increases will result in double-digit inflation and out of the roof interest rates.

We may see a monetizing of the debt on our lifetime; in other words, the government's fiscal crisis could realistically become so severe that more money has to be printed to reduce what our government owes to investors.

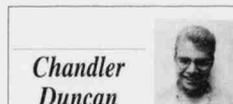
Such a monetizing of the debt would deflate our entire economy so greatly that we would become a second-rate world power. Our opportunities would vanish with the American dream.

And a while it's easy to ignore what's going on in Washington, it is a foolish mistake for us to believe that politics and government will have no bearing on our lives.

So who can we count on to get us out of debt? All of us in the twenty-something generation should be very wary of both Newt and the Liberals.

The Republicans seem to have no plans to do the most responsible thing that they could and ideologically should do — privatizing Social Security and Medicare. Both are programs which tax our generation highly and from which we are unlikely to ever benefit.

Newt Gingrich and his Contract with America only promise more pork barrel government spending on unnecessary defense programs and cash giveaways to



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# GIT

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and Best stuck the shot right over Fuller with one second left on the shot clock.

"I thought I was in his face," Fuller said. "He hit it right in my face."

It was perhaps the only bad moment of the night for Fuller, who hit 11 of 16 shots, 6 of 7 free throws, and had only one turnover in 38 minutes.

"I think this was one of my better games," Fuller said. "But I would definitely trade in all those points for a win. We know deep down that if we had done one or two things differently, the outcome would have been different."

One thing that was the same for N.C. State was the production from its small forward spot. Jeremy Hyatt grabbed 10 rebounds in replacing Ricky Daniels, who injured his thumb against Maryland and will be out for 4-6 weeks. Daniels averaged seven rebounds a game.

"Jeremy did a good job," Robinson said. "We said he had to pick up the slack today, and he did. He had a couple of turnovers, and he's got to work on that, but he did well overall."

Hyatt blocked Matt Harpring with 1:30 left in the game to keep the Jacket lead at three. But Ishua Benjamin mistimed an alley-oop pass, wasting a trip down the floor, and Jon Barry dropped in a layup for a 71-66 lead with 1:15 left.

Robinson agreed that this kind of performance last year would have been something to build on. But just being in a position to win is not satisfying enough this year, Fuller said. The team will instead build on the game in other ways.

"We'd like to stay critical of ourselves and continue to improve and achieve our goals that way," Fuller said.

State opened the game with an eight-point lead at 11:32. Fuller had 12 of those points, six on layups. But the Yellow Jackets hatched a quick 12-0 run thanks to steals by Michael Maddox and Harpring. The Pack eventually regained a four-point lead at 1:19 on a layup by Fuller. But Harpring buried a three-pointer with 1:02 left and Best followed with an unanswered layup to take a 33-32 halftime lead.

N.C. State takes on Clemson next, tomorrow at 2 p.m. in Reynolds Coliseum.

Georgia Tech (75)						
fg	ft	r	a	pf	pts	
Elisma	1-3	2-2	2-2	2	2	4
Forrest	8-13	4-6	1-8	3	3	20
Best	6-14	2-2	1-2	8	2	15
Barry	6-13	1-1	0-4	8	1	14
Harpring	4-9	3-4	0-7	1	3	12
Maddox	3-6	0-0	1-6	2	2	7
Williams	1-2	0-0	0-1	0	0	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29-60</b>	<b>12-15</b>	<b>7-32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>75</b>

Three-point shooting: 5-18 (Williams 1-2, Maddox 1-2, Harpring 1-2, Barry 1-5, Best 1-7)  
Blocked shots: 3 (Forrest 2, Maddox)  
Turnovers: 10 (Maddox 3, Harpring 3, Barry 2, Elisma, Forrest)  
Steals: 8 (Harpring 3, Best 3, Forrest, Maddox)

N.C. State (71)						
fg	ft	r	a	pf	pts	
Hyatt	2-5	3-4	7-10	4	1	8
Feggins	1-8	1-2	3-8	1	4	3
Fuller	11-16	9-7	4-10	1	1	28
McCuller	4-10	1-2	1-4	5	2	11
Benjamin	2-12	2-2	0-1	3	3	7
Davis	1-4	2-2	1-6	1	2	4
Harrison	3-6	0-0	0-2	1	1	6
Wilson	2-3	0-0	0-1	1	1	4
Sutton	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26-65</b>	<b>15-19</b>	<b>17-42</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>71</b>

Three-point shooting: 4-15 (McCuller 2-6, Hyatt 1-2, Benjamin 1-5)  
Blocked shots: 1 (Hyatt)  
Turnovers: 15 (Hyatt 5, McCuller 3, Benjamin 3, Feggins, Fuller, Davis, Sutton)  
Steals: 7 (Davis 2, McCuller 2, Fuller, Harrison, Wilson)

N.C. State		Georgia Tech	
32	39	—	71
33	42	—	75

# Cox

Continued from Page 3  
"I knew that if anybody's going to get injured, Chucky's one to be able to mentally, emotionally, and physically handle it and do a good job regardless," interim head coach Beth Harrel said. "I know it was tough for him for the first couple of months of the season when everyone else was training pretty hard and he was having to sit out. But he was able to keep his mind on where it needed to be and not get too depressed by it."

The chronic injury did not slow Cox down in the early part of the season; he led the Wolfpack to an 10-0 record before sitting out against South Carolina and seeing limited action against Clemson last weekend. State is 1-1 since.

Cox has excelled in the pool, posting the best time for the team in the 100-meter backstroke (50.58) and second best in the 100-meter freestyle (46.28). Even when he isn't swimming, Cox leads the cheers for his teammates in the

pool. "Chucky Cox brings a lot of enthusiasm, a lot of support, encouragement, trust and belief in the program and in the coaching staff and in who he is and what he is able to do," Harrel said. "He is real strong-willed. He's an excellent leader."

Throughout his swimming career, Cox has usually come on strong at the end of the season. Cox has been named to the all-ACC team each of his three years at State. Last year, he won 10 individual races, finished second in the 100-meter backstroke and third in the 50-meter freestyle at the ACC.

But his best year was his freshman campaign, when he was named all-American, all-ACC, and helped the Wolfpack to a conference championship. Cox collected ACC titles that year in the 200-meter and 400-meter freestyle relay and the 200-meter and 400-meter medley relays, and set ACC records in the 100-meter backstroke and 200-meter freestyle and medley relays. The 100-meter backstroke record still stands.

Is it any wonder that Cox is

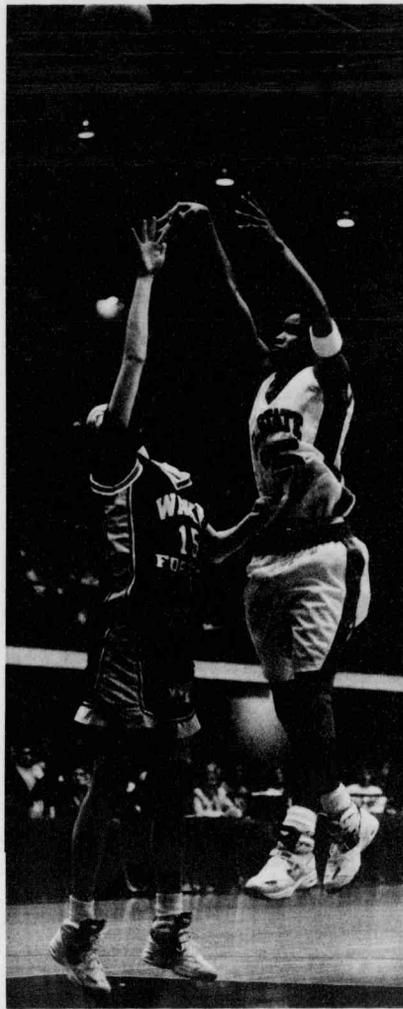
looking forward to this year's championships in Chapel Hill?

"We've been talking about it all year, and I feel confident that we can win," Cox said. "We've got the attitude and we've definitely done the work, so anything less than first place is going to be a disappointment."

At this year's championships, Cox will be swimming in seven events: the 100-meter backstroke, the 100-meter freestyle, the 50-meter freestyle, and four relays.

After graduation this year, Cox will not give up swimming. He is trying to make it to the Atlanta Olympics in 1996.

"I found out at home that I could possibly get a sponsor for Olympic trials, but only if me and three other guys on my home team would stay out and train for the Olympics," Cox said. "I'm going to think about that. I have to think about this elbow thing, depending on how I do this year, but as of right now, I'm going to keep swimming as long as I can."



# Deacons

Continued from Page 3  
Despite Melvin's effort, the score was knotted at 11 with just over 15 minutes left in the first half. Kolleen Kreul, who ended with seven points, ignited a 20-8 run and Wake never got the lead back into single digits.

"I was particularly pleased with the top eight players on our team," said Yow. "I thought that we played good position defense and I thought they made good decisions on offense."

State's 51 points in the first half, one shy of its season high, came on 66 percent shooting. That includes hitting all four three-pointers and making all seven from the charity stripe.

More importantly, Tammy Gibson was a major contributor to the Pack's first-half explosion. She broke out of her mini-slump with 14. It was also the first game this season Gibson played without her knee brace. But she still wore the neoprene sleeve that covered it.

"Tonight she moved as fluently as I've seen in a while," Yow said. "The tape is off her hand, the sleeve is on her leg, and she's starting to play well."

Guard Jennifer Howard also played well. She had seven assists and 14 points and freshman Erin Young came off the bench and added 11 points, making 3 of 5 from three-point territory.

"She has the capability of scoring and hitting threes and she can penetrate and score," Yow said. "But she needs to solidify her ball-handling skills, and she needs to continue to work to become a solid defensive player."

With half of the ACC schedule complete, State's record is 5-3, fourth in the league. Yow said that from here on out, it simply becomes a fight for position for the tournament in March.

"It's just going to be a major battle for seedings in the ACC and it could be a major factor for bids [to the NCAA's] and everything," N.C. State (10-6, 5-3) next faces Maryland at College Park on Saturday at 11:30 a.m., then plays George Mason at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday before returning home. Both games will be televised on Home Team Sports.

Quicha Floyd (9) demonstrates her serious ups as she and the Pack jumped all over Wake. STEVE EGAN/STAFF

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