

Technician

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Enrollment getting higher in new freshman college

■ The dean of the new First Year College says it will help new students choose a major and make their first year away from home easier.

By JEAN LORSCHIEDER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

More than 700 freshmen will come to campus this fall without something just about all other N.C. State students have — a major.

Robert Bereman, associate dean of undergraduate studies and head of NCSU's new First Year College, said next fall's enrollment for the program may exceed 100 percent of projected enrollment.

Bereman originally expected an enrollment of 625 students for the

new college. That number has increased to almost 775. He said the increase in size will not be a problem.

"To find out what students want, we haven't put any restrictions on [the college] by size," Bereman said. "It is surprising it has become as large as it is."

New students can change their admission status until the end of summer as long as they qualify for the college of their choice. Bereman said the rise in admissions to the FYC may be due to word of mouth.

Students who came to campus to attend other colleges' orientations may have heard about the FYC and decided to change their status, Bereman said.

"I think the really personal touches we employ have resulted in more students staying in the First

Year College than perhaps expected," he said.

The students who are enrolled in the FYC receive phone calls from faculty within the college. The phone calls, to be completed by the end of this month, are opportunities for new students to discuss their schedules and other concerns, Bereman said.

"I think that has an impact," he said. "That's an example of the environment we're trying to create — to ensure that students will know someone before coming to campus."

The first two weeks of the fall semester are critical for new students, Bereman said, so students in the FYC will meet with their advisers two or three times during the first two weeks of classes.

Over the course of the semester,

students may meet with their advisers up to 20 times.

Each adviser teaches a one-hour, once-a-week course comprised of advisees, Bereman said. He said these classes, along with meetings outside of the classroom, will form good working relationships between students and advisers.

To offset the increased number of students enrolling in the FYC, three advisers have been added.

In addition to increased advising, Bereman said the FYC will offer special tutoring, peer advising and counseling.

Advisers will help students with academics and decisions about choosing a major, supplemented with programming that will ease the freshmen into college life.

"Co-curricular programming is very important to address the

transfer from high school to college," Bereman said. "Social and emotional transitions also impact academic transitions."

Students will be clustered into advising groups by where they live, Bereman said. For instance, FYC students who live in the same dorm may form one group, and commuters another.

"It's hard for commuters to meet people because they only see their colleagues in class," Bereman said. "We may have an adviser who has all commuting students."

Bereman also said he hopes to have a Faculty Fellows program in place by the fall in which each student will be associated with a staff member.

"A fellow might have eight to 10 students assigned to him to provide yet one more level of support," he

said. The fellows may host an open house after a play, conduct a tutorial session or just chat with students.

Though much of the FYC is in place, Bereman said there is more to come in the future. He also said there are no plans to put a cap on the freshman college.

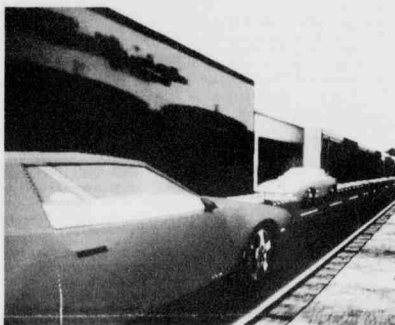
"It's relatively extensive," Bereman said. "We need to be careful that we don't over-extend ourselves the first year since we're on a limited budget."

He said the college will be a good addition to a technical university that encourages research and development.

"This is a reflection of the belief on this campus that students are important," Bereman said.

"I think we should be proud of this."

Computer science and virtual reality reach kids



COURTESY OF DOROTHY STRICKLAND

One of the computer-generated images the children saw during the virtual reality study was a car that repeatedly went up and down a street.

■ An NCSU researcher has used her knowledge of virtual reality to introduce some very special children to a new world.

By JEAN LORSCHIEDER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

By age seven, most children have been taught to look both ways before crossing the street. But for autistic children, the everyday occurrence of watching for cars is nearly impossible.

However, with the help of N.C. State researcher Dorothy Strickland and her work with virtual reality, autistic children are now able to practice safety skills in a controlled environment.

"With virtual reality, you can simplify the world and create objects and colors and scenes that are customized," Strickland said. "A child who has this problem might be able to understand."

Strickland spent a year studying autism before she created virtual images and introduced two autistic children, a seven-year-old girl and a nine-year-old boy, to VR.

By placing autistic children into a simplified virtual world, their reactions to certain environments could be studied.

"One of the traits of autism may be — not that the brain doesn't function well — but that you have difficulty filtering out input," Strickland said.

Autistic individuals may feel as if everything — sight, sound and sensation — is on "super-volume," Strickland said.

Children she observed during her year of studies at UNC-Chapel Hill would sometimes cover their ears while looking at something.

Strickland said she chose to combine VR and autism because autism is such a difficult problem to treat. Many patients never learn to speak, and most lead a solitary, inward existence.

"There aren't presently many good solutions for treatment," Strickland said.

Virtual reality is advantageous because it can give you the sense of being immersed in another environment.

"As you move in the real world, it appears that you move in a computer generated world," Strickland said.

"You can get wrapped up with what you see when you watch a TV set, but you still see the surroundings around it," Strickland said. "When you put on a helmet and actually wrap yourself in this other world, it has an interesting sensation."

Individuals who participate in

virtual reality sequences wear an 8-pound helmet that contains a screen in front of each eye. A tracker on the helmet monitors where the subject's eyes move by measuring head movements.

The tracker sends the information to a computer, which has created a 3-D world. A left eye view and right eye view are generated so the subject is immersed in a virtual world.

Because communication with the children was limited, it was necessary for the researchers to be exceedingly careful and limit the VR sessions to five minutes.

People with autism who never learn to speak are largely unable to communicate about their visions, Strickland said, so it was necessary to find some subjects with verbal abilities for the study.

"They weren't capable of saying 'This is giving me a headache' or 'I have eye strain,'" Strickland said. "They couldn't give us the feedback that you would normally expect with a child."

Strickland and the other researchers on the project were warned that autistic children would not accept the helmets on their head. Persuading the children to accept VR into their structured daily routines was a challenge.

"One of the traits of autism is you don't like anything new, you don't like anything different," Strickland said. "You like everything to remain the same."

To make the children comfortable with the room where the experiments were carried out, Strickland re-created their classroom, placing familiar toys and games in their work and play stations and even making duplicates of signs from their classroom that illustrated "work" and "play." To this familiar sequence, she added "helmet."

Siblings of the children came in and tried on the helmets, which added to the kids' comfort and acceptance of the new headgear.

After the children accepted the helmets, Strickland tried to cut down on confusion in the children's virtual world by using few colors, simple images and no sound.

The street scene was a good choice, Strickland said, because it was familiar to the children and easy to manipulate.

The study was done with donated equipment and workspace on volunteer time.

The study, 40 sessions that took place over six weekends last fall, was the first of its kind. Strickland presented her findings at the 1995 International Conference on Autism and Computer Science in Nice,

See VIRTUAL, Page 5

Problems with VR

Although virtual reality enables researchers to put subjects in an "alternate world," the technology is still young. Research is being done to hone VR, but there are still some bugs to work out. Dorothy Strickland listed some of them.

- Because the eyes are so close to the screens inside of the VR helmet, dots that make up the images are visible.
- Highly detailed images make it difficult to generate changes in scenery quickly.
- Slow generation of scene changes can lead to nausea or vestibular mismatch, a condition that often occurs to individuals during amusement park rides when the eyes and the stomach are at odds.
- Eye strain often occurs because the eyes focus on a screen inches away, while the brain concentrates on images that seem to range in proximity to the body.
- Helmets used in virtual reality weigh up to 8 pounds.
- Reading text is difficult in a virtual world because of the visible breakdown of screen images.

Skating Away



MANIWADE KARHANNAN/STAFF

Chad Shooter takes advantage of a dry day and shows his stuff near D. H. Hill Library.

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et cetera: A scary dose of pre-teen aggression just morphed into a theater near you. Page 3 ▶

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Sports

July 12, 1995

Technician

O'Cain headed for the big payday

State banking on coach to deliver big wins

■ Until Mike O'Cain proves the Wolfpack can run with the big dogs, he's not worth the extra 15K.

N.C. State football coach Mike O'Cain received a \$15,000 pay raise last week.

The athletics department, which went over budget for the past fiscal year, will pay the university's biggest cheerleader \$120,000 next season.

Why? When you see Wolfpack football highlights on the news, O'Cain is seen jumping up and down and hugging his players more often than talking strategy on the headphones and masterminding the Wolfpack to victory.

With his laid-back demeanor and casual dress, O'Cain will never be confused with any of the old-school coaches in the Big Ten.

But maybe his '90s, sensitive-type coaching style works. After all, O'Cain has compiled a 16-8 record in his first two seasons, and has led each team to a bowl appearance.

But having said that, two major glitches stand out on O'Cain's record. His teams haven't beaten a top-ten caliber opponent and, even worse, he hasn't beaten North Carolina.

Let's cut to the chase and start dissecting O'Cain's coaching career at State.

Bowling for Dollars

O'Cain has taken the Pack to two respectable bowl games. But State made five consecutive bowl trips before O'Cain took over.

His first bowl game was nothing to write home about. The memorable moments from Michigan's 42-7 thrashing in the Hall of Fame Bowl will not be related on Mike O'Cain's Greatest Hits.

In his second shot at the limelight, O'Cain saved face. His reported raise might be based solely on the fact that the 28-24 Peach Bowl win over Mississippi State snapped a three-year bowl game losing streak.

It showed the Wolfpack could perform under pressure and not fold like a deck of cards when the television lights were activated.

But let's not get carried away with a single victory over a marginal opponent.

Mississippi State isn't exactly a powerhouse (pick, name any professional player ever to come out of the booming metropolis of Starkville, Miss.). Mississippi State will never be mistaken for Penn State. They shouldn't even be mentioned in the same sentence with N.C. State.

Any team that is most memorable for a coach who excreted a bull to psyche up his players is not considered upper-echelon material.

Not ready for the Big Boys
Florida State rudely introduced Mike O'Cain to big time football with a 62-3 humiliation on national television. The Wolfpack were clearly outmanned, outplayed, and outcoached. O.K., it was the guy's rookie season against a Seminole squad hungry for the national title. I'll cut him some slack.

But in this year's defeat, which was for the ACC championship, the Pack had three opportunities to take an early lead against the Seminoles and couldn't capitalize.

The 31-3 loss showed the Wolfpack was not ready for prime time. Florida State simply had too many weapons for the Pack to contain. If it wasn't Ruck Preston, it was Warrick Dunn making State's defense look porous.

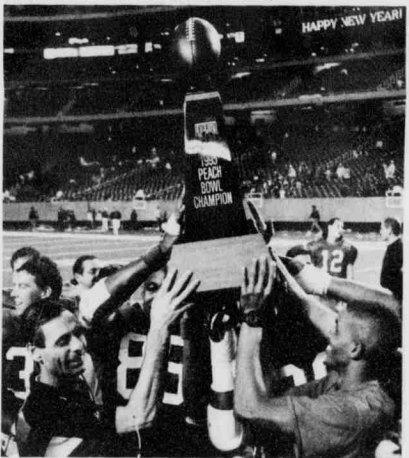
The offense's inability to punch it in against the Seminoles with three chances inside the red zone is inexcusable. You are on your home turf, on ESPN and playing for the ACC title and you can't muster a touchdown. In order for the

On July 6, *The News & Observer* reported that N.C. State football coach Mike O'Cain received a pay raise to up his salary to \$120,000. The N&O also reported that women's basketball coach Kay Yow and other women's coaches received pay increases as well.

Sports writers J.P. Giglio and Matt Lail debate whether he's worth it.



(Above) Why is this man smiling? The N.C. State Athletics department gave him 15,000 more reasons to smile. (Below) The highlight of Mike O'Cain's career as N.C. State's head football coach, a 1995 Peach Bowl victory.



CON



J. P. Giglio

Wolfpack to be considered ready to move up into the big leagues, it must win, or lose respectfully, to the only national powerhouse in the conference.

O'Cain gets another crack at Florida State in Tallahassee this season.

He also gets a bonus round for stardom when the Pack travels to Tuscaloosa to take on Alabama. T-Town is not an easy place to win a game. A strong showing by the Pack could put Raleigh on the map.

Carolina Blues
O'Cain has only had two cracks at the Boys in Baby Blue, but 0-3 will not cut the mustard.

His inaugural showdown with the Tar Heels was marred by coaches and players fighting. Plus, (as much as I hate to admit it) the '93 North Carolina squad had better talent.

But last year's game against the Heels was the low point of O'Cain's young career. Carolina dominated State 31-17 in a game that set the program back a step.

"I have to take a lot of the blame for that, because we were not ready for some of the things North Carolina did to us," O'Cain said after the loss. "North Carolina was better prepared and did a better job."

Excuse me, two weeks to get ready for your arch-rival, and you were "not ready for some of the things North Carolina did?" And the athletics department is going to pay this man \$120,000!

What did Carolina do that was so foreign?

They ran the option, a sweep, and a swing pass to Leon Johnson.

The option is the easiest offense to stop in all of football. It's dated, and overall team speed should render it useless. There shouldn't be anything to prepare for when it comes to stopping the option. It is called assignment football.

As for the swing pass that Johnson scored twice on, where were the outside linebackers?

Nevertheless, O'Cain and his staff better be prepared for the Heels this year, because Johnson is back. And the game is going to be on national television over Thanksgiving break. (Also, do you really want to listen to Carolina fans gloat for another year?)

Don't get me wrong. Any coach that compiles 16 wins, a bowl victory, and only two home losses must be doing something right. But the athletics department could have done more with the money.

In our women's and men's soccer teams, we have two of the best programs in the country, and their facilities are medieval.

Maybe the wisest pennies spent by the athletics department went to legendary women's basketball coach Kay Yow. Yow's reported raise is well deserved and money well spent.

I wish I could say the same for O'Cain.

O'Cain worked hard for the extra money

■ In only two years as head coach, Mike O'Cain has done more than enough to earn his recent pay raise.

N.C. State recently rewarded head football coach Mike O'Cain with a much deserved salary increase.

O'Cain led the Wolfpack to a 9-3 record last season and a surprising Peach Bowl victory.

"Mike has demonstrated he is one of the finest coaches in the country, and I felt we needed to recognize him as such," athletics director Todd Turner told *The News and Observer*.

This salary increase shows that the athletics department has confidence in the young, yet proven coach.

It could be argued that O'Cain still has a lot to prove. So what if he hasn't beaten North Carolina. He's only had two chances, and his first shouldn't even count. We must look at what he *has* accomplished under less than glamorous circumstances, not what he *hasn't*.

Coach O'Cain took over the Wolfpack football program just several weeks before the 1993 season. And although he inherited a quality program from Dick Sheridan, O'Cain had no head coaching experience. And so far, he has had the winning edge in his short career, winning 16 of his 24 contests. Throw in his 10-2 home edge, and you've got a team that fans look forward to seeing Saturdays at Carter-Finley.

With the exception of losses to Duke in 1993 and Louisville in 1994, O'Cain's Pack has been on track with the best programs in Wolfpack history. He matches Lou Holtz and Dick Sheridan as the only State coaches to lead their teams to a bowl in their debut seasons. And he did what his predecessor Sheridan could not — make it to a bowl in his first two seasons.

Under his leadership, the Pack has won the games it should have won and even a few no one thought it could. In 1993, State managed to outlast the other media darlings, the Virginia Cavaliers 34-29 in Raleigh.

In '94, it was more of the same, blitzing Clemson at Death Valley, while holding the Tigers to their worst rushing game since the ACC was formed.

One week after showing little, if any, offensive prowess at North Carolina, O'Cain's troops battled the Maryland Terrapins in an offensive extravaganza, finally winning on a field goal, 47-45. The Pack scored on every possession.

The next week the Duke Blue Devils rolled into town, along with their bandwagon. After a dismal three quarters, the Pack roared to life and sent the Devils home shaking their heads and the Wolfpack faithful wanting more.

And in what would be the be-all-end-all game of the season, the



Matt Lail

Pack went to Charlottesville looking to upend the Cavaliers. No one gave State much of a chance against the Cavs, who were ready to go to a major bowl.

But like it had done many times before, State roared from behind and held off the disappointed Wahoons, sending them to the Poulan Weedcater Independence Bowl. While the Pack headed to Atlanta for yet another come-from-behind victory over the Mississippi State Bulldogs.

Almost all of those victories, with the exceptions of UVa in '93 and Clemson in '94, have contained memorable plays that will be talked about for years. With O'Cain at the helm, fans can look forward to excitement in Wolfpack football.

And O'Cain is more of a players' coach than his old boss Dick Sheridan was.

He beams with pride after a win. This is genuine pride, not for himself, but for his staff and more importantly, his players. And he has presented them with their names on the backs of their jerseys.

Although this appears small, it means a lot to the players to know they are being recognized on the field. And those players will strive to do better, partly for themselves, but mostly for the good of the team.

But do not think for a second that this downplays O'Cain's discipline on his team. Think back to the 1993 game against North Carolina where a fight erupted. Though it doesn't take a genius to see that it was of the Tar Heels' doing, O'Cain took it upon himself at halftime to tell his team that basically, it wasn't going to play like that. It may have cost him the game, but in the end O'Cain reflects what this university's athletics programs are striving to show — that character and integrity are far more important than victories.

But the victories have come, and they will continue to come, as long as the administration and fans display the same confidence in Mike O'Cain that he has given to N.C. State.

The Skills of a Coach's Career

<h4 style="text-align: center;">Lowlights</h4> <p>Nov. 21, 1993 Florida State, 3-62</p> <p>The "Noles wreck havoc on the Wolfpack on national television and regain the top spot in the national polls. The Seminoles cash in on six State turnovers to score at least two touchdowns in each quarter and rattle off 49 unanswered points.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">...</p> <p>Jan. 1, 1994 Michigan, 7-42</p> <p>The Wolverines capitalize on eight turnovers to drench the Wolfpack in a quagmire in Tampa. Michigan All-American Tyrone Wheatley rambles for 124 yards and two touchdowns.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">...</p> <p>Oct. 29, 1994 North Carolina, 17-31</p> <p>The Wolfpack witnesses the Leon Johnson Show, as it spots the Tar Heels three scores before they manage a first down. With two weeks to get ready for the boys in Blue, O'Cain says after the game that the Pack was "not ready for some of things that North Carolina did to us."</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">Highlights</h4> <p>Oct. 30, 1993 Virginia, 34-29</p> <p>The "Cardiac Pack" outscores the Wahoons 17-2 in the 4th quarter to seal its first of four come-from-behind victories of the season.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">...</p> <p>Sept. 10, 1994 Clemson, 29-12</p> <p>Wolfpack D rules Death Valley, limiting the Tigers to its worst rushing performance since Eisenhower was president.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">...</p> <p>Nov. 25, 1994 Mississippi, 30-27</p> <p>Tremayne Stephens' 84-yard scamper sends the Cavs on a lovely vacation to Shreveport, La. for the Weedcater Bowl.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">...</p> <p>Jan. 1, 1995 Mississippi St., 28-24</p> <p>State pulls off a fourth quarter comeback to snap a three-year bowl game drought. The Pack strut over the Bulldogs in style in their new-wave digs.</p>
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If I could Be Like Mike...

React! Tell Technician Sports what you think of head football coach Mike O'Cain's pay raise.

- Do you think Mike O'Cain deserves a raise?
- Could the money have been better used elsewhere?
- Should we be happy with second in they ACC, or were we really just the first loser?

Fire off that angry e-mail to J.P. Giglio, Technician sports editor, at Joe@smc.sca.ncsu.edu. Please include your name, major, class and phone number, so we can reach you.

et cetera

Technician

July 12, 1995

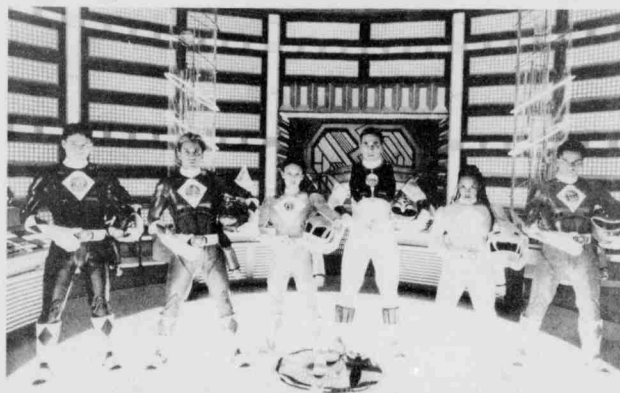


PHOTO COURTESY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PICTURES

The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers are trying to see if they can rub their tummies, hold their helmets and pop their bubble gum at the same time. It's harder than you think.

Absolutely 'Dreddful'

■ "Judge Dredd" is devoid of plot. It has plenty of violence, though.

BY JAMES ELLIS
STAFF WRITER

Excluding the Wesley Snipes vehicle, "Demolition Man," two years ago, no Sylvester Stallone flick has been a big hit since the second "Rambo." Could "Rhinestone" be a factor? This may be the break Stallone needs. "Judge Dredd" is a big, bulky, ugly, steroid-laden, kick-you-in-the-teeth, volume-at-11, drinking-raw-eggs, oh-my-god-he's-not-kidding kind of movie.

If you aren't familiar with the comic book from which the movie is derived, it doesn't matter. Aside from the comic book covers that pop up during the credits, this

movie really does a good job of standing up by itself.

The best part of "Judge Dredd" is the visuals. If you thought "Jurassic Park" was huge, you ain't seen nothing yet. The age of digital visuals has arrived. What once could only be built through miniatures or on a blue screen now has seemingly endless possibilities. The mega city is virtually all computer generated. The flying motorcycle scenes are stunning. And Sly's sneer is as ugly as always.

The plot is simple and really does nothing more than prop up the costumes and Sly's arms. Thankfully, Sly never gets a chance to strip down a la "Demolition

Man." It's all neck and arms.

But while what you see is amazing, what you hear is even better. This movie finally optimizes your local theater's sound system to the point where every shot, every step, every motion is accompanied by a resounding thud. When Sly blinks, you can feel it in the back row.

Whoever made this movie decided to include a few extras. Rob Schneider, while funny on "Saturday Night Live," looks like a fool in this flick. Dredd, the character, has maybe one or two good laugh lines the whole time. Of course this was balanced by 20 lousy swing and miss attempts at being funny. There isn't even a cool villain.

Armand Assante picked up a

See DREDD Page 5



No No, Power Rangers!

■ Six spandex-clad superheroes suck in their stupid showing on the silver screen

BY KEITH CRAWFORD
ET CETERA EDITOR

View this review as a warning. No matter what that attractive person in your English class offers as payment, bribe or barter to take his or her niece or nephew to this movie, it isn't worth it. Avoid this movie at all costs.

"Mighty Morphin Power Rangers: The Movie" is your typical kids' action movie. In most films, violence is interspersed with sex to break up the monotony. Not here. "Power Rangers" is neither film noir nor an over budget action movie sequel. It won't look like any romantic comedy or summer love story you've been wanting to see. "Power Rangers" is PG, for violence — not language.

The dirtiest word is "butt." For those of you unfamiliar with the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, here's a primer. The vocabulary list is a bit odd, but you'll catch on.

There are now six Rangers ("teenagers" played by 25-year-olds), and each has a color: black, white, pink, blue, yellow and red. Each Ranger has his or her own "zord," or mechanical animal to use as a weapon to fight evil in the

universe. It's strange, but keep reading.

In dire situations (read: the end of every television show and the end of this movie), the zords "morph" into a huge robot — referred to commonly by the elite literate as a "Megazord."

Why don't they just make the damned Megazord appear at the very beginning?

Then they wouldn't have to fight so much and tousle their ever-so-perky hair.

The Rangers' mentor is an ancient warrior for good by the name of Zordon. Zordon and his bumbling robot Alpha 5 (Peta-Maree Rixon), who incessantly says "Ayyayayay" at the least sign of trouble, live in a fortress guiding the Rangers in their quest for all that is good, or at least all that is sickeningly sweet.

"MMPR" came very close to being entertaining. The usual TV villains, who are more annoying than effective, are eclipsed by a fairly decent villain.

Ivan Ooze, played by Paul Freeman, is so bad that Zordon trapped him in a Silly Putty-esque egg for a few thousand years. Ooze is back and ready to rumble. Sharing the T1's ability to reduce himself to a liquid from "Terminator 2: Judgment Day," Ooze is an impressively evasive

villain — he enslaves the entire parent population of the Power Ranger's town, destroys the Rangers' command center and leaves Zordon to die a slow, painful death. And he's so powerful that the pitiful Power Rangers can't even touch him.

Ooze is the type of sarcastic archvillain who sends flunkies off to kill the Power Rangers and casually sips a mixed drink and makes jokes. It was difficult not to cheer Ivan on as he went on the rampage, awaiting the slim chance that he might just do the Power Rangers in. Close Ooze, but no cigar.

Of course, the Power Rangers save the day, but not without visiting another planet and getting all new "Ninjazords." Chances are the Ninjazords are already in the toy stores for parents to buy their spoiled young wards. In a two-hour movie, there was nothing that couldn't have been boiled down to take place in two 30-minute shows.

Grade: (If you are over 12 years old), F.

(If you still pick your cereal for the toy inside and the sugar content), C-



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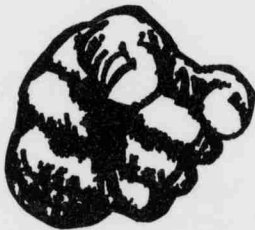
Crossword Puzzle

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ADORABLE	EMIT	
POPE	JOAN	BAMA
INDEX	PIGS	DEARER
KERR	FORGERY	
EW	FAKES	HOW
SW	REVISED	DELE
	SEOS	BRAKE
RAIDER	FREE	
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Technician: We're all about overusing the phrase "We're all about..."

PAY-IN-STATE TUITION? INFORMATION FOR NCSU STUDENTS

North Carolina law provides that an out-of-state student may petition for in-state tuition status if you now consider North Carolina as home. Information on the requirements of the law and the application process are discussed in Residency Status And Tuition. This guide is sold at the NCSU Bookstore.

The co-author, Brad Lamb, is an attorney who has assisted NCSU students with the application or hearing process. For information on his services, please call (919)932-2444.

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Opinion

July 12, 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

Separate still isn't equal

Unfortunately, King's dream of racial equality has been deferred at NCSU.

A lot of progress has been made in the area of civil rights for blacks during the last 40 years, from Brown vs. Board of Education, which desegregated schools, to the Civil Rights Act of 1965, which struck down existing "Jim Crow" laws making voting regulations equal for all races.

One would think that after all of this effort, the late Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of lifting the nation from the "quicksands of injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood" was nigh. One would also think we are all striving for a color-blind society, where one's skin color is as important when judging people as one's shoe size. But on the N.C. State campus it's still black and white.

King would probably be appalled at what goes on at NCSU today. His dream of unity and happiness has been twisted into a nightmare of separatism and distrust — if not hatred.

A prime example of this is the African-American Symposium where incoming black freshmen are brought to orientation a day early to learn about their heritage and have a sense of pride instilled in them. There is

also a fair amount of what has been described as "white-people bashing." Judgmental statements made about a particular race notwithstanding, this takes place on a campus with a separate library, newspaper and cultural center just for blacks.

Discovering and embracing one's culture and finding pride in it is good for the mind and the spirit. It leads one to a greater knowledge of the self and, ideally, a better understanding of other cultures. All students, whether they are whites from Appalachia or blacks from the sandhills, should be encouraged to retain and nourish their cultures. But that spirit of self knowledge has gotten out of hand at NCSU, and separatism has cut our campus into ugly colored blocks.

It is disappointing — disappointing that the legacy of a great man who worked hard and gave his life so his children would not be judged by the color of their skin but the content of their character, would be abused to create a society where separatism is rampant and even encouraged — by people of all races.

It is not the job of a state-supported university to separate races and ethnicities. That is the job of individuals — individuals who teach hate.

Free at last? Far from it.

Summer showers soak

Don't play around with Mother Nature. Take precautions for predicted rough weather.

As recent events can attest, the weather on campus during the summer can be violent and dangerous. Thunderstorms, flash floods, hail and lightning are but a sampling of the many meteorological maladies that can drench the common student on any given day. To help everyone stay safe and dry during the remaining summer months, here are a few weather safety tips.

Take shelter during severe storms. Granted, this sounds rather obvious, but many are injured or killed from waiting until it "gets bad outside." Lightning can strike even if a storm isn't overhead.

Avoid open areas during thunderstorms. Lightning tends to strike the tallest object in a given area, and a person in the middle of an open field becomes a lightning rod with legs. Seek cover in a shelter.

Don't attempt to drive across flooded roads. If a road is covered with water, there's no way to tell exactly how deep it is. Two feet of water is enough to cause most cars to stall, and more water could sweep the car away.

Don't attempt to cross swollen creeks or streams. Just like flooded

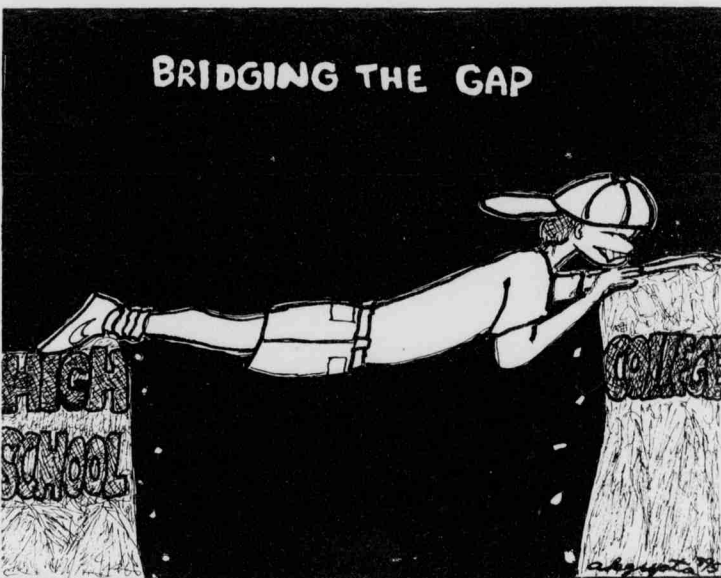
roads, the depth and current of flooded streams is deceptive and dangerous. They may not look like much, but they can easily carry away the unsuspecting or careless wader.

Seek shelter during tornado warnings. Tornadoes can strike suddenly, leaving devastating results. If one approaches, crouch in a hallway away from windows and glass. Kneel facing the wall with your hands covering the back of your neck.

Take hurricane warnings seriously. People on or near the shore put themselves in danger of being killed every year because they ignore orders from local authorities to evacuate. Instead of heading inland, they stay behind and throw hurricane parties. These revelers are then killed by the swift moving storm surge — a wall of water that can reach heights of 20 feet above high tide level in strong storms — which is more than enough to wipe out the average beach house.

Unlike tornadoes, plenty of advance warning precedes a hurricane, so there's no reason people shouldn't get out of harm's way. This hurricane season is predicted to be very active, so people living at or visiting the coast should take the necessary precautions of stocking up on necessities such as food and water.

Put simply: when man and Mother Nature meet, man loses out every time. Use your head and stay safe this summer.



Commentary

Christian Coalition leader is a false prophet

James Ellis

It's been a real education for those of us who have come of age when religion and politics were almost completely separate. In the last 15 years, the closest religion got to national politics was when Billy Graham and Ronald Reagan played Kissy-face during the primary seasons. (I guess you could count Pat Robertson running for president, but...)

In 1992, the shark fin of religion appeared on the horizon. Almost all by himself, Mr. Pat "Cool Cat" Buchanan opened the flood gates for the Bible-toting crowd. What a joyous day. This time around, however, the "Religious Right" and the Christian Coalition are making a play to control the hearts and minds of the United States.

If you took a poll of all college students, you'd find that U.S. citizens younger than 25 believe that almost all religious people are Republicans. What a shame. Up until Ronald Reagan grabbed the brass ring in 1980, religious activists were of a very Democratic nature.

During the civil rights marches of the late 1950s and 1960s and the anti-war protests of the late '60s and early '70s, it was the clergy who became the backbone of liberal causes. This excluded the conservative pit-bulls — the Southern Baptists, who waited until recently to say "I'm sorry" for not supporting civil rights in the 1960s. What a bunch of nice guys.

Religion was the extreme side of liberalism. As the capitalist Shelton ponies of industry chafed on governmental regulations, religious activists promoted people Black or white, rich or poor, religion came to the aid of

the "little people" who were in need. But that is all over now. The activist elements of religion in the United States today want nothing more than to eliminate the wall between church and state that has stood strong for centuries. Among the Christian Coalition's favorite ideas — to completely eliminate public education and replace it with government-funded parochial schools, to wipe out civil rights laws for women and homosexuals, to cut taxes for the rich based on the elimination of federal and state entitlement for the poor and minorities and to cut Public Broadcasting Service and arts funding and other wonderfully progressive plans. Quite a switch from the last 1900 years of Christianity.

I guess Ralph Reed and Pat Robertson have forgotten how they paid artists during the middle ages to paint and decorate churches to boost dragging attendance. They forget that it was the church who promoted education when the Visigoth barbarians torched Rome. They forgot that minorities, especially Hispanics and blacks, comprise a higher proportion of church-goers than do whites. They don't remember the time when the church was at the forefront of charitable work instead of dismantling government charity. They have forgotten

that parochial schools used to be the elite education center because of its separation from government regulations and guidelines. Now they want to write the regulations and guidelines.

Gone are the days of tolerance. Hello to the days of Pat Robertson and his exclusive brand of religion and politics. Even being religious isn't enough for Ralph Reed's Christian Coalition. Former members of the Christian Coalition have been forced out for not being religious enough. State, local and now federal candidates are worried about their own piety in the face of Pat's own brand of fundamentalism.

The Christian Coalition is passing itself off as the face of the religious United States, but it is a lie. When Pat Buchanan says that only Republicans can be Christians, he forgets the ministers and clergy members who vote and run on Democratic tickets, not to mention the Pennsylvania congressman who is also an ordained minister.

Pat, Pat and Ralph know that the only way to gain their own political power is to run on a platform of extreme religious fervor. Gone is "love thy neighbor" and "do unto others." They have been replaced by hate, fear and mistrust. They smell victory in the air and would kill to get it.

But Pat, Pat and Ralph — the Pep Boys of religious intolerance — are false prophets. The Christian Coalition has put a false fear of God into God-fearing people for the sole purpose of promoting its own elitist agenda. Don't be fooled — they are Judas.

Students may be suspended without a hearing

Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of columns discussing N.C. State's student judicial system.

Since an earlier column of mine ran, some have said that the NCSU judicial process is not in violation of the code of student conduct. For anyone to make such a broad, authoritative and definite statement would require intimate knowledge of each and every student judicial case — knowledge which no student could possibly have. I cannot pretend to speak definitively about any case other than my own, but in my case such a violation is a matter of judicial record.

There was further support that Student Development officers do not act in ways that are intentionally dishonest or unethical. I appreciate the display of loyalty to university officials in positions of authority, but such loyalty can only come at the expense of students who are unknown to those voicing such strong convictions. Judicial systems, if they are to be fair, must depend upon objectivity which cannot be maintained when such personal loyalty exists. This, to my mind, distinguishes a judicial system from a political system. Unquestioned trust for those involved in judicial decisions necessarily translates into distrust and disrespect for students. This then becomes a matter of judicial ethics.

I have tried for quite some time to reconcile within my own mind what appears to me as inconsistent behavior of Evelyn Reiman, director of student

David Sandgren

development. Quite frankly, I truly believe she has a dedication both to the university and to students that is unmatched by anyone else I know within the administration. Unfortunately for students, her loyalty to her staff is unquestioning and excessive, which means that any dispute or difference of perception between students and her staff is resolved without fair consideration in favor of her staff and against students, even without their knowledge of the issues before judicial decision is made.

This amounts to dishonesty and prejudice, whether intentional or not. It is my hope that she will come to recognize this anti-judicial prejudice against students and overcome it, for I believe that all interests of the university would be served if she would replace Tom Stafford as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. I intend to demonstrate that the actions of Paul Cousins and Tom Stafford betray intentional dishonesty although intent is irrelevant to harm caused. Dishonesty, which my dictionary defines simply as a lack of honesty, unavoidably has its effect a very prejudicial misleading of accused students.

It was suggested to me that, since the

student code of conduct encourages student participation in significant student judicial decisions, I must, by flow of logic, have a serious disagreement with students.

This is where I must fire my first round of firewords.

The code of student conduct has for several years said, "Students subject to suspension, expulsion, or disciplinary termination from University housing will be entitled to a judicial board hearing unless the Extraordinary Disciplinary Proceedings would take precedence. Students subject to any other sanction will be entitled to an informal disciplinary conference." (Judicial board hearings supposedly require student participation; informal disciplinary conferences do not.)

This misled me, and will continue to mislead students, into thinking that they cannot be suspended without being offered a judicial board hearing (unless a case for extraordinary intervention is made). Furthermore, it will mislead students, as it did me, into thinking that they will not be suspended if they are assigned to a disciplinary conference.

For now, it should suffice to say that I did not have the opportunity for a judicial board hearing; I was assigned to a disciplinary conference instead, with no student involved in any aspect of my hearing or appeal. Reiman and Bryan were the hearing officers. And they were negligent and

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Dredd

Continued from Page 3
wavering New York accent to sound like Sly's brother, but Kevin Costner made a better Brit than Asante a New Yorker. Joan Chen, an interesting actress in a one-dimensional part, just looked like she was looking for an exit — or

may be her paycheck.
On the whole, this is an action picture for action film fans. Probably on par with "True Lies" or "Hard Target." Leave your expectations for a solid movie at the door. After years of trying to find his genre, Sly may have finally found it in futuristic comic book action films. Thank god.
Grade: C

The agony of the teeth

Amanda Ray

Getting your wisdom teeth extracted can be great fun — with the right anesthesia, that is.

Do you always feel guilty when you lie around like a bloated slug watching television and eating. Sure, it's great fun at the time, but a few hours later when you realized all the time you've wasted vegetating instead of doing something socially constructive and how much you've depleted your once-plentiful supply of food, you really start to feel like a drooling derelict.

A few weeks ago I engaged in three days' worth of lazy debauchery without feeling guilty. I had a legitimate excuse for all that exquisite idleness. The excuse began forming three years ago when I visited my dentist back home in good old Gastonia, N.C. He explained that the dull ache I'd been feeling in my lower jaw was a result of my pesky wisdom teeth trying to poke their way out of my gums.

They'd have to come out sooner or later, he told me. But being the supreme slacker that I am, I decided to wait until later. Much later. In fact, I ignored all the cute little reminders my dentist sent me. I stopped flossing. I stopped brushing before bed.

But one day I realized that the tingly bordering-on-pain sensation in my teeth only flared up when I ate sugary things. I quickly reached the conclusion that pain=decay, and I knew something had to change.

I lifted myself up out of my three-year state of oral decadence and called a Raleigh dentist. I ended up having two cavities and the wisdom teeth situation had gotten worse. I had to either get them taken out or they would rot out. On a roll with my resolution to maintain stellar dental hygiene, I made an appointment with the oral surgeon for May 24.

I was a little worried about the surgery, because I'd seen plenty of my friends' faces bloat up to Limbaugh-like proportions after having the little rascals removed. An IV of sedatives is required, and I'm really paranoid about that soft place in the crook of my arm that's chock full of veins. The lurid shooting-up scene in "Pulp Fiction" haunted me for weeks. Luckily, my mom came into town to drive me home afterwards and take care of me.

I checked into the oral surgeon's office and they led me into a little room with a bunch of techno-gear set up. My mom began to question the nurse about the surgeon's credentials and mental stability as the nurse strapped heart monitors on me. Finally the doctor cruised nonchalantly in. "Did you bring good veins?" he asked.

Before I could say "Please, anywhere but the crook!" he slapped the rubber strap on my arm and shoved a needle right into the dreaded spot.

"You're going to feel like you've been at a really big frat party," he said, apparently feeling he was communicating with me on some drunken-fool college student level. I now know why frat parties are so popular.

Reality faded away and was replaced by a sleepy oblivion. One minute the doctor was jamming something in my mouth to prop my jaws open, the next the nurse was saying "It's all over!" in her carefully rehearsed, cheery/soothing voice. They sat me in a comfy chair in the "recovery room" across from my mom, who was chowing down on about 3000 calories worth of McDonald's food.

On the way home I looked in the mirror and realized I had a mouthful of blood and gauze. My stomach was a churning sea of acid and blood because I hadn't had

anything to eat for almost 24 hours. When I got home I took a two hour nap with ice packs on my cheeks.

The next couple of days were spent in gluttonous abandon. I lay in bed all day, ate foods like yogurt, milkshakes, and pudding, and watched a mind-numbing amount of television. My mom bought me a slew of fine groceries and cleaned up everything she laid eyes on. She rented me "Double Indemnity" and "The Magnificent Ambersons." And when the pain came, even more pleasure was there to relieve it. Aah, those sublime pain pills.

They gave me the extracted teeth to take home, and I put them in a plastic bag with the teeth my dog had to get pulled out last year. (You think that's twisted? I once knew a guy who kept six years' worth of toenail clippings in a Ziploc bag). On days when I'm having a particularly tough time with summer school, I get out that bag and take out my teeth.

Although I probably look somewhat like a scary SS officer, I remember what good fortune those teeth brought me. I fondly touch the gaping holes in the back of my mouth and remember...yes, I lived like a queen for three days, consuming a frightening amount of lactose products and polluting my mind with smutty television.

And all I had to lose was a few teeth and a little blood.

Virtual

Continued from Page 1
and Computer Science in Nice, France, in January.

Strickland said she hopes to continue her cross-disciplinary research and learn whether the progress people with autism make in a virtual world translates into the real world.

She also said that she would like to take her research to the next level. "I'd love to try it with individuals who are not communicating at all now," Strickland said, "to see if there's some way of reaching them."

How many mistakes have you caught in today's Technician?

If you've found more than five, you just might be the person we're looking for. Technician, N.C. State's award-winning student-run newspaper needs copy editors and proofreaders for the fall semester. If you think you've got what it takes, stop by Technician World Headquarters at 323 Witherspoon Student Center and fill out an application during business hours, or you can e-mail Sharon Corkery, Technician's Copy Desk Clerk, at Sharon@smc.sca.ncsu.edu.

Northwest Coffee

Hillsborough Street's newest coffeehouse offers good coffee and a unique atmosphere.

By ELIZABETH BOOKOUT
Senior Staff Writer

In only a few short weeks, Caribou Coffee has succeeded in spicing up Hillsborough Street.

Raleigh's newest coffee shop is already drawing repeat customers. And it's not only the coffee that keeps people coming. The atmosphere in this coffee shop is like no other.

"I think it will be the hottest thing around campus," said Tran Doyscher, Caribou's manager.

Boasting a clean, smoke-free environment, Caribou's artfully crafted tables, colorful merchandise displays and educational information are just a few of the things setting it apart from the average coffeehouse. Drinking rich, aromatic coffee amongst these surroundings becomes an aesthetically pleasing adventure for the senses.

"We want our customers to come here and enjoy themselves," said Doyscher.

She also said that one of Caribou Coffee's goals is to educate the customer.

"A customer who walks in knowing nothing about coffee has the opportunity to leave having learned a lot," Doyscher said.

An attractive, informative display of coffee beans illustrates the physical changes and each stage of coffee from harvest to roast. Underneath this sign are several free note cards describing the countries where coffee is grown and the different flavors and aromas that originate in each area.

Education aside, it's the coffee that makes a coffee shop.

You can get just about any type of specialty coffee for under \$3, which is average, and the coffee of the day will cost you 85 cents. Doyscher said Caribou Coffee encourages customers to purchase coffee and accessories. The shop sells beans, grinders and French presses.

"We use a French press because it makes the best coffee," Doyscher

said. "We try to sell the French press so that the customer can make great-tasting coffee at home."

A French press is a coffee brewer manufactured with a stainless steel filter and a plunging mechanism. This simple, unique brewing method results in a superior aroma and richer taste because all the natural oils are retained.

Doyscher said Caribou Coffee takes coffee seriously, so it takes its business seriously. Each employee must complete an extensive, 17-hour training session learning to brew coffee and steam milk, and all employees must be certified to make espresso.

"We don't flavor our coffee," Doyscher said. "A lot of places flavor coffee, but we don't flavor our beans because it will destroy the natural flavor and structure of the coffee."

Though the beans themselves are never flavored, customers can get flavor shots for an additional charge. But everybody knows the best way to get a good tasting cup of java is to use fresh beans.

"If we have any coffee beans for over 14 days, we toss them," Doyscher said.

This coffeehouse serves more than just coffee. Tea, cider, sodas, sandwiches and salads are a few of the extra items on the menu, making this an ideal place for a leisurely lunch.

"Everything we sell is top quality," Doyscher said. "We go out of our way to find the best pastry, the best muffin and the best quality, freshest food."

At the end of the night Caribou's unsold food is donated to homeless shelters or other charities. Doyscher said the founders believe in giving back to the community, and every store's budget allows it to sponsor charity organizations.

"Each store is different and is aimed toward a different community," Doyscher said. "But the philosophy will remain the same no matter where it is."

GRADE: A



Sandgren

Continued from Page 4

dishonest in failing to inform me that they were not familiar with judicial proceedings mandated to students subjected to suspension. This, of course, misled me into thinking that I would not be

suspended (which was not the case) so I felt little reason to defend myself but instead concentrated upon comforting my accuser who was an intelligent but irritatingly frightened young woman accusing me of harassment. Unwisely, in the absence of concern upon the part of any university official, I had been guilty of trying to dispel both her fears and mine which resulted from hers. More details will follow in

future columns.

Some also believe that I am quite wrong in my accusations against judicial officers. Wouldn't it be comforting for students to think that judgments would be withheld until all of the facts were in instead of people making knee-jerk decisions based upon one introductory column? Please, stay tuned.



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