# Technician

May 29, 1996

#### **Bell Tower Briefs**



#### Forestry professor uses trees to reduce waste pollution

An N.C. State scientist is using trees to reduce harmful nutrient runoff from municipal, agricultural and industrial wastewater.

industrial wastewater.

Doug Frederick, a professor of forestry, sprays chlorinated wastewater on fields of hardwood and pine trees at five sites in eastern North Carolina.

He has found that, on average, between 60 percent and 90 percent of the nitrogen and phosphorus in the wastewater is removed in the

Some of the nutrients are taken up and stored in the trees; other nutrients are used or tied up by microorganisms in the top 10 inches of soild near the trees' roots.

near the trees' roots.

"It's a win-win situation." Frederick said. "Fewer nutrients end up as contaminants in groundwater and surface waters, and because the wastewater acts as a fertilizer, the sprayed trees grow much faster than they would nuormally, allowing the cities or industries to harvest them for wood products much earlier." Foresters at NCSU are also testing man-made wetlands for wastewater treatment.

\*\*Courtesy of NCSU News\*\*

Courtesy of NCSU News

#### Help control the 'wee beasties'

As children, many of us have heard the fairy tale about "wee beasties" hiding beneath our beds, but the insect world has given us a real-life embodiment of that story.

Sometimes, there are wee beasties under our beds — and in our upholstery and on our bed sheets — and they go by the popular name of dust

Contrary to common beliefs, dust mites — minute creatures that inhabit household dust — do not bite or sting. They live on dried skin scales that humans routinely shed.

Dust mites are so tiny as to be virtually invisible, so they seldom cause the alarm that other creepy-crawly invaders can bring to a household. They can, however, cause trouble.

In a few susceptible individuals, dust mites can trigger allergic reactions that result in respiratory problems such as asthma.

There are several ways to attack the household dust mite problem, said Mike Waldvogel, an entomologist at N.C. State.

at N.C. State.

The best remedies for controlling the dust mite population in a home is by using a good vacuum cleaner, a clean air conditioner filter and a washing machine.

Since dust mites thrive in warm, humid environments, scrupulous house cleaning, air filtering and lowering the humidity in any house is the best way to get rid of dust mites. Waldvogel said.

Courtesy of NCSU

Courtesy of NCSU Department of Agricultural

# Engineering close to getting new dean

N.C. State's Board of Trustees has approved a new College of Engineering dean.

BY CHRIS BAYSDEN

After waiting nearly half a year, the students and faculty in N.C. State's College of Engineering finally have a good idea who their next dean might be.

The university's Board of Trustees gave Nino Masnari, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, the stamp of approval Friday.

Friday.

Masnari has been at NCSU since
1979 and served as head of the
Electrical and Computer
Engineering Department from 1979

to 1988. He is director of the National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center for Advanced Electronics and Materials Processing.

Only one step remains before the appointment becomes official, according to Daun Daemon, the information officer at the College of Engineering.

"It's pending approval by the North Carolina Board of Governors," she said.

If approved by the board, Masnari will take over on Aug. 1, Daemon said.

Masnari said that if he is pproved, he looks forward to the

approved, he looks forward to the challenge. "It's an exciting opportunity," he

college to continue to build a strong program at NCSU.

"We'd like to make the college competitive with some of the best programs in the country." He said.

The key to success is the students, he added.

"What you like to see at any institution is for your students to be successful," he said. "Our responsibility is to give them the basic knowledge they will need." The search for a new dean began when the former dean, Ralph Cavin Ill, announced that he would resign in December so he could become he vice president for research operations, at Semiconductor Research Corporation, Associate Dean John Gilligan was appointed interim dean until a successor could be found.

Paul. Zin a distinguished.

be found. Paul Zia, a distinguished

university professor emeritus, headed the search committee who narrowed down the choices for the position. Zia said Masnari's experience was a pivotal factor in

experience was a pivotal lactor in his selection.

"He has the academic and administrative experience that is required for the position," he said. "We were looking for a person with very strong leadership and academic qualities. He had those qualities."

Tax called Manageria, "support

Zia called Masnari a "super

Zia called Masnari a "super-choice" and a "visionary."
"The committee was impressed by his vision for the future of the College of Engineering." he said.
The search, which was not limited to NCSU faculty, was a targeted one, meaning that the committee did not ask for applications from just anyone interested in the job.

Instead, the committee looked at the qualifications of about 15 to 18 candidates that it felt were worthy of consideration. That way members didn't have to eliminate hundreds of applicants, Zia said. "We tried to identify the right candidate," he said. "We evaluate and narrowed the pool down to two candidates, it presented them to Chancellor Larry Monteith and Provost Phillip Stiles, who decided Masnari was the best choice. "The final selection isn't in the hands of the committee," Zia said. Masnari is a native of Three Rivers, Mich. He received his bachelor's degree, master's degree and doctorate from the University of Michigan. All three were in electrical engineering.

## Stop and smell the flowers



Students rarely stop and admire the picturesque landscaping while hurrying around campus. These tranquil lillies on Dan Allen Drive contrast their hectic surroundings.

# Facilities attempts to make campus more accessible

Facilities Planning and Design is hard at work to make the campus more accessible to handicapped individuals.

By Jason King

Most campus access points like doors, stairways and sidewalks don't present much of an obstacle to the average person, but to a person with a disability, some campus obstacles can be close to impossible.

The Facilities Planning and Design Department at N.C. State is constantly working to eliminate those impenentable barriers and make the campus easily accessible to those with disabilities.

As part of that on-going effort, the

with disabilities.

As part of that on-going effort, the department is searching for students, staff or faculty members or members of the general public who would serve on a panel to review potential projects and projects and projects in planning.

Panel members would then offer suggestions on which projects should gain top priority and how those projects might affect mobility, hearing and visual access to university programs, said Randy Reggi, a project manager for the department.

Reggi said one of the problems facing the department is a lack of communication with people who have access problems to certain areas

have access problems to certain areas of campus.

"We do hear [complaints] from time to time," he said.

Reggi said the limited number of complaints they do hear might not be indicative of the number of accessing problems in existence.

"There may not be an adequate channel for them to complain," he said.

The panel could help because it could find and point out potential problems with projects before they are implemented and inform the department as to the importance of

department as to the importance of project on campus.

Reggi said a few people have contacted the department about serving on the panel, but he ultimately would like to see at least 10-12 members meeting sometime in

The department is currently modifying the corridor in the 1911 Building and modifying toilets in Poe Hall.

Hall.

Upcoming projects, if approved, could include the addition of automatic doors and/or widening doors in Polk, Broughton and Winston Halls.

# Campus prepares for Special Olympics

sports taking place at the 1996 N.C. Special Olympics will be on N.C. State's

Over 1,600 athletes with mental over 1,000 attentes with mental retardation will converge on Raleigh and N.C. State this Friday as the 1996 N.C. Special Olympics takes place May 31-June 2. Carmichael Gymnasium, Stewart Theater and Derr Track will serve

as homes for volleyball, powerlifting, gymnastics and track and field competitions. The McKimmon Center will also be used to host a dance festival. Aquatics and softball competitions will be held at Putlen Aquatic Center. Walnut Creek Softball Complex and Worthdale Park. Dave Lenox, executive director of the N.C. Special Olympics, said the competitions give special athletes "the chance to strengthen their character, develop their skills, display their talents and fulfill their human potential."

"We hope the Raleigh community will turn out in the thousands to either see or volunteer in our event."
Lenox said.
Nearly 1,000 volunteers will do everything from coaching to preparing meals.



Spill in Scott Hall draws crowd

event in this state," said Patton McDowell, the program director of the

program director on a games.

Special Olympics is a community-based sports organization that allows over 23,000 North Carolinians who have mental retardation or closely related develop mental disabilities the opportunity to unite with the community through sports in an

environment of equality, respect and acceptance.

There are Special Olympics programs in every state in the United States and in over 140 countries across the world.

The concept of the Special Olympics began in the early 1960s when Eunice Kennedy Shriver started a day-camp for people with mental retardation.

To participate in Special Olympics competitions, an athlete is required to train for a minimum of eight weeks with a qualified coach in a particular sport.

### **Inside Wednesday**

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Sports: Baseball team ends its season in Florida. Page 3 >

Opinion: Litigation is becoming as American as apple pie. Page 4 >

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#### A chemical spill caused a small scare

last week.

News Star Ferront

A small chemical spill in Scott Hall last Wednesday caused the building to be evacuated and drew a crowd of police and rescue teams. No one was injured.

A four liter container of acetonitrile, a flammable and toxic solvent used for extraction, was spilled around 11 a.m. The building was evacuated after someone pulled a fire alarm.

Officials from Public Safety, Raleigh Police

Department and Raleigh Fire Department and a Hazardous Material unit were called to the scene. On lookers gathered around the area. "Apparently somebody spilled some kind of nitride in the lab room," said Joe Tomaselli, a student who was forced to leave the building.

said Joe Tolman Student who was forced to leave the building. According to Gerald Havenstein, department head of poultry science, the spill occurred in the toxicology lab on the third floor.

Those who came into contact with the chemical underwent a cleanup procedure after the spill.

Angela Gupta contributed to this story.



Rescue workers prepare to confront the spill

# Mission: decode plot

This "Mission," should you choose to accept it, is a star-studded action fest.

BY CLARENCE MOYE

Tom Cruise seems to be a different type of movie star. Instead of merely throwing big-budget effects at an audience for the easy movie from the ea

engage the audience as well as entertain.

But I think he's gone a tad overboard with his newest film, the screen version of the late '60s TV show 'Mission: Impossible.'

This was already a pre-sold product, so Cruise and director Brian DePalma ("Carrie," "The Untouchables") didn't have to go far to get an audience. But since they wanted to make the smartest movie possible, they've gone overboard and created a film that is buried deep by a highly-confusing plot that still manages to come to life, thanks to three very good action scenes.

iffe, thanks to three very good action seenes.

Cruise stars as Ethan Hunt, a secret agent on the IMF (Impossible Missions Force) who is as brilliant as he is cocky. Jon Voight ("Coming Home") plays Jim Phelps, the only character recycled from the TV show. Phelps is the man who always leads the crew, receiving that infamous message, "Your mission, should you choose to accept it..."

In the beginning of the film. Phelps sends the IMF team to intercept the transfer of a top-secret list of secret agents' names and code names – a deadly thing should it fall into the wrong hands.

The story from here seems to be

# Movies on the Lawn reminiscent of drive-ins

■ If you are running out of things to do on the weekend, go see a movie on the lawn at The North Carolina Museum of Art.

By Josh Jordon

Six JORRON
Six JORRON
Six JORRON
Six JORRON
Six Jordan Hough it's all you can afford.
Cinema, even though it's all you can afford.
The North Carolina Museum of Art is featuring Movies on the Lawn this summer, a series of movies that are screened outdoors.
The films are shown on a super-sized screen mounted on an exterior wall of the museum.
The series was originally started as a one-month trial test-run by founders Joseph Covington and Doug Champion. The goal was to find uses for the grounds surrounding the museum.
Now in its seventh season, the movies are shown all summer, with each month having a series theme. The season runs through Spetember 28.
During the month of June, we get thrown back into the heyday of the past with "The Celluloid Sixties," a

mix of the big movies of that time.
July's films are a tribute to Ginger
Rogers, who co-stars with the songand-dance legend Fred Astaire. If
you are a film buff, you now have
the opportunity to see these classics
on the big screen.

The month of August is dedicated
to mystery, and September is
supposed to be "mainstream" movie
month, which means the same stuff
they show at Blue Ridge or at the
Campus Cinema at the Witherspoon
Student Center. The schedule has
not been released for September.
Movies are shown on Fridays and
Saturdays at 9 p.m. behind the
museum. You'll need to drive all
the way behind the museum, and
then some. If you don't, you may
not find the movie, as it is wellhidden.
The screen is "super-sized," but is
not a gargantuan. It is quite
adequate for its needs, however.
The sound system isn't exactly
THX, but is far better than
watching aflick on television.
Joseph Covington, the Director of
Education at the N.C. Museum of
Art, said the Movies on the Lawn
series gets bigger and better every
year.

"It's kind of like going to the old

year.
"It's kind of like going to the old

See Movies, Page 5



You don't have to deal with sticky floors and crowded theaters when you watch a Movie on the Lawn

Summer Movies on the Lawn Schedule

June 7-8: Psycho June 14-15: 2001: A Space Odyssey June 21: Breakfast at Tiffany's June 28-29: Dr. Strangelove July 5-6: Top Hat July 12-13: Swing Time

July 19: Shall We Dance? July 26-27: Monkey Business Aug. 2-3: Murder, My Sweet Aug. 9-10: The Usual Suspects Aug. 16-17: Dark Passage Aug. 23-24: The Client

# Hillsborough endures constant change

■ Hillsborough Street is anything but static.

BY BETSY STROUD

Hillsborough Street and North Carolina State University, Franklin Street and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

For many people these streets are synonymous with the universities they correspond with. This may have something to do with the tendency of these streets to get swarmed when their respective university teams win an important

game. Or it might be because each street exudes an unmistakable

street exudes an ununsuser.

I don't know about Franklin
Street, but Hilbsborough Street has
made many changes during the
three years that I have been here.
Every year, a new store takes the
place of an old one, or a new
restaurant opens and an old favorite
disannears.

But there is one thing that you can count on. Change and Hitlsborrough Street go hand in hand — especially these last few months. In the recent past, I at at both McDonaids and the University Grill fairly often.

lunch at McDonalds on Friday, the following Monday I saw that it had been closed down. I had the same reaction when the University Grill shut down.

Seeing businesses close overnight isn't a new sight to anyone who frequents Hilbsborough Street. I remember shopping at The Lodge a lot during my freshman year because I didn't have a car, and I was in complete shock when, after not yisiting the store for a couple of weeks. I went and it was closed.

Countless other businesses also



rough Street regulars are baffled.



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Thurs, May 30 **Ominous Seapods** 

Fri, May 31 Seattle: The Grunge Show Tribute to Nirvana, Pearl Jam, Soundgarden and Alice in Chains

Sat, June 1 Purple Schoolbus

Fri, June 7 P.L.O.W

Sat, June 8 Breakfast Club



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# **Sports**

# 0-for-Florida, over and out

#### ■ It's the end of the college baseball world as we know it, and nobody feels fine.

it, and nobody feels fine.

After winning over 40 games during the regular season, the N.C. State baseball team was one of the favorites to win the ACC Tournament. But the Wolfpack lost two out of three in Durham, and with the fifth-seeded Virginia Cavaliers winning the tourney, the Pack (42-19) had to squeek into the NCAA East Regional in Florida.

But even from there, the Pack didn't have an easy route to the College World Series. And State, for all its hard work during the season, was given the honor of playing last week two of the Sunshine State's best teams.

A win against the South Florida Bulls (46-17), and the Pack wolf draws some much-needed confidence and a shot at a much lower-seeded team. A loss? Just a matchup against the No. 4 Florida Gators. State needed to get off to a good start.

#### USF 12, N.C. State 3

The Pack did get off to a good start in the first inning against the Bulls, going up 1-0. But USF pitcher Scott Glaser (12-4) settled down, and kept the Pack on the ropes the rest of the day. He finished with six strike outs.

While State had questions

While State had questions offensively, South Florida had the answers, hammering Pack pitcher Brett Black (12-3) for seven runs off nine hits

off nine hits.

Dustin Baker relieved Black in the seventh, but he fared no better, as the Bulls shellacked Baker for five

## Wolfpack Baseball

One bright spot for the Pack was second baseman Mike Terhune, who went 1-for-3 on the afternoon, with a homer and two RBLs. Right fielder Jake Weber, first baseman Matt Postell each added one hit each for the Pack.

Bulls' reliever Steven Boyles came in for Glaser in the eighth after the starter gave up two more runs in the seventh, and Boyles took over where Glaser had left off, giving up no hits and striking out one to send State into the elimination game against the Gators at their home field at McKethan Stadium (cue 'Jaws' theme here).

#### Florida 12, N.C. State 9

time, though, the Pack needed to hold onto it.

State held tightly onto a 5-1 lead — for all of three innings. Then, like a shark waiting below the surface, the Gators (46-16) slowly but surely crept back into the game, scoring at least one run in the final seven innings.

Down 12-7 in the bottom of the ninth, State looked for a rally. But Gator reliever Brad Wilkerson (4-2) had the upper-hand, and State could only manage two runs before realizing that the season was over.

Corey Lee (10-3) started on the mound for State, but through seven and two-thirds innings he gave up

Rambusch came in in the bottom of the eighth, but he lasted two-thirds of an inning, giving up three runs. Brian Fields finally stopped the bleeding in the inith. Combined, 33 hits were made during the game. For State, Mike Terhune once again led the way at the plate, going 3-for-6. Rightfielder Jake Weber went 2-for-5 while scoring three runs.

went 2-for-5 White scoring three runs.

Designated hitter Jeff Butler showed-off in front of his home state crowd by scoring two RBIs in his lone at-bat. Shortstop Adam Everett also added an RBI by going 2-for-4 at the plate.

State could have scored more runs if not for stranding 13 men on base.



Pitcher Brett Black (left) took a 12-2 record with him to Gainesville, Fla., for the East Regional. Black gave up seven runs in six innings before Dustin Balker came in to stop the bleeding. Tom Sergio (below) went 2-for-8 at the plate in Florida, but he did manage to steal a base. Sergio and his teammates must now regroup before gearing-up for next season.

NCAA EAST REGIONAL AT GAINESVILLE, FLA

McKethan Stadium





### **Game Three**

TOTALS 29 3 4 2 4

South Florida 014 020 320 —

N.C. State 100 000 200 —

South Florida 014 020 320 —

N.C. State Dellaero DP—South

N.C. State IP H R ERBB SO Black (L. 12-3) 6 9 7 7 0 4

### **Game Five**

Florida
Eckstein 2b
Eliis 3b
Wilkerson II p
Hazzard dh 1b
Andre 1b
Tamango ss
Castaldo c
Duncan 1b
Dond II
Bond C
Bond C
Bond C
R
TOTALS
N.C. State
Sergio ct
Terhune 2b
Weber rI
Jacominn th
Costal B

Fields p TOTALS Florida N.C. State

# Tons of Wolfpack notes and what not

## State athletes earn first team All-District

team All-District
Two Wolfpack athletes made the
G.T.E. Academic All-District III
Feam (University Division) for the
Spring At-Large sports.
James Bache, a junior on the
Track & Field team from
Wilmington, N.C., earned a spot
with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. in
electrical engineering.
Billy West, a junior from
Fayetteville on the golf team, also
posted a perfect G.P.A. in business
management.
State, along with North Carolina,
led the way with two selections
each for Div. III. Wake Forest was
keening of the Carolina of the Carol

## Women's basketball

selected for Preseason N.I.T.
Triple Crown Sports, Inc., a
Colorado-based sports marketing
and event management company,
and the Triple Crown Women's

## Wolfpack Notes

Vomen's National Invitationa

Tournament.
And Coach Kay Yow's Wolfpack

And Coach Kay Yow's Wolfpack has been selected.

The six day long fourney will be held Nov. 15-20, with the Pack (19-9, last season) hosting the Appalachian State Mountaineers (24-5) in Reynolds Coliseum. The winner will face the winner of Old Dominion (27-2) and George Washington (24-6).

#### State alum receives

State alum receives prestigious award
Former State All-American swimmer Edwin G. Foulke, Jr., has received the Charles McCaffree Award for his achievements as Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission under President George Bush and his administration from the United States Swim Coaches Association.

Foulke earned All-American honors in 1973 on the 400-yard medley relay as the lead swimmer. He is the youngest person ever to serve as Chairman of the OSHRC and was the youngest Chairman in the Bush administration.

# Third Annual Jimmy V Celebrity Golf Classic

Celebrity Golf Classic drawing near
The 1996 Jimmy V Celebrity Golf Classic benefitting the V Foundation for Cancer Research will take place August 25 at Prestonwood Country Club in Carry. Once again, the Classic will feature local and national sports and entertainment celebrities who will compete in the one-day Charity Golf Tournament.
"One of Coach V's wishes was to be able to support cancer research and to get people to help fight this disease that has affected so many." Frank McCann, Executive Director of the Classic, said. "I think the Classic shows that Jim's dream can come true."



# NCAA hoops near future not so bright

# ■ It's the end of the college basketball world as we know it, and Giglio feels

As Danny Strong entered Charmichael Gymnasium yesterday, I could only think to myself, darm I'm sure half the basketball team would love to get me on the court and show me where I could shove my columns. But then I thought of something, that could be the future of the institution we have all come to know and love—college basketball.

I'm not talking about a team full of 6-foot writers, I'm talking about about the direction of the talent pool of the NCAA. First, take Kevin Garnett, the best player in high school in 1994-95. For whatever reason, Mr. Garnett fails to academically quality for college ball so he takes his considerable talents to the pros.

Now staying with Garnett's class,



on the list.

Do you see where I'm going with this? Not only are the three best players from last year's freshman class no longer playing college basketball, but Mr. Garnett

impressed enough folks that 17-year old Kobe Bryant and South Carolina prep star Jermaine O'Neal, have decided to follow the path, along the sudden, not so least taken. This is not to decry these players decisions. I went to Yankee Stadium last month and drove through where Marbury grew up. If I'm Marbury, or any 18-year old with enough talent to reach the height of my respective profession. I'd take the money, run as fast as 1 can, and as Satchel Paige said, "Don't Iook back."

But where does that leave the college game? Last year I asked N.C. State guard Ishua Benjamin about the level of play in the ACC after the league lost eight firstround draft picks.
Benjamin's logical answer was, "As long as we have the coaches we have, the league will never be down."
Osh, meet Rick Pitino.

train out of Kentucky, arguably the most cushy job in basketball period faster than the one he rode in there

on.
And for what? The Celtics job? To coach Michael Jordan? Or maybe its to take the Shaquille O'Neal and friends to the next level? Wrong,

friends to the next level? Wrong, wrong and wrong again. Pitino is leaving the Blue Grass of Kentucky, for slay with me here, the swamps of New Jersey. As a native of the Garden State and one-time Nets fan, the notion of the Nets actually making a basketball decision that makes sense stuns me. But that's not the point. We are talking about a franchise that is so pathetic it takes seven people to own it.

I have only one question for Chez Rick, have you ever heard of the curse of the Meadowlands? Does the name Jimmy Hoffa mean anything?

J.P. Gisuo/Starf Yes, that's Mike Preston. Stars such as Preston and other famous alumni could be at the Third annual Jimmy V Gelf classic.

Golf classic

Golf classic. In the past three years, the V Foundation has raised \$800,000 to fight cancer research.

For more details about

that leaves us with scenario at Charmichael Gym— Basketball hacks, such as myself, who are never going to leave early for anything, playing in an organized game of pick-up basketball. Now, maybe I shouldn't be so apocalyptic with my visions of the NCAA future. Afterall, much to the dismay of many Wolfpack fans, a certain lottery pick is keeping his but in Cigaretteville. Hopefully the game will prove to bigger than a handful of precocious individuals who want to be like Mike.

Mike.

If I do recall in 1983, a team proved that, "it's not always the strongest nor fastest, but those think they can."

I.P. Giglio is senior with a double major in history and communication. If you have any comments questions or suggestions, e-mail him at joe @ sma.sca.ncsu. edu. And please leave some Shasta at the beep.

# Opinion

May 29, 1996

## Court renovations needed

■A UNC-Chapel Hill tragedy emphasizes Fraternity Court's need for renovations that should have been completed long ago.

ometimes tragedy forces people to assess their situation and make changes. The fire at UNC-Chapel Hill's Phi Gamma Delta house earlier this month claiming five victims' lives has prompted N.C. State to further renovate houses on Fraternity Court. Last summer, changes were started to meet the N.C. Fire Code, which the buildings haven't met in 30 years.

The N.C. Department of Insurance The N.C. Department of insurance made these changes, plus others currently being done, mandatory. Stairways that don't lead directly to exits and improper electrical wiring are some of the repairs that will cost Fraternity Court residents an estimated \$1.5. million. Both the N.C. Fire Code and the Federal Codes should have been met when these buildings were either on the drawing board or shortly thereafter. Since their completion, people living in Fraternity Court put their lives in jeopardy by living in substandard housing.

A recent fire at NCSU's Sigma Phi Epsilon house on May 4 only demonstrates that renovations should have been completed long ago.

Assistant Director of Student Affairs Drew Smith said that if the house resident adviser on-duty hadn't acted quickly, the fire would have done more than burn chapter items and ause smoke damage to the living and

A fire with the magnitude of the one at UNC-CH could have easily happened here at NCSU. If the RA hadn't responded at the Epsilon fire, there would have been more victims—exams weren't finished and many members were there.

Luckily, a fire at NCSU didn't cause the changes to Fraternity Court to be made. But what about those houses that aren't on Fraternity Court? Some of those houses were once residential - meant for one family, not a homes — meant for one family, not a fraternity chapter. The Phi Gamma Delta house was once a residential home in Chapel Hill; and was, like its neighbors, considered a private residence. But it and those like it aren't private residences because of the number of people housed in them and shouldn't be treated as such. Changes should be made on these houses as well to meet the Fire Code

Fraternity Court residents should be thankful that changes are being made to better ensure their safety. The changes will be worth the cost - it is better to have something and not need it, than to need it and not have it.



#### Commentary

## Justice losing ground in litigation

This great country of ours is one hell of a place. You can speak your mind, freely elect your leaders and sue it pants off of anybody. Litigation is becoming as great a symbol of American culture as Mom, apple pie and tabloid television. Attorneys and law firms dominate the yellow pages almost every city in the

and tabloid television.
Attorneys and law firms dominate the yellow pages of almost every city in the country, fighting tooth and nair to handle the latest personal injury claim or defective product suit. They are multiplying like rabbits, and at this rate, we'll need a lawyer humting season. No bag limit, no stamps, and raving mobs with torches and clubs get first crack.

But rather than going to such extreme albeit gratifying measures, the Supreme Court is doing its part to help control runaway litigation by striking down an excessive punitive damage award in the case of BMW of North America, Inc. v. Gore. The high court threw out a \$2 million punitive award to an Alabama doctor because of a bad paint job. He discovered that his shiny new BMW had been repainted to cover some seratches during transit to the dealer. The car was sold to him as if it was in mint condition and the damage was never disclosed. This, in Alabama, constitutes fraud, Dr. Gore sued and won, receiving \$4,000 in actual damages and a mind-numbing \$4 million in punitive damages. The Alabama Supreme Court later knocked the award

down to a paltry \$2 million.

The Supreme Court said that punitive damages should be reasonable, stating that an award over \$50 time the agried damage. actual damage was much. It didn't

Perhaps BMW owes \$4 million, but they

Perhaps BMW owes \$4 million, but they obviously don't owe it to one man. By striking this down, the Supreme Court is helping to stem the tide of excessive awards. Many a greedy soul is out to nail some huge corporation over some insignificant error, be in hot coffee or no warnings about riding a bike at night, all under the claim that such huge amounts are the only way to get the big, bad conglomerates to change their evil bloodsucking ways. But the only person helped by these lawsuits are the plaintiffs, and their lawyers. McDonald's coffee was way too hot to be safe. Though the woman who spilled it on herself should have had the common sense to not try to remove the lid from an obviously hot cup while driving, the golden arches were at fault. The woman did suffer a great deal, but should she be the one getting the punitive damages?

damages?

The purpose of punitive fines are to punish the offender, not fatten the wallets of victims and their lawyers. Actual damages and pain and suffering should certainly go to the victim, but will society be better served if the humed woman received several million in punitive damages? No

received several million in punitive damages? No. So, what to do with punitive awards? A modest proposal: Give the money to a charitable trust maintained by the state or another charitable organization as designated by the plaintiff. Giving a million dollars to a burn center or an orphanage will be of far greater benefit to

## **Observe Memorial Day**

■ By not recognizing a national and state holiday, is N.C. State being unpatriotic?

n Monday, millions of Americans received a day off in the form of Memorial Day, While some used the time to go to the beach or to sleep late, others realized the holiday's true purpose: to remember those Americans who gave their lives for their country. For over 200 years, American men

For over 200 years, American men and women have died on battlefields — some far away and others close to home — to protect the dreams and ideas this country was founded on. When called to serve their country, these Americans bravely responded and gave their all so that we might steep comfortably at night. sleep comfortably at night.

But apparently that sacrifice isn't enough for the powers that run this university. Despite the fact that Memorial Day is a federal holiday, observed by national and most state employees, N.C. State, a statesupported university, doesn't allow students to take the day off to remember America's fallen heroes.

These people made the ultimate sacrifice for this country to protect many of our freedoms, rights and values. Whether administrators

recognize it or not, one of the things they defended was our educational system. We have the privilege of attending educational institutions where we can speak our minds, ask honest questions and receive honest answers in large part thanks to the sacrifices made by past generations of our sentinels of freedom.

NCSU should honor America's fallen soldiers by observing Memorial Day. Instead of starting the summer session on a Tuesday, it should have begun on Monday, allowing students to take the day off to reflect on the importance of freedom and the price many paid so that we may enjoy it.

By not allowing NCSU students and faculty to have Memorial Day off, a great disservice was given to both the NCSU community and those whom the holiday remembers. It shows what little concern the powers that be have for our veterans and fallen patriots and denies students the chance to learn about and remember those who fought for them to be able to attend this university. The Belltower, which graces the university's seal, is a memorial. It seems almost hypocritical not to observe such a somber and important day.

### 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 blank

#### Technician, vol. 1, no. 1, February 1, 1920 EDITOR IN CHIEF Chris Baysden MANAGING EDITOR Alex Storey ...Jason King **Business Manager** Robert Sadler

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# Consider safety before tragedy strikes

On Sunday, May 12, five people died and three were injured at the Phi Gamma Delta fratemity house at UNC-Chapel Hill. News of the tragedy's extent did not reach students extend and the students exte O M M E N T students, staff and faculty until after the

students, staff and faculty until after the graduation ceremonies being held the same day. What should have been the first day of a Bright, new future for many became a day of a bright, new future for many became a day of the firet, generally and to learn the names and numbers of the dead. They feared hearing of friends who did not make it through the flames. In the days that followed newspapers, radio and television repeated the details over and over. The Saturday night party that preceded the fire was not one of the according to the firet should be a graduation celebration attended by parents including a member of the UNC Board of Governors. The party though the firet should be a graduation of the fratemity house basement. It was a case of too much water in the wrong place.

Two days later, a smoldering eigarette in a plastic trash bag left in the basement was pinpointed as the cause of the fire. From the beginning, people speculated about the non-existent sprinkler systems. The consensus was that a sprinkler system would have diverted the tragedy. Now we



have no water in the right place.

Sprinkler systems. Sprinkler systems. There are no laws requiring them. Only the N.C. General Assembly can do anything about that. Will they? Won't they? As this is an election year, who can say. A few legislators are introducing a bill to this year's short session of the legislature; however, acting on pending bills, not introducing new ones.

acting on pending bills, not introducing new ones.

Alcohol also played a part in the deaths. Of the five who died, only Joanna Howell of Cary had not been drinking. The other four had blood alcohol levels that were more than twice the legal time to driving in North Carolina. As if this wasn't badenough, only one of the four was of legal drinking age.

During the investigation, fraternity and scrootly houses at many North Carolina universities were inspected. Here at N.C. State, 26 fraternity members sleep in an attic only accessible by a three-foot hole cut in a ceiling. The inspector who found this gave the house a rating of five on a scale of one to ten. He further stated he had "seen better, but I've seen much, much worse." N.C. Central University is so far out of compliance with insurance safety regulations that the state has discussed closing down certain buildings.

been known and nothing has been done about it. It is so bad on Central's campus that in some class buildings only the ground floor can be used for safety

that in some class buildings only the ground floor can be used for safety reasons.

Why are people suddenly so concerned with correcting the safety violations in student housing? Why have the violations in student housing? Why have the violations been allowed to accumulate? The Chapel Hill City Council applied for the authority to take action on the sprinkler issue a couple of years ago. They dropped it when business leaders fought against the issue because of the costs involved. Some of the renovations have been priced at as much as \$100.000 dollars. That breaks down to \$20,000 dollars for the life of each of the five who died. I think each parent would gladly come up with a portion of the cost to have their children alive today. Alumni and parents of members of the fratemittes and sororities could surely finance the repairs and renovations just as they came up with the money to buy refreshments and hire a band for that party.

As promised, the special bill to give the Chapel Hill City Council the authority to require sprinklers in Greek houses has been introduced at the N.C. General Assembly, Just as quickly, it was referred to a committee. Bills grow old and die in committees. In another blindly intelligent move, the same assembly has idestepped funding for improvements at all UNC System campauses. They say they'll allocate some funds but it might have to

## Storey

Continues from Page 4
society than giving it to some sap
with slick lawyers that have yacht
payments to make. The companies
will take a hit no matter what, so
why not put it to good use?

why not put it to good use?

Will this ever happen? I'd be surprised if it did. The American surprised if it did. The American snakes in the reptilian practice of law) will whine and complain, saying such action will deter people with legitimate claims from pressing them in court. (It will also cut into their already astronomical income, but you'll never catch them admitting to that.) People with legitimate claims backed by sound evidence will win, and they'll most likely get a little something for their trouble.

But if the primary motive is a

someting for their trouble.

But if the primary motive is a seven-figure shot in the arm instead of justice, then the millions extracted will be wasted on greed, while people still go hungry and homeless.

This is a land of plenty, but plenty for whom?

## Bennett

Notes

be by special bills.

I find it a great pity that we are not proactive in situations that concern the safety and well-being of others. Why does it always require needless deaths to wake us up to our responsibility as citizens and as human beings? I find it all very depressing. As depressing as realizing that all five lives could have been saved if someone had thought to take out the trash before going to bed.

Continued from Page 3

A new event is being added to the festivities this year. The Jimmy V Celebrity Golf Classic Million Dollar Shootout will be held at four driving ranges in the Triangle throughout August and will give a member of the public a chance to win a spot at a shot at one million

## Street

Continued from Page 2
have seemed to close down or
transform into something entirely
different overnight. What takes the
place of these old businesses?
Manhattan Bagel replaced The
Lodge, Hillsborough Street
Bookstore took over DJ's Book and
News and Starbucks Coffee
appeared where the University Grill
once was, turning Hillsborough
Street into a coffee lover's paradise
(At least five other establishments
on Hillsborough Street either
specialize in or serve coffee.)
Other fairly new additions to
Hillsborough Street over the past
couple of years include Las
Margaritas, the Rathskellar, Jersey

Mike's Subs and the EO Outlet clothing store.

Mike's Subs and the ECO Control.

But even with all of these changes taking place, many restaurants and other businesses have stood the test of time. Among these are Brothers and Two Guys Pizza as well as Cup A Joe, which remains one of the most popular places to get a cup of coffee. And don't forget the many bars on Hillsborough Street, which have a maior role in weekend night

bars on Hillsborough Street, which play a major role in weekend night life for many NCSU students. Regardless of how many changes Hillsborough Street undergoes, students will always use it as either a place to get a quick bite to eat, a parking ticket, a weekend hangout or a gathering place after winning a game — keeping Hillsborough Street eternally synonymous with N.C. State.

## Movies

Continued from Page 2 drive-ins," Covington said. "Just being outdoors in the summer when the sun goes down is an experience."

experience."

Audience members are allowed to bring blankets and chairs to sit on, as well as food and drinks, including glass bottles, as long as they dispose of their trush.

Bug spray would also be a good idea to combat the mosquito population, which thrives in North Carolina's lovely hot and humid weather.

The audience seemed to really enjoy the outdoor movie-going

enjoy the outdoor movie-going experience.
"Everyone there seemed so laid back, the atmosphere was so relaxed," said Shannon Nelson, a junior at NCSU. "There is plenty of room to sit, everyone has a good view of the screen, and it's so neat to just be underneath the stars and watch a movie. Besides, when's the last time you took a picnic basket to

dollars.

Qualifying rounds will determine who will advance to the final round and at the million-dollar prize.

Tickets to the Classic will go on sale June 15 and will be available at local Kerr Drugs, First Union, Mitchell's Hairstyling, Medlin Davis Cleaners and Kroger Supermarkets. Or you can call (919) 363-2254 for ticket information, It can also be accessed

information. It can also be accessed online at jimmyv .org /golf

General Cinema or one of those

General Cinema or one of those other theaters?"

Merrill Mann, a sophomore at the University of Richmond, was also pleased with the experience.

"This is the first time I've seen a movie on the lawn," Mann said. "And I will be coming again. What a deal, it's only three bucks. It's definitely worth it."

If the outdoors aren't to your liking, but you still want to see these movies, you can see them at 7 p.m. on Fridays inside the museum auditorium. In the case of rain, the 9 p.m. screenings will be shown in the auditorium. In the case of rain, the 9 p.m. screenings will be shown in the auditorium. Tickets cost only slightly more than they do at Blue Ridge; \$35 or museum members. If you want to save money, buy a packet of the whole month's series for \$10 (for the public) or \$9 (for members). For children ages of 5 through 11, admission is good \$2. and children under 5 are admitted free.

For more information, call the North Carolina Museum of Art at \$833-3548.

classic.html. Ticket prices are \$5.00 in advance or \$8.00 on the day of the event.

Celebrities who have participated in the Classic in the past include Charles Barkley, Hootie and the Blowfish, ESPN's Dan Patrick and Dick Vitale, Rebecca Lobo, Leslie Visser, James Worthy, Joe Piscopo and of course Bob Staak.

Wolfpack alums who have made trip in the past include Monte Towe, who led the Pack to the 1974

## Mission

Continued from Page 2 your standard spy material. That is, until the double-crossing starts. Then, and I'll be the first to admit it, things get fuzzy.

I can't really say why things are so confusing without giving away what surprising secrets there are in the film. Let's just say that for the first time since I was a child. I left the theater totally confused as to the plot of the film. So, my best advice is to sit back, forget the story, and marvel at DePalma's brilliant action scenes.

The film essentially consists of three elaborate set pieces — one in a ball-room, one in a high-speed train. These scenes are the heart and soul of the film, and they make it soar.

heart and soul of the film, and they make it soar.

DePalma is a master of action sequences that involve several levels of danger colliding at one time. For example, in the film's best sequence, Cruise is suspended in air above a secured floor whose alarm can be triggered by the slightest increase in pressure or temperature. He's also dependent on the man holding the wire, who is afraid of the rat crawling by his face. Then there's the government man who could walk in the room at any moment. It's a great, but tense. man who could walk in the room at any momen. It's a great. But tense, seene that will give you your money's worth. Just don't question the plot or the feasibility of the action scenes and some good performances by the star-filled cast. It's a much better film than that bloated, special effects bag of wind, "Twister," whose sole asset is computerized tornadoes.

Grade: B

#### Read Technician

National Championship, Vinny Del Negro of the San Antonio Spurs and Tom Gugliotta of the Minnesota Timberwolves. Hootic and the Blowfish will be perform on Aug 22-23 on behalf of the V Foundation. During the past two years, the Classic has raised \$800,000 for cancer research, making the Classic the largest single fund-raiser for the V Foundation.

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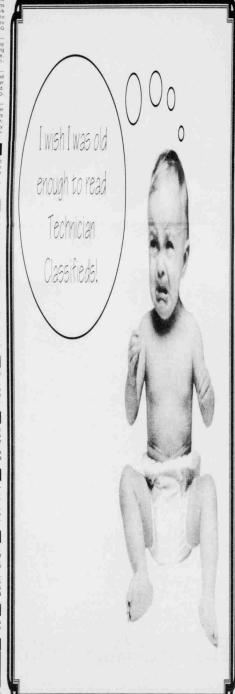
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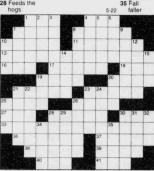
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