

Uphill battle

Women's soccer readies for game against UNC-CH. See page 6.



TECHNICIAN

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Diggin' it

NCSU professor excavates ancient lands. See page 2.

Outside

Today Hi 70 Lo 55
Tomorrow Hi 72 Lo 60

Student's work heads to space

◆ A botany study by an NCSU student has been chosen by NASA to be sent out of this world.

JIMMY BYRLE
Staff Writer

To many, John Glenn may be a national hero — the first man to orbit the earth, a U.S. senator from Ohio and soon to be the oldest man ever to return to space to participate in a NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) mission.

Reathel Geary, a junior in botany at N.C. State, will soon have something in common with Glenn. The 77-year-old Glenn and the 26-year-old Geary will both be part of NASA's Oct. 29 STS-95 mission.

On the same mission where Senator Glenn will be making a return visit to outer space, Geary will be conducting an experiment that he designed for a competition sponsored by Instrumentation Technology Associates, Inc. (ITA) and the American Society for Gravitational and Space Biology (ASGSB). Although Geary will be at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., he will remain at mission control to handle the ground control work on his experiment.

Geary's proposal was among one of three selected in the nationwide search. Students at Oregon State and Brown Universities designed the other two. His proposal centers on the effects of microgravity on the regeneration of plant DNA.

According to Geary, included in all cells are enzymes called ligases, which are responsible for repairing discontinuities and breakages in a cell's DNA. Geary will sever a segment of plant DNA on earth. The astronauts onboard the space shuttle Discovery will later introduce the ligase enzyme to the cut strand, allowing a reaction to take place. After 24 hours of incubation, the managing astronaut will insert the catalyst compound EDTA, thus ending the reaction.

Once the shuttle lands, the DNA segments will return to NCSU for analysis, Geary's proposal said. The results of the experiment could provide clues about whether plant life will survive in space and could eventually aid in the use of plants to feed astronauts on long-term space missions, according to Geary.

Designing an experiment to be performed



A person demonstrates what Reathel Geary is working on for his experiment that is headed to space.

onboard a space shuttle provided a unique challenge for Geary.

"Doing a space lab experiment is very difficult because of all the limitations," Geary said. "I had very little control over the conditions of my experiment."

The ITA announcement seeking applicants

for the research requires that all experiments use amounts of fluid small enough to be held in a 125 to 250 milliliter container.

Geary conducted his research through the use of on-campus NASA Specialized Center of Research and Training (NSCORT) labs, provided to the university through a five-

year, \$5 million NASA grant. He learned of the ITA competition from Sarah Wyatt, who has supervised his research since he arrived at NCSU during the spring 1998 semester.

Should Geary's experiment produce the expected results, offering preliminary proof that plant life can exist in space, he may

someday have one more similarity with Glenn, his septuagenarian counterpart. For now, though, Geary is content to continue with his schoolwork.

"The opportunity to do undergraduate research allowed me to carry out this research."

A contrast of styles



The poster sale has reinvented itself. Hurry students, get your Pink Floyd or John Coltrane posters before supplies run out.

NCSU hopes to combat ineffective advising

◆ A proposed advising center exists to assist the thousands of students left ineffectively advised at NCSU.

SARAH MIANO
Senior Staff Writer

The numbers are in. Approximately 3,826 N.C. State students per year are not being advised effectively for various reasons, according to the University Committee of Undergraduate Advising.

The total of ineffectively advised students was derived from the approximations of the advising coordinators in each of the 10 colleges. The advising coordinators' goal was to project the sum of students who met certain criteria, making them in need of additional services, as set forth by the university committee.

"This is not necessarily poor advising," according to James Anderson, vice provost and dean of undergraduate studies.

Rather, Anderson said, it is an indication of a lack of resources and the need for a new approach in assisting those students. This new approach, developed according to the needs shown on the initial survey, is already in the works.

"We are trying to develop a campus-wide academic advisement success center," Anderson said.

A subcommittee has been formed, headed by Andrea Irby, director of advising for the College of Management, to develop the formation of a "virtual advising center."

"There is a significant number of students who want and need help, but they want and need help not necessarily when someone has office hours," Irby said.

This new center will not be a physical place on campus but an interactive Web site in which students will be able to have their questions

answered by an online staff 24 hours a day. Not only that, but users will be able to locate their advisors via the Web, see their pictures, access their e-mail accounts and become familiar even before their initial meeting.

Other features will include tutorial services, mentoring, workshops, academic skill enhancement, time management and coping with stress and test anxiety. It will also be helpful for those off campus and taking classes through the Web. Additional services may come about through the committee's solicitation of student input.

Behind the scenes, Irby envisions an advisor and a Web technician who will work in close conjunction with each university department through a key advising resource — "someone who knows their stuff."

When all the details are worked out, the committee will present them to Undergraduate Studies and hope

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University Registrar's office improves academic difficulty report process

◆ NCSU changes academic difficulty report process so students can receive guidance throughout the semester.

EMILY TOWNLEY
Staff Writer

The University Registrar's office believes that a new system for issuing academic difficulty reports to students is the most effective method to date of promoting com-

munication among advisors, faculty members and students.

"Students realize they will not be allowed to simply slip through the cracks," said Louis Hunt, associate registrar.

For years, faculty members sent reports of academic trouble, including multiple absences and failing grades, to students via mail. All faculty members sent the reports on one date, which fell after the last day to drop classes. This made the reports minimally effective, as students

were forced to stay in their classes and oftentimes had too little time to make drastic improvements in their performance before the end of the semester.

Changes in this procedure have been gradual over the course of the last three to four years. The initial change was in the report date; faculty members mailed necessary academic difficulty reports to students before the last day to drop classes, reversing previous problems. However, the changes did not stop

there.

Staff members in the department of registration and records saw a need for the evolution of academic difficulty reports into academic progress reports — enabling faculty members to issue words of encouragement as well as difficulty reports as many times as necessary throughout the course of the semester.

"The new academic progress reporting system is easy and efficient, encouraging faculty to give good reports and helpful sugges-

tions," Hunt said. "It also helps students feel less anonymous, as they are beginning to see that their professors do take notice if they miss several classes in a row or if they drastically improve in test scores."

Another dramatic variation of the old system is that all reporting is now done via the World Wide Web. The computerized system allows faculty members to efficiently access a "student history page," providing a comprehensive listing of all reports they have issued to a spec-

ic student on their roster. They can then generate e-mail messages that are sent to the students concerned.

Advisers may also communicate via e-mail messages, as a means to better understand exactly how their advisees are performing in their courses.

"This new system is wonderful to allow communication among advisors, students and faculty members," said University Registrar Martha

See **Process**, Page 4

NCSU professor does 'INDIANA JONES'

◆ Finding the oldest church in the world.

NEIL HERBERT
Senior Staff Writer

When N.C. State history professor Thomas Parker set off for Aquaba, Jordan, in June, he didn't expect to end up on NBC nightly news. Or to need a literary agent by fall.

Parker, an archeologist, was returning for the third summer to the site of an ancient trading city called Aila, located at the northern tip of the Red Sea. His research focused on the economy of a port city that linked Rome and its empire to Arabia, East Africa and India.

The project, started in 1994, was quietly moving forward according to his research plan. And then, Parker found a church — the oldest church in the world. Parker believes that the Christians of Aila, which sits on the edge of the modern city of Aquaba, built their church between 260 and 303 A.D. The structure is distinguished from other ancient churches in two ways: it was originally built as a Christian church, rather than converted from some other use, and it was abandoned following an earthquake in 363 A.D., escaping the centuries of remodeling that have left virtually nothing original intact in such famous ancient churches as Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

Though Parker feels lucky to have uncovered such a unique and monumental structure, he hasn't changed his research plan and continues to study the city of Aila as a whole.

His project began in 1993, shortly after he completed the post-dig analysis and publication of the results of his first major excavation, a Roman legionary fortress adjacent to the Dead Sea. Having specialized in Middle East archeology since his grad school days at UCLA 20 years before, Parker knew from surviving texts that there was once a great international port at the head of the Gulf of Aquaba.

The port was a transfer station for luxury goods, such as frankincense, myrrh, spices and ivory, which were unloaded from ships coming from India, South Arabia and East Africa. The goods were hauled by camel caravan across the Sinai peninsula to the coast of Israel, where ships took them to the Mediterranean ports of the Roman Empire. Having decided to recover the ruins of Aila and having secured the cooperation of the Jordanian government, Parker turned to locating the site.

"Where, precisely, was open to

considerable doubt," Parker said in an interview last month. "There were hints. We looked at aerial photographs, particularly ones taken before the buildup occurred."

The buildup he refers to is the rapid expansion of Aquaba, which, though still only about 70,000 people, is quickly devouring the undeveloped land on Jordan's tiny sliver of Red Sea coastline. When Parker initiated the dig in 1994, he knew he had to act quickly before the land was made available to developers. Of the five initial dig sites, three were yielding nothing but the same Jordanian sand after a week of excavation. Heading a work force of 50 American and Canadian specialists and students, Parker grew concerned.

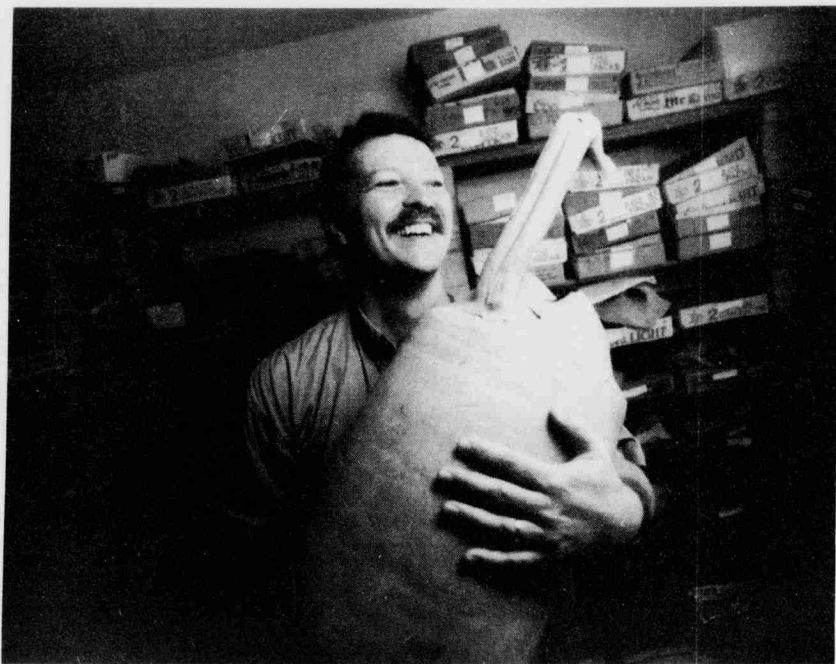
"I started to panic a little bit — I had brought all these people over for two months," he said. But two of the initial sites began turning up artifacts right away. By the end of the second week, all five teams were digging out the rich remains of Aila. The Jordanian government soon declared a large area of what had become precious land as a permanent archeological garden, which Parker thinks will be studied by others for decades to come.

Aila was founded by a Semitic people called the Nabataeans, who were absorbed into the Roman Empire as it spread through the Middle East, said Parker. They built their city mostly of mud brick, with some use of stone for foundations and with a wall surrounding the city.

For the first two summers of his project, Parker found a great deal of mud brick domestic architecture, as well as the remains of a military fortress established around 300 A.D. for Roman soldiers and their families. Because of the cosmopolitan nature of the city, the artifacts found are from many corners of the ancient world. Pottery manufactured in Tunisia, African red slipware, Italian ceramic wine containers, 12 different types of imported marble and stone, glass, coins, carbonized grains and hundreds of copper and bronze pieces tell the story of Aila and its trade.

Along with luxury goods, grains and vegetables came Christianity, which tended to thrive in the urban centers of the Roman Empire. Parker knew from documentary sources that Christians inhabited Aila; indeed, they sent their Bishop to the first Ecumenical Church Council in 325 A.D. He didn't know, however, of the existence of their church building.

It was Mary Louise Muscle, a colleague of Parker's from Carlton University in Ottawa, Canada, who first proposed that a partially-exca-



Dr. S. Thomas Parker examines a 2,000-year-old amphora from the excavation at Aila. The vessel probably carried Italian wine to the ancient city.

vat building measuring 90 feet by 50 feet was a church. The building was constructed of mud brick, with some stone used in the foundation. Seven stone steps were intact, suggesting a second story.

There were no roofing tiles, leading Parker to believe the building had a vaulted mud brick roof, sealed from the rain with wattle and daub or palm leaves. Cobblestone covered part of the floor. The shattered remains of glass oil-burning chandeliers, victims of the earthquake of 363 A.D., were also found. The walls, some of which measured 16 feet, had plaster surfaces. Faint traces of red and black pigment remained from the frescos that decorated the walls. A graveyard lay beside the building.

Initially, Parker was skeptical that the building was a church. It seemed too good to be true. Evidence back-

ing up Muscle's hunch soon began chipping away at his doubts.

"As the plan of the building slowly emerged from the sand, the pieces fell into place one by one. The nave, in the main assembly hall; the chancel, where the altar table probably stood; the side aisles appeared — but we didn't have the apse on the eastern end." When the apse was finally uncovered, Parker knew the structure was the oldest purpose-built Christian church in the world. Soon the world knew, too. Television crews came to interview him; NPR telephoned for an "All Things Considered" interview; book publishers came calling. Though he had appeared in the past on A&E's Ancient Mysteries with Leonard Nemoi and several other television programs as an archeological expert, he had never been so celebrated for his own work.

Just as happy over the find as Parker was the Jordanian Government, which has turned the country's archeological heritage into a vital part of the Jordanian economy.

The site is sure to attract tourists celebrating the turning of the millennium in the Holy Lands. The Jordanians will build a permanent shelter to cover the church once Parker completes his research.

For now, Parker is analyzing his findings and preparing for the final dig in 2000. He is looking for students from all majors to make up his final team in Aquaba. The working conditions can be grueling: up at 4 a.m., at the site by 5 a.m., dig until noon, at which time the temperature is often over 110 degrees with high humidity. Workers take a midday break, and then start a second work period from 3:30 p.m. until 6:30

p.m., with dinner and leisure time afterwards for those who can stay awake.

Weekends, however, are free, and Parker takes his workers on weekend excursions to Israel and a medieval castle on the coast of Egypt. And the housing, in apartments on the top floor of a downtown Aquaba apartment building, is luxurious compared to what his workers suffered through in during his five summers at Lejun, the Roman Legionary fortress near the Dead Sea.

There, he said, "We lived in tents in the desert like animals for two months a year." In Aquaba, a Pizza Hut is right down the street.

Parker predicts a quiet summer for his last digging out Aila. "I think this is my 15 minutes of fame. I can't imagine that I'll ever have this kind of luck again."

Our changing economy

◆ The economy new, explained.

CARL KEACHMAR
Staff Writer

Last week Alan Greenspan, a member of the Federal Reserve Board, lowered interest rates, but what does this action mean for our economy? Generally, lowering interest rates increases the money supply because borrowing from the bank has become cheaper. Lowering the interest rate, therefore, increases private investment like buying new capital, upgrading technology or buying a your first house.

Therefore, lowering interest rates stimulates economic growth. This seems like a timely strategy since Asian markets have been on the downside and Europe suffers from

high unemployment; not to mention the economic disaster in Russia.

At first glance, it appears as though Greenspan might be lowering interest rates as a counter measure against the sluggish Asian economies that are having a negative effect on international sales for U.S. firms operating abroad. However, N.C. State professors of economists Michael McElroy and John Lapp both agree that Greenspan isn't really thinking too much about the recession in Asia but, rather, that he is looking domestically.

Lapp explains, "The logic is people are unwilling to invest in Asia compared to the safety offered by the U.S. economy. Dropping interest rates won't effect Asia."

McElroy points out that "there is a lag time between six and 18 months upon implementing new monetary

policy. Greenspan is looking past recession at recovery and thinking more about fears of inflation."

The United States has kept a remarkably stable inflation rate with unemployment dropping since 1992, but as inflation falls, Greenspan's biggest concern will be the implications of disinflation. If the dollar deflates, then borrowers today will be paying back more in the future.

In most everyone's lives, inflation is experienced. For example, a dollar in the '60s got you a drink and a burger for lunch. Today, that same dollar probably doesn't get you a nice big beefy burger and you can forget about that Pepsi.

Deflation, however, works in the opposite direction. Imagine you take out a 10-year loan for \$100,000 to buy a house and the economy is experiencing deflation. For the next 10 years there is 10 percent deflation. Correspondingly, that same \$100,000 is worth more at the end of the 10 year loan period by tenth percent than it was when you took the loan. This is great for the lender, but you just paid for a house and a tenth, but still only got a house. Relative to the beginning year of the loan, \$100,000 in 10 years would buy as much as \$110,000 would at the start of the loan.

The last time our economy saw deflation was during the Great Depression in the '30s and afterwards steady inflation persisted until reaching its peak at 13 percent in the '80s. Disinflation has brought the inflation rate down to 4 percent

The International Fest: Culture for everyone

◆ 13th International festival is a success.

NATALIE DUGGINS
Senior Staff Writer

Imagine being given the opportunity to travel to 40 different countries. You could travel to Jamaica and sample some jerk chicken. Afterwards you could jaunt over to Greece for a gyro filled with your favorite meat and some delectable baklava for dessert. And all this for a few dollars!

This past weekend the thirteenth Annual International Festival was held at Raleigh's Convention and Conference Center. A program sponsored by the non-profit organization International Focus, Inc., the International Fest seeks to promote an awareness and appreciation of the diverse cultures in the Raleigh area.

Many people are oblivious to the culture that surrounds them every day and International Focus seeks to bring the Triangle's own cultural diversity to the forefront. More than 40 Triangle associations joined in this year's festivities, bringing not only samples of their native foods but also insight into their cultures through song, dance and storytelling.

The doors to this year's International Festival opened at six o'clock on Friday night. From the outset, festival goers were bombard-

ed by folk dance on the main stage by groups representing Rwanda, Turkey, Korea, Argentina and Bangladesh, just to name a few.

Though the other exhibits are interesting, the biggest attraction at the International Festival is the main stage. With performances lasting only 10 minutes, a person gains insight into Filipino, Indian and Peruvian cultures all within the course of thirty minutes. A view of culture could be attained from the style and pace of the dance and the type of clothing that the performers wore.

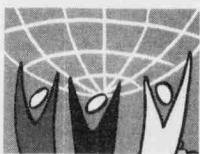
Among the hosts of entertainers for the thirteenth Annual International Festival was Flamenco Vivo, a well-known dance company that performs nationwide as well as teaching Spanish dances to young school children.

There was non-stop entertainment to be found on the main stage at this years event, which lasted from opening to close everyday. Meanwhile, downstairs at the coffeehouse, people were entertained by music and international coffees from all walks of life. This year's musical performances included a "Celtic Jam," repae and Chronis Festival.

There was something for all to be discovered at this year's International Festival. Young festival goers were kept entertained by the series of storytellers and balladeers. Native American cultural groups came out the share the sto-

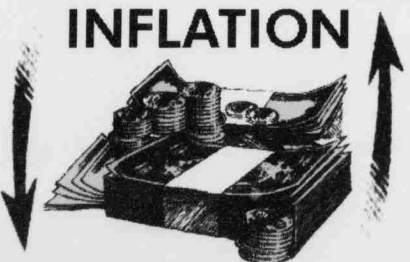
ries of their respective tribes. Chinese groups entertained the children with a puppet show.

The International Fest seemingly touches on every aspect of the world's cultures. One-hour language lessons were given throughout the course of the festival, allowing visitors to learn a few words of German, Spanish, Arabic and French. Unfortunately, those who wanted to learn to make the dishes



found at any of the many "slow-walk" cafes were limited to a few cooking demonstrations given by representatives from the Lebanese, Chinese, Italian and Turkish cultural groups.

Visitors were also able to visit numerous cultural exhibits. One of the most intriguing additions to the festival over the past few years is the Computer Family Research Center, where one could go to discover information about their genealogy. The research center is even equipped with genealogists,



Technician's View

Respect for all

◆ NCOD brings about many issues.

The month of October is known for various things. Halloween, pumpkins and football games, to name a few. But what many may not know is that October also holds a different meaning for some: today, Oct. 6, is National Coming Out Day.

The purpose of National Coming Out Day (or NCOD, as it has come to be called) is for gay, lesbian or bisexual individuals to entrust their identity to at least one person they previously had not. It is also a means of providing a day of support and recognition to these individuals.

In honor of this day, an information table will be set up in the Brickyard from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. And while this display will provide support, advice and facts to those who truly seek these things, it will also undoubtedly draw a very different kind of attention.

Not that controversial issues are new to N.C. State's campus — just look at the divided crowd of onlookers and participants that Gary the Brickyard preacher always draws. But when dealing with such sensitive issues, it is imperative that all students keep just a few things in mind.

First and foremost, this is a college campus. Which should mean an environment of mature individuals who respect one another's beliefs and ideas, no matter what they might be. At a university of

27,000, there is going to be a great deal of diversity, in terms of race, religion, social background and, yes, sexuality. The latter is no different than any other issue in terms of importance or difference in beliefs, yet it seems to provoke a deluge of arguments from all sides.

Which leads to the second point: Everyone has a right to his or her own opinion. Whether you agree with it or not isn't the issue. The First Amendment guarantees every American the right to freedom of speech and the right to express his or her own beliefs and values.

NCOD touches on a very important aspect of this amendment. Gays, lesbians and bisexuals, as well as those who support them, have every right to tell others about themselves, who they are and how they feel. They deserve the same respect as any other person.

On the other hand, there will naturally be those who disagree with them and their lifestyle. And these people are allowed to express their sentiments as well.

But what is important is that, no matter which side a person takes, expression of beliefs should be done in a mature, logical and non-antagonistic manner without a blatant disregard to the other side. In other words, vandalizing someone else's work (i.e. fliers, paintings in the Free Expression Tunnel) is not going to help anything. Respecting others — and allowing them to express themselves in an open-minded environment — will

Thompson Gymnasium 1925

During World War I, an imposed system of military drills and exercises kept the general population in a state of wellness. (And some thought that PE100 was bad.) After the war, the department of physical education was created. To expand and improve on this program, a new gymnasium was built.

In 1925 Thompson Gymnasium opened its doors to students. The facility was named for Frank Thompson, student leader, sports hero and coach, who was killed in action during the war. The new gym included a 35-by-75-foot tile pool, and two main gymnasiums.

The larger gym is pictured to the right. You can see the indoor running track bordering halfway up the wall. For basketball games, the maximum seating was 2500. Other uses for the gym included dances and class registration.

In 1962 Carmichael Gym opened and in 1964 Thompson Gym was remodeled and became Thompson Theatre. marko98



Students ignored

Ryan P. Kellogg
Staff Columnist

Last Monday will be forever remembered as a dark day on the campus of N.C. State. Oh, it started off innocent enough, like any other Monday; the sun was shining, the birds chirping and every student went to class with the satisfaction of knowing UNC-Chapel Hill's football team had lost once again.

But beyond this happy exterior lurked a sinister plot that I should have seen the signs earlier: empty drink machines, long lines of the thirsty, an abundance of soft drink trucks on campus. It all seemed to reek of tactics unseen since the McCarthy era. But it wasn't until I laid my eyes on the red, white and blue symbol of "the taste born in the Carolinas" that I knew the end was near. My lifeblood, my holy carbonated water, Coke, was being replaced by that sorry excuse

for a soda, Pepsi. After falling to my knees and asking God why such a horrible fall could fall on my beloved Coke and Coke-related products, I realized that something was underhanded about this whole deal.

A decision of such magnitude you would think would have involved elaborate surveys of the number-one consumer of soft drinks on campus, student. Now tell me if I'm wrong, but I don't remember getting such a survey or even an announcement about this colossal change before the "Pepsi Nazis" moved in on Monday. You would think that the "powers that be" didn't even care what its 25,000 most loyal constituents thought. But hey, why should they, when they can save one penny per fountain drink, the reported amount that gave Coke the boot. Of course you and I won't be seeing this "huge" savings, but who needs it when we can enjoy the satisfying taste of 7-Up and Diet Pepsi. Mmm, mmm.

OK, so maybe I'm a little too vigilant about the whole soft drink issue, but this is only the latest in a long line of decisions on campus where student opinion has been shuffled to the side. For example, a couple weeks ago the university announced the establishment of the plus/minus grading system for all classes. This much-beloved policy was the result of a three-year "experiment" from 1994-97 where professors could choose between plus/minus or the traditional grading systems.

A report submitted by University Planning and Analysis showed that 33 to 35 percent of undergraduates had a lower GPA in these plus/minus classes during the length of the study. When you consider, also, the study's finding that the minus was used twice as much as the plus in grading, it becomes

See Kellogg, Page 5

The court will decide if Microsoft is becoming monopoly

◆ Appeal court will rule on charges against Microsoft.

District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson will begin presiding next week over a trial intended to bring some law and order to the Wild West of cyberspace.

The question before Jackson may seem legalistic: Has Microsoft, as the Justice Department and 20 state attorneys general assert, engaged in a "broad pattern of anti-competitive behavior" since 1991? But Jackson's eventual answer will help resolve key issues of the Information Age, such as whether Microsoft will be allowed to charge a tariff for every financial transaction conducted on the Internet.

The case against Bill Gates' company began with the Justice Department's charge last year that the Redmond, Wash., software giant illegally pressured computer companies and Internet providers to use its Internet Explorer browser instead of a rival browser called Netscape Navigator. It has since expanded to include new Justice Department evidence that Microsoft might have exerted more than pressure. For example, according to the Justice Department, a 1991 e-mail message from Microsoft executive David Cole endorses a plan to "put competitors on a treadmill" by using a computer bug that "would surely crash" programs installed on a non-Microsoft operating system.

Understandably, Microsoft is now asking Jackson to limit the trial to the original browser charges, but Jackson should resist. The aim shouldn't be to gang up on Microsoft but rather to do what all parties in the lawsuit say they want: to focus the trial not on narrow legalisms but on the larger question of how to ensure that competition thrives in cyberspace.

The public interest and Microsoft's self-interest are not necessarily at odds. After all, if Microsoft loses on any one of the dozen or so charges against it, that could set off a flurry of lawsuits against the company, thereby depressing its stock, which has been a blue-chip bulwark in today's volatile market.

What's key is that the trial be open and impartial, which is why the Circuit Court of Appeals should not accede to Microsoft's request that Gates' three-day-long deposition, recorded on videotape in August, be kept private.

Since 1913, federal law has mandated that pretrial testimony be "open to the public as freely as are trials in open court." That law is especially relevant here, for Gates' testimony provides key evidence of what's really being assessed by the court: his way of doing business, which, by imbuing Microsoft's culture, sets the tone for much of the information industry.

The best measure of the trial's success will be whether it inspires Microsoft to show more respect for customers and competitors than it has in the past. The Justice Department's most compelling argument is that by eliminating competitors, Microsoft has undermined innovation. For instance, the company's signature product, Microsoft Word, does not allow users to perform one of the most basic of all word processing tasks: searching a document for more than a single word or phrase at a time. That's an astonishing omission for a product used by more than 70 million people and one that would have never happened had Microsoft focused less on silencing its competitors and more on listening to its customers.

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Americans victimizing themselves

Amanda Guthrie
Staff Columnist

Why does it seem that everyone gets so worked up over sexual harassment?

It appears there are new accusations every day. I know such acts are not a pleasant experience, but if they occur in a non-threatening environment, I really don't see the need to bring such occurrences forward. There are such unpleasantities in life that cannot be avoided or prevented. I cannot begin to recall the number of times sexually suggestive comments have been thrown in my direction, and I didn't once run off to the authorities. I've even seen a few unwelcome exposed body parts, but I got over it. I cannot believe that the people who have been "harassed" in D.H. Hill Library felt

in any way threatened. The article I read today made it clear that the man didn't even speak to or acknowledge the victim. She simply turned around and he vanished.

Now, I'm more than willing to concede that the behavior was completely inappropriate and probably pretty disgusting, but it's a little different than if the event had occurred in a dark alley at midnight.

It seems to me that Americans, in general, are too willing to be victims these days. If it's not sexual harassment, it's someone suing someone else or otherwise blaming them for something. I would like to live in a world with people who are willing to "suck it up" and get over stuff. I've lived my life with the goal of being mature, and I have tried to be the best of my ability to take care of myself. I greatly admire those who can take care of themselves as well

and try wholeheartedly to fix their problems before they cry to society about how they've been victimized or otherwise mistreated. The fact of the matter is that Americans have become too dependent on others to solve their problems and administer solutions to their complaints.

I'm not suggesting violence, but maybe those females involved in the library incidents should have handled the situation themselves with a few embarrasing comments or hand gestures towards their proud "harassers." I don't know the perfect solution, but there would be a lot less silly articles in the paper and complaints in the air if people would learn how to take care of themselves.

Care to have a word with Amanda? E-mail her at alguthri@unity.ncsu.edu

Human beings are creating their own destruction

Donnie Lassiter
Staff Columnist

Considering the gross prelexity with which fate has been treating me lately, it seems only fitting that I continue my trend of subtle morbidity and "deep thoughts" as one of my readers has put it.

A man named Robert Kiely once wrote, "Man discovered and fulfilled himself through others and destroys himself alone." At this point in the crazy roller-coaster ride of my life, I feel there can be no statement out there that could be any more true than this one.

Man destroys himself alone indeed. Having survived thousands of years on this tiny little ball of rock and water, humankind has dis-

covered, designed and in some cases even sought out ways in which to destroy itself. War, crime, drugs, sex, alcohol, racism and greed are only a few of the more popular ones.

But amazingly enough, an unenlightened few of us have neglected to recognize the single most dangerous and hideous weapon of destruction ever unleashed — our own minds and hearts. That's right, folks. It's my contention that bolt of lightning from the sky or terrorist car bomb could be more harmful to our individual well-being than ourselves.

It seems to me that as we go about the process of living our lives, we often forget to account for failure, rejection, heartache and all of those other nasty bits of misfortune that accompany our existence as human

beings. We stroll through life with blinders on, seemingly unaware that there are pitfalls around every corner and alligators nipping at our heels. Only when we plunge into the great mudduddle of unhappiness and regret do we realize that we should have journeyed down another path.

Why is this, I wonder? Why do human beings feel some strange compulsion to walk down roads we know hold extreme possibility for negative outcomes? Why do we allow ourselves to be fooled into believing in that which is logically improbable or even physically impossible? How can the species that (supposedly) possesses the highest level of intelligence on the planet function single-handedly in its own destruction? Alas, I have no

answers.

Throughout my 19 years, I have done some pretty crazy things. I once had the bright idea to test the power of my BB gun on the water pipes leading to the garden. I discovered that if you pump the thing enough times, you can put a perfectly round little hole in a piece of 1-inch PVC pipe.

One summer, I thought it'd be great to see if you actually could set leaves on fire with a magnifying glass. My family, the local volunteer fire department and a representative from the N.C. Forestry Service all assured me, as the brush fire in my neighbor's yard was being put out, that it did in fact work quite well.

And, soon after being presented

See Lassiter, Page 5

TECHNICIAN

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Advisor

Continued from Page 1

to have it going next summer.

"We'd like to see it extend to an actual place on campus," Irby said. However, the Web site alone requires funding. The project is currently part of the university's Parent's Fund, which will enable parents to see everything evolve.

This "shorter, faster, better maze," while in its primitive stages, is called the University Academic Advising Success Center (UAASC), according to Irby.

Those also on the subcommittee for the UAASC include Joyce Hatch (Computer Science), Sherwood Bryan (Registrar), Michael Bachman (Counseling Center), Barbara Soloman (First Year College Studies), Susan Katz (English), Penelope Long (Communication), Anona Smith (Education and Psychology), John Cudd (Adult Credit Programs) and Susan Grant (University Housing).

Process

Continued from Page 1

Welch. Welch and Hunt have mailed brochures — complete with step-by-step instructions and illustrations for issuing reports online—to over 1,800 faculty members and students since the start of the semester.

In addition, the registration and records department has held nine information sessions in the training rooms of the D.H. Hill Library with the faculty of academic departments to demonstrate the new reporting process. Welch and Hunt have also met with the deans of each college to encourage them to promote use of the new service within their schools.

According to Hunt, the department has been very pleased by the reception of the new system. "The system is being used in the spirit in which it was intended—intervening soon enough so the students can truly be benefited."

Money

Continued from Page 2

by 1986 and stands even lower today at 1.8 percent.

But by no means is this foreshadowing the approach of another depression! The U.S. unemployment rate has continued to decline since 1991 and stands at a low 4.5 percent today.

"Greenspan's move to lower interest rates has been right on line with the interest rates of commercial banks, who have been lowering their interest rates," Lapp points out. This seems to change the notion of Greenspan's influence on the market interest rate and suggests more of a partnership between the market and Greenspan. Since Greenspan closely follows the market interest rate, "We can expect to see this drop be the start of a series of many drops to guard against a decrease in spending," explained Lapp. "Monetary policy in the United States has been consistent."

Consistency and lowering interest rates is what firms and entrepreneurs like to see because low interest rates makes borrowing more attractive and consistency minimizes risk in projections for future investment. Greenspan is looking to encourage investment spending to continue the U.S. economy's growth.

So, graduation and all that investment doesn't look so bleak after all.

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Why am I worn? He ha ha ha. Sorry, you'll have to excuse me. I thought everybody knew me by now. For the record: I'm the All Max that Plus running shoe. I've got a large-volume heel Air-Sole unit and a cushy, flexible forefoot. Combine the two with a durable BRS 1000 carbon rubber Waffle outsole and I make for one smooth, stable ride. Jump in.

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Fest

Continued from Page 2

ready to help visitors discover their own roots.

International Focus, Inc. hopes to remind residents of the Triangle that you need not travel far and wide to discover the splendor of other cultures. Instead, the organization seeks to promote the diversity that lies among the other residents of this area. A majority of the money raised during this weekend's International Festival will go to scholarships, educational programs and the 14th Annual International Festival next October.



Continued from Page 4

field hockey after recording her fourth shutout of the season last Saturday against Duke. In the 2-0 win over the Blue Devils, she recorded six saves and now has a total of 37.

Frey, who is from Virginia Beach, Va., has given up just six goals in the "Tar Heels'" first seven games and has a goals against average of 0.86. She is in her first year as a starter and has played all 70 minutes of every game.

Virginia claims two players of the week
CLEMSON, S.C. — Virginia claimed two players of the week in the ACC in the fourth week of voting by a panel of media members representing the conference area. The Cavaliers placed Anthony Poindexter as the conference's top defensive back and Monsanto Pop was given rookie of the week hon-

ors. Pope, a red-shirt freshman from Hopewell, Va., saw action in 59 games and recorded a career high eight tackles with two solo stops and six assists.

Poindexter claimed two interceptions, two fumble recoveries and caused another fumble as the Cavaliers remained undefeated in the ACC with a 2-4-0 win over Duke.

Wake hires Kane as assistant WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Beth Kane has been named assistant women's basketball coach at Wake Forest University. Demon Deacon Head Coach Charlene Curtis announced today.

Kane will serve as Curtis' third assistant coach, joining second-year assistants Stacy Cox and Stephanie Lawrence Yelton on the Deacon staff.

Her primary responsibilities will include scouting opponents, coordinating the videotape exchange, on-campus recruiting and practice and game coaching.

Kellogg

Continued from Page 3

apparent that the plus/minus system is hardly in the best interest of students, weighted a plus or not. So during this three-year study on plus/minus grading, where did student opinion factor in? Considering that 85 percent of the undergraduate population was against plus/minus grading and the last three student body presidents ran under the platform of abolishing the plus/minus system, you would think that sort of mandate would count for something. But apparently such nuances as what undergraduates think for very little, since the policy steam-rolled through Faculty Senate last spring.

Still, Ryan, it's only grades and carbonated beverages that's about something that really matters. OK then, how about football, but not just any football. We're talking about the only game that really matters all year, UNC-CH vs. NCSU. Now normally this game would have been played at one of two places: beloved Carter-Finley Stadium or whatever they call that dump in Chapel Hill. But for the next two years, this traditional backyard brawl will be moved to an

entirely different subdivision, namely Charlotte's Ericsson Stadium. This idea came about after the 1996 game between East Carolina and the Wolfpack. Apparently the venture was so profitable the athletic directors of UNC-CH and NCSU thought a similar arrangement would be good for both universities. Of course, stuffing more people into a larger stadium at a steeper price always seems like good idea to university officials. But as usual, it's the student who ultimately gets the shaft. First off, I can guarantee you fewer tickets will be given away free for the Charlotte game than a normal home game. But at the same time, the university won't have to give as many away since the game is scheduled over Thanksgiving break, a time when students will be away on holiday. All of this, of course, equals more full-paying fans to fill the seats at Ericsson and a greater take in the subsequent profits.

So clearly something innocent, or as I see it diabolical, like switching soft drink distributors, is in fact part of a larger trend. A trend in which the opinions of the student body are being consistently swept under the rug in favor of money or convenience. The latest victims of this system were only ardent Coke-lovers like myself, but tomorrow, who knows?

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Lassiter

Continued from Page 3

with my driver's license, I discovered that state troopers don't issue warning tickets when you're caught going 17 mph over the legal speed limit.

The point to all of this is that these were mistakes made when I just didn't know any better or didn't pay enough attention to what common sense was telling me.

Like most other people out there, I have experienced negative feedback from decisions made at various times in my life.

For example, I am sure that many of you out there have trusted a member of the opposite sex in some type of relationship only to have your heart broken or your pride trampled.

And if you were anything like me after the first slap in the face, you probably mumbled something like "I'm never gonna let that happen again!"

actually was true, and someone else came along that you felt you could trust with your heart.

Has society created so glamorous and alluring an image of relationships that even the best and brightest intellectuals out there are subject to disastyer-by-heartache?

One thing I do know is that when things such as these happen, I can't help but experience a sense of helplessness.

One thing is for certain, however. Until we can find a way to rewrite our delinquent circuitry or fend off poor judgements of the heart,

It's just a matter of time before we're all being sucked into a vortex of negativity and despair and anguish."

I guess the underlying issue I have attempted to comprehend with this whole theory of mine is how we can go against all that is logical and sane and allow ourselves to punch in the code, to our own self-destructive sequence.

Comments? Questions? Insane rantings? E-mail Donnie at jdlassiter@unity.ncsu.edu

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State Stat:

The N.C. State women's soccer team has finished with 15 or more wins seven times in its history.

Page 6

SPORTS

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

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Vol. 79 No. 29

An uphill battle

◆ Wolfpack women will try to beat the UNC-Chapel Hill soccer team for the first time since 1988.

JAMES BRADLEY SMITH
Staff Writer

Today at Method Road Stadium the N.C. State women's soccer team will attempt to do what few Division I teams have done in the last 19 years, beat the UNC-Chapel Hill women's soccer team.

The UNC-CH women's soccer team truly defines the term dynasty. In the 19 years of its existence as a varsity sport it has put together a 417-16-11 record for a winning percentage of 96 percent. Few teams in the country can match that type of winning history.

"They've got girls coming off the bench that could be All-Americans," Kerrigan said. "There's not a weak player on the team."

The Tar Heels have reached the Final Four every year since a national tournament began in 1980. This includes 14 NCAA crowns out of 16 overall attempts.

When assessing the teams the Atlantic Coast Conference plays, they have won 10 out of the 11 total conference championships, with their only loss coming at the hands of the Wolfpack in 1988.

Ironically, first-year Pack Head Coach Laura Kerrigan was a member of that team, which finished as the runner-up in the NCAA Tournament. Kerrigan's penalty kick proved to be the difference in the game, which decided the conference's first

Champion.

This season UNC-CH is 10-0, extending its overall win streak to 55 games. The last the Heels lost was two years ago to national rival Notre Dame. This season the Tar Heels crushed a strong Notre Dame team 5-0 in the Nike Women's Classic Tournament in Chapel Hill.

While UNC-CH lost several key starters last year, it returns seven starters and 12 varsity letter winners. This year the team is led by All-American Cindy Parlow, who was the National Player of the Year last year and the team's second leading scorer. The Wolfpack will also have to figure out how to stop Rukel Karvelsson who is one of the Tar Heels' leading scorers this year and three-year varsity letter winner.

Fortunately, Coach Kerrigan has proven to be one of the few people in the country who knows how to beat Tar Heels. As a player at N.C. State she was accustomed to playing close games against the Heels.

"If we play our game like we did today, there is not a team that we can't beat," Kerrigan said after the teams 3-1 win over American on Saturday. "We've got good confidence going into the game."

The Wolfpack team has now won its last two games.

"When we play our game we dominate like we did today," Kerrigan said Saturday.

There is no question State will have its hands full as they get set to play its toughest game of the year. Game time is set for 4 p.m. at Method Road Stadium and students get in free with a valid All-Campus card.



Kon Hunter/Staff

The women's soccer team will try to defeat nationally ranked UNC-Chapel Hill today at Method Road Stadium.

Men's tennis sweeps Fall Classic

◆ Men's tennis sweeps the Wolfpack Fall Classic over the weekend.

Sports Staff Report

The N.C. State men's tennis team was not a gracious host over the weekend as the Wolfpack swept the Wolfpack Fall Classic.

The Classic was held at the Wolfpack Tennis Complex and players from Duke, Maryland, UNC-Chapel Hill, Campbell, Davidson and ECU competed in the events, among other area schools. Sunday's matches had to be moved to UNC-CH's indoor facility due to rain.

Junior Devang Desai led the way for the Pack, defeating High Point's Erik Pettersson to win the Flight B singles title.

Desai, a 5-foot-8 Greensboro native, won the Championship match by a score of 6-4, 6-2.

Shaun Thomas, also a junior for the Pack, won the Flight C singles title after losing the first set 2-6. The 6-foot-1-inch Thomas came back to defeat Taavi Suorsa, also of High Point, in two straight sets, 6-0, 7-6.

State's Ryan Boward won the Flight D for the Pack in a tough match, defeating teammate Desai 6-3, 6-7, 6-2.

The Flight A championship match between State's Eric "EJ" Jackson and Duke's Sebastian Gobbi had to be postponed for two weeks while Gobbi returned to Paris for a family emergency.

In the doubles championship matches, N.C. State picked up another title as the duo of Jackson and Desai downed Elon's Blacott and Moll 8-4. Jackson, a junior

from Stone Mountain, Ga., went undefeated at the Wolfpack Fall Classic as a freshman in 1997.

East Carolina's Huez and Kirby won flight B doubles with an 8-4 victory over Ademek and Ferguson of UNC-Chapel Hill.

The Pack and most other teams were not fully represented in the weekend's Classic. Two other major tournaments were taking place in different parts of the country, including the National Clay Courts Tournament in Baltimore and the All-American Championship in Austin, Texas. Several of the area's top players were competing in these events.

The Wolfpack tennis team will not be in action until a month from now when UNC-Chapel Hill will host the Rolex Regional Championships from Nov. 5 through 8.

ACC NOTES

◆ News and notes from around the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Sports Staff Report

Clemson names first rowing team
CLEMSON, S.C. — The members of Clemson's inaugural team were announced by Head Coach Susie Lueck at a press conference Thursday evening in Jervy Gym. This year's rowing team is comprised of 46 athletes from 15 states. The Clemson rowing program will be operating without scholarships this season.

The Clemson oars were also unveiled at the press conference. The white oars contain an orange "Tiger Paw" logo on the blade.

Ross named Duke's Associate AD/Development
DURHAM, N.C. — Susan Cranford Ross has been appointed director of development for Duke University athletics and associate athletic director, Joe Alleva announced Wednesday.

The appointments come at a time when Duke is preparing to launch a major university-wide fundraising campaign and Ross is expected to have a key role in the effort.

Ross has been associate dean at arts and sciences since 1992.

Georgia Tech cross country wins ATLANTA, GA — Georgia Tech's men's and women's cross country teams successfully defended their Division I titles at the Georgia Intercollegiate Championships on Saturday at the Georgia Regional Hospital grounds. Yellow Jackets Becky Megesi (Jonesboro, Ga.) and Joe Stegall (Ryder, Ga.) both captured individual Division I championships to lead the way.

Tech's men's team won its third consecutive championship and eighth in the last nine years. The Jackets also captured their 19th team title since 1966 by taking first place and the third through ninth places.

Maryland's Janss earns Soccer America Honor
BERKELEY, Calif. — Junior defender Emily Janss, who scored two penalty kick goals in a pair of Maryland victories last week, was named to the Soccer America Magazine women's collegiate team of

the week. Janss scored against both Texas and Colorado in the University of Colorado Invitational to help the Terps to a pair of victories.

Maryland's record now stands at 6-3-0 overall. The Terps have won a season-high five consecutive games.

UNC-Chapel Hill's Frey named player of the week
CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Junior goalkeeper Nicole Frey has earned ACC Player-of-the-Week honors in

See Notes, Page 5



Mike Pittman/Staff

The football team has already recorded two upset victories in the 1998 season. State welcomes Georgia Tech to town this Saturday.

Game of the year

◆ Coach Mike O'Cain reflects on State's victory over Syracuse.

RODGERY A. BARNHO
Staff Writer

Head football Coach Mike O'Cain called Thursday's victory against Syracuse "the game of the year."

"Can't say much more than that," O'Cain added. "It was the key to a great season. To me, at least, this was the biggest game of the season."

"The media sees it as a big win, and so do we," said junior wide receiver Chris Coleman, who plays opposite Torry Holt and is N.C. State's all-time leader in yards per catch. "But it's not a surprising win, it's a win."

One of the most surprising aspects of the Pack's season that was evident Thursday is the remarkable play of its freshmen. Freshman Adrian Wilson snatched a Donovan McNabb pass to record his first interception and freshmen linebackers Edrick Smith, Levar Fisher, William Pannell and Corey Lyons have combined for over 65 tackles this year.

Pannell, a redshirt freshman with 10 tackles, was named ACC Rookie of the Week after the Pack's win over FSU. Smith leads

the group with 29 tackles.

"I don't put expectations on them. Too much pressure will most likely result in disappointments," O'Cain said when asked about his freshmen's performance. "It is surprising to me that they can be the type of players they are without the experience."

Another positive to add to an ever-growing list of pluses about this season is the solid team leadership and unity.

"Real leadership is not verbal. Anybody can flap their lips; real leadership is showing the team you can work, and we have a lot of that this season," Coleman said when asked about the leadership on this year's team. "I wouldn't take away any loss we had, a team that can lose together can win together."

"As a freshman, we almost beat Alabama that year and everybody was happy," Coleman added. "Now we're not happy to almost beat anybody, we're expecting to win. No one expects to lose, we're just making big plays from all areas."

Now the team must look forward to Georgia Tech, who stands in the way of an ACC Championship.

"They're a good football team," O'Cain said. "They are talented and as good as we are. The way we're playing at this point and time, and where we are, we need to take care of business."

WOMEN'S SOCCER STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T
Virginia	6	2	0
North Carolina	8	0	0
Clemson	5	3	0
Maryland	6	3	0
Wake Forest	5	3	0
Duke	5	5	0
N.C. State	2	7	0
Florida State	3	5	0