

the clearly labeled least carolinian

ANY DAY OF THE WEEK
APRIL FOOLS DAY

THE EMERALD CITY
PURLEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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Pop Culture Degree Coming to ECU

LOIS LANE
SENIORITY WRITER

Finally ECU students will be able to get a college degree for doing something they love to do: watching television and sleeping until the afternoon will finally get students a college degree.

The new degree, to be called Popular Culture Studies, will debut "when I get around to making out a curriculum," said I.M. Stupide.

The curriculum, when Stupide finishes it, is expected to have classes to fulfill a major, minor or even general education requirements.

To fulfill English requirements, rather than taking English 1100 and 1200, students may choose from:

Science classes to be offered by the Popular Culture department will be Appetizer 1100, Chemistry Set and Operation! masters, Operation! masters will replace an anatomy and physiology course; students must be an expert at the game that requires players to remove bones without making the buzzer go off. Appetizer 101, which can be substituted for chemistry, will teach students to make mocktails and party food. "We want students to be well-nourished when they party," Stupide said. "They will have to combine things to come up with good things to eat."

Chemistry Set allows students to purchase a chemistry set from either Dowdy Student Stores, University Book Exchange or Toys-R-Us. As soon as they can do all the experiments in the set, they earn an A.

Stupide said the general geography requirement could be met when a student puts together a puzzle of the United States, also to be stocked at the Student Store, UBE and Toys R Us.

Physical education requirements can be met with one of three classes: Sunbathing, Walking the Dog and Rec Center Workout. "Students can get class credit for getting a tan, walking their dog or even being seen at the Rec Center."

History, science, math and English requirements can also be met, Stupide

said, by using Schoolhouse Rock! videos. Stupide said, "If students choose this option, they have to sing one selection from America Rock, Science Rock, Math Rock and Grammar Rock."

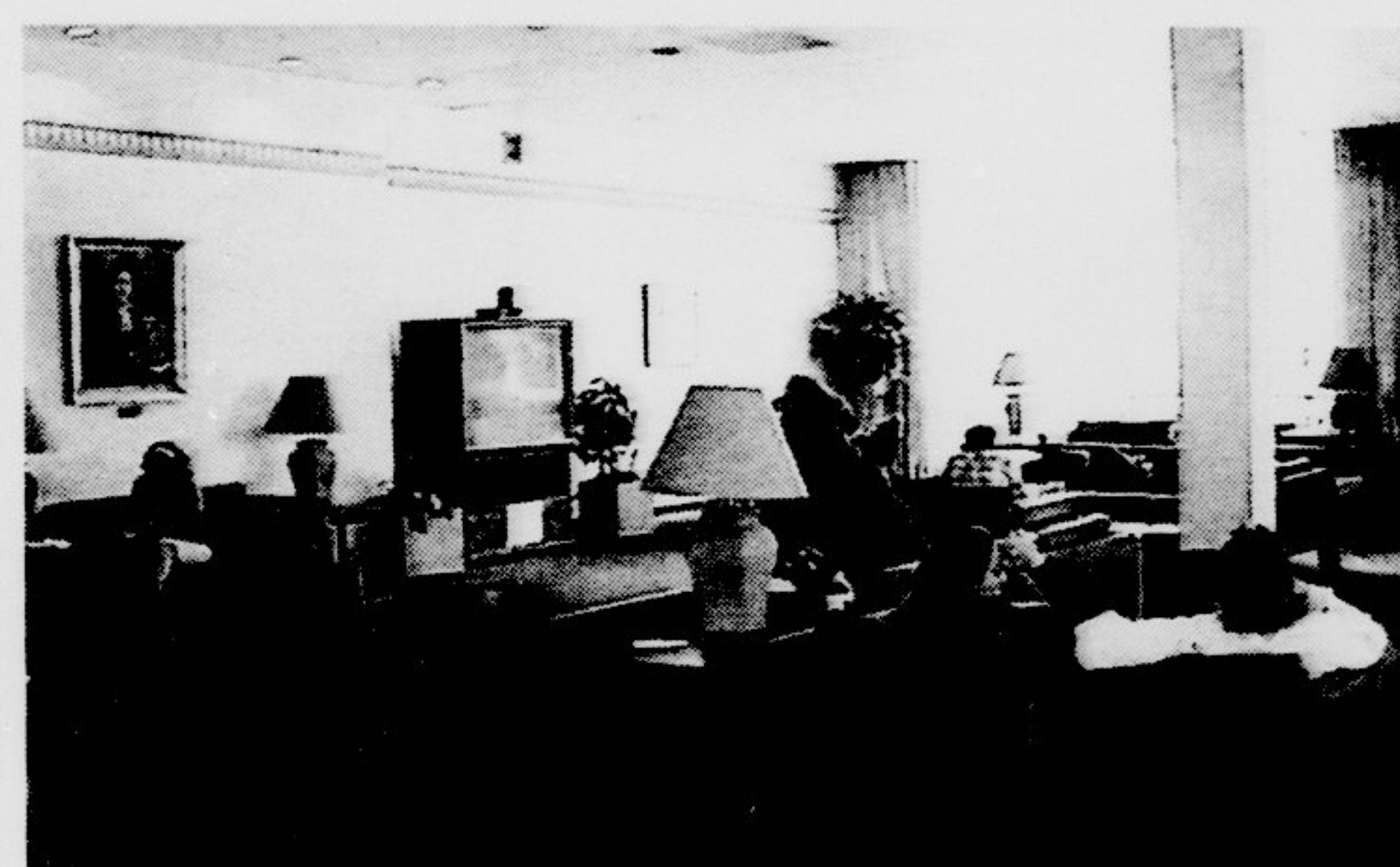
For instance, they'll have to sing "The Preamble," "Interplanet Janet," "Three is a Magic Number" and "Conjunction Junction."

Students who choose to major in Pop Culture Studies will have a variety of majors from which to choose, such as: TV/VCR Programming, Redneck English, Talk Show Sociology, Soap Opera Psychology, '60s, '70s and '80s Music Appreciation, Fast Food Nutrition, Criminal Justice in the Popular Media, Comic Book Literature, ER Pre-Medicine and Film, Television, Radio and Video.

"We figure you need a college degree to program a television or video cassette recorder—either that or people are just too damn lazy to do it. So if a student can program all kinds of these things, people will pay a load of money to have their VCRs programmed."

Stupide said he has approached members of the English Department to handle the Redneck English and Comic Book Literature tracks and has approached members of the Medical School to handle the ER Pre-Med track. The Film, Television, Radio and Video track can be covered by watching films at Hendrix and television at Mendenhall Student Center. Blockbuster Music and Blockbuster Video have been approached to offer videos, compact discs, books and magazines as required class materials. Students who declare FTWR as their major will be able to concentrate in Films on Video, television and radio programming by genre and Music Video. "It's the MTV Generation coming of age," Stupide said.

CD Alley has been approached to provide class materials for the Music Appreciation track. "We've also approached the area night spots to serve as the



Soon the lounge at Mendenhall Student Center will be a classroom as watching television will earn students a college degree.

PHOTO BY JILL JACKSON

classrooms," Stupide said.

As for when the degree will be available to students, Stupide said, "I'm not sure I can't work on the curriculum until my doctorate comes through." Stupide said he expects his doctorate to arrive any day now from International

Sell-Out certain for Spring Concert

TONY MONTANA
STAFF WRITER

Coming as no surprise to ECU students is the recent booking of a major concert set to perform at Williams Arena in Minges Coliseum.

Innovative musician, Beck, was booked by the Popular Entertainment Committee to perform a Spring concert. However, ECU was outbid by N.C. State for Beck to play at Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh.

Not to be outdone, the ECU Popular Entertainment Committee has succeeded in booking a diverse trio of acts to entertain the student body. Rap performers Wu Tang Klan will kick off the April 31, 1997 concert at 7:30 p.m.

Spoken word performer Henry Rollins will follow Wu Tang as another feature performer whose job is to hype up the crowd for the headlining act. "I've performed in venues in all sizes of cities all over the world," Rollins said. "But when I was offered the chance to play a cry like Greenville, I couldn't pass it up," Rollins said.

It's been a long time coming for another legendary act like the Allman Brothers Band to play Williams Arena. But the contracts have been signed and students are giddy to see M.C. Eakin (aka Chancellor Richard Eakin) perform hits from his years in the recording business. "I heard about how much the Allmans got in 1995 to play, so all I said was 'Show me the money,'" Eakin said.

But the fun does not stop there. Eakin will be backed up on the wheels of steel by Board of Trustees. Eakin's hits go back several years to his first smash, "Two Secretaries and a Dietaphone."

"I wasn't planning on touring this year because of the hectic schedule I have moonlighting as the Chancellor," Eakin said. "But seeing as I'll only have to go to the other side of campus for soundcheck, I'll make an exception in this case."

Older students remember the fashion trend set in the early '80's by Chancellor Eakin. "Nobody wore Pumas with fur faces until Chancellor Eakin did," one ECU student said. "I just hope I'll be able to get tickets before they sell out," another student said.

Tickets go on sale next week and are available at all TicketMonster outlets in North Carolina. The April 31 show is certain to sell out so students are encouraged to buy their tickets in advance.

ANY DAY OF THE WEEK

lifestyle.....? Editor learns to enjoy downtown
opinion.....? SGA keeps promises once in office
sports.....\$ Pirates win all games

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MONEY IN 'DA BANK

Been noticing fewer squirrels on campus lately? That's because the Department of Biology is offering a \$25 cash reward for any live Co. Majors (squirrels) to advance laboratory research in cloning. The department wishes to assure squirrel lovers that few animals will perish during the research and that there are sure to be hundreds, maybe thousands, of squirrels on campus by the fall.

PHOTO BY JILL JACKSON

Levi Strauss, ECU merge; students gain

JILL JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

Early Monday morning, Chancellor Eakin announced to the Board of Trustees that the contract ECU has been negotiating with Levi Strauss and company has been finalized.

After almost a year of implementing and revising the contract, which bonds the jeans company and the university in an unprecedented manner was signed sealed and put into effect as of today.

The contract states that any student who has supported Levi Strauss by having authentic Levi products since the beginning of his or her college career is eligible for a special scholarship which makes complete provisions for in-state and out-of-state tuition and a housing and dining allowance.

"We feel that this is the least we can do for our faithful customers," said Company CEO Nathan Levi-Stanton III. "We also feel that this is a wonderful opportunity to further the business of our company."

Stanton said all of the parties involved rationalized that if students are relieved from the burden of tuition and fees, they will have more revenue to put back into the company and at the same time build upon their Levi wardrobe.

"I can think of no greater honor than for our

university to be singled out for this distinction by such a successful corporate conglomerate," Eakin said, adding that this is also a wonderful opportunity for some promising degree-seekers to further their academic careers.

Stanton said that the only limitations in the contract are stated in Clauses II and III of the contract which state that eligibility for the scholarship hinges on whether or not the applicant owns both a pair of 501s and a pair of 550s and whether or not the applicant has purchased any Polo or Tomms Hilfiger-jean products.

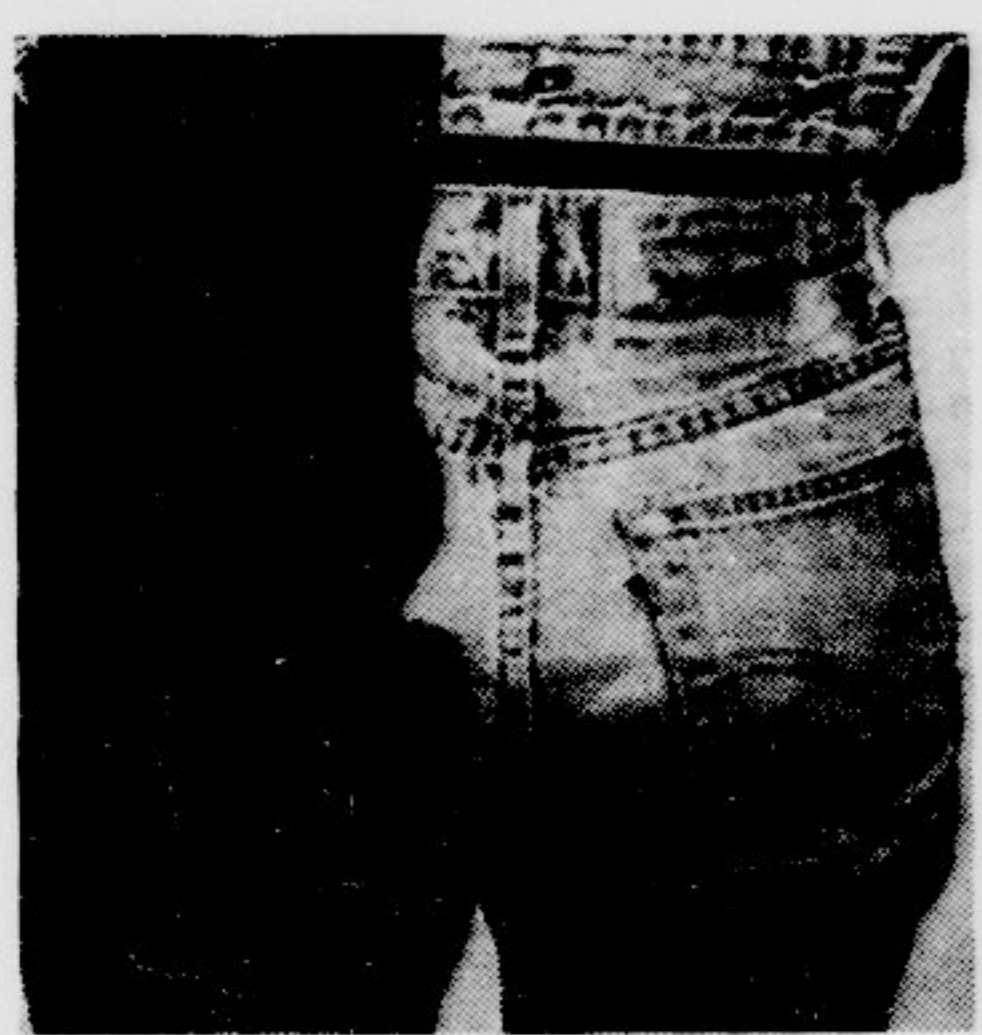
"These clauses were added for a number of very important reasons," Stanton said. "We feel that any serious Levi supporter who is deserving of such a generous scholarship should at least own our most popular products, 501 and 550. We also do not find it in the best interest of our company to reward any consumer who has been supportive of our most recent popular rivals."

Eakin expressed concerns that Clause III will disqualify a lot of students because of the popularity of Polo and Tomms wear on campus, but Stanton said the clause must remain for the better good of Levi Strauss and company.

Overall, Eakin said he is more than pleased with the new ECU-Levi partnership and expressed hopes that more mergers of this kind can be made in the future.

Applications for the ECU-LEVI Partnership

Scholarship (ECU LPS) are available in Austin 212. Students will be required to show suitable proof that they meet the specifications of Clauses II and III.



Photographs such as the one above are considered suitable proof for meeting one of the requirements stated in Clauses II and III of the ECU-Levi Partnership Scholarship. Other proofs include bringing in the specified jeans to Austin 212 when seeking an application.

PHOTO BY JILL JACKSON

They're coming to take us away

CASPER, THE FRIENDLY
GHOST WRITER

In the wake of the Heaven's Gate cult fiasco, a new group on campus has called for university officials to give them asylum. The group, which identifies itself as Renouncing the Extraterrestrial Deportation of Newly Educated Country Kooks (or R.E.D.N.E.C.K.), wants protection from the aliens in the spaceship that is lying in the trail of the Hale-Bopp comet, the same aliens which took away the Heaven's Gate members.

"We feel like they're after us next," said R.E.D.N.E.C.K. president Bucky Simmer. "My momma, my uncle, several of my cousins and my best milk cow have all had encounters with aliens at different times in the past year. It all happened right out back in our tobacco field. Who knows what plans their little green suckers have in store for us."

Following the overwhelming evidence pre-

sented in the documentary films Independence Day and Mars Attacks!, the insightful TV news shows Alien Autopsy and The X-Files, and the continued coverage of things extraterrestrial by such notable newspapers as The Weekly World News and The National Enquirer, it seems that R.E.D.N.E.C.K. members do legitimately have something to fear.

"You damn skippers," acknowledged R.E.D.N.E.C.K. secretary Eileen Dover. "My brother Ben was taken aboard a miniature alien ship that was hiding in the latrine dug under his ten-seater outhouse. He came out in a daze several days later, and to this day he still can't say the words 'Fidy-Bowl' without having seizures. I'm telling you them dang Martians is nuts. They could be anywhere. Hell, you might be one of 'em. You ain't, is ya'?"

"It is a known fact that most extraterrestrial sightings and contacts are made in tobacco fields or out in the county side with farmers or other manual laborers," noted alien expert and

ECU professor Gene Ween explained. "These outworlders tend to target and prey on those unsuspecting, innocent workers for reasons that are incomprehensible to most of the academia. I have my theories, but they are probably a little bit over the heads of your readership. Sorry. Now get out of my office, you small-brained person."

The compelling case made by these sufferers of intergalactic prejudice and speciesism has not fallen on deaf ears with the administration. Chancellor Eakin has allotted the R.E.D.N.E.C.K. group space in the newly-erected clock tower to ready themselves for the oncoming assault.

Because of R.E.D.N.E.C.K.'s plight, the Student Government Association has gone the extra step and decided to give up their paid tuition. They will use the money instead to buy substantial artillery for the protection of the clock tower and campus from alien invasion.

All of us here at TFC are praying for you R.E.D.N.E.C.K.s; hang in there.

Duncan decides against NBA

SHOELISS MO JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

Stunning. That is all that could be said of the announcement made by Wake Forest star Tim Duncan yesterday.

Duncan called a special press conference to announce that he would not continue his basketball career in the NBA.

The only unanimous All-American choice this season and the first repeat selection in five years was chosen. The Associated Press' college basketball player of the year last Friday.

"I'm tired of basketball and am ready for something new and challenging," Duncan said. "Sure, I could make millions in the NBA, but I have to ask myself, 'Would I really be happy?' I think the answer is no."

Duncan was expected to be the number one pick in this year's draft after averaging 20.8 points and 14.7 rebounds this season. He finished his career with 2,117 points and 1,570 rebounds. He is the 10th player in Division I history to have more than 2,000 points and 1,500 rebounds and his 481 blocked shots were second on the career list.

Head Coach Dave Odom knew Duncan was reconsidering his admission to the NBA. "Tim always said basketball wasn't really his game," Odom said.

When asked what was his game, Odom replied "chess."

Chess? That's right. Tim Duncan, the basketball star who had his jersey retired will compete competitively on the U.S. Chess Tour.

"It allows me to think and use my mental abilities instead of my physical abilities," Duncan said. "It's a lot more delicate and I won't get banged around so much."

Duncan has been an avid chess player since the age of nine when a friend of his showed him in grade school.

"I had to keep it a secret because I knew my basketball buddies would say I was a wuss for playing chess," Duncan said. "But I played a quick game before every game while playing at Wake Forest and look how well I did. I have found my calling."

NBA Commissioner David Stern was shocked and upset by the announcement. "I, I, am so upset," Stern said, crying. "What betrayal!"

Rookie NBA star Marcus Camby, Player-of-the-Year last season, thought Duncan made the right choice.

"Man, I know what it's like to want to follow your dream," Camby said. "Many people don't know that I took ballet lessons up until last year. I wanted to follow with the Massachusetts Ballet Company; they even offered me a grand salary, but I thought pink isn't really my color, so I chose basketball."

Camby went on to praise Duncan. "Damn, he's the man," Camby said. "Watch out, world. Tim the chess player is in da' house!"