

INSIDE: Football season is kicking into high gear and TEC has all the information you need for the ECU vs. Cincinnati game. See page B4

ECU students 'Get a Clue'



Students gather in the Wright Plaza for yesterday's Get a Clue event seeking information on various campus organizations.

Information available for student organizations

KATIE KOKINDA-BALDWIN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The annual Get a Clue fair took place yesterday in the Wright Plaza from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. featuring 105 different campus organizations who marketed their organizations to interested students.

"This is an opportunity to showcase student organizations, to get information out to students who want to get involved, who want to join groups to do volunteer work," said Marianne Cox, office assistant and chair of the event. Cox said Get a Clue is an annual event that has been successful over the past ten years in recruiting students to various campus organizations.

Cox said the goals of the event are to get information out to students about the services offered through the department in the division of

student life, and to give them information on the different clubs and organizations on campus that they may be interested in.

The event has been successful over the past several years. Cox said this year's Get a Clue has had the highest turnout of organizations set up.

"It's pretty well attended so we're pretty excited about that this year," Cox said.

The event has been well received by the ECU community with the only concern being the event may get noisy and hinder professors who are trying to run their classes. There were not however any complaints Cox said.

Cox said they cannot make groups sign up to participate and there are several groups students have shown interest in that are not set up at the event.

Students working and visiting the event showed positive reactions.

Thomas Doyle, senior political science major, who is part of the student union organi-

zation set up, said the event is a great way for organizations to market themselves to students. Doyle said they have given away several hundred cups and t-shirts supporting their organization within the first 30 minutes.

Melissa Venters, senior health education major and student worker with ECU's counseling center, said the event has been a success, and they have attracted several students to their organization.

"I think it's been very good, we've had a lot of people come over and it has been very informational, especially to freshmen who do not know about the organizations of ECU," said Venters.

"There have been lots of people out here, lots of give aways and drawings for lots of free stuff."

Venters said each year there has been more and more people.

Student attendants also showed positive reactions.

"It's good, you can find a lot of the organizations going on campus that want to grow and expand," said Danny Stilling, junior, design and drafting major.

Latrione Brockett, freshman interested in pursuing political science also benefited from the event. He visited both the Black Student Union and Healthy Pirates and is considering joining the Black Student Union.

"I think it really lets the students know what's going on, especially the freshmen, because I know I didn't know what was going on at all," said Brockett.

Brandon Buck, junior child life major said he visited the Campus Ministry and several of the Health Center organizations.

"I think I'm going to try Victory Campus Ministries out," said Buck.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.



Student arrested for underage drinking outside the Cavern nightclub earlier in the semester.

ALE makes its presence felt

179 cited, arrested in special operation

MICHAEL HARRINGTON
STAFF WRITER

The Alcohol Law Enforcement is continuing its service this year, citing or arresting 179 people in a special operation during the first weekend of the fall semester.

The special operation was a joint effort between the ALE and the Pitt County ABC meant to curb the use of alcohol among minors.

Greg Murphy, the agent of the ALE of Greenville, said the organization tries to ensure no one is killed or injured as a result of alcohol. By issuing citations and making arrests, the organization is sending the message they are serious about achieving this goal. Contrary to the belief of many students, the ALE has no quotas and cites people only when necessary.

"That's the first question I get [from students] when I hand out a citation downtown," said Murphy. "Believe it or not, I can give out zero citations or I can give out nine citations."

The special operation exposed a problem area the ALE is going to address this year.

Jay Smith, supervisor of the New Bern office of the ALE, said many of the underage individuals who received citations purchased their alcohol at private parties where the hosts are not legally allowed to sell alcohol and several of those parties were hosted by fraternities at ECU.

"That, by statute, is illegal," said Smith.

Murphy said the fraternities were not cited this time, but if

these problems continue the ALE will cite the fraternities for serving alcohol without a permit.

Mary Lou Antieau, director of ECU's center for off-campus living, was contacted by the ALE after the special operation concluded in an attempt to increase campus awareness of the problems encountered by the ALE.

Smith said the ALE attempts to lessen the availability of alcohol to minors by working closely with the bar owners, bouncers and servers in downtown Greenville to provide them with assistance and information.

The assistance and information comes from the ALE planting officers at the door with bouncers, hosting classes for bar employees that teach them how to be responsible servers and having officers patrol the individual bars.

One of the most common problems the ALE faces is the use of fraudulent identifications.

"Getting charged with using a false identification is a much bigger deal than being given an alcohol ticket," Smith said.

"You risk a lot when you use a fake identification."

Will Ulmer, a freshman construction management major, said the ALE is a necessary organization, but he felt they employ tactics that are overly aggressive.

"It's the right job for the situation, but they take it way too seriously," said Ulmer.

"They go out of their way to put you in your place."

Ulmer said in his short time in Greenville, he has already begun noticing agents working for the ALE.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Kerry slams Bush over expiration of weapons ban

Claims president caters to special interests

MICHAEL HARRINGTON
STAFF WRITER

Presidential nominee John Kerry slammed George Bush earlier this month for refusing to step in and ensure the survival of an assault-weapons ban that expired recently.

According to *The Washington Post*, Kerry accused the president of caving to the interests of gun lobbyists in a recent speech.

"George Bush gave police officers his word that he would keep the ban," said Kerry.

When it came time to extend, Bush's powerful friends in the gun lobby asked him to look the other way. He just couldn't resist and said "sure."

Bush's press secretary, Scott McClellan, claimed that Kerry's remarks were false and were merely an attempt to attack the president according to a report on Whitehouse.gov.

"The best way to deter and combat violence committed with guns is to vigorously enforce our laws," said McClellan.

"And this administration has a strong record of vigorously and strictly enforcing our laws."

The ban was championed in 1994 by former president, Bill Clinton. It prohibited the ownership and sale of semi-automatic assault

weapons such as Uzis and AK-47s.

Bush said he supports the ban but he has received criticism for not putting any pressure on Congress to renew it.

The republican-led congress refused to renew the ban and let it expire after its 10 year term.

Kerry's criticism of Bush came days after the National Rifle Association spent \$400,000 airing ads attacking Kerry's stances on gun control.

The NRA is an influential lobbyist group that spends vast sums of money to prohibit restrictions on gun ownership. *Fortune* magazine listed them as the most powerful lobbyist group in 2002.

Some analysts and Kerry have claimed that Bush, who professed support for the ban during the 2000 election, declined to pressure congress because he wanted the full support of the NRA and other pro-gun groups in the upcoming election.

Many law enforcement officials have credited the ban with reducing violent crime in the United States, including Washington's chief of police, Charles Ramsey according to *The Washington Post*.

Ramsey said that prior to the ban on assault weapons officers would frequently find themselves outgunned by criminals who were using semi-automatic weaponry. Once it was passed, he claimed there had been far fewer instances where officers were outmatched.

"They are a threat to the safety of our dedicated police officers and the public," said Ramsey, referring to the assault weapons.

A statement released by the Kerry campaign said Kerry is a strong supporter of the second amendment—the right to bear arms—but that the weapons banned were not meant for ordinary citizens.

"Kerry supports the second amendment right to keep and bear arms, but he also understands that hunters don't need and don't use AK-47s, but criminals and terrorists do," said Kerry in a transcript on his Web site.

McClellan said that Bush had had a clear position of being against the ban since the 2000 election and that the members of congress already know how he stands and conversely Bush knows how the members of congress stand.

"Congressional leaders have stated that it's not coming up for a vote," McClellan said, refusing the notion that Bush could have used his influence to have the ban renewed.

Michelle Lonsway, a senior recreation therapy major, said that the expiration of the ban was just one more thing to worry about. "We have to worry about terrorist attacks outside the country, now we have to worry about attacks inside the country," said Lonsway.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.



ECU international students meet at the International House for a potluck dinner last Friday.

ECU to expand international, exchange student programs

Plans to internationalize university by 2009

KATIE KOKINDA-BALDWIN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

ECU's International and Exchange Student Programs are looking to expand over the next several years, offering additional students the opportunity to pursue their majors at international universities.

International education became a priority for many schools when 9/11 occurred. ECU administrators are working hard to keep the program ahead

of its time. A five-year program, created by the Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee for International Affairs, includes goals such as incorporating international education in ECU's mission statement by May 2005. The committee looks to increase the number of students participating in international swap programs to 300.

Graduate assistant Marie Chiche, one of eight international students from France, is seeking her master's degree in international studies at ECU and appreciates what the opportunity to study internationally means to students.

"More people are willing to

hire you if you are adaptable and willing. If you've completed an exchange program, you are better, you have an edge," said Chiche.

ECU's faculty and staff work to welcome international students. From the pick-up arranged to bring the students from the airport to the school to the weekly shopping trips planned to help keep food on the table, the students become familiar and comfortable with ECU and Greenville. Chiche, who has been in the United States for five years.

"In general, I like the way

see PROGRAMS page A6

Campus News

Voter registration drive

A voter registration drive is taking place today at Minges Coliseum pool during the EXSS 1000 swim test. Registration is available for anyone within the ECU community.

Silent Social

A silent social is taking place at Moe's restaurant at Red Banks, Thursday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome regardless of sign language experience. A great opportunity to learn! For more information contact Disability Support Services at 328-6799.

College Republicans

The newly reconstituted College Republicans is holding an interest meeting on Friday, Sept. 24 in the Political Science Library, Brewster B at 2 p.m.

Bingo

A free night of Bingo is taking place Mendenhall Dining Hall, Friday, Sept. 24 at 9:30 p.m. Cash prizes. Food! Sponsored by the SU Spectrum Committee.

Contra Dance

Willis Building: Lesson and Dance Friday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - \$3 for students. Sponsored by the ECU Folk & Country Dancers. No partner or previous dance experience necessary! For more information contact Geocities.com/ecufolkandcountrydancers/contradances.

Arts For Peace Workshop

Wright Auditorium, Friday Sept. 24 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: FREE Poetry/Music/Dance workshop with Coleman Barks, David Darling, Glen Velez, Zuleika. Bring a friend. Interpreters and translators provided.

Scuba Diving at Minges available for students

In a fundraising event by the ECU Scuba Diving Club, the club is holding three events at Minges Coliseum pool on Wednesday, Sept. 29 and Wednesday, Oct. 13. Diving will take place in both the deep well and the lap lane pool. The events are open to all ECU students and participants must sign up three days in advance. Contact Jason Wright if interested. jasonwright@gmail.com

Chamber Music Festival

The Brentano String Quartet will come to campus for their second appearance in the Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival on Friday, Sept. 24 in the A.J. Fletcher Recital Hall.

Deaf Apollo Talent Show

Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf, Saturday, Sept. 25 at 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Massey Activity Center, \$5 - Performances by talented Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing, Interpreters, Deaf Groups and Deaf Ministries will take place at the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf located on Highway 301 North. For more information contact 237-2450 or our ECU Disability Support Services Office at 328-6799.

Film Series

The Travel-Adventure Film & Theme Dinner Series opens at Hendrix Theater on the main floor of Mendenhall Student Center, with *Bavaria* and *The Black Forest* by Fran Reidelberger on Sunday, Oct. 3 at 3 p.m.

HAIR Production

The American Tribal Live - Rock Musical *HAIR* will be on the main stage at McGinnis Theatre from Sept. 30 - Oct. 5. Parental guidance suggested due to profanity, drug references and the potential for on-stage nudity. For ticket prices, call the box office at 328-6829.

East Carolina Knights Chess Club

would like to invite you to our weekly meetings. We meet every Friday from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. in 212 Mendenhall Student Center. Join us for a challenge or just for fun, regardless of your level of play.

The Model United Nations (UN)

club would like to invite you to a Pizza Party! This will be an informal and informational meeting about the club, as well as a great way to meet current members. The pizza party will take place Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. in the Political Science Library.

News Briefs

LOCAL

NC Art Museum to open on Tuesdays beginning in October

RALEIGH, NC (AP) - The first Tuesday in October will mark the first time in two years that the North Carolina Museum of Art has been open to the public on Tuesdays. The change means the museum will be open six days a week and also until 9 p.m. some evenings. In 2002, the museum was forced to reduce its number of security positions due to state budget shortfalls. As a result, public operating hours were reduced from 51 per week to 39 per week, effectively closing the galleries to the public on Tuesdays and eliminating evening hours. The new hours come at a fortunate time as the museum opens one of the largest and most significant exhibitions since the popular Rodin exhibition in 2000.

"Matisse, Picasso and the School of Paris: Masterpieces from The Baltimore Museum of Art" opens Oct. 10 and continues through Jan. 16, 2005. "With one of the greatest exhibitions in the Southeast on the way, we're anticipating record crowds," said museum director Lawrence J. Wheeler. "Now we'll be able to accommodate visitors on Tuesdays and on certain evenings."

Next month, the museum's hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. The museum will be open until 9 p.m. the third Friday of every month through December 2004. The museum will remain closed to the public on Mondays.

NC teacher pleads guilty to selling drugs to student

GRAHAM, NC - A former high-school girl's basketball coach pleaded guilty Monday to selling drugs to a student on school grounds. Heather Renee Sweat-Melancon, 23, admitted to a total of eight counts carrying a maximum prison sentence of more than 50 years. Prosecutors agreed to consolidate the charges and to dismiss other charges related to a search of her mobile home.

The charges include selling drugs to a 15-year-old and possession of cocaine. Sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 5, and Sweat-Melancon will get a minimum prison term of 38 to 80 months.

Her husband, John Mark Melancon, 27, pleaded guilty Monday to trafficking cocaine. He will be sentenced to 35 to 42 months in prison and a \$50,000 fine.

Two students told school administrators Feb. 24 that they believed Sweat-Melancon, who also teaches physical education, gave cocaine to a 15-year-old female student at Graham High School. Administrators later found a small bag of cocaine in the student's purse, Bass said.

A search of Sweat-Melancon's home turned up 45 grams of cocaine. An affidavit submitted with the search warrant included other allegations of Sweat-Melancon snorting cocaine with the student in her office and her mobile home. Administrators put Sweat-Melancon on paid suspension when she was arrested and fired her in April.

NATIONAL

Rosa Parks has dementia, can't testify, her lawyer tells judge

DETROIT (AP) - Civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks has dementia and should not be forced to answer questions in her lawsuit over a rap song named for her, her doctor has told a federal magistrate.

Parks, 91, rarely has been seen in public since 2001, when she cancelled a meeting with President Bush. Her lawyers said this summer that she has been in frail health, but Monday's court filing is the first public description of her health problems. Parks lawyer Gregory Reed confirmed that she has dementia, or severe mental impairment.

"It comes and goes," Reed said. He said Parks is well cared for and receives care at her Detroit home. Parks' lawsuit says that the 1998 song "Rosa Parks" by OutKast violated her publicity and trademark rights and defamed her. It also says that OutKast

and record company BMG exploited her name for commercial purposes. OutKast has been dismissed as a defendant.

Lawyers for the defense have asked to interview Parks to explain her claims that she suffered emotional and mental distress because of the song. In an Aug. 16 letter, Steinberg's lawyer said the doctor believes Parks "cannot testify or participate in any court proceeding" and referred to six pages of supporting medical records, including three medical visits by Parks in 2002 and late 2003.

Parks was 42 when she refused to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, Ala., in 1955. She was jailed and fined \$14. Her arrest triggered a 381-day boycott of the bus system organized by a then little-known minister, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. She became known as "the mother of the civil rights movement."

Walking might keep mind sharp, ward off Alzheimer's

CHICAGO (AP) - The health benefits of regular walking may include helping prevent mental decline and Alzheimer's disease, research in patients aged 70 and up has found, bolstering evidence that exercise needn't be strenuous to be good for you. There's plenty of evidence that mental exercise, such as crossword puzzles and reading, may reduce Alzheimer's risks, but previous studies on brain benefits from physical exercise had conflicting results.

The new findings, contained in two studies, clarify how much exercise might be beneficial and are good news for older people who want to avoid mental decline but "don't like doing all that awful, sweaty stuff," said Bill Thies, vice president for medical and scientific affairs of the Alzheimer's Association.

"This just says, 'Go for a walk' and bolsters evidence that what's good for the heart may be good for the brain," said Thies, who was not involved in the research.

"Keep eating your veggies, too" could be another mantra, according to a Dutch study, showing that Europeans ages 70 to 90 who ate a

Mediterranean-style diet rich in fruits, vegetables, fish and olive oil had a 23 percent lower risk of death during a 10-year follow-up than those with less healthy eating habits.

WORLD

Lebanon: Suspects in attempted bombing of Italian and Ukrainian embassies had al-Qaida links

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - Terror suspects arrested for allegedly planning to bomb the Italian and Ukrainian embassies and assassinate Western embassy staff in Beirut were affiliated with Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network, Lebanese security officials said Wednesday.

Interior Minister Elias Murr identified the leaders of the plot as Ahmed Salim Mikati and Ismail Mohammed al-Khatib, both Lebanese, and said eight Lebanese and Palestinian accomplices were arrested.

Khatib "is an al-Qaida operative ... His role was to recruit fundamentalist youth to carry out operations against coalition forces in Iraq," Murr said at a news conference. Prosecutor General Adnan Addoum said both men "had links to al-Qaida," the militant Muslim network that has sworn enmity to the West.

The group planned simultaneous bombings of the Italian and Ukrainian embassies and a few Lebanese "security and judicial targets," Murr said. He said the group was also planning to assassinate employees working in Western embassies in Lebanon.

The ministry earlier said the group's unnamed leader has confessed to planning and preparing to send a car packed with 660 pounds of TNT to blow up the Italian Embassy in downtown Beirut.

Most members of the terrorist network, "which had links and received funding from some extremist cells in Europe," were arrested Tuesday, it said without elaborating. Italy has about 3,000 troops in Iraq and Ukraine has about 1,600. The Italian news agency ANSA

had first reported the foiled plot late Tuesday.

U.S. soldier killed in attack on patrol in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - An American soldier was killed in an attack on a patrol in eastern Afghanistan, the U.S. military said Wednesday, the third U.S. service member to die in the country this week. American spokesman Maj. Scott Nelson said the soldier was killed on Monday in Khost province, close to the Pakistani border, but said he had no further details.

The military already announced the death of two U.S. soldiers on Monday in neighboring Paktika province, and said Wednesday that they were killed by mortar fire.

The soldiers were conducting a search operation when "a large force of anti-coalition militants was able to launch an attack" with mortars, Nelson said. Six Afghan soldiers were also injured.

The U.S.-led force called in A-10 ground attack aircraft and a B-1 bomber, which dropped two 500-pound bombs on the attackers.

"At least nine of them were killed, probably more," Nelson said.

All in all, U.S.-led troops clashed with militants in eight separate locations on Monday, he said. A total of 14 American troops were injured and one Afghan soldier was listed as missing, he said.

The military already reported that two of the Americans were wounded by a roadside bomb. They were being taken to Germany for treatment for "non-life-threatening" injuries, Nelson said. The wave of attacks suggest that militants are stepping up their operations in the run-up to Oct. 9 presidential elections, the first national vote since the fall of the Taliban. According to the U.S. Defense Department, about 140 U.S. military personnel have died during Operation Enduring Freedom, launched after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States.

About 100 have died in and around Afghanistan, and more than 50 have died in action.

Teleflex Medical produces vital surgical equipment



Instrument maker Thomas Hill inspects an appliers machine at Teleflex Medical in Durham, NC.

DURHAM, NC (AP) - Teleflex Medical makes some of the staples of the surgical device industry.

Employees at the company's Durham site manufacture devices that hold hearts in place for cardiac bypass surgery, devices that help surgeons remove veins from patients' legs and, yes, staples and clips by the millions.

Developing technology that makes surgeons more efficient and reduces the trauma for patients is "the No. 1 challenge, the Holy Grail," said Matt Jennings, general manager of the surgical division, which is based in Durham. "Everyone's always looking for that device and that procedure."

Teleflex Medical has more than 400 employees in the Bull City working in sales and marketing, product development, manufacturing and North American distribution, he said. The business also has other manufacturing locations around the world.

Its parent company, Teleflex Inc., is a global supplier of products for the aerospace, automotive, marine, industrial and medical markets, with sales of about \$2 billion last year and 21,000 employees worldwide.

Teleflex's medical division,

which had revenue of \$535 million in 2003, is divided into surgical, medical anesthesia and original equipment manufacturing groups. About 65 percent of the surgery business's products are geared toward cardiac surgery, Jennings said, while the rest are split between general and endoscopic surgeries and the orthopedic spine, ear, nose and throat specialties.

Teleflex's products are designed as complete systems, Jennings said, which can be as simple as a color-coded clip that closes blood vessels and the scissor-like instrument used to apply the clip, simply called an applier.

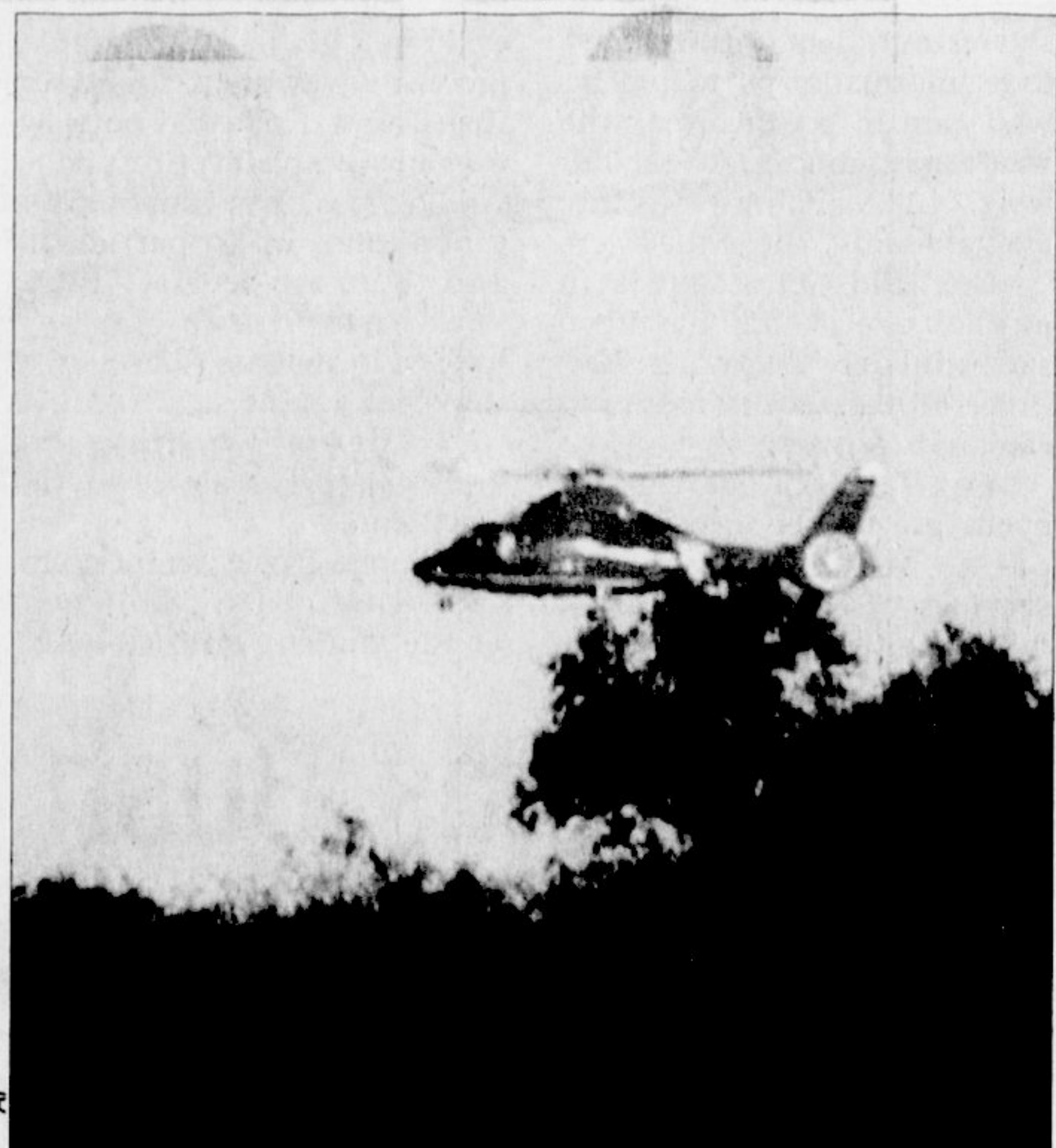
The company also bundles a number of different types of products in a more complex system for coronary bypass surgery. They include a device that stabilizes a patient's heart for coronary bypass surgery, devices that allow surgeons to remove the replacement leg or arm veins with a minimum number and size of incisions, a device that punches a hole in the aorta for the vein to be connected and a suctioning system that drains the fluid that accumulates around the heart after surgery.

The names of the surgical division's brands - Beere, Weck, Pilling, Deknatel and KMedic - once identified the companies that developed them. Now they're all sold under the Teleflex umbrella. Weck Closure Systems, which Teleflex acquired in 1993, operated fairly independently in Durham until recently, when its parent company began implementing a more centralized organization.

The Durham plant still concentrates on Weck's original specialty: permanent medical implants such as clips and staples, as well as the corresponding stainless steel appliers. Workers at the facility also assemble some of Teleflex's devices used in cardiac bypass surgery.

As a result, much of the Durham factory looks more like an advanced machining shop than a sterile laboratory as workers shape and polish stainless steel blanks, called forgings, to make precise medical instruments.

The appliers enter the facility as rough blanks that are made by a supplier. They look similar to half of a pair of scissors, but they have only a handle and a blunt end.



Border patrol activity remains active in the western part of the United States.

Immigration, a steady continuous concern

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - A government crackdown on illegal immigration in southern Arizona will continue beyond Sept. 30, the day the initiative was supposed to wrap up, a top Homeland Security official said Tuesday.

Some agents, prosecutors and helicopters that had been transferred to Arizona for the crackdown will remain permanently, said Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary for border and transportation security.

The buildup, which began in March, aimed at clamping down on the soaring numbers of illegal immigrants brought into Arizona by smugglers from Mexico.

The action has resulted in more than 351,700 apprehensions of illegal immigrants on the Arizona border, compared with about 225,000 during the same period in the 2003 fiscal year, Hutchinson said.

"I'm not here today saying we've fixed a problem. I'm saying that we've made progress on a problem, and we're devoting resources and a great deal of attention and effort to it," he said.

The initiative included an additional 200 seasoned Border

Patrol agents permanently reassigned to the agency's Tucson sector, which in recent years has become the nation's busiest region for illegal border crossings from Mexico.

More than 2,100 agents are now assigned to the sector, which covers all the Arizona-Mexico border except an area around Yuma, sector Chief Michael Nicley said.

The government will also briefly extend a voluntary program that offered free flights to the Mexican interior for illegal immigrants caught while crossing the border into Arizona.

Since July 12, some 12,000 people have been flown to Mexico City and Guadalajara. More than half were volunteers, and the rest were deemed at physical risk if they tried to cross the desert again, Nicley said.

"Initial indications are that it was a successful program, but we want to evaluate it further," Hutchinson said.

He said he would like to see the repatriation program continued and made mandatory, but that would have to be negotiated with the Mexican government.

23, 2004

HOW TO VOTE - Log onto Onestop and enter your ECU Exchange username and password to vote. Look for Voting under Tools. Voting begins September 27th at 8 a.m. and ends September 29th at noon. You must vote for 5 male and 5 female candidates.

ECU Homecoming



Zandria Miller
ECU Gospel Choir



Shadayna Taylor
Ladies Elite



Samonica Clemons
Teaching Fellows



Scotty Williams
Teaching Fellows



Christophir "Smitty" Smith
ECU Cheerleading



Jackie Lambertson
Panhellenic Council



Jake Lane
Sigma Alpha Epsilon



Lauren Hough
Sigma Alpha Epsilon



Lindsey Scherer
Zeta Phi Beta



Kristina Oriolo
Alpha Phi



Meaghan Smith
Club Swimming



Edward Freeman
Panhellenic Council



Jason Mathis
Student Union



Kerri Anderson
Student Union



Steve Young
ECU Ambassadors



Jessica Yandle
ECU Ambassadors



Stacy C. Ellis
PRSSA



Katie McCann
ECU Cheerleading



Randy Fichera
Pi Kappa Phi



Devyn Sturdavant
NAACP



Derek Hurdle
FMA



Erica Felthaus
Chi Omega



Ashley Pearce
Epsilon Sigma Alpha



Thomas Beane
MAPS



Trevor Terry
Phi Sigma Pi



Jennifer Fauber
Healthy Pirates



Justin Vaughan
Healthy Pirates



Marcus Wayne Conner, Jr.
Pi Kappa Alpha



Lauren Miles
Minority Association of Pre-Health Students



Lauren Carnighan
Alpha Delta Pi



Nicole Crabtree
Campus Crusade for Christ



Amy Kibler
Phi Beta Chi



Beecher Allison
Baptist Student Union



Kelley Turner
Baptist Student Union



Carmen Maye
Delta Sigma Theta



Courtney Tibbetts
Phi Sigma Pi



Matt Cohen
College Democrats



Wes Cain
Chi Omega



M. Cole Jones
SAAC



April Paul
College Democrats



Kristin Sweeney
Judicial Board



Matt Stambaugh
Judicial Board



Nyimah Boles
Black Student Union



Brandon Russell
Black Student Union



Brandon Magness
ECU Gospel Choir



Tanya Tucker
Delta Zeta



Vanessa Anthony
Kappa Delta



Tara Patterson
Sigma Sigma Sigma

Our View

In regard to the Presidential Election coming up, something that just turns us off about both candidates are certain campaign tactics being used.

We turn on the television to any news station, and see Bush or Kerry ranting on and on about how the opposing party's plans will lead the nation down the wrong path in an attempt to gain support for their campaign.

This does not hold true for just this current upcoming election, but all past presidential or state governor elections that we can recall.

This common strategy - the bashing and presenting a strictly one-sided negative report on all the failures of their opponents - comes off to us as just a bunch of immature childish fighting.

There is always going to be a certain group of people or organization that the president was not able to distribute funding or resources to. There are so many groups of people in our present day society with various different needs and requests. It is impossible for any one president or leader to be able to completely address all of the needs of each group. To expect any one person to be able to single handedly take care of all of the nation's or state's problems is unrealistic.

Respectful criticism is disappearing in our nation. Stating what a leader has been successful in accomplishing and then going on with how they could have acted a bit differently in accomplishing their goals, gives people a more clear view of each side's attempt to solve a particular problem, then allows the person to make a choice based on the information given.

If the leader, or potential leader, is successful in accurately portraying the reality of the issues they are concentrating on, and presenting what they feel would make the best solution, we feel that would be more likely to give the particular candidate support instead of slamming the opponent with his failures.

Single, one-sided bashing of one's opponent does nothing for the general public but give them trivial issues to focus on. It does not provide voters with the necessary knowledge needed in being able to establish their own understanding on the issues. Instead, it merely forcefully draws attention to a campaign through negativity and he said, she said bickering.

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FEDERAL BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS ENDS



Opinion Columnist

Conversational taboos restrain free speech

Politics, religion get bad rap

PETER KALAJIAN
STAFF WRITER

Why is it that the two most fascinating topics in the entire pantheon of human experience are also the two most taboo? There is no better way to get a good read on an individual's values and personality than a nice, hearty discussion about politics or religion, but for most people, the very mention of either topic amidst normal conversation is like a dagger through the heart. The cultural mores held over from the Age of Puritanism are nothing more than chains, shackling the minds and natural rebelliousness of, most specifically, our nation's youth.

As a child, I was what you might call... precocious. At least that's what my mother called it. I'm sure others referred to my proclivity for dissension as obnoxious, or inappropriate, or whatever, but not my parents. I grew up in a household where I was absolutely encouraged to question everything, especially if it seemed wrong to me.

So when my grandparents began the long and arduous process of indoctrinating me into their chosen religion (coincidentally one of the most strict and regimented faiths in the world, Eastern Orthodox Christianity), naturally, I began asking questions. I asked what the Priest was talking about. No answer. I asked why I should believe the things that he said and not the science teachers who were telling me something entirely different. No answer. I asked if I had a choice in the matter, but they had an answer for that one: NO!

So, at a very young age, 11 years old if memory serves, I made a promise



to myself that I would not unquestioningly follow anything, especially organized religion. For all of the huge, eternal answers that religion is supposed to provide, what we are, where we're going, why we are here, it seemed that a young boy with more questions than answers would simply not be tolerated.

It was very frustrating at the time, but I came to find out the answers later, and here they are: There is no answer. I came to realize that the religious authorities who I assumed would have answers to these questions did not even know themselves, so how could they indulge the imagination of a young boy who saw the inconsistencies in Christian doctrine and wanted to know more.

From that moment forward, I took every opportunity I could to question religious authority, for better or for worse. As you would expect, more often than not, I got a disapproving look or was told that I should "read my Bible." Well, I have. My religious crusade for truth and understanding continues to this day. Naturally, anyone with some insight should write in to the paper or e-mail me. I implore you.

As for politics, I think there is no greater subject about which to converse in this world. Politics affects the lives of every American, and for that matter, most of the humans living on this Earth, but most people strive to avoid its discussion whenever possible. They feel uncomfortable when someone brings up politics, as if they were just asked their yearly wage or bra size by a complete stranger.

If you are not interested in politics (a phenomenon which to this day I do not understand), that's absolutely fine. You are not required or even expected to participate in political dialogue, but don't get offended when someone else chooses to let their opinion be known. Extremely faithful religious people have no problem testifying on the greatness and purity of Jesus Christ, but many of these same people find it socially inappropriate to mention politics. Well, folks, we call that hypocrisy.

I cannot convey the number of hateful and condescending e-mails I receive (this article, no doubt, will increase that number exponentially) chastising me for voicing my opinion on issues which I feel everyone, at least everyone of college age, should be concerned with. How many beers one was able to consume or the wildness of a weekend party matters little. Politics and religion are the forces which drive our world, and I for one am sick and tired of suspicious looks and religious high-mindedness whenever I try to glean some new information through natural, human conversation.

If anyone would like to discuss either of these issues, please, write in, stop me on campus or compose an article of your own.

I would really like to hear what you have to say.

Pirate Rant

Why do guys have highlights in their hair? When did being a metrosexual become cool? I miss the days of grunge.

Why is it whenever you decide you don't want to be bothered or just want to go to sleep, everybody and their grandmother calls? Not only do they call, but when you explain that you were about to go to sleep they continue with their conversation like you haven't said anything.

People that choose to drive on campus need to read up on the rules for a four-way stop sign. No one truly stops, and no, a rolling stop is not stopping at the stop sign.

This is how you get credibility in journalism - write what people want you to write. This is how you lose credibility in journalism - tell the truth.

I just love taking the Pirates Cove bus to and from campus, all the while having streams of leaking water from the ceiling air conditioning units pour down on all of the passengers. If this was what I wanted, I'd make sure to ride top down in a convertible to campus on rainy days so I could get the same great experience.

The people who work at Mendenhall Dining Hall are the nicest people on campus. They always ask, "How are you?" and wish you an excellent dining experience. Maybe the hospitality will rub off on the students.

I am so glad that my tuition pays to bring quality movies like *Fahrenheit 9/11* to campus. I didn't realize when I signed the check over to ECU that I would be contributing to promoting propaganda and lies.

Why are girls wearing snowboots with short skirts in 90 degree weather? Just because Jessica Simpson does it, doesn't mean it's right.

Why is it that so many guys are walking around now with popped collars? Maybe it used to be cool, maybe it still is. But if you ask me and the other half of the campus that refuses to do it, it looks terrible and reminds me of characters like Justin Timberlake or The Artist Formerly Known as Prince, if you get my drift.

Editor's Note: The Pirate Rant is an anonymous way for students and staff in the ECU community to voice their opinions. Submissions can be submitted anonymously online at www.theeastcarolinian.com, or e-mailed to editor@theeastcarolinian.com. The editor reserves the right to edit opinions for content and brevity.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

College women from across NC and SC gathered in Chapel Hill this past weekend for a cause. Women from ECU, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, UNC Greensboro, UNC Wilmington, UNC Charlotte, North Carolina Central University, University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston (there were to be more, but people from western North Carolina schools had hurricane problems) came together for Planned Parenthood and were trained to be campus leaders. I was one of those women. We learned how to teach others about their reproductive rights and in the process, got almost 400 people to sign a petition for mandatory comprehensive sex education in the public schools of North Carolina. We care about the health of others and we worked this weekend to try to get teens the information they need to save their lives. I want to work on this campus to teach people, especially women, about their reproductive rights, and when those rights are in danger. This is why I am trying to set up a chapter of VOX (Voices for Planned Parenthood) on the ECU campus. There are chapters of VOX across this nation's college campuses and I am offering it to you. If you are interested in joining, e-mail me at ams0602@hotmail.com.

Ashley Sherrod
ECU Student

In My Opinion

Rappers, wrestlers do all they can do mobilize voters

(KRT) — The first time I heard about the latest project of Smackdown Your Vote! was about a year ago, at the monthly gathering of a coalition of youth-vote activists in Washington. An official of World Wrestling Entertainment announced to the group his company's new collaboration with hip-hop artists to mobilize "Two Million More in 2004!"

Wrestlers and rappers joining to promote something as conventional and old-fashioned as voting - was this for real?

In the year since, popular culture has embraced the imperative of youth voting with a passion and a panache that have surprised even some jaded students of electoral politics. From the Christian right to the irreverent left, nonprofit organizations and commercial enterprises have decided it is way cool to help young people fill out voter registration cards and get to the polls on Election Day.

The MTV Video Music Awards last month contained a steady drumbeat of exhortations, complete with personal messages from the Bush and Kerry daughters, trolling for votes for their fathers. P. Diddy Combs sports a "Vote or Die!" t-shirt on his Citizen Change Web site. Rock the Vote is partnering with the 7-Eleven chain for a "big gulp" of democracy through in-store registration.

And when Urban Outfitters started peddling a T-shirt that said "Voting Is for Old People," it created such an outcry that the offending garment was yanked from stores.

The sheer closeness of this race, the stark contrast between the presidential candidates, and the massive hunt for new and undecided voters have focused attention on 18- to 24-year-olds as never before.

So here's the problem. The decline in youth voting - a stubborn, 30-year trend unlike any in American electoral history - will not be arrested by yet another slick marketing campaign. Welcome though these attempts at consciousness-raising are, if voting turns into another commodity to be hawked and sold, then this unique and essential tool of citizenship may be discarded as quickly as last year's sneakers.

Young people aren't staying home on Election Day in record numbers simply because they are lazy or apathetic, or because the hottest celebrity hasn't asked them to vote. Powerful social and political trends have conspired to keep them from the polls, to make other forms of civic engagement more gratifying and rewarding, and to make voting feel like a meaningless exercise in a distant and often dirty political system they don't understand or much like.

Only if we welcome them into the

political process, and make it clear they have a genuine role in it, will the trend lines reverse for good. Only if we address the structural reasons that young people don't vote can we begin to count on them to infuse our democracy with the ideas and idealism for which young Americans have always been prized.

Voting in the United States in 2004 is still subject to a dizzying hodgepodge of local and state regulation that can be difficult to navigate, especially for the first time. If this nation really wanted to eliminate the barriers that have kept eligible citizens, particularly young ones, from the polls, we would build on the best practices of the states.

For instance, a handful of states have laws allowing voters to register on Election Day - which is known to increase voter turnout in general and especially among the young. Whether going off to college, moving for a job, or in the military, young people change residences far more than older Americans. But unless you live in Minnesota, Idaho, Maine, New Hampshire, Wisconsin or Wyoming, this sensible same-day option is not allowed. (North Dakota has no registration at all.) Politicians aren't going to mess with the status quo; it's up to the rest of us in the remaining 43 states to push for meaningful reform.



Historians claim this plot in the Thomasville City Cemetery is the only American cemetery with Union and Confederate soldiers.

Historians suspect unusual burial sites

THOMASVILLE, NC (AP) — This is a place you have to look for.

It's not Gettysburg, Antietam or even Durham's Bennett Place, historic sites ringed by minivans and SUVs, complete with costumed re-enactors and stores peddling postcards, T-shirts and ghost tours.

But the little grass plot and low stone markers in the middle of Thomasville's city cemetery has a big claim: Local historians believe that it's the only place in the country where Confederate and Union soldiers were buried side by side in orderly graves.

Some national Civil War scholars say that it is too difficult to prove that the plot is unique. But they acknowledge that it is unusual to have a place where enemies are buried next to each other.

It's one reason why Chris Watford, a high-school history teacher and local historian, has nominated Thomasville and its cemetery to be included on the state's Civil War Trail system. The historic routes wind through Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina and attract tourists interested more in history than amusement parks or beaches.

It's also one of the last physical remains of Thomasville's role in the war.

In 1865, Thomasville was 13 years old, born from a railroad depot. The railroad brought stores and factories and churches along new city streets. It brought death and sickness, too, and Confederate surgeon Simon Baruch was ordered to Thomasville that year to open hospitals to treat the wounded from the retreating Southern army and Union soldiers from faraway battlefields.

Two churches and a tobacco warehouse became hospitals, Watford says. In the spring of 1865, several hundred men wounded in the battles of Averasboro and Bentonville in eastern North Carolina would pass through them. In the next months, about 30 died and were buried in the young city's cemetery.

The war ended. The hospitals closed.

In 1908, a minister from Macon, Ga., appealed to Southern veterans for money to mark the graves.

"Some of the sick and wounded soldiers were carried to Thomasville, NC, and the Baptist church building was turned into a hospital, where faithful and patriotic women ministered to them in their sufferings, wiped the death damp from their brows, and tenderly laid their bodies to rest in the little cemetery hard by," the Rev. William Rich wrote in the October 1908 issue of Confederate Veteran.

Rich didn't note anything remarkable about the list of dead

buried in Thomasville that followed: B.H. Badge, of Co. D, 2nd North Carolina Regiment, near D.D. Starmin, "a young Federal prisoner," next to a C. Lane, of the 10th Illinois Regiment.

Most died in the hospital. A few may have died of smallpox, and one North Carolina corporal buried there was killed in action along the Potomac in 1864.

There are at least two Union soldiers buried in the plot. Several other names on Rich's list do not indicate the dead soldier's home state.

But these arrangements, Tarheels laid next to Yankees in marked graves, would have been highly unusual during what some still call the War Between the States.

At least 10 Confederates were accidentally mixed in with Union dead buried in the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, according to Gettysburg College's Civil War Institute.

Whether the Thomasville plot was a gesture of reconciliation or merely a convenient burial site near the hospitals is unanswered. "That's the mystery to me as a researcher," Watford said.

Leah Wood Jewett, the director of the United States Civil War Center at Louisiana State University, said that whatever the reason, the important thing is that Thomasville acknowledges the plot now. "That's almost as important as if they were buried that way in the first place," she said.

Markers were eventually placed over some of the graves, each engraved with the soldier's name, but not his affiliation, rank or even his state — also unusual, Watford said, given that soldiers in Gettysburg were separated by state.

In 1995, the local United Daughters of the Confederacy placed a larger monument not far away, "dedicated to the men of the blue and the gray" to honor both armies.

A former Marine, Paul Mitchell, likes to see it that way when he visits. Now a lawyer, Thomasville's solicitor, an amateur historian and a member of the Davidson County Civil War Round Table, Mitchell is also an impromptu tour guide of the site.

To him, country comes first, he said, as he stood among the dark-gray markers last week. Weed trimmers whined behind him, tidying up more modern graves: headstones of Thomasville's dead, put there by relatives; graves with less mystery. Mitchell said that he also likes to think that early Thomasville residents had the decency to nurse both their enemies and their own soldiers back to health, and then had the heart to treat them equally in death, too. "You can stand (here) and think, 'There's a boy from Michigan, and his parents never knew what happened to him,'" Mitchell said.

Brain injury sustained by The Red Baron may have contributed to death



BARON

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — History books say that The Red Baron, the legendary World War I German flying ace, was shot out of the sky and died in April 1918. But new research suggests that his death spiral may have begun nine months earlier.

A University of Missouri at Columbia researcher and his Ohio collaborator argue a severe injury to Manfred von Richthofen's brain during an earlier aerial confrontation figured in his death.

"He was a very reserved character all his life, but he is described as much more immature after the injury, and we have found that is common with this type of brain injury," Missouri's Daniel Orme said Tuesday.

During his final, fatal dogfight, von Richthofen was seen pursuing a fleeing plane across enemy fire in an uncharacteristic display of "target fixation." The pursuit broke Richthofen's own rule to "never obstinately stay

with an opponent," said Orme.

Orme collaborated with fellow neuropsychologist Tom Hyatt of Cincinnati for a fresh take on what led to the Red Baron's death on April 21, 1918, when he was shot through the chest and crashed.

They focused on a July 6, 1917, incident in which von Richthofen was flying head-on toward an enemy plane's machine gunner at a distance where he was sure he couldn't be hit. "Suddenly something struck me in the head," he recalled. A bullet creased Richthofen's scalp, leaving a four-inch scar that never completely healed.

After that, von Richthofen, the son of Prussian nobility who would have glowered at a soldier's unbuttoned tunic, began exhibiting odd behavior, such as laying his head on a Berlin restaurant table to publicly display the open head wound to a friend's mother.

His mother, Baroness von Richthofen, wrote that after the injury, "something painful lay 'round the eyes and temples" of her son.

"I found Manfred changed ... the high spirits, the playfulness, were lacking in his character — he was taciturn, almost unapproachable — even his words seemed to come from an unknown distance," she wrote.

After subsequent flights, Richthofen had to lie down to fight off nausea and severe headaches. Richthofen wrote: "I am in wretched spirits after every aerial combat but that is surely one of the consequences of my

head wound."

Hyatt was watching a documentary about the Red Baron, and became fascinated with the head injury. "The film clearly showed him in hospital with a large head bandage, and to me, it began explaining his later behavior that led to his death," he said.

Orme and Hyatt began sifting journals, medical records and books about the Red Baron's symptoms in the months before his death. Their findings are to be published this fall in the international journal Human Factors and Aerospace Safety.

For Orme and Hyatt, research on the Red Baron's case fit a shared professional specialty. Both are retired from the Air Force, where their duties included studying whether brain-injured pilots should be allowed back into the air.

"We have evaluated many head-injured patients, and the description of the Red Baron's actions and behavior are just classic for what is called post-concussive syndrome," Orme said.

"In combat, the environment is very austere and the individual has to act quickly and make critical decisions, and he just lost the capacity to incorporate all that data quickly and make solid judgments. He didn't have the mental flexibility to realize he shouldn't pursue that plane."

There is still debate about who fired the shot that fatally pierced Richthofen's chest — an Australian artillery crew on the ground, or a Canadian flier, Roy Brown.

British hostage pleads Blair for his life



British prime minister addresses Muslim Council of Britain.

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — A videotape posted on Islamic Web site Wednesday showed a man identifying himself as British hostage Kenneth Bigley pleading for British Prime Minister Tony Blair to help save his life.

"To Mr. Blair, my name is Ken Bigley, from Liverpool," the blindfolded man said in the videotape. "I think this is possibly my last chance," the speaker said in the grainy video. "I don't want to die. I don't deserve."

"Please, please release the female prisoners that are held in Iraqi prisons," the speaker said.

"Please help them. I need you to help me Mr. Blair because you are the only person now on God's Earth that I can speak to. Please, please help me see my wife, who cannot go on without me."

Tawhid and Jihad, the militant group led by Jordanian terror mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, has threatened to kill Bigley unless Iraqi women held in U.S. custody are released. The group has already killed two American hostages it kidnapped along with the 62-year-old Bigley from their Baghdad residence last week.

The group has not set a deadline for Bigley's slaying, and it did not issue such pleading videos in the cases of the two slain American hostages. It was not known if the new video was connected to reports Wednesday that one female prisoner might be freed — reports that were quickly quashed by the United States and Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi. Hopes of Bigley's family

— some of whom have asked Blair to try to meet the militants' demands — were raised when a senior Iraqi official said it had been decided to free on bail one of the two Iraqi women the U.S. military says its holding.

But the United States and Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi afterward said the women would not be released imminently and underlined that there were no negotiations with hostage-takers. British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw also appeared to hold out little hope on Wednesday.

"We continue to do everything we can to secure Kenneth Bigley's safe release, but it would be idle to pretend that there's a great deal of hope," Straw told reporters in New York, where he is attending the United Nations General Assembly.

"We cannot get into a situation, and I believe the family understands this, where we start bargaining with terrorists and kidnappers," Straw said. "Because if we were to, we would not make Iraq or anywhere else safer. We would make everywhere much less safe."

After making public a video of the slaying of the first American — 52-year-old Eugene Armstrong — on Monday, Tawhid and Jihad set a 24-hour deadline for its demands to be met or the next hostage would be killed.

When the deadline past, it announced in a Web posting that the second American, Jack Hensley, 48, was killed. No video of the slaying has surfaced since, though Hensley's decapitated body was found Wednesday.

Before Allawi and the United States ruled out any immediate release of the women, Bigley's brother Paul on Wednesday recorded a message for the Arabic TV station Al-Jazeera, urging the kidnappers to release his brother in response to the woman's expected release.

He told the British Broadcasting Corp. he hoped the hostage takers would show a sense of decency.

"They need to see it on television, they need to see females walking free," he said. "Hopefully they will pick this up on the media and show that they have a gram of decency in them by releasing Ken."

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Programs from page A1

ECU takes care of their international students. The program is still developing, but people walk you through those first steps and help you adapt to the new environment," Chiche said.

Part of the developments include expanding ECU's linkages with international universities and working to increase the number of ECU students participating in those opportunities.

Bill Mallet, international student advisor for the office of international programs came to ECU in July of 2003.

"One of the things that attracted me to this institution and these offices was their mission to help internationalize ECU," said Mallet.

"A lot of students with the American World Partners Group have never been out of this state or region. ECU has a number of activities that let domestic students on campus know there are other things to do and places to explore and encourages them to take advantage of them."

Such activities include a Cultural Day, which occurs several times a month. Each event is devoted to a different country, with the students studying at ECU from that country in charge of the activities. An annual pumpkin-carving contest allows students to enjoy a truly American tradition.

Most of the students coming to ECU from abroad are from Europe and other countries such as Japan, Belize, Costa Rica and Argentina.

Study abroad options at ECU are also increasing, along with the number of students participating. Twenty-eight students are currently taking classes at ECU through the study-abroad program, and 21 of ECU's students are working abroad to earn credits toward their degree.

Several misconceptions about study abroad programs exist, keeping students from participating. Many students do not realize they do not have to know a foreign language to participate in a study abroad program and there are several English-speaking programs available for students to take part in. Two other common factors keeping students from pursuing study abroad programs are financial reasons and the fear of being put behind in attaining their degree.

With the ISEP and UNC-EP program at ECU, also the bi-lat-

eral exchange programs between ECU and other universities, students can travel abroad for the cost of ECU's tuition and are still eligible for all of the financial aid they would receive if they took class at ECU. Credits earned while studying abroad can be transferred to ECU as the equivalent to the class that would have been required at ECU.

Sarah Stevenson, assistant director for study abroad, said she understands the foundation of the myths but encourages students to see past them.

"Talk to exchange students on campus. I can tell you about the opportunities that are available, but these students can tell you what it's like to be a student there, what the university life is like there," said Stevenson.

"I'd really like students to see this office as an opportunity for them."

Stevenson said it is possible to study abroad and graduate in four years while paying the normal ECU tuition.

ECU is anticipating positive results toward their five-year plan to internationalize and diversify the university.

International student enrollment at ECU in 2001-2002 was 189 out of 22,000 students, making up less than one percent of the student population compared to Wichita State University in Kansas, which had a total enrollment of 14,854 students with 1,493 international students making up 10.1 percent of its student body.

While ECU's goal of 300 international students by 2005 is an ambitious goal, it is not unattainable.

Representing 54 different countries, with 29 students from China and 30 from India, ECU has made significant progress as far as international student enrollment is concerned. There are 91 international undergraduate students and 107 graduate students currently studying at ECU.

A five-year plan presented last April puts ECU on the map with other universities that are striving to implement the growing need to prioritize international education and increase the number of international students studying at ECU.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

Graduation ...an Achievement ...a Milestone ...a Celebration



Attention December Graduates!
Don't Miss the GRADUATION EXPO!

You're invited to a special Graduation Expo featuring sales representatives and displays from a variety of vendors and campus departments including Student Professional Development, Registrar's Office, Rec Center, Alumni

Relations and more! December grads, you can pick up your cap & gown at the Grad Expo, register for door prizes, and receive a FREE GIFT*.

Tuesday, September 28 & Wednesday, September 29:

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 30: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Rear area of The Wright Place Dining Spot - Wright Building

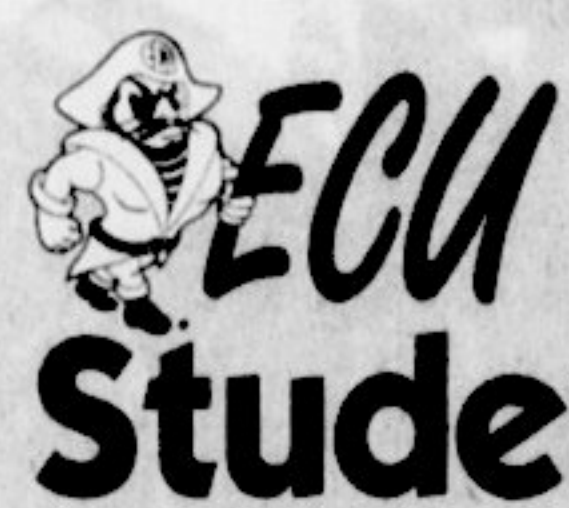
*FREE GIFT for December graduates while supplies last, compliments of Dowdy Student Store! Also note: some information tables will not be available during evening hours.

This is the perfect time to meet with an authorized ECU ring representative to order your class ring. The official university commencement announcements are available at ECU-Dowdy Student Store now and during the Graduation Expo. You may also order personalized invitations, thank you notes, diploma frames, and other graduation items through the ECU-Dowdy Student Store, located in the Wright Building.

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Career Xpo Xtreme

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Thursday, Sept. 30th ~ Contact SPD for location information

Please visit the SPD website at www.ecu.edu/e3careers, or call 328-6050 for more information on how to sign up for on-campus interviews.

Xtreme Interviews

Friday, October 1st ~ Contact SPD for location information

Please visit the SPD website at www.ecu.edu/e3careers, or call 328-6050 for more information on how to sign up for on-campus interviews.

Individuals with disabilities, requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), should contact the Department for Disability Support Services at (252) 328-6799 (V) or (252) 328-0899 (TTY).



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protein p...
1 tsp. flax

Sweet and...
Ingredients:
6 8-inch...
wraps
2 teaspoon...
1 to 2 teas...
1 teaspoon...
3 tablespo...
dressing or...
2 cups pa...
broccoli (br...
1/2 of a...
package ex...
and choppe...
1/4 cup flak...
6 romaine...
1 cup slic...
1 tablespo...
1 tablespo...
1 1/4 teas...
pepper

Directions:
1. Carefully...
water, place...
towels or c...
towels. Let s...
2. Meanwhile...
wasabi pas...
lime juice in...
mayonnaise...
dressing.
3. Toss tog...
broccoli, to...
a large m...
mayonnais...
coat.
4. Line ea...
lettuce leaf...
atop. Add s...
Wrap rice p...
mixture, fol...
roll up wrap...
together soy...
lime juice...
pepper. Serv...
Makes 6 spr...
Nutritional...
calories: 174...
fat: 2g, mo...
2g, choleste...
234mg, carb...
sugar: 6g...
7g, vitamin...
5%, iron: 8%

Announcements:

The RUMI Concert: A Turning Night of Stars

13th century poetry, music and dance
8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, Wright Auditorium
Tickets: 1-800-ECU-ARTS
Two free tickets with valid student ID

Freeboot Friday

Includes food and live entertainment
5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, Uptown Greenville
Evans Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Contact: 329-4200

Healthy Hints:

Don't forget to take a multi-vitamin everyday. Being in college, working and socializing doesn't leave much time for eating right. Taking a multi-vitamin helps increase your chance of getting all the nutrients your body needs every day.

If you suffer from severe headaches or migraines, try to decrease your salt intake. Decreased sodium and increased water in the diet helps to decrease the severity or likelihood of migraines/severe headaches.

Females who are using oral contraceptives and smoking have an increased risk of heart attacks, blood clots, stroke, liver cancer and gallbladder disease. There have been documented cases of females as young as 16 who smoke and are using oral contraceptives that have died from strokes. More info at: www.webmd.com.

Males are at risk for testicular cancer from age 15. Perform checks for anything unusual monthly to ensure safety. Report anything out of the ordinary to a health care professional.

Recipes:**Apricot-Pineapple-Strawberry Fruit Smoothie (Serves 1)**

1/4 cup crushed pineapple
1 fresh apricot, diced
6 strawberries
1/2 banana
1 1/2 cup water
1 tbsp. skim milk powder
1 heaping tbsp. high-quality protein powder (optional)
1 tsp. flax seed oil (optional)

Sweet and Spicy Spring Rolls**Ingredients:**

6 8-inch round rice paper wraps
2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger
1 to 2 teaspoons wasabi paste
1 teaspoon lime juice
3 tablespoons light mayonnaise dressing or salad dressing
2 cups packaged shredded broccoli (broccoli slaw mix)
1/2 of a 10-1/2-ounce package extra-firm tofu, drained and chopped (about 1 cup)
1/4 cup flaked coconut
6 romaine lettuce leaves
1 cup sliced mango
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 tablespoon lime juice
1 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper

Directions:

1. Carefully dip each rice paper in water, place between damp paper towels or clean, damp cotton towels. Let stand 10 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, combine the ginger, wasabi paste, and 1 teaspoon lime juice in a small bowl. Stir in mayonnaise dressing or salad dressing.
3. Toss together the shredded broccoli, tofu and coconut in a large mixing bowl. Add mayonnaise mixture; toss to coat.
4. Line each rice paper with a lettuce leaf. Spoon slaw mixture atop. Add several mango slices. Wrap rice paper around broccoli mixture, folding ends in as you roll up wrap. In a small bowl stir together soy sauce, 1 tablespoon lime juice, and crushed red pepper. Serve with Dipping Sauce. Makes 6 spring rolls
Nutritional facts per serving: calories: 174, total fat: 7g, saturated fat: 2g, monounsaturated fat: 2g, cholesterol: 32mg, sodium: 234mg, carbohydrate: 22g, total sugar: 6g, fiber: 3g, protein: 7g, vitamin C: 70%, calcium: 5%, iron: 8%

Customizing trucks and SUVs at ECU

*What's hot, what's not in truck/SUV world***CAROLYN SCANDURA**
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Since Ford created its Model T in 1908, the world of sport utilities and trucks has been thriving. People are judged by what kind of vehicle they drive. Some people have no interest in their car; it is just a machine that gets them from point A to point B. Some people see their car as a status symbol. Though status can mean many different things, most of the time when people refer to their car as a symbol of status, it is a car that the "Average Joe" could not fathom spending that much money on. In the world of pop-stars and billionaires, trucks and sport utility vehicles have not been left in the dust.

When talking about trucks and sport utility vehicles, there are many categories these machines can be broken down into. In college, people who have hobbies involving automobiles often pour their heart and soul into their passion. People own these vehicles for all sorts of reasons. Learning the basics is the first key to understanding the trend of customizing a truck or SUV.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines the word truck to mean, "Any of various heavy motor vehicles designed for carrying or pulling loads." In layman's terms, a truck has four wheels,

a cab and a bed for cargo. Some people have trucks because their job involves hauling supplies of some sort. Other people own trucks to go hunting or off-roading with. Some trucks are meant purely for looks with customizations such as extreme engine modification, modified suspensions and complex paint themes. No matter what the purpose of the truck, generally speaking, their owners love them.

What about the ever popular sport utility vehicle? There is quite a bit of history behind this diverse group of vehicles. In the year 1939, the United States Military found that motorcycles and the Ford Model-T were not suiting their needs any longer. They invited 135 different car companies to compete for a contract to build new vehicles for military use. This is how the Jeep was born. The "GP," later pronounced and spelled Jeep won the contest. In 1945, the Civilian Jeep, or CJ, was born and remains a legend to this day. Many other companies have created spin-off vehicles based upon the concept that Jeep seemed to have perfected so many years ago.

Looking around Greenville, though a rather small city, examples of trucks and SUVs are everywhere. There are many students at ECU who have a truck or SUV. Some of them use the vehicle as just an ordinary mode of transportation, but others are filled with love when they talk about, take care of or customize their vehicle.



Roger Green's Dodge Dakota SLT is just one of many examples of hot trucks in Greenville.

Roger Green, a junior at ECU has a silver Dodge Dakota SLT. A picture of what the truck looked like originally is a far cry from the feel of the vehicle today. Green has a full faced billet grill, after-market valance and billet insert, diamond cut headlights, cowl hood, euro tail lights, shaved tailgate handle, molded in rollpan, ground-force lowering kit, Gibson full cat-back exhaust

and 20 inch chrome wheels. Along with all of these exterior modifications, Green also has a custom stereo inside the cab of the truck. With a license plate that says "1Hot SLT," there are no other words to describe this truck.

Roommates, Chad Eirich and Vance Rosenow, both have Jeeps. When asked why they decided to drive the vehicles they do, their answers differed. Eirich, who has

a blue Jeep Cherokee, said the size and safety greatly influenced his decision to drive a Jeep. From the outside, his Jeep seems stock, only with the addition of privacy glass. Once inside, the music speaks for itself, or at least his upgraded stereo system does.

Vance Rosenow, who has a yellow Jeep Wrangler, chose

see TRUCKS page A8

Customized cars in hot pursuit



Honda Civics like this one are not only unique, they are pricy.

Import industry is booming in USA**ANGEL GONZALEZ**
STAFF WRITER

There is always something exciting about seeing a car that resembles something close to one that is mass-produced but has certain unique qualities to it. Almost everywhere people go there are these types of cars.

According to *Popular Stereotype*, "the drivers of these cars are young adults and teenagers with a lack of respect, a sense of speed and rebellious stylism that just beckons them to be known as show-offs."

Is that really the truth? Do people who customize cars do it for the look? Or perhaps they do it for the social status. Maybe they just do it because it is something they enjoy doing.

Many students at ECU have some form of a customized vehicle, whether it be a turbo-charged engine or just neon lights on the bottom of the car to attract attention.

Whatever the case, these cars represent an ever-continuing cultural phenomenon for individualism. Why do people drive customized cars in the first place?

"I'm addicted to speed and I'm an excellent driver. Making it go faster just made sense," says John Flanagan, a sophomore at ECU. Similarly, Jeff Hall, another sophomore stated, "Guys love cars, especially really fast ones. It's a huge adrenaline rush to drive fast."

So what is it that makes people love fast cars? Or more importantly, as expensive of a hobby as customizing cars are how do they even afford it?

"[Well], I work a job and develop the cars slowly. You spend money when you have some," said Rob Keehner, a senior at ECU.

Some people don't work as hard to get what they want.

"I come from a financially decent family, and have been [lucky] with my investments in the past few years. I also don't spend my money on most typical, aftermarket parts," Keehner said

What are some typical aftermarket parts? The latest trends point to quick bolt-on parts such as cold-air intakes and rumbling exhaust systems. The appearance of decals and stickers make cars more visually appealing.

So what does driving a customized import vehicle feel like? None of the drivers commented on that, however, anyone can just imagine what it would feel like sitting in one of those leather-clad racing seats, revving the engine of a 375 hp monster, hearing the roar of the muffler from the inside, holding the sheer power of the shifter in your hand, wondering whether or not to punch it on the millisecond you put it into first, very well knowing the force of gravity will push you so far back into your seat that when you are finally able to stop the car on your own free will (providing that you'll even want to) when you get out of the car, you'll notice the imprint of your body pushing into the back of the seat. The sheer pleasure of driving 95mph down the highway feeling like you can outrun anybody is enough to admit driving a car never felt so good.

That dramatization is all fine and dandy, but while driving fast can be very exhilarating, it can also be very dangerous. Local and state law enforcement are always on the lookout for speeders no doubt, and students driving customized cars are often the target for high speed tickets and fines.

More often than not, police and state troopers often overlook "normal" cars for customized "souped-up" cars for the fact they have a higher tendency to show off their speed on the

see SPEED page A8



Transportation on campus revolves around the ECU Student Transit Authority.

Campus transportation woes

ECU Student Transit Authority rules roads**TOMEKA STEELE**
STAFF WRITER

Getting from one place to another on campus can be a synch or down right difficult. The ECU Student Transit Authority began in 1969 and now offers seven on-campus bus routes and eight off campus bus routes to aid students, faculty and staff. There are mixed opinions on the efficiency of the transit system within the ECU community.

The ECU Student Transit Authority has provided a list of things to remember when planning a bus riding experience. These things are to: arrive at your stop early to allow for traffic conditions, don't stand or sit in front of the doors; don't stick body parts out the window; place trash in the wastebasket; don't eat, smoke or drink on the bus; stay clear of moving buses; buses only stop at designated stops; board quickly to avoid delays and lastly, ECU transit reserves the right to refuse service for a cause.

Many of the rules or "things to remember" are broken on a daily basis, which may contribute to the small problems of the transit system. A small tidbit many riders don't know is that the ECU transit has a Lost and Found center where items left on the bus will be held for 10 days.

"The transportation on campus is very helpful most of the time. However, there are always the small things, like when you have to catch the bus from main campus to Minges and you usually end up being

late," said Samera Byner, junior athletic training major.

Although there are small things that can be improved with regards to the ECU Transit System most students are grateful for the buses and the drivers. With today's gas prices being at an all time high more students, especially commuter students, are taking advantage of the transit system provided to the ECU community.

"Bus transportation has improved a great deal at ECU since my freshman year. I am glad that the routes have expanded to include more off-campus housing and that the busiest routes, such as Campus Shuttle, have added buses to make the wait time shorter for students. The bus transportation greatly reduces traffic and not to mention saves us students a little money," said Gloria Nieves, senior sociology major.

The ECU Transit System not only goes to campus and apartment housing complexes, the BLUE bus goes to Colonial Mall, Wal-Mart, Best Buy and Lowes Food. This, no doubt, makes it much easier for the students who don't own vehicles.

There are a few drawbacks to the ECU Transit System though. The ECU Student Transit Authority reserves the right to change any route or schedule without notice. If this unusual situation does ever occur it could be bad news for students' dependent on that particular bus.

Many of the commuter students typically drive to campus and park in the commuter lots and wait for either the Minges Park and Ride or the Allied Health Park and Ride. This

creates a problem during peak morning hours of operation and lunch time hours.

"I believe we need more buses especially in the morning time when a lot of students are in the commuter lot. The majority of the time I park at Minges and take the commuter shuttle. Sometimes I have to wait for the fourth bus before I can get on because it's so packed and I'm always late for my class and I arrive on campus thirty minutes prior to my class," said Dave Bautista, senior exercise physiology major.

The ECU population is generally pleased with the ECU Student Transit Authority. Many students have suggestions for improving the ECU Transit System. Most students agree that it would be helpful if the transit route map along with scheduled times were posted at the bus stops.

Many students suggested that buses not sit at the library so long during transitions. Students are also concerned with safety on the buses. At peak hours the buses are over filled and people are basically standing on top of one another. Having the buses spread out evenly at their different designated stops may help to alleviate this issue of overcrowding.

"I've been an ECU transit bus driver since June and I think we are doing pretty good, efficiency wise. Sometimes we are undermanned but for the most part we get the job done," said David Bryson, ECU transit bus driver.

Overall, students appreciate all the ECU Student Transit Authority does to make life at ECU just a little bit easier.

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

Parking creates many headaches at ECU

Towing is big problem both on, off campus

LAUREN ANDREWS
STAFF WRITER

It is obvious to anyone that has lived in Greenville that parking on and around campus is a problem. In August, Greenville is bombarded with faculty, staff and the 19,000 plus on-campus students enrolled this fall, all trying to find a parking space.

Since that kind of space isn't available on campus or its surrounding areas, ECU and the City of Greenville are forced to tow.

Either you or someone you know has received a parking citation or had their car towed. And they probably weren't happy about it. However, the ECU Department of Parking and Transportation have to enforce towing to control the parking situation as much as they can.

"Greenville doesn't have a parking problem, there's just not parking where people want it," said Mike VanDerven, the director of parking and transportation. "There is actually plenty of parking around downtown and surrounding areas that is underutilized."

ECU has developed a system of zoned parking areas to allot ample parking for faculty, staff and students. Permits are available for these lots but some students are confused about where they can park with theirs.

"Every entrance to every lot has signs clearly posted describing which permits are allowed to park there, but some people choose to ignore them," VanDerven said.

Parking and transportation monitors the lots for illegal parking. Citations are issued to those vehicles in violation of the

ordinance. After three citations is when the towing begins.

The system is computerized and the permit is then looked up to double-check its status. Then one of five tow companies is called to remove the vehicle.

"We don't like to tow vehicles. It actually costs us money to tow people. We try to give people enough warning before we resort to that. So you really have to be trying to get towed here," VanDerven said.

However, some people just don't know about these regulations, or care. In an effort to inform and forewarn people, the City of Greenville distributes information to Greenville residents. A brochure on the city laws is given to all Greenville property owners. Renters may have noticed a door hanger that was given out at the beginning of the year.

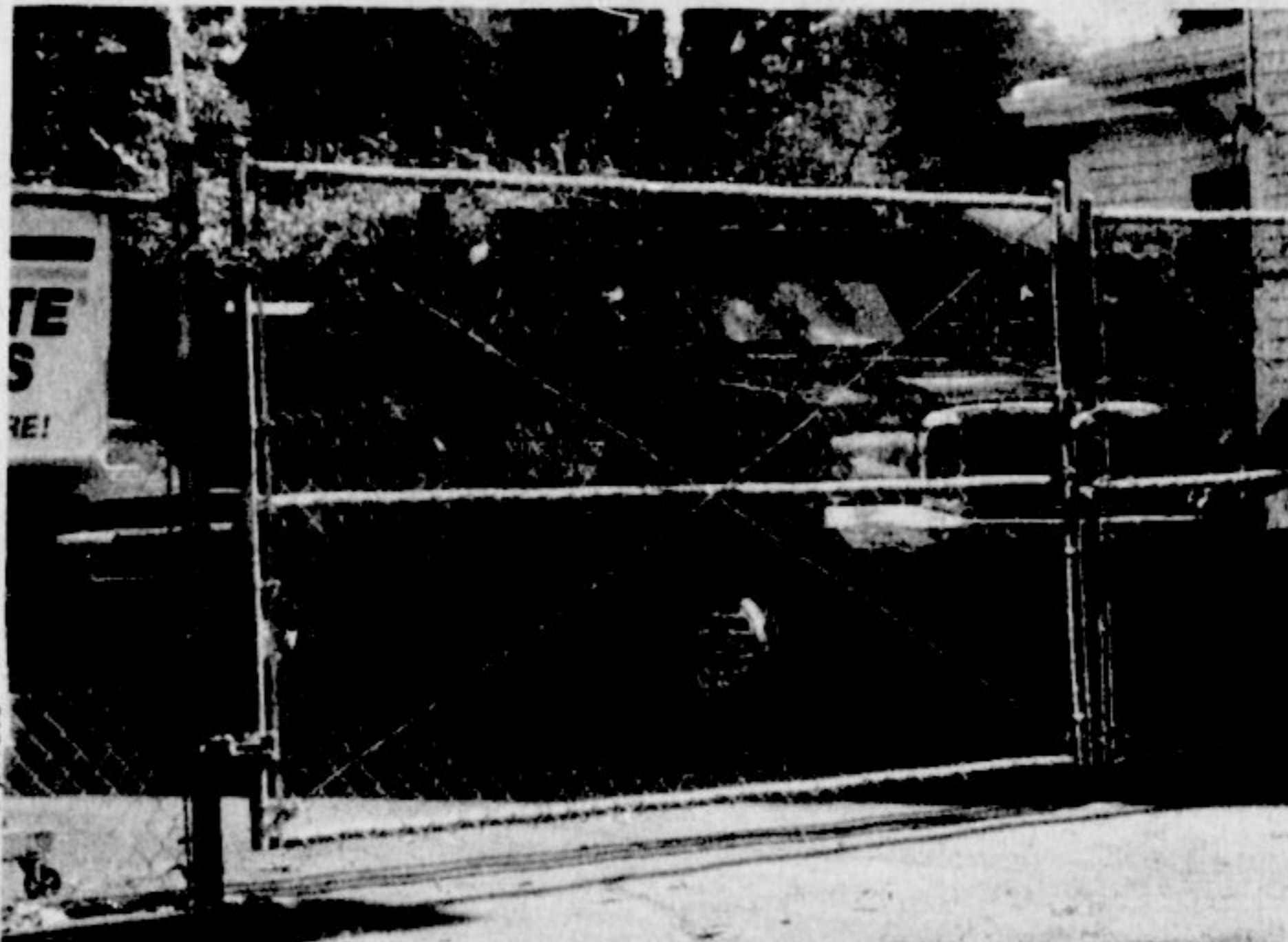
The city also sends people every year to orientation to explain the parking laws for parents and students. Yet almost 200 people have already been towed since the beginning of the school year.

Many of these are students trying to park closer to campus because they are afraid to park in the freshman parking lot. However, the freshman parking lot has proven to be the safest lot. Not one student has been accosted or any car broken into. Transportation Services is constantly making improvements to keep it that way.

Most of the towing actually happens around campus.

"The neighborhoods surrounding campus have such narrow streets. We have to tow in order to keep things safe for everyone," said Carl Rees, the Neighborhood Services Coordinator for the City of Greenville.

Regulation requires that you



Tow trucks are a common and unpleasant sight in Greenville.

park at least 10 feet away from a driveway, 30 feet from an intersection and within 12 inches from a curb.

The biggest problem for a student with getting towed is the outrageous price. Having to pay this amount in cash makes you wonder who is regulating these companies. The City of Greenville meets with the towing companies to settle on a reasonable market price. The companies are allowed to fluctuate from the \$70 price in order to compete with others. And if you are towed through the city there is a \$20 cost recovery fee. However, if you are towed through a private company there is no way to regulate them. Businesses and apartment complexes often have agreements with tow companies that allow them to patrol at anytime and tow any violators. So even if you just run inside for a second they could be sitting around the corner watching you and tow you within the two minutes that you are inside.

The company that does the majority of towing around ECU was unavailable to reach for comment.

So what can you do to avoid being a towing victim? ECU offers five different parking passes that are available to purchase all year long and range from \$25 to \$288. If the permit you want is sold out or just isn't close enough for you there are other options available. You can either fight for one of the parallel spots around campus or you can buy a leased parking spot. Numerous companies not affiliated with ECU offer leased parking on 10th Street and surrounding areas. The prices for these spots range from \$200 to \$500.

If you are left to fend for one of the spots around campus make sure you give yourself enough time to find a spot and survey the area for signs and yellow curbs. It's worth the extra minutes to avoid the high cost of towing.

For more information you can go to the Transportation Services Web site at www.ecu.edu/parking. Several tools related to vehicle registration and citations are available on onstop.ecu.edu.

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Save a life - or a few seconds



Though Greenville has designated bike lanes, drivers often do not adhere to bike lane signs.

Bicycle safety

AMANDA WINAR
STAFF WRITER

When you are driving in your car and see a bike rider ahead of you, what do you do? Do you get mad they are on the road? Are you afraid you might hit them? Or maybe you don't take the time to even notice them at all. Whatever the reason may be, it has become increasingly challenging for cyclists to ride safely on the roads today.

Lack of safety should not even be an issue on today's roads since cyclists have a lawful right to be there. According to the U.S. Transportation Guidelines, bicycles are a form of transportation just like cars, trucks and motorcycles.

Dan Stiling, cycling team director at ECU noted, "Drivers see cyclists as road obstacles, but that is where bicycles belong ... bicycles are vehicles."

Although Stiling is correct, many motorists just don't see it that way. "People purposely come close to you because they are annoyed they have to slow down for those two or three seconds," said Lu Livermon.

Livermon is an avid bike rider in Pitt County and father of Lucas Livermon. Lucas's girlfriend, Larissa Molles, was recently hit and killed by a motorist while bike riding in the Pitt County area.

The entire Livermon family has suffered a great loss from this tragedy and recently increased their efforts to make everyone aware that "cyclist verses motorist" dangers still exist today.

Livermon said one reason there is a problem on the roads today is because both motorists and inexperienced bike riders are being careless and unpredictable. Motorists do not pay enough attention to bike riders on the road and many bike riders don't pay attention to the rules of the road.

One of the most abused yet important laws some cyclists ignore is wearing a helmet. This law does not only protect the professional and

competitive cyclists, but also prevents students from getting injured, many of which ride their bikes to and from class.

Unfortunately, Stiling said most of the students he sees riding around the ECU campus on bikes aren't wearing helmets.

"You're supposed to wear helmets. Even though it's the law, it's not enforced. I know it's hard to ride from class to class with a helmet on, but it's a safe habit. Helmets have saved my life and I know others who have been killed because they failed to wear one."

Livermon pointed out, "If you are sitting upright on your bike, just sitting, and fall, you will hit the ground at about 9mph. Did you know that it takes a little more than 8mph to crack your skull?"

Many people who ride their bikes around the Greenville area fail to realize that helmets, although not classified as "being cool," can ultimately save your life in the long run.

Livermon added that wearing a helmet is just as important as wearing a seat belt, something all cyclists should take under consideration.

Yet many students zip in and out of traffic on their way to class without a helmet on their head. Many still hop onto the sidewalks, dodge traffic lights and break countless other cycling rules.

This performance by bike riders who either do not know the rules or just fail to follow them is another reason motorists may get angry or frustrated when they see a bike on the road. Many motorists endanger their lives and the lives of cyclists through this frustration and refusal to accept the cyclist's right to ride.

Rick Offerman, member of East Carolina Velo, a local bike club, said, "I've ridden here enough to have had my share of run-ins with motorists who are obviously unhappy that I am riding in front of them and they let me know it by passing me on blind curves, in no-passing zones and into oncoming traffic with a variety of colorful comments and gestures directed to me."

It is not uncommon for cyclists to be confronted with angry motorists. Bonnie Mani, Ph.D., of the ECU Political Science Department is also a member of the local bike club and constantly rides throughout Pitt County. She was run off the road a few weeks ago when a truck pulled directly in front of her riding group. The driver slammed on his brakes, pushing the entire group off the road. Mani said the driver did this all because he wanted to let them know he didn't think bikes should be allowed on the road.

In a similar situation, Livermon said he has heard of angry motorists driving straight toward people on bikes, and even witnessed a motorist jump out of their vehicle with a hatchet in their hand to chase after a cyclist.

The only way motorists and cyclists can both share the road safely is by finding a common ground. Cyclists by law are allowed to be there and motorists are not going to be able to change that.

Many people may not know it, but the advocacy efforts from the cyclist organization, "The League of American Wheelmen," led to the first paved roads in the United States. If cyclists helped create the paved roads, isn't it fair they have the right to use them?

In order to prevent future cycling tragedies from happening, motorists need to be more aware and cautious when they are passing a bike. Cyclists are not without fault however, since they need to follow the local biking rules without cutting corners and wear a helmet at all times.

By each group doing their part, and maybe getting some extra bike lanes from the city, Greenville could become a safer and more efficient place for both motorists and cyclists.

It's just something people in the Greenville area need to keep in mind. Or as Lu Livermon put it, "Would you rather save a life or a few seconds?"

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.

Speed from page A7

road and they can get fined a pretty penny.

The media seems to take advantage of the situation at hand and make loads of cash off of the young performance-driver by making movies such as *The Fast and the Furious* (2001, Universal) and video games such as *Need for Speed: Underground* (2003, Electronic Arts) and *SRS Racing*.

"Movies [definitely] brought car customization into the lime light. I have been interested in cars and modifying them since [1999]. It just sucks to be stereotyped by movies, imitations and video games. All I [want to] do is go fast ... the end," Flanagan said.

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Trucks from page A7

to get his Jeep because of the options it opened up to him while driving.

He can drive on or off road, with the top on or off, doors or no doors. Vance's Jeep has a small suspension lift, mud tires and tinted windows.

"It adds a lot more to a vehicle when it can go on and off road, there are more options which makes driving more fun," said Rosenow.

Greenville has many ways for the truck or SUV enthusiast to stay busy. If it is off roading that is an appeal, the Southern Off Road 4WD Association has memberships available to anyone with or without a 4x4 vehicle. Members can choose to ride along with someone who has four wheel drive or bring their own SUV.

Although it is located in Concord, The Uwharrie National Forest is a great place to off road, with miles of trails.

The North Carolina Krawlers, a 4x4 Club right here in Greenville, has many scheduled off road events for the 4x4 enthusiast. The Krawlers have many pictures of their adventures at The Uwharrie National Forest on their Website at www.nckrawlers.com.

If it is extra information about trucks or performance parts for trucks that you are after, Greenville has options available to you too.

Street Performance, a division of Overtons, is a directory of companies that sell parts for trucks and SUVs. Their directory includes everything from trailer hitch accessories to winches. Visit www.overtons.com for more information about Street Performance's directory.

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.



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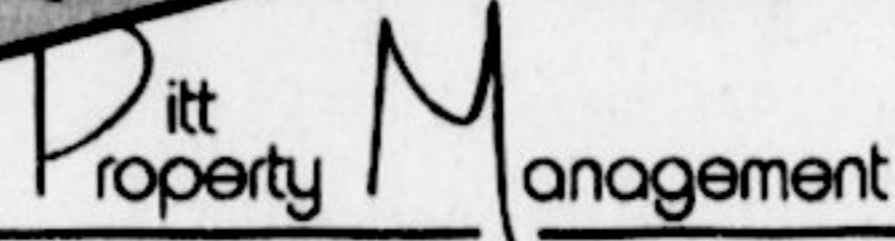
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American Muscle Cars: What is all the noise about?

Loud domestic cars that are eye catching

KYLE BILLINGS
STAFF WRITER

How often have you heard a distinctive rumble go by, only to look and see a sporty Chevy Camaro or the taillights of a Ford Mustang? While some are content with the safety and security of a Civic or Camry, a following is built around the aura that is American muscle. And while the heydays of the 1960s and 1970s are over, the passion for speed remains the same, whether it be in a 1973 Barracuda, or a 2004 Mustang GT. Students at ECU can be seen driving the fastest cars, Detroit (main American distributor) can and have produced. Torque, horsepower, time elapsed from Zero to 60; what's the attraction? While the majority of students do not drive such cars, many of them wish they did. In a survey conducted among students around campus, 87 percent of them cited their "dream car" to be a muscle car, with particularly high marks going to Chevy Corvettes and Dodge Vipers.

The ultimate compliment to any car is having the biggest or fastest. Many students here at ECU are opting for the latter. What's faster, a 1992 Mustang GT or the same year Camaro SS? Why would someone want to divulge well-earned money into maintaining and improving a vehicle? Is getting from point A to point B not enough?

I asked senior Dominic Mancuso, a political science major and sports car enthusiast to perhaps give an explanation of the craze. I asked what he found most interesting in muscle cars, particularly his 1991 Mustang LX.

He stated "no other cars in the world sound like them, the all out power and torque of a V8 muscle car, they just push you back in your seat."

He also says he loves working on his car, perhaps spending 5-10 hours a week on it. He even mentioned a quote he liked online, which perhaps illustrates the passion many drivers feel, "Welcome to a celebration of an era when the number of cubic inches was more important than



Around town and at car shows, Ford Mustangs like this one will always catch your eyes and ears.

the number of cup holders, and quarter mile times meant more than inches of ground clearance." His ideal car: a "1970 Chevelle SS 454 LS6 with a four speed on the floor, blue with white racing stripes."

For the lay person typically unknowledgeable of the fast car specifics, what sort of accessories might a person add to their hot rod, and what would be the most important acquisition? Given ideal situations, AKA a bottomless pocketbook, what did ECU students say they would do to customize their cars? For students like sophomore Mike Keating, owner of a 1995 Mustang Cobra, working since freshman year of high school has been the cost of enjoying a hobby.

Improvements to their cars afforded various responses such as a supercharger, a Ram air intake system and a heads/cam package. Of all students surveyed, nearly all of them agreed that performance outweighed appearance. This performance includes increased horsepower and torque, what makes an engine really giddy-up. Studies have shown student drivers between the ages of 16 and 24 account for about 7 percent of the driving community, but also make up more than 14 percent of all accidents.* Does this accrued level of performance make younger drivers more willing to forgo traffic laws?

Freshman Matt Harrell (owner of a classic 1969 Pontiac GTO) states, "The temptation is always there, it's just the amount of personal restraint you have, plus how much money you're willing to spend on tickets."

The interest in fast cars and

fast driving isn't limited to the streets of G-Vegas. Fast cars have been part of the cultural fabric for many years, with examples existing in video games, movies and television. One of the most successful video games of all-time, Grand Theft Auto, spawned three sequels with a fourth coming out soon. The success of movies like *The Fast and the Furious* and *Gone in 60 Seconds* depict this fascination with speed. Predecessors of the pacing rage in Hollywood include flicks like *Smokey and the Bandit* with the famous 1977 Pontiac Firebird TransAm and the reckless "Dukes of Hazzard" with the legendary General Lee.

Certainly mainstream America has embraced the culture that is living life in the fast lane. Some of the most popular magazines include those of *Chevy High Performance*, *5.0, Corvette Enthusiast*, *Hot Rod*, *Muscle Mustangs* and *Fast Fords*, and the esquire of periodicals: *Car and Driver*.

If any of this sparked any interest, you'll find countless drivers who would love to expose their thoughts on their cars throughout campus. For a more in depth look at the true muscle of the street, you might need to check out a car show. Raleigh, only a short car ride away, has two main auto shows in the near future. The Raleigh Auto Show lasts from Feb. 24 - 27, and The North Carolina International Auto Show is on display from Feb. 19 - 22 at the Raleigh Convention Center.


*Best's Review; Jun 2004, Vol. 105 Issue 2, p68, 1/2p

This writer can be contacted at features@theeastcarolinian.com.



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Offer available to currently enrolled ECU students only. Must display valid ECU 1 Card. Limit one discounted copy per student. Additional copies may be purchased at the educationally priced retail rate.

The ECU Media Board welcomes applications for DAY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Apply now for position of **Day Student Representative** on the ECU Media Board. To qualify, you must be a student living off campus who is not a member of a fraternity or sorority. Help set policies for operation of **WZMB, The Rebel, The East Carolinian & Expressions**. The Media Board meets Monthly.

Apply in The Media Board Office
2nd Floor Publications Building
328-6009
Deadline for applications is Sept. 30th

WZMB 91.3



Is Taking Applications For:


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Grant Manager
Web Designer

Applications can be picked up in the Basement of Mendenhall. Application deadline is Friday, Sept. 24th by 5 p.m.
Must be a full-time registered student with a 2.0 GPA
Call 328-4751 with any questions.

SGA FUNDING

Need Emergency Funding to help support your student organization?

SGA can help you!



Attend an Emergency Funding Class
Come to find out how to apply!

Sept 13 Mendenhall #221 (7-9 pm)
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More dates to come for the spring semester

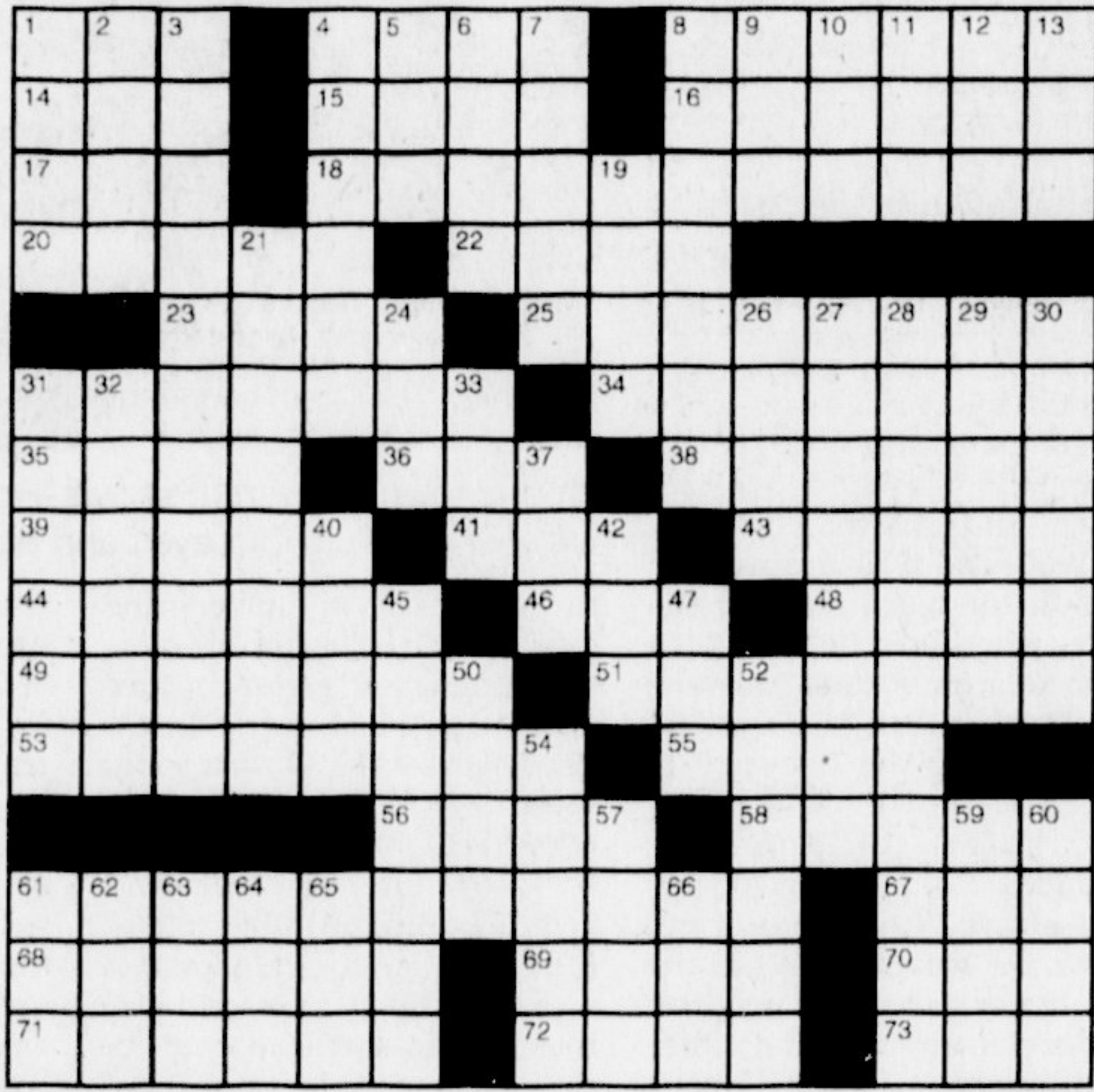
Sign up in the SGA office (255 MSC) or call us at 328-4726

NOTE: Organizations must be registered. A constitution must be on file with the Office of Student Leadership and Development and SGA.

NOTE: Organizations must show a need for this "emergency" money by submitting a justification and backup documentation.

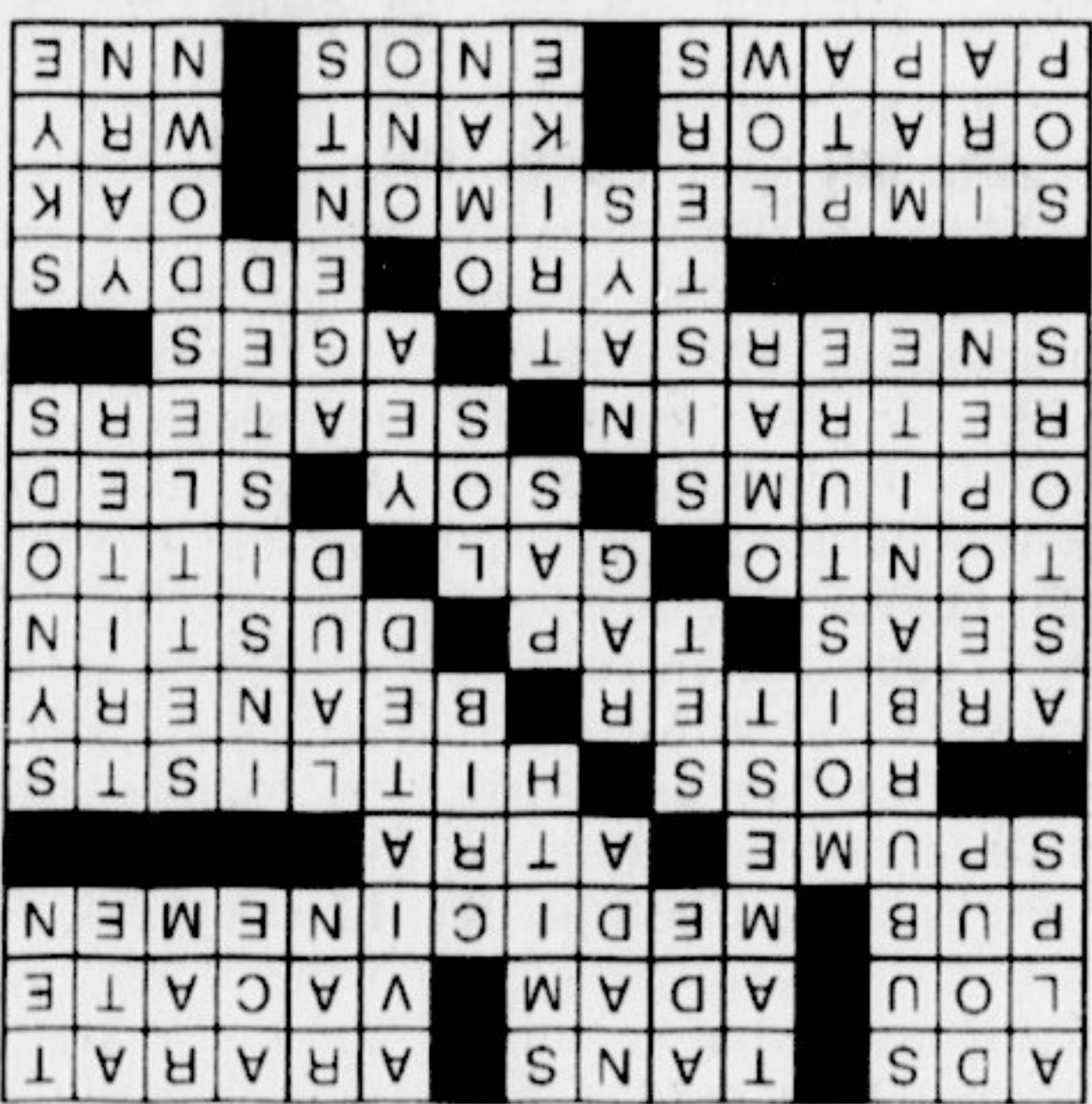
Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Want
 - 4 Brown shades
 - 8 Ark's peak
 - 14 Bud's sidekick
 - 15 Eve's old man
 - 16 Leave empty
 - 17 Andy Capp's hangout
 - 18 Tribal shamans
 - 20 Foam
 - 22 Gillette razor
 - 23 H. Perot
 - 25 Tallies of targets
 - 31 Referee
 - 34 Cheap restaurant
 - 35 Dead and Red
 - 36 Light pat
 - 38 Actor Hoffman
 - 39 Lone Ranger's sidekick
 - 41 Four qts.
 - 43 Same again
 - 44 Addictive narcotics
 - 46 Salty sauce
 - 48 Winter coaster
 - 49 Learn new job skills
 - 51 Ushers
 - 53 Looks down on
 - 55 Has a birthday
 - 56 New guy
 - 58 Mary Baker and Nelson
 - 61 Man who met a pie man
 - 67 Sturdy tree
 - 68 Eloquent speaker
 - 69 German philosopher
 - 70 Sardonic
 - 71 Papayas
 - 72 Eve's grandson
 - 73 Vane dir.
- DOWN**
- 1 Chalet setting
 - 2 Fasten, as buttons
 - 3 Commuter, usually
 - 4 Most docile
 - 5 Fruity concoction
 - 6 Nothing in Spanish
 - 7 "Mr. ___ Goes to Washington"
 - 8 Flew
 - 9 Flew
 - 10 Top marksman
 - 11 Hit head-on
 - 12 Noshed
 - 13 Decade count
 - 19 Tot holder
 - 21 Dampress
 - 24 Fixed
 - 26 Glorify
 - 27 Refused to yield
 - 28 Becomes less restless
 - 29 More hackneyed
 - 30 Church gatherings
 - 31 John Jacob and Mary
 - 32 Resume business
 - 33 Tattered cloth
 - 37 Faux ___ (social blunder)
 - 40 Sharif of films
 - 42 ___ Alamos
 - 45 Nuns
 - 47 Vote for
 - 50 Votes against
 - 52 Go-betweens
 - 54 Three-wheeler
 - 57 Muscat sultanate
 - 59 Tall tale
 - 60 Hebrides isle
 - 61 Saturate
 - 62 Tax deferral letters
 - 63 Atlas page
 - 64 Sch. grp.
 - 65 Sad
 - 66 John's Yoko



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Solutions



DeVega McCraigt Presents:

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HEY... NICE RADIO!
THANKS. IT'S NEW.
ONE THING... DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S SAFE TO SIT IT THERE?
SURE... WHY NOT?
WELL, Y'KNOW... BECAUSE WE MIGHT GET ELECTROCUTED, THAT'S WHY.
NO WE WANT OUR FEET MADE OF RUBBER, REMEMBER?
NO THEY'RE NOT!
REALLY?
STARRING IN "MOLECULAR GENETICS FOR DUMMIES"

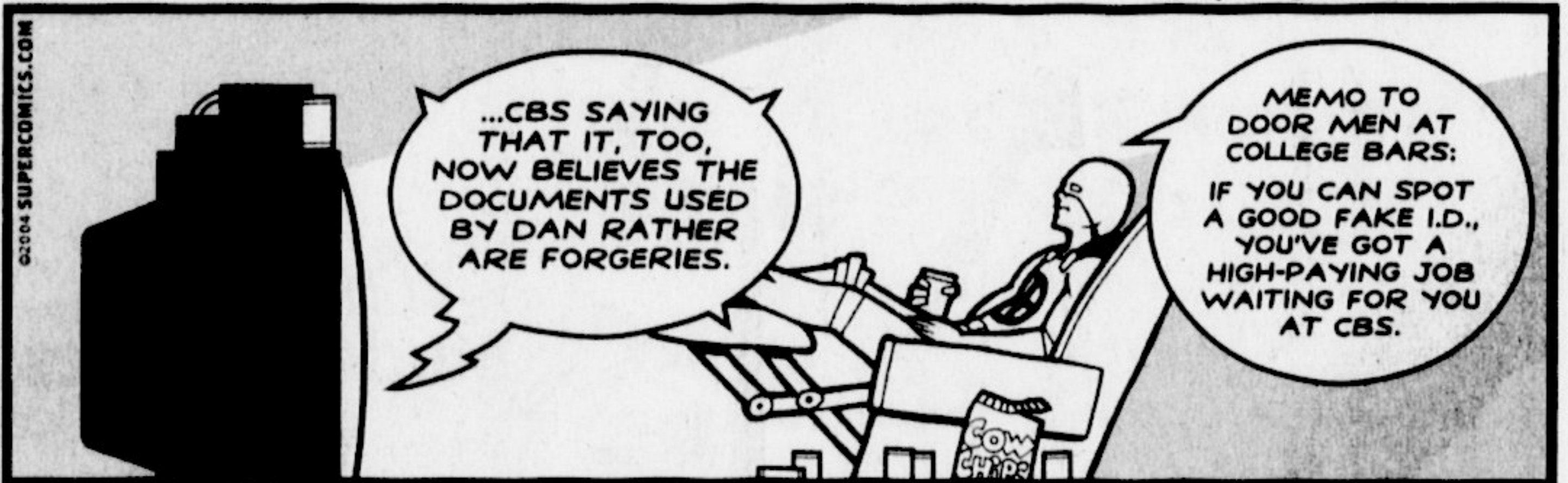


THE ANARCHIST by Dusty Higgins



CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Tele-Visions

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis

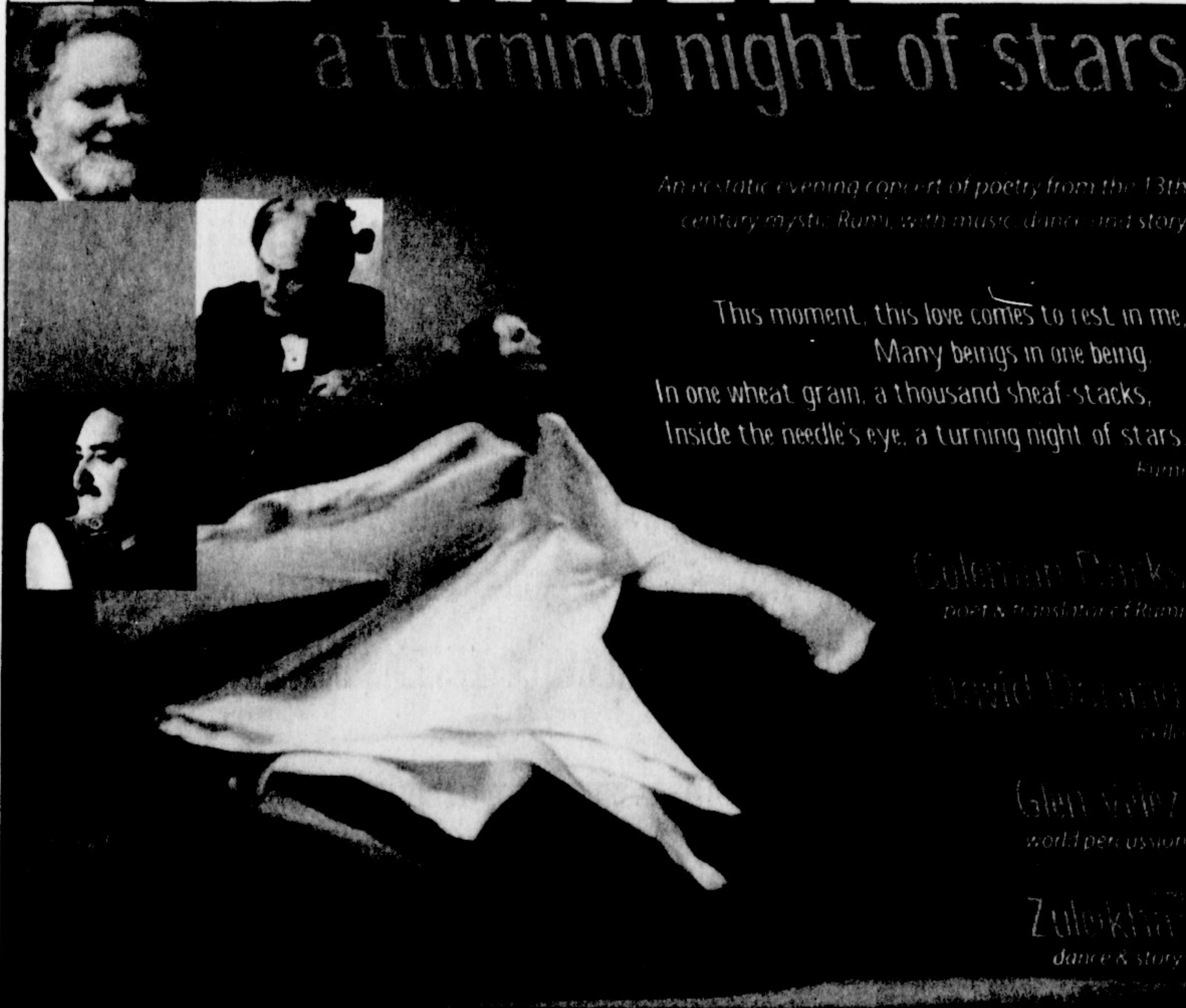


FIRST 20 DAYS AT ICU

CAMPUS EVENTS CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2004

Rumi

a turning night of stars



An ecstatic evening caper of poetry from the 13th century mystic, Rumi, with music, dance, and story.

This moment, this love comes to rest in me.
Many beings in one being
In one wheat grain, a thousand sheaf stacks,
Inside the needle's eye, a turning night of stars.

Coleman Barks
poet & translator of Rumi

David Darling
cello

Glen Velez
world percussion

Zuleika
dance & story

What is RUMI?

- A: Someone you live with
- B: Japanese Art
- C. A 13th century mystic

Come and find out on Thursday,
9/23 at 8pm in Wright Auditorium!

**FREE Student Tickets:
RUMI CONCERT**

Wednesday, September 22 - Social Justice Institute: Speaker (Topic: "What Have We Come To? Wars Between the Generations"), 7:30pm, Murphy Center. FREE for ECU Students. Tickets available at the ECU Central Ticket Office. Sponsored by the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center/Office of Intercultural Affairs.

Thursday, September 23 - The Rumi Concert: A Turning Night of Stars with Coleman Barks (internationally renowned poet and translator of Rumi), David Darling (cello), Glen Velez (percussion), Zuleika (dance), 8:00pm, Wright Auditorium. Free for ECU students w/One Card/\$5.00 for ECU faculty/staff/\$10.00 public.

Friday, September 24 - Arts for Peace: Poetry/Music/Dance Workshop with Coleman Barks, David Darling, Glen Velez, Zuleika, 10am-12:30pm, Wright Auditorium. FREE.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Page A11

THURSDAY September 23, 2004

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Three bedroom duplex for rent near ECU. Available immediately. Rent \$561- Call 752-6276.

1 & 2 bedroom apartments, walking distance to campus, w/d conn., pets OK no weight limit, free water and sewer. Call today for security deposit special- 758-1921.

Sub-Lease Wesley Commons South one bedroom, pets accepted, on ECU bus route, water and sewer included. \$380.00, available ASAP, contact Tiffany 757-3970.

Walk to campus, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, 1168 N. Meade St. Hardwood floors, ceiling fans, all kitchen appl. included, washer/dryer, attic space and shed. Nice size front/back yard. \$675.00/month. First month free rent. Call 341-4608.

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8738.

Close to campus available now! 136 North Library- 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, \$875. 122 North Eastern- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$850. Duplexes on Stancil- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, \$585, first month free. 252-758-9009.

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for 6+ www.SpringBreakDiscounts.com or 800-838-8202.

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Christy's Euro pub is now hiring cooks for evening shifts. Bring resume or apply in person at Christy's Euro Pub between 2-5pm.

Food Delivery Drivers wanted for Restaurant Runners. Part time positions 100-200/week. Perfect for college student!! Some lunch time (11a-2p) M-F and weekend availability required. 2-way radios allow you to be anywhere in Greenville when not on a delivery. Reliable transportation a must. Call 756-5527 between 2-5 only. Sorry Greenville residents only & no dorm students.

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work mornings and have excellent references, call 355-4454 EVENINGS.

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Greek Personals

Gamma Sigma Sigma wants to thank SOMP for the great time on Friday. We can't wait to do it again. The sisters of Phi Beta Chi would like to congratulate Meredith Lamb on being our sister of the week! We love you! Sigma Pi would like to thank Kappa Delta for letting us use your house for RUSH. Thanks for all your help!

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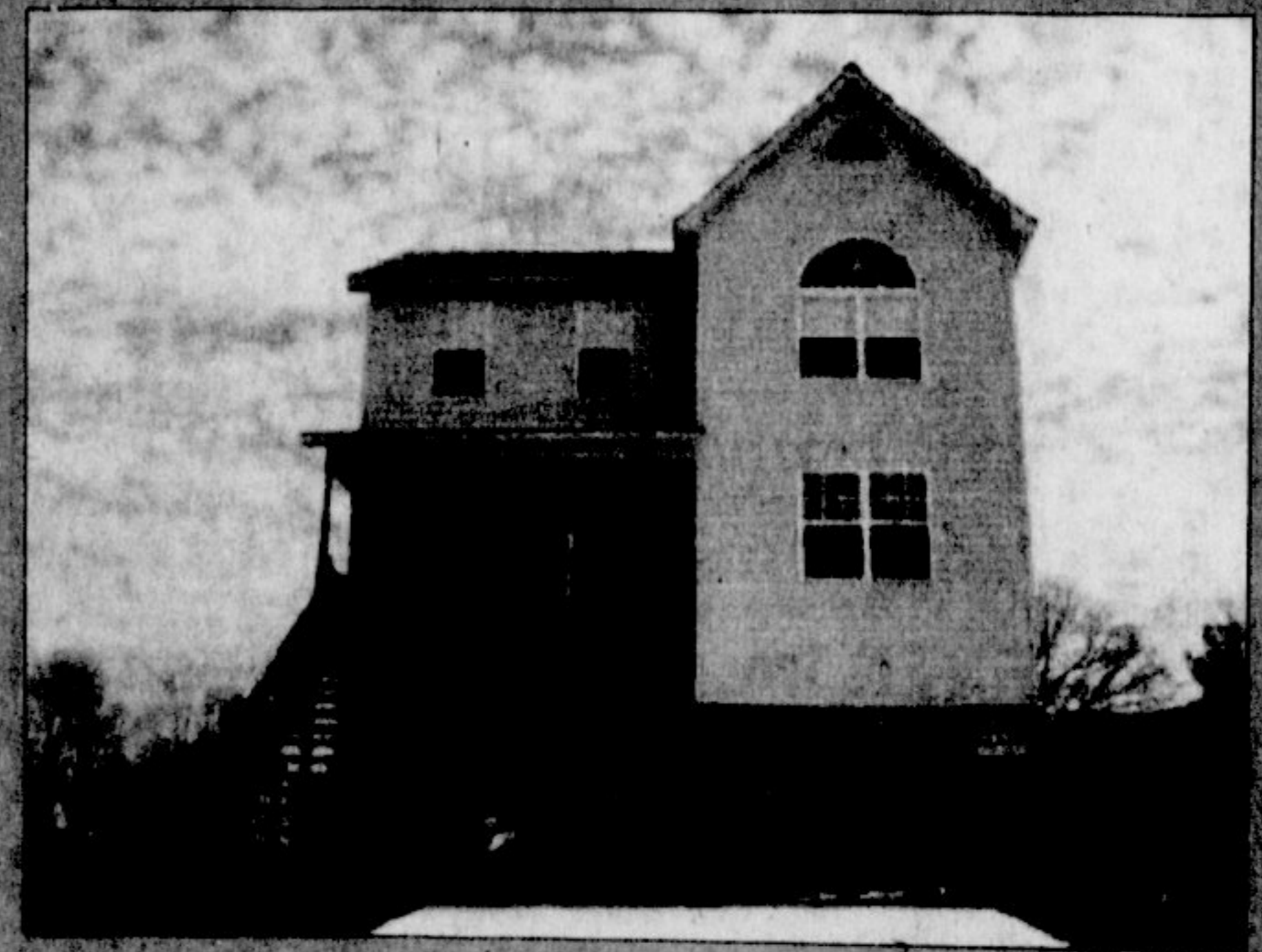
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