

# This Introduction Has Been Long Overdue.

## Drama shows serious, sordid slices of life

By D'ANN PLETCHER  
Staff Writer

The setting is a New York City all-night coffee shop, full of heroin addicts, homosexuals, pushers, hustlers and prostitutes.

Lanford Wilson's "Balm in Gilead," this season's production by the UNC Department of Dramatic Art, brings this scene to life today at 8 p.m. in PlayMakers Theatre.

Director Adam Versenyi said the production, which will run through Nov. 12, is as relevant now as it was when it was first produced in 1965.

"In today's climate of the war on drugs, the spread of crack houses and concerns about AIDS, the characters in this play demand our attention."

In contrast to plots which depend on action, this play uses the "slice of life" technique. The play employs an open setting (designed by Marty Dejardins) which allows the audience to step inside the scene.

"The audience is made to feel that they are actually in the cafe with the characters," Versenyi said. The setting also is symbolically moved several times by the actors during the perform-

ance to gradually complete a circle.

The catch in the realism is that this particular slice of life is shockingly sordid. While Joe, a would-be drug pusher (played by Shawn Stufflebeam), waits to unload his first supply of heroin, Darlene (played by Marcy Walsh), discusses the financial drawbacks of using a pimp in the prostitution business, which she is considering entering.

In the background, one addict wanders in and out of the cafe, ordering coffee and then forgetting to drink it, while another fears his numbness will

keep him from knowing when it's too cold to stand outside. Lesbian prostitutes fight over each other.

The constant variety of stage business and bits of dialogue often divide the attention of the audience while at the same time heightening it by increasing the realistic effect of the scene.

At the end of the two-act play, Joe is murdered for failing to unload his heroin in time, and the realistic moves into the realm of the surrealistic. The lights flash as the scene of Joe's murder is repeated three times, and the opening dialogue is repeated.

This circular effect could be called surrealistic, but it is nonetheless the most true-to-life element of the play. It shows that no resolution to end this hellish existence has been reached inside or outside the play.

More than two decades have passed since its first production, yet the problems the play addresses — the futility of the war against drugs and the resulting "class" of the down-and-out — still remain unsolved. The final words of the play, spoken by Darlene, reflect this dilemma. "Christ, aren't we even moving?"

## Precinct proctors watch voters from poll positions

By NOAH BARTOLUCCI  
Staff Writer

Virginia Julian sat at the table with a stack of ballots, an American flag and an apple chewed straight to its core.

Julian, precinct registrar, arrived at the table in Fetzer Gymnasium at 6 a.m. Tuesday morning.

At 7:30 p.m., she was still there.

The Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Hillsborough municipal elections were decided Tuesday, and Julian, with her Republican and Democratic judge colleagues, was there to proctor her precinct as she has for the past 20 years.

All three were veteran proctors. Jeannette Tolley, the Democratic judge,

has worked the table for the past 15 years. They know the system — and all the faces.

"Here come the Fergusons," Tolley said. After the Fergusons left, the grand total as of 2 p.m. came to 51 voters for the Fetzer Gym precinct.

"It's just a municipal election and there's not too much opposition," Julian said, explaining the low turnout. "The mayor is running uncontested and there are only three people running against the town council members."

John Fincke, the Republican judge, predicted maybe 10 to 15 percent of the 1,300 registered voters would come out. "This isn't quite a typical pre-

cinct," he said. "It's largely student populated, and the students aren't here the entire year."

Fincke has nicknamed himself the "male token"; he's the newcomer to the precinct, having proctored the table with Julian and Tolley off and on for only the past eight years.

But Tuesday's turnout was not the worst Julian has ever seen.

"I remember three or four years ago we had 65 votes for an August recount," she said. "It was after the second summer session ended, and a lot of faculty were out of town vacationing. Chapel Hill was dead."

"Just 65 people showed up and I

immediately became the laughing stock of the Orange County election board. I still am," Julian said with a chuckle.

This year's election turnout was higher, but not by much. Ten minutes before 7 p.m., voters 76 and 77 walked up to the tables.

"Hey, neighbor," said Barbara Hardin, wife of Chancellor Paul Hardin. The Hardins live five houses down from Tolley.

After Tolley told the two what number they were, the chancellor reassured her that "there should be a few more coming." The Hardins then scooted behind the red, white and blue curtains and cast their ballots.

The low turnout did concern the three somewhat, especially since few students vote.

"I think sometimes it's important for students to take part in these elections," Tolley said. "Some of the issues do affect them — like the noise ordinance."

Still, despite the small turnout, the three maintained a healthy sense of humor and had lots of free time to talk and joke with each other.

To pass the time, Tolley brought a book on home decorating.

Fincke came equipped with a radio and pair of headphones. "I've been listening to WUNC," he said. "It's my favorite station."

## Sports

## Burton Tee(s) up a quest for success in golf

By ERIC WAGNON  
Staff Writer

A few athletes seem destined to excel in a certain sport. Based on his name, Tee Burton's parents must have thought of golf even in the delivery room. Burton, now a junior on North Carolina's golf team, spent his childhood living next to a public course in Shelby, N.C.

"I was always around (golf)," Burton said. "My father plays a lot and he got me started."

Burton's father also played basketball at Lenoir-Rhyne College and Burton, who is 6-foot-4, picked up basketball too. Burton was the golf and basketball MVP for Crest High School and all-conference in both sports. "During the summers, I played a lot of basketball, so I didn't play as much golf as I did basketball in the summer," he said.

Burton, however, decided before his senior year in high school that basketball was not in his future and that golf would be his ticket to collegiate

athletics. During his senior year, Burton enhanced his value in college recruiters' eyes, finishing second in the 1987 North Carolina High School Championship.

After narrowing his choices to Clemson and UNC, Burton opted to play for coach Devon Brouse's Tar Heel squad. While Burton's experience in high-school was limited primarily to local tournaments, Burton cracked the starting lineup as a freshman and improved to become one of the team's top players. He finished last fall with the lowest stroke average on the team and made All-ACC last year, which Burton considers to be his greatest honor.

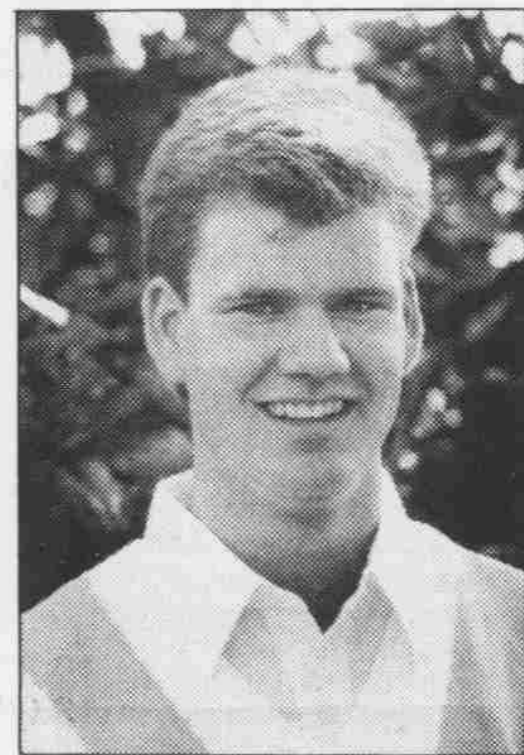
Due to his background in basketball, Burton was accustomed to playing a team sport, but said that collegiate golf's set-up as a team sport seemed almost unnatural to the sport. "Golf is an individual sport, tried to turn into a team sport," Burton said. "It's kind of weird being a team sport, because you have to realize that, even if you're not

playing well, your score may have to count anyway. You've got four other guys depending on you. It helps you grind a little harder coming home on the last few holes."

Burton added that team format affects his play individually, making his game slightly more conservative. "Where you might try to pull some crazy shot off if you were playing by yourself in a tournament, you'd maybe play it safe and save a shot, because you've got other people depending on you," he said.

At the Old Dominion-Seascape Collegiate last fall, Burton certainly did not let his teammates down, finishing first individually and shooting a 67 in the first round. "I started well and just kept going," he said.

Teammate Neal Sullivan, who finished fourth, was particularly pleased with Burton's performance. Burton explained, "That was a really neat tournament. That's Neal Sullivan's home golf course. So we kind of knew everybody around. It was almost like



Tee Burton

we were at home, because everyone was rooting for us." Burton's best performance this fall

was at the Carpet Capital Collegiate where he finished 20th individually, while the team finished fifth. Burton has not been particularly pleased with his results this fall and wants to work on his short game. "I'm probably a better ball-striker than I am a putter," Burton said. "That's what I'm working to improve right now. My short game is where I'm going to do most of my improving."

Based on Burton's record of hard work, he should continue to improve and be a consistent force on the North Carolina team. Burton said that he spends about five hours at Finley Golf Course per day and must keep the right perspective to juggle golf and his studies. He certainly has the right attitude for success, winning the team's Mike McLeod Attitude Award last year.

Looking toward the future, Burton said that he would like to play professionally someday but is realistic about his chances. As a speech major, he added that he really is not sure of any other career path at this point.

## Sports bring out the weirdos

By DOUG HOOGERVORST  
Staff Writer

Oddities are the norm.

It's a contradiction in terms, but it's the truth when it comes to life in the wacky world of sports. Think about it a minute. Someone always has a story about how, without cheating, they managed to shoot 53 for 18 holes the other day. Or how they hit a 465 degree turnaround slam-jam over this 7-foot-4 monster in Woolen Gym. Someone always has a peculiar story to tell.

Let's look at some oddities.

First, some look alike. Who thinks Scott Cherry, the UNC freshman basketball player, looks like Jay Burson,

former b-ball star of Ohio State? Could it be that Burson wanted to continue his college career after it was cut short due to his injury, so he became Scott Cherry? Has anyone ever seen Cherry and Burson at the same time? There could be a point here.

Another look alike and sound alike and everything alike is Mel Mroczek of UNC volleyball fame. The sophomore looks and sounds like Demi Moore. After every volleyball game, I expect to see Judd Nelson, Emilio Estevez, Andrew McCarthy and Ally Sheedy come down from the stands and do some sort of "St. Elmo's Fire" reunion.

One last look alike. UNLV basket-

ball coach Jerry Tarkanian and Telly Savalas. But do they act alike? Annnnd, no. Savalas played the super cop, Kojak, and the Tar was caught cheating by the NCAA. Kojak could never cheat, and besides, Tarkanian eats a towel, not a sucker.

Another oddity is that all of Dean Smith's plays are numbered four. Every time that basketball mastermind gets on his feet to call a play, he holds up four fingers and says, with his nasal inflection, "Four." Now if all of the plays are called "four," call me crazy, but wouldn't that be confusing?

Speaking of confusion, ACC basketball officials Dick Paparo and Lenny Wertz seem confused about whether they are to officiate the game or entertain the fans. Paparo and Wertz often decide to showboat and dramatize a call, real or imaginary, to get themselves in the spotlight. Strangely enough, they enjoy their time in the limelight most when they officiate UNC games. As a result, the Tar Heels' record in games with Paparo and Wertz wearing the zebra suits is a lot worse than in all other games.

The Buffalo Bills have decided that boxing might just be their sport. Two assistant coaches Tom Bresnahan (offensive line) and Nick Nicolau (wide receivers) tried a trial fight following a film viewing session of the Buffalo-Houston game. The smaller Nicolau landed an uppercut, stunning Bresnahan, then took Bresnahan in a headlock and rammed his head through a wall. Updates to WBA and WBC rankings will be out soon.

What good is a golf captain? In the Ryder Cup last month, ABC made this big deal about Ray Floyd and Tony Jacklin as captains of the United States and Europe, respectively. The commentators commented on how good a captain Jacklin had been for the Europeans. How can this be? Is he allowed to improve his players lies on the course and he just does a super job? Or can he yell and make distracting noises when the opposition shoots? This concept of golf captain is indeed an oddity.

Finally, isn't it odd that UNC's punter Scott McAlister doesn't get more ink? The sophomore Greensboro native has been rocketing punts at a 43.0 yard per punt clip. He boomed an 83 yarder against Georgia Tech, second longest in school history and he's ranked 12th nationally. With all of the negatives being attached to the football program, McAlister has been a shining spot and worthy of some good publicity.

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