



Flickerstick's number one fan chronicles an obsession, page 6

the Seahawk



Have a fun and safe summer!
-the Seahawk staff

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Professor publishes Fahrenheit 9/11 commentary

KATY LUQUIRE
STAFF WRITER

Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" was no doubt one of the most successful and controversial documentaries of all time, and now a UNCW film scholar has added to the debate.

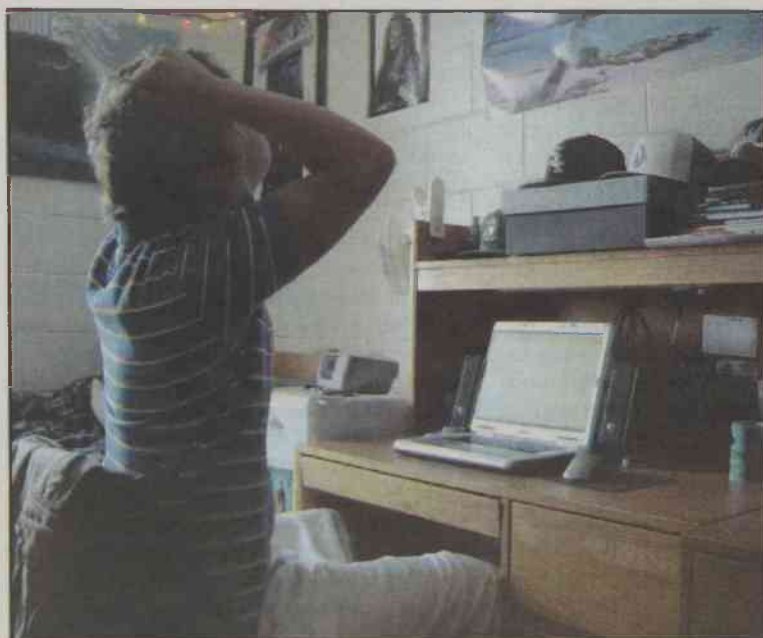
History professor Dr. Robert Toplin wrote the latest of his 12 books about the documentary. Entitled "Fahrenheit 9/11: How One Film Divided a Nation," the appraisal will be published by the University of Kansas press.

Toplin explores the truthfulness of the documentary, as well as the effects and criticisms of it.

In an interview via e-mail, Toplin commented on his inspiration to investigate the film: "I was intrigued by the evidence I found. I discovered that Michael Moore's movie was generally well received abroad and in the United States in the first weeks, but then people who disagreed with Moore's interpretations of political issues mounted a tremendous effort to discredit the film. They recognized that the movie might make a significant impact in the 2004 presidential elections."

Toplin specifically defends Moore on the criticisms of excessive partisanship and using videos out of context. Documentaries have a long-standing tradition of partisanship, and the videos taken out of context are only a problem because of the different ways people interpret them, according to Toplin.

"I have written many books that study the impact of popular film on public attitudes. Since this move was enormously controversial, it seemed a good subject for analysis," said Toplin.



A photo illustration by Matt Graham | THE SEAHAWK

UNCW is considering changing the basic studies curriculum to include required freshmen classes and seminars. The new requirements are designed to help freshmen create stronger bonds with faculty and peers.

UNCW basic studies curriculum is in for changes

BENJAMIN MAHAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

UNCW is set to overhaul its basic studies curriculum pending further investigation into the impact revisions will have on existing programs and the learning experiences of first-year students.

The most dramatic format changes found within the Basic Studies Revision Task Force Proposal Spring 2006 include the creation of a required Freshman Experience course.

The Freshman Experience courses include a class partnering students and academic advisers in a mentoring relationship called The Freshman Seminar a service learning based course titled The EDGE, and a seminar designed to help students develop social and university-based connections known as the Learning Community Integrative Seminar.

The proposal document, authored by a committee of 10

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Pollen is in the air and allergy season is here

KATIE WILSON
STAFF WRITER

Sniffing, sneezing and the yellow film covering virtually everything outside serve as constant reminders that allergy season is now upon us.

Allergies affect at least 40 million people in the United States alone, a number that seems to be increasing each year, said Terry Ismert, an adult nurse practitioner at the Student Health Center.

Allergic rhinitis, or seasonal allergies, most commonly occur in the spring and fall. People can develop allergies at any age, and their chances of developing allergies increase with the number of other family members who also have allergies.

"If one member of your family is affected by allergies, your chance is 50 percent - two members, 75 percent," Ismert said.

The most common causes of seasonal allergens include trees,

grasses, weeds and molds, with tree allergens predominating during the spring season. Trees can begin their pollination cycle as early as February and continue through early summer months. Grasses pollinate during summer months, and mold counts tend to be high during this time as well. August marks the beginning of weed season, lasting through the first frost, Ismert said.

Common perennial allergens, ones that last all year, include dust mites, cockroaches and pet dander. A person allergic to pet dander can be indirectly exposed through other people with pets.

"Because allergens are influenced by the regions of the country, students who come from cooler climates can experience a change in when their allergies occur, partly because in warmer climates, there can be year-round pollen seasons," Ismert said.

Symptoms associated with allergic rhinitis include an itchy nose, throat or eyes, runny nose, sneez-



Brett Wilson | THE SEAHAWK

Trees, grasses, weeds and molds can all cause seasonal allergies. Trees are the most common allergen during spring.

ing, nasal congestion, dark circles under the eyes and watery, red eyes. While some of these symptoms are also present with the common cold, colds typically last only one to two

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Costco: what impact does it have on student commuters?

AMY TARRILLION
CORRESPONDENT

Ask UNCW students, and they may tell you that two of the most popular apartment communities for students are the Cape Cottages and the Hunter's Crossing condominiums. Adjacent to one another off of College Road on Hunter's Trail, these two large housing complexes, tucked back into a small enclave off of two of Wilmington's busiest streets have consistently been a popular spot for UNCW students to live. So did no one let the developers of Costco, the new members-only discount store, in on this before they started their development in one of the busiest traffic areas for students?

The intersection of Lennon

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