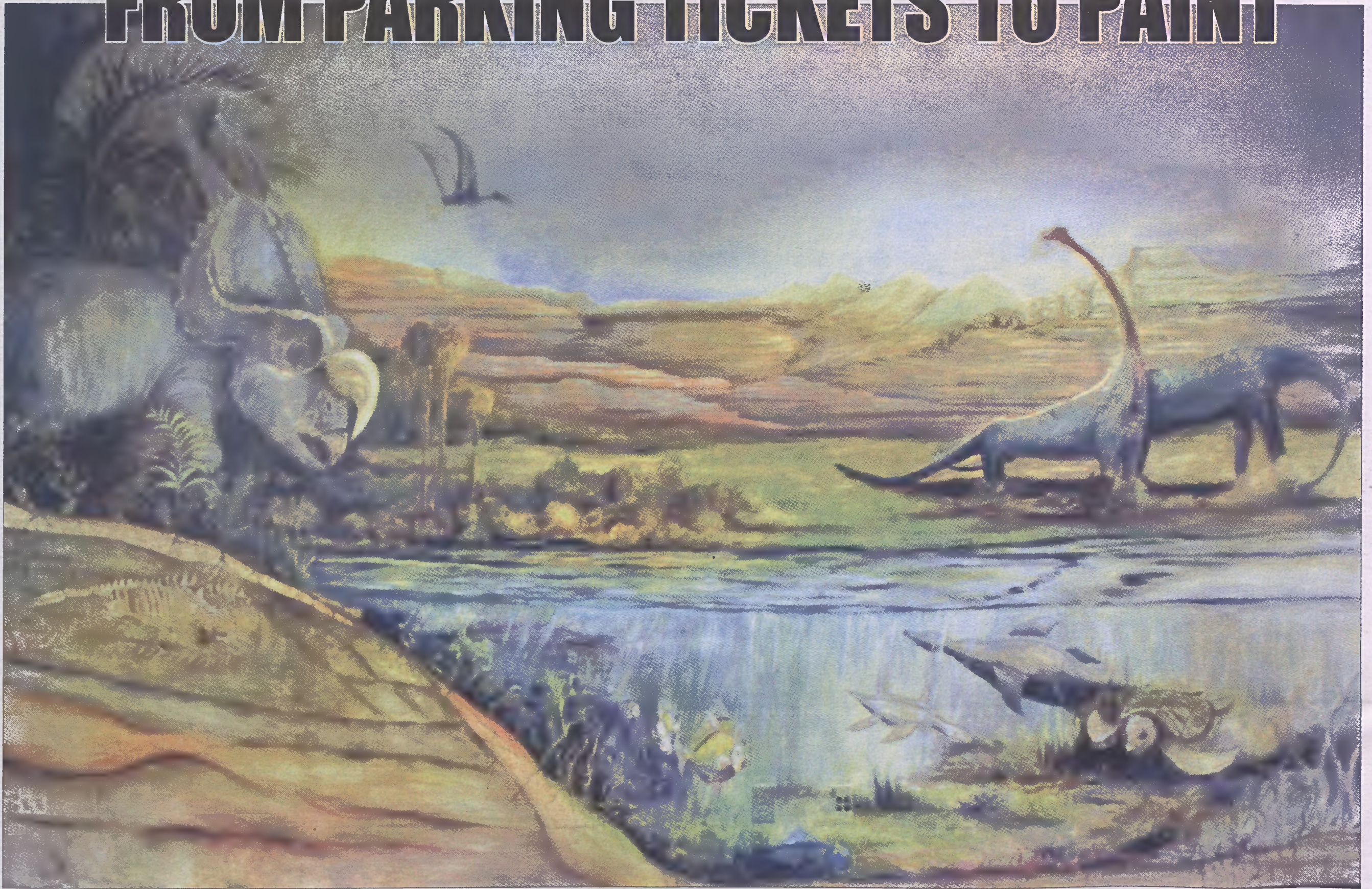


FROM PARKING TICKETS TO PAINT



JUNIOR KATHLEEN KENNEDY TURNED A PILE OF PARKING FINES INTO AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE HER TALENT AS A MURALIST

By Maxwell Reitman
STAFF WRITER

Last year, near disaster turned into a wonderful opportunity for junior and CCE student Kathleen Kennedy, who owns International Designs, a mural painting company. Faced with an insurmountable wall of tickets and fines for illegal parking Public Safety gave her the opportunity to turn her debt into a mural for the geology department.

In fall 2007, Kathleen studied abroad in Germany for her second full semester. After months without a car, in a country with different driving laws, Kennedy found herself unfamiliar with the rules of the road in Greensboro.

"(There was) a little bit of culture shock in coming back," said Kennedy.

Most importantly, she forgot to put her campus registration sticker on her car. By the end of her first day back, she had a \$100 dollar ticket on her car. By the end of the second day, \$200 dollars accumulated. Halfway through the semester the total had climbed to \$1200 dollars.

The series of fines all came down on her the day



(Above) The large plant eating dinosaurs are Alamosauruses. In the water, what looks like a relation of the Loch Ness monster is actually a Leptocleidus.

(Left) Members of the Geology department stand in front of the mural with the artist. They are (Left to Right) Assistant Professor **Angie Moore**, junior **Kathleen Kennedy**, and Professors **Marlene McCauley** and **Dave Dobson**.

PHOTOS BY LORI HENDRICKSON

before the Drawathon, which Kathleen was helping to organize.

"I went out to the car and there was a boot on the car," said Kathleen.

Having no other choice, Kennedy spoke with Ron Stowe, director of public safety. He asked her why she had not paid the tickets and registered her car.

"I thought if I didn't register, you guys would never find me," Kennedy said. According to Kennedy, at this point Stowe started laughing and commented on her honesty. They began to discuss what she could do to pay for her tickets and Kennedy pulled out one of the brochures for her mural painting business. Stowe looked over it and gave Kennedy this response:

"I will give you a week to find a department on campus which will let you paint a mural to pay for your tickets."

Kennedy's husband, a Guilford physics major, introduced her to the geology and earth sciences department and the planning began.

After a great deal of planning and thought, the de-

partment decided on the Late Cretaceous period as the theme of the mural.

Then began the evaluation of what creatures would be appropriate for the piece.

"We all ... had these ideas and bounced them around with Kathleen," said Professor Angie Moore who was involved in the process of deciding on the theme of the mural.

One notable element in the piece is the mesosaur skeleton which is tucked up in the left of the mural.

"(The mesosaur was) one of the key fossils when they were first putting together the theory of continental drift," said Moore.

Overall, Kennedy has counted this as a positive experience and has noted an interest in working on a science-oriented project again sometime soon. She has seen an increase in business for her murals since the project, having been contracted for one mural on campus and one mural off campus.

There was an official unveiling for the piece on Nov. 12.