

## CHRISTY'S

## CORNER

CHRISTY  
KIMBALL  
News Editor

I recently watched the documentary *Bowling for Columbine*. I found it to be rather disturbing and to use a cliché, "thought provoking." The gist of the movie is a discussion of gun control. The film features a bank in Michigan where customers are given a gun when opening an account. A bank teller revealed that the bank keeps no less than 5000 guns in the vault at all times. Giving out guns in a bank seems like a really good idea (sarcasm implied). Also, Virgin, Utah established a city ordinance requiring all residents to own a gun. What's wrong with this picture...I imagine that Virgin, Utah does not exist in a state of anarchy.

## Gunning for trouble

As the title of the film implies, the Columbine high school massacre is discussed. The day of Columbine, the United States dropped more bombs on Kosovo than in any other war. This day the U.S. government was condemning an act of violence while condoning another. People blamed media as the influence of the young gunmen. Ten days after the Columbine massacre, the National Rifle Association (NRA) starring our favorite Moses, Charleston Heston, held a large meeting in Littleton, Colorado, home to Columbine High School. The NRA also held a meeting in Flint, Michigan shortly after a six year old in 1st grade shot and killed another 1st grader at Buell elementary school. Isn't it ironic that the NRA held

meetings just days after gun related tragedies.

Later on in the film, the narrator and director interviewed Mr. Heston. When asked if he keeps loaded guns in his home, he responded that he does keep loaded guns in his

realize that Ancient Egypt and the United States did not coexist in the same time frame? The U.S. is much younger than other countries, and has not seen close to as many wars and coups as Europe has.

As the following statistics show, there seems to be no correlation between a violent past and a violent present. Germany has 381 gun related deaths per year, France:

255, United Kingdom: 68.

Other parts of the world are as follows, Canada: 165, Australia: 65, and Japan: 39. The U.S. has a little more than 11 times the combined amount listed above at 11,127 gun related deaths per year. What is it that makes Americans more violent. Of course the first thing people will attribute violence to is media. Media in other countries is

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home, but admits that it is unnecessary. His reason for having unnecessary loaded guns in home: he is exercising his right to bear arms. He has a more amusing explanation for why Americans kill more than other countries: Americans have a bloodier history than other countries. This is from the man who played Moses in *The Ten Commandments*. Does he

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hardly any different than American media and in several cases it is the same.

If you really think about it, every time we turn on the news there is some tragedy or near tragedy being reported and most of the time it is social. It seems news stations do not care that we are polluting the planet into extinction. The government is more concerned with war and "helping" other countries than helping our own. It is not music, video games, or movies making people violent. It is the constant reinforcement of paranoia and frustration that is.

*The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be signed but may be published anonymously. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for length and/or offensive content.*

## Campus Calendar

MEA Luau-Wednesday, September 10 from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. in the courtyard in front of Belk Dining Hall. Come out for food, music and lots of fun!

Spectrum meeting-Wednesday, September 10 at 5 p.m. in the Beanbag room in Ledford.

Psychology Club meeting-Wednesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in 101 Ledford. Anyone interested is welcome.

Meet at the flag pole in front of Johnson on Thursday, September 11 at 8:35 a.m. to remember 9/11. Sponsored by the Meredith College Republicans.

Meredith Soccer vs. Methodist College-Saturday, September 13 at 2 p.m.

Women's Issues Network meeting on Monday, September 15 at 10 a.m. in 218 Hunter. Open to all students.

Meredith Faculty and Guest Recital on Monday, September 15 at 8 p.m. in Carswell Auditorium.

Jerusalem Music Trio performing on Tuesday, September 16 at 8 p.m. in Carswell Auditorium.

## Community Calendar

*Dames at Sea*-a musical at Raleigh Little Theatre beginning Friday, September 12. Tickets are on sale now for performances on 9/12-13, 17-20, 24-27 & 10/1-4 at 8 p.m. Also on 9/14, 21, 28 & 10/5 at 3 p.m. Call 821-3111 for tickets and for more information.

Nicholas Sparks-book signing on Friday, September 12 at 7 p.m. at the Barnes and Noble in Cary

The Gourds playing at The Pour House Friday, September 12 at 10 p.m.

Central NC Pagan Pride Day-Saturday, September 13 at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds.

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band performing at Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill on Sunday, September 14. Call Ticketmaster at 834-4000 for tickets and for more information.

WWE Smackdown on Tuesday, September 16 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15-\$40. Call Ticketmaster at 834-4000 for tickets and for more information.

## Classifieds

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