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• Merit scholarship process questioned
• Police alter enforcement of noise laws
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Happy Fall Break!

The Daily Tar Heel will resume publication Monday. Have a safe and restful break from classes!

Raw Talent

Volleyball team upsets ECU 3-1.
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Weather

Today: AM Clouds; H 66, L 47
Thursday: Mostly Sunny; H 64, L 43
Friday: Partly Cloudy; H 65, L 36



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Student Officials Submit 6-Month Update

By **SHELLEY WALDEN**
Staff Writer

The executive branch of student government and the Graduate and Professional Student Federation released midterm reports Thursday, reviewing accomplishments the groups have made since taking office in April and highlighting issues that still need attention.

Student Body President Jen Daum said in the annual October Report that her administration has increased both student participation in and communication within student government. "We've

really worked well as a group," Daum said.

In the report, Daum said some of her administration's biggest accomplishments include steps taken to create the Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Life and Study; increased resources provided for students on campus who have families; and programs created, in collaboration with GPSF, for teaching assistants.

Student Body Vice President Aaron Hiller said one of the administration's biggest successes has been its ability to fill external appointments.

"We got the bulk of them filled in record time, and we are managing them better than they have

been in a while," Hiller said.

GPSF President Branson Page said his administration's greatest achievement to date has been the Teaching Assistant Task Force, which will study TA salaries at UNC and develop a proposal that will recommend a fair minimum compensation for TAs.

The task force has had one meeting, during which members decided to administer a survey to departments that will determine what campus TA compensation practices are.

Page said his administration also has made important strides toward increased graduate school representation on student affairs Web pages. Page's

administration has collaborated with the Office of Student Affairs to encourage all departments of the division to include resources for graduate and professional students.

The biggest challenge his administration has tackled, Page said, has been getting graduate student voices back into the campus conversation.

And there are plenty of other issues that still need to be addressed, he said. "We definitely have a long way to go on all these topics," Page said. "Awareness of child-care issues is something we



Student Body President **Jen Daum** and Graduate and Professional Student Federation President **Branson Page** released October reports Tuesday.

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Pundits: Candidates Scripted In Debate

Lack of audience helped Bowles, Dole

By **KATHRYN ROEBUCK**
Staff Writer

U.S. Senate candidates Democrat Erskine Bowles and Republican Elizabeth Dole often evaded the issues at hand during Monday's lackluster pre-taped debate, political pundits say.

The first debate held since the two candidates won their respective parties' nominations was taped Monday morning at Meredith College in Raleigh. Other than the two mediators from local television stations, no audience or media members were allowed at the taping.

"The candidates did what they wanted to do in a very controlled situation," said Thad Beyle, UNC political science professor. "It was easier for both of them with no audience."

Michael Munger, chairman of Duke University's political science department, said the candidates seemed more like actors than individuals participating in an open debate.



"The debate was stilted because there was no (live) audience," he said. "The situation was similar to a job interview, with a private tenseness among the candidates instead of an air of debate."

Munger said Dole had difficulty adjusting her speaking style to debate

format. "She is like a press secretary having trouble with an unscripted format and preparing three or four answers," he said.

Beyle also said that Dole approached the debate in a scripted manner but that she focused more on her own ideas and issues than did Bowles.

"She won the battle of logistics," he said. "Dole talked about what she called the 'Dole Plan.' ... It was named like it was in Congress already."

But Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life, said Bowles benefited more from the debate's focus on domestic issues. Discussion focused on tax cuts, Social Security, health care and negative advertising.

"Dole had a lot of visibility on TV as a celebrity, but the domestic questions

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N.C. STATE FAIR 2002



DTH PHOTOS/JESSICA FOSTER

Above: Mike Jenkins helps put together the Ferris wheel in the rain three days before the N.C. State Fair opens at the fairgrounds in Raleigh. Below: Supervisor Tommy Petty checks the track of the Worm ride.

STATE FAIR TO HOST BLUES, BIKES, BIOTECH

149th N.C. State Fair opens Friday, will run through Oct. 27

By **ALEXANDRA DODSON**
Staff Writer

State residents young and old can enjoy the 149th N.C. State Fair starting Friday when the event opens its gates at the fairgrounds in Raleigh.

The fair will run through Oct. 27. It will operate daily from 9 a.m. to midnight.

Advance admission is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children aged six to 12. Tickets bought at the door will be \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. Children under 5 and adults over 65 are admitted free.

The exhibition halls, which will host events such as craft fairs and the BioFrontiers exhibit, will run from 9 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. The rides and games will operate from 10 a.m. to midnight.

On Oct. 24, people can gain free admission to the fair by bringing four cans of Thrifty Maid canned goods for the 10th annual "Winn-Dixie Day at the Fair" program, which donates to the Food Bank of North Carolina.

Martha Glass, director of the fair's press office, said she expects a bigger crowd than in previous years. "Last year we had over 700,000 (people) attend," she said. "This year, with good weather, we're hoping to have close to 750,000."

Attendance at last year's fair was down from previous years due to the sagging economy and a nation still jittery from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.



Fairgoers will discover a wide variety of activities and performers, including Keith Henderson as Elvis Presley at a special birthday party commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Dorton Arena Amphitheater, which is located in the middle of the fairgrounds.

Glass also listed Eddie Money, Michelle Tumes, Pam Tillis, Legend Fest from the Grand Ole Opry, Mike Cross, Jeffrey Osborne and the Spirit of the Dance

as some of the performers.

"One of the most exciting attractions is the Royal Canadian Mounted Police," Glass said.

The Mounties will perform drills at the fair. Heather Overton, public information officer at the fair's press office, said other highlights of the fair are shows by blues guitarist Justin Fox and Chapel Hill comedian Larry Weaver. "It should be a very funny show," Overton said.

Weaver has performed with famous comedians such as Ray Romano and "Weird Al" Yankovic and on the John Boy and Billy Show, a syndicated morning radio show based in Charlotte. Admissions to most concerts will be \$5.

Another planned event is the BioFrontiers exhibit. Colored cotton specimens and a crime scene scenario are only samples of what the exhibit offers. "It really highlights

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O.C. OKs 1/2-Cent Hike in Sales Tax

Tax designed to replace reimbursements

By **SHANNAN BOWEN**
Staff Writer

Effective Dec. 1, the sales tax for Orange County will increase by one-half cent to accommodate the loss of more than \$3.2 million in county funds.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution Tuesday night to raise the county's sales tax to 7 percent beginning Dec. 1 and extending through the end of June 2003.

County Manager John Link recommended the resolution to the commissioners.

"We don't have a choice, given the state has taken (\$3.2 million) from us," Link said.

On Feb. 5, Gov. Mike Easley declared a state of fiscal emergency to deal with a projected shortfall for 2001-02, leading to a revenue loss of more than \$700,000 for Orange County.

In total, the county has lost about \$3.2 million in reimbursement funds

county officials expected to receive. "It has to be done because the state won't raise taxes," said Commissioner Margaret Brown.

About 50 or more counties have decided to enact the tax, Link said, because the state government has left the decision to individual counties.

The tax will be on consumer goods and prepared food, but unprepared food from supermarkets will not be taxed.

"This is not a sales tax on food," said Barry Jacobs, chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Link said the board will further discuss the distribution of the projected \$1.8 million revenue that will be generated from the increased sales tax.

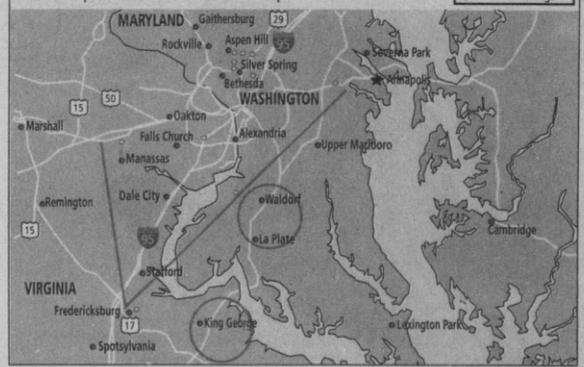
"We have had to freeze positions, stop capital expenditures, and these are the areas we will be looking at," Link said.

Though the expected revenue for the receipts of a seven-month period are

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Profiling the Shooter

According to geographical profiler Maurice Godwin, there is a pattern to the sniper shootings. There have been 11 shootings resulting in nine deaths that police have linked to the same sniper.



SOURCE: HTTP://WWW.INVESTIGATIVEPSYCH.COM

DTH/GRAPHICS STAFF

Profiler Predicts D.C. Sniper

By **ELYSE ASHBURN**
State & National Editor

As a serial sniper continues to terrorize the Washington, D.C., metro area, a handful of elite geographical profilers are attempting to close in on his home base and predict his next move.

One such expert is Fayetteville resident Maurice Godwin, professor of criminal justice at Methodist College and director of investigative process management.

Godwin appeared on CNN on Oct. 7 and Oct. 11 offering his expertise to shed light on the nature and whereabouts of the serial sniper who has shot 11 victims since Oct. 2 — claiming nine lives.

"This is not thrill killing," Godwin

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said in an interview Tuesday. "I don't think it's anger or rage. There's no doubt this was planned."

Godwin said the places the killer has chosen to strike not only make weeks of planning necessary for a hit but require a high level of familiarity with the area likely to be had only by a resident of northern Virginia. "The general theory behind (geographic profiling) is that the

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To be at ease is better than to be at business.

Baltasar Gracián