

Some students must battle loneliness in new home

By DIANA FLORENCE

Staff Writer
The Nelson-Denny Reading test and C-TOPS aren't the only things new students must face when they arrive at UNC. Many of them, especially out-of-staters, experience homesickness as well.

Homesickness includes feelings of loneliness, depression and being left out, according to Glen Martin, assistant director of the Student Development and Counseling Center.

It is not unusual for freshmen and junior transfer students to feel homesick the first few weeks of school, Martin said. "It's important that they recognize that it is OK to feel out-of-sorts when encountering new situations. After all, they are leaving a lot behind

and starting fresh."

Mary Byers, a freshman journalism major from Jacksonville, Fla., said she felt particularly homesick in the mornings because at home she usually was with her entire family at breakfast. "When I'm in my room at this time, I start to think about how much I miss being in a place where everyone knows you and you know everyone."

Scott Burke, a freshman pre-med major from Ambler, Pa., said he felt most homesick when he was in his room at night. "When I'm getting ready to go to sleep is the only time I have nothing I have to do but think about my parents and my friends."

Burke said he felt left out when he saw in-state freshmen with their friends from high school. "It's hard because all

my friends are spread out at schools around the country."

The best way to deal with homesickness is to talk to someone about it, Martin said. "There are many places you can turn to right on campus. These include orientation counselors, resident assistants, academic advisers, Student Psychological Services at Student Health Services and of course, the Student Development and Counseling Center at Nash Hall."

Students need to be reassured that they are not alone, he added.

Resident assistants are trained to help students deal with homesickness, said Jen Toplin, a senior sociology major from Wrightsville Beach and a resident assistant in Granville Towers. "When a

homesick resident comes to me, I point out that home is still there and that finding a place for yourself at Carolina doesn't mean you've lost your place at home."

"I think something little like saying 'Hi' to a resident when you see them on campus can really help homesickness," said Cammy Lacey, a graduate student in social work from Winchester, Va., and a resident assistant at Granville Towers.

Lacey said she made sure homesick freshmen knew the other freshmen on the hall, as well as the upperclassmen.

"My RA and my orientation counselor have helped my roommate and me take our minds off being homesick by introducing us to other people in the

same boat as us," said Gabby Bruno, a freshman English major from Grosse Pointe, Mich.

Orientation counselors continue to help homesick freshmen after orientation by showing them how to get involved in various activities on campus, said Thera Varner, a sophomore physical therapy major from Kernersville and an orientation counselor in Hinton James. "We are here to help new students adjust to Carolina, to act as a resource for them and to be their friend. There are clubs at Carolina for almost every interest on earth, and we can show them how to get involved."

According to Martin, "It is important to make an effort to make UNC your home by joining clubs or taking an

interesting and fun elective instead of passively waiting for friends to come to you."

Erica Bryant, a junior journalism major from Marietta, Ga., said getting involved on campus made all the difference her freshman year. "By having a lot to do, I had less time to think about how far I was from home."

Time to adjust to your new surroundings is one of the best cures for homesickness, Martin said.

Sarah Faber, a psychology major from Charlotte and a junior transfer from UNC-Wilmington, agreed. "Carolina is so different from Wilmington, and I was really homesick for it when I first came down. But each day is getting easier to handle."

Look into 'Visual AIDS' for informative awareness exhibit

By JESSICA YATES

Assistant Arts Editor
Australia uses "Condoman" to save the day.

Photographs from Canada show two men engaged in oral sex, with a caption advocating safe sex.

Drawings from Zimbabwe extol the merits of monogamy.

These are but a few of the educational strategies on posters gathered from all over the world as part of "Visual AIDS," an exhibit promoting awareness of AIDS and safe sex.

The exhibit, sponsored by the Carolina Union Gallery Committee, is now on display in the Union Gallery and Room 218 at the Student Union.

James Miller, an associate professor of English and philosophy at the University of Western Ontario, organized the collection of about 200 posters.

Miller started the exhibit when his young daughter came home from school bewildered by a lesson on the deadly

disease. To combat the spread of the disease and the ensuing hysteria, Miller searched worldwide for posters to compile an exhibit.

William Hardy, a professor in the UNC Department of Radio, Television and Motion Pictures who is also Miller's father-in-law, assisted in bringing the exhibit to UNC.

The primary message of the collection is AIDS can and does kill. With closer inspection of the posters and accompanying commentaries, viewers can compare the ways different cultures deal with the issue.

"The Third World countries really try to use a more direct approach," said Laura Foster, Gallery Committee chairperson on the Union Activities Board.

One example is a set of posters drawn by an 18-year-old boy from Zambia whose friend died of AIDS. "I think they use more rhymes and colloquialisms as well," Foster said.

Posters of "Condoman," who advo-

cates using condoms, and "Bleachman," who stresses the use of bleach to clean hypodermic needles, take a comical approach to the issue.

"It's an attention grabber," Foster said, "and there is an entertainment factor."

Another poster uses dry, sardonic humor to convey the message that a "special person" could give you a "deadly valentine."

While the part of the collection in the Union Gallery illustrates the severity of the AIDS crisis, the pictures themselves are relatively mild. Upon entering the continuation of the exhibit in Room 218, viewers typically experience shock or disgust, Foster said.

"Some of the posters are definitely homo erotic and are obviously targeting homosexuals," she said. "Others are especially trying to reach the formally educated, younger, artistic group of people—kind of a 'yuppie' group."

The prevalent message in the posters is that condoms (particularly latex) are "in" and unprotected sex is "out." There is little mention of monogamy but a large emphasis on the fact that AIDS hits both homosexuals and heterosexuals.

In these posters, there are "no phallic

symbols ... just the phalluses themselves," according to one of the commentaries. Penises (with and without condoms) are pictured, as well as couples engaged in sexual intercourse and oral and anal sex.

"A lot of eyes bulge and there is a lot of giggling," Foster said, describing common reactions to this part of the exhibit. "It is uncomfortable to a lot of people to be in here and to try to deal with this."

Most of the posters are from Euro-

pean countries, with a few from Canada and the United States as well, Foster said. Europeans are generally more comfortable with their bodies, and these posters illustrate that, she said.

Viewers must be at least 18 years old to enter this part of the exhibit. Signs posted at the entrance inform patrons that the nature of the collection may be offensive to some.

Foster said she did not know of any extremely negative reactions yet. "After looking at it for a while, I guess I

become jaded to the point of looking past the sex and the nakedness and just trying to figure out what the posters are trying to say. It's painful to think about it, that it could happen to me or someone I loved."

"Visual AIDS," which has been displayed worldwide, will be on display at the Student Union through Sept. 8. Gallery hours for the exhibit are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call 962-1157.

Campus Calendar

TUESDAY
3 p.m. Study Abroad will hold a re-entry orientation program for students who have studied abroad on UNC programs in Room 226 of the Student Union until 5 p.m. Come pick up your welcome-back present.
3:30 p.m. University Career Planning and Placement Service will offer "Job Hunt 101," with basic information on how to use the UCPPS office for seniors and graduate students in 209 Hanes Hall.
4:15 p.m. University Career Planning and Placement Service will hold

"Job Hunt 102," a resume writing workshop, for senior and graduate students in 209 Hanes Hall.
5 p.m. University Career Planning and Placement Service will hold "Job Hunt 101" with basic information on how to use the UCPPS office for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes Hall.
Student Government will hold orientation for new and returning members of all three branches in Room 206 of the Student Union.
5:45 p.m. University Career Planning and Placement Service will hold

"Job Hunt 102," a resume writing workshop for seniors and graduate students, in 210 Hanes Hall.
7 p.m. N.C. Student Legislature, a statewide political debate organization, will hold its first meeting in Room 226 of the Student Union. All interested students are welcome.
7:30 p.m. UNC College Republicans will hold an informational and organizational meeting in Manning 209. Old and new members are welcome, and refreshments will be provided.
8 p.m. Carolina Fever rolls on with its second meeting in Memorial Hall.

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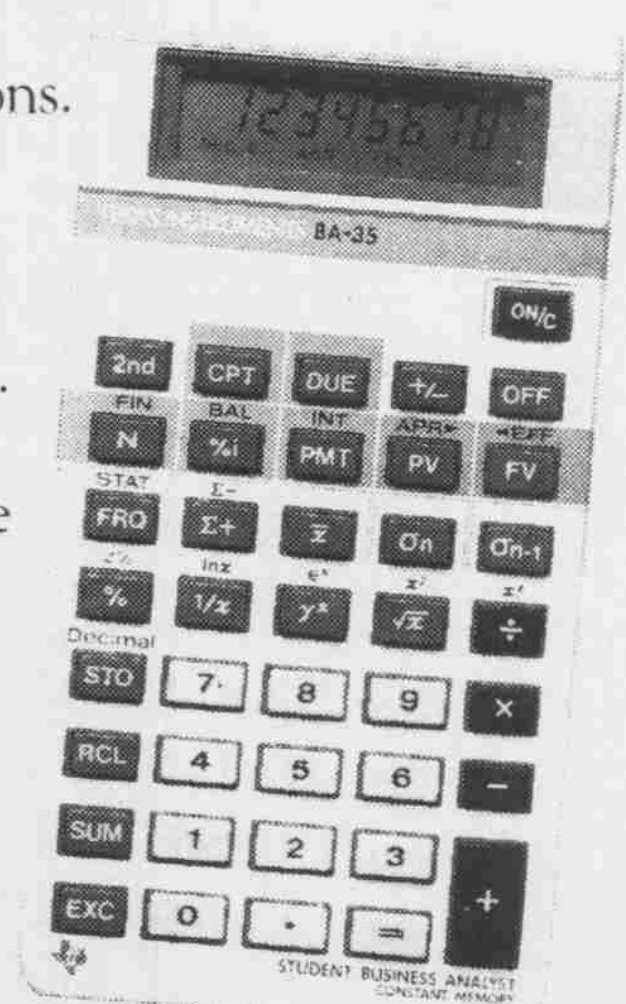
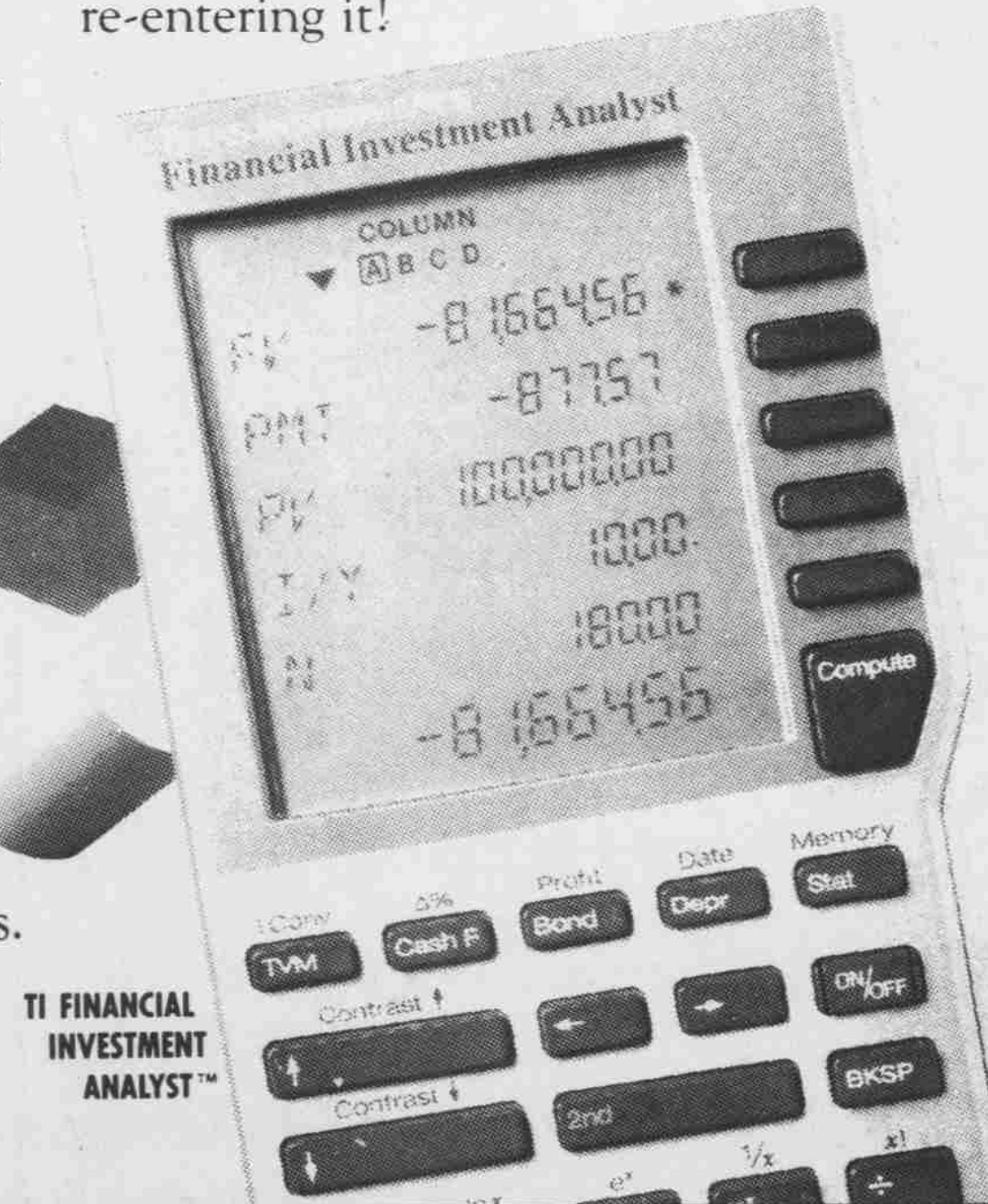
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