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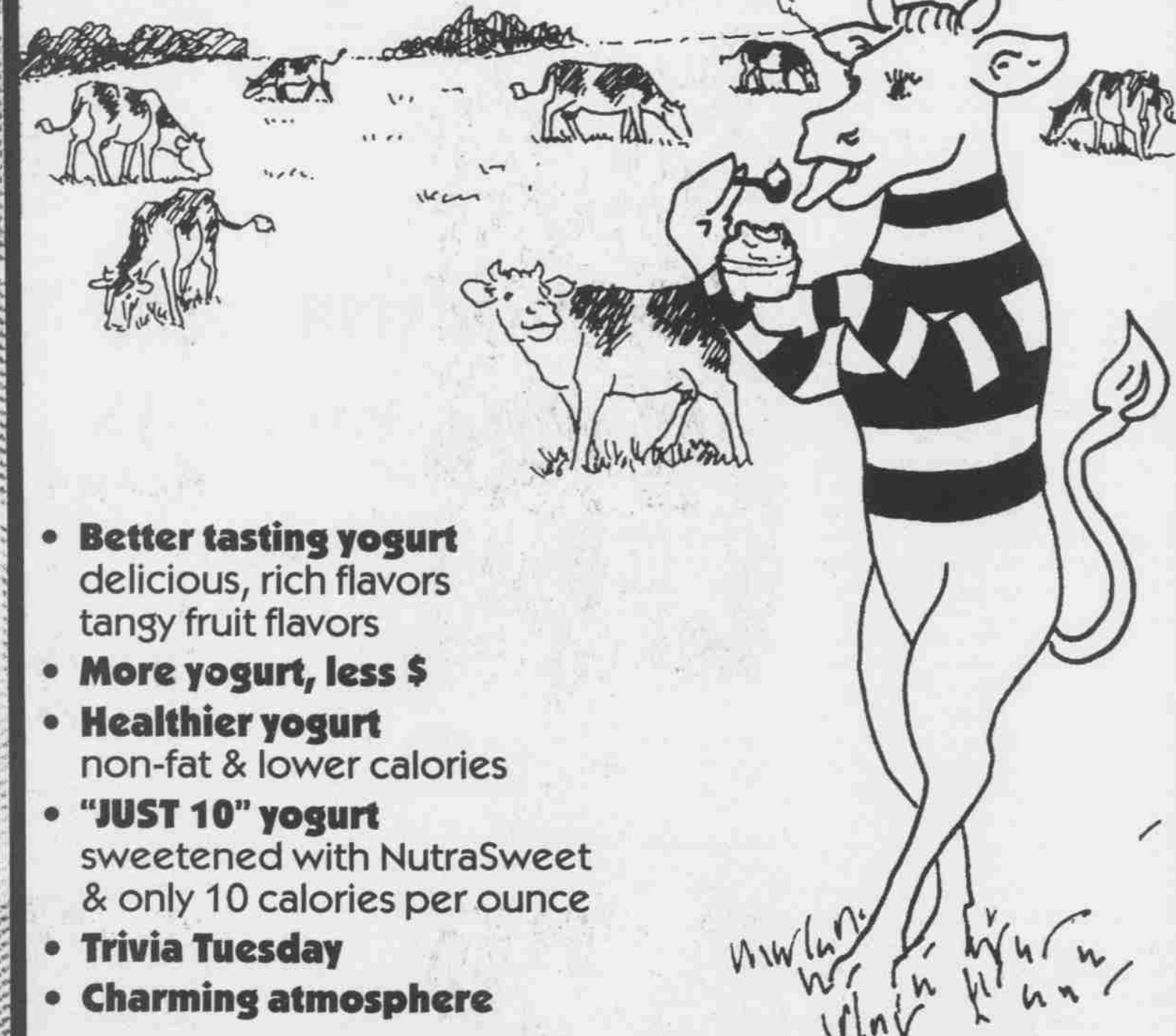


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## IN DEPTH

# N.C. definitions of Southernness vary

By DAVID ETCHISON  
Staff Writer

The results of the 1990 Carolina poll show that many North Carolinians consider themselves Southerners, but what the characteristics of a Southerner are is open to interpretation.

The poll asked: "Some people think of themselves as Southerners; others do not. How about you — would you say that you are a Southerner or not?" Seventy-seven percent of the respondents considered themselves to be Southerners while 21 percent said they were not. There were three percent who did not know or had no opinion.

Respondents were also asked which state they lived in when they were 16 years old. North Carolina was the answer given 74 percent of the time and 26 percent lived elsewhere.

"The most obvious determinant (of being a Southerner) is where you've grown up," said John Reed, professor of sociology and director of the Institute for Research in Social Science.

Mac Salley, a junior from Advance, was born in Wilmington, Delaware.

"I moved from the north at the age of five," he said. "I did most of my growing up and maturing down in the South. I think when you mature and learn about life — that's when you basically adopt your morals, and my morals were pretty much Southern."

However, not everyone who grew up in the South consider themselves to be Southerners. According to Reed, people have an image in their mind and if they do not see themselves as fitting it, they do not consider themselves a Southerner no matter where they grew up.

Rob Sipprell, a senior from Clemmons, was born in Rochester, New York, and moved to the South when he

## CAROLINA POLL

was nine.

"I consider myself still a Northerner even though I've lived here most of my life," he said.

There are at least three reasons why someone who grew up in the South would not think of himself as a Southerner, Reed said.

First of all, some people think of an unflattering image when they think of a Southerner. They think of the accent or think of themselves as too liberal to be Southern. They also may associate racism with the South.

"Some people are so out of it they don't know exactly what a Southerner is," Reed said. "It's not that they're too cosmopolitan, it's that they're not cosmopolitan enough."

Finally, there are some who reply "I'm an American," he said. Their reasoning is that the distinction between North and South ended with the Civil War.

People who call themselves Southerners see it as a positive label. Those interviewed listed some of the qualities Southerners possessed.

Jennifer Keith, a freshman from Winston-Salem, said Southerners had "polite manners; a slow, easy lifestyle; just really family-oriented."

Salley said being a Southerner was "being more polite, as in thinking of the other guy instead of just yourself; having fun and enjoying yourself instead of just running around trying to pursue money."

Northerners had varying views about the South before and after coming down

here to go to school.

Joe Miller, a sophomore from Syracuse, New York, had a positive view of Southerners. He considered a Southerner, "someone I would like to meet considering the fact that I came down here to go to school. Someone with the accent and a little more patience; kind of take-your-time slower. They're all really friendly down here."

"Not everyone holds the same view I do up North," Miller said. "Some of the Northerners don't expect them (Southerners) to be quite as intelligent. They think that I go to school with people who have real thick accents and aren't very intelligent and don't have a work ethic. While there may be people like that, the people I've encountered are not."

Southerners are "stereotypically laid-back," Sipprell said. "They're not too worried about anything, not too caught up in what's going on in the world."

Suzanne Hero, a freshman from Prior Lake, Minnesota, considered Southerners "kind of country with the strong accent, strong family ties."

"There are some really backward parts of North Carolina driving down here," Hero said. "Now that you're down here, there's a ton of good schools down here; Carolina's got a ton of smart people."

Some differences can be observed seen between Northerners and Southerners.

"Northerners are obnoxious Yankees that really don't care about stepping on other people's toes," Keith said.

Hero disagreed. "The part of the obnoxious northerner comes more from the Northeast, like New York where the people are pretty rude. The conception that guys up north don't have any manners, that's not true."

"I think a Northerner, basically, is afraid of the world," Salley said. "They're scared of everything, and that inhibits them a lot. I roomed with a Northerner my freshman year, and if someone came to the door, he would just crack it and look out: 'Who's there? What do you want?'"

Sipprell said, "Besides the way they (Northerners and Southerners) talk, which is probably the most obvious, you find more religious fanatics down here in the south. Northerners are more upbeat, want to get things done. When you think of a Northerner, you think of New York City, and how everything is all hustle and bustle."

One image Southerners have had a hard time shaking is that of being racists.

Joey Yates, a freshman who moved to Chapel Hill in 1987 from Green River, Wyoming, said, "Before I came here, I'd never even talked to a black person. I'd seen them on TV, and there were a few that came through town. For a long time, I thought it (the racial situation in the South) would be like it was back in the '60s."

"I was talking to this girl's dad, and we were talking about being from Minnesota. He said, 'How many black people were in your high school?' I said, 'Oh, there was one girl.' He said, 'Consider yourself lucky.' That pissed me off," Yates said.

Allison Cashwell, a freshman from Mount Airy, agreed that the racist stereotype was a problem.

"I do think that people outside the South consider Southerners racist. I think it also has to do with how strong your accent is. They (non-Southerners) think we're ignorant because of it."

## State to decide today on requesting anti-smoking grant

From Associated Press reports

RALEIGH — A decision on whether the state will apply for a \$5.5 million federal grant to help people stop smoking will come today, only days after the governor urged the state to try for the money.

A spokesman for William Cobey Jr., secretary of the state Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources, said the decision would come today.

"He has not made any decision to withhold the application, neither has he

made any decision to proceed," said Don Follmer, a department spokesman.

A spokesman for Gov. Jim Martin said Tuesday that the governor had suggested the state's proposal be di-

rected at people who wanted to quit smoking, rather than at pushing people into the program.

David Prather, the spokesman, said the voluntary nature was in keeping

with the governor's letter last month to President Bush. The governor said attacks by health officials on tobacco could do serious political damage to Republicans running for office.

## Campus Calendar

**Seniors Calendar**  
Pete and Chris will continue to hold Pitt Sitz Thursdays from 12-30 p.m.-2 p.m. Please bring by any idea for a Senior Class Logo by Suite B anytime. This week we want to hear what you think the role of the Senior Class should be. In addition, all Marshal interviews will be held in the Senior Class Office, Suite B. See you!

**THURSDAY**  
1 p.m.: CUAB Performing Arts Committee announces that Mucedonus will be shown in the Cabaret until 1:45 p.m.

6 p.m.: University Counseling Center announces that Brothers discussion group for and about black male students will meet in the first floor lounge of Ehringhaus dorm. Tonight's focus will be the rise of Malcolm X and the black Muslims during the Civil Rights Movement. Undergrads, grads and newcomers welcome!

7 p.m.: The Office of Leadership Development will hold Decision Making with Groups in 215 Peabody. Learn how to come to a decision with your group and carry it out in this important workshop.

The Institute for Research in Social Science will hold The Condition of Postmodernity, an IRSS Social Theory Faculty Working Group, in 02 Manning until 9:30 p.m. Call 966-1514 for more info.

8 p.m.: The Christian Science College Organization is having a free lecture with Bettie Thompson in Gerrard Hall.

11 p.m.: WXYC will play the new album from The Chills - Submarine Bells - in its entirety with no interruptions.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
UCPPS announces a Summer 1990 internship opportunity. The Yachtsman Resort in Myrtle Beach is offering a paid Resort Management internship - apply by April 18. Both to interview on campus in April. See Internship Directories in 211 Hanes for

more info.  
Carolina Students Credit Union will close for Easter on April 12 at 3 p.m. CSCU will reopen on April 16 at 10 a.m.

Seniors and grad students still seeking jobs may call UCPPS's Job Hot Line to hear up-to-date job listings if registered with UCPPS, 962-CPPS on a touch-tone phone. Students may also complete a "connection" data sheet available in 211 Hanes to enter a nationwide database of job applicants.

The Writing Center will offer workshops this semester on Taking Essay Exams on April 16 and 19, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in 317 Greenlaw.

Free tax help! The Master of Accounting Student Association is sponsoring a volunteer income tax assistance program. Come by 220 New Carroll Mondays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. through April 16 for free help in preparing your tax returns.

PlayMakers Repertory Company will close its 1989-90 season with "The Rivals" by Richard Brinsley Sheridan, April 18 through May 13 at the Paul Green Theatre. For more info call 962-PLAY.

UCPPS reminds all seniors and graduate students who have accepted jobs or have definite plans to attend graduate or professional school to complete a "Follow-Up Survey" in 211 Hanes Hall.

The Student Government Tutoring Program offers free tutoring in Spanish, French, Econ 10, Math 22, Math 30, Math 31, Stat 11 and Stat 23 every Tuesday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Come to third floor Bingham.

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