

Metro

MAGAZINE

Raleigh
Research
Triangle
Eastern
North
Carolina

E 2001

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MetroBravo! Awards
READERS PICK THE
BEST AND BRIGHTEST

The town character
CARROLL LEGGETT
REMEMBERS UNCLE JOHN

White Oak Farm
DUTCH TREAT
N DURHAM COUNTY

INSIDE...

New data for Down East
Jammin' jam session
Bobos reign
Software fusion
and complete calendar of events



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Sat. May 19	Washington Freedom	12:00 pm
Sat. May 26	San Diego Spirit	12:00 pm
Thurs. June 7	New York Power	7:30 pm
Sun. June 24	Atlanta Beat	3:00 pm
Sat. July 7	Philadelphia Charge	7:30 pm
Sun. July 15	San Diego Spirit	3:00 pm
Thurs. July 26	Atlanta Beat	7:30 pm
Sun. July 29	Bay Area CyberRays	3:00 pm
Thurs. August 2	New York Power	7:30 pm



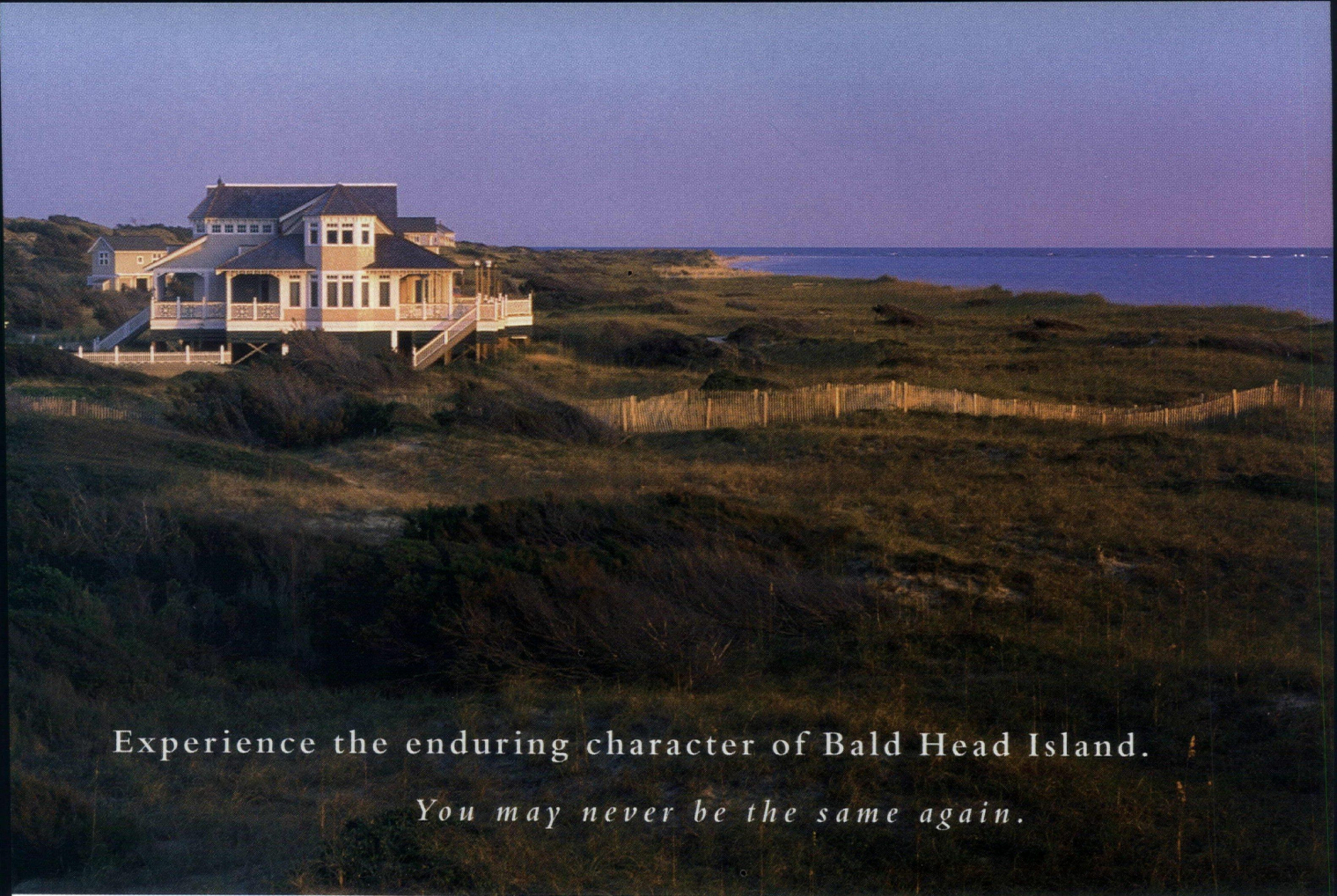
Photograph by Chris Kelly.

#4 Carla Overbeck, Defender/Captain

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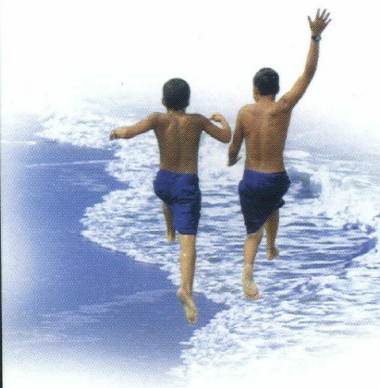
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HAPPY SURPRISES

We plan but we never quite know how each issue of *Metro* will finally come together. While we knew we would publish the MetroBravo! winners in June, we couldn't guess who the winners would be until all the ballots were tallied. And this year there are some surprises along with the repeat winners, making for an interesting array of people, places and events. It is fascinating reading since the results come from you, the reader. Enjoy this year's edition and make your plans to partake of the feast of opportunities available for your enjoyment and edification from the Triangle to the coast.

Out of the blue our friend Carroll Leggett, the Windsor native trapped in the chilly foothills of Winston-Salem, upped and submitted another of his priceless pieces on the true nature of the native eastern North Carolinian. His piece "Uncle John" is what you call "a good read" and an example of the serendipity that pervades this issue. It will keep you smiling for a good long while.

Another surprise in this issue comes from design editor Diane Lea, who discovered an authentic re-creation of a colonial Pennsylvania farm, barn and house in northern Durham County. The owners even arranged for Amish craftsmen to come down South to assist, lending a colonial air to the project. It's certainly the genuine article and informative reading.

An unexpected commentary comes via the internet from a pilot with knowledge of the Osprey program, the much maligned Marine combination fixed-wing and helicopter tactical aircraft that has crashed three times and is the subject of an extensive military investigation. Since the main experimentation and testing of the aircraft have taken place near Jacksonville, *Metro's* senior editor Rick Smith covered the Osprey last autumn. We present this follow-up to keep you astride the ongoing controversy with direct connections to our region.



PHOTO BY HUGH MORTON

Summer hasn't slowed down the avalanche of events scheduled in the region and events editor Frances Smith has it all for you in MetroPreview. Non-fiction book editor Arch T. Allen returns this issue with a comprehensive review of the book that set off the Bobo phenomenon. He is joined by reviewer George Leef, who reminds us that bad ideas never go away. Philip van Vleck discovers an interesting career path for a talented local musician, Nancie

McDermott creates a jam in MetroGourmet and Rick Smith produces the numbers that show that eastern North Carolina is right in synch with the technological boom. And I have a few thoughts about the latest controversies swirling around the difficult subject of capital punishment in "My Usual Charming Self."

—Bernie Reeves, *Editor & Publisher*

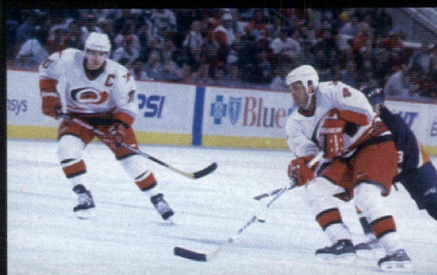
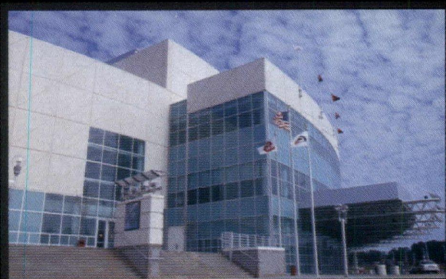
High-tech 100 coming in July-August issue

Next month we present *MetroMagazine's* Top 100 High Tech Firms special section and, if June is any indication, more happy surprises. Last year's Top 100 edition attracted worldwide comment and was carried in the Dow Jones Newswire. Advertisers take note.

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ROAD RUNNER character, name, and all related

BACK IN TIEN MOU, SECTION 7

Hello! I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed Nancie McDermott's article about the reunion in Taipei (MetroGourmet, May 2001). It brought back great memories as my husband and I lived in Taipei—on Chung Shan North Road, Section 7 in Tien Mou, quite close to the American School. Our daughter Alexandra was born there. It was also interesting that you mentioned Thailand—we also lived in the Sukhumvit Area of Bangkok a few years ago.

Second to dear friends, I have to say the thing I miss the most is the food. The article took me back to a great time in my life—now if I could only eat the pages!

Ana Mickle
Cary

CHATWOOD GENEALOGY

I was delighted with the article on the Chatwood Gardens by Diane Lea in *Metro* (July/Aug. 2000), and since my maiden name was Chatwood, I have a natural (I think) curiosity about the mill, etc.

I wonder if you or *Metro* readers could tell me whom I might contact to get more infor-

mation about the mill, and whether there was an actual Chatwood involved, or if the name was simply chosen out of the blue.

Thank you for any help you may be able to give me!

Ina Chatwood Stoeckli
Madelia, Minnesota

Design editor Diane Lea responds:

The name Chatwood was given to the property by Helen Blake Watkins' first husband Charles Blake. He was a retired professor and an amateur ornithologist who captured migratory birds by linking old-fashioned soft hair nets across the area that became the Shade Garden. He humanely captured the birds, banded them and sent them on their way to return again. It was the constant chattering of birds that gave Chatwood its lovely name.

LARRY ELDER WRITES

To non-fiction editor Arch T. Allen:

I read your review, "The contrarian spirit of America's Elderado." (April 2001)

Needless to say, I was moved and flattered that you understood me. Thank you

so much for your review. (I notice you said you didn't necessarily agree with everything I wrote.)

By the way, *20/20* has done a piece on my book, and the segment is tentatively scheduled for some time in June. In the meantime, I appear as myself in an episode of UPN's *The Hughleys*, which aired on April 30.

Again, thank you for taking the time to read and review my book. More to come.

Larry Elder
Los Angeles, California

TO RAISE OR TO REAR

On page 59 of the May 2001 issue of *Metro* a short article about Mr. Frank Armstrong was presented. You referred to Mr. Armstrong as being "born and raised in North Carolina."

When Mr. Armstrong was born people in North Carolina raised tobacco, cotton, corn other crops, pigs, chickens, cows and other animals. Humans were reared.

A sad commentary is that now there

continued on page 8

THE OSPREY GAMBLE

[In response to "Flight of the Osprey," Nov. 2000, Steven Danyluk reviews the history of the controversial Osprey.]

On a warm Arizona evening just one year past, the weather was clear to 25,000 feet with little or no wind and 17 percent illumination; an ideal desert night for military flight ops. Scanning the faces of his Marines inside the aircraft, Platoon Commander Clayton J. Kennedy was overwhelmed with a sense of pride and satisfaction. His men were well trained and he knew it. They were participating in a tactics evaluation of the type mission where U.S. Marines rescue non-combatant civilians from a hostile situation. They were training to be heroes.

As the MV-22 Osprey that Kennedy was riding settled into its final approach, the young officer winked at Pvt. Adam Tatro,



who at 19 was one of the youngest members of the platoon. Tatro, a new guy, was both nervous and excited. Like all the Marines, he wanted to prove himself to the other members

of his team by not making any mistakes.

At one-minute out from the airfield, the

continued on next page

Osprey's crew-chief signaled to the combat loaded Marines to prepare for landing. But at 8 p.m., as the MV-22 was descending in a hover mode over the Arizona training site, something went terribly wrong. The pilot, wearing Night Vision Goggles, turned to look at his co-pilot. In a matter of seconds, according to witnesses, the plane yawed sharply to the right and plummeted straight down where it imploded in a fiery conflagration from which none of the 19 on board would survive.

■ ■ ■

Last month, a blue-ribbon panel appointed by former Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen, following a different MV-22 crash in North Carolina last December, made its recommendations to the Senate Armed Services Committee as to how to progress with the Marine Corps planned purchase of 360 MV-22 *Osprey*s.

The Marines badly want the *Osprey* as a replacement for their antiquated fleet of Vietnam era CH-46 Sea *Knight* helicopters. The versatility of the MV-22 (which can fly both as a conventional aircraft and hover like a helicopter) make the aircraft an ideal platform for the type of Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEOs) that have become commonplace in the post-cold war age. But a colossal price tag, an abysmal safety record, a series of embarrassing high-level e-mails concerning aircraft reliability and the deaths of 23 Marines in the two MV-22 mishaps last year have placed the program's fate up for grabs.

At an estimated \$40 Billion, the *Osprey* program is destined to become one of the costliest aviation endeavors in history. However, there is a place for the MV-22 in the Marine Corps inventory. Example: a Marine captain, who served as the officer-in-charge for a Non-Combatant Evacuation in the Central African Republic several years ago was severely hampered by the logistical and communications difficulties that the operation

posed. Buried in the heart of Africa, the distance for his parent units CH-46 and CH-53 helicopters aboard ship in the Atlantic proved too great for adequate coverage. Eventually European fixed-wing assets were used.

Had that Marine Expeditionary Unit been equipped with MV-22s, the NEO could have been successfully completed without outside support. The increased speed and range that the MV-22 offers over the current alternatives are formidable. In an era where naval gunfire is a mere shadow of its former great self, one can envision a future where a "gunship" version of the *Osprey*, similar to the USAF AC-130 *Spectre*, is fielded as well. In the combat environment where there is a direct correlation between options and success, the MV-22 would increase the Marine Commander's options exponentially.

But while these reasons alone warrant production of the MV-22, do they warrant the production of 360 MV-22s that will be the sole replacement of the CH-46 fleet? While the MV-22 may be the best aircraft for a variety of missions, is it the best-suited aircraft for all missions? Arguably, with its lengthy approach profile, a vulnerable transition phase when it converts from a fixed-wing to a rotary-wing configuration, and a very restrictive rate-of-descent limitation in the landing phase, the MV-22 may not be the best-suited airframe for inserting troops in a hostile combat environment.

When discussion turns toward the safety and reliability of the MV-22, *Osprey* proponents are quick to point out that there are always snafus associated whenever a new aviation technology is introduced. However, the designs often cited to highlight this dangerous "technological transition" phase are often single- or dual-seat aircraft from the dawn of the jet age. As the *Osprey* is a troop transport designed to carry 24 combat-loaded Marines, the bar of safety needs to be set at a higher level.

Another justification given to continue with the MV-22 program is that too many

Marines are dying in the aircraft currently in use due to their aging airframes. However, the CH-46 fleet during Fiscal Year 2000, (the primary aircraft scheduled for replacement by the MV-22) had an enviable safety record; flying a total of 92,849.3 hours with the loss of just a single aircraft. In 10 years of flying, the *Osprey* program has accumulated slightly more than 4000 total flight hours, losing four aircraft in the process. To give these numbers further perspective, if one of the nation's leading commercial airlines, which fly 5000+ hours per day, were to operate with a mishap rate equal to that currently found in the MV-22, the airline would suffer five to six major airline crashes daily.

A final decision on production of the MV-22 will be made sometime in the near future. Some who will be involved in that decision were young pilots and platoon commanders 30 years ago. Undoubtedly, when they formulate their opinion they will reflect back to that time and ask themselves one question, "knowing what they now know about the MV-22 and its capabilities and limitations, is this an aircraft that they would have wanted to use to fly into a hot landing-zone in Vietnam?"

If they answer yes, the men and women of the Fleet Marine Force (FMF) will have to accept that unequivocally and make the integration of the *Osprey* into fleet ops as seamless as possible. If their answer is no, then perhaps the future deck of an LHA will be peppered with a mix of various aircraft; including the MV-22 and possibly the CH-60 or new improved Super-46s. Maybe then, the families of those 23 Marines who died last year will take some small satisfaction in knowing that their loved ones' deaths were not entirely in vain.

Steven Danyluk

The writer flew EA-6Bs on active duty in the Marine Corps and currently is a First Officer for a major U.S. airline.

may be humans raised in North Carolina. I submit that most humans are reared. I am sure that the readers of *Metro* were reared and are rearing their children. I am aware that the verb *to raise* is being used interchangeably with *to rear* by many. A recent graduate with a master's degree in English from Oxford University confirmed my thoughts that *to rear* is correct when speaking of humans.

Ernest H. Brown
Lumberton

Editorial response:

Way back when I was in school, the English eggheads taught that *to raise* was an absolute no-no in a sentence referring to a person. One only raised animals or crops; one reared children. However, as my years have advanced, I have made a concerted effort to "keep up with the times." And since the same eggheads referred to above also taught me that the rules of language change according to changes in the spoken word, I have become more tolerant of small infractions of the old rules, especially regarding matters such as the uses of *to raise* and *to rear*. I never balk at either usage now.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1975 edition) gives "to bring up (a child)" as one of the definitions of *to raise* and gives "to bring up (a person)" as a definition of *to rear*. Yet, I will have to agree that the Oxford scholar is linguistically correct. Across the pond we tend to get a little slack. I guess *Metro* will have to set an editorial policy here.

Frances Smith, events editor

WRITER A PEARL

Thanks to *Metro* for Art Taylor's article "Startling Southern fiction—with a tragic twist" (May 2001). My sentiments, exactly! I met Melinda Haynes in late '99 at the Southeast Booksellers Association conference in Greensboro after she had been on the Oprah show twice.

She was the most natural, unaffected person I've ever met. (She was more

impressed by the variety of stores at the Four Seasons Mall than by Oprah or the fancy dinner thrown in her honor by her publisher!) At that time, I had not read *Mother of Pearl*.

Well, when I got around to reading it eight months later, I was blown away! Her use of language and characterizations are unique and so lyrical as to resemble poetry. I can't wait to see her again. When I emailed her about *Chalktown* and how much I loved it, I asked her if there was anything I could do to make her visit with us better. She replied, "Just be there." As we are wont to say, "Bless her heart."

Molly Becl
Quail Ridge Books, Raleigh

LIVING AND LEARNING

I would like to thank you for putting the Pitt County Unnatural Resources Fair in *Metro* in March as well as the thank you letter in April. That was a big surprise!

I am also a book publisher. The name of our company is Live & Learn Publishing Co. in Greenville. Our first book on the market is an autobiographical humor book that is now sold all across the country. It is called *The Weekend Cowgirl by the Accidental Writer*. Another humor book and a *How to have an Unnatural Resources Fair* are on the list to be published in the future.

The book is for all ages and genders. The setting is Texas but anyone who is acquainted with farms or ranches would relate to it. I could say, anyone who likes just good old hometown humor would like it.

Jaqueline G. Ponder
Pitt County

WRITE US: *MetroMagazine* seeks to keep the record straight. Please write us and include your full name, hometown, and daytime phone number. Address correspondence—as well as corrections or clarifications of fact—to: Editors, *MetroMagazine*, P.O. Box 6190, Raleigh, N.C., 27628, or e-mail the magazine at email@metronc.com.

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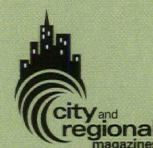
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Special Section...

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MetroGourmet...

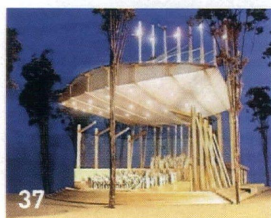
- 46 **JAM SESSION**—With the strawberries up, there's only one thing to do: Jam out! Food editor Nancie McDermott tells the sticky sweet tale of jams and jellies in this month's MetroGourmet. You'll learn where to find and pick the fresh fruit and how to get into a jam of your very own.

Features...

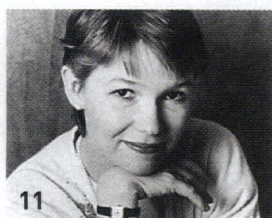
- 14 **DUTCH TREAT**—In northern Durham County stands a farmhouse from another place and time. Real Pennsylvania in North Carolina, White Oak Farm is a labor of love in every detail that draws on Keystone State lineages to establish the appropriate air that William Penn would have appreciated. Design editor Diane Lea reports.
- 21 **OUR UNCLE JOHN**—True characters from small eastern North Carolina towns are indeed better than fiction. Carroll Leggett, a died-in-the-wool Eastern North Carolinian, now lives in Winston-Salem but he misses his upbringing east of the Neuse as evidenced in his offering this issue about a character from Buies Creek they just don't make anymore.



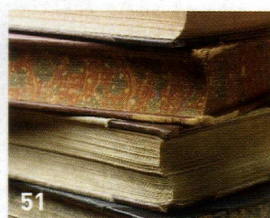
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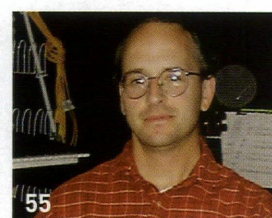
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Melissa Podcasy, Daphne Falcone, Timour Bourtasenkov, and Mikhail Niktine in *The Moor's Pavane*. Barbour Photography

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SECRETS OF STATE

Souped-up yacht

CHEROKEE GETS SET FOR JETS

The world may never have seen anything quite like *Cherokee*.

Sure, King Juan Carlos of Spain became the first to install jet drives in a large yacht when he built the *Fortuna* in 1979, using one of the Saturn rocket fuel pumps as a propulsor. But never before has anyone tried to convert an old marina dame like the 65-foot *Cherokee*, a Huckins-built boat, into a 21st-century speed demon.

Bryan Blake says he's up to the task. The Outer Banks boatbuilder is revamping the boat for a group of Raleigh

investors, who want to return the old boat to its former glory—but with a new kick in its belly. Looking a lot like a swank Navy PT boat—easy to figure, since Huckins built those for the war effort—*Cherokee*, its owners hope, will have a classic wood yacht look with a capacity for serious speed. What's more, the lack of below-hull running gear on jet-propulsed boats means easier maneuvering around North Carolina's treacherous spits and banks.

Used to cruising at 18 knots max under the power of three diesels driving three props, the *Cherokee*—if Blake and his group of Carolina craftsmen can get the dynamics right—will soon bounce atop the Gulf Stream at over 30 knots, or nearly 40 mph.

"This is the first time anybody's ever tried anything like this," says Blake.

The boys are removing three original 600-hp diesels and replacing them with two 1000 hp Detroit Diesel engines that will turn two Swedish-made water-jets—essentially gigantic pumps geared to optimize the diesel's torque.

This is indeed a new frontier for the jet-movement, which has made big-boat



SPEED DEMON *Cherokee* in dry dock

speeds, hitherto available only to sheiks and kings, accessible to your average working millionaire. To make sure it gets done right, the Raleigh investors hired world-renowned jet consultant Don Blount of Chesapeake, Va., to make the necessary hull adjustments.

What's it like to ride on a jet-boat at top speed, like the famous 220-foot *Destriero* that crossed the Atlantic at record speed in 1992—notching an average of 53 knots, or about 60 miles-per-hour? "It just screams," says Blount.

Surreal Raleigh

CANADIANS BUILD SETS FOR KAYE GIBBONS ADAPTATION

Walking through a large film studio in Toronto, Kaye Gibbons feels like she's not in Canada at all.

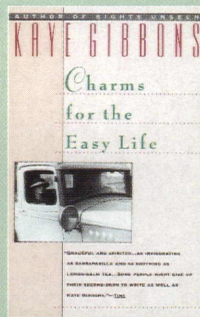
She's not dreaming, the script sounds just like Raleigh: The Sir Walter Hotel is there, and so is Hayes-Barton Pharmacy. Even stranger, the famous Tar Heel author notes, the paper-board set pieces seem exactly true to the memories she drew on when writing *Charms for the Easy Life*, which Showtime is dramatizing in Canada for a TV movie to air in October.

"It feels very strange; it's kind of surreal," says Gibbons, the famously quirky North Carolina author who wrote *Ellen Foster* and *A Virtuous Woman*, big Oprah favorites. Gibbons spoke with SOS via cell phone as she toured the set in mid-May.

Gibbons, whose Rolodex has everyone who's anyone, says she's just read the script adaptation of her book and likes it. But the real boon to going Up North to check on the production was to see the immense detail Dufferen Gate, the production company used to re-create Tar Heel exteriors.

The Sir Walter Hotel, the famous meeting place for politicians in downtown Raleigh (now a seniors home), and the Hayes-Barton pharmacy are realistically re-created. Interiors, too, mimic the fashions of Raleigh socialites of the period. "It's just like I pictured it," Gibbons says.

Charms for the Easy Life, inspired by



Kaye Gibbons

WPA oral histories, is the story of Charlie Kate, a stong-willed and commonsensible North Carolina midwife, and her two daughters as they experience the 1930s and 1940s together.

The movie will star Mimi Rogers (also co-executive producer) and Gena Rowlands. Joan Micklin-Silver is the director.

The prospect of holding onto your hat while bouncing out to the roiling Gulf Stream currents to fish for tuna and sailfish is enough to set tongues wagging around Gloucester, N.C., Blake's home base.

Blake's boatworks on The Straits near Harker's Island has been quite a scene, with gawkers, experts and consultants coming in from all over to share their particular opinions of jets vs. props. The degree of restoration, for example, has been quite controversial. But being North Carolina boys, they insisted on a flying bridge. Basically, the shop "wrecked" the interior of the boat in order to erase years when it

was used as a Long Island houseboat.

But there are those who wonder whether the conversion can be done successfully.

"I hope they talked to the Huckins people," says Mike Kelsey, the builder of the Fortuna in Sturgeon Bay, Wisc. Mr. Kelsey, the chairman emeritus of Palmer Johnson boatworks, says that the hull-dynamics necessary for efficient jet travel may be hard to configure on an older boat like *Cherokee*.

To be sure, the project is a bit of a gamble, or "experiment," as its owners like to call it. Still, everyone's confident that the old dame will fly with a new spirit once she's seaborne again—the finishing date remains elusive, however.

"A boat is only finished when it's on the bottom of the ocean," quips Blake.

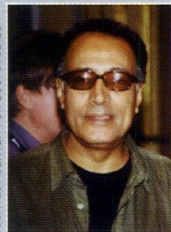
The negotiations over whether to go jet with the *Cherokee* went back and forth for a while. But the dream of big-wave jetting got inside investors, egging them on to do something historic—with at least the possibility of amazing results.

As *Cherokee* friend Fred Park humorizes on webboats.net, the boat's entertaining website: "Of course the re-drive decision was confirmed several months ago when one of the props was clipped coming into the channel at Straits Marine Railway. This accident, coincidentally or otherwise, was followed by a breakthrough in the demarcation between physics and meta-physics, revealed here as a nautical proof of Murphy's Law: 'To assume is not to know.'"

continued on page 59

Double take

FILM CRITIC HOSTS IRAN'S BEST-KNOWN DIRECTOR



Film director
Abbas Kiarostami

The man responsible for introducing Iranian film to the West, New York-based film critic Godfrey Cheshire, a Raleigh native with family ante-

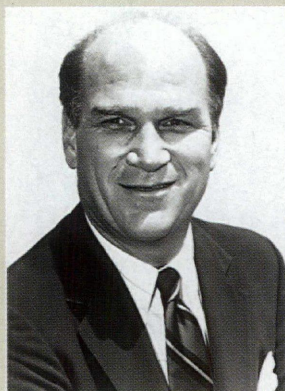
cedents reaching back to the founding of the Capital City, was in town recently escorting Abbas Kiarostami, the man who created the Iranian film scene. Kiarostami was in the Triangle for his appearance as a guest of honor at the DoubleTake Documentary Film Festival held recently in Durham.

Cheshire, between attending DoubleTake screenings, took special care to host personally Kiarostami's son, Ahmad, and his wife, Negar, who commented that Raleigh was the most beautiful city they had ever seen. Let's hope Ahmad decides to move his Web site design firm to this area.

Former Tar Heel coach

JOHN LOTZ LEAVES LEGACY OF SERVICE

John Lotz, who spent eight years as an assistant basketball coach at UNC-Chapel Hill, died May 5 at the age of 64 after a short illness. Lotz began his college coaching career serving as the top assistant to Coach Dean Smith from 1965 to 1973. During his tenure, Carolina won four



17-9 and Lotz was selected Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year by the United Press International. Since returning to Chapel Hill in 1980, Lotz directed Carolina's community outreach program. He worked with hundreds of student-athletes in coordinating good

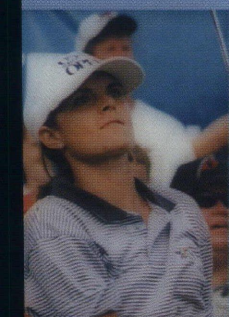
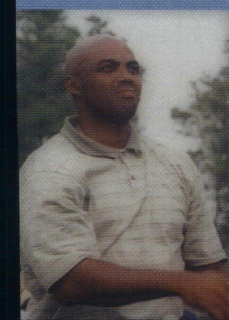
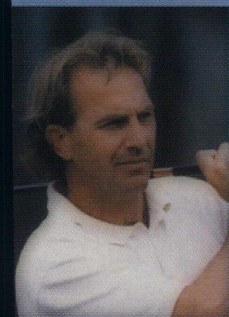
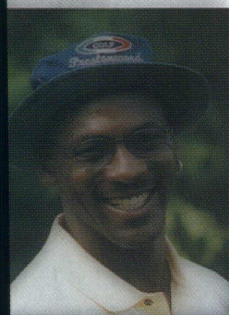
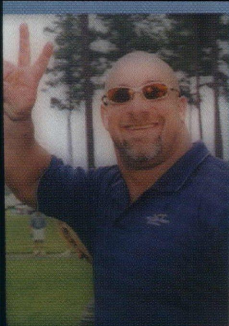
Atlantic Coast Conference championships, four NCAA East Regional titles, an NIT title and played in the NCAA Final Four in 1967, '68, '69 and '72.

"John was certainly a great influence on me and so many other people," said Dean Smith. "He was like a brother to me and we will all miss him."

"Everyone who ever played for John or worked with him in outreach programs had tremendous respect for him."

The Flushing, N.Y., native was named head coach at the University of Florida in 1973. In 1977, Florida went

works for the community. He initiated the annual Thanksgiving food drive for underprivileged families, helped raise thousands of dollars through the Juvenile Diabetes Walkathon, and collected clothes for the needy, among his many projects. Lotz, heavily involved in Fellowship for Christian Athletes, once baptized 4360 soldiers in South Korea into Christianity. Through his faith he became close friends with basketball legend Pete Maravich (*Metro*, April 2001) and spoke at Pistol Pete's funeral in 1987.



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Design

by Diane Lea

White Oak Farm

DUTCH TREAT IN DURHAM COUNTY

Just beyond northern Durham's city limits, only a few miles from the constant flow of traffic on Highway 501, there is a different world. Crowded strip malls and clusters of residential developments give way to a countryside of rolling farmland with flat board fences, horse barns and riding rings. This is the last preserve of the rural agrarian culture that is as much a part of Durham County's heritage as the tobacco factories and mill villages which once marked an industrially based economy. From a country road flanked by fields and farms and grazing cows, a small sign announces White Oak Farm. The wooden farm gate swings wide, welcoming friends up a winding gravel road to a setting, a home, a barn and a carefully chosen lifestyle.

The road continues through woods and a meadow before arriving to the house at White Oak Farm. It is a stately home, a suitable subject for the centerpiece of a carefully wrought Pennsylvania Dutch sampler.



The residence is complex, but it appears deceptively simple with straightforward lines softened by a multi-leveled roofline and the satisfying textures of stone and wood. Dormered wings of freshly painted

clapboard flank a two-and-one-half story central block, sheathed in a warm-toned brownstone. The roof is shingled in silvering cedar shakes and punctuated by three elegant rounded chimney stacks.

A walled garden forms a semi-circle around a shed roof porch and the single story that connects to the main residence. With a front-facing gable capped by yet another rounded chimney, this delightful element,

photos by Bryan Regan



reminiscent of an attached summer kitchen, gives the house an “added on to” feel. The curving garden wall, accentuated by squared standards, arrives at a courtyard situated between the main house

and the tall clapboard garage-guest house. And beyond the courtyard, a handsome barn with a cupola holds pride of place on a grassy knoll.

From somewhere in this peaceful Andrew Wyeth scene

comes an explosion of dogs. Amid this confusion of joyful barks and friendly nosings, Jane Dimmig, the owner of White Oak Farm, arrives, greeting her guests and gathering them into her world. It’s a world reflective

of the architecture and landscape of where she grew up—Montgomery County in the southeastern Pennsylvania farm country.

Dimmig admits that when in 1993, she and husband, Tom, an orthopedic surgeon and fellow Montgomery Countian, decided to build a Pennsylvania farm house on a 62-acre former tobacco farm in Northern Durham County, there were no precedents to follow except their own memories. “Tom and I grew up where most of the families we knew lived on farms and many of the farmhouses dated from the 18th or early 19th century,” she said. “We wanted the special feel that those houses had, and we wanted our two children (Avery and Walker) to have that family-oriented lifestyle that a special home place gave us.”

The Dimmigs were also interested in providing daughter Avery, a talented rider, the opportunity to care for her own horses. “She was very involved in junior riding competitions. Now a freshman at Vanderbilt University, last November she won the prestigious McClay Championship at Madison Square Garden in New York. I think her years at White Oak Farm gave her the opportunity to become thoroughly familiar with her animals and that added to the training she received. For all of us, White Oak Farm meant bringing our house, our horses, and our family’s way of living together in a place we love.”

WORKING WITH THE LAND

With the land purchased, and the vision of what she wanted firmly in mind, Dimmig began marshaling her resources. To



HORSE SENSIBLE Amish workers "raised" the horse barn

ensure that the house and accompanying structures would take maximum advantage of the views the land offered, she turned to landscape designer Jacque Wick of Butterfly Ridge Design and Works Inc., with whom she had worked before. "Jacque is a true artist," says Dimmig. "He completely understood how the barn and garage-guest house had to relate to the main house. In siting them, he also allowed for future additions like a library wing on the east side of the house and a swimming pool at the back."

For the house and barn design, Dimmig relied on a family friend, architect Phil Lederach of Lederach Associates in Lederach, Pennsylvania. Lederach's father had worked with Dimmig's parents when

they converted an 1814 school-house to a residence and added to it over the years. Lederach, whose lineage, like Dimmig's, dates back to William Penn's time, recalls those early conversations. "She knew what she wanted. It was a phased project and that gave us time to figure out the details of how to achieve it."

"We had to start with the barn," says Dimmig. "It was imperative that we get the horses on the farm and try to carry on our life while the house building went on." Lederach worked with Tom Dimmig on the barn design, a traditional clapboard pole barn with wide graceful arches beneath the deep eaves which shade the interior of the barn, creating a space to curry the

horses and bathe them in pleasant weather.

"When Tom and Phil were satisfied with the design, Tom sent it to King Construction Company in Lancaster, Pennsylvania," said Dimmig. "They build horse barns all over the Northeast. They sent a crew of four young Amish men, ages 18–23, who constructed the entire barn in six weeks!"

Built of durable cedar, the barn is a T-shaped structure with a total of 10 stalls: six horse stalls, a wash stall, feed room, and tack room. The interior of the barn, stained dark for coolness and with a hand-laid brick floor, has a decidedly English look. Dimmig has enhanced it by her choice of decorative touches such as hand-wrought

ironwork for the tack including blanket bars, saddle racks and antique English iron nameplates. "Most of our ironwork was done locally by a Hillsborough blacksmith," Dimmig added. "The other pieces were just accumulated as I traveled and looked for the right things."

WHERE THE HEART IS

With the barn in place, Dimmig asked Hillsborough developer and contractor George Horton of Telesis Construction Company to build the residence. "George had worked for years with Charles Woods, a fine craftsman-contractor," Dimmig explained. "George brought Charlie into the project and together they were able to make happen

what I envisioned, including using Pennsylvania argillite as the sheathing material for the central portion of the house and for the stone walls that are such important elements of the house and setting."

There are approximately 18 tons of stone in the White Oak Farm residence, all purchased from a company called Rolling Rock Building Stone in Boyertown, Pennsylvania, and shipped by truck to Durham. "The stone is hard to work," said architect Lederach. "It is a shale-like rock and you have to read the veins to shape it. I sent an expert stone mason down to lay up the walls and corners of the well house as a model for the local stone mason, whom Horton and Woods found."



RURAL AMBIENCE The stone for the farm house was imported from Boyertown, Pennsylvania



RECYCLE CHIC Original pine floorboards and ceiling beams from an old farm house destroyed by Hurricane Fran are used throughout the house, especially prominent in the family room.

Another key element of the house, that evolved as the project progressed, is the use of beautiful heritage wood for the home's interiors. Dimmig had already determined that the floors throughout the house would be of wide-board eastern white pine from Pennsylvania. But she gained a new source of wood when Hurricane Fran hit the old farmhouse on the property. "Though we had originally intended to restore the old house as a guest house, I realized that wouldn't happen after Fran. Still I was determined to salvage the beams and heart pine floors and reuse them."

To accomplish this, Dimmig, with help from her family, wire-brushed each beam and floorboard before working with Horton and Woods to decide where each would be



RICH DETAIL Spectacular antique mantel is focal point of living room

used. "We wound up placing the beams across the ceiling of the family room to see how they would look, taking them down, then reinstalling them permanently," she said. "Other beams went into the ceilings of the mud room and the garden room, where I do my flower arranging. We even salvaged poplar poles from the old tobacco barn and placed them like ceiling trusses in Avery's room." Y & J Furniture of Durham refinished some of the heart pine boards for use as bookshelves and a media center in the family room. One large pine floorboard rests on brackets designed by Dimmig

and serves as the fireplace shelf in the family room.

Though the unique design of the family room evolved with the availability of the salvaged wood, Dimmig had clippings from interior design magazines to guide her construction team in creating the look she wanted for the living room, dining room, and the home's dramatic central hall which runs from the front entry and opens to a covered porch off the rear elevation. The living room features a prized antique mantel purchased from a favorite antique shop in New Hope, Pennsylvania. "The mantel is from the



PLEASANT MEMORIES Modeled after Jane Dimmig's parents' Pennsylvania farm home, the staircase also features reused heart pine floorboards

Hudson Valley and dates from between 1800–1820,” says Dimmig. “Its richness of detail makes it the focal point of the living room.” In contrast, the dining room’s fireplace is a simple arched firebox that allows an exceptionally fine Montgomery County cupboard, with decorative inlay and a swan’s neck crest designed to dominate the room.

Of special importance to Dimmig is the design for the main staircase that rises from the dramatic center hall to a landing leading to the home’s three second-floor bedrooms. “The staircase is modeled after the one in my parent’s home and has the same decorative scrollwork and raised panels,” explained Dimmig. “The Garland Woodcraft Company in

Durham was able to make the balustrade from the heart pine found in the old house.”

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

In reviewing the success of this phase of building at White Oak Farm, Telesis’s George Horton credits Dimmig with being willing to pay attention to the details, whether it was selecting stone on site in Pennsylvania or finding the right source for the antique and reproduction locks used for each door and cabinet in the house. “Someone told me there are 90,000 decisions that have to be made when one builds a house,” says Horton. “Sometimes these decisions are made by the contractor, sometimes by the workmen, and sometimes by default. We



EXCEPTIONALLY FINE The dining room focal point features exquisite woodwork



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DOWN TO THE DETAILS Special antique Pennsylvania pavers are designed to be porous and don't "dust," making them perfect to handle the post trail and garden traffic in the mud room and adjacent garden room.

wanted to work with Jane because she was a hands-on owner, and we knew she would be involved in making all those decisions."

As Dimmig extends her farewells amid the same friendly

canine chaos, it is clear that she has accomplished her goal of bringing the elements of her family's life together in a special place.

White Oak Farm, with its Amish-raised barn and thought-

fully designed and executed Pennsylvania farm house, is admirable for its architecture, its craftsmanship and for a lifestyle which reflects the importance of a treasured heritage and enduring family values. **MM**

Uncle John in the Collard Patch

EVERY FAMILY'S GOT ONE—THANK GOODNESS

It's a long haul from Winston-Salem to New Bern, so when I had to be at Tryon Palace on a Saturday morning, I stopped in Buies Creek where I grew up and spent the night with my brother. I got more than I bargained for, and I say that in the best sort of way.

He cooked ribs—absolutely great ribs slathered in his own homemade sauce—and made cole slaw the way Mother did with a paring knife, cutting each shred individually on an old china plate. Mother fiercely resisted using a chopping knife and cutting board (I gave her both, and she gave me back the cutting board a year or so later (kept the knife). When I'd chop cabbage like the TV chefs, she'd stand at my side warning that I was going to cut my fingers off and halfway hoping, I think, that I would and make her point.

Larry Stewart, my friend from growing up, came over, and we ate till we were well past sated. Then we ambled back to Larry's house, which took awhile because Larry's got arthritis bad in his right foot—the one he mangled in the car wreck. I laid claim to the swing, and we talked 'til bedtime. Larry complained from time to time about his foot.

Larry asked whether I remembered back in the '50s when a highway patrolman stopped a local character who was famous for his foolishness. According to

Larry, the patrolman said, "Mr. Matthews, did you know that you were weaving back and forth across the center line?"

"No I didn't," Matthews said, "but I'm not surprised. It's hard as the devil to steer a car when you've got a pint of liquor in one hand and a chaser in the other." Of course, folks down east know what a "chaser" is—or was. Old-time drinkers just turned the bottle up, took a big swallow and then took a swig of a Seven-Up to "chase" it.

There was a good reason why liquor

used to be chased. "Drinking" generally was frowned on—particularly in Buies Creek, which Larry's daddy liked to call "Baptist Hollow"—and a lot of it was done on the sly around the filling station. There wasn't anything particularly social about it. Throwing a shot down and then chasing it was the quickest way to get the bottle hidden again before the preacher caught you or somebody's wife walked up and gave the whole crowd the devil.

Larry's story was enough to prime the pump and get us talking about the champion of all the old-time drinkers in Buies Creek, Uncle John Stewart—Larry's Uncle John, not mine, though he is such a legend I always wished I were kin to him too.

Uncle John, as I remember him, was old and wizened and totally ravaged by a lifetime of alcohol abuse. The story was that "Miss Mae" set her cap for John and pursued him so relentlessly that he ran off, joined the army and ended up fighting in the Spanish-American War. A bachelor (he was probably in his 70s during the 1950s), he lived with relatives (his sister and brother-in-law, who was the county judge) and hung around the post office during weekdays.

Buies Creek was quiet then. Didn't even have a stoplight. Still doesn't, but I understand that is about to change. Ruth Gregory told me at Aunt Mary's wake—within earshot of the casket—that the town's main intersection is about to get a trichromatic electronic vehicular control device. Without thinking, I shot a quick glance over at Aunt Mary, halfway expecting to hear some word of protest since during her almost 90 years she was never much on change, and I

knew she wouldn't approve of anything as radical as installing a stoplight. Not a word, though, to my relief.

There were times when a stoplight or two might have helped Uncle John Stewart get home in one piece. Not that he drove, because he didn't, but when he

had a good day, if you know what I mean, walking home in the evening could be something of a challenge.

John Stewart was kin to near everybody in Harnett County. His nephew, Larry's daddy, was Wade Stewart, the sheriff, and another nephew, Archie Taylor, was the district attorney. He was proud of that fact and would drop their names in a heartbeat.

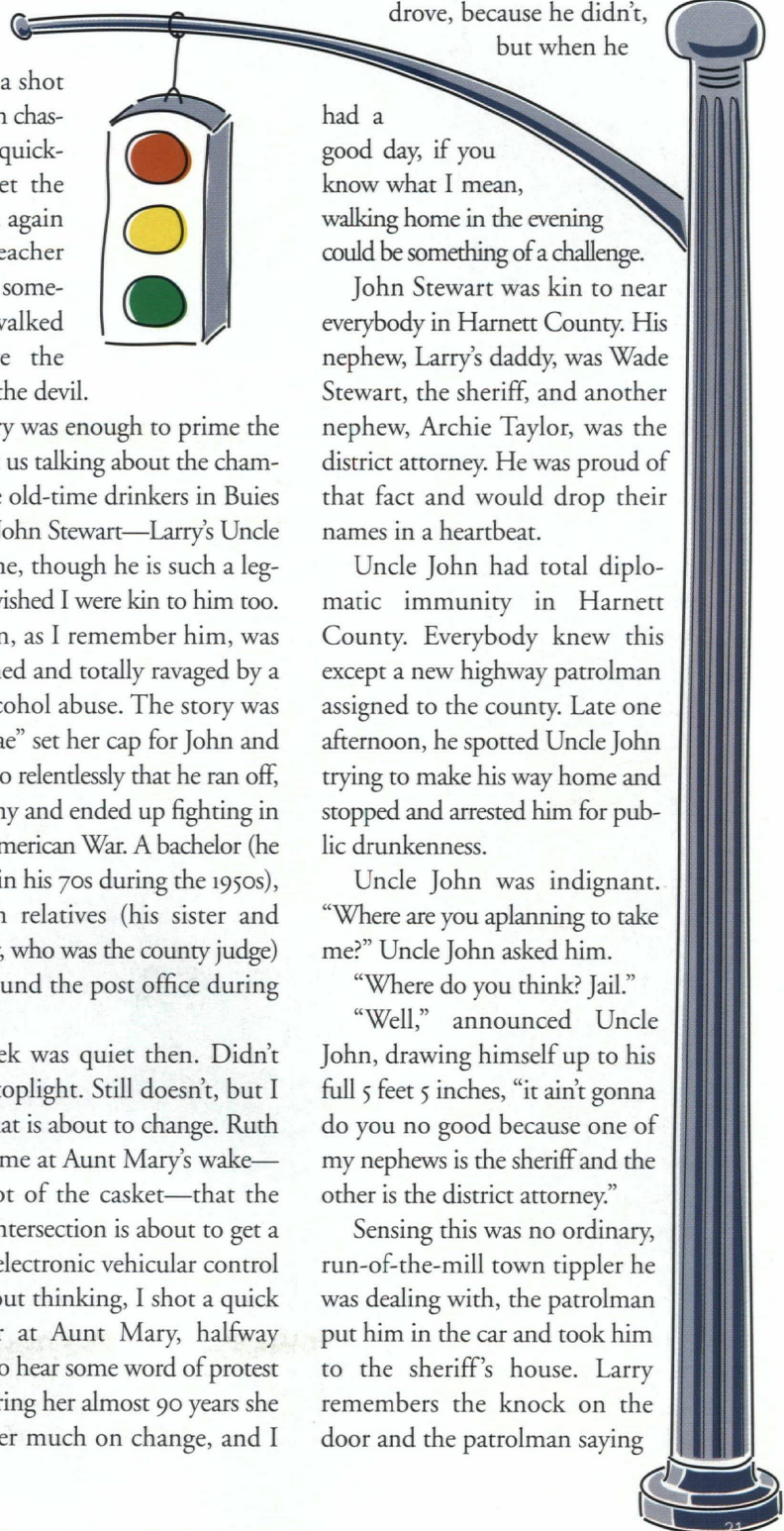
Uncle John had total diplomatic immunity in Harnett County. Everybody knew this except a new highway patrolman assigned to the county. Late one afternoon, he spotted Uncle John trying to make his way home and stopped and arrested him for public drunkenness.

Uncle John was indignant. "Where are you aplaning to take me?" Uncle John asked him.

"Where do you think? Jail."

"Well," announced Uncle John, drawing himself up to his full 5 feet 5 inches, "it ain't gonna do you no good because one of my nephews is the sheriff and the other is the district attorney."

Sensing this was no ordinary, run-of-the-mill town tippler he was dealing with, the patrolman put him in the car and took him to the sheriff's house. Larry remembers the knock on the door and the patrolman saying



to his daddy, "There's an old feller in the back seat of my car who claims he's kin to you."

"Daddy didn't blink an eye," Larry said.

"That'll be Uncle John," Daddy said. "Bring him in."

IT TAKES A COUNTY

Hillary Clinton said it takes a village to raise a child. It took all of Harnett County to look after Uncle John.

I spent a good part of my growing up at Larry's house. On Sundays, one of us was usually at the other's house eating dinner. His mother, Miss Annie (her maiden name was Matthews, and she was kin to Uncle John on her side of the family) cooked the world's best crowder peas and corn (together, of course) and we had them every Sunday when they were in.

One Sunday, we were starting to eat dinner when Uncle John rattled the screen door on the back porch, let himself in, and shuffled over to the kitchen table. Uncle John's eyes—especially on a "good day"—contained huge puddles of red-tinted fluid that ponded in his lower lids and miraculously hung there and refused to spill over. His eyes also had a mournful look—sort of like those of an aged, totally dissipated basset hound. The sheriff kept right on spooning peas and corn onto his plate (he was starving after waiting in the car for 30 minutes after church while Miss Annie took off her choir robe and visited), and Uncle John came over and stood at his elbow.

"My god, Uncle John," the sheriff said, looking up and straight into Uncle John's face, "if you don't shut your eyes you are going to stand there and bleed slam to death."

Miss Annie's lingering after church was a real sore spot for the sheriff. One hot July day, before air conditioning in cars, we were sitting and waiting for her in the sheriff's two-tone, fifty-something Ford—it was his sheriff's car with no light that I remember and with a siren you couldn't see. He owned it and the County reimbursed him for mileage. The sheriff was swatting gnats and swearing under his breath when Miss Annie finally appeared,

opened the car door and slid in beside him.

"I swear to God!"

"Wade, I do wish you wouldn't say that sitting here in front of the church."

"I swear to God!"

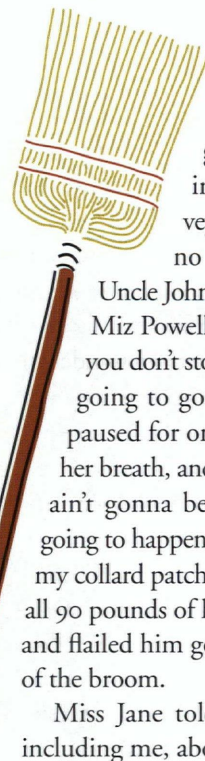
"Wade, I do wish you wouldn't say that in front of these boys."

"I swear to God, Annie," he said, starting the third time, "if that church was to burn down one Sunday, you'd be the last one out and then you wouldn't come out 'til your coattail was on fire." There was dead silence in the car all the way home.

Back to Uncle John.

Miss Jane Cotton (We called a lot of women our parents' age "Miss something-or-the-other" even though they were married. Powell was her maiden name) told me that one night she was at her mother's house talking to her in the kitchen. They heard a commotion out back—somebody moaning and groaning and calling for help in a thin, frail voice. Her mother, old Miz Powell, grabbed a broom and ran out the back door, Miss Jane right behind her. (It's a fact that an eastern North Carolina woman can kill blacksnakes and copperheads and fend off hungry black bears straight out of the Great Dismal Swamp with an ordinary house broom. Aunt Mary fearlessly killed a blacksnake in the middle of the sitting room floor with her broom after I refused to take a hoe and go in there with the devil and do it myself.)

The noise was coming from Miz Powell's collard patch, and Miz Powell was proud of those collards—several rows, all lined up, perfectly spaced, tall, gourd green, big around as a tub and not a collard worm on them. And there in the middle of her collards, lying on the ground, thrashing about, making awful noises and, worse still, tearing up Miz Powell's prize collards was Uncle John Stewart. He had taken a short cut home across her place, stumbled in the collard patch and couldn't get up.



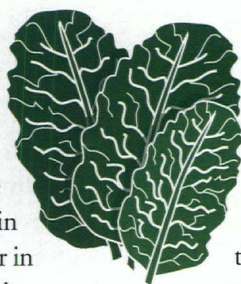
Miz Powell, broom gripped in both hands in attack position, surveyed the sorry scene with no sign of sympathy for Uncle John. Finally in total disgust, Miz Powell said, "John Stewart, if you don't stop drinking liquor you're going to go straight to Hell." She paused for one brief second, caught her breath, and then added, "But Hell ain't gonna be half as bad as what's going to happen to you if you ever git in my collard patch again!" And, with that, all 90 pounds of her lit in on Uncle John and flailed him good with the straw end of the broom.

Miss Jane told everybody in town, including me, about Uncle John's run in with her momma. After that, if there was a crowd sitting around Owen Dixon's store and somebody mentioned a particularly onerous thing they had to do, like get four wisdom teeth pulled without any dope or clear 15 acres of new ground with a dull ax, somebody would add, "Yeh, but that won't be half as bad as letting Miz Powell catch you in her collard patch." Then the story about Uncle John and Miz Powell would have to be told all the way through for the umpteenth time.

The great thing about the Uncle Johns of eastern North Carolina was that families and everybody else accepted them, made the best of a bad situation, and went on. Few families were spared an eccentric of one sort or the other, and some even took great pride in the fact that their family was blessed with a storied town character.

Uncle John's nephew and Miss Annie's brother, Hugh Archie Matthews, left Buies Creek and became a revered doctor in the North Carolina mountains. As a teenager, Larry spent a lot of summers up there with him. I heard Dr. Hugh Archie tell how he fell in love with his beloved Ruth and wrote the family to tell them that he was bringing her to meet the family in Buies Creek.

"Aunt Maggie Collier was just as prissy as she could be," Dr. Hugh Archie said, "and she organized a little reception



committee. All the folks gathered at her house, and I was to bring Ruth there. She got Uncle John off to the side and told him to go down to the mule lot and stay down there till Ruth and I had come and gone, so Ruth wouldn't see Uncle John and get a bad impression of the family.

"Uncle John obliged her and wandered on off down to the barn, and when Ruth and I arrived there stood Aunt Maggie on the front porch, hat on, all dressed up, smiling and smelling of Yardley's English Lavender. When I stopped the car, I saw her," said Dr. Hugh Archie, "but I also glimpsed Uncle John down at the mule lot. I came around and opened the door for Ruth and said, 'Come on, it's time to meet the family,' and I walked her right by Aunt Maggie and the rest of the crowd and down to the mule lot to meet Uncle John.

"Aunt Maggie was mortified," he said. "But Ruth still married me, and Uncle John was always one of her favorite Stewarts."

Dr. Hugh Archie said that that Uncle John's mother and sisters always made excuses for his "behavior," sometimes attributing his drinking to "shell shock from the war" and other times to "brain fever from measles when he was a child." It was a fact that even before he went off to war he was bad to drink and cut the fool, like the time he accepted the Lord and got baptized. Must be some truth to the story since Pat Harmon, who was at Aunt Mary's wake—or "visitation" as they now call it—said he had heard his daddy, Carlyle Harmon, tell it.

Carlyle was a farmer and baseball umpire extraordinaire. You couldn't play a baseball game in Buies Creek if he was out of place, and sometimes players stood around a half-hour or so waiting for him to show up and shout, "Play ball." There were other folks who were indispensable in Buies Creek. You couldn't have a barbecue without Garvey Denton to cook the pigs. You couldn't have an auction without Palmer Matthews to do the chant. You couldn't die without Preston and Marie Butts to look after the settin'-up. And you couldn't kill hogs without Miss Miriam Upchurch—she could do it all. Three of

her daughters were at Aunt Mary's wake, and I'm proud to say, I got a hug from every one of them.

OLD TIME RELIGION

About Uncle John's getting baptized. A bunch of folks, including Uncle John, "got saved" by a visiting evangelist and, on Sunday, everybody gathered at Kivett's Pond for the baptizing. The preacher was so proud of bringing Uncle John to Jesus that he saved him 'til last, following several children dressed in white and one Methodist who had switched to the Baptist church (his previous sprinkling was deemed insufficient to get him to Heaven).

The preacher and his poster child for salvation, Uncle John, waded out into the deep water and after raising his hand high in the air and saying, "Now I baptize this, thy son, John Stewart, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, Amen," the preacher slapped his hand over John's nose and laid him over backwards, and John disappeared beneath the dark

mill pond water. And he didn't come up. The preacher kept feeling around in the water for John 'til he was wet up to his ears, but he couldn't find John. The already-saved moved closer and closer to the water and started to moan. About the time panic set in for sure, somebody hollered from across the way. It was Uncle John, sitting on the dam, 50 yards away, laughing and waving at everybody.

Some folks said the only reason Uncle John got baptized in the first place was to stop Miss Mae from nagging him about it and that cutting the fool the way he did and swimming off across the pond was his way of getting back at her.

Uncle John got religion several times during his life. Don't know that anybody really counted. Once at a Baptist revival, he got so serious about changing his ways and giving up liquor that he went with the preacher, dug a hole, and buried his prized silver flask—a gift from "Miss Mae" when she still had some hope of snagging him. That attempt at clean living didn't last



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long, though, Dr. Hugh Archie said, and his "Poppa" saw Uncle John a few days later get a shovel from under the shed and head to where he had buried the flask in the low ground.

We were talking about wakes and visitations a minute ago (and my Aunt Mary who was really not my aunt since she was my stepfather's sister, but since she was my half-brother's aunt and my stepbrother's aunt, I always called her my "Aunt" too), and it occurred to me that it is not as easy to die as it used to be. Time was you could just up and die whenever you wanted to, and it really was nobody's business but your own. I expect that's the way it was with Uncle John when he decided to go to his eternal reward.

But the time is gone in eastern North Carolina when you can just up and die when you please. Now you have to die when the funeral home can take you—when they don't have bodies backed up and when there is a parlor available to lay you

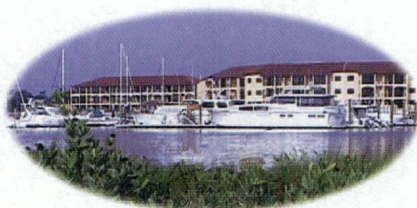
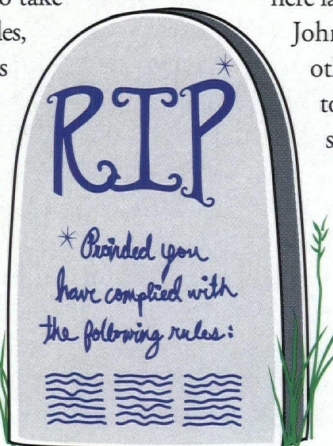
out in and for the family to receive folks. You've got to worry about relatives' business commitments and vacation plans (many vacation packages are non-refundable, you know), soccer schedules, when the newspaper can print your obituary and whether there is an airline strike, because folks have just got too good to take the bus home. Besides, I'm not sure the bus even stops in Harnett County anymore—but maybe it will for the new stoplight in Buies Creek.

If Uncle John wanted to die today, he'd have to give a week or two notice and then have to postpone meeting St. Peter if the funeral home was having a big week or the pilots

had walked off the job. I expect putting things off awhile would have been all right with him, since he never operated on much of a schedule anyhow.

My friend, Dr. Pete Daniel, the famous southern historian who grew up in Spring Hope and works for the Smithsonian, was here last week, and we talked about Uncle John. Pete's an expert on things most other folks don't pay much attention to or care about (that's what being a scholar is all about), and he said it's a shame that small towns in eastern North Carolina don't have characters like Uncle John anymore. I agreed, and I said to him what I said earlier: I've always wished I'd been born in Harnett County and a Stewart or a Matthews so I would have been kin to John Stewart. I still envy

Larry that, and I'm going to tell him so when I go to Buies Creek for the stoplight dedication. **MM**



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AWARDS

The finer things

You can say you read it here first. For the second year, *Metro* readers responded in kind to our poll of favorite places and pleasures around Raleigh, the Research Triangle area and Eastern North Carolina and beyond. The response to this year's MetroBravo! awards grew from our inaugural awards in 2000 as *Metro* has established itself as the repository of ideas, trends and culture in our region. Culled from hundreds of responses, the winners are aligned according to three categories: Standing Ovation is the top winner; second place is MetroBravo! and third is Honorable Mention. Don't forget to grab the daybook as you sit down to check out the best of the best according to *Metro's* distinguished readers.



The Sanderling Inn

Sunrise, sunset

FAVORITE RESORT

The ocean crashing as you contemplate the nature of the universe, beautiful sea fowl flying low over the Atlantic horizon, a view of the sun rising on the ocean and setting on the sound side, a relaxed dinner and a restful sleep. Seems *Metro* readers seek tranquility when selecting their favorite resort. And for the second year in a row, the clear **Standing Ovation** winner is the **Sanderling Inn**, on the northern Outer Banks near Nag's Head. The **MetroBravo!** winner is just south of the border down Charleston way in coastal South Carolina. **Kiawah Island** is a veritable primordial paradise featuring some of the best golf courses in the country, most notably The Ocean Course, the Pete Dye-designed track stretching along sandy beaches with views to die for. But watch out for the 'gators. And bring your checkbook—the houses for rent are huge, but the isolation and wildlife are sublime. Keep heading south from Kiawah, cross the Georgia line heading to Savannah and enter the stately paradise called **The Cloister**, a golf and vacation complex with a history of traditional hospitality and a family flavor. *Metro* readers have chosen wisely to bestow **Honorable Mention** upon this timeless resort. Nearer home, the Village of Pinehurst, "the home of golf in America," garnered many votes as did the Grandover golf and hotel facility near Greensboro and the venerable Greenbrier resort in West Virginia.

A hotel for all reasons

GREAT HOTEL

In small towns, the local hotel is a meeting place for civic clubs and just keeping up with your neighbors. In big cities, hotels provide a myriad of necessary services, including large meeting and banquet facilities, high-tech hook-ups, 24-hour room service, language translators, secretarial services—you name it and the big city hotels usually have it. Whether setting up business

corporate meeting, *Metro* readers have bestowed a **Standing Ovation** on the **Raleigh Marriott** near Crabtree Valley Mall. The **MetroBravo!** award goes to the big-city **Sheraton** hotels, located in downtown Raleigh, the Crabtree Valley area and the **Sheraton Imperial** located on the edge of



Research Triangle Park. **Honorable Mention** this year goes to the **Embassy Suites** hotels in the Triangle area and the **North Raleigh Hilton** on Wake Forest Road.

Gracious lodging

BEST B&B

The bed and breakfast phenomenon has flourished in the United States over the past 30 years. And our region is fortunate that some of the best are located right in our backyard. If you're looking for that touch of home in a historical and traditional setting—tailored rooms, relaxed atmosphere, friendly owners and a sense of what hospitality was like a hundred years ago—then *Metro* readers recommend you book the



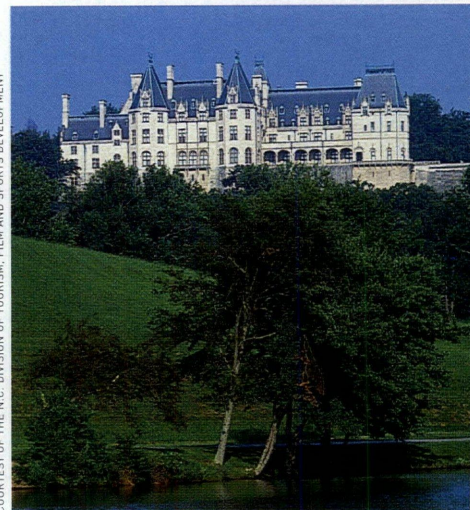
Lord's Proprietor Inn in historical Edenton and the beautifully appointed **Graystone Inn** in downtown Wilmington, winners in a tie for this year's **Standing Ovation** award.

We have a tie for **Honorable Mention**. The **Wilmingtonian** (formerly the Inn at St. Thomas Court), came in at a dead heat with **Fearrington Inn** in Chatham County. The 40-suite **Wilmingtonian** is snuggled within the grounds of the antebellum de Rosset mansion in historic downtown Wilmington. **Fearrington Inn** and the surrounding complex outside Chapel Hill in Chatham County include dining, shopping, a working dairy and a gracious inn.

Well worth a visit

NICEST TOURIST SPOT

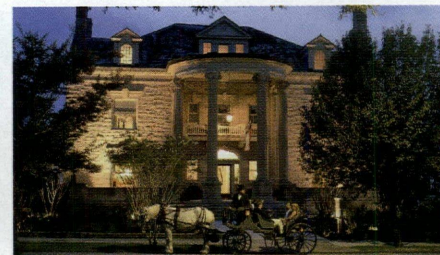
The Biltmore House and the surrounding estates rival European destinations in evoking medieval grandeur. Built by the Vanderbilt family in the 1920s and lovingly restored back to its original eminence as a working feudal village by heir William Cecil, Biltmore Estates outside Asheville

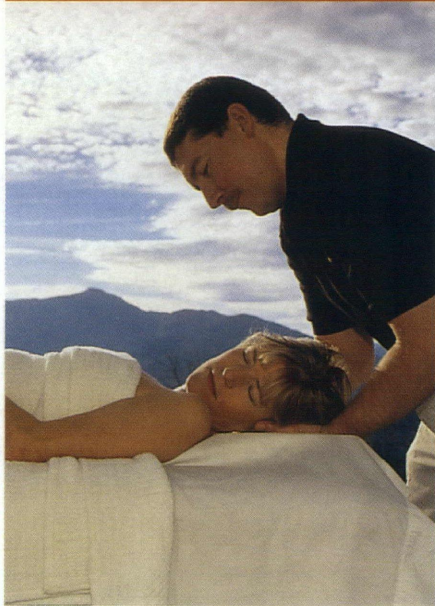


COURTESY OF THE N.C. DIVISION OF TOURISM, FILM AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Biltmore House

has become one of the most visited attractions in the United States. Magnificent gardens, a newly-completed inn, a working winery: Biltmore House (a veritable castle) and grounds, with furnishings and appointments that make Europeans envious, is the crown jewel of touring stops in the mountains of North Carolina. Stand up and clap for **Biltmore**, the **Standing Ovation** winner for 2001.





WestGlow Spa

It was a Hessian mercenary soldier bivouacked at Williamsburg while fighting for the British during the Revolutionary War in America who made a sketch of all the buildings and the spatial relationships in the town. Two hundred years later, the Rockefeller family put up the money to restore what is now called Colonial Williamsburg—exactly as it originally existed. Williamsburg, only a three-hour drive from Raleigh, is one of the nation's most revered historic sites and *Metro* readers agree by voting to name **Colonial Williamsburg** as the **MetroBravo!** winner for this year. Young and old all enjoy a visit to America's past.

The **USS North Carolina** sits proudly on the waterfront in historic Wilmington, N.C. It turned 60 this spring. Called "The Showboat," the *North Carolina* joined the U.S. fleet only months before Pearl Harbor and fought in more than 50 battles as an escort for aircraft carriers. In 1961, interested North Carolinians, who created the stunning memorial on the Wilmington waterfront, saved the great battlewagon from the scrap heap. *Metro* readers selected the famous battleship for the **Honorable Mention** award for 2001, demonstrating that history is a winning theme for attractions in the region.

Return to sanity

BEST SPA

The high-tech rat race is wearing us down. The need to renew and revive the body and the mind has become major business in North Carolina. And what better place to replenish the soul than **WestGlow Spa** outside Blowing Rock in the North Carolina mountains, this year's **Standing Ovation** winner for best spa.

The **MetroBravo!** award in the spa category this year goes to perennial favorite, the **Sanderling Inn** and Raleigh's **Skin Sense**, with **Honorable Mention** going to the new spa at the **Grove Park Inn** near Asheville.



Bald Head Island

Home away from home

BEST PLACE FOR A SUMMERHOUSE

The best way to get away from it all on a permanent basis is to own a second home in beautiful North Carolina. *Metro* readers' top choice for this category is the environmentally fascinating and people-friendly **Bald Head Island**, a short boat ride from Southport. The island is home to birthing turtles, an occasional alligator, beautiful beach vistas, a championship golf course, a relaxing inn, private homes and condominiums, and, best of all, no cars are allowed on the island.

It's paradise and it's right down the road.

In the old days, the train track ran from Wilmington, across inland bodies of water, to the sandbar known as Wrightsville Beach. Named for a former bishop of the Episcopal Church in North Carolina, Wrightsville is known as a "family beach," but also provides convention hotels, restaurants, shops and marinas. That's why *Metro* readers chose **Wrightsville Beach** for the **MetroBravo!** award as a great place to own a second home in 2001.

Atlantic Beach, just across Bogue Sound from Morehead City, is a long, narrow strip of sand

The Bob Timberlake Gallery

Come home to the world of Bob Timberlake with a visit to **The Bob Timberlake Gallery** in Lexington, NC. The Gallery showcases Bob Timberlake's original artwork, reproductions and personal memorabilia as well as his highly popular line of home furnishings, accessories, apparel,

gifts and collectibles. Within easy access of Interstate 85 at exit 94 between Greensboro and Charlotte, the Gallery offers a shopping experience that you will not want to miss.

The Bob Timberlake Gallery

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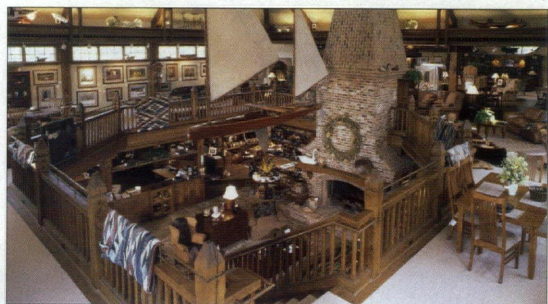
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Gallery Hours:

Monday-Friday: 10 am to 6 pm
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Interstate 85 to Exit 94, then west on Old Highway 64



Every detail of the Gallery, from the custom brick to the copper weather vane atop its cupola, speaks of Bob Timberlake's unique style as an artist and designer.

The Bob Timberlake Gallery

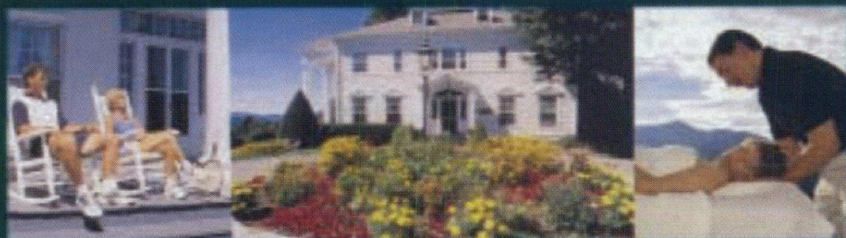
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featuring the full gamut of beach activity. Whether you're looking for a large waterfront home, a Cape Cod-style cottage along the sound or just a condo for a weekend get-away, Atlantic Beach covers the spectrum. Traditionally populated by people from Raleigh and Eastern North Carolina, there are pockets of activity suitable for all tastes. Whether you like easy access to the Gulf Stream or fishing close in, golf, or just plain hanging out at the many fine restaurants and public areas in nearby Beaufort and Morehead City, **Atlantic Beach** is a beachy comfortable place for a second home, earning it the **Honorable Mention** from readers.



Paris, France

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European vacation

BEST FOREIGN TRAVEL DESTINATION

It's rare with all of the attractions available to us in our region to want to leave for distant locales. But we all do, and our readers this year have chosen as their favorite travel destination abroad the City of Lights, Paris—France, that is. The Eiffel Tower, the West Bank, the dozens of museums and just people watching, make **Paris** the winner of this year's **Standing Ovation** award.

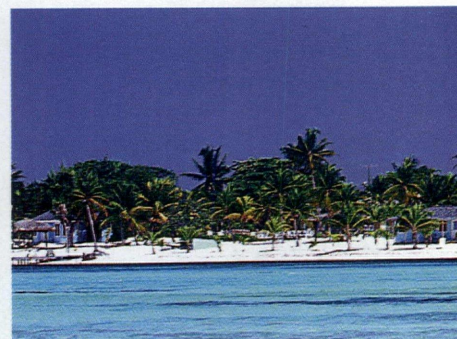
The glory that was Rome still exists in the volatile and culturally rich country of Italy. Whether the sights of Rome, the canals of Venice, the artistic masterpieces of Florence, the ancient Neapolitan capital of Naples, or all the villages in between, **Italy** is a favorite with *Metro* readers and wins this year's **MetroBravo!** award.

"He who is tired of London is tired of life," said the lexicographer and pundit Samuel Johnson in the 18th century. It still applies today. Yet outside London, the true England unfolds in postcard villages, literary home places, beautiful scenery and history that unfurls at every turn. **Honorable Mention** goes to merrie old **England**.

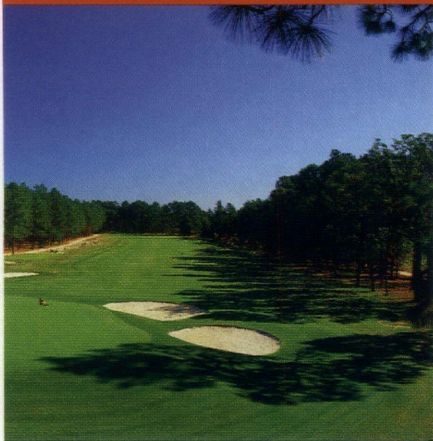
Islands in the sun

BEST CARIBBEAN HOT SPOT

Relaxing on sandy white beaches, drinking rum concoctions under the umbrella, scuba diving, working on your tan and just generally hangin' out are attractions of the Tropics that draw *Metro* readers to their island in the sun. This year's **Standing Ovation** goes to the **Cayman Islands**, with **Aruba** walking away with the **MetroBravo!** and **Hawaii** receiving **Honorable Mention** in this year's voting.



The Cayman Islands



Pinehurst No. 2

Golf in the kingdom

FAVORITE LINKS

This is golf country, and *Metro* readers have chosen the Donald Ross-designed **Pinehurst No. 2** course for this year's **Standing Ovation** award. Host for the 1999 U.S. Open and definitely the best-known golf course in America, No. 2 is just one of eight courses in the Pinehurst complex, with dozens of other courses in the surrounding Sandhills to choose from. Near Wallace, N.C., hog magnate Wendell Murphy has built **River Landing**, a golf course that is gaining favor with *Metro* readers and this year walks away with the **MetroBravo!** award. **Honorable Mention** goes to the **Dye Course** at Wilmington's Landfall Resort residential development.

Home-spun health

FINEST HOSPITAL

You never know until you have to go, and the hospital you choose better be the best. In these parts, the major hospitals are now part of larger institutions in order to keep costs down and service high. This year Raleigh's **Rex Hospital** walks away with the **Standing Ovation** award, with **Wake Medical Center** a very, very close second as winner of the **MetroBravo!** award. The **Duke Hospital** complex comes in a close third with the **Honorable Mention** award.

Custom computing

BEST COMPUTER BRAND

Those heifer spots paid off. Despite a slow-down in the computer market, Gateway computers, "the original custom computer company," is still going strong as a PC powerhouse. Affordable and configured exactly right for your needs—be it accounting or free-lance writing—**Gateway** continues to make a good impression, as evidenced by *Metro* readers' anointing the company, with



several local retail outlets, as the **Standing Ovation** winner in the computer brand category.

RTP's own IBM, Big Blue, shows that it can continue to build on its business machine heritage by adding its own custom touches, especially for business applications. The first big tenant at RTP, **IBM** continues to garner accolades among locals, earning the firm the **MetroBravo!** in this year's readers' poll. **Dell Computers**, which continues to be a mainstay among consumers and businesses alike, takes **Honorable Mention**.

Sky talking

COOLEST CELL PHONE COMPANY

When Carolinians flip open the ol' cell phone, they like to connect through the skies using Alltel, the mega-telephony firm that got its humble start as a



local phone company in North Carolina. With cell phones so ubiquitous today, the cell competitors have turned the industry into a free-for-all for their ever-growing demand. With a solid brand, good prices and a reliable service plan, **Alltel** is the

Standing Ovation winner among *Metro* readers.

It's new, and they like it. **Verizon Wireless**, an amalgam of over a dozen local, regional and national firms, just came out under the umbrella of GTE, but has already risen in consumers' minds as not only a great service provider, but a solid brand (helped out by all those cool techies making V's with their fingers in the commercials). **Sprint** gets the **Honorable Mention**.

The big bells

LONG-DISTANCE PROVIDER

Ten cents a minute is still a bargain. AT&T's low prices, courteous operators and time-tested infrastructure have stood the test against a bevy of low-price contenders, say *Metro* readers, who



awarded **AT&T** the **Standing Ovation** among long-distance phone providers. Not far behind comes **MCI**, now part of Worldcom, another trustworthy provider of telephony and Internet connections, garnering the **MetroBravo!** Again, **Sprint**, so quietly you can hear a pin drop, takes **Honorable Mention**.

The baby bells

LOCAL PHONE SERVICE

Monopolistic tendencies tend to rub consumers the wrong way. But though **BellSouth** has a fairly



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BELLSOUTH

firm grip on the region's local calls, *Metro* readers still recognize it as the best among a few. It's always fun to get mad at the phone company, but it's easy to forget how convenient its dependable grid of communications cables has made our lives. What would we do without it? The **MetroBravo!** goes to **Sprint**, a worthy contender that has a regional headquarters in Wake Forest.

Plugging in

BEST ISP

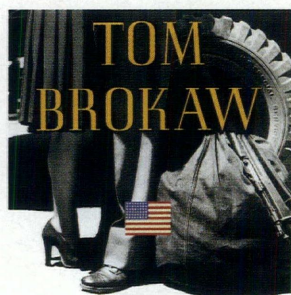
For those of you who were on-line in the early days of the Internet (say, 1992) AOL is like an old acquaintance. Remember the rivalry between Compuserve and America On-Line? Today you might ask (though the company is still around), Compuserve who? With its easy installation, logical menus and screens, and its unique "messaging" system, AOL has managed to stay true to the Internet's lofty aims while bringing it cheaply to the masses. With a bevy of ISPs aiming at AOL's hegemony, *Metro* readers still say the original is the best, giving **AOL** the **Standing Ovation** in the ISP category. In second place, grabbing the



MetroBravo! citation, newcomer **Road Runner** shows how successful Time-Warner's Internet entity has become with locals. Offering high-speed cable access, a great home page, and lots of extras, Road Runner is spreading faster than you can say, "Meep-meep, zip-dang!" The Triangle has become one of the company's fastest-growing subscriber regions. **BellSouth**, which offers dial-up and DSL services to Internet sojourners, earns **Honorable Mention** in this category.

True stories

BEST NON-FICTION



THE GREATEST GENERATION

Whether they actually were the greatest generation will be up to future historians to decide. But it's tough to argue with NBC anchor-man Tom Brokaw that the World War II generation sure changed the world in unimaginable ways. As they fought for peace and the future safety of Americans, they beat back fascism with

democracy, communism with capitalism. Living on principles of duty, honor, economy and courage, they came up with most of the good ideas that today's brainchildren are improving upon to make our world friendlier, quieter and more efficient. Buzzing with victory, ingenuity and the tough American work ethic, Brokaw's book, **The Greatest Generation** stands as the **Standing Ovation** winner among the best non-fiction.

An old standard, the Bible garners second place in this year's *MetroBravo!* reader's poll of non-fiction books. Obviously timeless, chock-full of wisdom, values and the good way to live life, the Bible exudes more influence on the world than any other work of non-fiction. *Metro* readers say that from Paul's conversion to the travails of Jesus and the drama of the Resurrection, the **Bible** provides some of the best modern reading around, handing it the **MetroBravo!** award in the non-fiction category.

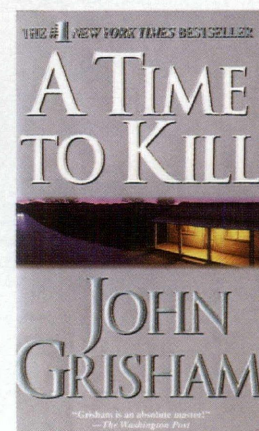
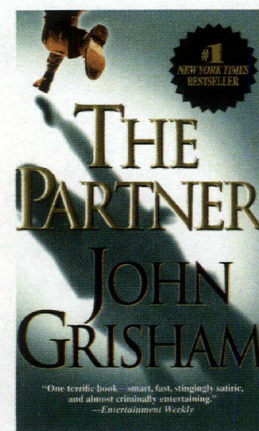
Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil, the spellbinding story of murder in the mythic Deep South, gets the **Honorable Mention**. Peopled with redneck gigolos and proper Women's Club members, this tale of murder reads like fiction, but is true, word-for-word.

Tall tales
BEST FICTION

Take your pick. Whether he's writing about an altruistic lawyer taking on Washington D.C.'s homeless problem or a young lawyer running up

against the evil powers atop his firm, **John Grisham** has a magic writing touch. Anything this Southern-born attorney-turned-writer comes up with, *Metro* readers love it. Grisham, the author of *The Pelican Brief* and the *Rainmaker*, receives the **Standing Ovation** award for top fiction.

Two best-sellers with a Southern flair have to share the **MetroBravo!** award in the best fiction category. Carl Hiaassen's **Sick Puppy** mixes eco-terrorists, thousands of singing toads and a



Just say "spaaaaah."

At Skin Sense, a day spa, our approach is simple & effective: we combine state-of-the-art techniques with a holistic philosophy to promote total body wellness. Today's fast-paced lifestyle can rob your body of beauty & health — but a visit to Skin Sense can help restore it. After all, we've designed our facilities, services & attitude with your needs in mind. Whether you spend an hour or a day, your relaxation & rejuvenation is our goal.

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SKIN SENSE

a day spa

bringing balance to life™

Republicans-only hooker into a frothy tale about the "malling" of a pristine South Florida island. Tom Wolfe's **A Man in Full**, set in Atlanta's real estate boom of the 1990s takes you to a hotbed of powerful politicians and simmering racial tensions that explode when a black college football star from the local slums is accused of date-raping the daughter of the town's white head honcho. Released in 1998, the novel was seen as Wolfe's novelistic denouement in his satire of the wealthy and wily in the South.

David Guterson's **Snow Falling On Cedars**, the tragic tale of a Japanese-American who stands falsely accused of murder after World War II, and Jan Karon's **The Mitford Series**, the engrossing series of books about a fictional North Carolina town, share the **Honorable Mention**.

Flying high

BEST AIRLINE

Morrisville's own **Midway Airlines** continues to show why it's the best deal in town, according to *Metro* readers, who gave the former Chicago-based airline the **Standing Ovation** award. Flush with new jets and Carolina leather seats, Midway's comfortable planes and low prices make RDU one of the most economical places to fly from in the country. Whether you're going to San Diego or Denver (and now LA) or a seemingly ever-expanding number of new destinations, Midway is the way to go.

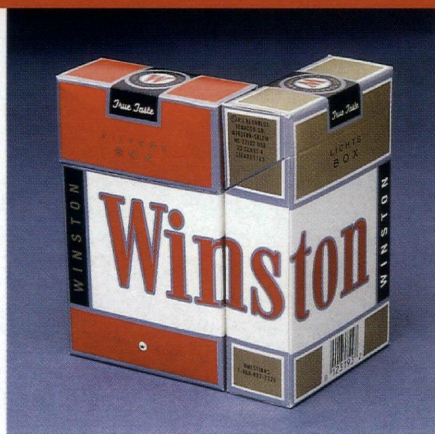


Still, we can thank Dallas-based Southwest for helping Midway along. By challenging the local market with low-price fares and exemplary in-flight service, Southwest has prodded Midway to keep improving its service. **Southwest** gets the **MetroBravo! US Air**, formerly Winston-Salem based Piedmont Airlines, receives **Honorable Mention** among the big hitters of the friendly skies.

Care for a cigarette?

BEST SMOKES

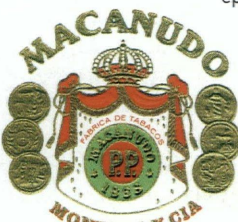
Lighting up is still legal, right? Smoking continues to be one of life's little pleasures, right up there with double-chocolate cake and a McCallan neat. For the second year, *Metro* readers prefer **Winston** cigarettes, born out of local leaf in Winston-Salem, and now a mainstay of the RJ Reynolds emporium. Besides drawing a nice smoke, Winstons are 100 percent additive-free. Philip Morris' ubiquitous **Marlboro** brand gets the nod for both the **MetroBravo!** and **Honorable Mention**, with Reds edging the Lights by a slim margin.



Don't bogey my stogey

BEST CIGAR

Thinking about heading down to Vinnie's for a malt and a blunt? *Metro's* cigar-smoking fans have a few suggestions. **Macanudo**, the Dominican-made



epicenter of modern cigar enjoyment, receives the **Standing Ovation** for the second year. A bit mild for some hard-core smokers, Macanudos nevertheless are a blissful, easy smoke, perfect for just about any time. The old Cuban brand **Punch**, now made in other exotic

Caribbean locales, takes the **MetroBravo!** in this fine-life category. Punch cigars are a bit heavier than Macs, but are also smooth-smoking and smile-inducing. **Rogolettos** take home the **Honorable Mention**.

Cola wars

BEST SOFT DRINK

Maybe **Coke** is life. At any rate, it's still the most popular soft drink, not just in the world, but from Raleigh to the coast, according to our reader poll. North Carolina-born **Pepsi** takes **MetroBravo!** while the sweet, sweet, sweet high-powered **Mountain Dew** gets **Honorable Mention**.



Low-calorie fun

DIET SOFT DRINK

Ditto for the diets. The "diet" versions of readers' most popular soft drinks came down in the same order: **Coke**, **Pepsi**, **Mountain Dew**. Glug-glug.

Brewmasters

BEST BEER

What's better than getting off work, opening the fridge and seeing a couple of rows of ice-cold beer

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bottles sitting there on the lower shelf? If beer is the essence of life, *Metro* readers have a few suggestions as to what to drink. Besides having one of the funniest ad campaigns in recent years, **Miller Lite** also has a refreshing tinge always welcome in the humid South, and is great on the golf course. It earns the **Standing Ovation** award for best beer.



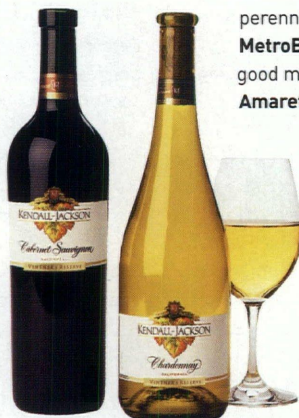
No matter what Dennis Hopper has against Heineken in the movie *Blue Velvet*, *Metro* readers know it as the best import around. Tasty, light on the tongue and somehow perfect on a hot afternoon at the marina, **Heineken** wins the **MetroBravo!** this year.

Writer Rick Bass has a thing for Corona, the Mexican import usually tinged with a slice of fresh lime. In one story, Mr. Bass reminisces about youthful days on the Texas Gulf Coast, barbecuing, boating and beer drinking—always **Corona**, because the thick bottles keep the brew colder, longer. It's this year's **Honorable Mention** winner.

Subtle undertones

BEST WINE

Super-oaky and sweet, the wines coming out of California's **Kendall Jackson** wineries are among the most popular in the world—and in the heart of Carolina. For the second year, KJ's selection of zins and chards receives the **Standing Ovation**.



Coming up the charts is **Robert Mondavi**, the maker of Woodbridge and Opus One wines. "Wine to me is passion," says the winemaker. *Metro* readers apparently noticed—they gave Mondavi the **MetroBravo!** for the best among the wines.

More a champagne, **Perrier Jouet**, founded in 1811 by Pierre Nicolas Marie Perrier and his wife Adele Jouet, started coming to the U.S. in 1837, but began gaining a genuine foothold in the 1980s. It's still a favorite. *Metro* readers give the crisp bubbly the **Honorable Mention**.

Sweet stuff

BEST LIQUEUR

Over 500 years old and still going strong, B&B liqueur is indeed a time-tested concoction, specially formulated for storm-struck nights and open fireplaces. **B&B** nabs the **Standing Ovation** among *Metro* adherents as the best liqueur.

Fitting with coffee, with cream and vodka, or just alone with a cube, **Bailey's** is also a perennial favorite, and this year gets the **MetroBravo!** award for being such a darn good mixer. **Kahlua**, **Disarrona** and **Amaretto** tie for **Honorable Mention** in this sweet stuffs category.

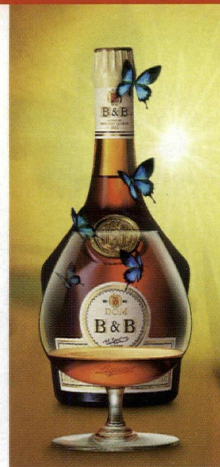
Clear magic

BEST VODKA

This choice is as clear as the liquid itself. Absolut, the Swedish potato-distilling outfit, is absolutely the best, say *Metro* readers. With its ubiquitous bottle-shaped ads, variety of fruit nuances and clean

taste, **Absolut** takes home the **Standing Ovation** award this year among the vodka plutocrats.

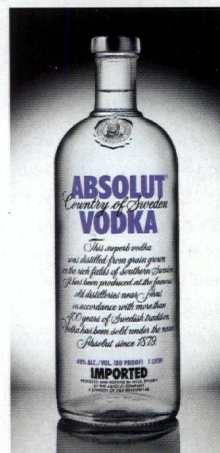
The Russians take second place, coming in as the **MetroBravo!** choice with crystal-clear **Smirnoff**. Another Russki brand, **Stolichnaya**, comes on strong as the **Honorable Mention**.



Gin blossoms

BEST GIN

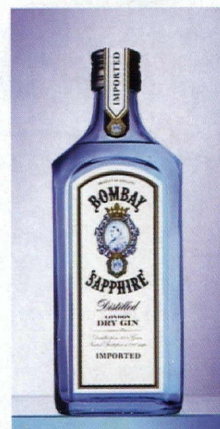
Gin and tonic season is almost here! On the quays and sounds this year, Tar Heels will be choosing the gorgeously-packaged **Bombay Sapphire** gin to mix up with the quinine—voting **Bombay** as the **Standing Ovation** winner in this year's gin match-up. Delicious **Tanqueray** is the **MetroBravo!** choice, while **Beefeaters** sticks the **Honorable Mention**.



Backhollow brew

BEST BOURBON

Bottled at 101 proof and at least 8 years old by the time it hits the ABC stores, **Wild Turkey** is making its way up the charts from last year's poll, taking first place with a **Standing Ovation** award. **Maker's Mark**, the product of six generations of small-batch bourbon making by a Scottish-Irish clan in Kentucky, earns the **MetroBravo!** distinction. *Metro* readers also like **Crown Royal** when they need a stiff drink. CR gets **Honorable Mention**.



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Tropical tastes

BEST RUM

Memories of tropical vacations past waft up whenever the bottle of **Bacardi** comes out. Indeed, the Caribbean spirit is captured in what has become the most popular rum brand among locals, making it this year's **Standing Ovation** choice. **Captain Morgan's** is a close second with the **MetroBravo!** and **Myers Dark** gets the **Honorable Mention**. Don't forget the little umbrellas.

Malty legends

BEST SCOTCH

Scotch is arguably the best spirit—ancient, complex, expensive and so dastardly smooth and evocative. From Hemingway to John Grisham, scotch continues to hold a special place in many a drinker's heart. For the second year, **Dewar's** fine scotch whiskies get the **Standing Ovation** award. Famous **Grouse** is a popular **MetroBravo!** choice while **Chivas** earns the **Honorable Mention**. Take a slug.

You'll have a mall!

BEST MALL

Hot summer days, rainy fall afternoons, snowy February weekends—these are the times when a trip to the mall can be a release, and given the size of the malls in our area, a great dose of exercise as well. Taking the **Standing Ovation** from our readers was **Crabtree Valley Mall**, a colossus of a

shopping complex in an accessible location right off of the Beltline on Glenwood Avenue in Raleigh.

Ten years ago, **Cary Towne Center** was a very small and poorly-designed mall, but since its renovations it has drawn many Triangle area shoppers with its simple parking and everything-on-one-level approach. Now it can add this year's **MetroBravo!** award to its trophy case. **Northgate Mall** in Durham and **Independence Mall** in Wilmington tied for our readers' **Honorable Mention**.

Shop 'til you drop

BEST SHOPPING CENTER

Shopping centers pride themselves on storefront parking and location, and our three recipients in the Shopping Centers category clearly provide both. Taking the **Standing Ovation** is Raleigh's **Cameron Village**, the Bentley of shopping centers inside the Beltline. Located a stone's throw from N.C. State University and within a mile of both Broughton High School and the Five Points area, Cameron Village has been a nucleus of shopping and restaurant activity for the Raleigh community since 1949. With everything from ice cream to diamonds, hiking boots to haircuts, and library books to lingerie, Cameron Village provides the perfect item for any type of shopper.



Cameron Village



Crabtree Valley Mall

A newer shopping center with the same approach was voted the **MetroBravo!** winner. Cary's **Crossroads Shopping Center** is a mammoth version of Cameron Village, presenting the same approach, but with enormous retail stores, from Dick's Sporting Goods to Best Buy.

Wilmington's **Lumina Station** received **Honorable Mention**. Located near Wrightsville Beach and Landfall Plantation, Lumina Station is a refreshing, coastal oasis of shopping, with upscale shops located in buildings designed with a seaside flavor.

Divine dining

BEST RESTAURANT

If the Masters golf tournament is "a tradition unlike any other," then a steak dinner at the **Angus Barn** is unquestionably worthy of the same billing. Perhaps Raleigh's most ancestral dining experience, the **Angus Barn** wins this year's **Standing Ovation**. Its proximity to RDU International Airport as well as I-40 has made the Barn more accessible. Already a legend beyond the Triangle, the "beefeater's haven," coupled with its to-die-for wine list, is one of the nation's finest steakhouses. In the capable hands of Van Eure, daughter of founder Thad Eure, The Barn continues to amaze.

Taking the **MetroBravo!** award for restaurants is **Vinnie's**, Dusty Anderson's New York-style chop house that gives the Barn a run for its money. Regulars from across the spectrum—business leaders, politicians, couples looking for a relaxed atmosphere with elegant service—patronize Vinnie's where the combination of low lighting and succulent steak leaves a visitor hungry for more. You can check out Vinnie's in Wilmington as well.

Raleigh's **Second Empire** wins **Honorable Mention** from our readers. A full-course dinner restaurant upstairs with a more relaxed tavern downstairs, Second Empire offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive wine list. Located in the historic Dodd-Hinsdale House on Hillsborough St. near downtown Raleigh and the



Angus Barn

hot restaurant scene popping up on nearby Glenwood Avenue, Second Empire is a dining experience extraordinaire. Allow plenty of time to savor the multi-course menu upstairs or to enjoy live music and al fresco dining downstairs in the Tavern.

Vinegar-based, finger-lickin' Q!

BEST BARBECUE RESTAURANT

Nothing says "North Carolina" quite like a barbecue sandwich topped with slaw with a side of hush



puppies and a tall sweet tea. Well, the good ole folks at **Red, Hot & Blue** grasped that concept nearly 10

years ago and coupled it with the chain approach, and this year's **Standing Ovation** winner has been nothing short of a spectacular success. Catering events and filling 21,572 mouths at the Dean Smith Center in Chapel Hill with its Memphis-style grub, Red, Hot & Blue has successfully commercialized the appeal of Southern eatin' and hospitality.

Timeless and consistent, two words that come to mind when thinking of Goldsboro's **Wilber's Barbecue**. Located on US-70, Wilber's is not only a local favorite, but a haven for Triangle beachgoers as well. Good luck getting a table here on Sundays—Wilber's is an eastern North Carolina classic and takes this year's **MetroBravo!**

Durham's popular **Bullock's** garnered **Honorable Mention** from our pig-loving readers. As you go west from Raleigh, the barbecue changes from chopped to sliced but it's just as good if not better. Bullock's is worth the visit to make the comparison.

An enlightening exhibit

BEST PUBLIC MUSEUM

Metro readers voted in the **North Carolina Museum of Art** as the **Standing Ovation** winner for Public Museums. Located on Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh, the NCMA is currently featuring the synchronism works of the late, world-renowned Stanton McDonald-Wright, on display until July. The brand-spanking new **Museum of Natural Science** in downtown Raleigh finished second,



N.C. Museum of Art

pulling in the **MetroBravo!** award for their state-of-the-art facilities and exhibits.

The **Ackland Art Museum** on the campus of UNC Chapel Hill, considered one of the finest university museums in the United States, wins this year's **Honorable Mention**. The museum exhibits from a permanent collection of more than 14,000 works of art from around the world. Ackland's holdings are particularly rich in Old Master paintings and sculptures by artists such as Degas.

A beacon at the top

BEST HISTORIC SITE

It is known worldwide as the most steadfast and recognizable lighthouse in the United States. A pillar of security that guides seamen safely along



Cape Hatteras Lighthouse

the treacherous Outer Banks, the **Cape Hatteras Lighthouse** was moved inland in 2000 to prevent a potential collapse into the sea. It is only fitting that North Carolinians united to preserve the well being of a pilaster that has guided so many ships. It is fitting indeed that *Metro* readers voted the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse their favorite Historic Site.

Travel southward along the North Carolina coast and you'll find our **MetroBravo!** winner, historic **Fort Macon**. Located where the ocean and inlet wash up on the eastern point of Atlantic Beach, the fort swells with aura and historical significance, the site of Civil War clashes and a symbol of Southern heritage.

Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia and **Kitty Hawk**, near where the Wright Brothers flew the first recorded manned flight won **Honorable Mention**. Williamsburg, reconstructed in the 1950s and beautifully preserved today to the smallest detail, was a nucleus of activity during colonial times and the American Revolution. Stroll down

the cobblestone streets today and you can still hear the muskets roar and admire the powdered wigs. The magnitude of Kitty Hawk on our Outer Banks cannot be underestimated. The Wright Brothers altered the course of history with their flight in 1903 on its windswept beaches. Certainly it should be on your must-see list.

Buildings on timeless foundations

BEST HISTORIC BUILDING

Look no further than the **State Capitol** for our **Standing Ovation** in this category. The Capitol building is considered one of the best preserved examples of a major civic building in the Greek Revival style of architecture in the country and has changed less in appearance that any major



State Capitol

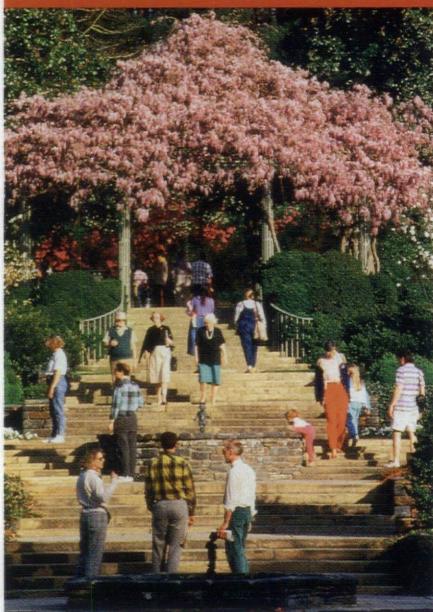
American civic building of its era. The first capitol building in Raleigh was completed in 1794 but destroyed by a fire in 1831. The present building was completed in 1840 and is currently undergoing an extensive refurbishing and restoration. The original interior paint colors have been uncovered and applied to the House and Senate chambers along with many other lovingly-detailed restorations. See *Metro's* December 2000 issue for the complete story.

The Queen Anne-style gingerbread **Governor's Mansion** in downtown Raleigh takes the **MetroBravo!** award in this category, and winning the **Honorable Mention** distinction is Wilmington's **Latimer House**, located on 3rd Street. In the 1920s, the house was inhabited by Henry Bacon, architect of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.

Flowers for the people

BEST PUBLIC GARDEN

The **Sarah P. Duke Gardens** at Duke University won the **Standing Ovation** award for favorite Public Gardens. Known for their resplendent roses and tulips, Duke University's gardens are regarded as some of the finest—not only in our state, but in the entire Southeast. Continuing with the collegiate theme, N.C. State's **J.C. Raulston Arboretum** took the **MetroBravo!** award.



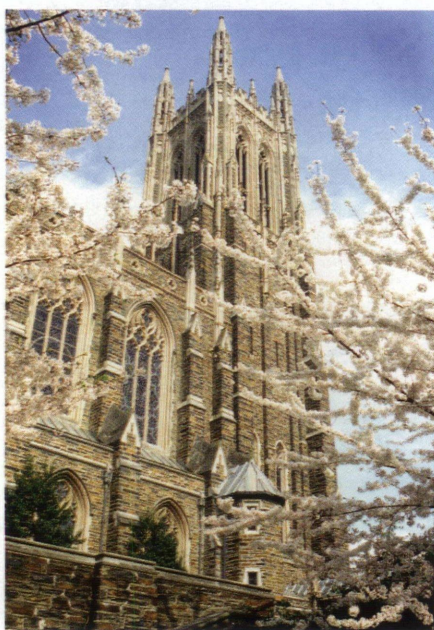
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Wilmington's **Airlie Gardens** gained **Honorable Mention**. Airlie was developed by the Walters family in the 1920s, [Mr. Walters was President of the Atlantic Coastline Railroad] and the landscape architect was a Mr. Toppel of Germany, who performed the same services for the German Kaiser in World War I. New Hanover county now owns Airlie Gardens, making it a public venue.

University euphoria

MOST SCENIC COLLEGE CAMPUS

Gothic architecture and lush grounds make **Duke University** in Durham this year's recipient of the **Standing Ovation** award for Scenic College Campus. With the majestic Duke Chapel and nearby Sarah P. Duke Gardens, the Duke family followed their intuition when they moved then



Duke Chapel

Trinity College from outside Greensboro to Durham, creating a rivalry unlike any other with our **MetroBravo!** winner, the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**. Separated from Duke by "eight miles of pine trees and two shades of blue" (ESPN basketball commentator Mike Patrick), Chapel Hill is the poster child for rustic collegiate atmosphere. From the Davie Poplar to the Wilson Library and Kenan Stadium, UNC is as saturated with heritage and folklore as any university in the United States. Taking the **Honorable Mention** was Raleigh's **Meredith College**. Set on Hillsborough Street, this all-female college is annually regarded as one of the Southeast's most beautiful settings for a small college.

Going shopping?

BEST DEPARTMENT STORE

Our readers' **Standing Ovation** for department stores goes for a second consecutive year to **Belk Stores**, now part of the chain based in Charlotte. The Belk family worked well with local store-owners to create department stores from West Virginia to South Carolina, and their tradition of excellence continues today. The Hudson family of Raleigh is still involved as they continue to



maintain a balance of modernism and a friendly face behind the register.

Take note, Triangle shoppers, **Nordstrom's**, our **MetroBravo!** winner, is on its way. Headed to the new mall complex set under construction near Highway 54 in Durham, Nordstrom's will bring its internationally-known styles and selections to the Triangle area in the near future. **Honorable Mention** goes to the Washington-based **Hecht's**, with a location in Raleigh's Crabtree Valley Mall.

Keepers of the cash

BEST BANK

Four of the largest banks in the world like calling North Carolina home. The **Standing Ovation** for Banks goes to Winston-Salem-based **Wachovia**, a longtime proprietor of conservative banking



services and branch expansions to reach every customer in every region. Rocky Mount-based **Centura** has become a powerhouse over the last decade, and takes home the **MetroBravo!** award. **BB&T**, the Wilson-based bank that has expanded with mergers and is now headquarters in Winston-Salem, won **Honorable Mention**.

Tinnie's
Steak House & Tavern

"We could have easily been somewhere along Mulberry Street in Italy...the voice of Frank Sinatra drifts through the smokey haze of the bar and mixes with the noises of glasses tinkling, lots of talk, lots of laughs."

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Sofa style

BEST FURNITURE BRAND

Henredon furniture comes from an English and French continental inspiration and evokes another era with present-day attitude, one of the reasons it received a **Standing Ovation** award from *Metro*

H E N R E D O N

readers. Some of the most beautiful and finest-made furniture available, **Henredon** offers a unified and highly diverse collection, eclectic yet cohesive. **Thomasville**, which took the **MetroBravo!** award, is recently known for its Ernest Hemingway Collection. Since 1893 **Baker Furniture** has awed furniture experts everywhere with its distinctive handwork and full range of international design. Baker walks away with this year's **Honorable Mention**.

Rooms to show

BEST RETAIL FURNITURE

Ethan Allen won the **Standing Ovation** award for its custom, upholstered furniture and case goods. With retail stores worldwide, Ethan Allen continues a tradition of excellence and class.

A different approach won the **MetroBravo!** award for **Domicile**, a full-design service and lifestyle store. From furniture to bed and bath and lighting, **Domicile** handles all elements of home design with stores in Chapel Hill, Raleigh and now Richmond, Va. Earning **Honorable Mention** is **Lexington Furniture** by Bob Timberlake. A world-renowned artist, Bob Timberlake expanded his artistic genius to the furniture world over 10 years ago and is now internationally regarded for his rustic yet classy style.

Express yourself

BEST ART GALLERY

Winning the **Standing Ovation** for Art Galleries is **Lee Hansley**, a Raleigh art broker. Hansley represents local, regional and national artists and even has a gift shop! Taking the **MetroBravo!** award



Lee Hansley Gallery

was the **Carteret County Contemporary Gallery** in Morehead City. In their 13th year of operation, the folks at Carteret Contemporary Gallery rotate

Metro promised one lucky reader a dinner for four at the Angus Barn for taking the time to fill out the **MetroBravo!** reader poll. The winner of our second annual **MetroBravo!** awards is **Sarah Bailey of Rocky Mount**.

shows every three weeks and attract a large number of visitors from the inland.

Road warriors

BEST SUV

For all the carping about the low gas mileage of SUVs, consumers have had the final say: They adore these tall, broad road warriors. For brawn and style, it's tough to beat this crossbreed between the utility of a van and the functionality of a truck. This year, the **Chevy Tahoe**, a fine ride, gets the **Standing Ovation** as the most popular SUV from the Triangle to the coast. **Jeep Cherokee**, an original of the breed, is keeping up just fine with the times, and lands the **MetroBravo!** The **Lexus** luxury ride model gets the nod for **Honorable Mention**. Go big!



Chevy Tahoe

Fast, faster, fastest

BEST SPORTS CAR

They're not for everyone. But almost everyone does a double take when a particularly fine sports car specimen blows by the local Starbucks or zips along the coast. Sparking a volatile mix of speed and desire to get behind the wheel, sports cars can,



Porsche Boxster

if not define our lives, at least help us get around it faster. *Metro* readers like **Porsche's** always-cool offerings, giving the German speed factory the **Standing Ovation** award. Ah, the **Jaguar**—from that sleek feline on the front to the low curvaceous boot—is a beauty. The British roadster firm gets the **MetroBravo!** **Mercedes**, the famous German maker, receives the **Honorable Mention** for its always-fine line of cruising machines.



Chevy Venture

Everybody, get in!

BEST VAN

Sure, some soccer moms have been buying SUVs lately. But vans are still the way to go if you've got a herd of small human animals that you've got to get to five different places and back home for supper. Roomy, easy to drive and efficient, family vans get the job done. *Metro* readers like the

Chevy Venture, giving it the **Standing Ovation**, while handing the **MetroBravo!** to the **Dodge Caravan**. **Honda Odyssey** takes the **Honorable Mention**. Don't forget to close the door!

Riding high

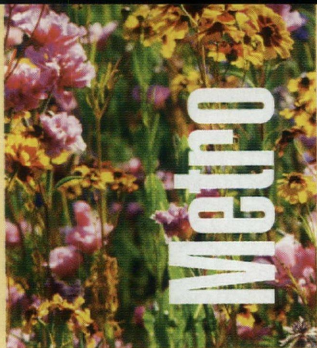
BEST TRUCK

Of course, this is the real automobile category, as working people know. Whether it's for dashing around the family farm or pulling the Parker down to the beach, trucks get job No.1 done. Other advantages? Easy to crawl under the hood, riding higher than everybody else, off-roading and simplicity—owning a truck is a wise move.

As far as the winner, it's always a showdown when you start talking Fords and Chevys. Ford won it last year, but **Chevy** gets the nod as the best truck in this year's poll, earning it the **Standing Ovation** award. **Ford** earns the **MetroBravo!** this year, with **Dodge** coming in third with the **Honorable Mention**. **MM**



Chevy Silverado



Preview

WARM JUNE WEATHER BRINGS MORE CHOICE

June's sunny days and sweet air add a new dimension of enjoyment to outdoor events. But whether outdoor or indoor, this month offers up a variety of concerts, performances and gatherings to welcome the summer season.

When The North Carolina Symphony opens its Summerfest 2001 on June 2, the performances will be staged in a new outdoor pavilion for all-fresco summer concerts, Cary's new Regency Park Amphitheater. The orchestra, which performed in a temporary tent stage for the past 14 seasons, will christen a \$12 million permanent structure built by the Town of Cary that accommodates 8000 people. Located at the edge of Symphony Lake so that the audience can see the lake behind the orchestra, the new summer venue for the Symphony is designed to retain the beauty of the naturally wooded setting. Most of the seating will be on the open lawn, but there will be a VIP section at the rear of the site.

Dance will be very much a part of the scene in June. Carolina Ballet will present its final program of the season, "The Classics," celebrating the work of three outstanding choreographers of the 20th century in the A.J. Fletcher Opera

Theater in Raleigh. At Duke University, a different kind of music will be celebrated at the famous American Dance Festival, where a schedule of concerts by brilliant modern dancers will run now thru July.

Two Shakespearean plays and other treats will be presented on indoor stages, and during the warm Carolina evenings the very special season of outdoor dramas will open. Listed here are those performing in June, including the perennial favorite, *The Lost Colony*, playing this year in a newly renovated Waterside Theater in Manteo. Look for more outdoor stage openings in the July/August issue.

Area museums are alive with exciting and diverse exhibits from the one-room workshop of gunsmith Carbine Williams at the N.C. Museum of History to a futuristic glimpse at views obtained by the powerful Hubble Telescope at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. Added in are prime offerings at area art museums, including a cubist exhibition at the N.C. Museum of Art that features three Picasso paintings and an exhibition of photography from the sixties by Paul McCartney's wife Linda at Chapel Hill's Ackland Art Museum. Excellent art exhibits are also on view at

small galleries over the region.

A great mix of pop music will fill your bones with rhythm at the Entertainment and Sports Arena in Raleigh, the ALLTEL Pavilion in eastern Wake County and around the area in smaller venues. And you won't want to miss the Battleship Hootenanny down in Wilmington.

Sports will draw crowds everywhere. One highlight will be the 2001 State games. Two new sports teams are debuting this season: the Wilmington Waves baseball team and the Carolina Courage Soccer team. Down East fishing tournaments are scheduled up and down the coast.

Our Potpourri section is bulging with a wide variety of summer occasions—home and garden tours, festivals (including Hillsborough's famous Hog Day), an air show—and, as Andy Griffith would say, "I don't know what all."

Because we have received so many schedules of camps and classes, we're giving you a peak at offerings that will enhance your children's summer activities.

Enjoy June's bright days, warm evenings and array of events from the Triangle to the coast.

—Frances Smith, events editor

APPLAUSE FOR THE CLASSICS

The North Carolina Symphony's first Summerfest concert, June 2, in the new Regency Park Amphitheater in Cary will be a spirited and celebratory event with Music Director and Conductor **Gerhardt Zimmermann**, Associate Conductor **William Henry Curry** and Assistant Conductor **Jeffrey Pollock** all participating. The evening will conclude with Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*. North Carolina's **Mike Cross** will bring the down-home spirit to the June 9 Summerfest performance, with bottleneck blues guitar and fiery Irish jigs. Then a **Classical Jukebox Latin Rhythms** concert on June 16 will offer spicy orchestral music from *Carmen* to *Bolero*. On June 23 the air will swing with jazzman and flugelhorn master **Chuck Mangione** and on June 30, Classical Jukebox will bring a **festival of romantic music** to the Park that will make listeners think they're in Tuscany. Call 919-733-2750.

A **Summer Festival of Music**: the **Ciampi Quartet** and guest artists **Ray Kilburn**, piano, and **Yoko Shimazaki**, soprano, will be presented on June 3 in the Bryan Center's Griffith Theater on Duke University's West Campus in Durham. Featured will be Dohnanyi's *Piano Quintet, Op. 1*; Vaughan Williams' "Four Hymns"; and Villa-Lobos' *Suite for Voice and Violin*. Call 919-684-4687.

Exquisite ballet masterpieces will shape the final program of **Carolina Ballet's** spring season. **The Classics** features the choreography of three great masters of the 20th century. *Concerto Barocco* is set to the music of a double violin concerto by Johann Sebastian Bach, with visualization and choreography by **George Balanchine**. *The Lilac Garden*, a story of unrequited love, music by Ernest Chausson, is considered to be

Antony Tudor's choreographic masterpiece. And *The Moor's Pavane* is **José Limón's** powerfully choreographed version of Shakespeare's *Othello*, set to the music of Henry Purcell. All performances, June 7-10 & 14-17, will take place in the new A.J. Fletcher Opera Theater, part of the BTI Performing Arts Center in Raleigh. Call 919-303-6303.

ADF: MASTERS OF MOTION

The renown **American Dance Festival** will open its 2001 concert season on June 7 at Duke University in Durham. Following is the schedule of high-energy performances for June. Look for July concerts next month. Call 919-684-6402.

In Page Auditorium

- **Garth Fagan Dance**, winner of the 2001 Scripps/ADF Award, June 7-9.
- **Rennie Harris** and his "Puremovement," June 14-16.
- **Pilobolus Dance Theatre**, the "outrageously original" dance company, June 19-23.
- The annual **ADF Musicians Concert**, featuring jazz to classical to African drums, June 24.
- **Ron Brown/EVIDENCE**, with the world premiere of *Walking out the Dark*, June 28-30.

In Reynolds Industries Theater

- **The John Jasperse Company**, dancers with explosive energy, June 11 & 12.



The Moor's Pavane, starring (l to r) Daphne Falcone, Mikhail Nikitine, Timour Bourtasenkov, Melissa Podcasy

- **From the Horse's Mouth, Vol. IV**, a live stage documentary about a creative community, June 26 & 27.

LEAFING THROUGH PLAYBILLS

A Midsummer Night's Dream, that enchanted comedy by William Shakespeare, will be presented by the **Sandhills Theatre Company** in Southern Pines on June 1-3 & 6-9. All about love, weddings, marriage

and—confusion, the play is set in the beautiful Stratford countryside. Sandra Epperson will direct and the play will be staged in the **Sunrise Theater**, 250 Broad Street, Southern Pines. Call 910-692-3340.

Another of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, *Kiss Me, Kate*, will be produced in **Wilmington's Thalian Hall** by the Opera House Theatre Company of Wilmington, June 6-10; 15-17; 22-24 & 29-July 1. Director for the production is **Lou Criscuolo**, founder/artistic director of the Opera House Theatre. Call 910-343-3664 or 800-523-2820.

N.C. State University Theatre's **Summer TheatreFest 2001** continues with this year's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Collected Stories*, by Donald Margulies. The drama is built around the relationship between a writing tutor and her student. A bitter rivalry develops. *Collected Stories*, directed by Terri Janney, will run June 7, 8, 10, 14, 16, 17, 20 & 23 on Thompson Theatre Main Stage, N.C. State campus. Call 919-515-1100.

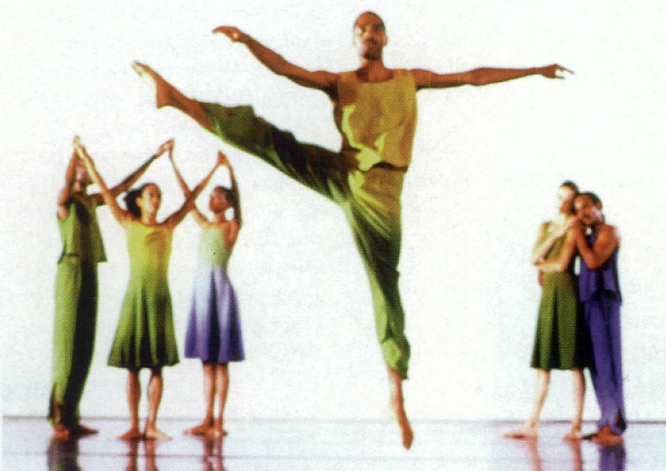
In their **Rose Garden Amphitheater**, Raleigh Little Theatre will present the perennially popular show *Little Shop of*

Horrors, a musical based on Roger Corman's cult movie, featuring the biggest, brassiest talking plant in all creation. Performances will be June 8-10, & 14-16. The Amphitheater is located at 301 Pogue St. in Raleigh. (Bring a lawn chair.) Call 919-821-7961.

The last play in N.C. State University Theatre's **Summerfest** will be *The Unexpected Guest* by famous mystery writer Agatha Christie. When murder comes to an English manor house, a little romance also comes. *The Unexpected Guest*, directed by John McIlwee, will run June 21, 24, 27-30 & July 1 on Thompson Theatre Main Stage, N.C. State campus. Call 919-515-1100.

DRAMA UNDER THE STARS

Outdoor drama has proliferated in our state so that now you will find one or more thrilling dramas within a few miles of almost every town. These dramas include Shakespeare festivals and religious plays, but most dramatize historic events in amphitheaters where the



High flyers: award winning Garth Fagan Dance at ADF



*Eleanor Dare & John Borden
contemplate their fate in The Lost
Colony*

events occurred. Here is an alphabetical listing of outdoor dramas opening in June from the Triangle to the coast. For those opening in July, check out July/Aug. MetroPreview.

Cape Fear Shakespeare Festival presents *Taming of the Shrew* by William Shakespeare. June 8–July 1 (Fri.–Sun.); Greenfield Lake Amphitheater, Wilmington. Call 910-392-7474.

First for Freedom celebrates events that led up to the signing of the Halifax Resolves. June 28–July 21 (Thurs.–Sat.); Joseph Montford Amphitheater, Halifax. Call 252-583-3011.

The Lost Colony depicts the valiant struggle of 117 men, women,

and children to settle in the New World. June 1–August 24 (Mon.–Sat.); newly renovated Waterside Theater, Manteo. Call: 252-473-2127 or 800-488-5012.

Worthy is the Lamb is a passion play featuring a soundtrack with over 150 Shakespearean actors and symphony orchestra. June 29–Aug. 25 (Thurs.–Sat.); Aug. 26–Sept. 15 (Fri. & Sat.); Crystal Coast Amphitheatre, Swansboro. Call 252-393-8373 or 800-622-5960.

ON VIEW AT THE MUSEUMS

A new exhibit, **Carbine Williams**, at the **N.C. Museum of History** in Raleigh features the original workshop of David Marshall Williams, better known as Carbine. This self-taught North Carolina gunsmith, who began making guns while in prison for second-degree murder, helped design the **U.S. Carbine, Caliber .30, M1**, which became a favorite weapon of American forces in World War II, the Korean War and the early years of Vietnam. The workshop contains nearly 3000 artifacts—tools, guns, drawings and other items. Newly opened, the exhibit will remain open as a permanent exhibit. Call 919-715-0200.

What do you know about that vast, dark space surrounding us? It will open many of its secrets in



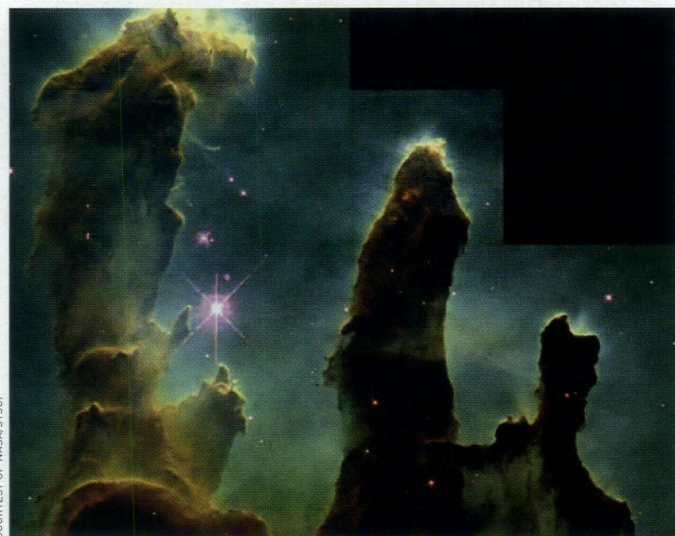
*Seated Woman, Red and Yellow Background (1952) by Pablo Picasso,
on view at the N.C. Museum of Art*

a traveling exhibit, **Hubble Space Telescope: New Views of the Universe**, coming to the **N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences** June 2–Sept. 3. Visitors enter the exhibit through a darkened tunnel filled with space sounds. Images appear to hurtle toward them and the four questions posed in the exhibit—what are the universe's age, size, origin and fate—are projected onto the floor. An eight-foot scale model of the Hubble telescope is positioned over a replica of Earth, representing Hubble's continuous orbit of the planet. Call 919-733-1573.

While you're visiting the Hubble exhibit, check out the neat audio-visuals and movies at the Museum of Natural Sciences. During the recent American Association of Museums' annual meeting in St. Louis, the N.C. museum won two Muse Awards for "use of media and technology for interpretation

and education in science." The Silver Muse Award went to "The Role of People," an audio-visual presentation of the "Tropical Connections" exhibit. A third place Muse went to "Wilderness North Carolina," a high-definition movie shown daily in the museum.

Three Picassos will be on view at the **North Carolina Museum of Art** beginning June 10 when the museum opens a quintet of cubist masterworks, **Picasso, Braque, Léger**. Paintings from the Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Julian H. Robertson. The exhibition includes works by Picasso depicting three of his mistresses: *Woman with Hairnet* (1938), portrait of Marie-Thérèse Walter; *Head of a Woman* (1943), portrait of Dora Maar; and *Seated Woman, Red and Yellow Background* (1952), portrait of Françoise Gilot. The exhibit also includes Georges Braque's 1938



Eerie columns of cool interstellar hydrogen gas and dust in the Eagle nebula, 7000 light-years away, are views taken by the Hubble Space Telescope at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences



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Linda McCartney captures the Beatles and other icons of the sixties in "Portrait of an Era" at the Ackland Art Museum

painting *The Pedestal Table* (Gray Vase and Artist's Palette) and Fernand Léger's *Pistons* (1918). Call 919-839-6262, ext. 2140 or ext. 2139.

Duke University Museum of Art on Duke's East Campus has several ongoing exhibitions now on view. Included are **Made in Asia? Student-Curated Exhibition** with the theme transnationalism in contemporary Asian art, in the main gallery and lobby until June 10; **Southern Gate; African American Paintings** from the National Museum of American Art, **Smithsonian Institution**, in the North Gallery until June 2002; and **Future Perfect: Durham School of the Arts**, in North Gallery Wing until June 10. Call 919-684-5135 or Visit www.duke.edu/web/duma.

Linda McCartney's Sixties: Portrait of an Era, an outstanding exhibition of photographs by Beatles icon **Paul McCartney's late wife**, will be on view at the **Ackland Art Museum** at UNC-Chapel Hill from June 10–August 19. The first comprehensive showing of this photography in the United States, the exhibition includes images of rock legends such as The Rolling Stones, The Who, The Young Rascals, B.B. King, Jimi Hendrix, Frank Zappa, Otis Redding, Janis Joplin, Arlo Guthrie, Bob Dylan and, of course, The Beatles. In 1987, Linda McCartney was voted U.S. Woman Photographer of the Year by *Woman in Photography*. Call 919-966-5736 or visit www.ackland.org.

The annual juried exhibition, **Artists of Southeastern North**

Carolina, continues until Sept. 2 at **St. John's Museum** in Wilmington (MetroPreview, May). Though the museum will present a number of smaller educational events, this will be the final exhibition at St. John's before the grand opening of the new museum on the week-end of **April 19, 2002**. The new 42,000-square-foot facility, the **Louise Cameron Wells Museum of Art**, will be located between downtown Wilmington and Wrightsville beach on a 9.5-acre campus. Call 910-763-0281.

TAKING IN THE GALLERIES

...and we are dancing, a visual art/sculpture exhibition by **Gretchen Lothrop** will be presented June 1–July 14 in Gallery 1 at **Artspace** in Raleigh. Her imagery and inspiration spring largely from a passionate attraction to music. The opening reception will be June 1 at Artspace in Raleigh's Historic City Market. Call 919.821.2787.

Linda and Charlie Riggs of Carthage will display multi-fired pottery and jewelry in a new exhibition, June 1–23, at **Collective Arts Gallery & Ceramic Supply** in Raleigh. Using firing techniques that go beyond the expected, the two have created decorative works

in stoneware—naked raku, saggar, woodfired, and multifired pottery and jewelry. The Gallery is located near the intersection of Six Forks and Strickland Roads. Call 919-844-0765 or e-mail cersup@aol.com.

The Cotton Company, a gifts and interiors marketplace in **Historic Wake Forest**, will celebrate the grand opening of **The Gallery at the Cotton Company** with a reception on July 1. Located in a restored Cotton Warehouse, this fine-arts gallery houses 11 working artist studios representing a variety of media and will present the work of local and national artists. The Gallery is open 7 days a week at 306 S. White Street, Wake Forest. Call 919-570-0087.

Two important exhibitions will open in June at the **Pasquotank Art Council Gallery** in Elizabeth City. Paintings by **Pat Burkett** and **Carolina Gallimore**, and a silver jewelry display by local artisan **Bill Bunnell** will be on view June 18–July 7. Call 252-338-6455.

WHAT'S TOPS IN POP

PineCone, the charitable organization dedicated to preserving, presenting and promoting traditional forms of music, dance and other folk performing arts in Raleigh and Wake County, will present several concerts during June. **David Via and Friends** will perform bluegrass/newgrass pickin' on June 3 at Holding Park in Wake Forest. **Baile Daire** with caller **Larry Rowan** will lead a **PineCone Contra Dance** on June 9 at the First United Methodist Church Gym in Cary. **Robin & Linda Williams** will perform their brand of folk, bluegrass and country music on June 23 at Lake Benson Park in Garner. And PineCone & Southend Brewery & Smokehouse will present **Summerfest**, a PineCone Fundraiser, featuring **Tim Woodall** and his bluegrass band the **Grasscats** and **Larry Nixon** and his guitar trio **Nixon, Blevins and Gage** on June 30 at Southend Brewery & Smokehouse in Raleigh. For all perform-

ances call 919-990-1900.

Among June performances at the **ALLTEL Pavilion at Walnut Creek** in eastern Wake County are **Festival Con Dios**, June 3; **Poison**, June 6; **James Taylor**, June 9; **Chicago**, June 16; and **Journey**, June 26. Call 919-834-4000.

They're coming back! The **Backstreet Boys** will perform again in the **Entertainment and Sports Arena** in Raleigh on June 13. And they promise their fans that they'll be up close and personal. The production features awe-inspiring pyrotechnics, a multi-level stage and multiple video screens as well as side runways that go 10 rows into the arena. But tickets are going fast. Call 919-861-2300. Visit www.ESA-Today.com.

A Battleship Hootenanny will jazz up the beat on the fantail of the *U.S.S. North Carolina* in Wilmington, June 26. Scheduled to appear (under the stars or in the auditorium if raining) are **John Golden and the Hewletts Creek Boys** and **Eric Bruton**. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Battleship. Call 910-251-5797 or visit www.battleshipnc.com.

IT'S ALL IN THE GAME

The **2001 State Games**, sponsored by **North Carolina Amateur Sports**, is gearing up to celebrate its 15th anniversary. The 16-sport, Olympic-style State Games will be held in Raleigh, the Championships' host city, June 2–24. Designed to promote personal development through physical fitness and health, the Games are open to all North Carolina citizens and competition is divided by age and skill level. Regional festivals, held in six cities across the state including (in our region) Raleigh/Durham (Capital), Lumberton (Sandhills), Roanoke Rapids (Northeast) and Craven County (Southeast), will advance first place teams for youth baseball and basketball to **Championships Weekend**, June 22–24. Call 919-361-1133 or visit www.ncsports.org.

The new **Wilmington Waves Professional Baseball** team, The Class A Affiliate of the Los Angeles



Sculpture by Gretchen Lothrop



COURTESY OF STATE GAMES

Bikers lean into the curve at the North Carolina State Games

Dodgers, continues its opening season playing all Georgia teams in June. The Waves will take on Macon, June 5-8; Columbus, June 9-12; Augusta, June 21-24; and Columbus again on June 27-30—all games in Brooks Field at UNC-Wilmington. Call 866-75WAVES, 910-794-4614 or visit www.wilmingtonwaves.com.

Carolina Courage Soccer, part

of the brand-new women's professional soccer league, the W-USA, will play at **Fetzer Field** on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus this summer while their permanent home, **Cary's State Capital Soccer Park**, is under construction. The Courage will play New York on June 7 and Atlanta on June 24. Call 919-573-7626.

Women all over the Triangle have been exercising for weeks in prepa-

ration for **The Susan G. Komen N.C. Triangle Race for the Cure** to be run at **Meredith College** in Raleigh on June 9. Last year about 12,200 runners and walkers participated in the race, raising more than \$465,000 for breast cancer programs in the Triangle and surrounding areas. Call 919-966-5905 or 919-843-8057.

The **Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament** will cast off from Morehead City, June 9-16. Part of the **World Billfish Series**, the tournament will offer a cash purse of more than **\$1.5 million**. Call 252-247-3575.

The second annual **Greater Wilmington King Mackerel Tournament** will be held at the **Wilmington Hilton Riverside**, June 14-16. The largest cash prize King Mackerel Tournament on the coast, it will benefit **Teach a Kid to Fish**, Children's Fishing Foundation. Call 910-452-9940.

And here's another chance to wet a hook and win. **The Cape Fear Marlin Tournament** will be held at **Bridge Tender Marina** in Wilmington, June 28-July 1. This annual sportfishing contest features

cash awards for various categories and a large cash prize for the winner. Call 910-256-6550.

To start things poppin' for the Fourth of July, be at the **Eastern Agricultural Center in Williamston**, June 28 & 29, for the **Firecracker Jubilee Horse Show**. Call 252-792-5111.

POTPOURRI

Head horticulturist, **Ginny Gregory**, at **Ferrington Village** near Pittsboro, directs two-hour walking tours of Ferrington's perennial, cutting, herb and knot gardens. Tours are year-round for groups of 15 to 30 people. All tours begin with coffee at the Market Café. Call 545-1239 or 545-4000 ex. 253. E-mail: ginny@ferrington.com.

ArtsAlive! a two-day **Chatham County Fine Arts and Crafts Festival** will debut June 2 & 3, sponsored by the **Chatham County Arts Council**. The festival, featuring the work of 150 nationally recognized artisans and crafts persons from Eastern United States, will be held in a 2.5-acre park within Governors Village in north Chatham County. Exhibitors will compete for cash awards, and a poster competition with a cash prize will be open to residents of Chatham and bordering counties. A sculpture garden, two performing arts stages and a youth arts area will add to the festivities. Call 919.542.8296 or e-mail artsalive@nc.rr.com.

Farmville will host the sixth annual **Mexican-American Festival** in the **Farmville community Arts Center**, featuring games, drawings, crafts and much more family entertainment, on two consecutive Saturday evenings, June 2 & 9. The Arts Center is located at 111 N. Main St. Call 252-753-3832.

The beautiful **Medicine Buddha sand mandala** constructed by two monks in the Yager Gallery of Asian Art at Chapel Hill's **Ackland Art Museum** (see MetroPreview Feb.) will be dismantled in a ceremony on June 8. According to the monks, the dismantling process symbolizes the Buddhist belief in the transience of life and the ideal of nonattachment to the material world. Space for the event is limited

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Medicine Buddha sand mandala constructed at the Ackland Art Museum

and reservations are needed. Viewers unable to see the beginning of the dismantling may go to Bolin Creek (Airport Road near Hillsborough St. in Chapel Hill) to see the concluding process. At 6 p.m., the monks will lead a procession down Airport Road to Bolin Creek, where the sand from the mandala will be poured into the water. Call 919-966-5736 or visit www.ackland.org.

The **Fabulous 50-Cent Fantail Film Festival** will show classic musicals on the big screen of the battleship **U.S.S. North Carolina** in Wilmington every Friday night in June. Dr. Philip Furia, Director for UNC-Wilmington's Film Studies Program and noted expert on American popular song, selected the films and will host the shows: *Wizard of Oz*, June 8; *American in Paris*, June 15; *Singin' in the Rain*, June 22; and *Gigi*, June 29. Call 910-251-5797 or visit www.battleshipnc.com.

The **Coastal Carolina Air Show** is slated for June 9 & 10 at the **Wilmington International Airport**. The independent show will feature a major jet aerobatics team, parachute jumpers, general aviation displays, antique and classic aircraft, warbird displays, military displays, children's entertainment, musical performances and exhibits. Call 910-341-4333.

River Revival, an outdoor environmental educational festival

about rivers and water quality, will be held June 9 at **Lake Benson Park in Garner**. On the docket will be live performances, hands-on activities, food and fun. The Wake Soil and Water Conservation District and other sponsors remind

us: "We all live downstream!" Call 919-250-1050.

Hubba Bubba the clown, a Moonwalk, Nerf football toss and other delights will entertain children, and a Silent Auction will interest adults at **Family Fun Day in Raleigh Little Theatre's Rose Garden** on June 9. Vendors will sell hotdogs, ice cream bars, soft drinks and other goodies. At the Silent Auction inside the theater lobby, items donated by individuals and area merchants will go to the highest bidder. The event is a fundraiser for **HopeLine**, a 24-hour listening and crisis intervention service and for the **Auditory Learning Center**, an agency that serves children who have a hearing loss. The Raleigh Little Theatre and Rose Garden are at 301 Pogue Street in Raleigh. Call 832-3326.

Who will bring the best-dressed porker to **Hillsborough's 19th annual Hog Day** on June 15 & 16? In addition to the best-dressed pig contest, other fun contests will include barbecue cooking, baking, hog hollering and spam carving. Live music and food vendors will add more spice to the festival,

along with children's entertainment, an antique car show, and arts and crafts. Hog Day attracts thousands to Historic Hillsborough every spring. Call 919-732-8156 or visit www.hillsboroughchamber.com.

The **N.C. Writers' Network Bloomsday Benefit** will be held June 16 in the **James Joyce Irish Pub** in Durham. The evening of readings and music to benefit the N.C. Writers' Network will celebrate the near meeting in 1926 of novelists **James Joyce** and **Thomas Wolfe** on a bus tour of the Waterloo Battlefield. Local authors will read from Joyce, Wolfe and their own work, between tunes by local musicians. The James Joyce Irish Pub is located at 912 W. Main St., Durham. Call 919-967-9540 or visit www.ncwriters.org/bloomsday.htm.

The **Down Home Antique Fair** will be held at **Poplar Grove Plantation** in Wilmington on June 16 & 17. Vendors from all over North and South Carolina will set up booths inside and out on the plantation grounds and the SunCoast Cruisers will have some of their classic antique cars on display. Visitors can

no imagination required

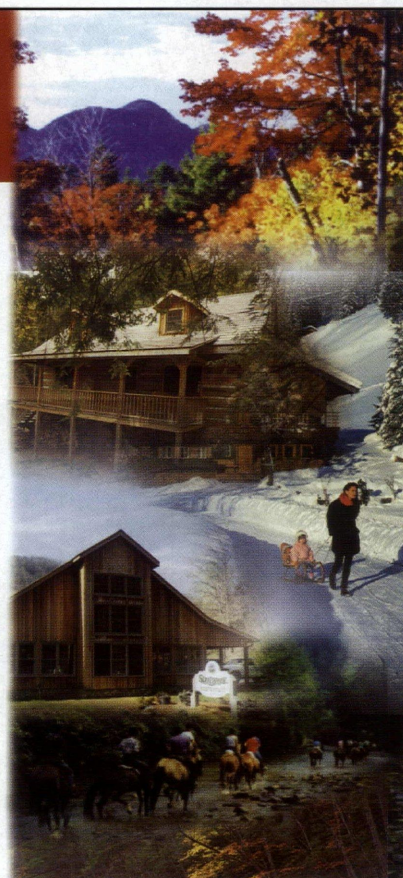


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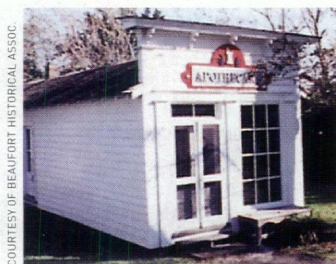
feast on barbecue and other summer fare. Musical entertainment will add to the festivities. Call 910-686-3518 ext.26.

If you can't hear 'em hollerin' from your backyard, maybe it's time to head over to **Spivey's Corner** for the annual **National Hollerin' Contest**, June 16. You'll find Spivey's Corner a tad south of Dunn on U.S. 421. Call 910-567-2600.

The southern charm of **Beaufort**, North Carolina's third oldest town, will be on display, June 22 & 23, during the 41st annual **Old Homes and Gardens Tour** of Beaufort's finest historic homes and gardens, churches, Old Burying Ground and the Beaufort Historic Site. In addition to a **walking tour**, special narrated tours aboard a vintage **English double-decker bus** will be available. In conjunction with the Beaufort tour, the annual **Antiques Show & Sale** will be open in Morehead City, June 22-24, in the **Crystal Coast Civic Center**. Local and regional exhibitors will set up in 40 booths

to sell fine antiques and collectibles. Other weekend events will include a model train exhibit, an antique car show and a concert by the **Carteret Chorale**. For information on all events call 800-575-7483.

One of the Triangle's outdoor crowd pleasers is the annual **Festival for the Eno**, where country and pop musicians put on shows and craft artisans display their wares in the beautiful environs of the **Eno River** in Durham, June 30, July 1-4. Call 919-477-4549.



The Beaufort Old Homes & Gardens Tour includes the Apothecary Shop & Doctor's office c.1859

SUMMER CAMPS, & CLASSES

Artspace in Raleigh will bring the spice and **flair of Bolivia** to their **Summer Arts Program**, June 4-Aug. 3, with visiting artists from Cochabamba, Bolivia, instructing from July 16-Aug. 3. The program will offer youth classes for rising 3rd-12th graders and adult workshops for ages 17 and up. Headlining the group of Bolivian instructors will be the Summer Artist in Residence, **Iván Castellón**, who will offer a class for rising 8th-11th graders and a Saturday workshop for adults, both on using non-traditional materials. This year Artspace will add **theater classes** taught by Raleigh Ensemble Players instructors and **mixed media classes** taught by artists **Joey Howard** and **Morag Charlton**. Call 919-821-2787 or visit www.artspace.citysearch.com for catalog & registration information.

The Gallery at the Cotton Company in downtown Wake Forest

is offering **summer art classes**. Sessions beginning in June include: "The Italic Hand for Beginners," Don King, instructor—10 Sessions starting June 5; "Watercolor for the Timid," Dawn Rozzo, instructor—eight sessions starting June 7; "Japanese Bookbinding Workshop," Sarah Brooks—June 23; "Beginning Exploration Of Art Media For Children," Judith Pixton, instructor—six sessions starting June 26. For a listing of July and August classes and to sign up, stop by the Cotton Company or call 919-570-0087.

At the **Blue Jay Point Bird Bonanza**, children 6-8 years old can learn to identify birds by sight and sound, and find out how to make your backyard a wildlife sanctuary, June 11, 13, & 15. The **mini-camp** will be at Blue Jay Point County Park, 3200 Pleasant Union Church Road in Raleigh. Call 919-870-4330.

The **Cape Fear Regional Theatre** in Fayetteville will be holding two **summer drama camps**, each offering instruction in acting, voice, stage makeup and dance. Each session is a two-week camp for ages 8-18, the first on June 19-30 and the second on July 17-28. A performance for family and friends will be presented on the final day of camp. The theater is located at 1209 Hay Street. Call 910-323-4234.

Raleigh Little Theatre's Youth Program will open its **2001 American Adventure Drama Camps** on June 11. Session I will run June 11-22 and Session II, July 30-Aug. 10. Sections will be tailored for several age groups, including (for the first time this year) four one-week Preschool Drama sessions for ages 4 & 5. Each camp session will conclude with a presentation for family and friends. New camp locations will be available this year in Cary and Apex. For general information, call 919-821-4579. For information on Cary and Apex camps, ask for ext. 230. **MM**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Send information about your area's coming events (with or without color photos) to Frances A. Smith, events editor, *Metro Magazine*, 5012 Brookhaven Dr., Raleigh, N.C. 27612. The next issue will be a double issue for July/Aug., so send items for July & August by the first week in June. Also, please note change in email address: fsmith5@nc.rr.com.

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Meeting your favorite authors can often be as much fun as reading them. Here are the leading literary events in the area for June; for more information, call the bookstore or other venue directly.

RALEIGH

Barnes and Noble, 919-782-0030: Call for information.

Quail Ridge Books, 919-828-1588: Lynne Hinton, *The Things I Know Best*, June 5; James Ransome, *How Animals Saved People*, June 9; Suzanne Berne, *A Perfect Arrangement*, June 10; Lee Miller, *Roanoke: Solving the Mystery*, June 12; Jennifer Ackerman, *Chance in the House of Fate*, June 13; Walter Mosley, *Fearless Jones*, June 14; Adriana Trigiani, *Big Cherry Holler*, June 18; Janis Cooke Newman, *The Russian Word for Snow*, June 19; Michael Parker, *Towns without Rivers*, June 20; Matt O'Keefe, *You Think You Hear*, June 21; Robert Ruby, *Unknown Shore*, June 23; Leslie Wells, *The Curing Season*, June 24; William C. Davis, *An Honorable Defeat*, June 25; Tony Earley, *Somehow Form a Family*, June 28.

CARY

Barnes and Noble, 919-467-3866: Richard Lischer, *Open Secrets: A Spiritual Journey*, June 5; Red Helmey, *The Lemon Dance*, June 13; Margaret Maron, *Uncommon Clay*, June 25; Barry Huffman, *Catawba Clay*, June 26.

DURHAM

Barnes and Noble, 919-419-3012: Matt O'Keefe, *You Think You Hear*, June 7; Walter Mosley, *Fearless Jones*, June 12; Thomas C. Jepsen, *My Sisters Telegraphic*, June 19; Eric Jerome Dickey, *Between Lovers*, June 25.

The Regulator Bookshop, 919-286-2700: Howard Craft, *Across the Blue Chasm*, June 5; Colson Whitehead, *John Henry Days*, June 6; Lee Miller, *Roanoke: Solving the Mystery*, June 11; Jennifer Ackerman, *Chance in the House of Fate*, June 12; Myla Goldberg, *Bee Season*, June 14; Tim Myers, *Innkeeping with Murder*, June 15; Brady Udall,

The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint, June 18; Elinor Lipman, *The Dearly Departed*, June 19; Michael Parker, *Towns without Rivers*, June 21; Lynne Hinton, *The Things I Know Best*, June 26; Tony Earley, *Somehow Form a Family*, June 27.

PITTSBORO

McIntyre's Fine Books, 919-542-3030: Margaret Maron, *Uncommon Clay*, June 9; Adriana Trigiani, *Big Cherry Holler*, June 16; Tony Earley, *Somehow Form a Family*, June 23.

GREENVILLE

Barnes and Noble, 252-321-8119: Mike Marsh, *Inshore Angler*, June 12; Lee Miller, *Roanoke: Solving the Mystery*, June 15.

ELIZABETH CITY

Page After Page, 252-330-4804: Maxine Sweeney, *The Adventures of Buford Bee and Buford and the Little Dogwood Tree*, June 9.

MANTEO

Manteobooks, 252-473-1221: Elizabeth McDavid Jones, *The*

Night Flyers, June 20; Judith D. Mercier, *Duck: An Outer Banks Village*, June 27.

MOREHEAD CITY

Dee Gee's, 252-726-3314: Alexandra Lett, *A Timeless Place*, June 9; Lee Miller, *Roanoke: Solving the Mystery*, June 16; Judith Mercier, *Duck*, June 30.

SOUTHERN PINES

The Country Bookstore, 910-692-3211: Lynne Hinton, *The Things I Know Best*, June 15.

WILMINGTON

Bristol Books, 910-256-4770: Anne Underwood Grant, *Voices in the Sand*, June 17; Luleen Anderson, *Sunday Came Early This Week*, June 28; John Ponton, *Macarthur Park*, June 30.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

June 3-7: 22nd **Annual Duke University Writers' Workshop**, Trinity Center, Pine Knoll Shores, 919-684-6259. Featured writers

include Michael Chitwood, Abigail De Witt, Georgann Eubanks, Judy Goldman and others.

June 6-9: **N. C. Writers Workshop, N.C. State University**, Raleigh, 919-515-4118. Featured writers include John Balaban, Angela Davis-Gardner, William McCranor Henderson, John Kessel, Tim McLaurin, Peggy Payne and others.

June 9: **N. C. Writers' Network Spring Conference**, Durham Middle School, Durham, 919-967-9540. Featured writers include Wendy Brenner, Jane Mead, Peggy Payne, Afaa Michael Weaver and others.

June 23-24: **Writer's Roundtable, UNC-Wilmington**, 910-763-9573. Featured writers include Mark Cox, Hal Crowther, Robert Inman and Sarah Shaber.

June 29-30: **Southern Women in Fact and Fiction**, UNC-Chapel Hill, *Adventures in Ideas* series, 919-962-1544. Faculty include Allan Gurganus, Hal Crowther, Margaret Maron, Lee Smith and others.

—Edited by Art Taylor

David Leadman



Mardi Gras

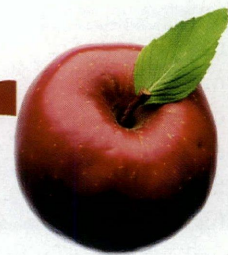
oil on canvas

41" x 63"

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metro gourmet



by Nancie McDermott

Jam session

PRESERVE THE SUMMER SEASON

Unless my grandmother was busy cooking at the stove or table, the pantry was my favorite part of her kitchen. It was a deep, narrow room in the corner, lined from floor to ceiling with shelves painted the same bluish-gray as the rest of the kitchen. The pantry door usually stayed closed, making it a prime destination for an escape from big and little sisters, chores or inquiries about homework.

Built-in shelves lined its walls on three sides, each filled with glistening rows of jars. Half-pints were unthinkable, not enough in them to last through a meal, but there were pints and many quarts, as well as numerous half-gallon jars for the most prolific vegetables and fruits. To my grandmother the pantry was a safe holding her farmhouse treasure, the bounty of her summertime garden captured under glass.

Tall jars of tomatoes, corn, butterbeans and green beans filled the lower shelves, taking up the greatest amount of space. Of far greater interest to

me were the upper shelves lined with squat little jars of jams, jellies and preserves. These sweet jars chimed the hours of summer's pleasures, reminding the family throughout the winter of how generously summertime had rewarded us for enduring and persevering in the season's fierce damp heat.

Strawberry jam and cherry preserves opened the season in June; black-berry jam and jelly sang out in July; canned, pickled and jammed peaches heralded August, and in September apple jelly and apple butter announced autumn. Grape jelly was my favorite for peanut butter and jelly sandwiches at home, but a visit to Grandmother's meant hot biscuits with fresh cold butter, and only the pantry's finest deserved a place on her table.

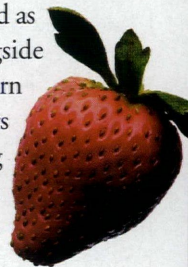
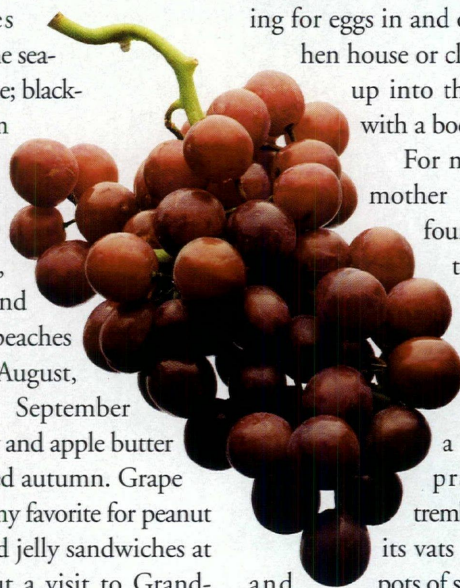
I don't recall helping with

the canning operations, which took over the kitchen for days at a time throughout the summer. I do remember passing through clouds of steam on my way out through the screen door to take care of business. For my two sisters and numerous cousins, business meant climbing trees, making up plays down by the creek, hunting for eggs in and out of the hen house or clambering up into the hayloft with a book.

For my grandmother and her four daughters, the business at hand for summer was a stove practically trembling with its vats of berries and pots of syrups and brines. A massive washbasin of boiling water held newly filled and sealed jars, simmering away until any pesky germs gave up the ghost and left the building.

The kitchen table groaned with great enamelware basins mounded high with the summer's harvest: green beans, strung and snapped, voluptuous tomatoes, blanched and peeled and bursting with juice, strawberries red as lipstick alongside sun-colored corn and cucumbers the soothing hue of the soft grass under a shade tree.

Fans droned in the window and tall glasses of sweet tea and lemonade beaded up with sweat just like the cooks. They stood some and sat some, peeled and stirred and tested and tasted, talking and laughing a lot, and sometimes just doing the job. There was no romance about it for them, only work to be done to keep the family fed. The garden gave more than they could eat and the grocery store charged a hefty price for the ease of buying things you could make yourself. It was a family business just as the dairy out



behind the house was, only on much smaller scale and without the hassles of retail. The customers, Grandmother's family and friends, seemed highly pleased with the products and kept coming back for more. With grandmother in charge of quality control and personnel, the business flourished until she retired from keeping a garden, chickens and house, and the dairy's books.

There's romance in it for me now, perhaps because I don't have to do it, and because it connects me to my grandmother, and to all those women toiling and talking in the service of the seasons. I can preserve things I like but don't grow myself, as well as those I do. I can in diminutive quantities that would have made my grandmother question my good sense, but I don't require a pantry nor work at it for days on end. I like it because I have young children who think cooking with me is a treat (usually), partly because they seldom have to do it the way my mother and her mother and her mother did. I like it because the process is essentially simple though it demands effort and focus, and because the end product lasts longer than anything else I cook. I like to make peach jam and blackberry jam because my grandmother made them, and fig preserves, ginger-peach chutney and hot pepper jelly even though she didn't.

Finally, I like it because I have air conditioning to keep the heat of the stove and the summer sun at bay. When we moved into our house here in the Triangle in the fall of 1999, we planted a peach tree to remind us of the one we left

behind in our Southern California backyard. That tree's peaches were the inspiration for my first batch of jam almost 10 years ago, and I was eager to keep that tradition going here in my North Carolina kitchen.

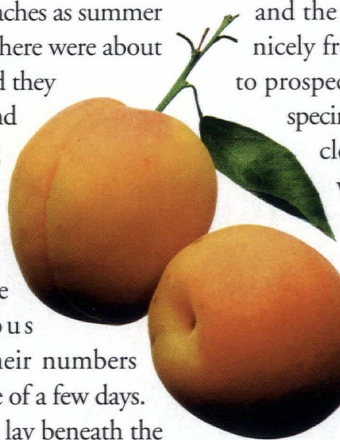
The little tree settled right in, bursting forth with a flurry of blossoms the following spring that turned into sturdy little junior peaches as summer approached. There were about 14 of them, and they plumped up and began turning from green to yellowish pink. Then I began to notice a mysterious decrease in their numbers over the course of a few days. No fallen fruit lay beneath the tree, but 14 went to 10, then 7 and finally 5.

The mystery was resolved the day I glanced out to the backyard garden to see one of the two feisty young squirrels, residents of our massive tulip poplar, squatting in the middle of the garden path. The rascal squatted facing the house, with peach No. 4 grasped firmly in his tiny thieving hands, nibbling away with what I could swear was a devilish grin. I charged him like a mother tiger (once I had made it through

the back door, the screen door, across the deck and out into the yard), but it was a hollow victory. Me with a half-chewed rock-hard peach, him with the knowledge that night would come and the phone would ring and he and his sidekick would prevail.

No jam last year, but this year the blossoms reappeared and the fruit is evolving nicely from tiny nuggets to prospective preservable specimens. I'm staying closer to the back window these days, and I'm hoping the yield is up since the tree has had a year to settle in.

I'm willing to share, and I'm not ready to take up hunting at this point in my life, even to test out the authentic, traditional North Carolina version of Brunswick stew, featuring squirrel. I'm leaving this one up to Mother Nature, because I'm going to make jam no matter what. In the event I have to do some outsourcing this year, I have the farmers markets and roadside stands of North Carolina to provide me with peaches aplenty, berries by the bushel and tomatoes galore. MM



PLACES TO FIND BERRIES

To find pick-your-own berry and vegetable farms and gardens, call your county government office and speak with someone in the Agricultural Extension Program. They often maintain lists of you-pick farms in their areas. Check your local farmers market as well. You can find out who will let you come pick, and of course, you can also back your car up to their trucks and stalls and buy spectacular produce on the spot, some to eat right now and some to put up for a chilly winter's day.



BOOKS TO HELP YOU CAPTURE SUMMER'S BOUNTY

The details and possibilities of canning and preserving are enough to fill a book, many books, and of course they do. Here is a short list of gems. Check your public library and used-book shops as well as the bookstore, since this topic is a keeper but not a hot seller.

The Glass Pantry:

The Pleasures of Simple Preserves, by Georgeanne Brennan and Kathryn Kleiman; Chronicle Books, 1994.

The Joy of Pickling,

by Linda Ziedrich; Harvard Common Press, 1998.

Blue Jelly: Love Lost and the Lessons of Canning,

by Debby Bull; Hyperion, 1997. (This one made me laugh out loud.)

The Bountiful Kitchen,

by Barry Bluestein and Kevin Morrissey; Penguin Studio, 1997.

Gourmet Preserves, by

Judith Choate; Weidenfield & Nicholson, 1987.

Preserving the Taste,

by Edon Waycott; Hearst Books, 1995.

Summer Fruits: A Country Garden Cookbook, by Edon

Waycott; Hearst Books, 1995.

RECIPES

EDNA LEWIS' GARDEN
STRAWBERRY PRESERVES

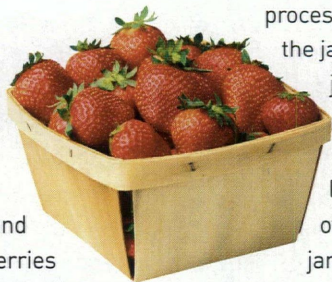
This is so simple you know it is the real thing, remembered by Edna Lewis from her Southern childhood in the countryside. It comes from *The Taste of Country Cooking*, Knopf, 1990.

- 3 cups crushed berries
- 2 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 2-quart non-aluminum saucepan
- 5 5-ounce sterilized jars and lids, or 3 1/2-pint jars*

Wash berries in a bowl of cold water to make sure they are free of grit and dust. Remove berries by hand and place them on a clean, dry towel to drain. Then remove the caps and crush the berries slightly with a clean, odorless wooden pestle or a strong coffee mug.

(Nancie's note: This gave me pause, but I've decided Ms. Lewis means a heavy mug, not one filled with strong coffee.)

Pour into a non-aluminum saucepan and set over a low flame to heat. Meanwhile, heat the sugar in a dish in the oven, being careful not to brown it, but making sure it becomes very hot (about 10 minutes in a 350-degree oven). Now pour the hot sugar over the berries, turning the burner up while stirring the sugar around. The cooking should be as brisk as possible without scorching. It should take about 9 minutes in all. As



soon as the preserves begin to boil up, a scum will rise on the surface; skim it off right away with a wooden or silver spoon. It is much better to skim while it is rapidly boiling, because it seems to cause the scum to remain in a mass and it's easy to dip it out without getting too much of the syrup.

After 9 minutes of rapid cooking, pour the preserves into the hot jars, one jar at a time, filling to about 1/8 inch from the top. (Wipe any spills from the outside of the jar.) Fit a seal firmly on top, and screw on the ring tightly. Repeat this process for the rest of the jars. Turn sealed

jars upside down on a dishtowel and let cool overnight. When jars have cooled

completely, check seals to make sure they are concave and tightly stuck to the top of the jar. They will keep at room temperature for up to 6 months. Refrigerate jam once the jar is opened.

Makes 5 (5-ounce) jars

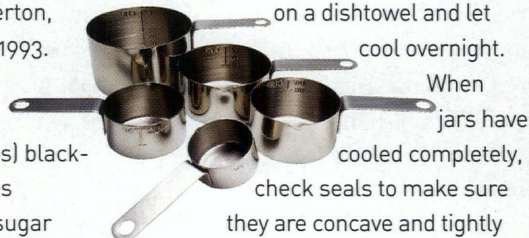
*COOK'S NOTE:

To sterilize the jars and lids, first wash in hot, soapy water, and rinse well. Bring a large pot of water to a rolling boil. Carefully add the jars, lids and rings to the pot and boil them for 6 to 8 minutes. Turn off heat and leave jars in the very hot water until you need them. (Do this shortly before you have your jam ready to put in the jars.) Or use tongs to transfer them to a cookie sheet and keep them in a warm oven until needed.

JOHN AND ANN EGERTON'S
BLACKBERRY JAM

Blackberries are my favorite, seeds and all. You need a lot so that you can wear yourself out eating them in cobbles, pies, and in bowls anointed with cream. This recipe comes from *Southern Food* by John and Ann Egerton, UNC Press, 1993.

- 2 quart (4 cups) blackberries
- 3 to 4 cups sugar
- 4 1/2-pint jars and lids, sterilized (*See previous Cook's note)



Wash 1 quart of firm, tart, barely ripe blackberries in a colander and measure them into a large, non-aluminum cooking pot (3- or 4-quart capacity so berries have room to cook fast). Put a plate in the freezer to use in checking for doneness. Stir and mash the berries over low heat and then add 3 to 4 cups of sugar, tasting to get the right mixture of tartness and sweetness. When the sugar has dissolved and the mixture is a lumpy mass of juice and pulp, bring it to a boil and cook, stirring frequently, for about 20 minutes. (There will be lots of foam at first; skim it off and discard it.) Check to see whether the liquid will drip slowly from a spoon and whether a small quantity of it dropped onto the surface of the plate you stuck in the freezer will stay in place and not be runny. Cook another 5 to 10 minutes if needed, until jam is nice and thick. Remove from heat, and

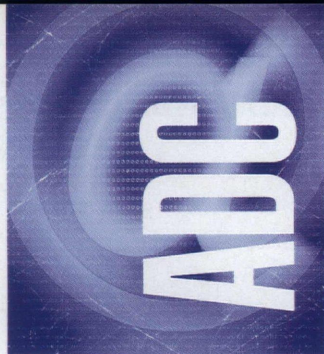
pour the preserves into the hot jars, working one jar at a time, filling to about 1/8 inch from the top. (Wipe any spills from the outside of the jar.) Fit a seal firmly on top, and screw on the ring tightly. Repeat this process for the rest of the jars. Turn sealed jars upside down on a dishtowel and let cool overnight. When jars have cooled completely, check seals to make sure they are concave and tightly stuck to the top of the jar. They will keep at room temperature for up to 6 months. Refrigerate jam once the jar is opened.

Makes 4 half-pints. **MM**

Off the Menu

SWEET NEWS FROM
FOUR SQUARE

Pastry Chef Stephanie Ross Timberlake has cranked up the ovens at Durham's Four Square Restaurant (featured in Metro Gourmet in May 2000). She earned a degree in Hotel/Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts at École Hôtelière St. Joseph, outside Paris, and worked with renowned Chef Jean Banchet of Le Français restaurant in Wheeling, Illinois, at the time he opened his second restaurant in Atlanta. A North Carolina native, Timberlake is most pleased to bring her culinary talents back home to Durham. Call 919-401-9877. **MM**



Triangle, Eastern North Carolina soar in *Forbes* rankings

RTP, GREENVILLE, JACKSONVILLE CLIMB TECHNOLOGY LADDER

That's a happening place," boomed the voice via telephone from Los Angeles.

The topic was Research Triangle Park and Eastern North Carolina, and the spokesman for The Milken Institute quickly replied: "We know that area well."

Indeed.

The Research Triangle Park metro area soared eight places, to 13th, in the latest *Forbes* Magazine "Best Places" index, compiled in conjunction with the Milken group. Greenville and Jacksonville also climbed, providing further proof that high-tech is spreading across Eastern North Carolina and beyond RTP.

The *Forbes* index, which considers wage and salary growth and high-tech output, is done annually. The story appeared in the May 28 issue of *Forbes*.

Triggered in part by high-tech output (ninth) and high-tech location factors (10th), the Triangle vaulted past such locations as Seattle (15th) and Atlanta (16th). San Jose rose to first from 29th; Austin, Texas, is second, down one spot from last year.

Charlotte, meanwhile, plummeted from 14th to 30th. The Triad did improve to 112th

BEST PLACES FOR HIGH-TECH GROWTH, SALARIES					
Largest North Carolina Cities					
2000 Rank	City/Area	Score	Salary 94-99	Salary 98-99	1999 Rank
13	Raleigh/Durham	217.5	11	17	21
30	Charlotte/Gastonia	346	17	31	14
36	Wilmington	401.5	21	23	35
109	Asheville	819.5	128	223	158
112	Triad	838	110	139	139
140	Fayetteville	1028	249	201	134
151	Hickory/Morganton	1074.5	204	144	143
Smaller North Carolina Cities (below 200 on scale)					
2000 Rank	City/Area	Score	Salary 94-99	Salary 98-99	1999 Rank
204	Greenville	511.5	91	41	206
229	Jacksonville	871.5	235	181	239
244	Goldsboro	1008.5	190	213	228
Source: Milken Institute and <i>Forbes</i> Magazine					

from 139th, among the 200 largest metros.

Not all the news Down East was good, however. Wilmington dropped one spot, to 36th, and Fayetteville is 140th, a drop of six spots.

Among metro areas below 200 in population, Greenville climbed two spots to fourth (204th overall). Jacksonville was up 10 spots to 29th (229 overall). Goldsboro dropped from 28th to 44th (244 overall).

(*Forbes* also includes a package about Wilmington, called "Cape Dear." Citing quality of life, golf courses, land prices and much more, the magazine hails the Cape Fear as a booming destination for wealthy

"pre-retirees"—wealthy executives who turn their backs on the day-to-day grind for consulting and teaching jobs.)

For more details, check out www.milkeninstitute.org or www.forbes.com.

Cybercities cites RTP ANOTHER STUDY DOCUMENTS TECH GROWTH

Based on data compiled by the American Electronics Association's new "Cybercities" study, the jump in RTP's ranking as a "techopolis" isn't a fluke in the Milken/*Forbes* data.

The Triangle ranks 10th nationally in high-tech workers per 1000 (111 of every 1000 private sector workers), based

on 1993-1998 figures, 15th in high-tech job growth over the same time span, and 20th in venture capital investments placed in 1999. Data from 60 cities with at least 15,000 high-tech workers in 1998 were studied for the report.

AEA reported 57,142 high-tech workers at 1279 high-tech establishments making an average \$53,878 (vs. average private sector wage of \$31,995) and earning \$3.1 billion as a workforce. Between 1993 and 1998, 14.8 percent of all new private-sector jobs generated in the Triangle were high tech, vs. 8 percent nationally.

A key driver to the area's tech community is the research-and-development expenditures made by Triangle universities. In 1997, the AEA reports N.C. State, UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke and other schools spent \$702 million, which was good for fifth place nationally behind Boston, Baltimore, Los Angeles and New York while ranking ahead of Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Atlanta and San Diego.

The area's unemployment rate ranked lowest nationally at 1.5 percent based on 1998 figures.

Raleigh also ranked fourth in quality of life, behind Boulder, Colo., San Francisco

and Denver and sixth in air quality.

Overall, not all the rankings were as kind to RTP. The region ranks 23rd among the so-called cybercities in jobs, 34th in average wage, 41st in homes with PCs, and 45th in Internet home usage.

The area didn't score well in the study's Arts and Culture index, though. Using information from Money Magazine and Bestplaces.net, the AEA listed the Triangle as 33rd out of 60 with an index of 55, 100 being the best. (Charlotte ranked 49th.)

Triangle leads in VC funds

REST OF STATE LAGS

The Triangle remains the entrepreneurial heartbeat of the state, based on the amount of capital pouring into start-up and early-stage growth companies last year.

Venture capitalists invested a record \$1.987 billion in North Carolina during 2000, and most of that money (\$1.144 billion) went to firms in the RTP region. That's a 32 percent increase over 1999, despite the economic slowdown and general collapse of capital markets in the fourth quarter.

VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDING

Category	Triangle [MM]	State [MM]
Internet	\$ 319.46	\$ 451.51
Software	319.83	428.60
Telecom	18.83	422.53
Life sciences	220.12	304.75
Industrial	60.77	106.28
Business services	91.95	104.45
Hardware	67.13	68.73
Other	0.00	53.45
Networking	26.05	27.05
Health care	20.51	20.51
Total:	1144.64	1987.75

Source: Council for Entrepreneurial Development

Just how cool the VC market has become, however, was demonstrated in 2001's first quarter when only \$220.3 million was invested, according to the National Venture Capital Association. That compares to \$356.5 million in the first quarter of 2000 and \$739.3 million in the second quarter of 2000.

Despite the meltdown of

Internet "dot coms," the Internet sector still drew the most investments in the state at \$451.51 million. Software was next at \$428.60 million, followed by \$422.53 million going to telecom companies. However, virtually all the telecom money went to Charlotte-based Carolina Broadband.

Internet-related firms also

drew the most money, \$63.8 million, in first quarter 2001.

According to the Council for Entrepreneurial Development, 147 investments were made in Triangle companies as opposed to 195 overall across the state.

Nationally, North Carolina ranked 14th in the amount of venture money raised and 12th in the number of deals.

However, Wilmington-based Endeavor Pharmaceuticals did land the state's eighth largest VC deal, worth \$36.06 million.

For a complete breakdown on the venture market, check out www.cednc.org. MM

Tech briefs

Fans of Civil War sites can go on the web to get updates on more than 384 battlegrounds across 26 states at www.civilwar.org. The Civil War Sites Advisory Commission recently compiled a "Top 10" list of most endangered sites, and Fort Fisher was included. The group cited the **former Confederate stronghold** near Wilmington as a "Priority IV, Class A," which means it considers the fort "lost" due to erosion and storm damage over the years despite being an "A" or "of most importance" to the nation. ■ ■ ■ Localbusiness.com shut down its 20 bureaus, including one in Durham, and **laid off 70 people last month** as it filed for bankruptcy. The Triangle site was a real traffic generator, and several business folk have told ADC how much they miss the regular updates. Look for someone to offer a new, similar service in the near future, ADC hears. ■ ■ ■ If you want to keep track of the **latest venture news**, check out www.venturewire.com. The site focuses on funding announcements, new products and technologies, and a category called "Bad News" for companies going belly-up or scaling back services and staff. ■ ■ ■ Doug Littlejohns, the **former head** of Red Storm Entertainment, may be returning to full-time employment in the near future. ■ ■ ■ Is a **shakeout looming** among Triangle venture capital firms? The *Business Journal* in Raleigh recently recommended on its opinion page that some of the firms consider merging. ADC hears at least one firm is in trouble due to a lot of "dot com" investments, but thus far only Fusion Ventures of Durham has announced major cutbacks. ■ ■ ■ Capitol Broadcasting for years offered satellite uplink services for TV stations and networks wanting to do live broadcasts from news and sports events. Now, the Raleigh-based company is offering a similar service for broadcasters who want to do **remote high-definition television** broadcasts. Called "HD-1," the huge tractor-trailer rig boasts up to five HDTV cameras and offers full remote digital production capabilities. MM

Story ideas? Tips? Send them along to rsmith8@nc.rr.com

HIGH-TECH CALENDAR

June 3-7

Supercomm 2001 in Atlanta (Call 312-559-4600 for information)

June 12-13

ITEC technology show, Charlotte. (Call 503-968-1123 for information)

July 12

Healthcare Entrepreneurs Roundtable (www.cednc.org for details)

Aug. 16-17

Animal Genomics Symposium in RTP. (www.ncbiotech.org for details)

Sept. 5

Business Showcase by Raleigh Chamber of Commerce (www.raleighchamber.org for details)

Oct. 10

NC Knowledge Nova Workforce Conference in Charlotte (www.nceita.org for details)

Oct. 27

Research Triangle Park InfoTech 2001, from CED

Nov. 15

NCEITA annual 21 Awards (www.nceita.org for details)

NOTE: Please send your high-tech events for possible listing to rsmith8@nc.rr.com

Bobos claim victory

CULTURE WARS CONTINUE...

This witty and wise book—actually “comic sociology”—by David Brooks, explains the fusion of 1960s bohemian liberation with 1980s bourgeois success into a new information-age elite of “bourgeois bohemians.” Bobos abound throughout America, especially in university and high-tech areas such as the Research Triangle region. To our benefit here, Brooks spoke in Raleigh on his tour promoting the book. I enjoyed hearing him speak about the Bobo fusion, and I found *Bobos in Paradise* to be fun and fascinating reading.

Brooks describes Bobos through anecdotes, explaining their consumer choices, business practices, intellectual attitudes, personal health habits, recreational activities as well as their spiritual, moral, and political attitudes and practices. Widely reviewed and acclaimed when published in 2000, *Bobos in Paradise* became a bestseller and is available now in a 2001 paperback edition.

Brooks, a self-described Bobo himself, is generally satisfied with his cohorts, reporting that “wherever we educated elites settle, we make life more interesting, diverse, and edifying.” Brooks praises Bobo

success, sophistication, and tolerance, but he pauses over their lack of spiritual, moral and political commitments. Indeed, he concludes that Bobos must “raise their sights and ask the biggest questions” in order to meet their potential of leading “America into another golden age.”

Thus, while extolling their diverse meritocracy and their replacement of the old WASP elite, Brooks questions whether the new Bobo elite has the heroic commitments of the World War II generation.

For Brooks, the post-World War II period of the 1950s fore-

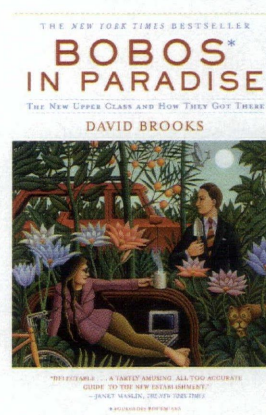
Two seeds for the Bobo fruition where planted then in the groves of academe.

told the bourgeois-bohemian fusion to come in the '90s. Two seeds for the Bobo fruition were planted then in the groves of academe. First, beginning at Harvard and quickly spreading throughout the elite colleges and universities, SAT meritocracy replaced WASP wealth and family connections in determining admissions. Second, enrollments expanded enormously. With the doors of the

elite educational institutions open to large numbers of diverse students on the basis of merit, pathways were established for their advancement throughout other institutions, including large business corporations.

Brooks notes other factors in the '50s, including criticism of the perceived social and big-organization conformity then described by David Riesman in *The Lonely Crowd* (1950) and William Whyte in *The Organization Man* (1956). Brooks summarizes calls for changes in '50s-style social structures and organizations, emphasizing Jane Jacobs' *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961) and crediting her vision beyond her urban topic as making her the “proto Bobo.” Brooks notes the cultural changes and “assault on the establishment” of the '60s, citing Theodore Rozak's *The Making of a Counter Culture* (1969) as the “smartest” contemporary chronicle. And, of course, in explaining the fusion of the two cultures, he discusses Daniel Bell's *The Cultural Contradictions of Capitalism* (1976).

Although Brooks discusses academic works, he acknowledges that *Bobos in Paradise* includes little theory. He adds



Bobos in Paradise:
The New Upper Class
and How They Got There
by David Brooks
Simon & Schuster, 2000,
276 pp.

that Max Weber, eminent sociologist-theorist and author of the seminal *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (1904), “has nothing to worry about from me.” Instead, Brooks relies on his own astute observations. For example, Brooks explains that Bell's cultural-contradiction thesis—that capitalism would unleash acquisitive cultural forces that would destroy its ascetic cultural foundations—“hasn't happened.” Instead, “the Berkeley-style baby boomers have become hard-working capitalists, oriented toward the long term. The hedonism of Woodstock mythology has

been domesticated and now serves as a management tool for the Fortune 500."

Brooks agrees with Alan Wolfe, author of *One Nation, After All* (1999), that reports the continuation of the culture wars are exaggerated. In return, Wolfe favorably reviewed *Bobos in Paradise* for a liberal venue, *The New Republic*, while recognizing Brooks' known political conservatism. (Brooks is a senior editor at the conservative *Weekly Standard*.) Also noting Brooks' political conservatism, *The New York Times* reviewer, a self-described one-time "neo-Marxist," nevertheless praises *Bobos in Paradise*: "If you've ever been unsure about the meaning of 'dialectic thesis (stuffed-shirt squares), antithesis (generation-'68 vagabonds), synthesis (Bobos), here it is, precisely and entertainingly rendered." Perhaps the *Times* likes Brooks' book, despite his political conservatism, because the *Times'* liberal editors have proclaimed victory in the cultural wars. Other reviewers in *The Washington Post* and *The Wall Street Journal* also like *Bobos in Paradise*, as do reviewers in conservative publications still fighting the culture wars, including *Commentary* and *The American Spectator*.

In any event, Brooks proclaims that, "Today, the culture war is over, at least in the realm of the affluent. The centuries-old conflict has been reconciled." Contrary thinkers include scholars James Davison Hunter, author of *Culture Wars* (1991), and Gertrude Himmelfarb, author of *One Nation, Two Cultures* (1999). (See MetroBooks, "The War for the Soul

of America," July/Aug. 2000.)

Since publication of *Bobos in Paradise*, part of the financial foundation for the Bobo dream house of cultural conciliation has crumbled. The NASDAQ's high-tech stocks, and much of Bobo wealth, have collapsed. As recently noted on front-pagemag.com, there are "cultural consequences of the dot.com crash." One may be continuation of the culture wars.

Recent events suggest that the culture wars are not over. Examples have occurred even at the highest levels of affluence. They include Ted Turner's cultural clash with some of his CNN personnel who returned to the news bureau from Ash Wednesday church services with ash cross-marks on their foreheads, a practice of some Christians on that holy day, only to be derided by supposedly tolerant Turner as "Jesus freaks." Even for the avowed-nonbeliever Turner, wealth, trophy sports teams, and, yes, trophy wives do not alone make for a meaningful paradise. Jane Fonda has just filed for divorce from him saying her Christian faith interfered with her marriage.

The culture wars will continue, at least for many believers, whether they are Christians, Jews, or others. For many believers, despite positive attributes of the bourgeois-bohemian fusion—including their own greater tolerance of other religious faiths—the Bobo predominately secular paradise does not suffice. Many believers of all faiths will continue what Hunter and Himmelfarb call "the long-drawn-out struggle for the soul of America."

by George C. Leef

Hip-hop 101

FROM BAD TO WORST

Here's one of those "compare and contrast" questions you'll remember from your college days. Compare and contrast New Coke with New York's rent control law.

First off, both were bad ideas. New Coke flopped with consumers despite saturation advertising; rent control politicizes, distorts and ruins a city's rental housing market. New Coke was recognized as a disaster and quickly abandoned, but rent control has been making a shambles of New York's market for lower-cost apartments since 1943. Bad ideas that

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are the responsibility of a person or organization seldom stay around for long because there is a feedback loop of bad consequences that tells decision makers they have blundered. Bad ideas that are the responsibility

THE BURDEN OF BAD IDEAS

How Modern Intellectuals
Misshape Our Society



HEATHER MAC DONALD

The Burden of Bad Ideas

by Heather MacDonald

Ivan R. Dee, 2000, 242 pp.

of government officials, on the other hand, can remain in force indefinitely because those officials do not feel the harm they do.

If you came up with a similar comparison, give yourself an A. An A also goes to Heather MacDonald for her book *The Burden of Bad Ideas*, a marvelously readable foray into the jungles of bad ideas that have been embraced by politicians and other irresponsible bigwigs. MacDonald, a Fellow at the Manhattan Institute, has here collected a dozen of her essays written between 1995 and 1999 that zero in on bad ideas in education, welfare, crime, health, philanthropy and the incessant drumbeat for multiculturalism. Focusing mostly on her home of New York City, MacDonald has observed and spoken with people, both the officials who

enforce the bad ideas and the wretched people who suffer from them. What emerges isn't a theoretical work, but a dirt-under-the-fingernails kind of book about actual human beings and events that often left this reader shaking his head in disbelief.

Take education. Our public education system attracts bad ideas like spilled sugar attracts ants. The chance to experiment on captive youngsters is irresistible to those who want to reshape the world according to their own vision. One way is to gain control of the training of teachers, thus increasing the likelihood that schooling will be done "the right way." In a devastating essay entitled "Why Johnny's Teacher Can't Teach," MacDonald takes the reader behind the scenes for a look inside classes at Columbia University's Teacher's College.

"For over eighty years," she writes, "teacher education in America has been in the grip of an immutable dogma, responsible for endless educational nonsense. That dogma may be summed up in the phrase: Anything But Knowledge. Schools are about many things, teacher educators say (depending on the decade)—self-actualization, following one's joy, social adjustment or multicultural sensitivity—but the one thing they are not about is knowledge. The would-be teachers at Columbia (and in most 'education schools'), hear over and over that they must not engage in anything so dreary as 'rote learning.' Instead, they must act as 'facilitators' to help students 'con-

struct their own knowledge."

Teacher Ed, MacDonald also observes, is heavily laced with inane blather about the evils of American society and culture. After quoting from a widely-used text entitled *Literacies of Power*, an illiterate, barbarically ignorant Marxist-inspired screed, MacDonald writes:

"What does any of this have to do with teaching? Everything, it turns out. In the 1960s, education programs took on an explicitly political cast; schools were to fight racism and redistribute power. Today, Columbia's Teachers College holds workshops on cultural and political 'oppression' in which students role-play ways to 'usurp the existing power structure' and the New York State Regents happily call teachers the 'ultimate change agents.'"

The bad ideas emanating from Columbia ensure that we have a large cadre of teachers whose politics are thoroughly statist but who don't have a clue as to how to teach kids the Three R's and even believe that it would be a terrible thing if they did.

MacDonald has another flabbergasting piece on education: "An F for Hip-Hop 101," about a charter school where the "curriculum" revolves around the elements of inner-city street culture such as rap, graffiti and breakdancing. She then moves along to welfare. New York was the first American city to embrace the modern notion that every citizen is entitled to the full range of necessities of life at the expense of others, and the

destructive consequences of full-blown welfarism are more evident there than anywhere else. In "Homeless Advocates in Outer Space," MacDonald writes about the various feel-good programs enacted to shower money on the "problem" of homelessness, which turns out to have no impact other than to create employ-

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ment for hundreds of social workers and administrators. In "Compassion Gone Mad," she writes about New York's efforts to deal with teenage pregnancy, where illegitimate children become pawns of relatives who use them to pry more money from the government. In "Welfare's Next Vietnam," she writes about the demented idea of extending "disabled" status to children. Among other consequences, we now find parents coaching their children to do poorly in school so they can be diagnosed as

having a "learning disability" and therefore adding to the amount they collect each month from the government. One family managed to have all nine of their kids declared "disabled" thereby qualifying for \$3,500 per month in payments.

The overarching message of her essays on welfare is inescapable: Once welfarism gains a foothold, it will grow relentlessly, feeding on the dysfunctional behaviors it encourages.

The bad ideas MacDonald scrutinizes are not all in the realm of government. One essay, "The Billions of Dollars that Made Things Worse," examines the harm done by the plague of bad ideas among the philanthropy professionals. For example, the Ford Foundation has lavished old Henry Ford's legacy on experimental social programs that have rent the social fabric of cities and supported litigation that has enshrined new "rights" for welfare recipients. One such is the ruling that New York must put anyone claiming to be homeless in a hotel unless it can provide space in a shelter within 24 hours. She also attacks the hard left posturing of museum directors, especially at the Smithsonian, who insist on turning museums into political statements.

Heather MacDonald has given us a clear, unsentimental look at the results of some of our very worst ideas. Too bad Pulitzer Prizes don't go to journalists who have the temerity to suggest that many of the warm and fuzzy ideas liberals cherish are actually harmful. **MM**



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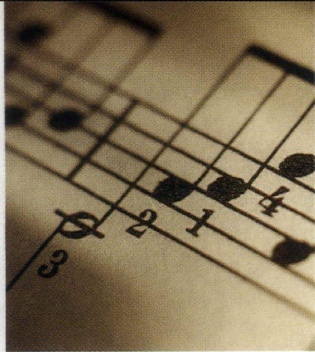
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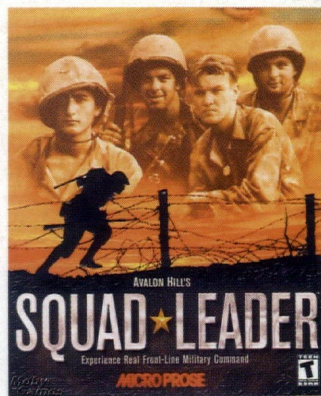
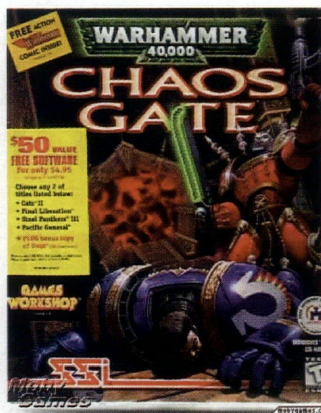
Out of the blue

JIM CREW'S SOFTWARE FUSION

Raleigh native Jim Crew, a well-known keyboard player among Triangle jazz and salsa fans, has discovered that composing music for the virtual world can be a rewarding gig. Crew has been working for the software developer Random Games, located in Morrisville, for six years, composing music for their various computer game projects.

"I've been with them for three years full-time, and I did contract work for them for three years before they hired me full-time," Jim explained. "Their primary product is CD-ROM games, and they do some Internet-based games as well. We're basically a development house, so a typical scenario is that a publisher comes to us with a concept for a game and we implement their concept. We've done a whole series of Parker Brothers board games, including Monopoly, Scrabble, Parchesi and card games. We also do strategy games, war games—it's kind of an underground market, but it's been around for a long time."

Anyone who's familiar with the World War II strategy game Squad Leader will be interested to learn that Random Games is the crew that created the CD-ROM version. They're also



AT THE FOREFRONT Jim Crew puts high-tech synthesizers to work in creating sophisticated music for computer games

responsible for the game War Hammer.

"The most highly acclaimed game we've done is War Hammer," Jim said.

"That's a strategy game that's been around for quite a while. It took us two years to complete. I did the music for that and got to do some orchestral work with a choir. It was a real challenge. I did the music and sound effects. I also



COURTESY OF JIM CREW

record dialogue when needed. I do all the audio.

"Fortunately, I don't have to do the game programming," he added. "It took me three months to do the music; it took them two years to do the programming and beta testing. Their job would drive me crazy. When a game like War Hammer is designed, the technology is at one point, but by the time the game is close to coming out, the technology is at

a different point. And, of course, you want to implement the latest technology, so the programmers are always playing catch-up, trying to implement things that make the game faster and slicker. It's a nightmare."

Jim went on to explain the process he goes through as composer/sound designer, using War Hammer as the example.

"I meet with the designers and producers and find out the

mood of the game," he said. "War Hammer happens to be a futuristic, dark, alien-oriented environment. We brainstormed on that for a while. It could've easily gone into the techno realm, but that's been overused. We hit on the gothic element of the game, so we started thinking about a kind of orchestral thing, with a choir singing in Latin or some other ancient language. Carmina Burana would be a good model for what we were thinking about at the time."

Jim's brother, Chris, is in the Raleigh-based choir The Oakwood Waits, and they were the singers he used for War Hammer. "They were perfect," he explained. "They sing in that turn-of-the-century style. I pulled out my old Latin textbooks and proceeded to try to come up with some themes that actually went with what was going on in the game. I had to take some artistic liberties. I came up with a chant-oriented text for the choir and recorded them in my home studio."

Jim works with keyboard samplers, including a Kurzweil K-2000.

"I've started getting into software-based synthesizers," he noted.

"It's amazing how good they sound. I just got a new computer that can run that stuff, so I'm quickly moving toward a software-based studio. It's less gear to hassle with and it's a lot cheaper."

It does sound like good work, if you can get it, but it came to Jim out of the blue.

"One of the founders of the company was buying some audio gear in a music store and

asked them if they knew anyone who could write music," he said. "They gave him my name and I got the job. Pretty easy. It fell in my lap."

As we've often heard, luck is the product of hard work, and while the Random Games job may have sailed into Crew's life unsolicited, it was a reputation based on diligence and musical chops that made it happen. Crew grew up in Raleigh, attended Broughton High School and went on to UNC-Chapel Hill. He took up piano when he was 9 years old.

"I studied here with a teacher for 10 years," he said, "and continued at UNC. I didn't get a music degree, but I pursued music very seriously. I attended grad school in music at North Texas State. I didn't get a degree there, but, again, I pursued my interests very seriously while I was there. I learned more there than anywhere else. Going to a place with that many good musicians was a sobering experience."

Crew played in bands, starting in high school. The band he played in during college, Slow Children, was popular in the early '80s but never got anywhere professionally. When Crew returned from North Texas State, he was making the transition from rock to jazz. "I came back to Raleigh and started playing gigs at Irregardless and Capper's, places like that that hired piano players and let you play what you wanted to play. At the time, smooth jazz was happening, and a lot of the groups I played with were into that. Now I despise that music, but at the time it seemed

like a decent alternative to other forms that didn't pay any money."

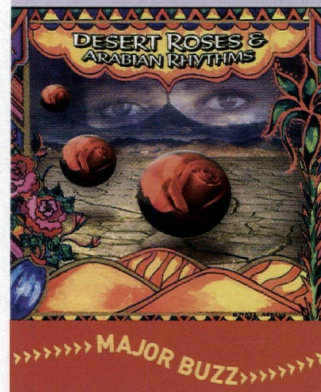
Crew eventually joined the original lineup of Ricardo Granillo's salsa band Carnavalito, and that gig certainly improved Crew's recognition factor among Triangle music fans. "That band started in the late '80s," he remembered. "I loved that music. I got nearly addicted to it for almost 10 years. One hand, salsa's got a set of very strict rules, but on the other hand it allows piano players a lot of freedom, harmonically speaking. I mean, you can really take it outside. It's almost like playing percussion."

"When I first started playing with them, I didn't think they were that good," he added. "Then one night after a gig, when we were breaking down, someone had recorded the show and was playing it on the P.A. I was listening, thinking, 'wow, that's cool. Who is that?' And then I realized it was us, and I was like, 'okay, maybe we do sound pretty good.' We always had great audience reaction. At the time I joined Carnavalito I was really into fusion, you know, that Chick-Corea-Return-to-Forever kind of virtuosity, and salsa seemed so raw. Of course, after 10 years, that's what I love about it."

Crew left Carnavalito a couple of years ago, but he still plays solo gigs at places like Sullivan's in Raleigh, and with his jazz group Zone Rangers. His Random Games job enables him to play gigs when he wants and how he wants, and that's a pretty cool deal for a very cool piano player. **MM**

MUSIC FOR SALE

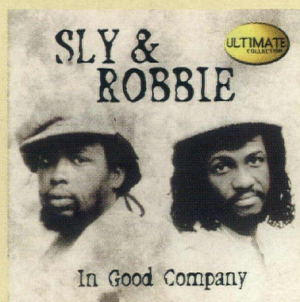
Desert Roses & Arabian Rhythms (Mondo Melodia)



This compilation brings us 13 tracks from some of Mondo Melodia's most dynamic artists. The general vibe here is an exhilarating fusion of western pop and the compelling polyrhythms and vocals of North Africa. Some of the most dynamic tunes include Latifa's "Inchallah"—a Tunisian whose soaring vocal comes underpinned by the fiery percussion of the Maghreb—the exoticism of Trans-Global Underground's "Pomegranates," Hakim's "Esma Yalli"—a great example of the Egyptian street pop sound known as sha'bi—and the awesome vibe of Algerian räi, via one of the masters of this groove, Khaled, and his song "Aalach Tloumouni." Also check the song "Desert Rose," a super-rhythmic synthesis of techno and räi, featuring Sting and Cheb Mami. For those whose taste runs to desert romanticism, Soraya's song "I'm Yours," featuring oud master Simon Shaheen, will certainly float your boat. One of the most vibrant regions for world music today is North Africa, and this compilation offers some major clues as to why that is.

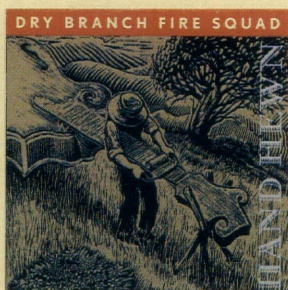
Music for Sale, continued

Sly & Robbie:
In Good Company (Hip-O)



This is another release in Hip-O's Ultimate Collection series and it showcases the two musicians who comprise the most monumental rhythm section in the history of reggae. Sly Dunbar (drums) and Robbie Shakespeare (bass) have made their mark on reggae both as players and as producers. The 17 tracks contained here are but a sampling of their enormous musical output the past 30 years. The tracks run from 1972 to 1997—a pretty good indication of Sly and Robbie's relative hipness in a genre that has been through some changes in the past three decades. Sly and Robbie produced many of the tracks featured in this compilation and they played on all of them. Collaborators include Black Uhuru, Joan Armatrading, Gregory Isaacs, Toots Hibbert, Joe Cocker, Gwen Guthrie, Prince Jammy, Grace Jones, Tappa Zukie and the Compass Point All Stars. This is great stuff; go with it. Nuff respect.

Dry Branch Fire Squad:
Hand Hewn (Rounder)



This southern Ohio bluegrass crew, led by Ron Thomason, will give you a major jolt of the traditional stuff,

redolent with the Appalachian vibe that is the native soul of the music. Cue up "Papa's Billy Goat" for a sample of Thomason's hambone rendition of this traditional gem and you'll also get an immediate insight into the character of this band.

They thrive in the old-time vein, assaying classics like "Midnight, the Unconquered Outlaw," "Lonesome Road Blues" and "While Roving on Last Winter's Night." Hazel Dickens guests with Thomason on a chilling a cappella rendition of her grim tune "Black Lung." Special moments continue with the southern gospel numbers "I Can Go to Them" and "I'll Live Again," and Suzanne Thomas' outstanding version of the traditional nugget "The Cuckoo Is a Pretty Bird." This CD amounts to 15 tracks of hardcore traditional bluegrass, crafted by a group of excellent players who are very keen on preserving this music.

Lenny Marcus Trio:
Jazzaphrenia (self-released)



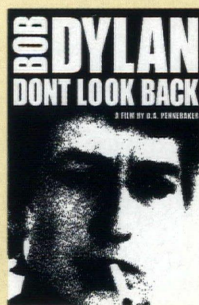
Virginia-based pianist Lenny Marcus has pulled together a very credible jazz album with the help of regular collaborators Peter Ingram (drums), John Brown and Robbie Link (bass), and guests Sonny Fortune (alto sax) and Frank Foster (tenor sax). The CD opens with a strong Foster original, "Manhattan Fever," a 10-minute piece that has the vigor of a hard bop performance. Marcus' original number "The Prayer" is one of the coolest tracks on the record. The tune opens with a melodic piano passage that kicks into an uptempo groove, paving the way for Fortune to stretch out on the sax. Marcus

checks back in with a piano reply that swings like crazy and really propels the piece to a special place. Other winning tracks include Marcus' reworking of Paul Desmond's "Take Five," the bluesy,

laid-back, rendition of "New Coat of Paint," featuring Marcus on vocal, the ensemble effort on the title track and the very hip take on Rodgers and Hart's "I Could Write a Book."

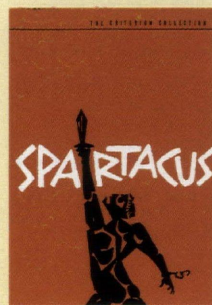
VIDEOCENTRIC

Don't Look Back
Docurama; 96 mins.
Documentary. DVD




This is filmmaker D.A. Pennebaker's brilliant Bob Dylan documentary, finally released on DVD. In the spring of 1965, at the behest of Dylan's manager Albert Grossman, Pennebaker accompanied Dylan to England and filmed his brief tour. The timing was amazing. Dylan was about to shock the folk world by going electric at the Newport Folk Festival later that year, so Pennebaker's footage of Dylan performing solo-acoustic has a special cachet. This was an extremely influential film in terms of Pennebaker's shooting style and editing. It offers an intimate look at a very young Bob Dylan, who's about half charm and half attitudinal prima donna. The Animals' keyboardist Alan Price, blues boss John Mayall, and Donovan all turn up in the film. Joan Baez, who was unfortunate enough to be Dylan's girlfriend in '65, spends most of the film being ignored by Bob, probably because she sang so much better than he did. *Don't Look Back* is a classic documentary and a must for Dylan fans.

Spartacus
The Criterion Collection;
196 minutes. Feature Film. DVD



In the wake of *Gladiator*'s box office and Academy Award success, we see the release of an elaborate, two-disc, DVD version of the 1960 classic *Spartacus*. Directed by Stanley Kubrick, this film boasts a whopping all-star cast, including Kirk Douglas, Jean Simmons, Peter Ustinov, Laurence Olivier, Tony Curtis and Charles Laughton. The digital transfer, done from a 65 mm. intermediate positive, is gorgeous, as is the soundtrack, and the DVD preserves the original 2.2:1 aspect ratio. The story has little in common with *Gladiator*. The cast of *Spartacus* completely overshadows that of *Gladiator*, but the *Gladiator* fighting scenes make *Spartacus*' attempts at gladiatorial combat seem very timid. Both films have something to say about the indefensible practice of slavery and the moral corruption of the Roman Empire, but *Spartacus* actually does a more cogent job of addressing these issues. Kirk Douglas' performance as the title character is heroic, but Ustinov's Batiatus is a marvel of subtlety and wit. Any film buff who fancies this 40-year-old nugget will be pleased with this DVD package. **MM**



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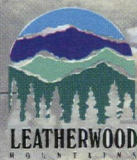
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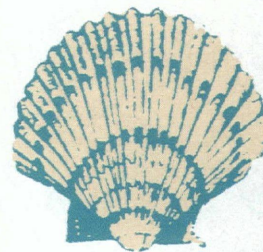
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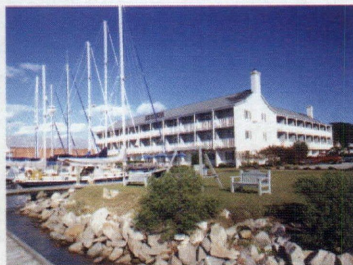
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continued from page 12

Hillsborough Street's future

CURING GRIDLOCK WITH MORE GRIDLOCK

Talk about going around your elbow to get to your you know what. If you've experienced attempting to run the gauntlet to reach Western Boulevard from the Oberlin Road intersection with Hillsborough Street—daring the zigzag to turn left by the bell tower on Pullen Drive through the N.C. State University campus—then you can drive in Rome. That's just one of the snags that make Hillsborough Street, the avenue that stems out from the state Capitol building westward along the length of the N.C. State campus, the poster road for gridlock and bad city planning.

There's plenty more wrong. In the late 1970s state government transportation engineers ran roughshod over Raleigh city leaders and concocted one of the most tasteless and thoughtless road re-routings in memory. The once graceful avenue was made one-way westward away from the Capitol to Morgan Street with Morgan Street then lopping back one-way eastward to downtown. A compromise was reached and you can now take Hillsborough eastward again, but not without performing a loop de loop near St. Mary's school that only locals can negotiate without trepidation.

How, you may ask, was this allowed to happen, ruining the vista of the stately Capitol building and vandalizing the original city plan laid out in 1792? Because the state of North Carolina owns the roads in and around downtown Raleigh and they do what they bloody well please (witness the one-way mayhem in the heart of

town) and their pleasure is to move state employees in and out with no regard for the dignity of the city's original plan. The layout of the city, the only planned state capital in the U.S., called for arteries departing the Capitol toward the former capitals before Raleigh was chosen and laid out to calm the raging conflicts over a permanent site. Fayetteville Street (now mall), New Bern Avenue, Edenton Street and Hillsborough Street were built in the direction of the towns that once served as the seat of government before and after the Revolutionary War.

To rescue Hillsborough Street now come 15 design students at NCSU, who have prepared 3-D modeling project with

AutoCAD drawings that suggest narrowing the clogged artery from four to two lanes to make it more pedestrian-friendly. We haven't word yet on the reaction of the Hillsborough Street Committee for the City of Raleigh, who were presented the design students' ideas. SOS can guess that the reaction was polite but indulgent. The plan calls for narrowing Hillsborough Street to two lanes from four and adding pedestrian walkways to relieve the traffic problems. That's a more thoughtless concept than the one-way debacle at Morgan Street and, worse, it exacerbates, not relieves, the gridlock that is turning this once proud boulevard into the sick man of city thoroughfares.



COURTESY OF THE N.C. DIVISION OF TRAVEL, TOURISM & SPORTS INFORMATION

Clean bill

WATER QUALITY KEEPS IMPROVING ON OUTER BANKS

Scientists at North Carolina State University have given water quality along North Carolina's Outer Banks a clean bill of health for the fourth straight year.

On April 14, researchers from N.C. State's Center for Applied Aquatic Ecology ran multiple water-quality tests at 10 sites along the sound side of the Outer Banks, from Nags Head and Manteo in the north to Hatteras Village in the south.

"This is the fourth year in a row for this testing program," says Dr. JoAnn Burkholder, director of the center and the co-discoverer of *Pfiesteria* in 1989. "So far, every year we've given the Outer Banks a clean bill of health, with no harmful algae blooms, no *Pfiesteria*, no water-quality problems in general. Water quality is good in the sounds along the Outer Banks."

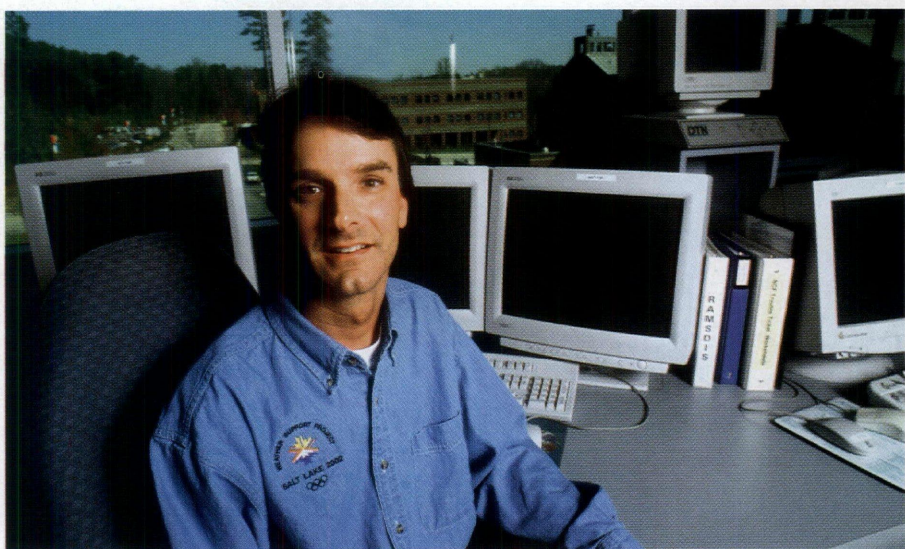
Forecasting the Games

METEOROLOGIST TO WATCH OVER WINTER OLYMPICS WEATHER

It's a meteorologist's assignment of a lifetime. And, as usual, well-known Raleigh weatherman Joel Cline will be right on top of the situation.

Cline, a chief meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Raleigh, is headed to Salt Lake City next February for the 2002 Winter Olympics. While the world watches, Cline will be one of six special meteorologists with his eye on the sky.

The only meteorologist from the Southeast chosen for the gig, Cline will forecast the weather and conditions for the Olympic Village and for all the outdoor venues, including bobsledding, the luge, giant slalom and the biathlon. He will predict, among other things, wind speeds at the top of ski runs, as well as snowfall and



OLYMPIC FORECASTS Meteorologist Joel Cline will call the weather shots in Salt Lake City

travel conditions. It promises to be a challenging and high-pressure gig.

"You have to remember that you're not only forecasting for the athletes," he says. "You're forecasting for the spectators, timekeepers, the people taking water to the athletes."

Cline received his undergrad degree in

meteorology and computer science at N.C. State. After nine years at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, he returned to Raleigh.

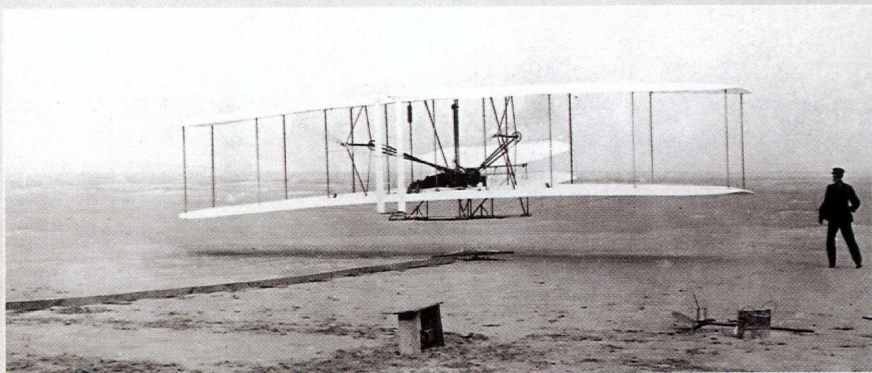
Like the athletes, Cline is having to prepare for the big show. He and his fellow Olympics forecasters last February underwent a two-week training session in Salt

Photogenic flight

FIRST FLIGHT GROUP HITS THE ROAD WITH WRIGHT BROTHERS EXHIBIT

In celebration of the 12-second adventure that changed the world, a 10-by-10-foot photo of the world's first powered flight over North Carolina's own Kill Devil Hills is traveling the state.

Debuting last month in Lakeland, Fla., the new exhibit features a replica of John T. Daniels' famous photo of the first flight on Dec. 17, 1903. Mr. Daniels was a member of the local lifesaving station who became good buddies with Orville and Wilbur Wright, the two former bicycle builders from Ohio who managed to do what all before them never could.



On May 5, the exhibit stopped at the 600 Festival Air and Speed Show in Concord, N.C. On June 2 and 3, the show will be at the Asheboro Regional Airport for the 5th Annual Warbird Fly-In and Air Show. From there, it moves on to Wilmington for the Carolinas Air Expo at the (ILM) Wilmington International Airport on June 9-10. Rounding out the first half of the summer's activities, the First Flight exhibit will then be at

"Freedom Fest 2001: A Tribute to Our Heritage," a part of an open house at Pope Air Force Base, July 7-8. The event is free, and will feature the USAF Thunderbirds and the Army Golden Knights.

The First Flight Commission is planning a bevy of festivals and activities for the centennial celebration of man's first powered flight in 2003. Earlier this spring, the U.S. Mint released the North Carolina quarter, which depicts the famous flight.

Lake City, during which they familiarized themselves with winter weather in Utah.

"I grew up in the mountains of North Carolina, so I know a little bit about snow," Cline says.

Double jeopardy

ASKED TO DO MORE, COMMUNITY COL- LEGES MAY GET LESS

A few minutes after bathing in a glowing report card on the state's community colleges, the system's leaders got a rude awakening at a recent board meeting.

At a time when community colleges are expected to do more than ever to boost North Carolina's rural economies, the state announced that it's demanding up to 6 percent budget cuts to help brighten the state's revenue blues. That came after new figures showing that 99 percent of community college grads get jobs right after graduation.

In light of the gloomy warning from the legislature, the State Board voted to have Chairman Dr. G. Herman Porter write a letter of dissent to the General Assembly. While the North Carolina Community College System has seen signs of support from lawmakers, this latest news may hinder any potential financial reward from that goodwill, Porter says. "Just as we are about to get our real share, the money runs out," he says.

System President H. Martin Lancaster says the cuts would result in a reduction of more than 450 instructional units, which include full-time and multiple part-time teaching positions, and the elimination of funds for Community Service Block Grants that provide leisure courses to senior citizens. A \$3.50/semester hour tuition increase is also included.

"These options are very painful and will do significant harm to the System if implemented," Mr. Lancaster says. "The System already operates on a lean budget. There is no fat to trim." MM



Digging in the dirt: **Warsaw native** and N.C. State grad Hackney Parker, 29, decided to forego a medical career in favor of mulch. Opening Seaside Mulch in Wilmington in 1996, Mr. Parker is now expanding Eastern North Carolina's largest mulch-making operation into Raleigh, recently opening a 7-acre facility at 6515 Highway 55. His dad's **Parker Bark** in Rose Hill gave the younger Parker a love for good dirt and all the ways gardeners and lawn-builders appreciate it. "I think a lot of people are like me," he says. "You want to go home in the evening and sit in your backyard and **enjoy the beauty** of what's around you." ■■■ Thirty **hard-working high schoolers** from 11 states are the first recipients of the unique \$24 million Julian and Josie Robertson Endowment announced last year. A collaboration between **Duke and UNC-CH**, the program provides full room and board, classes on both world-class campuses, a year-abroad bonus, and even a laptop computer. But the first 81 young finalists had to face off against the **toughest profs** at both schools. ■■■ A scientist's **love for arts**: Thanks to UNC biology prof Larry Gilbert, a six-panel abstract oil painting celebrating the poetry of Elizabeth Bishop is now hanging in Davis Library. Gilbert, who **paid \$25,000** for the painting on behalf of UNC, hopes that *Driving to the Interior*, painted by Eric Karpeles of Pennsylvania, will show undergrads that even those who hew to the **scientific method** can appreciate the mysteries of art. ■■■ One of the **hottest**

jazz vibes players in the world hails from Raleigh: His name is Steve Hobbs, and he left North Carolina at 18 to pursue a career in jazz music. He's got a new album coming out called **Steve Hobbs/Second Encounter**. And it looks like when Hobbs tours Britain in June, he may get a sit-down with **Rolling Stones regulars** Charlie Watts and Ron Wood to talk shop. "Wouldn't that be a gas, meeting some of the Stones while on a jazz tour?" Hobbs writes to Eyes Only. "Hobbs has carved out his **own identity**, says *Jazziz* mag. ■■■ George Bizios can now put "FAIA" on his stationery: The N.C. State architecture prof was just **named a fellow** at the American Institute of Architecture, joining in an honor bestowed on only 72 other architects this year. ■■■ You might not notice one of Nancy White's "**rain gardens**." But by channeling pollution-spreading storm water into **well-drained and vegetated** meadows around the area, the N.C. State design prof is setting a precedent for how to keep dirty water from **rushing into the rivers**. ■■■ MerleFest, that rockin' **mountain music** retreat named for the late Merle Watson and his father Doc Watson, didn't just break, but demolished the old attendance record for the event. Exactly 77,023 Americana-loving fans came to Wilkes Community College on April 26-29—12 percent more than last year's record of 68,704. The music as always was a draw, but the **best weather** in the event's 14 years also helped. ■■■ Kirstie Tice got her professional training at **Jacob's Pillow** and the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre. Now the N.C. School of the Arts grad has **her own shop**, right here in Raleigh. The North Carolina Dance Institute, 5910-101 Duraleigh Road, is offering **summer camps** and classes for children and adults through July and fall classes beginning in August. MM

Metro INDEX

Raleigh's growth rate since 1990: 32.8 percent

Sanford's growth rate since 1990: 60.4 percent

The growth of Apex in the same time period: 306.8 percent

Ranking of the Triangle among fastest-growing regions statewide: 1

Number of Tar Heel students who took the end-of-grade test in fifth grade this year: About 100,000

Number who failed: One-third

Number of students who took the GED course at Wake Technical Community College a decade ago: 5000

Number who take the alternative-to-high-school course today at Wake Tech: Over 10,000

Difference in earnings potential today between high school grads and those with a GED diploma: None

High school drop-out rate in 1960: 30 percent

Drop-out rate today: 8 percent

National critics' ranking of the North Carolina film "George Washington," made by several
N.C. School of the Arts grads in their mid-20s: Top five

Proposed fine for taking illegal campaign contributions in North Carolina: \$20,000

Amount of taxpayer dollars given by Smart Start staffers to themselves in 1995: \$184,782

Range of new wireless repeaters that will bring high-speed Internet to rural North Carolina
much earlier than expected: 19.7 miles

Where farthest-reaching Internet transmitter was mounted: Oak tree

Cost of service: \$49.95

Newspaper estimate of attendance at a recent Southern heritage rally to keep the battle flag flying: 500

Actual tally: 1500

Recent description of Southern heritage boosters: Paleo-conservatives"

Mock motto of League of the South: "If at first you don't secede...."

My Usual Charming Self

by Bernie Reeves



PHOTO BY JIM TURCOTTE

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

What is driving the British and the French to undertake initiatives to undermine the death penalty in the United States? In England it's the conservative press that's suddenly running strident fulminations that characterize their former colonists as barbarians for allowing executions in capital murder crimes. Emphasizing that hanging was outlawed in the United Kingdom 50 years ago, the articles are designed to encourage Brits to move emotionally away from the Atlantic Alliance—and the “special relationship” with America—to the European Community whose members have abolished capital punishment. The French, naturally, go even further by refusing to extradite convicted American killers who face the death penalty.

Mind you I appreciate the British. The new American nation basically sprang from the English and Scots. We borrowed the language, the concept of common law, parliamentary government, trial by jury, habeas corpus—just about everything that we are so proud of as a nation. The French are harder to categorize emotionally. While today the “frogs” thwart American policy at every juncture, if it weren't for the French, we would today be part of the British Commonwealth of Nations. It was the French fleet at Yorktown that won the war as the coup de grace of their ongoing support of America against their ancient enemy

the English. The French even went further and copied our Revolution over there, albeit with a tad more violence against their own people. General Blackjack Pershing announced, upon setting foot on French soil as leader of the American Expeditionary Force in World War I to fight the Hun on behalf of France and England, “Lafayette, I am here.” He was recognizing France's key role in achieving independence for the former British colonies by saluting the Marquis de Lafayette, the teenage nobleman who came to fight for freedom at George Washington's side.

In an ironical historic twist, our former enemy Great Britain is now our best friend and ally. And the French, without whom we would have lost the Revolution, have become our worst enemy among the developed nations. Obviously, the French loss of self-esteem during World War II has a lot to do with the current bad blood with America. Run over by the Nazis, humiliated further by their collaboration with the German-controlled wartime Vichy government, rescued by the now powerful United States—an upstart and déclassé nation in French eyes—the postwar French Republic, led by the xenophobic and vain Charles de Gaulle, resented America as the reminder of their fall from world status during the war years.

Consequently, our two principal European antecedent nations, influenced by their role as the founding agents of the United States, obviously feel they have the right to interfere in our internal politics. That's certainly okay but what is it about the death penalty that has stirred so much vitriol and angst? If they walked a mile in our shoes, I think they would back off the

rhetoric. This ain't England, where murders hardly ever happen, and it is certainly not France, where the violent crime rate is higher, but hardly touches the nearly 20,000 homicides in this country every year—a murder rate unprecedented in history. To make the point, Diana Rigg, host of the popular British *Mystery* series on public television, felt it necessary to introduce an episode of “Morse,” a fictional detective based in Oxford, by explaining that, from

The Brits and Frogs obviously cannot comprehend the appalling American reality: Since the reinstatement of the death penalty via a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 1976...there have been 711 executions in the U.S. During the same period...500,000 murders were committed.

watching the program Americans may think there is a murder every week as depicted on the program. “Actually,” said Ms. Rigg, “there hasn't been a murder in Oxford in 50 years.”

The Brits and Frogs obviously cannot comprehend the appalling American reality: Since the reinstatement of the death penalty via a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 1976, according to George Mason University professor of law William Otis, there have been 711 executions in the U.S. During the same period, he added, 500,000 murders were

committed. That's right, 500,000. So sure, we appreciate the English and French looking out for us on this matter, but they don't comprehend the enormity of the American killing fields in their zeal to accuse the civilized citizens of America of barbarity for desiring the death penalty. They just don't get it.

They also don't get that arguments to abolish capital punishment in America emanate from faulty logic and questionable facts. The base premise of the anti-death penalty crowd is "we don't want the state killing people." On the surface this seems persuasive, a bunch of cops and bureaucrats killing people. But ask an anti-penalty per-

Without the implementation of law, lynch mobs would reappear and revenge be meted out in daily doses leading to anarchy and the decline of civilization. Rather the "state" than the mob.

son what they would do if one or several of their immediate family were viciously murdered and the response is immediate: "I'd track down the guy and torture him before I killed him."

Thus the need for the "state" to perform executions as an extension of justice. Without the implementation of law, lynch mobs would reappear and revenge be meted out in daily doses leading to anarchy and the decline of civilization. Rather the "state" than the mob.

Another of the predictable anti-penalty arguments is the belief that innocent people could die, followed by the passionate plea that "if only one innocent victim could be executed, then I'm against the death penalty." However, of the 711 executions since 1976 in this country, not one has been proved to be a mistake, probably due to the reality that an average of 10 years goes by between conviction and execution. But hypothetically this argument has great sway

with people, especially with the introduction of DNA testing and the horrifying evidence that law enforcement agencies and medical examiners can make mistakes.

Just look at the embarrassing mess created by the FBI in the Timothy McVeigh case. And add the police chemist in Oklahoma who has tainted the evidence in at least 10 capital cases, creating a situation in which innocent assailants could be executed based on mishandled forensic data. These are large concerns, and are probably related to the decline in standards launched with the affirmative action initiatives of the past 40 years, but they do not add up to a good reason to stop executions in the U.S. The judicial process, from courtroom to appeals courts to amnesties and reprieves, is lengthy and biased toward the accused. Add in the efforts of the dedicated anti-penalty lobbyists, who monitor every death sentence, and we the public can feel secure, even when mistakes are exposed, that innocent people will not be executed.

Another refrain from the anti-penalty advocates is detailed descriptions of what it is like to be executed. And, granted, it is not pleasant to contemplate when viewed out of context. However, what the anti-penalty people and the mass media do not tell, when regaling the public with the ghastly details of capital punishment, is the crime committed by the person to be executed. By concentrating on the *alleged* victim of execution, they ignore the *real* victims of violent murder: the families and friends of the dead. They fail to mention that the condemned killers raped, tortured and slit the throats of innocent children or committed similar heinous and barbaric acts. Seen in context of the murders committed, present-day capital punishment actually could be seen as falling short of fitting the crime.

Timothy McVeigh, for example, qualifies for a more barbaric end in the minds of the hundreds of tormented and angry families and friends of the 168 victims of the bombing in Oklahoma City. Of course, anti-penalty activists aren't very vocal in their condemnation of capital punishment in the McVeigh case, especially after he

characterized the children killed in the bombing as "collateral damage." What do death penalty abolitionists have to say about McVeigh? What would they expect society to do to expiate the angst and grief he created, not only for the people who lost loved ones, but for the rest of us who need to know that the law works and that the punishment will indeed fit the crime?

Today there are thousands of Americans who continue to suffer unnecessarily over the loss of loved ones due to the moratorium on implementation of the death penalty in 1972. Over 100,000 killers avoided the death sentence and were incarcerated with the opportunity for parole. Families are forced to keep the horror of what happened to their loved ones in the front of their minds and hearts. They must remain constantly vigilant and ready to step in, in case the killers are set free. The anguish is intensified for them since parole hearings are not announced and the names of those coming before the panel are not made public. Knowing that these convicted murderers could all of a sudden walk out free without their knowledge creates an indescribable anguish. Closure never comes.

During the moratorium, violent crime in America began its horrifying ascent, literally transforming the lives of all Americans. Today, with executions now back in force, the murder rate is down significantly. Anti-penalty advocates maintain that there is no connection between the death penalty and violent crime. The statistics beg to differ. That's why over 60 percent of Americans are for the death penalty, despite the dubious protestations of the abolitionists.

Yet the cry is heard here and from across the Atlantic to abolish executions once again. The people won't wear it, however. America is a violent place requiring violent measures. Timothy McVeigh and the other killers must face the ultimate punishment for the lives they snuffed out no matter the latest vogue against the death penalty. In North Carolina a bill calling for a moratorium is circulating in the Legislature. It should be ignored, as should our so-called friends in Great Britain and France. MM

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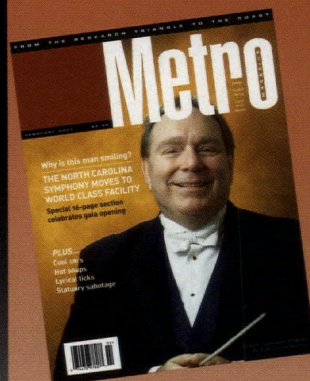


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