

What you missed last year

Security issues, plans for the class of 2000 and ACC basketball championships dominated the campus news during the 1995-96 school year

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Even as the campus welcomes the Class of 2000 this week, the university is still being influenced by events that happened last year. So that freshmen won't feel out of the loop about campus issues, here is a look back at some of the top stories of 1995-96, as chosen by the Old Gold and Black staff.

1 Administration adopts plan to build gatehouses

The university announced in late March that it would build gatehouses at each of the three entrances to campus during the summer. Two of the gates will be staffed with police officers who will stop incoming cars without parking stickers or visitor passes between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., while the Polo Road entrance will be closed during this period to keep down costs.

Plans to improve security also called for more lighting on campus and the hiring of more police officers.

The plan was adopted despite mixed student and faculty opinion. The issue had been debated for some time, and many members of the university community had raised concerns about the plan's ramifications for campus crime and for the university's relationship to the community.

A committee set up by the administration to look into the matter did not recommend the immediate construction of gates, and many students and faculty felt that less drastic security measures such as better lighting and more police patrols should have been adopted before gates were implemented. An *Old Gold and Black* survey taken in April showed that 70 percent of students opposed the gates, while 64 percent of faculty opposed them in another survey. A group of about 100 students protested against the gates outside the board of trustees meeting April 18, but the trustees adopted the budget containing money to implement the gates soon after.

2 Duncan leads basketball team to Elite Eight

ACC Championships are starting to become routine for the Demon Deacons. Led by then-junior All-American center Tim Duncan, the basketball team carried off another tournament title in Greensboro March 11 with a 75-74 win over Georgia Tech. The team set its sights on a Final Four trip to East Rutherford, N.J. The Deacons' NCAA run was even more dramatic, as two starters were hobbled by injury and illness.

However, the team overcame Duncan's stomach virus and then-sophomore Tony Rutland's knee injury to scratch out tough wins over Texas and Louisville before running into a Kentucky juggernaut in the regional finals. Even then, after falling behind by 28 points in the second half the Deacons did not give up, mounting a fierce comeback that fell just short. The team finished the season ranked ninth in the AP poll.

Deacon basketball fans received more good news April 9, when the university announced that it had signed Head Coach Dave Odom to a long-term contract. Duncan announced May 11 that he had decided not to forego his senior season for the NBA, where he was a probable No. 1 pick, and he will stay a Demon Deacon for his senior year.

3 Plan for the Class of 2000 nears start

Administration and faculty continued to prepare for the coming of ThinkPads and freshman seminars this fall, as more of the specifics of the changes for the campus were decided.

Students with ThinkPads will have to pay to keep much of the software on their machines after they graduate because of software licensing rules, and they will also have to pay extra for dial-up modem access and to maintain home pages on the World Wide Web.

Frequent problems with the academic computer raised concerns about the ability of the computer system to handle the computerization of

campus. Student protest foiled efforts to close the Poteat computer lab in December, but officials later announced that the student labs would be phased out. Poteat and Vegas labs closed this summer.

Great progress was made toward implementation of the plan last year. The installation of the Plan's computer infrastructure, such as the Ethernet connections to dorms and classroom buildings, continued and were completed this summer. The ThinkPads and the freshman seminars were also tested in pilot programs last year to prepare for the full implementation this year.

4 New ID card enhances security, tracking ability

All students received new identification cards last fall that provided for expanded student services and increased security. For the first time, campus residence halls and suites were secured by key card access 24 hours a day.

The new system also increased security by keeping records of student movement on campus that could be used in police investigations or judicial hearings, although the use of this data was later banned from administrative hearings by Ken Zick, the vice president for student life and instructional resources.

The ID cards also provided students with other features, such as the ability to put money on a vending stripe to be used in vending machines on campus. Students can also use their ID cards in copy machines on campus.

5 Wintry weather closes down campus

One of the worst ice storms to strike campus in recent memory put a deep freeze on campus life Feb. 2. The campus, along with a large part of Winston-Salem, lost power for more than 24 hours, as students were forced to seek light and warmth in any way they could. Electricity was eventually restored, but the tremendous damage to campus trees and landscaping was not so easily repaired.

The ice storm was the second major winter storm to strike the campus last year. Another storm dumped a foot of snow on the area Jan. 6-7, while most students were away on winter break. This storm forced the closing of campus offices for several days while employees cleared roads.

6 Students robbed by armed group

Five men, two of them armed, held up five male students who were returning to their residence halls at 1:30 a.m. Jan. 25. No one was injured, but the men took about \$25, a bank card and a credit card. The car the assailants used was later found after a hit-and-run accident, but it had been stolen and the assailants were never found.

The incident raised more questions about security and lighting on campus and contributed to the ongoing debate about the construction of gates.

7 New buildings planned

Resident students will have another living option on campus soon, thanks to a plan announced in March to build a new residence hall near Student Apartments. The dorm would house about 200 students. Some theme housing along Polo Road will be eliminated.

The university is also seeking funding from the Olin Foundation to build another academic building between Calloway and Carswell halls to house the mathematics, computer science and psychology departments.

The space would also help other academic departments on campus, decrease overcrowding and provide more office space. A decision has not been made by the foundation, and it is unclear how or even if the university will finance the building if it cannot obtain a grant from the foundation.

8 New building to house Shorty's

Student Government will finally achieve its dream of establishing a campus pub and coffeehouse, but not in the Benson University Center as originally planned. The administration developed a proposal to construct a new building to house Shorty's behind Palmer and Piccolo residence halls.

For several years SG had been developing a proposal to renovate the current Shorty's space in Benson, but the administration bypassed this proposal in favor of constructing a new building.

The 3,000-square-foot building is scheduled to be completed by 1997, and SG officers said they expect it to be a gathering place for students and faculty. However, many students expressed concern that the



Kristin Thompson

ThinkPads came to campus last year as students and faculty participated in pilot programs to test the provisions of the Plan for the Class of 2000, which is being implemented this year.

building will be too far from the center of campus to attract members of the university community.

Greek organizations, a more stringent enforcement of alcohol policy and the use of more resources to address the needs of independents.

9 Lilly Report calls for social change, emphasis on academics

A report written by a group of faculty members addressing the intellectual climate on campus made several major recommendations for social policy changes, but many student leaders said that they were not made aware of the report's existence or its provisions.

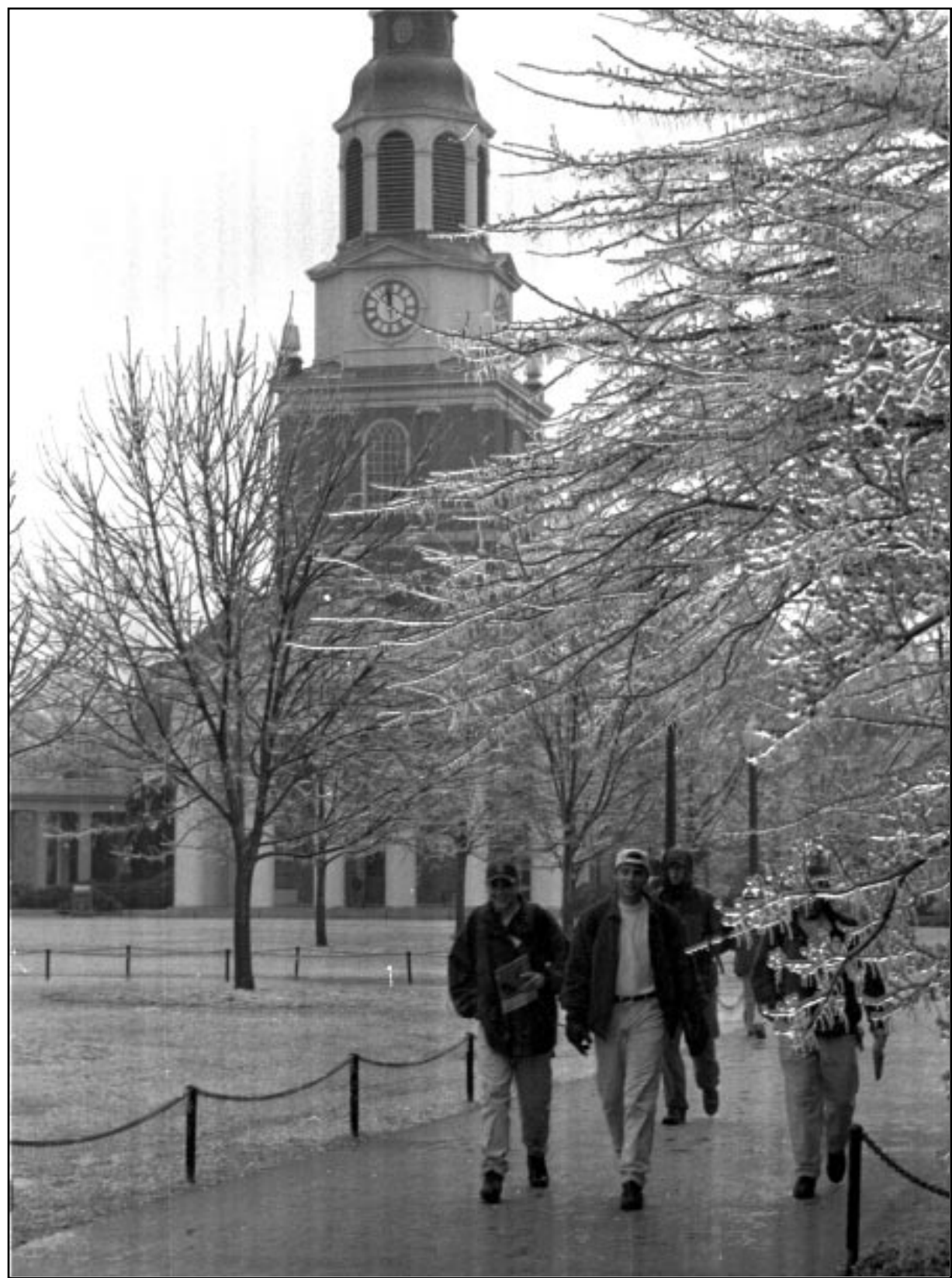
The report centered around the theme that students spend too much time outside of class involved in extracurricular and social activities and not enough time in academic pursuits.

Among the measures the report suggested were the elimination of freshman Rush, stricter controls on

10 Dean Escott calls for tougher grading standards

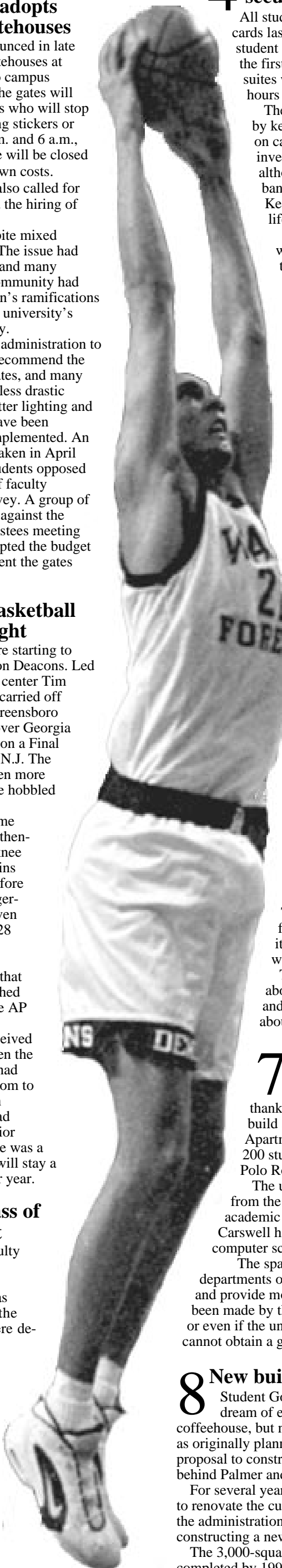
Dean of the college Paul Escott stirred up controversy early last fall with a memo to faculty calling attention to the recent rise in the percentage of students graduating with distinction and reminding professors of the meaning of each grade.

Although Escott denied that this memo represented a change in university grading policy, some professors seemed to interpret it in this way, raising concerns among students that a deflation of grades would hurt their chances getting into graduate school or finding a job.



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As on much of the east coast, Winston-Salem was hard hit last winter by several storms.



Old Gold and Black photo