



A fiery branch of color falls over the flowing Linville River near Highway 221 on Oct. 10.

FEAST ON THIS

was chairman of the first Downtown Advisory Committee for the city of Raleigh way back in 1982 when the center city was languishing while the newly realized Triangle region was flourishing. The extremities were growing lustily, but the heart was barely beating.

Fayetteville Street, suffering from urban arterial sclerosis caused by the concrete mall installed in the mid-'70s, has just received bypass surgery, opening up the city's main artery and returning the thoroughfare to robust health. And the people love it, as evidenced by the huge turn-out when the ribbon was cut to open the street.

Now we can see the efforts of many individuals, businesses and organizations that had been toiling away inch by inch to restore significant old buildings that no one noticed much. Now they are joined by exciting new plans for dramatic structures that will transform the center city into the symbol of our dynamic growth as a world capital.

Greg Hatem saw the writing on the wall ahead of most and now controls 41 properties downtown with more in the planning stage, including a new hotel to accompany the Marriott under construction as part of the new Raleigh civic center. Diane Lea visited with Hatem and brings you the inside story of this modern-day urban pioneer.

Our annual Education Special Report is especially appropriate as the debate over the definition of quality of education rages around the state: Nan Miller's firsthand account of teaching college composition is funny but sad in its conclusions; Rick Smith meets the Duke professor behind Founders College, a new yet old concept that defies radical trends in colleges today by bringing tra-

ditional liberal arts back to the campus; and coverage of the annual Pope Center conference on education, where an impressive lineup of experts discussed the pros and cons of diversity.

On the book scene, Arch T. Allen reviews a new history of the state and the celebrated new installment of William Powell's *Encyclopedia of North Carolina* biography while Art Taylor offers up new tomes from area stalwarts Michael McFee and Bland Simpson.

Jim Leutze discusses fish farming and its impact on our coast. Carroll Leggett socializes at the Hope Ball; Philip van Vleck offers the fascinating saga of a refugee violinist from China; Louis St. Lewis is impressed with the volume of cultural activity in the region; and Molly Fulghum Heintz and Tricia Horatio suggest black is back and denim never wears out its welcome.

And for the season, we present the first of our two holiday gift guides and Gourmet editor Moreton Neal and Wine editor Barbara Ensrud offer top tips on holiday feasting with recipes and recommendations to add flair to your Thanksgiving celebration.

After all this fun it is important to remember those less fortunate. The American Red Cross in our region works every minute of every day to help those in need: fire and storm victims, servicemen, accident victims ... the list is long and the need is great. In a 16-page special report in this issue, *Metro* is proud to focus the spotlight on the magnificent job they do, often unheralded but always appreciated. Their crucial work needs your support. After reading our special report, make your holiday meaningful with a gift to your local Red Cross.

—Bernie Reeves, Editor & Publisher