

NEWS

NEWS from the OUTSIDE WORLD

House approves terrorism bill

The United States House of Representatives passed a anti-terror bill Oct. 24 that will enable police to secretly search the homes of suspects, tap all their cell and home phones and track their use of the Internet.

The House vote was 357 to 66. The Senate will take up the bill shortly, and the plan is to have a Oct. 25 signing ceremony at the White House.

"The House is taking a responsible step forward by giving law enforcement the tools necessary to secure the safety of Americans, while protecting our constitutional rights," said House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill.

"This landmark legislation will provide law enforcement and intelligence agencies additional tools that are needed to address the threat of terrorism and to find and prosecute terrorist criminals," said Rep. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., who chairs the House Judiciary Committee.

Some House members said the bill gives the government too much power.

Simpson avoids prison sentence

O.J. Simpson was cleared of road-rage charges Oct. 24 after he and another motorist offered vastly different versions of a hot-tempered exchange on a side street.

Simpson put his hand to his chest and mouthed 'thank you' and nodded his head to the jury when the verdict was read. He then hugged his attorneys.

Simpson had faced up to 16 years in prison if convicted of auto burglary and battery in the driving spat with Jeffrey Pattinson last year in their suburban Miami neighborhood.

During closing arguments, prosecutor Abbe Rifkin did everything but call Simpson a liar, saying the actor came out in him when he tried to charm the jury as the sole defense witness. The jury deliberated for an hour and a half.

King memorial put on hold

Efforts to build a national memorial honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., have stalled because the civil rights leader's family wants money to use his name and likeness in the marketing campaign.

"They're asking for something in regards to a licensing fee," said Harry Johnson, president of the memorial foundation. "We're just trying to walk a fine, thin line."

Last week, Johnson called representatives of the King family to ask about a dollar figure, but he says they haven't returned his call. Officials at the Atlanta-based King Center for Nonviolent Social Change also did not immediately return calls.

Congress approved a King memorial in June 1998, and set aside land on the National Mall, which already is home to memorials for Franklin D. Roosevelt and Vietnam and Korean War veterans, and is the future home to a sprawling World War II memorial.

Aguilar visits UNCA

Alison McKone
Staff Reporter

Anselmo Roldan Aguilar, a Guatemalan human rights worker, from the Association for Justice and Reconciliation, spoke to a full room in the Laurel Forum Oct. 16.

Aguilar talked to those assembled about his experiences with the Guatemalan government and military.

The event was to inform people of the struggle for human rights in Guatemala and the Guatemalan peoples' fight against military officials who are accused of the massacres of indigenous people of Guatemala.

The talk was sponsored by Multicultural Student Affairs in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

With the aid of an interpreter, Aguilar told his story of personally witnessing the massacres in the market place of his village, Puerto Pueblo, on May 14, 1982.

He told the audience of how the military burned churches on that same Sunday, when they were full

of people.

The military also took people from their homes. Everyone in town was herded to the airfield where the military began to torture and murder those assembled.

Aguilar also commented that the Guatemalan constitution states that the people have the right to be free, and the government's military is supposed to protect the people.

However, the government did otherwise, according to Aguilar. They massacred everyone in town.

People were tortured by the soldiers, especially pregnant women. They mutilated peoples' bodies to the point of death, then they threw them in fires, according to Aguilar.

Young women, ages 14 to 25, were held captive by the military for nine days, five men to each woman, during which time they were raped and cooked for the men of the Guatemalan military.

At the end of nine days, the young women were tortured and killed.

Aguilar, who was 11 at the time of the massacre, managed to escape into Mexico.

However, many died even in escape because they found themselves drinking water that was saturated with salt. After staying in Mexico for several years, he went back to Guatemala with several other survivors,

but they talked to the Guatemalan government so as to ensure their safety upon their return.

Once back home, they began requesting permits from the government for a cemetery in which to bury the remains of the victims of the massacre.

The permit was granted in 1996, at which time a mass grave site was constructed. A monument, six meters tall and three meters wide was erected with the names of all the victims engraved on it.

To this day, Aguilar continues to struggle to bring the military officials responsible for the massacres to justice.

Part of his purpose in coming to speak was to try to find people to help any way they could, including staying with the witnesses to protect them from military officials that are trying to keep them from telling their story.

According to Aguilar, 150,000 people died across Guatemala as a result of these massacres.

However, there are 50 witnesses to the massacres, and they have acquired two international lawyers, with the help of Amnesty International.

Aguilar feels that the victims can go on, but only once justice is served.

Sleight of hand



WALTER FYLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Illusionist Craig Karges entertains a crowd in Lipinsky Hall.

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Pollution

County have asthma. This could be due to the poor air quality in the county.

Maas explained why Asheville has such a problem with pollution.

"Asheville has the third highest incidence of stagnant air," said Maas. "As you go east behind us is Mt. Mitchell and the Black Mountains, but to the west of us we have a long straight valley."

"Our emissions tend to sit here and get bubbled in, because even if there's air moving a little bit, it's got to clear these mountains up behind us, so it starts rising to go up above here and it doesn't flush out pollutants here in town."

While a good bit of Buncombe County's pollution does come from the county itself, a lot of it comes from old power plants in



WALTER FYLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UNCA professor Richard Maas has concerns about air pollution.

Tennessee that have no pollution control, according to Maas.

There are things that can be done to decrease pollution in the Asheville area, according to Maas.

"We need to put scrubbers on the

smoke stacks of the coal burning power plants," said Maas.

Scrubbers remove the sulfur from the exhaust gasses after the coal is burned, thus decreasing the amount of pollution entering the

air.

"To get our visibility back here, we need to have scrubbers put on, especially the TVA power plants to the west of here," said Maas.

While there has been some progress, more needs to be done, according to Maas.

The TVA plants only have scrubbers on four out of the 11 plants. "That was nice of them to do that, but it's not nearly enough," said Maas.

"They're offering to do just enough to keep the Environmental Protection Agency negotiating with them and not bringing down the hammer. We've got to push for them to do a whole lot more," said Maas.

Other things people can do to help the environment are to buy cars that produce less emissions, such as hybrid cars, bicycle or carpool, accord-

ing to Maas.

Maas is also the chairman of the clean air community trust, a newly-formed nonprofit trust designed to help improve the air quality in Buncombe County.

As the chairman of the new trust, Maas wants to organize a computerized carpooling system where people can call a telephone number or look online to find people living near them they can commute with.

Other things people can do to help the environment are to buy cars that produce less emissions, such as hybrid cars, bicycle or carpool, according to Maas.

He also suggested a "park and ride" bus system, in which a group of shuttle buses would take people to their destinations in place of cars.

Donations

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the 2001 fiscal year.

"Participation can come in any form. It is important that we be part of this community, not just our community, but the state community," said Marsh. "This is a hard year for a lot of local agencies because of the disaster. People still don't have money. Children are still battered or undernourished. Older people still need meals. We need to help."

The SECC has been active since 1986, contributing and combining money for local, statewide, national and international organizations. Every person who works for the state is asked to give. Each donation may be specified for a particular organization within the SECC list, or the contributor may allow the SECC to disperse the money as they so choose.

"All SECC agencies are screened and have a proven track record," according to the 2001 SECC Partners in Giving Brochure. "State employees carefully review and monitor organizations funded by state employees gifts to assure fiscal and professional integrity."

Some of the organizations include UNC-TV, YMCA, Irene Wortham Center, Hospice, Children First, Grant-A-Wish Foundation, Legal Service of North Carolina and the United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County.

The Blue Banner Weather

Seven Day Forecast

	THURSDAY Clearing Late High: 66 Low: 52
	FRIDAY Sunny High: 58 Low: 36
	SATURDAY Sunny High: 49 Low: 33
	SUNDAY Partly Cloudy High: 47 Low: 30
	MONDAY Sunny High: 51 Low: 28
	TUESDAY Sunny High: 58 Low: 29
	WEDNESDAY Sunny High: 63 Low: 32



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Local Almanac Last Week

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip*
Wednesday	54	36	68/43	0.00"
Thursday	61	29	68/42	0.00"
Friday	68	29	67/42	0.00"
Saturday	73	35	67/42	0.00"
Sunday	75	40	67/42	0.00"
Monday	77	40	67/41	0.00"
Tuesday	78	47	66/41	0.00"

North Carolina Recreational Forecast

A cold front will quickly push through the region today, producing morning rain with clearing later this afternoon. Cold temperatures will move in behind this front across the state this weekend. Temperatures will be as much as 25 degrees below normal for this time of year. A trough of low pressure will swing through the region late this weekend and a few scattered flurries may occur across the mountains. Pleasant weather conditions will carry over into the beginning of next week with temperatures on the rebound. Highs will range from the 40s into the 70s. Low temperatures will fall from the 20s into the 50s.

Sun/Moon Chart This Week

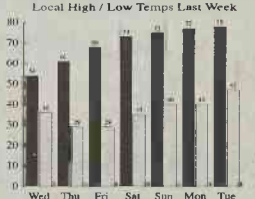
Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu 11/1	7:46 a.m.	6:42 p.m.	3:48 p.m.	1:24 a.m.
Fri 11/2	7:47 a.m.	6:41 p.m.	4:20 p.m.	2:21 a.m.
Sat 11/3	7:48 a.m.	6:40 p.m.	4:49 p.m.	3:18 a.m.
Sun 11/4	6:49 a.m.	5:39 p.m.	4:17 p.m.	3:14 a.m.
Mon 11/5	6:49 a.m.	5:38 p.m.	4:44 p.m.	4:10 a.m.
Tue 11/6	6:50 a.m.	5:37 p.m.	5:11 p.m.	5:07 a.m.
Wed 11/7	6:51 a.m.	5:36 p.m.	5:39 p.m.	6:05 a.m.

National Weather Summary This Week

A cold front will bring scattered showers along the Atlantic seaboard to end this week, along with breezy conditions. A trough of low pressure will move into the Great Lakes region and the Ohio River Valley states this weekend. With temperatures well below normal for this time of year, scattered flurries are expected throughout this region. High pressure will be in firm control across the center of the country this weekend, providing below normal temperatures in the eastern United States and above normal readings out West. A cold front will push into the Pacific Northwest early next week, triggering abundant rainfall along the Pacific coastline and snow in the higher inland elevations of the Cascades.

Oct. 25, 2001

Temps Last Week



Weather Trivia

What is meant when there is a "20% chance of precipitation" today?

To find out the answer, log onto <http://www.accessweather.com/thebluebanner.html> to find today's trivia answer and previous Weather Trivia answers.

Weather History

Oct. 27, 1989 - Wintry weather invaded the northwestern United States, producing up to 23 inches of snow at Salt Lake City. On the flip side, "Indian Summer" continued in the Ohio River Valley and the Great Lakes states. Afternoon high temperatures of 71 degrees at Marquette, Mich. and 72 degrees at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. were records.

Oct. 28, 1971 - A severe early season blizzard raged across the Rocky Mountain states. Railroads and interstate highways were blocked and record cold accompanied the storm. Lander, Wyo. received 27 inches of snow and Big Piney, Wyo. dipped to minus 15 degrees.