

Briefly...

SGA Senate overrides Gunn's loan veto

"Hurricane" Carter to Speak at Martin Luther King Commemoration

Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, a former middle-weight boxing champion who was wrongly imprisoned for murder, will serve as keynote speaker for the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. commemoration on campus. The presentation, which is being sponsored by the Office of Minority Affairs, will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20 in Kenan Auditorium.

Carter's story is the subject of the major motion picture *Hurricane*, starring Denzel Washington, which details his boxing career, wrongful imprisonment for a triple murder, and his struggles to prove his innocence.

Carter is an advocate working to free others wrongly convicted of crimes and has testified before the U.S. Congress on the need to preserve federal review of state court convictions.

Admission to the lecture is free, but tickets are required and will be available at the auditorium box office.

Scott Receives National Award

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Richard M. Scott, received the Robert F. Newton Award for Distinguished Service by the National Association for College Auxiliary Services (NACAS), at a NACAS conference last November.

The Newton Award is the highest honor presented by the NACAS, which is comprised of college and university personnel who run campus auxiliaries such as parking and food service. The award recognizes Scott's 20 years of service to the NACAS. During this time, Scott has served as vice president, president-elect and president of both the national and southern regional associations of the NACAS.

In addition, Scott has written several articles on behalf of the organization and taught at the NACAS Summer Institute for university auxiliary services professionals. He is also the chair of the national committee to write standards for auxiliary services which are submitted to the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education.

Education Lab Offers Spring Tutoring

The Education Lab will offer tutoring to students in grades K-9 in reading/language arts, math and special need from Jan. 24 to April 14. Watson School of Education students will be matched one-on-one with children during the sessions. Children will attend one or two one-hour sessions weekly between 3 and 6 p.m. Monday and Thursday in King Hall. Registration will take place through Tuesday, Jan. 17. For more information, call 962-3633.

by THOMAS M. RUYLE

In an early-morning, last-minute special session before the end of Fall classes, the SGA Senate voted on Wednesday, Dec. 8 to override President Patrick Gunn's veto of a \$35,000 loan to the Clocktower project. The decision was carried by a nine to one vote with two Senators abstained from the vote.

In a meeting in the Glass Room of the University Union at 7 a.m., a small group of Senators, barely enough to make a quorum, engaged in a short debate over whether to override the veto and loan the money to the project which is being headed by Senior Class President Shane Fernando. Treasurer Ryan Burton informed the Senate that the loan would be null and void if Fernando did not reach his own fundraising goal of \$25,000 by Dec. 15. (The goal was met, and the SGA loan is now in effect.)

Senator Lee Keenen pointed out that the loan would be a benefit to campus, even if not paid back. "Even if the senior class does not pay back the SGA, it (the Clocktower)

would be a benefit to all," he said.

Gunn told the Senate that he has complete confidence in Fernando's project, but cautioned the legislators that when dealing with a large sum of money, more discussion was needed.

I hope this veto will spark some more interest in the SGA. I'm hoping this will make them (the student legislators) think of how serious \$35,000 is," Gunn said before the meeting.

After the vote in favor of the loan, a visibly relieved Fernando remained confident that the Clocktower project would be completed in time.

"We (the Clocktower committee) have never stopped going full steam ahead. We've kept on going and we're going to keep going until we reach our goal," he said.

Fernando attributed the lack of discussion of the loan in Senate meetings to communication outside of meetings.

Most people knew what was going on with the situation," he said. "There's been ongoing dialogue within the (SGA) office and around campus. When it was voted on before

the (Senate), everyone was knowledgeable."

Fernando said that several thousand letters to solicit more funds for the project went out during the second week in December, and he is confident that the \$100,000 fundraising goal will be exceeded before the end of the school year.

"We've got great potential in that mailing. A lot of thought and planning has gone into that," he said.

The loan, originally approved by the Senate on Nov. 29, was vetoed by Gunn on Dec. 3. However, a \$15,000 gift from the SGA to the project, approved at the same time as the loan, was not vetoed by Gunn.

"I approved the \$15,000 contribution (to the project), which I thought was extremely generous. A \$35,000 loan, I thought, was a lot of student fees (for one project)," Gunn said.

Gunn supports the Clocktower project and hopes it is completed on time, but believes that the SGA is playing too much of a role in its completion.

"I love this project, and I want to hear those chimes ring when I graduate. It's one of the top priorities this year, but SGA should



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

At a nearly full Trask Coliseum on Dec. 18, 862 UNCW students joined the ranks of alumni in a fun-filled graduation ceremony.

The ceremony, slightly raucous at times, was punctuated with shouts of joy, spraying of string confetti, and batting a beach-ball around the graduate seating area.

Dr. Johnetta B. Cole, a distinguished professor of anthropology, women's studies and African-American studies from Emory University in Atlanta, gave the graduation address. She advised the new graduates to strive for a better world. "Act in the interest of a better world, love peace with justice, make a commitment to civic participation and responsible citizenship, and engage in human empathy," she said.

Cole received an honorary Doctorate in Humanities from the University.

A Summer 1999 graduate, Paul Tharp, received an Alumni Scholastic Achievement Award. Tharp, a former UNCW basketball player, will be attending Columbia University Law School later this year.

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