

RIBBON, FROM PAGE 1

well as the Dean of Students Office, Division of Student Affairs and the Athletic Department will be sponsoring awareness and fund-raising events throughout the week.

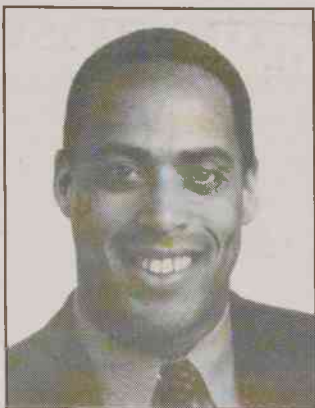
Former professional football player Don McPherson, a leading activist for the prevention of violence against women, will present a lecture titled "The Time Is Now, Stand Up and Be Counted: Stopping Sexual Violence" on Tuesday night. This event is open to everyone and will be held at 7 p.m. in Kenan Auditorium. The presentation is free, but \$1 donations to benefit the Domestic Violence Center will be accepted.

McPherson attended Syracuse University from 1983 to 1988. In 1987, as quarterback, he led the nation in passing and the university to an undefeated season in football. A consensus All-American selection, McPherson won more than 18 national player-of-the-year honors including the Maxwell's award as the nation's top collegiate player.

Drafted by the National Football League, McPherson played two years for the Philadelphia Eagles before he was traded to the Houston Oilers in 1990. He also played for teams in Canada from 1991 to 1994.

Throughout his career, McPherson was involved in community organizations including Athletes Helping Athletes (AHA) based in Long Island, N.Y. and in 1993, he founded AHA, Canada Inc. In 1996 he was named director of the Sport in Society Mentors in Violence Program, a violence prevention program to encourage men to take a proactive position in an effort to stop men's violence against women. The program was introduced in more than 80 schools in New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

In 1998, McPherson rejoined AHA and expanded the



Don McPherson

organization's programming to include Civility in Sports and other programs to address the wider range of school violence issues. As a consultant for the U.S. Justice Department's Agenda for the Nation on Violence Against Women, McPherson has made numerous presentations nationwide.

Joseph Weinberg, noted author and president of Men Stopping Rape-Madison, will present "Men Taking Responsibility: Condoms, Communication and Consent," at 7 p.m. on Sunday, in Dobo Hall 134. Weinberg will also present "How Rape Hurts Males and What One Male Can Do To Stop It" to fraternity members at 7 p.m. on Monday in the Warwick Center Ballroom.

Two free car washes will be held this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. One will be at the Wendy's in Landfall Center and the other will be at Central Carolina Bank on Oleander Drive.

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 23 and 24, a dunking booth will be set up near the spirit rock located in front of University Union. Also, T-shirts are on sale until Oct. 24.

All donations and sale proceeds from the week's events will go to the Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.

BOOKS, FROM PAGE 1

the themes of conformity and abuse of power. Several UNCW English and education professors advise prospective teachers to use the novel in their classrooms.

The Pender County committee was given the two-tier task of deciding whether Cormier's theme and language were appropriate for ninth grade readers.

The district-level committee rendered a 6-2 vote. The voting group consisted of Sue Mintzes, the school district's language arts coordinator; Beverly Bannerman, 1999-2000 teacher-of-year; Cindy Faulk, 2000-2001 principal of the year; Rita Shiver, Pender County's social services director; David Knowles, pastor at the Willard Baptist Church and a teacher at Pender High School; Christina Bibby, Pender High student; Chris Millis, Topsail High student body president; and Joann Absi, Topsail Middle School media specialist.

"Periodically there is something that needs to be challenged. I think parents and community people need to be involved in our students' education," said Diane Hayes, a librarian at Topsail High School and the chairwoman of the school's media advisory board.

The English teacher at the heart of the controversy was this year's Teacher of the year for Pender County, Judy Dietz. Dietz said the assignment in question was voluntary and notes were sent to all parents telling them about the content of *The Chocolate War*.

A complaint issued by Marcy Frazier, the parent of a Topsail High School student, prompted the initial vote by a school-level committee. The committee found the book to be acceptable. According to reports from the *Wilmington Star-News*, Frazier then filed an appeal.

"Based on my research of the book reviews and after listening to the pros and cons, I voted to keep it on the ninth grade reading list. Censorship is not what I believe in," Hayes said.

The Chocolate War focuses on an incident in a private high school where a young man becomes an outcast when he refuses to participate in a chocolate sale at the school. The central theme of the book focuses on social alienation. The book is criticized for its use of profanity, allusions to masturbation and incidents of violence.

"Banned books are a problem, but

on all levels K-12, not just high school. A quick look at lists of the most frequently banned books reveals an odd mix of classic and contemporary novels, as well as books for adults and for children," said David Gill, assistant professor of English education in the specialty studies department at UNCW.

Gill teaches several courses dealing specifically with adolescent literature and instructs high school education majors on the presentation of potentially controversial novels.

"I urge students to always have a written rationale on file for every novel for every long work or novel that they teach, even for the tried and true classics. *Huckleberry Finn* is high on that list of banned books too. As teachers they should learn the procedures for adopting works, and if there is no procedure they should help create one," Gill said.

He also supports the teaching of such controversial novels because of their literary merit.

"This novel is important for a variety of reasons. It is accessible but still intellectually challenging; its characters are like [younger readers] in many ways; its protagonist is an outcast, someone that many teenagers can identify with; its ending is more than food for thought... It is a smorgasbord for debate. In short it is the stuff of great literature but unlike some literary classics, kids will enjoy it," Gill said.

Several community members have voiced opposing views including Hampstead resident Janine Ennis Plera who wrote a letter to the editor of the *Wilmington Star-News* saying that even one parental complaint warranted the book being removed from the class reading list.

Gill maintains that the importance of the ideas in the novel overrides the means that Cormier uses to convey his message.

"Like me, most of my English education colleagues are adamantly opposed to censorship because it infringes on the freedom of ideas," he said. "*The Chocolate War* is banned far more because of its fatalistic ending than for its occasional impropriety. It is Cormier's ideas that most censors attack."

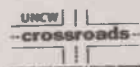
Junior Kate Kimrey, a high school English Education major at UNCW said, "If students are going to be exposed to taboo topics anyway then its better for the student to start out discussing it in school so that teachers can help guide the discussion,"

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

"THE PARTY OF A LIFETIME"

WHEN: MONDAY OCT 23. AND WEDNESDAY OCT. 25
DROP-IN: 7PM-9PM
WHERE: GRAHAM-HEWLETT RESIDENCE HALL CONNECTOR

FREE DRINKS PROVIDED BY



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