

TODAY: Variably cloudy; high mid-70s
THURSDAY: Partly sunny; high upper 60s

Century of Editorial Freedom
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The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

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Philadelphia 4, Cincinnati 1
Detroit 20, Oakland 4
Boston 6, Cleveland 2
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Volume 101, Issue 31

WEDNESDAY IN THE NEWS

Top stories from state, nation and world

Judge acquits Marines of assault on gay man

WILMINGTON, N.C. — Three Marines were acquitted Tuesday of charges that they assaulted three people at a bar that catered to homosexuals.

Judge Jacqueline Morris-Goodson, who was hearing the case without a jury, said the state failed to meet its burden of proof.

The Marines were charged with three counts each of simple assault. They faced a maximum penalty of 30 days in jail or a \$50 fine.

In closing arguments, defense attorneys said Crae Pridden, the most severely beaten man, was intent on fighting and met his match during the brawl.

Assistant District Attorney James Faison III countered, "It wasn't self-defense. What it was was an excuse."

Judge Morris-Goodson, ruling after six days of testimony, said, "If any of the defendants acted in self-defense, their individual actions are excused." Pridden, who has filed a civil lawsuit against the Marines, met with state and federal officials and complained that he was the victim of a gay-bashing.



Crae Pridden

Efforts to feed Sudan's starving not effective

LOKICHOGGIO, Kenya — A major diplomatic offensive is under way to feed Sudan's starving, but aid workers say any solution will be too late to save the severely malnourished, including 4,000 children in the "hunger triangle."

At a tent camp 15 miles south of Sudan's border, airplanes carry food and workers into Sudan every day as part of Operation Lifeline Sudan, a program of the U.N. Children's Fund and World Food Program. But they are not taking the aid to two of three communities the United Nations says are the most at risk.

Japanese aid to Russia more than \$1 billion

TOKYO — Japan, stung by criticism that it sat on the sidelines while others scrambled to help Russian reform, has prepared its own major aid package for Moscow.

Tokyo has planned to announce the details today at the opening of a seven-nation aid meeting. News reports said the package would total \$1.8 billion.

It will be an important symbolic step for Tokyo, which had to overcome strong public sentiment regarding a long-standing territorial dispute with Moscow.

Foreign ministers of the so-called Group of Seven major industrial nations are holding the two-day emergency meeting.

Muslim extremists kill security chief in Egypt

ASSIUT, Egypt — Muslim militants claimed responsibility Tuesday for the machine-gun killing of a top security official and promised more attacks in their campaign to overturn Egypt's secular government.

A member of al-Gamaa al-Islamiya, or the Islamic Group, telephoned a reporter and said Sunday's attack was to avenge the death of a militant leader shot by police this month.

Maj. Gen. Mohamed el-Sheimy, Assiut's provincial security chief, and his bodyguard and driver were killed in the attack.

Journalism professor does not win Pulitzer

UNC journalism professor Margaret Blanchard, who had been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, was not among the winners announced Tuesday.

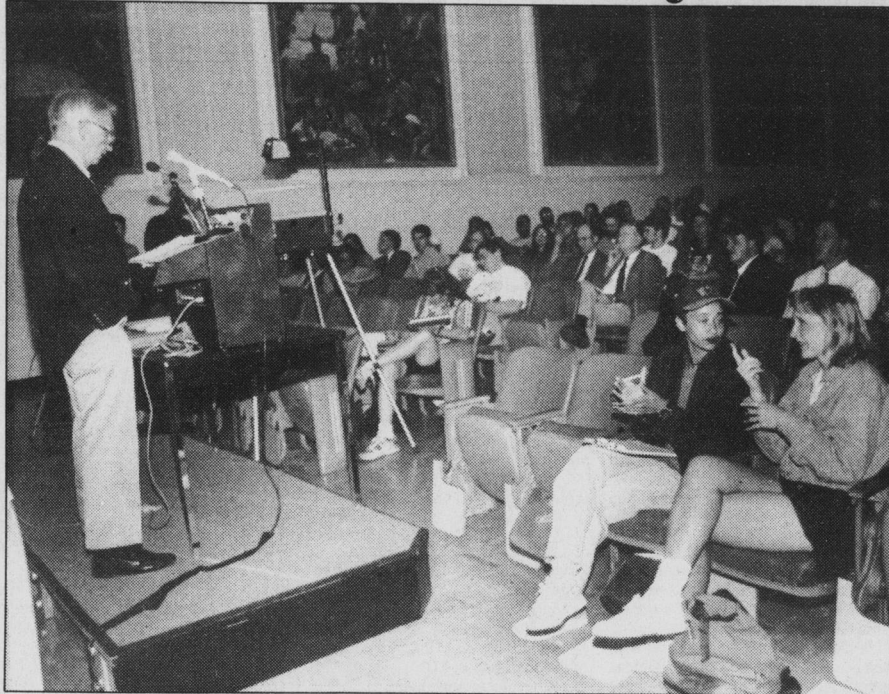
Blanchard's book, "Revolutionary Sparks, Freedom of Expression in Modern America," had been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in American history literature.

Blanchard's 572 page book described conflicts stemming from differing ideas about the freedoms guaranteed in the First Amendment.

She wrote the book after reading opposing opinions concerning a 1920s case in which a communist was accused of trying to overthrow the New York state government.

—The Associated Press

Students, faculty vie for Wilson site



Charles Childs, a physics and astronomy lecturer, tells forum-goers that the University belongs to the students

By James Lewis
Assistant University Editor

Advocates of building a free-standing black cultural center beside Wilson Library and professors favoring a sciences building on the same site faced off for the first time at a public hearing Tuesday night.

"I want to point out that there are serious needs in the sciences which need to be met in the next decade," said Geoffrey Feiss, associate dean of the College of Arts Sciences and professor of geology.

The University's Buildings and Grounds Committee held a three-hour public hearing to discuss the BCC-site issue. Committee members held the hearing to listen to public comment on the two sites under consideration for a BCC — between Wilson Library and Dey Hall and between Coker Hall and the Bell Tower.

The committee will hold a closed meeting today and make a confidential recommendation to Chancellor Paul Hardin. Hardin will give his own report to the Board of Trustees in time for its May 28 meeting.

Three faculty members spoke out in favor of constructing a sciences building beside Wilson Library, marking the first time they have discussed the matter in an open forum with student advocates of the BCC.

But Charles Childs, a lecturer in the physics and astronomy department, said

no consensus had been reached in his department to support a sciences building on the Wilson site.

"This is the first time I have ever made a public statement about a building on this campus," he said. Building a BCC on the Coker site would create a psychological and physical barrier to students, he said. "I certainly hope that this committee decides to recommend the Wilson site even if the administration does otherwise," he said.

Childs asked committee members to remember the purpose of the University. "I think we have lost sight of the students," he said. "(The University) does not — and I may lose my job for this — exist for the faculty."

John Sanders, chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, asked almost 20 speakers to limit discussion to the two sites still being considered for a BCC. Hardin has not set a time limit on the committee's deliberations, Sanders said. "It could be next week," he said. "It could be next month."

Before an audience of 150, BCC advocates emphasized the need for an inclusive BCC to be near the center of student activity. Students also expressed environmental concerns in developing the Coker site.

"The Coker site may be the geographic center of campus, but the center of student activity is around Polk Place and the Pit," said Carolyn McDonald.

See WILSON, page 2

Council members: UNC should buy town buses

By Leah A. Campbell
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill Town Council members suggested Tuesday that the University absorb the cost of running Chapel Hill Transit, the town's bus system, to help offset the town's budget problems.

"Why don't we just offer to sell the system to the University?" asked council member Art Werner.

Werner said he thought the taxpayers should not be expected to pay for the system that was used primarily by people affiliated with the University. He added that University officials might be forced to pay for the system if the town couldn't fund it.

Council member Joe Capowski said he thought UNC should contribute more money to upgrade the bus system.

"In a town of 39,000 people, 27,000 of them commute to campus every morning," he said. "The University is the primary user of the buses."

Seventy percent of the bus system's users are University faculty, students and staff, transportation officials said.

Chapel Hill Transit currently receives 45 percent of its \$5 million annual operating costs from Chapel Hill residents through taxation, 45 percent from the University and 10 percent from the town of Carrboro.

A preliminary transportation budget report outlined that the costs to

maintain the bus system would increase by 15 percent each year. But the amount of people using the system has reached a plateau with no future growth in sight, according to the report submitted by town staff.

The transportation department already is facing a \$370,000 shortfall for next year.

Transportation officials are hoping to replace 28 buses that are almost 14 years old. The new buses would cost \$7 million, most of which would come from federal grants. The town would pay about \$700,000 of the cost.

"Thirty percent of our fleet is older than what the replacement limits will allow," said Bob Godding, the town's transportation director.

Godding said buses would cost about \$250,000 per vehicle, adding that new requirements for handicapped facilities and increased emission standards made buses more expensive.

Godding said that if the bus system shut down, there would be about 5,000 more single-car drivers added to University traffic. The parking required for these extra vehicles is roughly equivalent to four more Craige parking decks. The Craige deck, located beside Craige Residence Hall on Manning Drive, holds 1,600 parking spaces.

Mayor Ken Broun said the idea was worth considering later, but it would

See BUSES, page 7

Jackson still to contact Smith for BCC meeting

By Anna Griffin
Senior Writer

Despite wishes to the contrary, it appears the Rev. Jesse Jackson will not be meeting with UNC basketball coach Dean Smith during his two-day visit to Chapel Hill today and Thursday.

Jackson, who will speak at 8 p.m. today in Memorial Hall, said earlier this week that he had hoped to meet with Smith and several Tar Heel players as part of his effort on behalf of student supporters of a free-standing black cultural center.

"I certainly hope that Dean Smith's support will be key in making this center," Jackson told reporters during a layover at Raleigh-Durham International Airport Monday.

Bill Keys, Jackson's assistant, came to Chapel Hill Tuesday to finalize details of the civil rights leader's visit. But Keys and National Rainbow Coalition officials said they were uncertain whether the meeting would occur.

"We're still hoping the meeting will take place, but we don't have any confirmation yet," Lisa Simms, spokeswoman for the Rainbow Coalition, said Tuesday afternoon. "It's still up in the air."

Linda Woods, Smith's administra-

tive secretary, said no one had contacted her about a possible meeting between the coach and Jackson.

"They haven't called here," Woods said late Tuesday afternoon. "Maybe they will later today, but so far they haven't even tried to set anything up."

Student organizers of the Jackson visit said Jackson planned to meet with student athletes, housekeepers, Chancellor Paul Hardin and other administrators. Keys, who was trying to finalize details of Jackson's visit Tuesday evening, said the reverend's scheduled had not yet been finalized.

"(The athletes) are part of the protest; they're very involved," he said. "I'm assuming we'll come into contact with them at some point in the trip."

At a welcome-home celebration for the men's basketball team last week, senior George Lynch used his time at the Smith Center microphone to plug the BCC movement.

"There's an issue on campus people have been talking about," Lynch told the crowd of about 15,000 fans and a television viewing audience throughout the Triangle. "I'd like to say: Support the BCC."

Lynch, a member of the BCC Advi-

See SMITH, page 7

Angelou urges audience to explore black poetry

By Yi-Hsin Chang
Senior Writer

She brought down the house before she spoke a single word.

A crowd of about 1,300 jumped to a standing ovation when poet Maya Angelou appeared on stage Tuesday evening in Memorial Hall.

The Renaissance woman opened her presentation by singing a slave song, her deep, full voice resonating throughout the auditorium, and continued by dramatically reciting African-American poetry.

"Encourage men and women to look at African-American poetry," Angelou said. "It is so rich. It is so beautiful. It can be credited with the survival of one race."

Angelou described poetry as an expression of the human condition, understood by people from all over the world. "This is a literature that will indulge no distance," she said.

"Entrust this great poetry to you for your liberation," she said.

"The most noble cause of all is the liberation of the human mind and the human spirit."

Angelou was named the first Reynolds Professor of American Studies — a lifetime position — at Wake Forest University in 1981.

At President Clinton's request, Angelou composed and recited a poem titled "On the Pulse of Morning" at the president's inauguration Jan. 20.

Best known for her autobiographical novel "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," Angelou presented Tuesday's lecture, titled "An Evening with Maya Angelou." The Carolina Union Forum Committee sponsored the lecture.

Dressed in an elegant, black sequined



Maya Angelou

jacket, Angelou, 65, delighted the audience with her poetry, anecdotes, wit and wisdom. The crowd responded with laughter, applause and three standing ovations.

Angelou stressed the importance of literacy and of librarians.

"We have historically mistreated librarians," she said. "Librarians have a magic. I suggest you go to the library tomorrow."

"Go to the library. Make sure your time at this institution is not spent in vain. Go to the library."

After speaking for almost an hour, Angelou entertained questions from the audience.

One woman who identified herself as being from Harlem, N.Y., sang to Angelou and thanked her for speaking. On behalf of her family, the woman

added, "We love you."

When asked about director John Singleton's unreleased movie, "Poetic Justice," Angelou criticized the use of profanity and the word "nigger" in the film.

"The language absolutely burned my ears off," she said. Angelou saw a special screening of the film in Winston-Salem, where she lives.

"(The word nigger) is meant to belittle you," she said. "It belittles the person to whom it is used, and it belittles the person who uses it."

"Poetic Justice" stars Janet Jackson as a poet named Justice. Singleton, director of "Boyz n the Hood," used only Angelou's poetry in the movie; Angelou makes a cameo appearance in the film.

But after seeing the movie, Angelou refused to help promote it.

"I cannot go back on what I believe for any reason," she said. "This movie that has my name on it is rife with terms, words and phrases that I would not have you hear."

When asked by a school teacher how she should introduce poetry to her students, Angelou said: "Read it aloud. Poetry is written for the human voice."

Many teachers have used poetry as a punishment, she said. "It should be the opposite. It should be, 'Because you've done so well, I'm going to let you read this (poem).'"

One member of the audience asked Angelou what her greatest inspiration was. Angelou said, "My greatest inspiration is that I am a child of God."

She added that fellow African Americans and poetry in general also inspired her.

"The poetry of human beings inspires me. You inspire me."

Cradle might move to Breadmen's

By Jackie Hershkowitz
City Editor

Cat's Cradle might yet remain in downtown Chapel Hill.

After Breadmen's Restaurant relocates this summer from 337 W. Rosemary St., it will consider leasing the property to the owner of Cat's Cradle, Breadmen's co-owner Bill Piscitello said Tuesday.

"I don't know if the building would be big enough, but I'd like to see the Cradle continue downtown," he said.

Cat's Cradle, located at 206 W. Franklin St., is scheduled to leave its current location within the next few months. The owners of the property are working out a deal with a local marketing company that wants to rent the space.

Piscitello said he had spoken to Cat's Cradle owner Frank Heath, but no final decisions had been made.

Heath said the Breadmen's building might be one of his only options if he wanted to stay in downtown Chapel Hill.

"It's available, and it's closer to town than other things that are available," he said. "But it's only about a third the size of the current space. I wouldn't be able to get the kind of shows I get in this building."

Heath said moving Cat's Cradle into the Breadmen's building might be a good temporary solution, but eventually he would have to look for a larger space.

"I'm not sure whether it would work," he said. "If it's the best solution, then I'll pursue it."

Piscitello said he also was considering razing the building and constructing an apartment complex in its place.

"Everything is just talk right now," he said. "I don't know what we'll end up doing with the property."

Chris Ipock, senior manager of Breadmen's, said he wasn't sure it would be feasible to relocate Cat's Cradle in the Breadmen's building.

"In my estimation, the building might not be large enough," he said. "The thing for them to do would be to raze the building and start from scratch."

Ipock said the cost of renting the Breadmen's building might be out of Heath's range.

Piscitello would not say how much rent he would charge for the property. He said he wasn't interested in selling the building but would consider leasing it to Heath.

"I personally have always thought that the Cradle added a lot to Chapel Hill," Piscitello said. "It's one of the few places that has that kind of entertainment available to students on a regular basis."

Piscitello said that although he would consider meeting with Heath again to discuss the relocation in more detail, he thought for the next few months he would be preoccupied with his restaurant's upcoming move.

"I always consider offers," he said. "But right now, my interest is getting everything going so we can move across the street."

Breadmen's plans to move by August to a larger building across the street. The restaurant has outgrown its current location, Piscitello said.

The poetry of human beings inspires me. — Maya Angelou