

POLICE ROUNDUP

University

Wednesday, Feb. 14

■ At 1:18 a.m., University police responded to a call from a female security officer who was experiencing a panic attack on Level 3 of the Business School parking deck.

EMS arrived on the scene and brought her to the UNC Emergency Room, reports state.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

■ At 9:03 a.m. University police received a report of a larceny in Lenoir Dining Hall.

A woman said her wallet was taken when she left it on a table in the dining hall while getting food. The blue leather wallet included cash, credit cards and a bus pass, reports state.

There are no suspects at this time.

City

Wednesday, Feb. 14

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of vandalism at 12:55 a.m. at a parking lot on the 100 block of East Franklin Street.

Reports state that the suspect punctured the tires of a 1997 Nissan Maxima, causing \$400 in damage.

Prosecution was declined to a suspect in the case.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of vandalism at 12:55 a.m. at a parking lot on the 100 block of East Franklin St.

Reports state that the suspect punctured the tires of a 1999 Pontiac Grand Prix, causing \$400 in damage.

Prosecution declined to name a suspect in the case.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of breaking and entering to a motor vehicle at 12 p.m.

Reports state that an unknown subject broke into a 1987 Honda Civic parked in an impound lot, causing \$200 in damage to a right front window.

Leads are exhausted on the case.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of breaking and entering to a motor vehicle at 12 p.m.

Reports state that an unknown subject broke into a 1989 Dodge Colt parked in an impound lot, causing \$200 damage to the right front window.

Leads are exhausted in the case.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of breaking and entering to a motor vehicle at 12 p.m.

Reports state that an unknown subject broke into a 1986 Honda Prelude parked in an impound lot, causing \$200 damage to the left front window.

Leads are exhausted on the case.

■ Chapel Hill police arrested Ishmael David Hamilton Jr., 18, of 501A Edward Drive.

Reports state that Hamilton was arrested on an outstanding warrant from damage to real property. He was also found to be in possession of 38 grams of crack cocaine at the time of his arrest, reports state.

He was charged with one misdemeanor count of damage to real property and one felony count of possession with intent to sell or deliver.

He was confined in Orange County Jail on a \$5,000 secured bond. His court date was set for Feb. 14 at Orange County District Court in Hillsborough.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of breaking and entering and larceny from a residence at 6 a.m.

The incident occurred on Woodhaven Drive.

Reports state that an unknown subject entered the home and took a necklace.

The case is under further investigation.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of larceny of a motor vehicle at 7:45 a.m.

Reports state that an unknown subject took a silver Honda Accord worth \$23,000 from a residence on Airport Road. Also taken was various clothing worth \$300 and a Gameboy worth \$60.

The case is under further investigation.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of vandalism to a motor vehicle at 6 p.m.

The incident occurred at a residence on Airport Road. Reports state that an unknown subject scratched a 1996 Toyota Tacoma, causing \$500 in damage. Leads are exhausted in the case.

■ Chapel Hill police received reports of larceny at 11:38 a.m. at East Chapel Hill High School at 500 Weaver Dairy Road.

Reports state that an unknown subject took a Nokia cell phone worth \$130 from a bookbag.

Leads are exhausted in the case.

Grants Help Group Lend 'A Helping Hand'

Most of the money awarded to A Helping Hand will be put toward expanding local respite care services.

By ROBERT CUMMINGS
Staff Writer

An area nonprofit organization has been awarded two grants totaling \$37,400 from groups on both the local and national levels to help expand care of Chapel Hill's elderly and disabled.

A Helping Hand has provided care to senior citizens and the disabled since May 1995, when the group was founded. With the grant funds, the organiza-

tion will have more opportunities for volunteers to get involved.

The grants were provided by two groups. One group, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, will assist A Helping Hand through a program called Faith In Action, providing \$35,000.

A Helping Hand provides two basic types of services. One is to aid in food preparation or transportation. The second program is their respite care services, where volunteers are able to provide relief to full-time caregivers for a few hours each week.

The money from Faith In Action will be provided over a 30-month period to help expand A Helping Hand's respite care efforts.

"Faith In Action will help our neigh-

bors maintain their independence by providing assistance with daily activities," said Cathy Ahrendsen, the founder and executive director of A Helping Hand.

The other group, the Home Health Foundation of Chapel Hill, will provide an additional \$2,400 aimed at furthering all of the organization's services.

"A Helping Hand met exactly the goals we had set out," said Marlys Mitchell, the foundation chairwoman for

"A Helping Hand met exactly the goals we had set out. It was a perfect match for what we wanted to do."

MARLYS MITCHELL
Home Health Foundation Chairwoman

the Home Health Foundation. "It was a perfect match for what we wanted to do. It was kind of easy." Ahrendsen said the grant money would extend care and services to a total of 60 clients, leaving only 27 on

the waiting list.

The organization currently utilizes 47 volunteers, 90 percent of whom Ahrendsen said are UNC students.

Ben Wood, a sophomore biology major, said he discovered A Helping Hand when the group delivered a pre-

sentation at the Alpha Epsilon Delta pre-medical honor fraternity.

"Volunteering helps me to build communication skills," he said.

"Being able to talk to someone you just met who is a few generations older than you is a valuable asset in pre-med. I've always found that the elderly have a lot to share about their lives. I've always benefited from their advice."

Sara Cleveland, a sophomore child development and family studies major said she also experiences the human aspect.

"You get to meet their family and become a part of their life."

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V-Day Puts New Spin on Holiday

The event, being held on college campuses across the nation, aims to raise awareness about violence against women worldwide.

By PAIGE AMMONS
Staff Writer

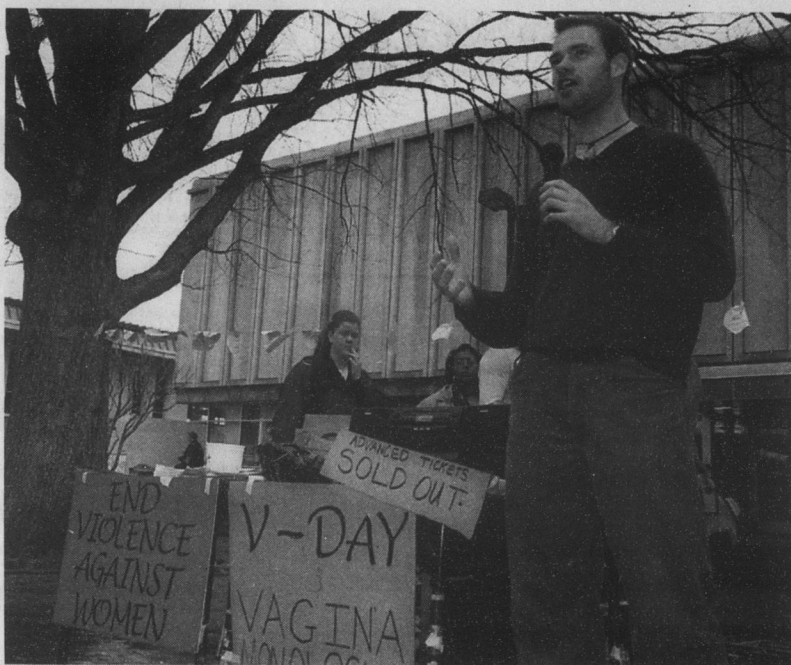
While many UNC students focused on romantic thoughts this Valentine's Day, several students took the opportunity to learn about the horrors of female genital mutilation in different societies.

"Violence Against Women as a Religious Ritual," a program held at the Wesley Foundation, was part of the V-Day Initiative, a worldwide effort to get the word out about violence against women.

Kim Benton, the founder of V-Day on UNC's campus, presented video clips and led a discussion. She said the purpose of the program was to inform students of the horrors that women in other cultures must endure. "This presentation shows exactly what other women around the world are dealing with and how lucky we are," she said.

Benton showed video clips from the Oprah Winfrey show and a documentary-style movie with writer Alice Walker titled "Warrior Marks."

In the Oprah clip, the talk-show host introduced various injustices to women, including the trafficking of women and the practice of female genital mutilation. "In this cultural



Senior Jesse Moore, founder of the White Ribbon Campaign, an organization for men concerned about sexual assault, speaks to students in the Pit on Wednesday about sexual violence.

and religious practice, part or all of the outer female genitalia is removed," Benton said, citing the World Health Organization as her source. In some cases, only the clitoris is removed, but in other instances, the outer and inner

labia are cut off as well. She said female genital mutilation is practiced in 28 African countries, and between 120 million and 140 million girls are exposed to this ritual. The mutilation has temporary effects on

the woman including pain, shock and infection. Long-term effects can be more devastating and might include the increase in cases of AIDS.

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Humor, Violence Come to Town in 'Vagina'

By ADAM FARABEE
Staff Writer

"Vagina." It doesn't matter how many times you say it, it never sounds like a word you want to say. That's Eve Ensler in the prologue to her popular play "The Vagina Monologues," which has become the centerpiece of a national movement to end violence against women.

In honor of V-Day 2001, Ensler's Obie Award-winning play will be performed at Madison Square Garden in New York and at more than 200 colleges nationwide, including UNC. The play opens tonight at the historic Playmakers Theatre.

Ensler is not only an award-winning playwright, screenwriter and director but also an activist for women's rights around the world.

She is responsible for the worldwide V-Day movement to stop violence against women.

Whether it's female genital mutilation in Africa, spousal abuse in the United States or acid burnings in India, she is working toward the common goal of peace. "It's such a powerful issue that crosses over a lot of boundaries and brings people together," Ensler said.

Ensler is, however, best known for her extremely successful play, "The Vagina Monologues." The piece began as a one-woman show

performed by Ensler off-off-Broadway four years ago.

"The Vagina Monologues" is alternately hilarious and deeply disturbing. But as important as the serious monologues are — the tribute to Bosnian rape victims, an eyewitness report about the wonder of childbirth — humor is the show's real strength.

Ensler said coming up with the idea for the play was entirely an accident. She was talking to a friend about vaginas and started saying things that really sur-

prised her. Ensler realized she had no idea what women thought about their vaginas, she said.

"So I started casually saying to people, what do you think about your vagina? Everything that any woman said was so interesting and profound that before I knew it I was sucked down the vagina trail, and I've been there for many years now," she said.

Ensler hopes that the movement will be embraced by men as well as women. "I think that it is really important that men show support and become involved," she said.

The incredibly dramatic impact that the show can have on men was made obvious when the national tour made a stop in Texas, Ensler said.

A man came in to see the play because he saw "The Vagina

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Author Eve Ensler

New Romance Site Woos Lovers With Creative Ideas

LoveLifeMatters.com gears its services toward adults aged 25 to 40 who are currently in relationships.

By STEPHANIE GUNTER
Staff Writer

Appropriately launched on the most romantic day of the year, a local man is hoping his new Web site will help couples keep the sparks flying.

Scott McClure of Chapel Hill has launched LoveLifeMatters.com, a site designed to provide people with information about relationships.

"The mission of the site is kind of like a one-stop shop for information about romance," said Ashley Sharp, a freelance media relations coordinator for

the company.

McClure said he found it very difficult to find information on the Web about romance without it being pornography or information in some obscure scientific article.

"To me, it was very frustrating to find anything about romance or sexual intimacy on the Web," he said.

Although anyone can visit the site, Sharp said the site is primarily geared for people in relationships.

"We're targeting, ideally, adults 25-40 (years old)," McClure said.

"We don't want to go after the teenage (crowd). We're trying to deal with romance in a mature fashion for those that are trying to maintain the pas-

McClure said he started the site because of some statistics he considered scary concerning intimacy and relation-

ships.

"Society has a lot of real issues with family values and relationships," he said.

Plus McClure said he gets to combine business with pleasure. McClure moved to Chapel Hill last year to complete his master's in business administration. He has since postponed his education to start LoveLifeMatters.

"I've always been interested in romance," he said.

"I get to combine my passion with my business."

The site offers a variety of information and creative ideas for flirting and dating, including a secret admirer section, forget-me-nots and a stories and poll section where visitors can contribute ideas or comments.

Right now the company is self-funded, but the site has the potential to make

money through its product sales, McClure said.

LoveLifeMatters is also partners with about 50 product partners where participants can purchase anything from flowers and lingerie to jewelry and vacation packages, McClure said.

The site also will publish articles relating to romance and intimacy beginning on a monthly basis, then becoming a weekly feature in the near future.

Sharp said she hopes the site will be successful.

"I think it provides really valuable information," Sharp said. "I think it will be a good place to build a community of people looking to build stronger relationships."

McClure agreed, saying there should be nothing more important in people's lives than the relationships with their sig-

nificant others.

"Too often sex and relationships become a routine," he said.

"If nothing else, it's a way to get neat ideas of how to spice up your love life."

McClure said he feels that relationships and intimacy are becoming less taboo.

"People are becoming more open to talking about relationships and intimacy," he said.

In the coming months, the site will offer romantic coupons for a backrub or a candlelit dinner that can be e-mailed to one's significant other and a way to help people remember their significant other's measurements, McClure said.

"Romance is more than just Valentine's Day."

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GPSF Aims To Initiate Mentoring

Undergraduate students will be paired with mentors to get advice about what path to take after graduation.

By MANDY MELTON
Staff Writer

The Graduate and Professional Student Federation unveiled a new mentorship project Monday that will pair undergraduate students with graduate and professional students.

The graduate and professional students will advise undergraduates in similar fields and help them make informed decisions about their education and career plans.

The majority of the mentorship process will take place through e-mail, minimizing the time commitment involved.

"The program is for undergraduate students who have ambitions for the future, but who aren't quite so sure about which graduate school is right for them," said GPSF President Thad Woody.

The interactions between mentors and undergraduates will aim to give the latter a realistic impression of what life is like in graduate school.

Woody said he hopes the information undergraduates receive from mentorship will be more beneficial than information students gain from reading graduate school catalogs.

Rhonda Litterer, a sophomore biology major who is exploring options for post-graduate study, said she would consider participating in the project.

"The mentor program sounds like a good idea," she said. "It would give you a better idea of what you would be doing if you chose to continue your education."

The GPSF has also received positive response from potential mentors.

"I've had tremendous interest with graduate students who are excited about the possibility of interacting with undergraduates," Woody said.

Chris Myers, a graduate student in the history department, said, "I would love to participate in e-mentoring."

Myers is leaving UNC after this semester, but he will still be available for e-mail consultation with an undergraduate.

Wendy Haines, a Ph.D. student in toxicology, also said she was interested

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GPSF President Thad Woody said the project will help students who are undecided about graduate school.