

# Substance-free event sees low teen turnout

## Gathers input on youth center

BY ALLISON MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

Maybe high-school students just had other plans Friday night.

Whatever the reason, the first Late Nite at the Y, hosted by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA and the Coalition for Alcohol & Drug Free Teenagers of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, yielded a smaller turnout than organizers expected.

The event, held from 9 p.m. to midnight, was put on to give students from Chapel Hill and East Chapel Hill high schools a fun alternative to drinking or doing drugs on a Friday night.

At about 11 p.m., 78 teens had walked through the door.

Jeff Lloyd, assistant youth director at the YMCA, said he was hoping for 200 to 300 teenagers to show up, but he stressed that organizers didn't know what to expect.

"I think it's a step in the right direction," he said.

Dale Pratt-Wilson, director of the coalition, said her organization works with the community to keep teenagers away from drinking and drugs.

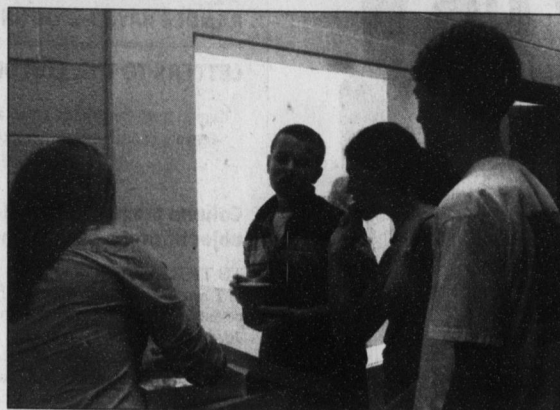
"It's another tool in the tool box," she said of the event.

She added that organizers took suggestions from students.

"It sends a message that we really care about what they want."

Small groups of teens walked around the YMCA, checking out the event's offerings: concessions, a lounge area, sports and a dance in the gym.

Aaron Strom, a freshman at East Chapel Hill High School, said



High schoolers Nick Rider (from left), Emi Hernandez and Robert Susick grab a bite at Late Nite at the Y at the Chapel Hill YMCA on Friday.

he went with his friend because he was looking for something to do.

"I guess it would be more fun if more people knew about it and more people showed up," he said.

Strom said he would be interested in going to a future Late Nite at the Y if more teens attended.

"There's more adults here than kids," he said.

"The supervision is kind of crazy," he added, citing the metal-detecting wand and the Breathalyzer at the door.

YMCA staff members, parent volunteers and police officers from Chapel Hill and Carrboro chaperoned the event.

"If it kept one kid from drinking alcohol or doing drugs, I think it's been pretty effective," said Capt. J. G. Booker of the Carrboro Police Department.

"I think it's done at least that and maybe more."

Chapel Hill High School freshman Amanda Macedo was more skeptical.

"The kids that do drink and do drugs don't come here," she said.

"It's fun just to talk, but the activities they have aren't that great."

Macedo said she would have liked a place to watch movies at the event.

Gary Monroe, a YMCA board member, said the event served as a way to get suggestions for the youth center the YMCA plans to build.

Another Late Nite at the Y is planned for December, with possible additions of Dance Dance Revolution games and karaoke.

Monroe said, "The real test will be if kids come back if we do it again."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Study: U.S. free press stifled

## Journalists face increased censorship

BY JACQUELINE RICE  
STAFF WRITER

The United States is falling behind in press freedom, according to a study published by an international organization aimed at promoting journalists' rights worldwide.

Reporters Without Borders released the study last week, ranking the United States at 53 out of the 168 countries surveyed.

The ranking has dropped 36 places in the past five years.

Lucie Morillon, the organization's Washington representative, said U.S. reporters' ability to conduct journalism is hampered by media censorship.

She said the right to keep sources confidential is one of the major reasons that U.S. press freedoms were ranked low.

"Our credibility is at stake," she said. "Journalists have ethics and want to push for protecting America's right to be informed."

Morillon said the index was based on 50 questions concerning press freedoms and was calculated on a Reporters Without Borders scale to determine rank.

Journalists, free-press organizations and freedom of expression experts were surveyed on their countries' censorship, imprison-

ment, threats, intimidation and physical reprisals of journalists.

The report also pointed to Bush administration policy on reporting national security issues as restricting journalistic freedom.

Charles Davis, professor of journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia, said the study was somewhat subjective and overly critical in nature.

But those concerns were secondary, he added.

"Overall it really doesn't matter," he said. "If we are not No. 1, then there is a real problem. We used to be the shining light around the world for journalism."

Nations ranking first, including Finland, Ireland, Iceland and the Netherlands, reported no accounts of censorship or other restrictions on journalistic freedoms.

The Free Flow of Information Act, aimed at promoting U.S. journalistic freedom by protecting the right to confidential sources, was introduced in the House in 2005.

Experts agree that the use of confidential sources is important in maintaining the watchdog focus of journalism.

"It's a choice a reporter makes between sitting on valuable information or letting the public know," Davis said.

*"If we really want national security, it cannot be done at the expense of freedom of the press."*

LUCIE MORILLON, FREE PRESS ACTIVIST

"It's a tremendous incentive for those in the halls of powers to do the right thing when it runs counter to their own self-interests."

Sheldon Rampton, research director for the Center for Media and Democracy, said journalists also should be concerned with protecting the legitimacy of requests for freedom.

"There are a fair number of journalists who are classified as lazy or not subjecting their sources to scrutiny," he said.

"This is just as bad as outright corruption."

Morillon said eliminating censorship of the press is important in defending First Amendment rights of free speech.

"If we really want national security, it cannot be done at the expense of freedom of the press," she said. "The press is healthy for democracy."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

## National and World News

### Federal police try to quell riots in Oaxaca

OAXACA, Mexico (AP) — Federal police with assault rifles and riot-shields advanced into Oaxaca on Sunday, bypassing or extinguishing barricades of burning tires and tree trunks in this normally picturesque tourist destination wracked by five months of protests and violence.

Some protesters used syringes to pierce their arms and legs, then painted signs decrying the police in blood.

What began in late May as a teachers' strike in this colonial southern Mexican city spiraled into chaos as anarchists, students and Indian groups seized the central plaza and barricaded streets throughout the city to demand the ouster of Oaxaca state Gov. Ulises Ruiz. Police, and state forces have shot at protesters — at least eight people have died.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

### World Series winner most dangerous city

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Just days after the St. Louis Cardinals won the top honor in Major League Baseball, their hometown jumped to first place on a list no one wants to lead: the most dangerous cities in the United States.

This Midwestern city long has been in the upper tiers of the annual ranking of the nation's safest and most dangerous cities. Violent crime surged nearly 20 percent there this year, when the rate of such crimes rose much faster in the Midwest than in the rest of the nation, according to FBI figures released in June.

The ranking, being released Monday, came as the city still was celebrating Friday's World Series victory at the new Busch Stadium. St. Louis is spending millions of dollars on urban renewal even as the crime rate climbs.

## Project to connect local musicians

### Students soliciting artists for mixed CD

BY SHELLEY FULLWOOD  
STAFF WRITER

The one thing every artist passionately craves is opportunity, and Kind of Blue is knocking.

Kind of Blue is a student-run project working to connect UNC musicians with those in the community surrounding the University by compiling a mixed CD of original tracks.

The project is funded by the Connected Learning Program at Cobb Residence Hall, which is sponsored by the James M. Johnston Center for Undergraduate Excellence and Housing and Residential Education.

"It's there to promote community and connect the campus," said senior Alex Watson, the project's leader.

"Everyone is kind of affected by music to some degree."

Watson, a music major, said he was interested in starting the project because of his major.

"We want to give musicians a chance to get their music out," he said.

"On campus we don't have a compilation of the music that happens, and this is a way to represent what happens."

The project invites all musicians to submit one track of original music or to audition in front of the group's members Nov. 15.

Artists will be notified of the final track list in January and the resulting compilation will be sold across campus and possibly in the greater Chapel Hill area in March.

Watson said.

Watson stressed that Kind of Blue doesn't want to limit the CD to musicians and bands only. Solo artists, a cappella groups and combos also are invited to take part.

"People could chant or even a drum solo and submit that," Watson said. "The more crazy it is and unique, the more chance it has of getting on the CD."

The album will feature about 20 bands, but if there is extremely high interest from local artists, Watson said they might expand the project to two discs.

"It's a way to get a band out there, and it's good exposure for local bands," he said.

Featured artists also will be eligible to perform as part of the Johnston Center's Thursday on the Terrace concert series, which is held on the patio of Graham Memorial every Thursday.

But the project isn't just limited to student works. Musically inclined teachers and faculty are encouraged to submit works to the project because, as Watson said, it's important to include all aspects of the community.

"How cool would it be to know your professor is in a band?" he said.

"Who knows, the professors' bands may whoop the students," Watson stressed that the project is providing artists with the opportunity to record through the music department's student-run studio.

### Kind of Blue

**How to submit:**  
Send one original track, including your band's name, the names of all members, an e-mail address and the title of the selection.

**Visit Kind of Blue on the Web:** [myspace.com/unckindofblue](http://myspace.com/unckindofblue)

**Contact Kind of Blue:**  
Kind of Blue  
Cobb Residence Hall  
UNC-Chapel Hill  
110 Country Club Road  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
[kindofblue@gmail.com](mailto:kindofblue@gmail.com)

"If a band comes in and has a good song but not quality, then we'll help them record it."

But the main focus of the project is to bring music communities together, Watson said.

"Music is a really communal activity."

Contact the Arts Editor at [artsdesk@unc.edu](mailto:artsdesk@unc.edu).

### Policemen shot in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Suspected Sunni Arab gunmen killed 23 policemen Sunday, including 17 in one attack in the predominantly Shiite southern city of Basra, signaling the possible start of an insurgent campaign against Iraq's predominantly Shiite Muslim security forces.

Political tension deepened in Baghdad when Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi, the country's highest-ranking Sunni politician, threatened to resign if Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki did not act quickly to eradicate two feared Shiite militias.

### Deadly crash kills a Sultan

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — A Nigerian airliner with 104 people on board slammed into the ground moments after takeoff on Sunday — the third deadly crash of a passenger plane in less than a year in this West African nation known for its notoriously unsafe air industry.

Six people survived; the rest were believed dead. Among those killed was the man regarded as the spiritual leader of Nigeria's Muslims, Muhammadu Maccido, the Sultan of Sokoto. Thousands of people gathered at a regional airport to receive his body.

### Leader wins second term

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva won a second term in a landslide victory Sunday with Brazilians rewarding their first working-class leader after he helped ease grinding poverty while improving the economy.

With 92 percent of votes counted, the president had 61 percent support compared to 40 percent for the center-right Geraldo Alckmin, Sao Paulo state's former governor. Election officials said Alckmin would be unable to pull ahead even if he won all of the remaining votes.

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