

On

Campus

**Verbal battle?** The UNC Forensics Union defeated 20 other major universities at the Appalachian State University Forensics tournament last weekend.

Sammy Hill placed first in Informative Speaking, and he and his partner Lisa Smith walked away with the first place in Duo Interpretation. Joanne Gilbert was awarded first place in After Dinner speaking. Gilbert was also a finalist in Poetry Interpretation and in Impromptu Speaking. Other finalists included Lori Young in Poetry Interpretation, and Laurette Chaney and Randy Hill in Extemporaneous Speaking.

The Debate Team won honors last weekend as well. In Emory University's Debate Invitational, the UNC varsity team placed in the top half of more than 50 teams. Jeremy Ofsever, was ranked ninth out of more than 100 debaters.

The junior varsity team came in second place in the competition. Members of the team were Michael Eques and Beth Haas.

**Marching on...** A coalition called the "November Coalition," which includes campus groups such as the Campus Y, the Democratic Socialists of America, the Carolina Committee on Central America and *Combined Forces*, is sponsoring a bus trip to a march on the Capitol Nov. 12. The march is to protest Reagan's policies in Central America.

Two buses have been reserved for the trip and will leave from the Morehead Planetarium at 4 a.m. Round trip tickets are \$25 and can be purchased Thursday and Friday in the Pit.

**Bon chance!** Dr. Arthur L. Finn, professor of medicine and physiology at UNC, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to conduct research at the College de France in Paris.

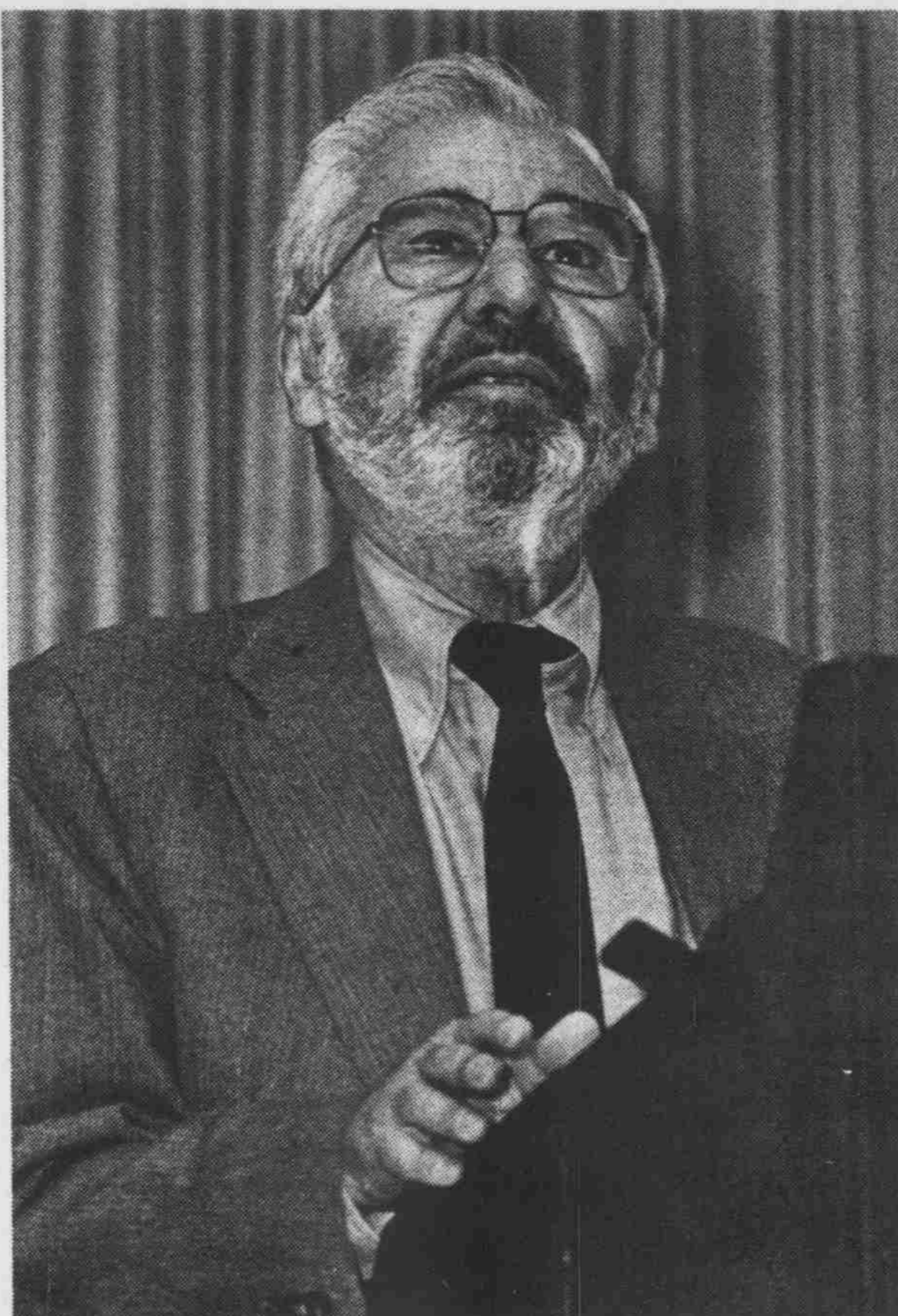
Finn will be working with noted scholar Dr. Francois Morel collaborating in an effort to learn how kidney cells maintain their volume. Finn is one of 2,000 Americans to be awarded Fulbright scholarships this year.

Individuals are accepted for the award on the basis of academic and professional qualifications as well as their ability and willingness to work with people from other cultures.

**Sigma support...** For the past 27 years the Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority has worked with the N.C. Memorial Hospital to develop a recreation therapy program for children. The program now is recognized as one of the best in the country. Recently, the sorority donated \$30,000 to the department of pediatrics and recreation therapy.

The money will provide funding for two therapeutic recreation graduate students from the department of recreation administration at the University. It will also help to redecorate the pediatric playroom.

According to Eric B. Munson, executive director of the hospital, the sorority has provided more than \$300,000 for NCMH since 1956.



DTH/Zane A. Saunders

Alfred Kazin, a literary critic and author, spoke in Gerrard Hall Tuesday on "The Strange Death of Liberal America."

# Liberal America dying a slow death, Kazin says

By CINDY PARKER  
Staff Writer

The liberal America that turned millions of Europeans into Americans and millions of Americans into individuals is slowly dying, author and critic Alfred Kazin said in a speech in Gerrard Hall Tuesday.

"I know I have reason to be alarmed by what is happening to us," Kazin told the crowd of about 100 people. "I am not a politician. I am an old-fashioned American liberal."

Kazin, a noted literary critic and author for nearly half a century, has been a distinguished Professor of English at Hunter College in New York since 1973.

Kazin's speech, titled "The Strange Death of Liberal America," emphasized the liberal America that placed hope on the future. That hope is based on the experiences of the past, and it is this remembrance of the past that has become scarce, Kazin said.

"Liberal America is an attitude... an awareness that freedom should be the base of our political society," Kazin told the audience. It is the apathy of present-day Americans which is leading to the destruction of this train of thought, he said.

Former President Jimmy Carter "recognized the need for a new moral energy in America," but for two and a half years Democrats have allowed President Reagan to destroy this, Kazin said. Liberal America urges citizen participation, Kazin said. "Public opinion when spontaneous and unorganized is powerful."

"Are you a pessimist?" Kazin asked himself. "No, I'm an American," he replied. "I have great hope," he said. "I just don't think where we're going will be very helpful to our children."

Kazin also discussed an America whose thoughts are dominated by war. For 40 years we have faced the threat of total war, and this has had a devastating effect on American culture, he said.

"We are dreaming of a war no one can win... It's denying us of a future."

And the future depends largely on the educational system of today, he said. "Our chief problem with education is that our system has become vocational without being able to guarantee jobs. Never have I been so aware of the gap between the educator and the non-educator."

Kazin's speech was sponsored by the Carolina Union Special Projects Committee in cooperation with the UNC American Studies Curriculum.

**Money from Mellons...** The University has received \$200,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to help support workshops and internships for writing and foreign language teachers from the state's public schools. The grant will help fund workshops during the next three summers. It will also support academic internships for the state's best teachers during the next three years. They will spend an academic year in Chapel Hill teaching freshman English and engaging in seminars with University professors.

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