

# Help a campus celebrity kiss UNC mascot Ramses

By BETHANY LITTON  
Staff Writer

The ram mascot may look cute from the stands during a football game, but one of five campus personalities will get the chance to see him close up and help out the Chapel Hill Police Department at the same time.

Circle K's "Kiss the Ram" contest will allow students to choose who will kiss Ramses XIX by making donations in the Pit. Proceeds from the contest will go to the Chapel Hill Police Department's educational programs.

Jill Nystrom, Circle K Club president, said the contest has been a successful fund-raiser in the past because it is different and it promotes school spirit.

"It's kind of an offbeat notion, which attracts a lot of attention," Nystrom said. "It's pretty great seeing someone who you like a whole lot or that kind of irritates you kiss the ram."

The contestants are Student Body

President Kevin Martin, Mike Sam Mike Littlejohn, Mr. UNC Dave Warlick, Homecoming Queen Norma Holhauser and student activist Dale McKinley.

Students can vote by putting money in the collection jars in the Pit all of this week and next Monday and Tuesday. The winner will get to kiss the ram in a short ceremony in the Pit next Tuesday at 12:15 p.m.

The winner will be determined by a point system. Change donated to a contestant's collection jar adds points to the total and paper money subtracts from the total. This system allows voters to improve their favorite contestant's chances by putting coins in his or her jar and putting bills in an opponent's jar.

The Chapel Hill Police Department will use the money to publish safety awareness pamphlets to teach schoolchildren how to protect themselves in dangerous situations.

"I'm looking forward to the contest," Warlick said. "I've never kissed a ram before so it would be a new

experience. Actually, it's been a long time since I've kissed anything."

Littlejohn said he thought he had a good chance of winning although he was behind after the first day.

"I would give that ram a good kiss," he said.

The current mascot, Ramses XIX, has only been active since October, so this is his first "Kiss the Ram" contest, said Circle K member Brian Bennett.

Bennett expressed his appreciation to the campus individuals who are participating in the contest. "It's nice that these people are willing to do this for a good cause," Bennett said.

Bennett also encouraged all students to vote in the Pit this week for the contestant they would most like to see kiss the ram. "This is the chance for everyone to try to humiliate a campus personality while also helping out the community," he said.

Circle K is a campus service organization that is affiliated with the Chapel Hill Kiwanis Club.

# Fighting AIDS discrimination

By LAURA MAYFIELD  
Staff Writer

Panic, profit and politics are the three main factors in AIDS discrimination, Benjamin Shatz, director of the AIDS Civil Rights Project of the San Francisco National Gay Rights Advocates, told about 50 people at the law school Monday.

Shatz, a practicing lawyer with a Harvard law degree, emphasized the need for qualified lawyers to join the fight against AIDS discrimination. "I want to stress the importance of day-to-day law in the lives of those who are at risk or are suffering from AIDS," he said.

Unfortunately, the law often ignores those who are closest to AIDS victims, Shatz said. Homosexual partnerships are not legally recognized, so a partner can be forced to leave a shared apartment when his partner dies.

Convention is one of the most difficult obstacles to overcome in the battle against AIDS discrimination, he said.

"It is more polite to have people die than to say words having to do with sex. If we want to educate people we'll have to do it in words they understand."

The sense of panic is apparent in health-care givers, he said.

"The most disturbing problem is in health care. In many places it is impossible to find a nursing home or a doctor who will care for someone with AIDS," Shatz said. He described a man who spent several days in a hospital before he could find someone who would treat him.

"Here was a gay man with spots on his face who was having trouble breathing. They put him in an isolation ward. All he had was asthma and acne. The kind of horror story I present here is one of hundreds, many of which never reach my office."

Insurance companies, which screen applicants for risk potential, walk a fine line between self-protection and discrimination, Shatz said. One company to come under attack by his agency passed a memo to its employees asking them to screen for potential AIDS victims. It asked them to deny insurance to unmarried men holding jobs not requiring physical labor such as florists and interior decorators, he said.



DTH/Janet Jarman  
Benjamin Shatz speaks on AIDS discrimination at the law school

Other groups are also trying to cash in on the AIDS scare, he said.

For example, one company is trying to market an AIDS saliva test at Tupperware parties, he said.

Politicians can benefit most from the AIDS scare, he said. "AIDS is a very appealing way for politicians to get noticed... that is the way the AIDS crisis has been used in this country."

"Right now we're at a crossroads — trends of compassion, denial and blame. AIDS is a good oppor-

tunity for laying blame and saying 'These are the people that need to die.'"

The conclusion drawn is that people developing AIDS are expendable, Shatz said.

In spite of all the obstacles facing AIDS victims, Shatz said he is optimistic. "The situation is improving in terms of discrimination based on casual contagion. People want something done, but they're just not sure what that should be."

# Bush, Dole battle for support

By CARRIE DOVE  
Staff Writer

George Bush is counting on unified support from the Republican Party to give him a victory in November, but with Bob Dole as Senate Republican Leader, his relationship with Congress may be rocky.

"There could be a lot of problems," said UNC political science professor Merle Black.

Personal animosity between the two has surfaced on the Senate floor this year, said a Dole staff member who declined to be identified.

Dole campaign officials refused to concede defeat but admitted that his chances in today's Connecticut primary are slim.

"(Dole) still has hope that the nominee will be him, but Connecticut is Bush country," said Katie Boyle,

spokeswoman at Dole for President.

Experts agreed that Bush is the stronger candidate in the Northeast. "Bush should do very well in Connecticut," said Black.

Dole will drop out of the race soon, experts said.

"We are taking it day by day," said Susan Pelter, press secretary in Dole's Senate office. "He will not stay in until the point where it is ridiculous."

"I wouldn't be surprised if he drops out in the near future," Black said.

Bush officials agreed. "He implied that he will leave the race (in Friday's speech), and I think he will," Erwin Wilcox, field liaison for the Bush campaign in North Carolina, said.

Dole will not do a lot of campaigning for Wisconsin's April 5 primary, Pelter said. "He will be in Washington this week, doing Senate business," she

said.

Bush will be in Wisconsin until Wednesday, said Katherine Holt, spokeswoman for Bush's national campaign. "We are feeling confident (about the Wisconsin primary)," she said.

In a speech in Washington Friday, Dole said the Republicans should work to ensure that the next president is a Republican, although it may not be him.

Bush officials and analysts agreed that Dole will support the eventual nominee.

"Bob Dole is with the vice president 100 percent to get a Republican in the White House," said Wilcox. "Dole supporters will lend us a lot of support."

Dole and his supporters would back the vice president, but unhappily, Black said.

"The Republican Party will go for Bush, but I don't know how enthusiastically," he said.

The Republican Party's unity will be an advantage over the Democrats in the election, Black said.

"The Democrats are way behind the Republicans right now," he said.

# NCAA shuttle buses set passenger record

By JEANNA BAXTER  
Staff Writer

The special shuttles that ran during the NCAA tournament set a new single-day patronage record, said Scott McClellan, administrative assistant for Chapel Hill Transit.

"From an operational standpoint, we reached the outer limit on Thursday (March 17)," McClellan said. Over 21,000 round trips were made on March 17, and over 8,000 round trips were made on the shuttles on

March 19.

Combined totals for the event rival the passenger count for the entire U.S. Olympic Festival, which spanned eight days, he said.

Chapel Hill Transit maintained all regularly scheduled bus service during the tournament, McClellan said. On March 17, shuttle service began at 10:30 a.m. The last bus did not return to the garage until 1:30 a.m.

Total service required Chapel Hill Transit's 45 buses plus 10 buses from

Duke Power, he said.

"On top of the day-to-day service demands, we had to staff four (daytime) and seven (evening) shuttle sites and the Smith Center, train 10 Duke Power drivers on our shuttle routes and radio procedures and maintain our composure during some very trying moments," McClellan said.

Complaints about the shuttle service concerned long waits for buses and inadequate service, he said.

On March 17, all shuttle lots were full and shuttle service had to be temporarily discontinued until cars began to leave, he said.

"It's hard to accommodate everyone for a large Smith Center event, especially when campus activities are in full swing," McClellan said. "I think we have learned that it is impossible to provide adequate access to the Smith Center without a 'mix' of shuttles and public parking."

## Police Roundup

Police received a report early Monday morning from two women who live on Franklin Street. The woman who called reported someone was trying to kick her door in. When police arrived, the woman told them the person was inside the apartment.

Police reported they found a suspect coming out of the apartment and arrested him. Robert Eugene Shouse, 26, of 104-4 Pinegate Circle in Chapel Hill, was arrested and charged with one count of breaking and entering and two counts of assault on a female.

Police reported that the two women in the apartment had been struck but had not been injured.

Three incidents of larceny from automobiles were reported this weekend. A Farmington, Conn., man reported Friday that a suitcase had been removed from his secured trunk. There were no signs of forced entry. The estimated value of the stolen property was \$2,400.

A resident of Granville Towers West reported an incident of auto larceny Saturday night. Police reported the convertible top of the car had been unhooked and a sleeping bag and bath towel had been stolen. A screwdriver or

similar tool had been used to attempt to pry the ignition switch. Damage to the vehicle was approximately \$50.

A Raleigh woman found her driver's window broken out on Saturday. The window was possibly broken out with a pick found about 100 feet from the vehicle.

Two Alpine speakers were stolen, the dash of the car was dismantled and an Alpine stereo was removed.

The thief also attempted to remove two rear speakers but was only successful in damaging the vehicle further. The stereo was later recovered. The speakers were valued at \$600 and damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$1,000.

Chapel Hill police investigated incidents this weekend involving unattended dogs.

Police transported two puppies from the lower Hinton James Residence Hall parking lot to the animal shelter Sunday. The dogs had no identification and appeared to have been abandoned.

Officers reported to Roper Lane Friday in response to a call about a vicious dog on that street. On the officers' arrival, a docile German shepherd was taken to the animal shelter.

— compiled by Will Lingo



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