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Pit preachers spread the word from brick pulpit

By GENIE WALKER
Staff Writer

Lunchtime at UNC often means many students seated around the Pit, listening to and watching evangelists who use the area as an informal arena to broadcast their messages to the University community.

Their styles and appearances may vary, but all the preachers are drawn to the Pit because of its central location and its potential for reaching large numbers of people.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) member Kevin Patton, a senior from High Point, is often seen painting and preaching in the Pit. He

calls himself a "sketchboard evangelist."

"The idea behind what I do is essentially to present the gospel with illustration. For the whole point is for other Christians to get into conversations, to build friendships and to respond."

Patton said his actions in the Pit were a part of what he feels he's been called to do.

"The idea is not to yell, but to present the gospel in a way that people can hear it and make their own decisions."

While some students listen to the preachers, others find them annoying.

"I respect their religious beliefs, but I don't like them imposing their ideological beliefs on other people," said Matt Wall, a sophomore from Memphis, Tenn.

Dan Entwistle, a freshman IVCF member from Charlotte, said he thought that sometimes the preachers had trouble relating to the students and that their style was sometimes too strong.

"The message is one that needs to be shared, but not necessarily in that way. People need to feel the unconditional love, not the condemnation."

People who wish to preach in the Pit do not have to reserve it because

the First Amendment guarantees their right to talk in an open space, but if some other group has made a reservation, the reservation takes priority, said Anne Varley, Union reservationist.

Steffon Sharpless, a United Christian Fellowship member and full-time missionary, spends his afternoons preaching, and the UNC campus is one of his assigned areas.

"My style is charismatic; I get loud because many need to hear the word. When you are excited about something that gives you life, you tend to scream about it," he said.

Students sometimes argue with

preachers, and audience size is often a gauge of how controversial the preacher's message or delivery style is.

"I have some theological questions, but I mainly argue with them because it is fun," said Greg Camp, a senior from Raleigh. "You can tell how rational they are by the number of people that are around because if they take insane positions, there will be a lot of people."

Some students said Friday that they found the radical preachers amusing, entertaining and quite humorous, while others were offended by their methods.

"They turn off a lot of people because they scream and yell at people and accuse them; like when one of them threw his Bible on the ground, I just got up and left," said Jennifer Kelly, a freshman from Kitty Hawk.

Students disagree on the evangelists' sincerity.

"Most of the Pit preachers are somewhat sincere, but they're also trying to get attention," said James Evans, a senior from Lumberton. "They tell us how horrible we are, and they're doing it for their own benefit and aren't concerned with the students."



DTH/David Surowiecki

Get up!

Michael Stipe, lead singer of R.E.M., kicks off a sold-out concert in the Smith Center Saturday night. The concert was part of the band's Green tour. See review, page 6.

UNC fall semester may get late start

By AMY WAJDA
Assistant University Editor

UNC is considering starting the fall semester, scheduled to begin Aug. 31, one or two weeks late if the state does not give the University more money, Chancellor Paul Hardin said during an unscheduled appearance at the Board of Visitors' Friday meeting.

The University may also shorten hours of the Morehead Planetarium, University libraries and N.C. Botanical Garden, Hardin said.

If the money-saving cuts go into effect, the University would not be able to pay affected part-time and temporary employees, including student workers, University officials said Sunday.

The N.C. Office of Management and Budget in Raleigh cut non-personnel funding at UNC \$3.2

million for the fourth fiscal quarter, and the cuts have severely hampered the operations of many University departments.

The University will not know until around May 1 if it will get any more money from the state, said Wayne Jones, acting vice chancellor of business and finance. "It really depends on state general fund receipts in April. If receipts are good we have a chance to get some adjustment."

Starting the fall semester late would be a "nightmare," said Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "It would obviously be very, very disruptive."

While administrators have considered a late start several times in the past, the fall semester has not started late for at least 24 years, she said.

A late start would disrupt student

and faculty research and would mean having to reschedule lab times and revise course syllabi, Cell said.

Faculty would have to choose course material more carefully if the semester were shortened, she said. "If the semester were shorter, less could take place in a class than could normally take place."

But shortening the semester would probably be a last resort, Cell said. "The chancellor's idea was if we did start the fall late, we would extend the fall semester a little and extend the spring semester."

If school were started late, most regular faculty and staff would still get paid, Cell said. "If we did do the closings, most of the salaries of regular faculty and staff are paid out

See LATE page 2

BOV discusses research

By JAMES BURROUGHS
Assistant University Editor

State regulations and budget policies must be reduced in the area of research if UNC is to remain one of the nation's top institutions, according to a report presented Friday to the UNC Board of Visitors.

The Board of Visitors (BOV) is a 120-member organization that advises the chancellor and Board of Trustees (BOT) on University affairs.

Two BOV task forces, one investigating research at UNC and the other investigating business and finance, presented their first-draft reports to the rest of the board on Friday. The BOV will present both reports to the BOT in June.

One suggestion in the committee's preliminary report called for an increase in tuition for graduate and doctoral programs and all out-of-

state students. Out-of-state tuition is much higher in comparable institutions, according to the report.

Relief from the State Personnel Act, which sets wage scales for all state employees according to classification, is also needed to make the University more competitive, said Cecil Pless, chairman of a committee to investigate the financing of research.

"The University cannot compete when wage scales are often 25 to 30 percent lower than Triangle companies," he said.

UNC must also be allowed to keep unspent state funds instead of returning the money to the state, according to the report. During the 1987-88 fiscal year, UNC returned \$9 million to the state, the report said.

UNC receives more than \$130 million in research grants from non-

state sources each year, but 35 percent of the overhead receipts associated with the grants must go to the state, the report said. UNC is placed at a disadvantage in comparison to other schools that keep all money associated with a grant, the report said.

The task force on budget and finance based its recommendations on a survey of the financial practices of four peer institutions, including the universities of Michigan, Virginia, Tennessee and Texas at Austin. UNC ranked below all four institutions in categories including control of personnel practices, budget flexibility, purchasing restrictions, retention of overhead receipts and retention of unspent funds.

UNC's budget flexibility may now rank 49th among the 50 states.

See BOV page 6

Campus Y building to undergo extensive renovations

By SARAH CAGLE
Staff Writer

The Campus Y building will be completely renovated between December 1989 and August 1991, and during that time the Campus Y offices will operate elsewhere, officials said Friday.

"The goal is to make the Campus Y building as attractive, useful, accessible and safe as possible," said James Cansler, associate vice chancellor in the office of student affairs.

Campus Y officials have not decided where the organization will

be based during the renovations, said Tony Deifell, Campus Y co-president. Campus Y leaders will meet today with Donald Boulton, vice chancellor and dean of student affairs, to discuss possible alternate sites.

The renovations, which will cost between \$450,000 and \$480,000, will include entirely new heating and air-conditioning systems, new windows and handicapped ramps, and complete re-working of the Blue Ram snack bar and basement, Boulton said.

The renovations will also allow Handicapped Student Services and Learning Disabled Services to move into the Y Building basement, Boulton said.

Between \$160,000 and \$180,000 of the renovation money will come from Student Stores, which operates the Blue Ram, Boulton said. The rest will come from University funds, he said.

Original plans were to renovate only the Blue Ram on the first floor and the basement, but it became obvious to facilities planners and the

University architect that the entire building needed work, he said.

Soon after Chancellor Paul Hardin was installed in October, Campus Y members took him on a tour of the building's third floor, which has been condemned, Deifell said.

"I don't know if that had anything to do with the decision or not."

The move of Handicapped Student Services from the basement of Steele Building to the basement of the Y Building will allow the Office of Student Affairs to have much-needed

additional space, Cansler said.

Learning Disabled Services will also move into the Y Building basement from Davis Library, he said.

Deifell said the Campus Y organization's temporary move would be difficult for members, but worth it.

Individual committees depend on the support services the Campus Y provides, but the strength of the organization is its people, not the building, Deifell said.

"When I realized that (the reno-

vation) was imperative, I was afraid that it would be hard to push for the change, but the administration recognized it at the same time."

The Campus Y welcomes the handicapped services departments to the building, Deifell said, and once the renovations are complete, other organizations, such as Amnesty International, could use the building.

"The Campus Y has served the University well, and I would hope that the renovations will help them to continue doing so," Cansler said.

Police charge man with Saturday rape

From staff reports

Chapel Hill Police have charged a Carrboro man with raping a woman early Saturday morning in downtown Chapel Hill.

Chapel Hill Police Chief Arnold Gold said the woman was treated and released from North Carolina Memorial Hospital following the rape, which occurred near West Rosemary Street.

The woman reported being cut on the arm during the assault, but the police report did not include any other information about the assault. Gold did not know how old the woman was, but he said he was fairly certain she was not a UNC student.

Chapel Hill Police arrested 29-

year-old Virgilio Palacios Saturday morning after they received a report of a sexual assault at 2:38 a.m. Saturday, according to a statement prepared by Capt. Ralph Pendergraph.

Palacios, of C-1 Old Well Apartments, Carrboro, was charged with first degree rape, assault with a deadly weapon, inflicting serious injury and first degree sexual offense.

Palacios is being held without bond in Orange County Jail in Hillsborough. Bond is scheduled to be set during his arraignment hearing Monday morning.

No further information was available, but Gold said the investigation was continuing.

Inside

- No more one-night stands for many 3
- Budget cuts may put you out of work 3
- Park-and-ride lot proposal still in works 4
- Strike UNC-CH from your vocabulary 5
- Femmes far from violent in successful compromise 7
- Women run away with 4th ACC track title 12

Study for exams all night

By SARAH CAGLE
Staff Writer

Students studying for exams this semester will have a 24-hour study area available for their use beginning this week, and a positive student response may lead to similar areas in the future, student government officials said.

Beginning today, the Undergraduate Library will be open 24 hours a day through Friday, and the late-night shuttle service from the libraries will run until 2 a.m. and will expand its route to include all residence halls, said Sandy Rierson, former chairwoman of the academic affairs committee.

This is the first time the Undergrad will be open 24 hours a day the week before exams. It is normally open full-time only five days during the exam

week itself, Rierson said.

The College of Arts and Sciences made \$3,000 available for the library to pay student assistants during the extended hours, said Ruffin Hall, current academic affairs chairman.

In past years, the Undergraduate Library has had trouble finding staff to fill the late-night shifts during the five days of exams, but the \$3,000 grant has enabled it to pay enough to attract workers for all 10 days, said Gillian Debreczeny, circulation librarian.

Two students will work each shift, and the circulation desk will be open each night except May 7 and 8, Debreczeny said.

The University police will check on the building several times each night, Debreczeny said.

"We're concerned about the secur-

ity of the building," said Larry Alford, assistant University librarian, "but we've been open 24 hours during exams since 1970, and there have never been any problems."

University police could not provide extra student patrols for this period, but patrols and security guards will be moved from other areas of campus to where students are likely to be walking from the libraries, said Sgt. Ned Comar of the University police.

Comar said he would encourage students to use the shuttle service or walk in pairs because SAFE Escort would not operate during the early morning hours.

The shuttle is an extension of the regular L-route that runs from Raleigh Street to South Campus, said

See EXAMS page 6

We don't take requests, and I hate that song. — Michael Stipe