

## City and Campus

## Decision postponed on library automation system

By GABRIELE JONES

Staff Writer

The decision on a new \$360,000 library automation system for the Chapel Hill Public Library was delayed Monday by the town council so officials could re-examine the library's proposal.

The council agreed to postpone the discussion and turned the matter over to Town Manager David Taylor, who will review the library's proposal and report back to the council in two weeks.

In a presentation to the council, Kathy

Thompson, director of the Chapel Hill Public Library, said a new library automation system would serve the public better by providing faster access to more information.

Thompson said the automation system would increase use of the library's book collection and allow the public to obtain information from the card catalog through an office or home phone.

The proposed system will consist of 64 terminals, which are similar to the Infotrac terminals found in the University's Walter B. Davis Library,

she said.

The present library would receive 30 of the terminals, and the other terminals would be placed in a proposed new library. Library officials plan to move the 30 terminals to the new library in 1992.

"As we get into the new library, it is crucial that we automate as much as possible," said Taylor.

The terminals would mainly be used to look up materials and print out bibliographies. The proposed system is more

functional than a card catalog and allows the library more inventory control, Thompson said.

The automation system would also increase library revenues, inhibit book loss and replace repetitive labor tasks such as distributing overdue notices, she said.

Thompson also said the system would absorb a new workload without increasing library staff, and the new computer equipment would require little staff training.

The library has not finalized a contract with any specific company. However, a library committee is considering four bids from computer firms.

At the council meeting, Thompson's presentation concentrated on offers from the Dynix Corporation at \$223,155 and Innovative Interface at \$360,055.

A state grant would reduce the town's cost to \$177,155 for Dynix and \$273,055 for Innovative, she said. The system must be approved by Sept. 30 in order to receive the state grants.

Thompson said the Innovative Interface system was the most user-friendly and easier to use than the Davis' Infotrac computer system.

Council member Roosevelt Wilkerson said the bids for the computer system were not adequate and suggested that new bids may have to be made.

The town and the library should look more closely at the technical aspects of the systems before a final decision is made, said council member David Pasquini.

## Speech professor Brandes recovering from car accident

By SIMONE PAM

Staff Writer

Paul Brandes, speech communications professor, was released from N.C. Memorial Hospital (NCMH) this weekend after being involved in a still unexplained automobile accident, Susan Blalock, an NCMH spokeswoman, said Tuesday.

Brandes, 69, returned home Sunday under a nurse's care. His wife Melba, 75, remains in serious condition at NCMH.

The accident occurred Aug. 26 on Hatch Road in rural Orange County. Brandes' automobile was found in a pond off the side of the road by someone in a passing vehicle.

According to reports in The Chapel Hill Newspaper, the couple was driving toward Old Greensboro Highway. They pulled into a driveway on Hatch Road next to Andrews Pond, but how the automobile entered the water is unknown.

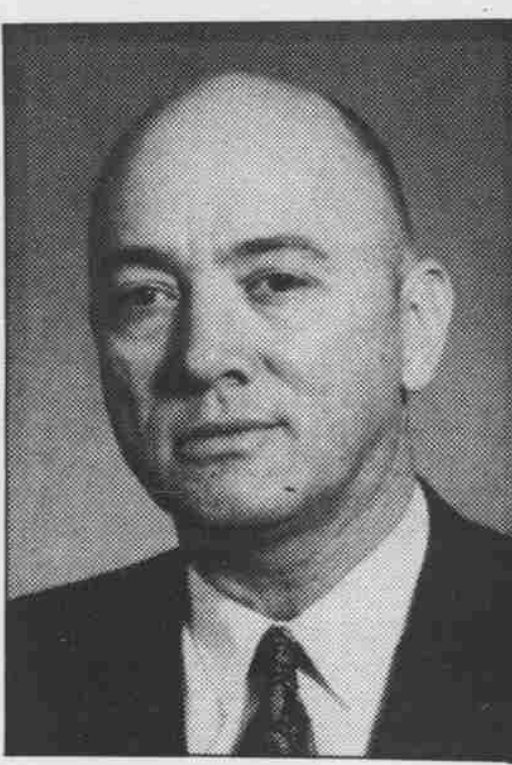
The automobile sank immediately. Several people driving by stopped to assist the couple, but the passersby could not swim. They flagged down Thomas Mason, a University employee, and he entered the water.

Mason pulled Brandes and his wife out of the automobile through the sunroof. Both victims were unconscious. A registered nurse administered CPR until rescue units arrived.

The Orange County Sheriff's office reported that the automobile was about 25 yards from the bank of the pond and seven to eight feet under the water.

Beverly Long, chairman of the speech communications department, said its uncertain when Brandes will return to teaching. "He might be returning later in the semester, and we fully expect him to be returning in the spring."

Brandes' Speech 65 class is being taught by attorney Lee Lambert and teaching assistant David Gould. His honors Speech 32 class was canceled.



Paul Brandes

"It (the accident) diminished what the University was able to offer and we feel the students were disappointed they couldn't take a class they signed up for," Long said.

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## Black caucus in capital attracts UNC students

By JUDY DORE

Staff Writer

Thirteen UNC students will attend the Black Congressional Caucus in Washington, D.C., from today through Saturday, according to Black Cultural Center officials.

The students include African-American Studies majors, members of the Black Cultural Center planning committee and students who have demonstrated black leadership.

This is the first year UNC students will attend the annual event, which gives students the opportunity to talk with blacks in Congress and to attend several workshops and forums.

The forums include roundtable discussions titled "National Report: Blacks and American Society" and "Resurgence of Racism and the Far Right." One of the roundtable discussions will

be videotaped and later broadcast on television.

Also attending the Caucus as guest speakers will be the sons and daughters of several prominent black leaders, such as Desmond Tutu's daughter, Jesse Jackson's son, Malcolm X's daughter and Martin Luther King III.

But the Black Congressional Caucus is not going to be all work. On Saturday night the students will be able to attend a formal event.

Margo Crawford, director of the Black Cultural Center, said that one of her goals in sending students to the Caucus is to show that it is possible for a black student to attend a predominantly white college and still be able to participate in black activities. Up until now, primarily black colleges and universities have participated in the program.

Crawford said she hopes the attendees will return with ideas for a workshop about blacks in Congress and recommendations of congressmen the BCC can invite to speak on campus.

According to senior Keith Belton from Nashville, Tenn., the students who are taking part in the program agreed to make presentations about what they learned to other students when they return.

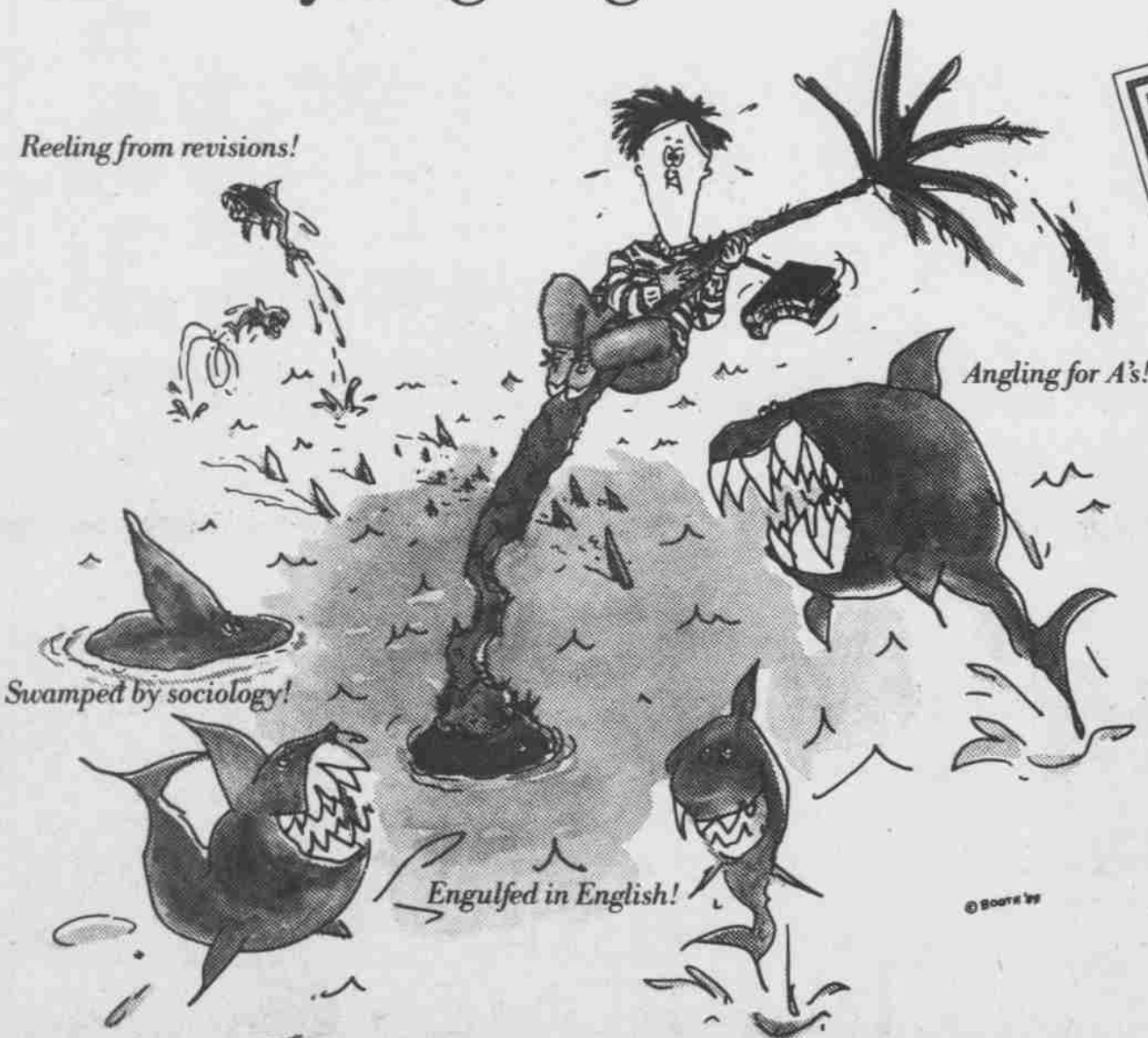
"The purpose of the program is to realize a commitment to improving the whole situation of the black community," said Belton. "It is a challenge to black youth. We need to focus upon tomorrow's leaders."

Cheryl Grand, president of Ebony Readers Onyx Theater, said: "We may be able to start networking while we're there and find new job opportunities. It's a great opportunity to talk with black political leaders. A lot of them are where we want to be."

Taffye Benson, a senior from Fayetteville, also expressed excitement about going to Washington, D.C. "It is an opportunity you had to jump at," she said.

The program is sponsored by the Black Cultural Center through funding received from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, a philanthropic organization.

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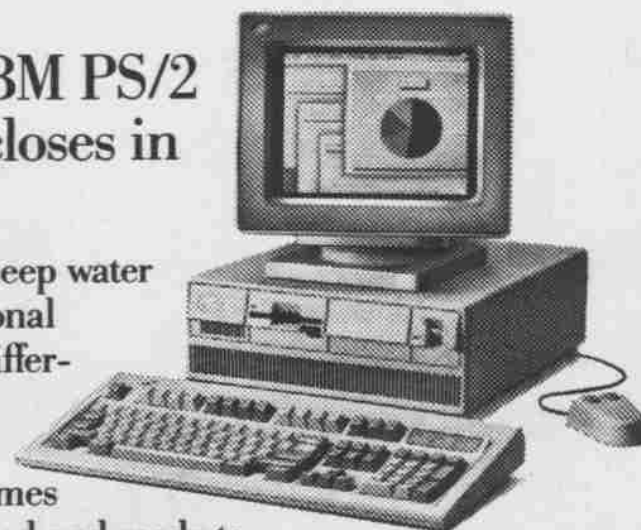


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