

High 50
Low in 20s

Weekend: Fair
High in 50s

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"AIDS Crisis:
UNC's Response"
panel discussion
Noon, 224 Union

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Party's name protested

By SARAH CAGLE
Assistant University Editor

A complaint filed by a UNC junior Thursday, claiming that a Residence Hall Association-sponsored Christmas party in Joyner Residence Hall violated the RHA constitution, has been denied hearing by Student Supreme Court Chief Justice Asa Bell.

Sam Bagenstos, a Student Congress member from District 14, also asked for a temporary restraining order that would postpone the annual party from Thursday until the court decides on the case, but Bell also rejected this.

"I don't think it's at all appropriate for money I'm funding to pay for religious celebrations," Bagenstos said. "It sets a really dangerous precedent."

Bagenstos, who is Jewish, said he objected not only to the party's being specifically called a Christmas party, but also to the use of RHA funds to purchase a Christmas tree and refreshments.

"There was no indication but that this was a celebration of Christmas. While Christmas may be what some consider popular culture, it is a religious holiday for a particular group of religions."

Bagenstos said an amendment to the RHA constitution passed Nov. 16 that prohibits the use of RHA funds for religious or politically partisan activities supports his claim.

Bagenstos also protested the purchase of a Christmas tree by Morrison Residence Hall government one year ago.

But Bell said after reviewing Bagenstos's complaint that the Christmas party did not meet the court's precedent for a religious event according to a 1983 student court case ruling, so he would not hear the case. "The burden of proof is on the plaintiff, and his complaint does not meet the test."

As defined by the 1983 precedent, a religious event must have the primary purpose of promoting a religion or persuading a person to convert through prayer or scripture reading, Bell said.

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Get the point?

Freshman Craig Harkins challenges sophomore Saber Ghiassi during fencing practice Thursday

afternoon. The team will travel to Chicago this weekend for a tournament.

DTH/Kathy Michel

Chairman selected

By MARCIE BAILEY
Staff Writer

The four-year search for a permanent chairman for the curriculum in African-American studies has ended with the recommendation of Trudier Harris, J. Carlyle Sitterson professor of English, for the position.

Harris has accepted the position, as recommended by Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Cell has recently been recommended for a five-year reappointment as dean.

Cell said she would have preferred to make the appointment earlier, but at the time Harris wasn't able to accept the position. Harris is now on leave at Stanford University and will be back July 1 to accept the post as permanent chairwoman.

"She is superbly well qualified," Cell said. "She specializes in African-American folklore, is a distinguished scholar and an excellent teacher. Dr. Harris is a person of great intelligence and energy. There is strong support from the faculty and curriculum, as well as my confidence and strong support."

Dennis O'Connor, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, strongly agreed with Cell's choice of recommending Harris as chairwoman of the curriculum.

"It is an absolutely superb appointment. She (Harris) is a marvelous scholar and person," O'Connor said.

Cell has also recommended that Lee Greene, associate professor of English, serve as acting chairman during the spring semester until Harris assumes the permanent position. Greene will succeed Thadious Davis and Robert Gallman, who are now the acting chairmen.

"Dr. Greene's field is Afro-American literature, and he has been previously involved with the curriculum," Cell said.

"He has the confidence and support of both the faculty and myself. I am grateful that he is able to serve as acting chairman."

Cell said various committees reviewed and approved the recommen-



Trudier Harris

dations she made for positions. The recommendations of Harris and Greene have already been approved by one sub-committee and have yet to be reviewed by the Chancellor's Advisory Committee and the Board of Trustees.

O'Connor has shown strong support for his recommendation of Cell for reappointment to another term. She has been very important in developing new programs and has been aggressive in support of the UNITAS program and minority affairs, O'Connor said.

"Her reappointment is an absolutely correct appointment for this institution at this time. Her wisdom is pointed out in the appointments of Harris and Greene and her concerns for students are so obvious, for minority students in particular."

Kim McLean, president of the Black Student Movement (BSM), has disagreed with the reappointment of Cell. "She is a very insensitive person, highly inaccessible, and her attempts to help minority students have been weak, if not nonexistent."

Cell's timing in appointing Harris as permanent chairman is "incredible and

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Committee proposed for minority communication

By JASON KELLY
Staff Writer

Communication between the student body, especially minorities, and UNC's administration is at an unacceptable level according to rumors and press clips, Dana Lumsden, student government's minister of minority affairs, said Thursday.

Lumsden met with Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, on Thursday to discuss the formation of a committee to bridge the gap between students and the administration.

The meeting was the first between the two, and no formal agreement was made, Cell said. "We met to discuss the

proposition of a student advisory committee. We will meet next week to figure out who would serve on the committee and what the committee's agenda should be."

Lumsden said he felt positive about the chances for the committee. "It's still only a proposal, and things could change, but Dean Cell seemed very warm toward the idea."

The committee would comprise members of the representative bodies on campus, including the Carolina Indian Circle, the Black Student Movement (BSM), Student Congress, the Executive Branch, Campus Y and the Student Union. The arts and sciences

dean would choose two additional at-large members from the student body.

Lumsden said the membership of the committee would depend on the political environment on campus. "If a new group comes to the forefront of campus affairs, for example a women's group, then they will be invited to participate."

"Each group will be invited to elect a member to the committee. I would like it if the leaders of those student organizations involved — the president of the BSM, the speaker of Student Congress — were the representatives

See COMMITTEE, page 5

'Just a disease'

Graduate student details life after testing positive for AIDS

By NANCY WYKLE
Staff Writer

On a spring night a year-and-a-half ago, Brad's entire life changed in a matter of seconds. During a one-time sexual encounter, the UNC graduate student contracted the AIDS virus.

Brad — who asked that his real name not be used — did not discover he was infected with Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) until this past February. When he discovered he was infected, Brad was in the middle of exams and papers in his graduate studies at UNC.

"When I heard the news, I felt like a knife had been stuck in my gut. I thought, 'Why not just go ahead and kill myself

World AIDS Day

now?"

A lot of young people think they are immortal, Brad said, and that idea could get them killed. "They have a notion that they are not vulnerable to diseases. That type of attitude could get you in trouble."

Brad, a tall, white man in his mid-20s, is very pleasant. A reserved person, he is a little nervous when he talks about the encounter from which he became infected. "A lot of people blame the victim," Brad said, explaining that he was afraid of discrimination against

homosexuals, particularly those with AIDS.

Brad had known the sexual partner who infected him about a month. He called the incident a "casual encounter," but he does not consider himself promiscuous.

His partner, a bisexual who is not a student at UNC, was not aware that he was a carrier of the AIDS virus. His relationship prior to Brad was with a female. Women on college campuses should consider this when entering a sexual relationship, Brad said.

"The guy could have very well had a relationship with another guy."

Three weeks after the encounter, Brad began experiencing mild symp-

tom — low-grade fever, diarrhea and general fatigue. He decided to be tested because, as a homosexual, he is in a high-risk group for contracting AIDS.

The first time Brad was tested, the results were negative. He was tested at UNC through the anonymous testing at Student Health Service.

Brad was hospitalized for five days, but no antibodies appeared in his blood. After he was released, the symptoms disappeared.

The hospital recommended that he be tested again in five or six months. Brad ignored their advice and waited until February 1989.

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Commission aims to 'enhance' downtown

Editor's note: This is the last in a five-part series on issues concerning the new Chapel Hill Town Council.

By SHEILA LONG
Assistant City Editor

The revitalization of Franklin Street has become a hot topic among Chapel Hill Town Council members, and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Downtown Commission is working to bring more businesses to the downtown area.

Margie Haber, co-director of the commission, said the commission preferred not to use the word "revitalization" to describe its plans for downtown.

Issues in the '90s

"We like to use enhancement instead, because both the town and the downtown area are both very vibrant — neither area is dead. One of the reasons we were created was to enhance the downtown. When most people think of revitalization, all they think of is filling up empty storefronts, and there just aren't that many empty ones now."

Revitalization does mean different things to different people, but to two newly elected town council members it means life and people downtown.

"The word vitality to me means

lively, busy and full of life," said Joyce Brown, town council member-elect. "When I go downtown now, it seems to be lively compared to other cities."

Alan Rimer, also town council member-elect, said he saw it as changing the look of the area.

"Revitalization is the refurbishing of facades and changing the mix of business over time. It's trying to attract a diverse population downtown. There's got to be a reason for business to be downtown, and in order to attract it, we need better transportation to the area."

The trolleys were introduced for that purpose. They serve as an alternate form of transportation to and from the downtown area without the worry of

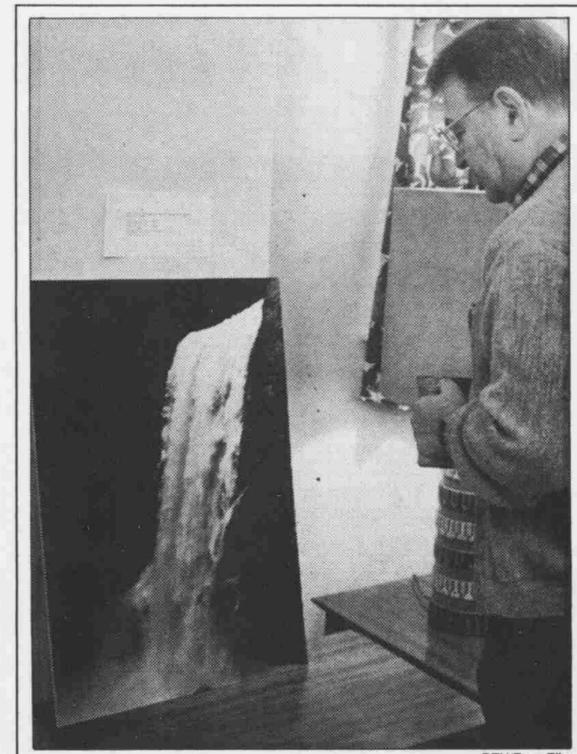
having to find a parking space.

Haber said the trolleys had had a significant impact on downtown since their implementation. She added that in two months there had been 10,000 trolley riders.

Debbie Dibbert, who works opposite Haber as co-director of the commission, said an emphasis was being placed on getting more people into the downtown area. This effort involves attracting more stores, more restaurants and more businesses to downtown.

"Our biggest concern is to get more people downtown and to get them spending more money here," Dibbert

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DTH/Evan Elle

Picture perfect

M.S. Davis visits professor Earl Mitchell's photography exhibition in Phillips Hall Thursday afternoon.

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Tar Heels can't stem the Tide in Alabama, 101-93

By DAVE GLENN
Sports Editor

Tuscaloosa, Ala. — After watching his 12th-ranked Tar Heels drop a 101-93 decision to Alabama, North Carolina head coach Dean Smith was apologetic.

But Smith wasn't apologetic because the Tar Heels gave up 100 points for only the third time in the 80's. And it wasn't because his squad dropped to 2-2 for only the third time in his career.

"We have two losses and it isn't even December yet," Smith said. "That's not

good, but I think a lot of teams can lose to Missouri and Alabama." The Crimson Tide, 4-0 on the year, ran its home winning streak to 18 games.

Instead, Smith said he was sorry that the game — lengthened by ESPN's TV timeouts and UNC's foul flurry in the final minutes — didn't end sooner.

"Sorry we kept the game going so long, but we have class in the morning," he said. "I guess we shouldn't have fouled so much at the end."

In retrospect, maybe that's not such a bad idea.

Trailing 79-70, the Tar Heels started a foul fest that led to 20 Alabama free throws in the final three minutes of play. The Crimson Tide, led by forwards Bryant Lancaster (6-of-6) and Melvin Cheatum (5-of-6), made 18 of them. In the second half, Alabama made 22-of-25 from the charity stripe for a sizzling 88 percent.

UNC sophomore guard Hubert Davis kept the Tar Heels close by hitting all five of his second-half treys. Davis finished with a career-high 19 points in only 19 minutes of play. But the Tide,

led by 4-of-5 sharpshooting from senior guard Keith Askins, matched Davis by hitting 83.3 percent from 3-point range in the second stanza.

"It seems like they were hitting everything at the end," said UNC point guard King Rice. "But we shouldn't have put ourselves in that situation."

UNC forward Rick Fox, who led the Tar Heels with 20 points and six assists, also said UNC had a lot to do with its own undoing.

"They created some turnovers, but we created a lot of our own," he said.

"In a place like this (Alabama's Coleman Coliseum), you have to get good shots; you can't give them away to the other team."

The recipient of many of the aforementioned handouts was Alabama's Cheatum, who almost singlehandedly turned a 61-61 tie into an 83-73 Tide lead. The 6-8 junior, who scored a team-high 23 points on the evening, poured in 18 of them in Alabama's 22-12 run midway through the second half.

See ALABAMA, page 5

Love is a hole in the heart. —Ben Hecht