

Author of 'Dutchman' slated to speak at UNC

Celebrated author and poet Imamu Amiri Baraka will speak at 7 p.m. Monday in the Great Hall of the Student

Baraka's address, "Sterling Brown: Blues, Poetry and History," will be a tribute to Brown, a major 20th century scholar, folklorist, poet, critic and professor at Harvard University.

Brown, along with Langston Hughes, Jean Toomer and Claude McKay, helped spark the Harlem Renaissance literary movement of the early 1920s.

Brown was the inspiration for many world-renowned authors and poets, including Baraka, who under his former name of Leroi Jones produced such well-known works as Dutchman, which won an Obie Award in 1964.

The lecture will be coupled with the Sterling Brown exhibit, a set of 12 photographic portraits of Brown by Roy Lewis. The photos show Brown with other literary greats, including Maya Angelou, Haki Madhabuti, Gwendolyn Brooks and Bernice Reagan. They will be on display in the upper lounge of the Student Union from Monday through Oct. 12.

The tribute to Brown is being pre-sented by the Black Student Movement, the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center and the Carolina Union Critical Issues Committee. Admission is free, and the event is open to the public.

GPSF establishes Green grad writing awards

To honor excellence in graduate and professional student writing and to fur-ther the discussion of University issues, the UNC Graduate and Professional Student Federation has established the Fletcher M. Green Graduate Writing Awards.

Named for Green, a distinguished historian and teacher who served as a mentor to more than 200 graduate students during his 30-year tenure at UNC, the awards carry \$250 scholarships for essays judged best on each of the fol-

As the University prepares to enter its third century, describe the greatest challenge it faces, and tell what it must do to meet it.

M Should the University allow the construction of a free-standing black cultural center?

Essays will be judged by a selection committee appointed by the GPSF Congress and should be submitted anonymously, identified only by the author's student identification and telephone numbers. Any full- or part-time graduate or professional student is eligible. All essays must be turned in by 5 p.m. Oct. 19 at the GPSF office.

CAA to sponsor chat with Anson Dorrance

UNC students will have a chance to talk with another University varsity

The Carolina Athletic Association will sponsor a "Chat with the Coach" appearance by UNC women's soccer coach Anson Dorrance at noon Thursday in the Pit. Students then will have an opportunity to ask questions of UNC's nationally renowned soccer coach. The program is expected to last about 30 minutes. For further information, call the CAA office at 962-4300.

Student candidate petitions due today

Any students interested in running for one of the eight open Student Congress seats should submit a petition with at least 25 signatures to the Elections Board office by 5 p.m. today. No late petitions will be accepted.

Seats are open in districts 2, 5, 11, 15, 20, 24, 25 and 26. Voting will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 22 in the Pit. To vote, students must present their current registration card and ID.

Questions should be directed to Ron Barnes, Elections Board chairman, at 962-5201. All necessary information is posted outside the Elections Board office in Suite A.

Journalist to discuss history of University

William Snider, a retired editor of the Greensboro News and Record, will discuss his experiences writing "Light on the Hill: A History of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill," at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 24 in the Wilson Library Assembly Room.

Snider, a 1941 UNC graduate and recipient of the University's distinguished alumnus award, will discuss "Carolina Through 200 Years: Writing a History of UNC" during the free public program.

Snider's history of the University, commissioned in conjunction with the Bicentennial Celebration, was published earlier this year by the UNC Press.

Materials from the UNC archives and the N.C. Collection will be on display before the program. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Refreshments will be served at 5

Hunt vows to support education, economy

By Rebecah Moore

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jim Hunt, who spoke to a decked-out crowd of approximately 200 Orange County Democrats Monday, said he was prepared to turn the state's economy and education system around.

Hunt, who is running against Repub lican Lt. Gov. Jim Gardner, said UNC

and Orange County were his home. "It really is wonderful to come home," Hunt said. "I came to have a real under-

standing about what it is all about here." The "Java Jive for Jim Hunt," sponsored by Orange County Citizens for Jim Hunt, was held at the Europa Center Atrium in Chapel Hill. Supporters of the former governor gathered to talk politics and hear what he had to offer

voters in the upcoming campaign.

Hunt said North Carolina needed a change in government, not only on the state level, but also on a national level.

"The race for governor is important, and it is also critically important that we elect a new president - Bill Clinton,"

Labeling UNC as the "finest public university in America," Hunt said he would strive to bring funds and recognition to the University. "I'm going to make sure have funds," he said.

Jim Hunt

Hunt stressed education as a key issue in the fall campaign.

"I want to change public schools ... give teachers more voice," he said.

With the state economy in the doldrums, Hunt said he would concentrate on creating high-skill, high-paying jobs to stimulate economic stability and worker esteem.

"We can't be satisfied with low-skill, low-wage jobs," he said. "Let's have a high-skill economy."

Hunt said a firm educational background was necessary to ensure a state economic turnaround.

"The absolute foundation for (a bet-

said. "It is time we had a governor in this state again that knows our university system is what makes us special."

The Hamlet disaster emphasized a need for better worker safety regulations, said Hunt, who visited the town

'My opponent thinks we went too far for the working people, and I think he's wrong," Hunt said

"We've got to (win the election) this year. I'm not saying a word about what the alternative is - you already know that," he said. Bill Leuchtenburg, a UNC history professor introduced Hunt. Leuch-

tenburg said Hunt was "truly an educational governor. Pattie McIntyre, a Chapel Hill resi-dent who attended the fund-raiser, said

the choice for Orange County voters

"In the 1960s, Jim Gardner was our Orange County congressman, and that was enough," she said. "Gardner comes across to some people, but I think it would be tragic for North Carolina to

Volunteer Center celebrates a year of community service

Opportunities available for students with time to share

Volunteerism continues to play an increasingly important role in Chapel Hill as the Volunteer Center of Orange County celebrates its first anniversary

The Volunteer Center, a service of the United Way, was set up to match prospective volunteers with volunteer organizations.

The center recruits and refers volunteers to more than 160 community orga-

Lynn Wareh, the Volunteer Center's director since its opening last September, said she was impressed and encouraged by the expansion of the center from "zero to 365 days."

The center constantly updates a bank of information on volunteer agencies, Wareh said. The information is readily accessible to the public, she said.

Sue Mattern, co-chairwoman of the task force that created the Volunteer Center, said she was very pleased with the growth of the center.

Mattern added that she was impressed with the role Wareh had played in the center's development.

'She is a major contribution to the volunteers of Orange County," Mattern A primary goal of the center contin-

ues to be involving the youth population of Chapel Hill and the Orange County area, she said.

Youth were targeted because most volunteer opportunities are open for college students and the elderly, the largest demographic groups in the area, Wareh said.

Opportunities at the center are available for college students, especially as volunteer counselors, she said. Internships and volunteer positions also are available in communications and administration capacities.

Wareh added that next summer the center would work on providing ongoing programs with agencies for middle school and high school students. She said she hoped that these programs would provide opportunities for leader-

ship training and increased community involvement among teenagers.

The center provides many different services for volunteer groups, including technical assistance to volunteer

The center also has organized a tracking system of volunteers, an agency newsletter and training sessions, Wareh

The Volunteer Center also helps to organize Trianglewide projects. The Holiday Wish List is a program that matches many one-time volunteers to projects that provide an immediate need to the community, such as distributing toys and food.

The Summer Youth Volunteer Directory was instituted by the center to develop a directory of middle school and high school volunteers.

This year's directory included more than 200 youth and 40 volunteer agen-

Wareh said she encouraged any prospective student volunteers to contact her at the Volunteer Center.

Student groups get more voice in 1992 Homecoming choice

By Gary Rosenzweig

In an effort to include other student organizations in the Homecoming queen selection process, the Carolina Athletic Association has implemented

a new plan for this year's competition. The CAA has sent applications to various student organizations and invitations have been sent to students, faculty and staff to sit on review boards.

CAA President Tracy Kirincich said the policy was created to avoid problems that arose last year over initial selections made by the review board.

Last year, the CAA allowed two candidates back into the competition after they were cut in the first stage of the selection process. CAA officials reviewed four applications after receiving inquiries from groups claiming their candidates' contributions were not fully considered. The Black Student Movement, whose candidate won the competition, was one of the

groups that asked about the process. Kirincich said involving other groups in the process was important because CAA members didn't always understand the inner workings of overy campus organization enough to judge candidates' contributions.

The CAA reviewed suggestions from other student organizations before the policy was rewritten, Kirincich said. "(The new policy) is more defined," she said. "I've tried to spell things out so there are no loopholes."

The first stage of the new selection process begins when student organizations nominate seniors for the posi-

Homecoming queen hopefuls must submit applications to the CAA by Sept, 30. In the application, contes-tants should detail their history of cam-pus and community involvement and write essays, Kirincich said.

Another change in the selection policy is that this year's queen will be required to complete a service project, Kirincich said. In the essay, appli-cants must explain what project they would choose and why they would make that decision. Applications will be reviewed by a board of student leaders from various organizations, Kirincich said. Each application will be scored from one to 10, after which the panel will determine a cut-off point.

Information on the applications will be checked by the review board, Kirincich said. The amount of time applicants spend working for student organizations will be one of the things that the board checks, she said.

Contestants who make it through the application process will be inter viewed by a panel of University faculty and staff members, Kirincich said. The panel will score the applicants' interviews and decide on a cut-off point. The remaining applicants will make up the Homecoming Court.

Students will vote to choose the queen Oct. 22. Students' votes will count for two-thirds of the final determination of who will be queen. Scores for the application and interview will count for one-sixth of the total each, she said. The queen will be crowned during halftime at the football game vs. Georgia Tech Oct. 24.

Dollar calls for change in Labor Department

By Anna Burdeshaw

"A vote for Dollar makes good sense." That was the message that Nelson Dollar, Republican candidate for N.C. labor commissioner, brought to the UNC Young Republicans on Monday.

Dollar, a graduate of Appalachian State University, has served as the per-sonnel director for the N.C. Department of Economic and Community Development since 1989.

Dollar said that his campaign theme was "working together for North Carolina," which he said was necessary if the state was to compete in the new global

Much of the candidate's speech was devoted to an attack on Labor Commissioner John Brooks, whom Dollar called a "little dictator." Dollar also indicated that under Brooks, the Department of Labor had lacked the courage to address specific problems.

"It's not a matter of knowing what the problems are, it's a question of hav-ing the political will to do something about it," Dollar said.

Dollar specifically cited the 1991 disaster in Hamlet, N.C., in which work ers were trapped inside a burning chicken-processing plant. He said that incident and similar health and safety

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Futuristic game system invades Chapel Hill

The Parlor and eager players welcome first virtual reality entertainment machines to N.C.

By Howard Thompson Staff Writer

A shot explodes to your left. Spinning around quickly, you stare into your enemy's eyes. You run sluggishly through gravity five times the normal force, dodging fire to duck behind an obstacle.

Suddenly, your green warning light flashes. You search the sky frantically. An enormous, streaking pterodactyl swoops down towards you. You aim and fire. Missed. It only takes two short seconds to

reload, but it is already too late. Caught in the dactyl's claws, you stare as the playing field disappears beneath you. Abruptly, it drops you to fall helplessly, down, down, down . Is this Captain Kirk's latest adven-

ture? A futuristic shootout at the OK Corral? A second-rate science fiction novel? World War III? Registration at Woollen Gym revisited? Welcome to the world of virtual real-

ity, where artificial environments and situations replace the mundane experiences we have been trapped in throughout history But don't think it is exclusively the

realm of the future. Ask anyone who wandered into The Parlor Billiards and Pub at 205 E. Franklin St. this weekend to see the opening of the first virtual reality entertainment system available to the public in North Carolina.

The two Virtuality 1000CS machines, designed by W Industries of Leicester, England, with their graceful curves, flashing lights and equipment straight from "Star Wars," probably looked more like some bizarre torture device to the innocent passerby.

But that did not stop the curious. Tommy Byrd, owner of The Parlor, estimated that 60 people came in to play on Thursday night, a day before the advertised opening. "The machines have been a tremendous success everywhere they have been," he said.

But beyond the flashing lights, gloomy music and threatening sound effects, there is serious technological

Jim Chung, a computer science graduate student who has done work on virtual reality, describes it as "the illusion of being somewhere you are not, where change position."

Virtual reality has been used for years by the U.S. Air Force and major airlines in flight simulators. Used to train pilots, state of the art simulators can take up entire rooms and cost millions of dol-

"Only now have we developed the computers cheap enough and powerful enough to do virtual reality for average people instead of just those that have money to spend," Chung said.

Chung estimated virtual reality technology could be as big and significant as television. "Virtuality reality now is comparable to the TV in 1940," he said.

While things like the holodecks made famous by Star Trek are conceivable, Chung said near term applications will be fairly mundane. "The computers now are not good enough to make the user forget the images are really comput-

ers," he said. Chung said many everyday items would change. For instance, he described the telephone of the future. "Instead of picking up a headset, you would put on goggles and communicate in 3-D

Other areas of science also would see advances due to virtual reality technology, Chung said.

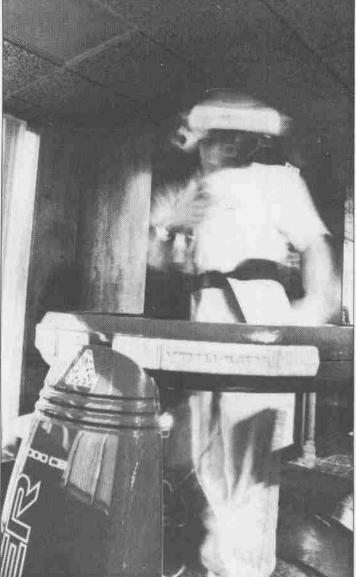
In medicine, it can assist in cancer and reconstructive surgery. In chemistry, molecular graphics can help the study of atomic structure. And in architecture, building designs can be experienced before they are built, allow people to "walk into" a blueprint.

"Architects are trained to be able to do it with just a two-dimensional blueprint, but their clients don't have that ability," Chung said.

And then, of course, there are the games. The system at The Parlor can run several different games: Hero, where the player carries an ax to defend against lurking medieval dangers; Beach, where opponents fire rocket-propelled stars at each other; and Dactyl Nightmare, the game that is currently loaded on the

In Dactyl Nightmare, players duel each other or the computer on platforms suspended in space while pterodactyls threaten from above.

To play, the opponents stand on raised platforms inside machine-generated



Elvis Herstein tackles Dactyl Nightmare on a Virtuality 1000C5 machine at The Parlor

magnetic fields. A magnetic tracking The headgear, which looks like somebelt monitors the player's position and thing Darth Vader wears, produces a hand-held joystick controls movethree-dimensional liquid crystal graphment and weapon fire. ics that respond to the player's position.

quadraphonic sound system (eerie mood music, the sound of footsteps and other effects such as the ominous declaration that starts every game, "Time to die."

The Parlor had to make a few adjustments to fit the machines. Its 9-foot ceilings are the minimum height under which they can operate. Byrd said a ceiling fan had to be removed and a neon sign in the window taken down because it caused disturbance in the system's magnetic field.

But wiring was not a problem. "It uses less electricity than I thought, about the same as a normal PC," Byrd said.

If you would like one of your own, Byrd said each unit goes for about \$65,000, compared to \$10,000 for a top-of-the-line, flat-screen video game.

A four-minute game will cost you \$4. The Parlor will keep the units for a two-month trial period before deciding whether to buy them. "It's definitely a business proposition," Byrd said.

He also joked that the machines might be detrimental to their other games. Who would want to play pool when you can run around space like Luke Skywalker and shoot at pterodactyls? "That might be a bad side effect," Byrd said.

Byrd expects the games will be popular despite the cost. They certainly received plenty of attention over the weekend, both from people playing and from crowds of curious onlookers.

"It's a lot of fun - very different," said Zinder Stephano, a graduate drama student, after playing. "The music really sets the mood, and the footsteps are great," he said.

nology needed to be improved before it truly looked real. "You are not in it per se. You can still tell you just have a TV attached to your face," he said. Mike Reily and his neighbor Nathan

But Stephano also thought the tech-

Zimet came from Hillsborough just to play after hearing about it from a friend who works in a video store. Both agreed was worth it. "It's real fun," Reily said. "It feels weird when you get off. You get used to

it, moving slow and holding your hand out in front of you." Reily added that the price was a problem. "You can't afford to become an