

# The Blue Banner

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." -- Mother Theresa

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## UNC president meets with chancellor search committee

Susan Lane  
Staff Writer

UNC system President C. D. Spangler refused to comment on the reasons behind the resignation of Chancellor Samuel Schuman at an Oct. 14 meeting of the chancellor search committee held in Karpen Hall.

When asked to cite specific reasons why he asked Schuman to resign, Spangler said, "I understand fully your question but I will not comment on personnel matters. We could stand here and talk all day, but I still would not comment on personnel. Excuse me, I have someone I have to meet with."

Spangler said that he followed university regulations and had not broken university rules in the events leading to Schuman's resignation, according to an Asheville Citizen-Times story. But he declined to comment about circumstances surrounding the resignation, citing state confidentiality laws.

Schuman stated in a recent letter published in *The Blue Banner* that he personally felt that the process which deprived him of his position was contrary to good management practice, to elemental fairness, and to the regulations of the University of North Carolina.

The room where Spangler met with the search committee was filled to capacity with students and faculty members upset by Schuman's resignation. Many stood at the back of the room, in the aisles, or in the doorway.

Spangler also asked the search committee to consider nominating a woman for the chancellorship, saying that, "Traditionally, what comes to me is an all male recommendation. We have 16 male chancellors in the UNC system and I regard that as a personal embarrassment. It is extremely unwise and in my opinion wrong because it eliminates outright 50 percent of the population."

"Having 16 chancellors looking the same way doesn't reflect well on the process," Spangler said. "I'm not running for anything so I can say that without hope of getting a percentage of the vote."

Spangler then pointed out that Duke University recently appointed Nannerl Keohane as president of that school.

Spangler told the committee that it is his responsibility to choose an interim chancellor, but declined to comment about who he will pick to fill that position. The search committee voted that the interim chancellor is ineligible for the job of permanent chancellor.

This rule is designed to prevent another split between the faculty and the search committee, which happened three years ago when members of the faculty fought to keep interim Chancellor Roy Carroll as permanent chancellor.

"There are faculty members on the committee, and special meetings with all faculty members should be held," said Spangler. "The faculty must be involved if there is to be any degree of tranquility on campus."

Spangler said it is the committee's job to sift through the possible 200 or more applications and submit to him two to four names.

"Then it becomes my sole responsibility to make a single recommendation to

the board of governors," said Spangler.

Spangler stated that the purpose of the search committee is twofold. "First, you are to consider what kind of university you need, and second, to determine the characteristics of the person you feel should be leading this university."

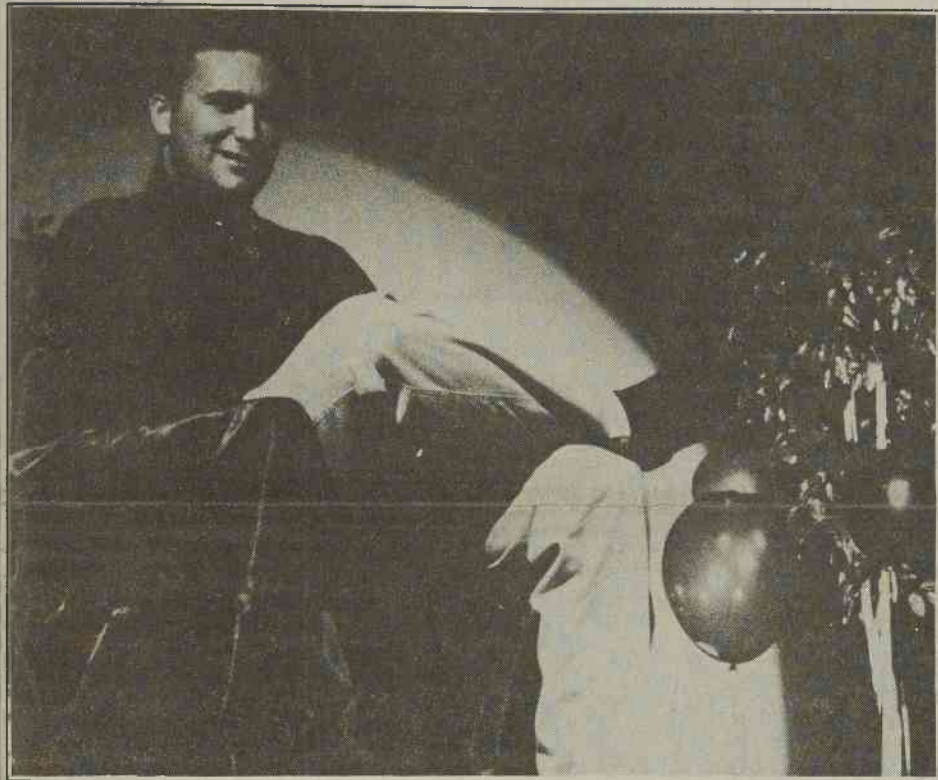
Spangler charged the committee to do its best to protect the individuals they will be considering.

"You are protected by North Carolina law when meeting in private executive session about personnel matters. This should not be public information. Refer the press to Chairman Banks for matters of policy and public matters," Spangler said.

"You do not have to announce executive sessions," Spangler told the committee. "There is no executive committee of the search committee. The chairman can call meetings, but a majority of search committee members must be there."

"We also want to encourage individuals who wish to address the group to sign up beforehand rather than just raise their hands at the meeting," Spangler said. "You will probably want to limit these persons to five to ten minutes each so that the committee will be able to hear them all and still have time to do its work."

Spangler advised the committee to hold their open meetings at a time when those people who want to speak can attend. He also stressed the importance of holding these meetings at a time when school is in session as opposed to on break, and to have the meetings here on this campus, possibly even holding some meetings in the evening.



Staff Photo By Stacy Whitworth

Going, going, gone

The Black Women's Coalition for Improvement held a bachelorette auction on Oct. 25.

## Bomb threat forces evacuation of residents

Teri Smith  
Staff Writer

A bomb threat on Oct. 24 at the Highrise Hall prompted the evacuation of the residents in that dormitory. Students waited outside in the parking lot for about an hour until security officials gave clearance for them to return to their rooms, according to the crime report.

Quentin Cavanagh was just five minutes away from ending his shift as night assistant at the Highrise at about 1 a.m. on Oct. 24 when the pay phone in the lobby rang. Cavanagh answered the phone to hear a caller say that a bomb was in Highrise and that it was set to go off in 10 minutes.

Cavanagh said he immediately called security after receiving the threatening call. "I felt the call was serious," said Cavanagh. "It goes through your mind that it's a prank, but I acted on the chance that it was real."

"We are trained to think safety first," said Cavanagh. "I was concerned about the safety of the residents."

According to the crime report, Officer D. R. McDonald responded to the call by contacting Jeff Van Slyke, public safety director. Van Slyke issued the

order to evacuate the building.

Rebecca Barraclough, head resident assistant (RA) at the Highrise, received the call from security to evacuate and was instructed to notify the resident director. Cavanagh broke the glass in the pull station with his bare hand to sound the alarm and then woke other RAs so they could evacuate their halls.

"Students did a tremendous job in evacuating properly," said Van Slyke. "All of the approximately 300 students were out of the building in about six minutes."

"The first part of the evacuation went extremely well," said Dennis Gregory, investigator. "The students got out of the building quickly. But, we did have some difficulty keeping the students orderly in the parking lot and it would have been difficult if we needed to get fire or rescue equipment in."

"We are currently working with the housing department to develop a plan for handling students once they are out of the building and finding a place where they could be more comfortable," said Gregory. "Our plan worked. We just learned from this incident that we need to carry it a little further."

"The night assistant did a very good job. He and Rebecca are to be commended for what they did," said

Van Slyke.

Barraclough said she feels comfortable with the responsibility of being a resident assistant. "We are well trained to handle emergency situations," said Barraclough. "I didn't really know what protocol was for this particular situation, but our training helped."

According to Barraclough, she and other RAs ensured that the building was empty.

Arnold Jones, assistant director of public safety, Gregory, Van Slyke and McDonald searched the building and found nothing that resembled a bomb.

"Making a prank bomb threat is a misdemeanor and is punishable by up to two years and/or a fine," said Gregory. "If there is an object found that resembles a bomb, the offense becomes a felony."

"This incident was a tremendous disruption to personal lives and very unfair to innocent students," said Van Slyke. "But it is important for students to never take for granted that it's a false alarm."

"I'm glad it's over and relieved that everybody got out quickly," said Cavanagh. "I wish they could catch the person who did it, because I'd like to see justice done."

## Faculty senate questions Spangler's decision

Lizzy Pressley  
News Editor

In its Oct. 14 meeting the faculty senate approved a letter to UNC President C.D. Spangler and Samuel H. Poole, chairman of the UNC board of governors, expressing the UNCA faculty's concern about Chancellor Samuel Schuman leaving office at the end of the semester.

"The sudden and surprising announcement that Chancellor Schuman will leave office at the end of this semester has caused disquiet in the UNCA community," said the letter, a copy of which was also sent to Jay Banks, chairman of the UNCA board of trustees.

Some faculty members had discussed these concerns after the first faculty meeting of the school year on Aug. 20 in which Schuman addressed the faculty "about his own personal situation ... and he made it very clear that it was not his voluntary choice to quit," said Shirley Browning, chairman of the faculty senate.

Between this meeting and the senate's first meeting in September, some of the faculty members discussed how to express their concerns, Browning said.

A draft statement was presented to the senate in that September meeting for discussion.

"The senate discussed the question, not as a formal motion but just as an open discussion, the fact that the faculty were concerned and the faculty were feeling they didn't know why. The faculty questioned the manner in which this happened," said Browning.

The letter states that the faculty have been satisfied with Schuman's performance as chancellor, and that they "agree with his vision for UNCA's future."

It also states that the faculty feel "there should be consultation within the campus community when a chancellor's tenure is at stake."

"We hope that in fact the people who receive the letter will take it seriously, will understand that no matter what the judgment is as to why Dr. Schuman is leaving office, when things like this happen you have to

"As far as the faculty is concerned, and given the implications of the chancellor's comments, it appears that there might not have been any consultation," Browning said.

expect the faculty to be concerned and you have to expect the faculty to say, 'we deserve some explanation,'" said Browning.

According to the letter, the faculty "recognize that while the chancellor serves at the pleasure of the president and the board of governors, we are accustomed to a generous measure of due process in personnel decisions."

Browning said explanations of matters regarding personnel decisions are restricted because there exists an element of confidentiality.

However, he said, such matters should be discussed between those making the personnel decisions and

those who are familiar with the performance of the persons about whom the decision will be made.

Browning said if Spangler did consult with members of the UNCA community, he is not obligated to tell what they discussed.

"As far as the faculty is concerned, and given the implications of the chancellor's comments, it appears that there might not have been any consultation," said Browning.

There was a "range of opinion" among the faculty members as to the degree to which they were upset, said Browning.

Some felt the letter should contain more forceful language while others thought the issue of finding a new chancellor was more important.

"How the campus reacts to this situation is viewed by some faculty as being important in terms of the atmosphere within which we recruit the new person," Browning said.

This concern is also expressed in the letter. It states that the faculty are afraid that "the circumstances surrounding Dr. Schuman's departure from office could have a negative effect on the ability of UNCA, and other constituent institutions, to recruit high-quality leadership for the future."

The letter, said Browning, was a compromise between the different views of the faculty. Linda Nelms, associate professor of management, and Michael Gillum, professor of literature, wrote the final version of the letter.

Browning said the faculty hope that Spangler will realize how dissatisfied they are with the handling of the situation, and that will take this into consideration. They also hope to receive some response from Spangler.



Staff Photo By Karen Brinson

Paul Sweeney, assistant professor of drama, was recently named an outstanding educator by the United States Institute for Theater Technology

## Professor receives award

Kent Thompson  
Staff Writer

The Southeast Regional Section of The United States Institute for Theater Technology (USITT) recently presented the Founders Award for Outstanding Educator for 1992 to Paul Sweeney, associate professor of drama at UNCA.

The award was presented on Sept. 17, at the organization's master's class, in Auburn, Ala., by Delbert Hall, of East Tennessee State University. "Sweeney was commended for the success of his students, most of whom are working in professional theater and education," said a press release.

USITT is the national professional organization that represents and serves designers and technicians from both the commercial and educational performing arts.

According to Sweeney, USITT is divided into smaller regions, and the award he received is from the Southeast Regional Section of that national organization.

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## Weather Report

The forecast calls for a breezy and cool weekend. Friday's high will be 62, with a low of 40. Saturday's high will be 54, with a low of 32.

Weather Report courtesy of the National Weather Service

UNCA Atmospheric Science Department offers updated forecasts through the 24 hour Weatherline...251-6435