

# CAMPUS

## Students get off their butts to create an impact

Several students travel to Washington D.C. with Sudan-native Dr. Elmoiz Abunura for a closer look at life in Africa, while the campus Habitat for Humanity chapter continues their service work in our community

Ryan Kelly  
Margot Jackson  
Guest Reporters

On March 4, 2003, four UNCA students, Emily Carter, Elizabeth Ford Cox, Ryan Kelly and Margot Jackson, piled into a car with Professor of Africana Studies Elmoiz Abunura. We were headed towards our nation's capital to the first annual Model African Union (formerly the Model Organization of African Unity).

The African Union is the equivalent of the International United Nations, focusing specifically on the continent of Africa. Within this conference each school present represented a different African country. Students were encouraged to follow their country's true political attitude, even if they as individuals disagreed.

The conference was four days in length, with activities ranging from committee meetings discussing politics to celebrating with African dancing. UNCA was assigned to represent Sudan, a political hot spot in current times.

Luckily, Professor Abunura is a native Sudanese and was able to provide first hand insight into the history and current situation in Sudan. One of the highlights of the trip was meeting the Ambassador to Sudan while visiting the Sudanese Embassy.

We were able to further our research by asking questions of the Ambassador while being treated to cookies and pop. Each student was assigned to a different committee where various issues effecting Af-



COURTESY OF MARGOT JACKSON

A group from UNCA attended the first annual Model African Union in Washington D.C. From left to right, students Margot Jackson, Ryan Kelly, Liz Ford Cox, Emily Carter and Professor Elmoiz Abunura.

rica were introduced and discussed. Following Robert's Rules of Debate, each committee then proposed resolutions dealing with the concerns at hand.

This culminated on the final day when all committees joined together to decide collectively what resolutions would be passed. UNCA succeeded in passing two resolutions, one in the social committee dealing with women's rights and another in the economic committee concern-

ing debt relief for Africa. In addition, student Liz Ford Cox received an award recognized by the conference for her outstanding representation of Sudan.

It was an amazing experience to witness the intricate processes surrounding political affairs, especially in a continent as diverse as Africa. In addition to the conference, we also had time to explore Washington, as we indulged in ethnic cuisine and various city sites.

Compiled by UNCA's  
Habitat for Humanity

It's 8 a.m. on a Saturday morning. The UNCA campus is asleep, except for a small cluster of people standing at the top of the stairs in front of Mills Hall in paint-spattered jeans and faded T-shirts. Why are they leaving so early, and where are they going dressed like that? They are volunteering for Habitat for Humanity. This year, Erin Trigonoplos, Emily Carter and William Voit started a Habitat chapter at UNCA that is responsible for one work date each month during the school year. Helping low-income families get homes of their own is a great way for us to give back to our community.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization founded by Millard and Linda Fuller in 1976. The Fullers tested their model for providing housing in Zaire for three years before returning to the States, and Habitat is now in 80 countries. Its goal is to eliminate substandard housing around the world by using volunteer labor to construct safe and affordable homes. Families do pay mortgages for the houses, but they are much lower than usual because Habitat does not pay site laborers, charge interest or make a profit. These payments, in turn, help build other houses. Homeowners also invest "sweat equity" by working on their new homes or on other houses. Families that need housing, and are willing to work with the program, and have a job, are chosen. This is not a hand out because each family pays



COURTESY OF UNCA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Students Sheila Bonar and Katie Potter enjoyed working on a house for UNCA's chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

with labor and money, gaining dignity in the process by purchasing a new home.

Habitat has been in North Carolina since Asheville Area Habitat began in 1983. Check out the Web Site at [www.ashevillehabitat.org](http://www.ashevillehabitat.org). 10 to 12 houses go up each year, and the 112<sup>th</sup> is now in February. The newest houses are going in on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, where Habitat has purchased six lots, and on three London Road lots near the Biltmore Estate. Habitat is also preparing its new home store on Meadow Road for occupation. When completed, it will have warehouse space for donated and purchased construction materials, offices and plenty of room for the

new home store and all the items donated for sale.

About ten volunteers are needed to work from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the UNCA chapter Saturdays on houses under construction. Tasks include everything from painting the inside of newly completed houses to landscaping yards.

Hey, that could be you with us! The top of the stairs in front of Mills Hall. E-mail Erin at [Erin16@aol.com](mailto:Erin16@aol.com), Emily at [ecarter@bulldog.org](mailto:ecarter@bulldog.org), or William at [wvoit3@chart.net](mailto:wvoit3@chart.net) for more information. Join us May 5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a cookout inside the Laurel Forum to see what we're all about and celebrating the end of the first year of Habitat UNCA chapter.

## Upcoming film screening promises eclectic evening



COURTESY OF JUSTIN CARHART



COURTESY OF KARIN GOODHUE



COURTESY OF HILARY MCVICKER

These scenes from films appearing at the May 9 screening are just a taste of the fun to be had at this year's student-film extravaganza. From left to right, Justin Carhart at gunpoint, Cupid and Hilary McVicker.

### The advanced video student film screening delivers death and love, triumph and failure, and oh yeah, a drunk Santa

Stuart Gaines  
Editor in Chief

It is time once again for the mass communication department video workshop spring screening. This year's lineup of student films promises to be the best yet, showcasing the talents of five advanced video students, acting as directors, producers, writers, sometimes-actors and everything else under the movie-making sun.

The work that goes into these short films is hard to fathom for the common man and woman. Literally hundreds of hours of filming, planning, editing and more go into each of these short films, but the results are worth it; emerging as phenomenal in terms of student film making, quite impressive in terms of independent film making and who cares what Hollywood thinks.

Karin Goodhue's film "True Life: I'm a Fantasy Figure" mocks the polluted sea of reality shows flooding your television these days with sarcasm, wit and originality reminiscent of the best years of "Saturday Night Live" or MTV's forerunner, "The State."

The film examines the real life dramas of four, old-time favorite fantasy figures: Cupid, The Easter Bunny, The Tooth Fairy and Santa Claus. The multi-talented Karin Goodhue took on the role of The Tooth Fairy with daring originality and Glam, earning chuckles throughout her performance. A slightly inebriated Santa Claus, played by (you guessed it), a pre-haircut/heard trim Stu Gaines, comes through in the clutch in the film with some self-stomping antics that will make you question the next glass of eggnog offered to you this Christmas.

There are too many other hilari-

ous scenes in this film to mention, but the Easter Bunny does the funniest thing I've seen in months to an unsuspecting little one. To see it, check out the community screening Friday, May 9 in Lipsinsky Auditorium at 7 p.m. Bring a date and get out to a free event, supporting your UNCA cohorts and your greater sense of art in this world.

Here's a brief description of the other four films appearing at the screening.

"Morbid Confessional" is a film by Jason Moore and starring Doug Davidson in the role of Mike, a man tormented by his unrequited love for his darling Stephanie. This dark look at love will leave you seriously pondering your next graveyard visit.

"Substance (Or Lack Thereof)" is a film by Hilary McVicker. This

mockumentary explores the real-life trials and tribulations of the movie-making world. Hilary salvaged her original project, "Substance," in record time after her lead actor left town indefinitely and her main shooting location was sold and remodeled, all with the film only half-shot. Spurt of the moment comedic recoveries are often best when disaster strikes. Don't miss this epic recovery.

"Lost Days" is a film by Justin Carhart exploring the aftermath of a wild party, where a woman ends up dead. The film explores how the surviving group decides to dispose of the body rather than calling the authorities. The film features the manipulative Danny, played by Carhart, clashing with the others in the group, and their consciences.

"Perfect Life" is a film by Jenifer Clickner. The film portrays the

character Angela in her room, reminiscing her romance with her husband Hank. Angela's view of her marriage is romantic and optimistic, despite some marital problems. But is it really? When Angela's sister pays a visit to the room though, her world is turned upside down.

The Mass Communication Department Video Workshop Screening is Friday, May 9 at 7 p.m. Get out and support the hard work and impressive films of your peers.



COURTESY OF JUSTIN CARHART

Justin Carhart's film "Lost Days" features this bloody saw.