

The Blue Banner



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NEWS BRIEFS

BY CHRIS CANTOS
Staff Reporter

CAMPUS CRIME

■ Campus Police received three reports of larceny from vehicles in lot 1 behind Founders Hall April 5.

■ Police received another report regarding items stolen from a vehicle parked in lot 1 April 6. Of these events, two of the vehicles were left unlocked prior to the theft, while windows were broken on the other two vehicles. Campus Police believe these events may be related, although they have no additional leads at this time.

■ Also April 6, Campus Police arrested a student for driving with a revoked license. Campus Police received a report of damage to a vehicle April 9, attributing the damage to an impact from another vehicle.

UNCA

■ Theatre UNCA will stage the performance of "The Frankenstein Project" in the Carol Belk Theatre April 15-18 and April 21-25. UNCA Drama students and faculty composed this original script based upon Mary Shelly's novel, "Frankenstein." The project is under the direction of Scott Walters, assistant professor of drama, with a cast and crew composed of UNCA students in the drama department, as well as from other disciplines. Tickets for all performances are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for senior citizens and \$5 for students.

■ In honor of Holocaust education week, volunteers will read out the names of Holocaust victims April 15 and April 16 from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. For more information, contact Rich Chess at 251-6526.

CHAPEL HILL

■ The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will break new grounds April 16 when it powers up a new world-class telescope in South America.

The telescope is positioned at Cerro Pachon, a mountain off the coast of Chile where the atmosphere remains dry constantly and where cloudy nights are rare, providing excellent stargazing conditions for this new addition to the UNC-CH physics department. Michigan State University and the nation of Brazil provided funds for a partnership to control the use of the device, which contains a 13-foot wide mirror and cost \$32 million to create. UNC-CH astronomers proposed the idea for the telescope in 1986. Chapel Hill scientists have control over the telescope for roughly one-third of the year, and can control it remotely from their university.

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa.

■ Residence Life staff members at Penn State found 11 marijuana plants in a student's closet during a routine dorm inspections before spring break. Residence Life personnel discovered a light coming from inside the closet after entering the room. The student failed to close the door completely, leaving several plants visible. The stu-

SEE BRIEFS ON PAGE 10

UNCA announces Craft Campus plans

BY TERRI FISHER
Staff Reporter



TYLER BREAUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Art students will likely work on sculptures and other 3-D projects in the Craft Campus building once it is complete.

UNCA announced the beginning of a \$5 million fundraising campaign for the creation of a Craft Campus adjacent to the Old Buncombe County Landfill five miles from the UNCA campus April 7.

"The overall goal is to create space for UNCA students to work and to learn, to benefit the community through economic growth and to provide a community with the opportunity to see a demonstration site for all the different areas that we hope to provide," said Dan Millsbaugh, the project director for Craft Campus and UNCA art professor.

The first building phase of the project includes two methane-powered buildings to house the areas of ceramics and

sculpture, currently located in Owen Hall, according to Bill Massey, the vice chancellor of alumni and development.

"The official time period has the first phase completed in five years, which is two studios with ceramics in each building," said Millsbaugh.

After the approval of the initial grant, construction of the building to keep the facility modified for green building standards will require further funding.

UNCA follows the state optional guidelines for green building on all new construction, and will continue that precedent with this new project.

"The first grant we're writing is a planning grant from an unnamed source. Once that is received there is an opportunity to write more grants and start with the building process," said Millsbaugh. "The plan-

ning grant would be to survey the land, test the soil and hire an architect."

In a Buncombe County Board of Commissioners meeting April 6, members voted to begin the negotiation of a 150-acre lease between the county manager and UNCA.

The site would be leased for \$1 a year per year for 50 years, with the possibility of renewal for an additional 50 years.

After the lease's approval, UNCA's development office, the office of sponsored programs and the art department will all be responsible for writing grants and finding further funding for the project.

Three sources prominently spurred the idea for the project, according to Massey.

One source was the art department's need for space.

SEE CAMPUS ON PAGE 10

UNC teacher singles out student for hate speech

BY LAUREN ABE
Staff Reporter

A UNC Chapel Hill instructor set off a federal discrimination investigation after singling out a conservative student in an e-mail Feb. 6 for calling homosexuality "disgusting," according to the Associated Press.

"While all opinions should be allowed to be voiced in an open discussion, such settings should be safe so that no one walks away feeling threatened," said Noelle Avina, a junior creative writing major. "You have to consider that you wouldn't be able to get away with calling any other minority group 'disgusting.'"

Tim Mertes, a sophomore at UNC-CH, called homosexuality "impure," "dirty" and "disgusting" during an English class discussion in February.

The instructor of the class, Elyse Crystall, sent an e-mail to the 33 students in the class to set boundaries in the classroom.

In her e-mail, Crystall said Mertes' comments constituted "hate speech," according to the Associated Press.

"What we heard Thursday at the end of class constitutes 'hate speech' and is completely unacceptable," wrote Crystall in her e-mail according to the Associated Press. "It has created a hostile environment."

Crystall called Mertes a "white, heterosexual, Christian male" who "can feel entitled to make violent, heterosexist comments and not feel marked or threatened or vulnerable," according to the Associated Press. Under pressure from the English department, Crystall apologized in an e-mail noting that her previous message crossed the line and repressed free speech.

"I think people find it uncomfortable to talk about sexuality in any way, even just broadly," said Lorena Russell, an assistant professor for the literature and language department.

"Sexuality is something that is always an issue. How do you allow for the free pursuit of knowledge within a classroom, but at the same time keep the space non-hostile, safe and appropriate?"

The investigation will analyze whether the teacher and school acted appropriately in the situation. University officials are examining the class to guarantee free speech.

UNC-CH faculty resolved the matter by committing themselves to "intellectual independence, nondiscrimination on the basis of, among others, race, sex and sexual orientation, free speech and expression," according to the Associated Press.

"I feel like it's important to express all sides of an issue and give any opinions relevant to discussion, but I don't think it's relevant to cut down a minority group or say an opinion that can disrupt a person's feelings," said Lindsey Stack, a junior Spanish major.

The U. S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights subsequently asked UNC-CH to supply documents

SEE CHAPEL HILL ON PAGE 10

Athletic Director search nears end

UNCA to decide between four possible replacements

BY ADAM McMULLIN
Staff Reporter

UNCA officials plan to name a new athletic director by the end of April.

"Four candidates have visited campus and we hope to have an announcement by the end of this month," said Merianne Epstein, UNCA's public information director.

The athletic director position remained open since former director Joni Comstock resigned and left the post in early December, according to Mike Gore, associate athletic director who is serving as interim-athletic director.

Comstock is now director of athletics at American University in Washington D.C.

"It's been a little more hectic, but thankfully we've got a good department," said Gore. "Joni Comstock did a great job hiring good people so the athletic department has pretty much run itself and yeah, it's been a little more hectic for me. I've gone to a few more meetings, but it's been fine."

Gore said he looks forward to the naming of a new director. "It'll be good to have some-

body but everything is going fine," said Gore. "Thankfully, we haven't had any crises and everybody has done a great job in the period since Joni left."

The new athletic director will be one of the four possibilities, according to the

Asheville Citizen-Times.

One possible replacement for UNCA's interim director is Janet Cone, assistant athletic director at Samford (Ala.) University.

Cone was head women's basketball coach at Mars Hill and Western Carolina University.

Tim Downes, director of athletics, physical education and

recreation at California Institute of Technology is another possibility.

Sean Frazier, director of athletics and recreation at Clarkson (N.Y.) University and Howard Gauthier, president of Gauthier Sports Consulting in Idaho and former athletic director at Idaho State are the other two possible replacements.

In addition to a new athletic director, UNCA is also searching for a Campus Police chief to replace the current interim, Billy Dawson.

"We have started a search for a new chief and we hope to have one in place by mid-summer," said Epstein.



Mike Gore

Candidate credibility questioned

BY AMANDA EDWARDS
Staff Reporter

Dips in the credibility of both President George W. Bush and presumed Democratic nominee John Kerry leave many voters concerned if either is suitable to fill the next presidential term.

"I think we probably have two of the worst choices for president that we've had in my lifetime," said Colin Ley, a senior computer science major.

Bush leads Kerry in the polls by four points for the first time since February, according to the latest USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll.

Bush's recent campaign ads claimed that Kerry proved to be indecisive on issues while he served in the Senate, according to the Poll. In the poll prior to the ads' airing, Kerry had an eight point lead over Bush. The poll found that 60 percent rated Kerry favorably and 26 percent unfavorably

before the ads ran. Now, after the ads ran, 53 percent view Kerry favorably and 36 percent unfavorably.

"If Bush remains in office, we are looking at the continuation and intensification of a series of socially restrictive, ecologically devastating, violence promulgating policies," said Zev Friedman, a senior environmental science major. "We should all cry, begin praying and consider a forcible takeover of the U.S. government."

The poll also found that although 53 percent believe the Bush administration covered up information about its usage of intelligence before September 11, 67 percent say it could not have prevented the attacks. In contrast, 54 percent of the people polled said Bush still could have done more ahead of time. National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice defended Bush with her statements to the September 11 Commission April 8, vowing that Bush was unaware of such

a threat.

"I don't really think that Bush could have stopped it. After all, how do you defend against someone who is perfectly willing to give their life to take yours?" said Ley.

Even though no one could really know that the September 11 attacks were going to happen, Bush consistently ignored issues of safety and security, according to Friedman.

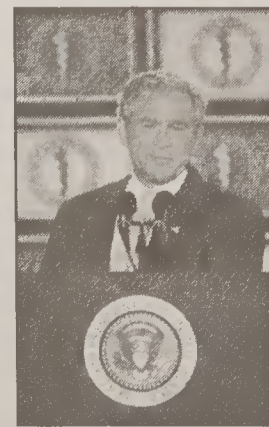
"If Bush had been directing attention towards international peace making, realistic national security and domestic social issues instead of corporate welfare, the attacks probably could have been prevented," said Friedman.

John Kerry's campaign released a report April 5 alleging \$6 trillion of hidden spending in Bush's budget proposal for the next presidential term.

Meanwhile, the Bush administration put out another ad at



John Kerry



President Bush

SEE CANDIDATES ON PAGE 10