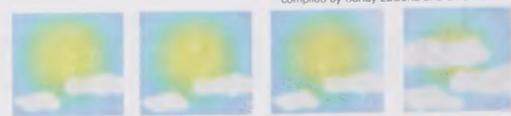


The BLUE BANNER

Men's Basketball
Bulldogs lock in a 6-1 record,
see page 4.



Travelogue
Take a walk on the
Eastern side with a
student in Thailand.
see page 10.



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THE NEWS IN BRIEF

University addresses human rights

UNC Asheville honors International Human Rights Day on Dec. 9 with a talk by renowned human rights activist William Schulz. A former Amnesty International director, Schulz traveled across the world pursuing human rights in places like Sudan, Darfur, Cuba and Northern Ireland. The talk, entitled "Restoring America's Credibility: Human Rights in a Post-9/11 World," takes place at 7 p.m. and is free to the student body and public.

Asheville lands \$35 million water bill

The city of Asheville made plans for a \$35 million overhaul of the city's water system, of which portions are more than a century old according to city officials. The city expects accepted contractors to begin work on the project within 90 to 100 days, with the project lasting up to two years.

The changes mean fewer broken pipes and better water pressure, according to city officials. Asheville expects spending \$65 million in all for necessary water system repairs, which Asheville water customers pay for with the capital improvement fee already on the water bill.

Peace talks resume in Middle East

Israeli and Palestinian leaders agreed Tuesday to resume negotiations regarding the creation of an independent Palestinian state. The decision marks the first such negotiations to take place in seven years.

The talks begin on Dec. 12 and will be held biweekly. The United States will moderate the discussions. So far, neither Israeli or Palestinian officials show any signs of backing down on the issues that halted previous negotiations, such as the borders of a Palestinian state and the status of Jerusalem.

AIDS Quilt fashions connections with students

By Caroline Fry

STAFF WRITER

In honor of World AIDS day, Western Carolina University will display portions of the AIDS quilt, made two decades ago in San Francisco to memorialize victims of the disease.

The WCU display, which runs from Dec. 3 to Dec. 6 in Cullowhee, comes in cooperation with UNC Asheville's chapter of the Student Global AIDS campaign.

"By sponsoring this quilt at WCU, SGAC is able to expose to the UNC Asheville campus com-

munity a visible, tangible result of the pandemic," said Maddie Hayes, co-chair of SGAC. "When you're looking at this quilt, soaking in all of the history, the personal importance, the result of AIDS, you can't escape the feeling that there is so much to this world that we cannot even fathom."

More than 70 individual panels of the quilt will be on display at the WCU campus. Along with the quilt, WCU will sponsor speakers, a theater piece and on-site AIDS testing, according to Kerrie Joseph, WCU wellness coordinator.

"We hope to have a moving

event that inspires people to become active in the fight against HIV and AIDS," Joseph said. "Students should come out to witness and be a part of the world's largest community art project."

Joseph encourages UNC Asheville students to come to the WCU campus to view the quilt and help their fellow mountain students in volunteering.

"Anyone can volunteer to be a quilt monitor, or to make and donate a panel, bring a carload of friends to view the quilt, or attend one of the many events during those four days," Joseph said. "We

will also be collecting items for donation to the people that the Nantahala AIDS Consortium serves."

The AIDS Memorial Quilt began in 1987 in memory of those who died of the disease, and today it contains 44,000 individual panels and covers six city blocks. It was nominated in 1989 for the Nobel Peace Prize, and is the largest art project in the world, according to the NAMES Project Foundation.

The AIDS quilt serves as a great educational tool because it gives a personal, living view of the dis-

ease instead of cold facts and statistics, according to Hayes. Some panels commemorate people with quotes, poems and even pieces of victim's favorite clothing.

"This quilt represents hope and beauty," Hayes said. "Instead of watching a horrific, depressing documentary or following the increasing statistics of mortality rates due to AIDS, you're witnessing a product that was made by the hands of victims who want to show the world that this disease can be defeated with some action

SEE QUILT PAGE 2 |

15 years of waiting



Glen Edward Chapman, left, at age 25 in 1992 and right, at age 38 in 2005. Chapman is on death row for the murder of two women in Hickory in 1992 and has been granted a new trial after a court order. Chapman awaits trial at Central Prison in Raleigh.

One man's journey through accusations, incarceration, death row and now a new chance at freedom

By Lisa V. Gillespie

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Despite omitted evidence, a faulty defense, a withheld line-up and a 15-year proclamation of innocence, Glen Edward Chapman may receive a new trial.

"It's an unfortunate fact that law enforcement yields to the easiest solution. There is a lot of pressure to find suspects because the public wants results," said Frank Goldsmith, lead attorney to Chapman in a phone interview. "To have a man possibly sentenced to death is inconceivable and it's a compelling

case against the cause to speed up the death penalty process and lessen appeal time. If they had their way, he would have been executed a long time ago."

During the past five years, Pamela Laughon, psychology department chair and mediation specialist, reinvestigated the case alongside her students. This led to the court order by Judge Robert C. Ervin saying Tenene Yvette Conley may have died from an overdose and someone else probably killed Betty Jean Ramsey. This information was discovered through false testimonies, with-

held evidence by the Hickory Police Department and ineffective assistance from his original attorneys', one of whom died and the other whom became a judge.

"When I went back to re-investigate that summer, the Hickory paper was describing it as the summer of fear, because four girls were killed in five months," said Laughon, self-proclaimed lifesaver working to change death sentences to life sentences. "It was the summer of fear, alright. Thank goodness for Ed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3 |

University receives \$1 million donation

By Neal Brown

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

The Cliffs Communities, a private residential development offering luxury homes and home sites, donated \$1 million to the North Carolina Center for Health and Wellness, scheduled to break ground in the spring of 2008, according to Keith Ray, chair and associate professor of the health and wellness department.

"Thus far this is the second largest gift beyond the state appropriation," Ray said.

Joe Kimmel and Associates gave the largest gift thus far of \$2 million, which will help fund the Kimmel arena, a multipurpose convocation center and basketball arena.

The new Health and Wellness Center is scheduled to break ground in spring 2008 and take about 18 to 24 months to build. The total cost of the building is estimated between \$40 and \$42 million. The university received and appropriation amounting to \$35 million from the North Carolina Board of Governors and needs to raise a total of \$5 to \$7 million in private funds to complete the building.

The Cliffs Communities made their gift public Nov. 1 at the Owen Conference Center. The ceremony included a variety of foods to reinforce the departments commitment to health and wellness.

"The room was full, and we had

SEE CLIFFS PAGE 2 |

Film Festival highlights Hispanic contributions to the arts

By Clary Tedford

STAFF WRITER

Hispanic Outreach for Learning Awareness hosted a Latin-themed film festival in the Humanities Lecture Hall on Nov. 14, 15 and 18.

The festival showed Latin America's diversity, according to Alexandra Ulrey, one of HOLA's executives and sophomore Spanish and environmental studies student.

Many students might not know how much European influence exists in these countries, or they might be unaware of the Jewish communities and other cultures within Latin America, Ulrey said.

"It's a melting pot like the rest of the world," she said. "Movies often give a homogenized picture of the world, but these were movies that weren't mainstream."

The festival was open to UNC Asheville as well as the greater Asheville community, said HOLA executive Caitlin

Nelligan, senior Spanish student. "We had a solid 10 to 15 people attend every night, which is decent, although I was hoping for more," Nelligan said.

Nelligan said she agreed with Ulrey that diversity was the core motivator for the festival.

"The event was important because it showcased a wide variety of great Hispanic/Latin cinema that we are not normally exposed to, proving there is more to this cinema than the popular 'Y Tú Mama También' or 'El Laberinto del Fauno (Pan's Labyrinth),' she said. "We showed 'Nada Más,' 'Juchitan Queer Paradise,' and 'El Abrazo Partido.'"

Cuban director Juan Carlos Cremata Malberti directed "Nada Más," which starred Thais Valdés and Nacho Lugo among its Cuban cast. It was released in 2001.

"Juchitan Queer Paradise," a film by Mexican director Patricio Henriquez, dealt with homosexuality in the Mexican town of



Caitlin Nelligan, HOLA executive and senior Spanish student, talks with executive Alexandra Ulrey, sophomore Spanish and environmental studies student in the Student Organizations suite in Highsmith.

Juchitan. Since its release in 2002, it has played at the following festivals: Latin American Studies Association, 2004; Outfest, Los Angeles 2004; San Francisco Gay Film Festival,

2003. In addition, the film won the Award of Merit from the Latin American Studies Association in 2004.

"It's about this guy who's living in Argentina and his family

"Movies often give a homogenized picture of the world, but these were movies that weren't mainstream."

ALEXANDRA ULREY
HOLA Executive

has Polish lineage," Ulrey said. "He's basically trying to figure out where he belongs."

HOLA executive member Sarah Chase preferred "Nada Más."

"I liked the style of the film. The plot centered around a postal worker named Carla (Valdés) who began writing false letters to people. It was funny because she almost got caught," said Chase, senior Spanish student.

For those who missed this year's film festival, the organization plan to show films on the quad next year, according to Ulrey.

"We want a larger scale thing

for next year, just to give UNC Asheville's campus a taste of some works of art that aren't mainstream," she said.

For other upcoming events, HOLA will host a play in December.

"Our next big event that will be coming up is the Spanish play 'El Arte que Hizo Pub,' that we help sponsor with the Spanish theater group TELASH," Nelligan said.

"The play is made up of members of the community, two UNC Asheville students, and is directed by professors Greta Trautmann and Lule Rosenbaum. The dates of the show are Nov. 30, and Dec. 1 and 2." Nelligan said. "HOLA and El Proyecto de Estudiantes en la Comunidad Hispana joined forces as one group under the HOLA name in 2006. Since then, it's been an effort of a variety of students and faculty, all dedicated to bridging the gap between the communities in the greater Asheville area," Nelligan said.