



Arts & Entertainment

OCTOBER 3, 2000

Briefly...

Take a Riverfest cruise

The annual Riverfest Island of Lights Cruise will take place Oct. 7 aboard the Royal Winner Queen. The boat loads at 5:30 p.m. and returns at 10 p.m.; tickets cost \$20 and are available at Linda's Fashions, The Checkered Church and Sterling Craft Mall. The cruise offers a view of the Riverfest fireworks, a barbecue dinner, a cash bar, door prizes and a raffle. For more information, call Stephanie Terrell at 763-3613.

Comedy group holds auditions for actors

The Other Side comedy troupe will be holding auditions for anyone interested in learning the art of improv and sketch comedy Oct. 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Arts Center (120 S. 2nd St.). No experience or prepared material is necessary. For more information, check out their website at <http://www.othersidecomedy.com> or call Richard White at 200-3553.

Community speaking circle seeks new voices

Using a method based on Lee Glickstein's transformational speaking circles and his book "Be Heard Now," the Community Speaking Circle creates a safe and positive environment for people to voice their opinions. Beginning Oct. 8, the group will meet on the second Sunday of each month from 6-8 p.m. downtown. For more information, call Cate Mathis at 762-9243.

"Brigadoon" opening

The Thalian Association Community Theatre will present the musical "Brigadoon" on Thalian Hall's mainstage Oct. 12-15 and 20-22. All performances are at 8 p.m., except for the Sunday performances, which will be at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$14-\$16, discounts are available for students and senior citizens.

A & E Editor sought

The Seahawk will accept applications for A & E Editor through next Tuesday, October 10. Qualified applicants will have experience in journalism and editing, to include Associated Press Style. Please call Thomas M. Ruyle at 962-3229 for more information.

Changes to noise ordinance causing controversy

MEGAN O'BRIEN
A&E EDITOR

The Wilmington City Council will hold a public meeting to discuss a proposed amendment to the noise ordinance tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at Thalian Hall.

There are two major components to the proposed amendment to the noise ordinance. The first changes a charge of noise disturbance from a criminal to a civil and the second specifies that noises heard over 66 feet from the venue constitutes a noise disturbance. Under the current code, a noise disturbance is defined as "any unreasonably loud and raucous sound or noise which endangers or injures the health or safety of humans or animals, endangers or injures personal or real property or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivity." These definitions will not change if the amendments are approved. Assistant City Attorney Dolores M. Williams does not believe that definitions are arbitrary.

"(It) has been held up by the courts," she said.

Fines for the offenses under the proposed amendment start at \$200 and increase to \$500 for each additional offense. Right now, the fines start at \$50 and in-



James Flint/The Seahawk

crease for each offense, with a maximum of \$500.

While most bar owners believe that the first change is a good one, they have serious problems with the huge fine.

The current ordinance has a provision for the downtown area in section 6-28.C of the city's Code of Ordinances based on the decibel level. During the daytime, sounds must be kept at 5 decibels, but between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. on weekdays they can go up to 65 decibels. On Saturdays and Sundays, the level goes up to 70 decibels between midnight and 2 a.m.

According to attorney David P. Wallen and IceHouse owner Ian Moseley, the decibel standard has never been used in to charge a bar with a noise violation.

"There's not been one decibel meter

Sharky's is one of several downtown nightspots protesting the proposed amendment to the City of Wilmington's noise ordinance. The City Council meets tonight to discuss it.

pulled out in downtown Wilmington in the past six years," Moseley said. "I guarantee it."

The Wilmington Police Department was not available for comment at the time of publication.

Section 6-29.1 can also be applied to the bars downtown. It says, "No commercial establishment shall play, operate, or cause to be played or operated, any amplified or non-amplified musical instrument or sound reproduction device in a manner that causes a noise disturbance on any neighboring premises."

"Who's reasonable? Is there a moral majority out there that I don't know about?" Moseley asked. "They're basi-

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DOC allows students to discover kayaking

AMY E. LOWDER
STAFF WRITER

Whether curious about paddling down one of the local black water rivers or dreaming of running the gates on the Olympic Whitewater, students have the opportunity to get their feet wet in the sport of kayaking. The Discover Outdoor Center (DOC) offers several basic kayak clinics throughout each semester, allowing adventurous spirits to get a taste of the basic techniques of kayaking.

Perry Thurman, junior, recently completed the basic kayak clinic and plans to take the roll clinic as well.

"I had never tried kayaking before, thought it was a unique program for the university and wanted to take advantage of the programs while (I'm) a student," said Thurman.

Josh D. Evans, student and clinic in-

structor, said he enjoys introducing others to the joys of kayaking. While living in Alaska, Evans paddled the topaz blue waters, sharing them with playful sea otters and pods of killer whales, often spotting "hundreds of different water fowl...moose, and your occasional grizzly bear" on the shores.

"(It's) such a beautiful place," Evans said.

Another favorite spot for Evans is on the New and Gually rivers of West Virginia.

"The rapids are fierce in the New (River) if you go right after the spring snow melt, and the Gually right after the dam release in late September and early October... (There's) nothing like being lost in the foam and fury of coursing rapids," Evans said.

The only prior skill needed to take the basic kayak clinic is the ability to swim and "not be afraid of the water,"

Evans said.

The basic course covers information and skills needed to get started in the sport of kayaking and are also useful for fine-tuning fundamental paddle strokes and kayak maneuvers.

The course prepares the student for "short, easy sea kayaking trips, and also class I and II level whitewater," Evans said. "Nothing takes the place of experience in real situations. So even with the course, I would suggest that a beginner with no experience get some by taking supervised trips with the DOC or any number of (qualified) kayak outfitters in the U.S."

Having recently completed the basic clinic, Kim Hart, junior, joked, "I have dreams of being an extreme kayaker," and added that she "plan(s) to take the roll class and try to (kayaking) in real

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