

Briefly...

Rev. Michael Dyson to deliver Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration

The Rev. Michael E. Dyson, best-selling author and professor at DePaul University will deliver UNC Wilmington's annual Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration address Thursday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. in Kenan Auditorium. The event is free, but tickets are required and can be obtained from the Kenan Auditorium box office by calling 962-3500.

An African-American, religious and cultural scholar, Dyson has written for numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The Washington Post* and *Rolling Stone*. He is the author of "I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King Jr.," "Race Rules: Navigating the Color Line," and "Between God and Gangsta Rap: Bearing Witness to Black Culture."

Board of Trustees meetings

The regular quarterly committee meetings of the Board of Trustees will take place Thursday, Jan. 18 and the full board meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 19 in the Madeline Suite.

Among items on the agenda are: capital improvement projects report, master plan progress report, proposed student fees for 2001-2002, proposed room and board rates for 2001-2002, designer selection for printing services addition/expansion, Westside Hall renovation, general classroom building and academic/classroom facilities for fine arts.

Randall Library offers tours

Randall Library will be conducting tours during the first two weeks of the spring semester. Tours begin behind the display cabinet at the front entrance of the library and will last about 30 minutes. Tours will be held:

- Tomorrow - 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 16 - 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 17 - 3 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 18 - 10 a.m.
- Friday, Jan. 19 - 9 a.m.

Court rules in favor of student speech

BY BILLY O'KEEFE

TMS CAMPUS

Should free-speech restrictions applicable to high school students apply to college students as well? The Society for Professional Journalists does not think so. Now, neither does the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati.

The court ruled on Friday that officials at Kentucky State University were out of line in confiscating and censoring some 2,000 copies of the 1993-94 edition of the *Thorobred*, the school's student-produced yearbook.

Officials at KSU confiscated the book in 1994 after expressing concerns about the quality of the book, as well as its purple color scheme, which officials said was not representative of the school's colors.

Yearbook editors Capri Coffey and Charles Kincaid then sued the university, arguing that the university's actions were unconstitutional.

In 1997, U.S. District Judge Joseph Hood, citing a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on a similar case involving high school students, ruled in favor of the university. Hood pointed to *Hazlewood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, a case that granted high school officials the right to censor student publications that do not

fall in accordance with the school's educational philosophy.

The decision to apply a high school law to a college publication outraged students around the country, who saw the decision as a threat to what they felt were basic rights.

"It is ludicrous to assume that a 13-year-old is similar in judgment to a 22-year-old college senior," read an editorial that appeared in the *Student*, Miami of Ohio's student newspaper. "Moreover, virtually all college students are adults who enjoy inherent rights and responsibilities. Hood has implied that college adults are no more capable than are juveniles."

Lawyers for the students, with funding from the SPJ, sought last year to reverse the decision. They argued that, contrary to the district court's opinion, Kentucky State's status as a public university makes it a public forum, and that students as result are not subject to the same standards of censorship as their high school counterparts.

In his ruling, Judge R. Guy Cole concurred.

"Given KSU's stated policy and practice with regard to the yearbook, the nature of the yearbook and its compatibility with expressive activity, and the university context in which the yearbook

is published, there can be no question that *The Thorobred* is a journal of expression and communication in the public forum sense," read the decision. "The university's confiscation of this journal of expression was arbitrary and unreasonable. As such, it violated Kincaid's and Coffey's First Amendment rights."

SPJ president Ray Marciano called the ruling "a major victory for those who fight for free speech and against censorship attempts."

"The court has sent a very strong message to all those who would even consider prohibiting publication of materials simply because they don't like them," Marciano said.

"The Sixth Circuit wisely saw through Kentucky State officials' disgraceful efforts to protect the university's public image even at the expense of students' First Amendment rights," said Christine Tatum, chairwoman of SPJ's Legal Defense Fund. "By hiding those books, the university has done more damage to its reputation than it would have by releasing them."

Officials at the university could not be reached for comment. When asked about the university's reaction to the decision, a KSU spokesperson declined comment.

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during his battle with cancer," said Sizemore. "He handled everything with determination and courage."

Lindquist taught classes full-time until about a year ago, but was very active through this summer with the university.

Dr. Scott Quackenbush, biological sciences chairperson, said, "Across the state he had a dramatic impact on students who took his ichthyology course. His class directly helped students get jobs, and many of them are in supervisory positions."

According to Quackenbush, Lindquist's senior level courses were always packed, and students were always crushed about not being able to get into the class.

"He was cheerful, energetic and fun to be around," said Quackenbush. "He always had students ready to go on trips with his and the drop of a hat."

Although Lindquist was fun to be around, he continuously challenged students.

"I think students really liked the challenges he gave them, and the one-on-one interaction he had with his students," said Quackenbush. "Dr. Lindquist motivated students to see their full potential, and to reach for the things higher than they thought they could reach. He helped a lot of students to succeed."

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