

## Briefly...

### Chancellor's student hours

Chancellor Leutze will hold office hours for students next Tuesday, April 10, from 11 a.m. until noon. The Chancellor's office is located in Alderman Hall room 110.

### College Democrats and Republicans debate tonight

College Democrats and College Republicans will debate the issues of President Bush's tax plan, national missile defense and abortion tonight at 6 p.m. The debate will take place at Center Stage in the Warwick Center and will include questions from the audience. Dr. Lloyd Jones, associate professor of political science, will moderate the event. For more information, call John Andrew Petrequin at 962-5928.

### Wildlife preservation project Saturday

The Leadership Center is coordinating a wildlife cleanup on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon. The group will work with the Cape Fear River Watch at a site off Kerr Avenue. Students interested in participating should call 962-3877 to register and meet in front of the University Union, near the spirit rock, at 9 a.m. Breakfast will be provided.

### Volunteer trip to Mexico

Global SERVE, a student organization that seeks to promote intercultural awareness, is looking for people interested in volunteer work in Juarez, Mexico, from May 13-18. Participants will build a simple two-room house for a family.

The cost of the trip, which includes airfare, is \$250. Volunteers will be staying at a church in Juarez. A minimum of 12 people is needed. Registration deadline is Saturday. To sign up, or for more information, contact John Andrew Petrequin at 962-5928 or visit the Leadership Center in University Union room 212.

## Students seek to cash in on apartment filth

BY STEPHEN SHARKEY

TMS CAMPUS

Everything is done except the cleaning.

Friday was the last day votes were tallied for Apartments.com "Messiest College Apartment" contest, and the competition is getting sticky. Each of the three finalists is eagerly coveting the grand prize of \$10,000, as well as a free house cleaning, which may cost Apartments.com another ten grand.

"I like to call my apartment Matt's Dark Pit of Filth," said Indiana University senior Matt Robinson, whose messy living space has now denied him the option of having guests over. "I eat a lot of take-out, the remains of which rot in the collection of paper bags that litter my floor," said Robinson in his Apartments.com defense case for the messiest apartment.

Right now it is clean-up or clear-out time for Robinson, who, after seven messy months in his apartment, is facing eviction by his landlord, making the \$10,000 grand prize of particular importance to his future living situation.

However, Robinson isn't worried about eviction. "That just gives me the opportunity to move on and start my mess all over again," he said.

The Associated Press reported Robinson as saying, "I don't even care about the money; it's more about the fame I expect to get out of being a slob."

Apartments.com would not release the names of the other college slobs. But their apartment descriptions speak for themselves.

"We know that our landfills are filling up fast, so we have done our part to keep our trash inside," said two University of Wisconsin at Steven's Point sophomores, who are striving to promote "biodiversity" in

their toilet. They claim their porcelain god has more microorganisms growing in it than most biology laboratories.

A Harold Washington College sophomore defends her mess by saying, "The best defense is a good offense," in reference to the smell that permeates her apartment.

Pictures on the Apartments.com Web site show filth-ridden clutters of boxes, clothes, books and garbage. All of the finalists seem to have lost site of their floors, and each contestant has grown used to the idea of sleeping on a mattress without sheets and covers.

Robinson doesn't mind living in such mess, though. "I'm just too lazy to care," he said.

The finalist apartments can be viewed online at [www.apartments.com/messycontest.htm](http://www.apartments.com/messycontest.htm). Contest winners will be announced on Monday, April 9.

## Sophomore trash-a-thon helps community

SARAH BUSICK

STAFF WRITER

Members of the sophomore class landed a helping hand to the environment and a local non-profit organization last Saturday.

Approximately 35 sophomore students picked up trash in downtown Wilmington and at Masonboro Island. The students also raised about \$1,400 for Cape Fear Hospice, with money still coming in.

"I really think the environment is something that everyone should care about, and this [Trash-a-thon] is just a way for everyone to do their part," said Sophomore Lauren Casey.

The group, composed of mainly sophomores and ECO club members, came back from both locations with a total of approximately 100 bags of trash.

"We all had a great time," said Crisp McDonald, sophomore class president. "Overall it was a really impressive showing - it was well over my expectations."

According to McDonald, everyone who helped with the project worked hard.

The Greeks donated proceeds from a car wash, about \$480, to the project. People within the university made contributions as well as local businesses providing monetary and other support.

McDonald said the idea of the event was to create unity among the sophomore class and help the community.


"[It was] pretty rewarding," said Sophomore John Hitt. "I noticed a difference walking through the streets."

Students were shuttled downtown to pick up trash along Third Street, Red Cross Street, Water Street and Market Street. Items found included beer bottles and cigarette butts.

Trash found on Masonboro Island included tires, golf balls, goggles and fishing poles.


"I think we really put a dent [into picking up trash] on Masonboro," McDonald said. "It could definitely use a lot more work...many things were just too big to carry a mile and a half down the beach. We could only take what we could carry."

McDonald said that the class will do a project again next year as juniors, but it has not been decided what that will entail.

  
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