

Briefly...

Discount movie ticket prices increase

Recently, Carmike Theatre increased the discount movie ticket price from \$4.50 per ticket to \$5.00 per ticket. If you have questions or comments, please email Carol Asher at asherc@uncw.edu.

Trustee resigns from her position as board trustee

Chancellor James R. Leutz has announced the resignation of Margaret B. Dardess as a member of the university's board of trustees. Dardess has been a member of the board since June 1997 and was chair of the board from June 2000 through June 2001. She has served on several UNCW committees, including academic affairs, student affairs and long range planning. Dardess recently accepted the position of associate dean for administration in the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. State law prohibits employees of state agencies from being university trustees or members of the UNC Board of Governors.

Panel to discuss link between primates and humans

A panel discussion on "The Primate-Human Connection: Science, Society, Politics" will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 9 in Randall Library Auditorium. Panelists will examine the link between animal and human behavior. The discussion will feature Dr. Mideon Albert, assistant professor of anthropology; Dr. Diana Ashe, assistant professor of English; Dr. Katherine Bruce, professor of psychology; Dr. Donald Bushman, associate professor of English; Dr. William McCarthy, associate professor of history; Dr. Diane Melroy, a lecturer in biological sciences; Dr. Patricia Turrisi, associate professor of philosophy; and Dr. David Weisner, professor of biological sciences. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact McCarthy at 962-3313.

Candidate discusses lottery, tuition increases

COLLIN BECK

STAFF WRITER

Gene Merritt, a long time Wilmington native is running as a Democratic candidate for the state senate position in District 7, which includes the university campus. The primaries, originally set for May 7, are now under court inspection regarding the legality of the break up of the county, and that date has been pushed back indefinitely.

Q: You are running for District 7. Where does that include?

A: "It's the top part of New Hanover County, (and) includes a great deal of Pender County, Onslow County and up to Jacksonville. The new district is a 'demographic game that has to be played.' The republicans are currently suing the state on the grounds that you can't split up a county. However, this new district was approved."

Q: What ever you run for another elected position?

A: "I never have. I've been involved greatly in politics for the last 25 to 30 years. And with other people's campaigns. But this is my first time running."

Q: What do you do for a living now?

A: "I'm involved with neighborhood

revitalization. I am an urban development specialist. I am also a commercial real estate appraiser."

Q: Where do you stand on the



Gene Merritt

Photo: The Seahawk

UNCW tuition increase?

A: "I'm not happy with it... education should be our number one priority. The problem is that the state government has spent too much money on other programs. I would like to see North Carolina go back to the way it was a few years ago when the university concept (tried) to provide as close to free as it could (for an) education to all in-state students. Now that is ideal.

(NC) is getting away from the state constitution, which calls for a free education for the citizens of this state. We are not responsible for (out-of-state students). My position is education should get cut last. The tuition increases are inappropriate, wrong and bad."

Q: What would you do to make up for the deficit created by minimizing those increases?

A: "I support a state-wide lottery, (which) would be one way to make up some of that. Another way is to cut operating costs in other (state) departments."

Q: Which state departments?

A: "All of them. Not across the board, but selective cuts. I just feel there is quite a bit of fat. I think we need to get back to our primary obligations. There's no magic formula. There's a lot of blame to go everywhere (as far as spending goes.) The university and the state need to take a long hard look at (where they are spending their money.)"

Q: What does it take to get people out to vote?

A: "I guess it takes a disaster to get people interested. I want all people to vote— especially college students. I don't want to hear you complain unless you vote."

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