

News Briefs

compiled by Addie Tschamler

• Nearly one week after Wendell Williamson, a third-year law student at UNC-CH, shot at several people along Franklin Street near the college's campus, family members of the two killed in the shooting mourn their losses. A manager trainee at McDonalds and a former lacrosse player at UNC-CH were killed in the shootings.

• Judge Lance Ito rebuked O.J. Simpson's attorney, Johnnie Cochran, Monday, for hiding witnesses from prosecution. Cochran then continued his opening statement.

• The San Francisco 49'ers plowed over the San Diego Charger Sunday as Super Bowl XXIX came to an end. The final score was 49-26. It was a record fifth Super Bowl title for San Francisco, but it's first with new quarterback Steve Young. Young received a car and a trophy for his title as Most Valuable Player.

• Former cabinet secretary and former congressman Jack Kemp announced that he will not run for president in 1996. Kemp has been suggested as a possible Republican candidate, but he says he doesn't have the stomach for the campaign. Kemp, 59, joined former Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and former Education Secretary Bill Bennett in formally withdrawing from the race.

Valentine's buying on a student budget

by Melissa Massengil

O.K. It's 13 days 'till Valentine's Day. Who's already bought all her tokens of affection? That many, huh?

Well, I guess I won't be seeing any of you at the mall scrounging around half-empty racks and shelves and battling it out with love-crazed women for the last pair of heart boxers or silk ties. I usually put the shopping off until the last possible minute.

So think of me wandering around Crabtree Valley this weekend, wondering if my fiancé would really enjoy that fuzzy remote control cozy and trying to take my small paycheck and make romance.

Needless to say, I honestly think I could by some romantic items he'd appreciate well in advance if it weren't for one small detail — lack of money.

Well, this year I've finally admitted that my financial situation won't be getting any brighter in the next couple of weeks, so I've decided to go to plan B — I'm going to get creative.

I really never planned on using creativity until I was trapped in a room with 30 five-year-olds, but this is an emergency.

Thinking long and hard, I came up with a few ideas that could be helpful for those of you with very little money and not a lot of time to spare.

CD's are probably the best choice for less-than-one-month-old relationships. They're impersonal, unaffectionate gifts that are relatively

inexpensive, especially when they're on sale.

You don't want to invest twenty bucks on a present if the relationship doesn't last two weeks after Cupid's visit.

For those of you with spicier romantic involvements, why not baby your baby with treats for his tub.

Make a gift basket of collected bath and body supplies from Bath & Body Works. Fill the basket with small bottles of massage oil, lotion, cologne and a loofah. Recycle those Easter baskets and decorate them with red and white ribbons, hearts and chocolates and fill it with rose petal potpourri for a fragrant scent.

Handmade frames make good gifts also. Give them a special touch by taking a picture of you and your sweetie and put them in a heart-shaped frame, decorated with your loving hands. They make a gift your significant other will keep for years to remind him of those good times you've had together.

You should make sure to write the year and a little message on the back of the picture or frame for him.

If you want to get ambitious, try this little trick I learned from the Discovery Channel:

Take a clear glass plate and paint it completely on both sides with the colors of his favorite team. Then cut out a his team's emblem from a pennant and glue it to the plate's surface with some of that clear glue/varnish that can be

bought at craft stores. Gold sheeting, also found at a craft store, can be glued around the rim.

This is a gift that will mean something every time he roots for his team during a game. Just make sure he doesn't use it to set his beer on. (Plus, it's a lot cheaper than those commemorative plates of Elvis from the Franklin Mint.)

And if you're daring, you can paint some of the team statistics and his favorite players names on the back of the plate. Also include your names, the year, and a little message using stencils.

For the man/men in your life, there are two gifts guaranteed never to fail (and they're inexpensive, too):

Hockey tickets and underwear.

Decorating plain white boxers with fabric paints or appliques is quick and easy to do. But let me caution you that boxer shorts are really only appropriate for enduring relationships.

A little less personal are the regular store-bought undies. These are frequently on sale at the department stores around this time for about \$25 per pair.

But don't get the cotton ones. Every man I know prefers the silk, especially those with the little Warner Brothers cartoons or glow-in-the-dark hearts and messages on them.

They're cute, frivolous and comfy.

There isn't a man in the world who doesn't love hockey. And you can get a discount with college i.d.'s for Ice Caps tickets. With the money you save on the tickets, you can spring for the beer, hot dogs and popcorn at the game. And many of the players after the game have been known to give out hockey pucks, so you can present your man with that as an added bonus. And even if you don't like hockey, just sit there and look like you're enjoying yourself. (He'll thank you for not complaining.)

Speaking of cartoons, Bugs Bunny videos are a good choice also. Men, no matter how serious, can't resist them.

So now you can take that extra money and buy a little something for yourself. How about a box of chocolates, or an aromatherapy candle, or a tube of lipstick, or some sexy lingerie, or...

Academic Success Series

Looking for ways to improve your study skills and academic performance? Then the Academic Success Series is for you! Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:15 p.m. in 101 Ledford.

Topics offered include:

- February 8 Reading Comprehension and Notetaking
- February 15 Learning Styles
- February 22 Writingskills
- March 1 Time and Stress Management
- March 8 Test Taking Strategies

The series is open to all students. You may attend all or any part of the series. If you attend all five sessions, you will receive a certificate of achievement.

Please see Kimberly Dowd, Office of the Dean of Students, 8521 to register for the series.