

The Daily Tar Heel

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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Harding's Ex-Husband Pleads Guilty for Attack

PORTLAND, Ore. — Tonya Harding's ex-husband pleaded guilty today to taking part in the attack that knocked Nancy Kerrigan out of the U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

Jeff Gillooly struck a plea bargain under which he confessed to a racketeering charge in exchange for his testimony. He implicated Harding in the Jan. 6 clubbing of Kerrigan, Harding's chief American rival.

Prosecutors said they would recommend a two-year sentence and a \$100,000 fine.

Gillooly's lawyer, Ron Hoevet, told the court that he participated in a conspiracy "that included Tonya Harding" and three other men who have already been charged.

Clinton Appoints Lawyer As Civil Rights Prosecutor

WASHINGTON — President Clinton Tuesday named Boston lawyer Deval Patrick to be the nation's chief civil rights enforcer, filling a spot left vacant for months after the withdrawal of Lani Guinier.

Wasting no time, conservatives called Patrick "a stealth Guinier."

Clinton heatedly suggested that Patrick's conservative critics "don't give a rip about civil rights."

In an Oval Office announcement with Attorney General Janet Reno and Vice President Al Gore, Clinton said Patrick "understands the law is a tool to help real people with real problems."

Conservatives denounced the choice even before Clinton's announcement.

Congress Kills New Funds For Impoverished Schools

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration narrowly lost its first legislative bid Tuesday to target federal funds for disadvantaged students to the nation's poorest school districts and counties. The defeat came at the hands of House Education and Labor subcommittee members concerned that their districts would lose their share of the \$6 billion program.

With its 14-12 vote against the Clinton plan, the subcommittee on elementary, secondary and vocational education rejected arguments that the funds for the disadvantaged — known as Chapter I — are spread too thin and that hundreds of high-poverty schools are not being served.

The Chapter I votes came during debate on reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Cable Networks Institute Voluntary Rating System

WASHINGTON — The cable television industry agreed Tuesday to begin rating its programs for violence and endorsed technology that would permit parents to block violent shows from their homes.

An independent monitoring committee will be set up to report on the violent content of television, cable officials said.

Broadcasters are expected to endorse the plan for a monitoring panel but have not joined in the effort to rate shows. "This is the dawning of a new era... they are to be congratulated," said Rep. Edward J. Markey, D-Mass., chairman of the House telecommunications subcommittee.

Winston H. Cox, president of the Showtime network, said the cable industry planned the rating system to give parents more information on the shows.

Witness Says Defendant Bragged of Evers' Murder

JACKSON, Miss. — Two years after the death of civil rights leader Medgar Evers, an unrepentant Byron De La Beckwith told Ku Klux Klan leaders he had killed "that nigger," an FBI informant testified Tuesday.

The informant, Delmar Dennis, was one of several witnesses at Beckwith's murder trial who recounted chilling — and sometimes incriminating — remarks he said Beckwith had made.

The witnesses testified over the vehement objections of defense attorneys, who complained that the remarks were prejudicial or did not bear directly on the case against Beckwith.

Dennis, whose career as a Klan infiltrator for the FBI from 1964 to 1967 has been widely chronicled, said he heard Beckwith speak to a meeting of Klan leaders in rural Byram, Miss., on Aug. 8, 1965.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: Partly sunny, cold; high mid-30s.

THURSDAY: Partly cloudy; high upper 30s.

Students to Vote on DTH Referendum

BY KELLY NEWTON
STAFF WRITER

Students will be able to vote on Feb. 8 whether to terminate student government's right to make appointments to The Daily Tar Heel Board of Directors.

DTH editor Yi-Hsin Chang turned in a petition for the referendum to Student Body Vice President Dacia Toll on Tuesday. Student Body President Jim Copland said he would place the referendum on the general campus elections ballot.

The DTH collected more than 2,791 signatures, according to Elections Board Chairwoman Melinda Manning. Ten percent of the student body, 2,288 students, had to sign the petition in order to get the referendum on the ballot.

Copland said he was impressed with the amount of effort the DTH staff put into the

petition drive. "They really got a lot of names; they put great deal of effort into it," he said.

Copland said he thought the students would realize that the ties between the DTH and government should be severed. "When the paper received funds, there was a need for that accountability, but it doesn't receive funds now," he said.

Chang said she was pleased with the way the staff worked to get the needed names. "Considering how much time the staff spends in the office, it's amazing that we were able to get so many signatures," Chang said.

The petition drive is a result of a failed bill presented in December by Student Congress Rep. Andrew Cohen, Dist. 6, a member of the DTH board of directors. Congress defeated the resolution, which proposed a referendum for the separation of student government and the newspaper, in a 17-10 vote.

Some congress members said they voted against the resolution because they felt that if the DTH cut ties with student government the newspaper would no longer be held accountable for what it printed.

In 1974, the 100-year-old student publication became constitutionally funded, which guaranteed a certain percentage of student fees each year. Because the newspaper was supported through student funds, the DTH Board of Directors included three student government appointments, which allowed government some authority in the

board's decisions.

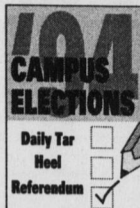
Last May, the newspaper became completely independent of constitutional funding. It is now being funded by revenue generated by the sale of advertisements.

"The reason for the appointments to the Board of Directors was because of the money," said Kevin Schwartz, general manager of the DTH.

"It's no longer necessary. Government should not be involved in the free press," Chang said she thought that if the referendum passed, it would be the final step in the DTH becoming totally independent.

The board of directors serves as the DTH publisher and meets once a month to establish noneditorial policies and approve the DTH budget.

The board also chooses the eight at-large members of the Editor Selection Board.



Candlelight Vigil Spotlights Bosnian Suffering

Community Hears Woman's Story of Horror and Flight

BY WARD CONVILLE
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to bring attention to those who have died in the ongoing war in the former Yugoslavia, the Coalition Against Genocide sponsored a candlelight vigil, which attracted about 30 people, in front of the Chapel Hill post office Tuesday night.

Dr. Nina Elshiekh, a member of CAGe, said the vigil was designed to commemorate those who have died in the war-torn former Yugoslavia and also to call attention to the lack of U.S. action to end the violence in Bosnia.

CAGe is a UNC group committed to ending the current ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and to eliminating genocide.

Elshiekh compared the slaughtering of innocent victims in Bosnia to the atrocities committed by Nazi Germany.

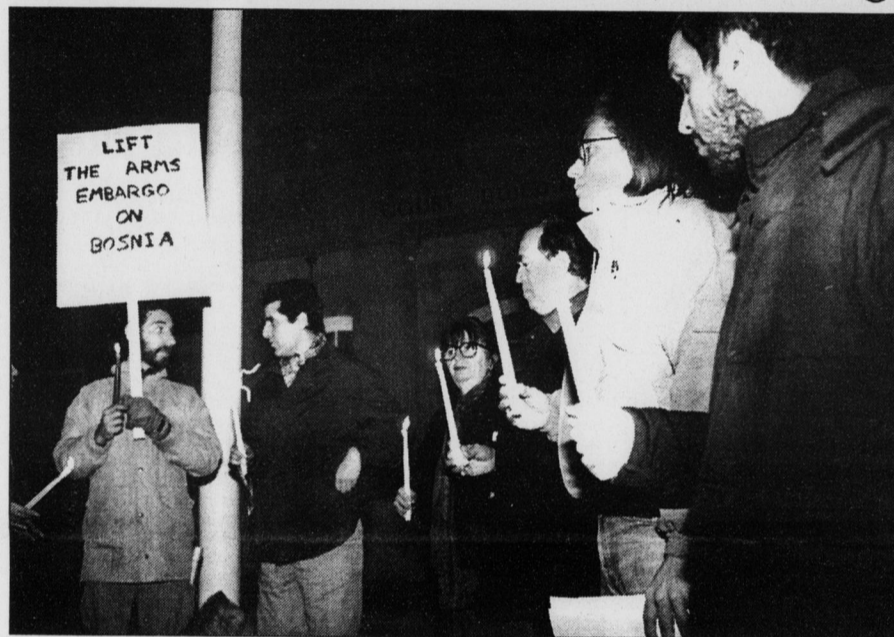
"We are stressing the fact that 50 years ago genocide occurred in Europe, not by the German people, but by the German government," she said. "Today, genocide is occurring in Europe, not by the Serbian people, but by the Serbian government."

Dr. Anika Petrovic, a Bosnian refugee and a fellow at the National Humanities Center in the Research Triangle Park, spoke in support of ending the conflicts in Bosnia and restoring peace to the area.

"I was a professor in Sarajevo and spent six months under the siege before leaving," she said. "I saw a lot of shooting from the Serbian side from the mountains, while the Muslim army was almost nonexistent."

Petrovic said she was able to leave Sarajevo before her husband could, and that from outside Bosnia she was able to help her family leave.

"We did not want to leave Sarajevo



Members of the Coalition Against Genocide hold a candlelight vigil Tuesday night in front of the post office on East Franklin Street. The vigil was held to remember victims of the ethnic conflict in Bosnia.

until we saw that there was no chance to survive, so when I got the opportunity to leave Sarajevo, I left," she said.

Petrovic said she supported increased U.S. involvement and that U.S. military leadership in Bosnia would be imperative to stop the fighting. "I think the Serbs are afraid of U.S. action. They have found that Europe is unwilling to befriend the Bosnians. They found that they can do

whatever they want without European interference," Petrovic said.

Elshiekh said the U.N. arms embargo against all of the former Yugoslavia was keeping Bosnians from defending themselves and prolonging the war. "If (the Bosnians) were allowed to defend themselves, (the Serbs) would see that they are no longer fighting an unarmed enemy."

Elshiekh said she was concerned that

the lack of information about Bosnia had kept people from realizing how serious the situation was. "In the past two years over 300,000 people have died in Bosnia, and there are three million Bosnian refugees," she said.

Petrovic said her main concern was ending the war before more people were killed. "The Bosnians are suffering, and they are exhausted."

Newspapers Sue for Access to Records

BY PHUONG LY
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

When a student is charged with cheating, sexual assault, harassment or other honor code violations, the public is informed of the charge, the plea, the verdict and the sanction.

But don't bother looking for details. Administrators from UNC and other public universities justify withholding honor court records, citing a federal law that prevents them from releasing students' records. Schools say that what happens behind the honor court's closed doors is nobody's business but those involved.

Newspapers call these star-chamber proceedings a slap to freedom of the press. And they are working on opening the doors.

Georgia Court Opens Records

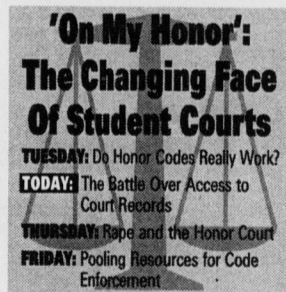
The Red and Black, an independent student newspaper at the University of Georgia, has sued and won access to honor court records for Georgia's public colleges.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Last month the newspaper received the judiciary records of a UGa. student who was found guilty of setting fire to a homosexual student's door. In December, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled in the "John Doe" case that disciplinary records of individual students were not education records.

Education records are confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Earlier last year, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled that The Red and Black had a right to campus court records about organizations. The newspaper sued the university in 1991 after its reporters were denied access to judiciary records about a case involving hazing charges. In a closed trial, the prosecutors contended that a fraternity pledge was encouraged to drink enough



whiskey to suffer alcohol poisoning and require hospitalization.

Meanwhile, officials in the U.S. Department of Education say they have always considered student disciplinary records protected under FERPA. The department is accepting comments about the matter through Feb. 14, and might write disciplinary records clearly into the amendment, according to a December issue of the Federal Register.

UNC Courts Remain Closed

So far, administrators from UNC-CH and other universities located outside Georgia say they still are acting under FERPA. They say the rules of opening criminal court records do not apply to a university disciplinary system, which deals with student conduct. They say they also worry that students would be hesitant about reporting incidents if records were public.

"The nature of the University disciplinary system is confidential and private under law," said Margaret Barrett, UNC-CH judicial programs officer. "It protects the privacy of the individual students involved."

A confidential system allows students to go on with their academic careers once the proceedings and sanctions are over,

she said.

And a closed system doesn't mean a corrupt system, Barrett said.

"I think the system is under a great deal of scrutiny already," she said. "While it is closed in terms of general access, there are many people involved in the hearing to protect the rights of the accused."

Newspapers Fight for Access

But many members of the press say they would rather see for themselves.

"You can see if it's fair and accurate," said Johnathan Burns, former editor of The Red and Black. "What kind of justice is being administered?"

News organizations say they also want access to trials.

UNC-CH judicial policy states that an open hearing may be held only at the written request of the defendant, except in cases involving sexual offenses. In sexual assault cases, the alleged victim can request that the hearing be closed.

Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center in Washington, said many judicial cases had a direct impact on public safety and interest because universities now were trying serious charges such as physical and sexual assault.

"Schools want people to have confidence in their system of justice," he said. "They need to open it up so people can know."

The Student Press Law Center is looking for possible cases to contest the idea that disciplinary records are off-limits, Goodman said.

A reporter from the Sentinel of Louisiana State University at Shreveport and the local chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists are suing LSU. They want access to disciplinary records of students who allegedly embezzled student funds.

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School Board Campaign Spending Doesn't Pay

BY DANIEL FELDMAN
STAFF WRITER

Seekers of political office beware — spending the most money does not win an election, according to the recent campaign spending publication for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education election.

The Orange County Board of Elections released a series of reports this week outlining the campaign spending of the eight school board candidates. The report itemizes the candidates' expenditures, along with the amounts local residents contributed.

Of the top three spenders, only Mark Royster was successful in attaining one of the three highly coveted school board seats.

But Billy Beville, who finished sixth in the November election, said he didn't think there was a correlation between spending and votes received.

"Obviously not, by looking at the dollars spent and who spent it," Beville said. "There were a lot of new people running for the board this year. Mark (Royster), Bea (Hughes-Werner) and I were relatively unknown politically."

Beville spent \$4,791, the second-highest amount, and raised \$4,842. He added that he spent everything that he could accumulate.

"Originally, I had no idea how much money we could raise, probably around a

Council Winners Spend Big

Four Political Newcomers Top Other Candidates

BY KRISTEN MIN
STAFF WRITER

Anyone interested in running for a seat on the Chapel Hill Town Council should begin fund raising for the campaign as early as possible.

Unlike the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education race, the town council's four newcomer candidates who spent the most money won seats on the board.

The candidates filed their contributions and expenditures Friday with the Orange County Board of Elections.

Town council newcomers Pat Evans, Lee Pavao, Rosemary Waldorf and Jim Protzman spent the most. The two incumbent winners in the election were Barbara Powell and Joyce Brown.

Pavao, the second-highest spender, received \$4,324 in contributions and \$4,352 in loans, and he spent \$7,102. About half of his total spending was for printed campaign material and advertising.

Pavao said he thought spending a lot had been necessary because he wasn't well-known.

"The advertising was quite effective," he said. "I had quite a few responses. I value the effectiveness of advertising, since I did spend a lot of my professional life in advertising."

Protzman, who came in fifth in the November election, said extensive mailing and campaigning was important to let voters know him and his issue stances.

"Obviously, I'm not a known politician, and I needed a way to communicate to Chapel Hill to tell them who I was," he said. "It's very clear that my mailing caused the voters to see my standing for candidacy."

Protzman, the fourth-highest spender, Please See COUNCIL, Page 4



New town council member PAT EVANS spent the most of the 11 vying for council.



Council newcomer LEE PAVAO says he spent a lot on his campaign because residents didn't know him.

Not a shred of evidence exists in favor of the idea that life is serious.

Brendan Gill