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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Religious Sect Members Found Dead in Switzerland

CHEIRY, Switzerland — Forty-eight members of a religious sect were found dead today in a concealed underground chapel and other buildings after apparently committing mass suicide. Some victims were dressed in ceremonial robes, their hands clasped in prayer and plastic bags tied over their heads.

Police found the bodies in the burning ruins of a farm and three ski chalets in southern Switzerland. The victims apparently killed themselves before the fires were set shortly after midnight, they said.

Authorities said most of the victims appeared to be Swiss, French and Canadian and that they were investigating links with a religious sect in Canada.

The deaths were apparently a mass suicide by a sect called the Cross and Rose.

Haitian General Attends Memorial for 10 Soldiers

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — His days in power slipping away, Haiti's military leader wept Wednesday at a funeral service for 10 of his men killed in a shootout with U.S. Marines.

Even as Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras sat ramrod straight at the service, staring at the caskets draped with the red-and-blue Haitian flag, Haitians speculated on his imminent departure, along with that of fellow coup leader Philippe Biamby and the military-installed government of Emile Jonassaint.

Another leader of the September 1991 military coup, Lt. Col. Michel Francois, skipped town Tuesday for a new life in the neighboring Dominican Republic.

The leaders have until Oct. 15 to quit power under a U.S.-Haitian agreement.

Earthquake Relief Efforts Hindered by Bad Weather

VLADIVOSTOK, Russia — Bad weather hindered relief efforts Wednesday on the Kuril Islands following a massive earthquake that devastated the remote Pacific chain and sent residents fleeing to higher ground.

The undersea quake late Tuesday had a magnitude of 8.2, the strongest in the world this year. It killed at least 10 people, destroyed buildings, tossed boats ashore and produced 9-foot-high waves that swamped coastal areas.

Many islanders fled to higher ground, fearing the dozens of aftershocks that rattled the region Wednesday would set off deadly tidal waves. Seismologists said the aftershocks, measuring up to magnitude 6, would continue for days.

U.S. to Establish Fund for South African Businesses

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Clinton administration is establishing a \$100 million fund to help entrepreneurs in southern African states, heavily targeting South Africa in hopes it can become an economic engine and model for the region.

The United States and South Africa also will set up a commission for cooperation on environmental, science and technology, energy, and commerce matters, officials said Wednesday. The commission, similar to one established with Russia, will be headed by Vice President Al Gore and South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

President Clinton was announcing the steps in a news conference with South African President Nelson Mandela.

3 French Police Officers Killed in Paris Shootout

PARIS — In one of the bloodiest episodes in recent Paris history, a young couple tear-gassed two police officers, stole their guns and set off a wild car chase, killing three officers and a taxi driver before being captured.

The slayings late Tuesday stunned a nation where only two other police officers had been killed in action all year, and prompted calls for restoration of the death penalty.

Authorities could recall no other case in which so many Paris police officers had been killed.

The male suspect, Audry Maupin, 22, was wounded in the chest in the climactic shootout and was in critical condition Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: Mostly sunny; high upper 60s.

FRIDAY: Mostly sunny, mild; high 70-75.

Congress Rejects SBP Advisor for Honor Court

BY NANCY FONTI AND PETER ROYBAL
STAFF WRITERS

In an unusual last-minute maneuver, Student Congress late Wednesday night rejected an individual nominee for the Honor Court.

John Dervin, senior advisor to Student Body President George Battle, was rejected in a 9-8-2 vote.

At the beginning of the meeting, congress approved funding for the five student groups who had had their requests put on hold since the Sept. 14 meeting, with questions being raised about only one request.

In rejecting Dervin as an Honor Court member, congress first brought up a bill to confirm the entire Honor Court at once.

When the bill failed, congress reconsidered it, voting on one nominee at a time. Dervin was the only nominee of about 40 who was rejected.

"It's obstruction, it's petty politics, and it can't be tolerated," said Phillip Charles-Pierre, Battle's chief of staff. "I hope it's not an affront to the Battle Administration because we're stronger and bigger than that."

Ethics Committee Chairman Rep. Roy Granato, Dist. 13, described the Dervin rejection as Rep. Jonathan Jordan's doing. Jordan, Dist. 1, voted against Dervin. "It seems as if this is going to be Jonathan Jordan's last meeting, and I think this is his going away party. He wants to leave with a bang. And I say good riddance."

Dervin would not comment on the vote. Jordan, who faces a recall election next Tuesday, said he was concerned about a

conflict of interest. "(Dervin is) a big advisor for the executive branch, which might present a conflict of interest," Jordan said.

Jordan said he did not think his vote against Dervin would matter in his recall election.

Rep. Stephen Oljeski, Dist. 4, moved to consider each nominee individually. "It was obvious that they were not going to pass undivided. So, rather than there being no members on the Honor Court, it only seemed logical to divide and try again."

Oljeski said he voted against Dervin for reasons similar to Jordan's. "There would be a concentration of too much power," Oljeski said. "You would have people in the executive branch that are sitting at the judicial branch at the same time."

In additional business, congress allocated money to five campus groups: UNITAS, Carolina Company, North Caro-

lina Student Legislature, The Alliance of Black Graduate and Professional Students and the Elections Board.

The groups had originally been scheduled to receive funds Sept. 14, but that congress meeting was cut short when quorum was broken over reconsideration of the Minority Recruitment Bill.

The minutes of the Sept. 14 meeting were not passed Wednesday night because of debate over the validity of the Minority Recruitment Bill recall vote.

Although the N.C. Student Legislature requested \$2,505 in appropriations, congress granted the group \$655.

Some congress members argued that the group's issues went beyond the University into local, state and national levels. Because of this the group did not receive money for travel and lodging. Other Student Congress members argued that the

group directly affected UNC and deserved funding for expenses.

However, it was voted the group used travel funds for issues beyond the scope of UNC, and travel should not be funded.

"We are pleased because the \$655 is very generous," said NCSL spokesman Rick Bagby. "We feel sorry that we started this. It was very clear one side was for it and one side was against. I hope we didn't further fuel the disgust in Congress."

Carolina Company, a first-year theater group composed of 150 members, received \$5,923 in appropriations to pay for lighting, rent and set construction.

UNITAS, a group which promotes multicultural living, received \$560 partly for promotional expenses. The Alliance of Black Graduate and Professional Students received \$6,656, and the executive branch of the Elections Board received \$1,000.

Queen of the Hill



Members of the 1994 Homecoming court make an appearance in the Pit Wednesday afternoon after Mack Brown's "Chat with the Coach." Students can vote for a queen from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. today in the Pit. See story on page 3.

Public-Private Partnership Delegation Returns From Indiana With New Ideas

BY MEGAN HANLEY
STAFF WRITER

Members of Public-Private Partnership travelled to Bloomington, Ind., to gain some insight into problems facing young people in Orange County.

Eighty-six members of the Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Orange County communities returned yesterday after a three-day trip.

The partnership involves a collaboration among the various groups within the county, including the local government, school systems, UNC, businesses and nonprofit organizations.

"It's a part of town-gown relationships with all parts of the community," Chancellor Paul Hardin said Wednesday. "It's a gesture of cooperation and mutual interest among all players in the region. It was a particularly good trip because we mainly discussed servicing the youth in our community."

The focus of the trip was to survey what is currently being done in Orange County to service young people.

"By focusing on problems facing youth in our community, instead of relying solely on the school systems, we can enlist the support of other organizations in Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Orange County to meet those needs," Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board Chairman Ken Touw said.

Public-Private Partnership officials identified Bloomington as a similar community. Then, the city was recruited to serve as a host site.

Members of the local delegation travelled to Bloomington Sunday. While there, they toured the community and met with their counterparts to discuss methods of dealing with similar problems in Orange County.

"It's an absolutely wonderful idea to bring together many people really devoted to the community," said Edward Brooks, assistant vice chancellor of health affairs.

"They research, study and develop a number of ideas that I think are very interesting and very important. Ideas have occurred here in the community as a direct result of PPP."

Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Capowski said several goals were established for the community to work on. Included in these goals was a possible apprenticeship program which will match up young people with applicable places in order to introduce them to the working world, Capowski said.

Another goal is to find a central location in Orange County for local nonprofit organizations.

"We've talked about a central location for years," Margaret Henderson, director of the Orange County Rape Crisis Center said. "There were many false starts. They heard our concerns and recognized it is a good business decision and community

Please See PPP, Page 5

Residents Present Views on Meadowmont

BY DEAN HAIR
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

East West Partners president Roger Perry submitted his revised proposal for development of the Meadowmont property at Wednesday night's public hearing at Chapel Hill Town Hall.

Meadowmont is a proposed planned community on the 445-acre DuBose property off N.C. 54. The majority of the property lies on the north side of the highway.

The proposal by East West Partners does not include developing the DuBose estate, the University-owned property that is now on the register of historic houses.

The proposal for Meadowmont, which would be the biggest development in Chapel Hill history, recently was revised to include the possibility of Rainbow Soccer fields. The Chapel Hill Town Council voted

against the original proposal last spring, so Perry revised the plan after criticisms from the town's design review board.

Now, the Meadowmont plan suggests building fewer buildings to save the open space on the south side.

The meeting involved a summary of the proposal with questions and comments given by local residents. Because the meeting was a public hearing and work session, council members were not allowed to voice their opinions on the property. Perry said the process for developing this property has been going on for the past three years.

One of the key issues in the design proposal is to establish a Village Center that will act as the focal point of the proposed community. The center will have a range of housing opportunities, work places, shopping, civil services and recreation areas.

East West Partners hope to keep the architecture of the buildings consistent with the rest of the town.

Transportation Board Chairman Richard Frank said, "I believe that the property should be developed."

Frank added that he believes the proposal should include guidelines about available parking.

Local resident Tom Gunn told the council that the meadows flanking N.C. 54 are only symbolic, adding that no one sees them when they drive by. The proposal would give Chapel Hill a new downtown, he said.

Pat Carstensen, president of Cross County Communities Association, said the developers still have a lot of work to do. "You have to exceed the expectations of the customer, and I want to be the customer of Meadowmont," Carstensen said.

Sheriff's Department Captures \$1.2 Million Worth of Marijuana

Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass Says Bust Is the Largest in Orange County History

BY KAREN WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

The Orange County Sheriff's Department, in connection with federal officials, released a report Tuesday that officials had seized 1,000 pounds of marijuana in eastern Orange County — the largest drug bust in the county's history.

"I've been working with drugs in Orange County for 20 years, and we've made busts of up to 200 pounds, but we've never seized 1,000 pounds," Orange County Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass said Wednesday.

The sheriff's department seized the marijuana, working alongside the Drug Enforcement Administration and the U.S. Customs Service, Pendergrass said.

The marijuana was transported from Savannah, Ga., to Orange County in a rented moving van, he said.

On Sept. 20, authorities arrested Kenneth Leon Woody, an antique dealer who lives on Route 2, Old Highway 86, unloading 21 bales of marijuana, Pendergrass said. A total of 20 suspects, including two in Durham and two in Jackson County, have been arrested in connection with the case, he said. Thomas Safran, of Pitts-

burgh, Pa., and Martin Ebricht of Colombia, South America, were arrested along with Woody at the scene of the drug bust, Pendergrass said.

"Everything went very good," he said. "There was no problem at all."

All of the suspects were charged with conspiracy with intent to distribute marijuana, according to a case synopsis from the Savannah department of the U.S. Customs Service, he said.

According to Richard Broughton, the Raleigh agent with the DEA, the three suspects arrested in Orange County were brought before U.S. Magistrate Judge Russ Elliason in Winston-Salem after their arrest. The suspects were then taken to Savannah where they are currently being held, Broughton said.

"The case would not have been as successful as it was without the close cooperation with the DEA, U.S. Customs and the Orange County authorities," he said.

The U.S. Department of Revenue took possession of \$250,000 in antique coins from Woody's safe deposit box, Broughton said. The department also confiscated \$200,000 in antique furniture and other valuables, Pendergrass said.

These items will be used toward the fine Woody is required to pay for the possession of the illegal substances, Pendergrass said.

Agents at the Department of Revenue Please See DRUGS, Page 2

16 Women Relocated to Make Room for Lounge-Dwellers

BY RACHAEL LANDAU
STAFF WRITER

Despite its promise to have everyone moved into permanent rooms by Fall Break, the University housing department still has not reassigned 16 male students.

Some female students who are being moved out of their suites to open up spaces for the male students are upset about being relocated.

Assistant Director of Housing Lottie Riley, who is in charge of assignments, said the housing department recently reassigned 32 women from Ehringhaus, Hinton James and Morrison residence halls.

As soon as the remaining two suites become available, housing will be able to assign the last 16 men in temporary housing to their permanent rooms, Riley said Wednesday.

Some of the residents who are being relocated are appealing the move to housing director Wayne Kuncl, but they have not heard anything yet, said Chrystal Sheff, a freshman in Ehringhaus whose suite was asked to move to another room within their dorm.

"I think it's a huge inconvenience that they are trying to move people in the middle of the semester while tests are going on," Sheff said.

Sheff said she thought the housing department was accommodating men by inconveniencing women.

Sheff said she and her suite mates received notification of their move Tuesday and according to the letter, they were supposed to be moved within 48 hours after returning from Fall Break. This left the suite 24 hours to move after the notification.

"I feel that the housing department treated us unfairly because they were supposed to notify us before Fall Break (if we

were moving)," said Julia Goodwin, a junior who is one of Sheff's suite mates.

After consolidating rooms containing only one resident, the housing department was able to open up several spaces in those dorms.

One of the suites that has been relocated volunteered to move, and the other three suites were selected to move because they already had vacancies. The housing department sent letters to the residents this week and last week to let them know of their new assignments.

The housing department gave the female students who were being moved a \$50 gift certificate to Student Stores and will give them priority next year in housing assignments as a compensation for moving.

Riley said they were unable to complete all the moves before Fall Break because of exams before the break and because housing had offered to assist the female students with their move.

The 16 temporary residents who have not yet been reassigned are in the lounges of Hinton James, Craige and Ehringhaus residence halls.

Riley said the housing department was planning a meeting for later in the year to discuss ways to improve the process next year and evaluate this year's efforts.

"Obviously we were disappointed that we didn't estimate properly what the distribution of men and women receiving housing would be for this year," said Wayne Kuncl.

Jim Walters, director of undergraduate admissions, said that next year the admissions office would not accept as many applications as in past years.

The University's enrollment management committee decided last week to lower the freshman class enrollment goal from 3,300 to 3,200 for next year.

Life is one long process of getting tired.

Samuel Butler