

Group Becomes 'Student Voice in Computing'

BY KARL SHULTZ
STAFF WRITER

Every day, more students sign on with the Office of Information Technology for a free Internet account. These accounts allow access to more than just electronic mail. GIGO, a campus organization, is dedicated to helping Internet users fully explore their options.

GIGO exists with several goals in mind, one of the main ones being to educate its members, other users and sometimes OIT.

"One of our main purposes is to educate people on what's available," said Michael Williams, a junior from Horseshoe who is GIGO's vice president. "We educate ourselves, we educate OIT sometimes on what we need. We try to educate in many ways."

Jason Gloege, a junior from Charlotte, agreed. "One big reason we started (GIGO) is for those who don't know what's going on (with the Internet). We'd like to help them."

Marcus Cox, a sophomore physics major from Charlotte, is co-president and a charter member of GIGO. "I met all these people, and I just got sucked in," he said.

Cox said he would like to see the club increase awareness of the Internet, among other things.

GIGO has been an active group in its relatively brief existence. Williams said another equally important aspect of GIGO's goals was to serve the University's computer users.

"Another focus is on service opportunities," he said. "We've had forums on how

to make e-mail accounts more secure, and we've had lectures by people from OIT."

GIGO's service activities are not limited to the realm of the University's campus. In spring 1994, members of the group traveled to Chapel Hill High School to educate its media staff on the potential of the Internet as a learning and research tool.

"We are, by default, the student voice in computing," Williams said. "We're the only technology group that I know of, and as such, we have a certain responsibility to represent the student body."

GIGO has also been lobbying OIT for such improvements as a 24-hour computer lab, graphics support for the World Wide Web and terminals dedicated to e-mail.

There is also a lighter side to GIGO, with club activities including video game

festivals, replete with Atari games and early '80s music, and various exam stress relievers. "We're a really active little group," Williams said.

Membership in GIGO is open to anyone interested in computers, or even to those who are just curious. "We're always open to new membership," Williams said. "People don't have to have a narrow interest in computing — all they need is something to bring, knowledge of some new technology, or just curiosity."

Emilie Bruchon, a sophomore French major from Belmont, offered an invitation for people to come check GIGO out. "We're really not that scary as a whole."

GIGO meets at 8 p.m. every Monday in 221 Greenlaw Hall. For information via e-mail, write to gigo@email.unc.edu.

Chapel Hill Movie Maker Helps Pick Oscar Winners

BY RYAN THORNBURG
CITY EDITOR

When the Academy Awards are handed out on live television tonight, Chapel Hill will have its own representative at the event in Los Angeles. Chapel Hill resident and 1993 Oscar winner for best documentary Barabara Trent is a voting member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and is spending her day schmoozing with the jet set in Hollywood.

Trent and her partner at the Chapel Hill-based Empowerment Project, David Kasper, won the Academy Award for "The Panama Deception," a piece they produced about the United States' role in the 1989 invasion of Panama.

Kasper said the group moved to Chapel Hill from California two years ago after spending eight years on the West Coast.

While one member of The Empowerment Project will be a part of the gala in Hollywood tonight, the rest of the group will be gathering at Anotheryme restaurant in Durham to bring the glitz to the Triangle.

"We're taking this opportunity to provide a little of what goes on in Hollywood right here in the Triangle," Kasper said.

What does go on in Hollywood? Kasper said that while the event was exciting, the movie stars of Hollywood were just regular folks.

"It can make you a little nervous," he

said. "The formality of the whole thing gives it a certain atmosphere, but I think most of the artists are not snobs."

The group will also be waiting to catch a long glimpse of its native daughter. Lisa Boothe, who is organizing the local event, said there was a possibility ABC would do an interview with Trent following its broadcast of the awards ceremony.

Boothe said Trent had not even hinted who the winners might be, although she put her vote in to the academy about a week ago.

"She hasn't said a thing," Boothe said. "She goes pretty much by the rules on this. If Barbara was going to break rules, she's not going to break the academy's rules."

Barbara says she's going to pick her battles and the academy isn't going to be one of them.

The Oscar has given The Empowerment Project a little more clout in the production world, Boothe said.

"It's an important part of The Empowerment Project, but our focus is on local communities," she said. "(The statue) is in our office, but it's not like we bow down to it every day."

The Empowerment Project works with local producers in trying to help disadvantaged groups use movies to communicate more effectively, Boothe said.

She said, "In order to democratize the media, we need to make sure everyone has access."

Chieftains Bring Celtic Sounds to Chapel Hill

On Thursday and Friday in Memorial Hall, a gruff assortment of Irish musicians who go by the nom-de-plume of the Chieftains assembled to bring a piece of the Emerald Isle to Chapel Hill. Rumor has it that the group, who have been playing together for 32 years and have released 32 albums, are actually torn by internecine strife. Supposedly, part of their contract stipulates that their hotel rooms on the road are to be as far away from each other as possible. If this is true, the Chieftains are still

Concert Review
The Chieftains
Memorial Hall

consummate professionals, able to fill the monumental Memorial Hall with the sounds of green hills and wooded dells. Jostling and joking on stage, they displayed remarkable camaraderie that made it hard to believe that these men could ever have a bad word to say about each other. With an ease and proficiency that only comes after years of training, the Chieftains launched into over two hours of the finest music to be heard this side of Galway Bay.

Not only did they perform a medley of traditional Celtic tunes but they also showcased a wide variety of other styles. From cider-filled days in the apple orchards of balmey Brittany to moonlit nights of fla-

menco in Galicia, the instruments of the Chieftains led the audience on a tour of the musical world. On their way, they stopped by Nashville, care of a rollicking version of "Cotton-Eyed Joe," and Memphis, with a medley of "Heartbreak Hotel," "Tennessee Stud" and "Arkansas Traveler." They finished off the first half of the show with another galloping stack of songs, this time from their new album, *The Long Black Veil*. The highlight of the first act, however, was an incredible flute solo performed by Matt Molloy. With notes that seemed to float from heaven to hell and back, Molloy ripped open the atmosphere of the hall and pulled out something magical.

The second half featured music written for a Texan ballet company, further evidence of the band's versatility. To cap off the show, a number of local musicians were invited on stage to jam with the boys from Ireland. Other musicians from the audience were invited to come backstage after the show for another jam session.

The Chieftains are one of the few bands that can reach across barriers of age and class, as evidenced by the very mixed crowd in Memorial Hall. The only fault one might find with the show is that there was not enough room to leap up and dance a jig to the music, which would have set the driest heart and the clumsiest legs on fire.

MEAL PLAN
FROM PAGE 1

gradually deteriorating service until downstairs in Lenoir Dining Hall was the only place left to eat on campus by 1980, Elfland said.

"There was a concern that this was an inappropriate dining situation for a campus this size, so from 1982 to 1985 the University renovated the spaces we have

now," she said.

"Since the University was investing all this money in the renovation of these spaces, we needed to make a commitment that these facilities were going to be utilized, so we installed the \$100 mandatory (meal plan)."

Elfland said the requirement was no longer necessary because of the increase in voluntary meal plans purchased. Students now voluntarily spend a total of \$2.6 mil-

lion on on-campus dining. In contrast to the current amount, less than \$200,000 worth of true meal plans was purchased per year when the plan was implemented, she said.

"The key to (the \$100 requirement) is that with it you have a predetermined business, but you can get that with a regular plan," Elfland said. "We've developed a meal plan that fits the needs of the marketplace, and people are buying them volun-

tarily."

Scott Myers, general manager of Marriott Corp., the Carolina Dining Services contract holder, said he hoped lifting the \$100 minimum would have a positive effect on Marriott.

"We don't think the \$100 mandatory (meal plan) has done much for us financially," Myers said. "In fact, we think that it has been hurting us because it has been viewed as monopolizing student funds."

TEXTBOOKS

FROM PAGE 1

textbook prices, he said.

Student Stores carries books for all courses, but Tar Heel Textbooks decided which books it would sell, he said.

The main difference between the textbooks at the two stores was that some coursepacks were sold only at Student Stores because of copyright restrictions. Student Stores was able to obtain the copyrights because it is a nonprofit organization, Jones said.

Sophomore Brian McMurtry, a biochemistry major from Chapel Hill, said the closing would not affect him personally because he usually bought his books at Student Stores anyway.

Because Student Stores will not be raising its prices as a result, he said he did not think any problems would be created.

"Overall, I don't think Tar Heel Textbooks' closing will affect students that much," McMurtry said. "I think it will

affect off-campus and North Campus students. It's easier to walk over to Tar Heel Textbooks, I guess."

However, junior Jessica Rios, a psychology major from Pineville, said she thought it would cause problems if students had no alternative but to buy their books at Student Stores. She said she usually bought about half of her books at Tar Heel Textbooks and half at Student Stores.

"It'll be a lot more crowded and harder to buy books, but they'll definitely get more business," Rios said.

George Houston, associate professor of classics, said he doubted the closing would make a big difference in the amount of time it took students to purchase their books. "I'd be surprised if (Tar Heel Textbooks) did so much business that it would have a major impact on the lines at Student Stores."

Neither Tar Heel Textbooks Manager Joe Turk nor employees of Arkansas Book Services, the parent company of Tar Heel Textbooks, could be reached for comment.

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For the Record

The caption on the photograph accompanying Friday's story "Lecturer Meets Needs of Asian Students" misidentified the subject of the picture. The man in the photograph is not Eric Henry, as is suggested by the caption, but Vu Han, a student in Henry's class.

The DTH regrets the error.

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