

School Board Considers Year-Round Program

■ A large percentage of parents said they favor year-round schooling.

BY RICHARD RAY
STAFF WRITER

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education discussed the possibility of year-round schooling Thursday at its annual planning conference.

Year-round schools could appear in the district by the 1997-98 school year.

In January, Superintendent Neil Pedersen sent a survey to 900 elementary and middle school families. Of the 377 respondents, 79.5 percent said a year-round calendar should be an option in the district.

"A majority of parents at both the elementary and middle school level indicate that they would be interested in having their children attend a year-round school," Pedersen said. "Such a strong response suggests to me that we need to move forward with providing a year-round calendar option in the very near future."

Pedersen said the board must first decide whether year-round schools will be used for capacity reasons or educational reasons.

In a single-track model, students would all have the same schedule, with a shorter summer vacation and more frequent breaks during the year.

"A common schedule is for students to attend school for nine weeks and then be off for three weeks," Pedersen said. "During these breaks, known as intersessions, schools typically offer remedial or enrichment programs."

To decrease overcrowding with year-round schooling requires a multi-track schedule. This would divide students into two schedules; half would be in school at a time while the rest are on vacation.

Pedersen suggested several options for designating year-round schools by the target date of 1997-98. These included pairing two elementary and middle schools and declaring one of each year-round and the other traditional. Parents could then choose which of the two schools to send their children to.

Other options include creating a "school-within-a-school" to give parents the choice

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NEIL PEDERSEN
Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools
Superintendent

of traditional or year-round options at the same site, or automatically designating new schools as year-round.

Pedersen said the board could also set specific criteria for making a school year-round. "For example, if 65 percent of the parents and staff vote to convert to a year-round calendar, the board would approve," he said. "Parents would be allowed to transfer in or out, but transportation would not be provided."

Respondents to the survey indicated that the greatest advantages of a year-round schedule are continuity, increased energy because of frequent breaks and the opportunity for intersession enrichment. The three major disadvantages are having children on different academic calendars, restricting opportunities for traditional summer activities and problems with child care during breaks.

School board member Ken Touw said child care programs were cheapest during the summer because college students were available.

Board members agreed that creating an option for year-round education is important. After discussing the issue, however, the board decided to wait and see if any schools volunteer for a year-round schedule. The board will continue to gather more information on the subject.

"I think we need additional information before we can move forward," board Chairman Mark Royster said. "Our decision is limited because we don't have enough information ourselves."

The board's planning conference took place at the Friday Center Feb. 15 and 16. The annual meeting brings the board together with principals, teacher organization presidents and others to review major issues facing the district.

Community Outreach Vital Part of NAACP

■ BCC Director Gerald Horne said the NAACP must build on past lessons.

BY JENNIFER FULLER
STAFF WRITER

The NAACP's past, present and future were addressed by Gerald Horne, UNC professor and new director of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center, as part of a Black History Month celebration Saturday morning.

Horne spoke to a group of about 30 people at the Hargraves Community Center, in a lecture entitled "The Legacy of W.E.B. Dubois: Is the NAACP Relevant to the 21st Century America?"

"I think it is appropriate to ask what we can learn from the NAACP," Horne said.

Much of Horne's lecture focused on the early African-American leader who helped found the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1909 before being ousted from the organization in 1948. Horne stressed Dubois' interest in international concerns as an important factor in the survival of today's NAACP.

"I think Dubois recognized through his life that we must also focus on what is going on in the world," he said.

Horne said global changes cannot be ignored because they are bound to affect all of us, especially economically. He added that many of the advancements in minority rights came about in this country because of international scrutiny.

Just as important as global awareness to the NAACP's future is its continued commitment to the grassroots support of working-class people.

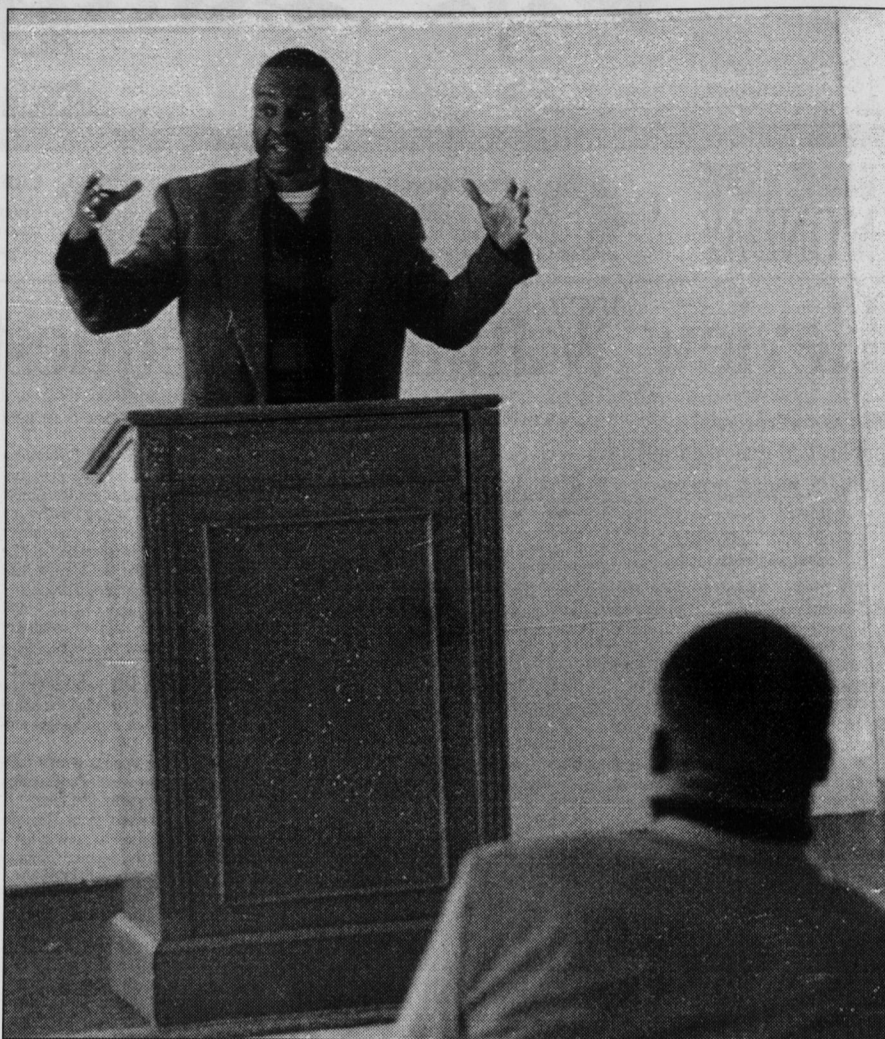
Horne said it was vital that the local branch remain involved in the fights of the Black Public Works Association and the UNC Housekeepers' Association.

"The struggle for freedom has never been easy, not in 1909, not in 1996 nor will it be in 2001," Horne said. "I think we will do quite well to follow his (Dubois') path."

Horne's lecture attracted people from various backgrounds.

For Ila McMillian, minister of the Faith Tabernacle Oasis of Love Church in Chapel Hill, hearing the lecture related to her efforts of trying to bring the community together. "I'm trying to join in and be a part of what's going on in the community."

Horne's message about the importance of community, particularly that of work-



Gerald Horne addresses Chapel Hill and Carrboro community residents Saturday at the Hargraves Center. Horne discussed the growing importance of the NAACP.

ing-class people, also interested Elizabeth McLaughlin, a first-year law student at UNC who is involved with the housekeep-

ers' movement on campus.

"I think that it's really important for students to understand what's going on in

our community," McLaughlin said. "The housekeepers are a part of our community."

Officials Deem Scuttlebutt Unsafe; Campus Store Closes Indefinitely

BY CHANTIEL D. SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The fate of the Scuttlebutt, a small snack shop on the corner of South Columbia Street and Cameron Avenue, was still up in the air, said John Jones, director of UNC Student Stores. Jones said Student Stores had considered renovating the Scuttlebutt, which was closed in April because it was declared unsafe.

The cost of repairs was tremendous, Jones said. Constructing a new building on the site was also a possibility but immediate decisions have not been made.

"We went in to do renovations and started finding more and more problems. It

was not wise to continue the renovations," said James Powell, controller of Student Stores. "It needed serious upgrading."

Gregory Morton, assistant director of Student Stores, said he did not know what course of action Student Stores would pursue with respect to the building. "We're in limbo," he said.

He said Student Stores had to go through the facilities planning division of Physical Plant before any plans could be finalized.

However, Claude V. King III, the facility elect engineer of Physical Plant, said "The ball is in (Student Stores') court."

The cost to reopen the Scuttlebutt was estimated to be between \$125,000 and \$200,000.

Officials at Student Stores said they were hesitant about reopening the Scuttlebutt because there was no guarantee that the money invested in making the repairs would be returned in the form of profits.

Since the closing of the Scuttlebutt, the main source of snacks and supplies in the area has been Blue Ram, a snack shop located in the Campus Y building.

Betty Degraffenried, a worker at the Blue Ram, said it had not received an increase in business since the closing of the Scuttlebutt. The majority of the Scuttlebutt's customers were those who had classes in the buildings surrounding it or lived in Fraternity Court across the street.

Group Says Inefficient Programs Should Be Cut

BY KATE HARRISON
STAFF WRITER

The U.S. Public Interest Research Group and Concord Coalition released a report detailing a possible \$38.8 billion cut in government spending on inefficient and environmentally harmful programs.

The report, "Green Scissors '96: Cutting Wasteful and Environmentally Harmful Spending and Subsidies," targets over 47 programs which receive the most outrageous government funding and seeks to cut their taxpayer support, said Aron Mansika, US PIRG campaign director.

"At a time when the budget is in such limelight and Congress is trying to cut programs that everyone cares about like the Environmental Protection Agency and Medicare, we found ways to cut the inefficient and wasteful programs," he said.

One such program is the North Caro-

lina timber subsidies programs. Companies build roads through the forests they are timbering, sell timber at prices below what the process costs, and receive government subsidies to pay the difference.

North Carolina taxpayers lost \$2.6 million making up the companies' losses in 1994 and \$2.3 million in 1993, according to the General Accounting Office.

Other targeted programs include the 1872 Mining Act, a handout to the mining industry which costs taxpayers \$1 billion and the Market Promotion Program, a giveaway to pollutive companies like Pillsbury and Sunlight for overseas advertising which costs taxpayers \$550 million, the report stated.

"Of course, we get lots of opposition to these cuts from the companies," Mansika said. "It means big money for them, so they adamantly try to develop reasons they need the funding and initiate big lobbying

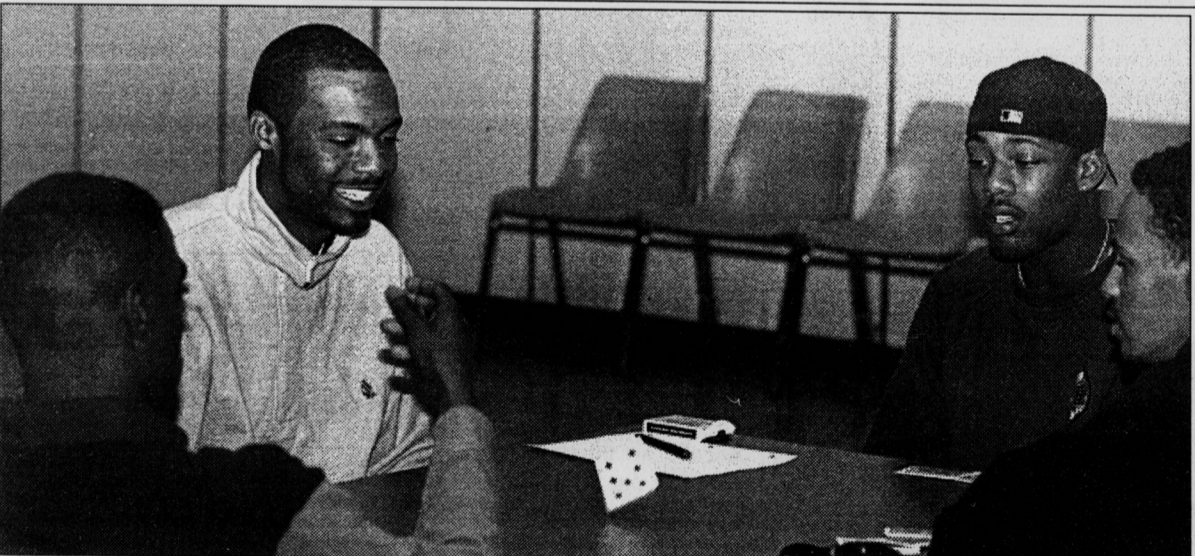
efforts to try to stop the reductions."

US PIRG and the Friends of the Earth company successfully fought to eliminate many of the programs targeted in last year's Green Scissors report, such as the gas-cooled nuclear reactor program and the selling of public lands for \$5 or less to the mining industry.

Though Congress has not yet responded to the new report, the groups expect a response as soon as the report has had time to circulate.

Last year's report gained wide support, and its authors received "Dear Colleague" letters of support from 15 Democratic and 13 Republican members of the House of Representatives, Mansika said.

"Our goals of reducing the federal deficit and protecting the environment are really nonpartisan issues," Mansika said. "Both parties of Congress have been very supportive."



Rondell McKoy, Eric Hobbes, Dante Byrd, and Chris Isaac compete in the spades tournament in the Great Hall on Sunday. The event, sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., raised about \$50 for scholarships.

Visiting Students Take Win in Alpha Phi Alpha Spades Tourney

■ N.C. Agricultural and Technological University team wins \$100 prize.

BY MELISSA STEELE
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

The Great Hall was fairly quiet on Sunday afternoon — except for the sound of cards shuffling and slapping on the tables.

The contestants in the third annual Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc. Spades Tournament seemed to take their games seriously, but it was the players with the best strategies who made it to the championship game.

In the tournament there were nine teams of two players, fewer contestants than in years past. Malcolm Logan, vice president

and service chairman of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., organized the event as a service project and said the numbers were lower this year because not enough people pre-registered to be in the tournament.

"We usually have seven, eight, maybe 10 pre-registered teams," he said.

The tournament was sponsored, in part, by the U.S. Playing Card Company and the profits will go toward scholarships. However, with the \$100 prize fee taken out of the fund, Logan, who is a senior from College Park, Md., guessed that they had only grossed about \$50 from the registration fees.

According to the official rules for the tournament, "each game was attended by a monitor who was schooled in the rules." The monitors, who were members of the fraternity, prevented cheating and acted as scorekeepers.

Several of the members who were watching and monitoring the games said they chose spades over any other card game because it was so popular among college students.

"(Spades) is for entertainment," said member Terius Dolby, a senior from Charlotte. "But it's a communal game, one where people come together."

"Spades, man, it's culture," he said. "The nine teams played games against each other and after weeding out a few of the teams, quarterfinal games were held, followed by semifinals."

In the final game, Eric Hobbes, a senior from Charlotte, and Chris Isaac, a senior from High Point, were matched against Nesby Stanley, a senior from N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University, and Korie Mathews, also a senior from N.C. A&T.

Superstition may have played a part in Stanley and Mathews' luck because they brought the same chairs with them to every table at which they played throughout the tournament.

"We're not trying to change anything," Mathews said. He and his teammate seemed to be confident in their playing abilities. They discussed how and when they would cash the \$100 check that they planned to win from the tournament before the final game even began.

According to Logan, during the final game the score got to a point where the outcome was obvious.

"After it was established that the losing team had no way of winning, they threw in their cards," Logan said. Mathews and Stanley predicted the future correctly. They won the game and earned \$100 to show for it.

Radio Duo Offers Scholarship

■ The money from deejays John Boy and Billy will go to journalism students.

BY REINO MAKKONEN
STAFF WRITER

John Boy and Billy, the stars of Charlotte's most popular radio show, will be funding two \$2,500 scholarships in UNC's School of Journalism and Mass Communication beginning April 15.

The awards will go to students in the journalism school's electronic communication sequence who have an interest in radio.

"We broadcast across the Southeast now, but North Carolina has always been home to us," said Ed Lowe, CEO of John Boy and Billy Inc. "That's why we decided to go with the school in our own state where our flagship station (WRFX in Charlotte) is located. All in all, we've been pretty fortunate in what we do, so we wanted to give others an opportunity."

Planning for the scholarships began in January when hosts Billy James and Johnny Frank Isley proposed the idea to Lowe, who then contacted the journalism school's Director of Development Paul Gardner. "First of all, I knew that neither one of them had gone to school here, so I was surprised that they called just out of the blue," Gardner said. "Usually, people who contribute here are alumni or people whom

we've had some kind of previous relationship with. They knew that we have a good electronic communication program, though, so they got in touch with us."

Lowe and Gardner met several times, finally agreeing upon the annual \$5,000 contribution. Student recipients will also be offered an unpaid summer internship at "The John Boy and Billy Big Show."

"We felt like (the internships) were a nice fit," Lowe said. "(Interns) will get hands-on experience with the daily workings of a syndicated radio show."

The two scholarships will be awarded annually for the next 10 years.

Dean Richard Cole said he wanted the relationship to last beyond the next decade.

"We hope that it goes on forever, and they give us a lot more money," Cole said.

The first awards will be given April 15 at the journalism school's annual honors lunch, and both James and Isley have been invited to speak.

"I grew up in Graham a big Tar Heels fan," Isley said. "Security guards used to chase me off of campus, and now I'm being invited to campus."

John Boy and Billy have recorded seven albums since beginning their partnership at WBCY in Charlotte about 15 years ago. Their morning broadcasts consist of a variety of characters, including The Reverend and Goober, Murray the agent and Mad Max, as well as conversations about such topics as NASCAR and "The Andy Griffith Show."

STIPEND

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Hall, where he earns \$300 per month. "I cannot afford to be student body president without a stipend because you don't have time to work," Nelson said.

Nelson said being paid a stipend of \$2,400 a year calculates out to less than two hours a day at minimum wage. "I can promise I'll be putting in more than two hours a day," he said.

Speaker Roy Granato, who withdrew his request for a \$600 stipend last fall, said a stipend would allow qualified congress members to afford to run for his office.

"People who normally could be running for speaker opt out because of the expenses," he said.

Granato said he withdrew his request Oct. 11 because his request violated the Student Code.

Finance Committee Chairwoman Julie Gasperini said congress members should have no problem passing the stipend requests. "The appropriate time for a stipend is during the spring budget process when people are not in the position to vote on their own pay," she said.

"The thing we forget (is that) before, it was general practice for people to take a stipend."