

# Forum Addresses Need For Affirmative Action

Panelists at Thursday night's forum also discussed housekeeping privatization.

BY RICK CONNER  
STAFF WRITER

Affirmative action, privatization of UNC housekeepers, student financial aid cuts, and the quality of education were among the topics discussed at a Thursday night forum sponsored by the Coalition for Economic Justice.

Gerald Horne, director of the Black Cultural Center, was among the first to speak on affirmative action, which he defined as any program designed to promote equality and end discrimination.

Affirmative action could include anything from requiring colleges to place their catalogs in minority dominated high schools to obligating discriminating employers to hire a more diverse staff on a certain timetable, Horne said.

In response to claims that affirmative action is reverse discrimination, Horne pointed out that certain other forms of affirmative action weren't being questioned.

"Why not criticize senior citizens discounts as discrimination against the young?" Horne said.

He said affirmative action was necessary to deal with racism and discrimination in business.

"Jobs are often more dependent on connections, or even complexions," Horne said.

Student Body President-Elect Aaron Nelson agreed with Horne, saying affirmative action was necessary to provide everyone with the same opportunities.

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AARON NELSON  
Student Body President-Elect

solution is at," said Nelson. "We must provide access to education across gender and race lines."

"People have been given the wrong impressions about these (affirmative action) programs. They're not about quotas — they're illegal. And it's not about bringing unqualified people into the system," he said.

Eleanor Kinnaird, a Democratic candidate for N.C. Senate in the 16th District, spoke about the negative effects of the current wave of privatization, specifically in reference to UNC housekeepers.

She said privatization would result in lower wages and lower benefits for workers.

"Everyone should have the opportunity to make a decent living," Kinnaird said.

Barbara Prear, a housekeeper, also spoke out against privatization, saying the housekeepers had to make enough in wages to support themselves and their families.

"Who can live on \$5.50 an hour now?" said Prear. "This is all about somebody making a big profit."

Kinnaird also stressed the importance of student financial aid, saying it provided the opportunity for a person with no money and no connections to get an education.

Kinnaird said, "If you can't realize your education, your American dream is gone."

# Local Businesses Anticipate Tournament Sales Boom

BY LESLIE KENDRICK  
STAFF WRITER

While Carolina basketball fans have thrown themselves into March Madness, Chapel Hill retailers are taking a wait-and-see approach to stocking NCAA Tournament paraphernalia.

Student Stores has not yet purchased any NCAA goods, Student Stores Director John Jones said. Sales in both Carolina and NCAA-tournament products usually do not pick up unless UNC reaches the Sweet Sixteen, Jones said.

"At this point, the tournament has not really affected our sales," he said. "About around the Sweet Sixteen things start selling, and then for the Final Four and the championship, of course, products really move."

Donna Devanney, manager of Carolina Pride on Franklin Street, said she had preordered NCAA T-shirts, sweatshirts and pins, but she would stock the goods only if UNC advanced in the tournament.

"People really aren't interested in buying it until the Final Four because the tournament is so iffy," she said. "I think once they start winning, people will start buying. So if they win, we'll get the products."

Jones said the UNC basketball team's successful tradition helped to shape people's buying patterns.

"I think the campus is just used to the team getting into the tournament," he said.

But Genny Wrenn, manager of the Shrunken Head Boutique on Franklin Street, said she had already seen signs of Carolina fever.

"We've had calls from a bunch of people going to Richmond who want T-shirts and tattoos and pompoms," Wrenn said.

Wrenn said the more Carolina wins in the tournament, the busier the store will be. "It'll get crazier when the Sweet Sixteen hits, but everybody's pumped up already about this weekend's games."

Wrenn said UNC's loss to Clemson in the ACC Tournament seemed to have a temporary effect on sales.

"When Carolina loses, everybody goes into a mourning period for a couple days, but with the tournament starting up people are getting excited again," she said.

All the store representatives interviewed agreed that UNC's performance this season could mean especially high sales if the team advances.

"Because the team has struggled some this year, if they do advance, people will be very excited and will probably buy more than they would otherwise," Jones said.

Jones said Student Stores was prepared to serve its customers if the demand for products began to rise.

"We have manufacturers ready to print and produce NCAA goods," he said. "If the need arises, they're ready, and we'd be ready to sell the products."



UNC freshmen Bryan Hinton (left) and Adrian Olden shop for NCAA Tournament merchandise at Shrunken Head Boutique at 155 E. Franklin St. on Thursday.

# Professor Examines Ordinary Objects in New Poetry Book

BY MELANIE FELICIANO  
STAFF WRITER

What is a colander? "Upside down, a holy helmet/crowning my son's impressionable head/its feet fierce horns," is just the first of the various descriptions Michael McFee, assistant professor of English, uses in "Colander," the title poem for his newly published poetry compilation.

"It is a collection of thing poems — short, intense poems," he said before reading from his book in Bull's Head Bookshop on Wednesday. The reading brought to life animistic poems of familiar objects like pencils, books and answering machines.

A native of Asheville, McFee graduated from the University with a bachelor of arts degree in English in 1976 and a master's degree in 1978. He said most of the books before "Colander," like "To See" (a collaboration with photographer Elizabeth

Matheson), "Sad Girl Sitting on a Running Board" and "Plain Air," are based on family members and community. He uses those same elements for his new book.

Creating new ways to describe common activities or objects is "a habit you get into as a writer," McFee said. For the sake of imagery, he said, a writer must take something like a colander or a box of animal crackers that had never been given special notice and try to see it with fresh eyes.

He found this quality in the 15 poets featured in an anthology he edited, "The Language They Speak Is Things to Eat: Poems by Fifteen Contemporary North Carolina Poets." He said that he decided to put it together because no recent generous compilation of North Carolina poets had been previously published.

In his opinion, these poets will stand the test of time because the form and language of each poem is carefully crafted, the im-

ages are surprising and satisfying, the subject matter is interesting and North Carolinians have a great sense of humor.

"Mortality, death, God, faith, love — all are written in local terms, which is a bonus," he said.

This book is the basis of the new Contemporary North Carolina Literature class that will be offered under the Johnston Scholars Honors Program (but not necessarily limited to just those students) in the spring of 1997. It will focus on the meaning of the poetry and where it is headed.

McFee said that when he was a junior at the University, he took his first creative writing class as an elective, thinking it would be easy. But it proved to be challenging and he found himself writing poems.

"For 21 years I've been doing it," he said. A professor since the fall of 1990, he said there were ways to assign a grade on expression of thoughts, although some-

times it isn't easy.

"Many people believe poetry is inspired, but you do have to fiddle with it," he said. "That's the dirty secret in my class." He said it is hard to fail students show effort.

Kinston senior Scott Heath took one of McFee's poetry classes two years ago. "I took it at a time when I was just about to develop my own voice," he said. "It helped me to establish my poetry."

Students from McFee's "Introduction to Poetry Writing" class commented on the new book. Jennifer Lyons, a junior from Fayetteville, said her favorite poem was "Address Book." "It rang true, true to life," she said.

Gabriel Beecher, a sophomore from Puerto Rico, said a poem about pocket change, was his favorite. "The coins had so much personality," he said. Maybe that was because McFee said he wanted to shake the change in his pocket as he read.

## Campus Calendar

**FRIDAY**  
SUMMER STUDY ABROAD applications due today in 12 Caldwell Hall.  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. WORKERS' RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM: The Jungle Revisited. UNC Law School. Lunch available for \$5. Registration is free. Call 489-0846 or 544-2957 to pre-register.  
10 a.m. WIDESPREAD PANIC tickets for Apr. 14 show, on sale at Union Box Office. Walk-up sales only. \$16.50 UNC students; \$19 for general public.  
1 p.m. HONORS COURSES: Students with a minimum 3.0 GPA may register in Honors Office, 300 Steele Building.  
1:10 p.m. MSA — JUMA'A Salaat every Friday in 208-209 Union. For more info, call Mohammad Banawan 914-3036.  
5 p.m. STUDENT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S staff applications due in Union Suite D.  
6 p.m. FOCUS will host Timothy Kimbrough from Church of the Holy Family on the topics of Lent and Fasting at 413 Granville Road, or call 914-0121 for more info. Dinner is provided!  
7 p.m. HANES ART CENTER GALLERY opening reception in the Glass Gallery for multimedia works by winners of the Undergraduate Studio Art Scholarship Awards that will be on display until March 26. For more info, call 962-2015.  
MEL GIBSON in Braveheart at the Union Auditorium. Also showing 10:30 p.m. Admission \$2.  
9:30 p.m. FIESTA! sponsored by CHispA in

Cabaret. \$2 in advance, \$3 at the door. Lessons, DJ and food! Bring a friend!  
**SATURDAY**  
9 a.m. CHAPEL HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY National Catfish Association is sponsoring a local fishing group. All invited.  
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT for preschool teachers, presented by Anne Sherman of Project Enlightenment. \$5 registration fee and .6 CEUs can be earned for attending. Call 1-800-628-5687.  
12 p.m. SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS "Stupid Physics Tricks" in 215 Phillips Hall. Also showing at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.  
9 p.m. FREE CONCERT in Union Cabaret, Schlomo and Boy Wonder sponsored by CUAB.

## For the Record

The March 7 article, "SAFE Escort Placed Under University Police," should have reported that officials at a campus safety meeting Wednesday considered putting SAFE Escort under the auspices of University Police.  
The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

# CLUB

## Opening this FRIDAY NIGHT

### 75¢ DRAFT

Pool Tables!

21 & over dance club

OPEN THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS (Formerly 9+9) • CORNER OF HENDERSON ST. & FRANKLIN ST. • DOWNSTAIRS • 967-1430

## A Corrugated Cardboard Ban Is Now In Effect!

For Users of Orange Regional Landfill

UNC-Chapel Hill will be assessed a fine for any amount of corrugated cardboard found in University garbage.

### CORRUGATED CARDBOARD RECYCLES

1. COLLECT
2. FLATTEN
3. RECYCLE

**NO:**  
Trash • Pizza boxes  
Waxy cardboard  
Paper board  
(cereal box type cardboard)

Outdoor corrugated cardboard recycling containers are now located next to trash dumpsters on campus.

Contact the UNC-CH Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling 962-1442

## Attention Seniors!

Come to the

# SPRING JOB FAIR

For Graduating Seniors & Graduate Students  
Talk with employers about career opportunities!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 • 11:00-3:30PM  
GREAT HALL

Bring Resumes! Business Dress Recommended!  
Sponsored by UCS, Division of Student Affairs