

International students see a different UNC Program finds new jobs for victims of hurricane

■ Adjusting to Chapel Hill is difficult, but comical, for many foreign students.

BY ANDREA LUEKE
STAFF WRITER

Each year about 400 students leave their hometowns in Japan, Poland, France, Germany, Russia, Great Britain and many other countries and meet each other in Chapel Hill. Before they come, many of them wonder, "Where the hell is Chapel Hill?" Their parents might have asked their sons and daughters to show it to them on a map. But that can be difficult because one needs an extremely detailed map of the United States to find Chapel Hill. And the nearest airport is in Raleigh, a city many people have never even heard of before. Many international students at UNC imagined life in Chapel Hill before they came to the United States. After a month, however, most have solidified their first impressions into something more definite. One first impression sounded like this: coming to this part of the United States

for the first time is like watching a television commercial where people drive pickup trucks, drink beer and are always having fun. For another student from Spain, the people all look like they're on their way to a sporting event. "Ninety percent of the people on campus are wearing shorts, T-shirts, gym shoes and baseball caps," he said. "They all drive expensive mountain bikes and go jogging everywhere, and at any time of the day, even around noon, when a normal person can't move his little finger without sweating like crazy," he said. Of course, students from other countries notice more than just appearances. American habits, customs and laws can also strike some of them as strange or unusual. Many of the students from Europe reacted with confusion and amusement to lectures on sexual harassment and the honor code. They were not accustomed to how closely students are supervised at American universities. They said they were also surprised that American students had to apply to university and then pay high tuition to attend. Sometimes the absence of rules cre-

ates a stark contrast to an international student's homeland. Azad Dashtanir, a student from Azerbaijan, was shocked when he read a note posted on a campus blackboard by a homosexual man searching for a roommate. In his country, people don't even utter the word "gay," choosing instead to treat homosexuality as a secret. To Dutch students, American laws regulating same-sex marriages appear quite conservative. Living on campus in the residence halls and sharing rooms are also new experiences for many international students. "It reminds me of the time during my military service," said Ralf Schubert of Bad Grund, Germany. "At first the building looks like a prison and the room like a cell, only the iron bars are missing," he said. "But if you decorate it a little bit, and especially if you do have a nice roommate, it slowly becomes a home." Another thing that catches a foreigner's eye on campus is the UNC logo and the ubiquitous ram mascot on students' sweatshirts, umbrellas, backpacks and notebooks. In other countries, people don't advertise their university like they do in the

United States, some international students said. Agnes Benhamou, a student visiting from Paris, said she found it unusual that most of the American students have their own cars. She said she met a family of three that had five cars. "It's crazy, as soon as you are allowed to drive, you get a car," she said. She said she was also surprised at the variety of vehicles she had seen driving. On her way from the airport to Chapel Hill, Benhamou also saw something she had never seen before — a mobile home being pulled down the highway. "I didn't trust my eyes and thought to have a hallucination," she said. But international students don't just learn about this country. They also gain a new perspective on their own homelands and fellow citizens. Susan Jones, a UNC student from England, said she sometimes feels ashamed when she cannot answer others' questions about the history of her country or the current economy and culture. "In your own country, for example, you never think about a typical kind of food or recipe, but here, people ask you for one," she said.

BY ANTIONETTE KERR
STAFF WRITER
Residents of North Carolina who have been laid off or dislocated from their jobs because of Hurricane Fran can now receive help finding jobs, thanks to a division of the N.C. Department of Commerce. The Commerce Department's Employment and Training Division will help North Carolinians without jobs find temporary employment. "It's for any worker who lost their job because of Fran," said Elizabeth Shimmel, public information manager for the department. The funds for the program come from a federal disaster assistance request from Gov. Jim Hunt. President Bill Clinton approved the request Sept. 14. The request came after Hurricane Fran hit the North Carolina coast Sept. 6 and made its way through central North Carolina, causing moderate to severe damage throughout the state. The state will receive \$8 million to fund temporary disaster relief for any worker from one of the 53 counties de-

clared a federal disaster area. All three counties in the Triangle were declared federal disaster areas. Hunt announced his gratitude for the help the federal government will provide. "This is great news for the people of North Carolina," he stated in a press release issued by the Department of Commerce. "We appreciate the quick response by Clinton and the Labor Department to help provide jobs for these workers." The Commerce Department will be responsible for distributing these funds. Temporary employment for workers can be provided through the Partnership to Help Assist State Employees center. "Essentially the limit is six months or \$12,000, whichever comes first," Shimmel said. Workers will provide assistance to clean and repair disaster areas and damaged structures. "The jobs will be with public agencies and nonprofit organizations such as the Red Cross, schools and parks," said an unidentified PHASE center employee. The PHASE Center, located in Raleigh, can be reached by calling 1-888-678-FRAN. Former state employees will answer phone lines from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Libertarians want to win, shrink political offices

BY MELISSA STEELE
SENIOR WRITER

"Would you give up your favorite federal government program in order to never have to pay an income tax again?" That's the question Libertarian Party presidential candidate Harry Browne is asking Americans. Browne's request focuses on the Libertarian Party's main goals: downsizing government, ending income taxes and giving citizens socio-economic freedom. If Browne were given a chance to take part in the debates, other party members felt they could spread their message. But on Sept. 17, the Commission on Presidential Debates decided to exclude all third-party candidates, including Browne.

The other candidates are still hopeful that the circumstances will change. "If we could get into the debate and people see that there are people who will deliver on what they want, we would have a better chance," said Jo Jorgensen, vice presidential candidate. If elected, Jorgensen said, she and Browne's main goals would be to end income taxes, end the "insane" war on drugs and get the government out of Social Security. "We plan on getting rid of all parts of government that aren't in the Constitution. Giving the government power means it does things you want and don't want it to." North Carolina gubernatorial candidate Scott Yost said his main concerns are crime, taxes and education.

"It's not that we have too few prisons, it's that we have too many laws," Yost said about crime. "We think it's ridiculous to put people in prison for crimes that only hurt themselves, like prostitution, gambling and marijuana use." Yost also said it was his intention to give tax credits to people who want to send their children to private schools, but might not be able to otherwise. Yost said that if elected he planned to cut the governor's salary, which is currently about \$100,000 per year, in half, and he challenged his opponents Robin Hayes and Gov. Jim Hunt to do the same. "Fifty thousand dollars is enough for someone to live on," he said. David Walker, North Carolina's candidate for the 4th District House of Rep-

resentatives, said he'd like to bring some new issues to the table in the election. "I think we have to look at something other than the same old same old. There are many things the government has put its hands into and screwed up. I describe (my platform) as maximum freedom, maximum personal responsibility and pro-choice on everything," he said. Walker said the reason he thought the Party had not been successful in the past was that people voted for various candidates for the wrong reasons. "A lot of people are more intent on voting for a party or voting against someone than voting for their own ideals." Yost wrapped up the Libertarian philosophy: "Basically run your lives how you want, just don't harm other people."

Area used-book stores offer low prices, unique editions

BY SUSAN TITUS
STAFF WRITER

Bogged down by shiny biology textbooks and English anthologies, students easily forget about the dusty treasures and forgotten classics hiding in used-book stores minutes away from campus. With more than a dozen used-book stores in the area, students shouldn't have a problem finding a good book to read. Kevin Grealey, a sales clerk at Nice Price Books, said Chapel Hill was a good location for used-book stores because of the amount of students and educated people with disposable incomes. Bill Loeser, who has owned and operated The Bookshop for 16 years, said Chapel Hill was the best place in the state for a used-book store. "It is the culture capital of the state; that is why people visit and live (here)," he said. It might seem that competition would be high with so many stores peddling right down the street from one another. However, owners said the high number of stores benefited all of them by attracting more book shoppers to the area. "The more the merrier," Grealey said. Chapel Hill bookworms seem to prefer reading the "classics" and to demand good literature, said Reuben Moore, owner of Books Over Franklin. Moore contrasted the Chapel Hill market to a beach location where more mysteries might be sold and classics would collect dust on the shelves. "Chapel Hill reads," he said. With the onset of new technology, the book business could be changing in terms of how people read and shop for books. One Chapel Hill bookstore is not letting the old-fashioned nature of its business interfere with using modern methods to generate business. The Avid Reader has not only local customers but also distant consumers as far away as the Mediterranean, said Cathy Elias, store manager. Those with Internet access browse the

store's collection on the store's web site, then call to order the books they want. Another way the store uses computers to seek out customers is through a computer network of over 1,200 used-book stores. The system checks the supply and demand of the partnering stores and locates matches for consumer requests. Owners then e-mail to order the books they need. Many of these used-book stores are within walking distance from campus, with each offering their own unique selection of books. One only has to take a stroll down Franklin Street in either direction to find a wide array of yellowed pages. For example, The Avid Reader specializes in Southern history and genealogy while Nice Price Books in Carrboro attracts music lovers with its extensive selection of used records and CDs. And for the book enthusiast, The Bookshop on West Franklin Street should aim to please even the most particular reader, with a collection of 150,000 rare and more recent books. One might wonder how a store accumulates such a large collection. Typically, used-book stores stock their shelves by purchasing books from large estates and individual customers. Most stores will trade books or offer an in-store credit. A buyer's dollar will stretch far since most stores offer 50 percent off cover prices. But a shopper searching for a rare find may spend up to \$3,000. Used-book store owners don't seem concerned about losing business to the nearby megabookstores. Moore said his store does not compete with large chain bookstores in the area. "Big bookstores feed us, (they) put more books in the water," Moore said. "I wish Barnes and Noble was over here." Grealey said business for his store was not threatened by commercial bookstores. "We are a niche."

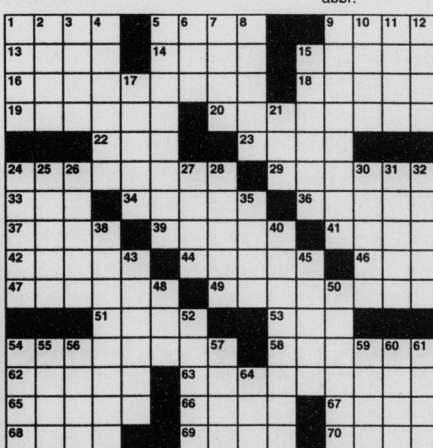
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THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

- ACROSS: 1 Hold sway, 5 Shut with force, 9 Pulled the trigger, 13 Uncovered, 14 Sly artifice, 15 Sheer linen, 16 Play down, 18 Bid, 19 Whole, 20 Answer to a problem, 22 Nickname of 52D, 23 Makes, as profit, 24 Hermits, 29 Rely (upon), 33 A certain degree, 34 Bomber — Gay, 36 Deep grief, 37 Souchong and pekoe, 39 Maddux and Louganis, 41 Retread, 42 Skull point, 44 Spectral, 46 Field a pick and shovel, 47 Compare views, 49 Cure-alls, 51 Band instrument, 53 Anger, 54 Bed linen material.
- DOWN: 1 American Beauty, for one, 2 Atop, 3 Departed, 4 Inveigle, 5 All-embracing, 6 Pot cover, 7 Poor me!, 8 Vine fruit, 9 Vulnerable point, 10 Stereo, 11 Bread spread, 12 Gull-like bird, 15 Briskly promoted, 17 Be loquacious, 21 Conducted, 24 Bit of foolish behavior, 25 Worker in a pool, 26 Series of connected links, 27 Central portion, 28 Slumber, 30 Slur over a syllable, 31 Persian water wheel, 32 Sediment, 35 Taj Mahal site, 38 Melted, 40 Boding danger, 43 Neither masculine nor feminine, 45 A planet, 48 Diamond stat, 50 Breakfast standby, 52 Old-time baseball great, 54 Injury souvenir, 55 Nimbus, 56 Therefore, 57 Type of dancer, 59 Othello's enemy, 60 Exec., 61 Let it stand, 64 TGIF word: abbr.



CAUCUS

FROM PAGE 1
wages, stronger training programs and influence in decisions that affect housekeepers. The Housekeepers gave a proposal to the University last year that included a request for a \$1,000 payment to descendants of black employees who worked at UNC between 1793 and 1960. Hooker rejected the proposal, calling it "excessive in the extreme," and the association withdrew the payment request last month. McSurely said the caucus' proposal was drafted in a thoughtful manner — designed to provide the best outcome for black workers on campus. Archie Ervin, head of the caucus, said the group passed the resolution in an attempt to help the University and the housekeepers. Ervin said the caucus would not release a copy of the resolution until Hooker had received it. Although Hooker said he had not received a copy of the resolution Sunday afternoon, he said he was glad discussions were continuing. "Obviously, anything that brings about a resolution I'm in favor of," he said. McSurely said the University would allow the members of the steering committee of the Housekeepers Association to be off work Monday to continue hashing out a compromise.

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