

Banned book reading encourages free speech

Local leaders read from stories and plays censored in other communities.

BY SARA YAWN
STAFF WRITER

Students gathered in the Pit at noon on Monday to hear student leaders, professors and even the mayor of Carrboro read aloud from various books and plays. No, story time is not the newest class at UNC. In fact, the cozy image was spoiled by a banner in the background warning of "Bibliohazard" and a coffin filled with banned books. Readings were given from literature that had been pulled from shelves in cities across America to recognize Banned Books Week. "We are here to celebrate your freedom; to read what you want to read," Bull's Head Bookshop employee Margaret Grayson said. Dan Kois, a Bull's Head employee and reader, said, "The theory in America

is that everyone has free speech. We believe that the logical extension of that is that you are free to read what you want."

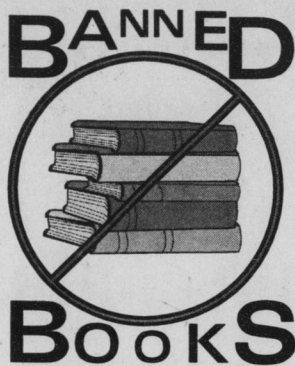
Student Body President Aaron Nelson began the presentation by reading a selection from Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice." This play has been banned in Buffalo, N.Y., and Manchester, N.Y., because it was believed to be anti-Semitic.

People should be able to read it regardless of whether or not it is anti-Semitic, Nelson said.

Journalism Professor Chuck Stone animatedly read a selection from "The Witches" by Robert Dahl. He also reminded the audience that the Bible contains many of the same elements that lead to the banning of these books.

Kois demonstrated how close book banning has come to UNC when he read from the Tony Kushner play "Angels in America."

The Charlotte Repertory Theatre was forced to get a court injunction to keep Charlotte police from stopping the pro-



duction. The play, which contained eight seconds of nudity, continued with protesters outside the theatre.

Michelle Phillips, a representative from the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center, read excerpts of Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man." Anna Peapers, the prose editor of the UNC literary magazine

Cellar Door, read from "Bridge to Terabithia" and Alyssa Sutton, a Bull's Head employee, read from the classic "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Carrboro Mayor Mike Nelson read from "Heather Has Two Mommies," a controversial book that tells about a child with lesbian parents.

Questions still lurk in the minds of some students as to whether they would want their children reading these kinds of literature. But students generally said books should not be banned to protect free speech.

"I think everybody should have the right to read what they want because it's all part of the human experience," senior Sara Tuttle said.

Students should be free to read about the "unpretty truths" because banning the books will not make the problems go away, she said.

Banned Books Week is designed to recognize that books are still being banned in schools and libraries across the country and to reflect on the conflict between banning books and free speech.

SEAC to close national offices in Chapel Hill

The closing of the headquarters will not affect the fate of the entire group.

BY JULIA WOOD
STAFF WRITER

The office that has overseen much of Chapel Hill's environmental activism for years will soon close its doors for the last time.

The Student Environmental Action Coalition's national headquarters, located at 118 E. Main St. in Carrboro, will close effective Oct. 4.

Megan Southern, editor of SEAC's magazine, Threshold, said there was not just one clear-cut reason for the shutdown. "That's a tricky question," she said. "We've had a lot of staff and program changes that have affected our finances."

Southern said the national office was the only SEAC branch that would be closing. She said all state and local offices, including the UNC office, would remain open.

"One of the regional offices will probably start coordinating the national programs," she said.

Heather Tallent, co-chairwoman of the Chapel Hill chapter of SEAC, said although the national office was closing, the national organization would continue.

"We're going to go on and keep doing what we're doing regardless of what hap-

pens to the national office," she said.

Southern said a board meeting would be held in Ohio on Oct. 4 to discuss how the SEAC should proceed, and several members of the UNC chapter would attend.

"We will be talking about vision, what direction we want to be going and what our focus should be," she said.

Southern said several different proposals would be considered and discussed at the meeting. "It's more like we're in a transition," Southern said. "We're trying to resolve some internal tensions and issues."

Chapel Hill Transportation Director Ruby Sinreich, a UNC graduate, was part of the group that founded SEAC and its national headquarters. She said she thinks the closing of the national office is "pretty unfortunate."

She said the group began in the fall of 1989 with a National Student Environmental Conference that drew 1700 students from across the nation and even a few other countries.

Sinreich said the organization was run from the Chapel Hill chapter until the next year, when a national office was established.

She said in subsequent years the headquarters lost touch with the group on campus.

"The national chapter hasn't been really involved with local activism," she said. "On the whole, it was difficult for the local people to support them because they haven't done much to support the local people."

STUDENTS

Oakboro, agreed that she would consider someone who took a stand on environmental protection over another candidate. "I've given more support to Clinton and Gore because Gore is a big environmentalist."

The Sierra Student Coalition, a sub-branch of the Sierra Club, endorses Clinton-Gore as well.

Stephanie Snider, SSC administrative assistant, said their primary message was one of activating members in opposition to the 104th Congress due to their poor performance in environmental protection.

"This Congress didn't realize how important clean air, water and land was to people."

However, Crawford-Brown said the environment was a secondary issue for voters.

"People say they'll vote based on environmental issues but it ends up being more about economic or other issues."

Though the environment played a large role in the last presidential election, it will not be as important this year, Crawford-Brown said.

"The (Clinton-Gore administration) hasn't really lived up to what we put them into office to do environmentally, and voters have pushed the issue further back in their conscience."

Campus Calendar

Tuesday

2:30 p.m. — There will be a Health Policy Administration interest session in Union 226. Find out more about this major from current students!

3:15 p.m. — The University Counseling Center in Nash Hall will conduct a career clinic to help students develop a plan of action for choosing a major or career.

6 p.m. — Green Games (recycling, energy and water conservation organization at UNC) will have a meeting in the Union basement. All are welcome! Refreshments will be provided.

7 p.m. — The UNC Scuba Club will meet in 106 Gardner Hall. All divers and students interested are invited to attend. Tonight's discussion will concern the planning of future trips including Spring Break and the Bahamas trip.

7 p.m. — The Carolina Hispanic Association will meet in the Carmichael Ballroom. Bring a partner or a date and learn how to merengue!

7 p.m. — Tour the Vet School at N.C. State

University and chat with their director of admissions. The UNC Pre-Vet Club meets at 6:15 p.m. in front of the Morehead Planetarium. Call Jen Helvig at 932-3897 for more information.

7 p.m. — The Public Policy Analysis Majors Union will hold its first fall meeting for returning and prospective majors in 102 New East.

Information will be provided on how to obtain an internship and the internship experience.

Information will be provided on scholarship aid, the PUPA honors program and more. Light refreshments will be served. Call 962-1600 for more information.

8 p.m. — N.C. State University will present "First Tuesday Jazz," featuring Bobby Hinson and Shades of Blue at the Witherspoon Student Center.

The event is sponsored by the NCSU African-American Cultural Center Gallery and Community Gallery Committee. The presentation is open to the public, and admission is \$3 for students, \$5 for others. Call (919) 515-5210

for more information.

Items of Interest

Interested in adding Korean and Vietnamese classes to the curriculum? Then show your support and let the University know of the need for these classes here. More details and a petition of support are available beside the Union desk.

The Baptist Student Union will hold a Thursday night worship program and fellowship meal (\$2). All are welcome. Call 942-4266 for more information.

Carolina Club Track and Field has practice Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m. on the track. Everyone is welcome! For more information call Nicole at 929-1345.

The Health Sciences House now has three openings for female residents on the second floor of Carmichael Residence Hall. Please pick up applications at the Carmichael Desk. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 11 in 225 Carmichael. For more information call Mike Lond at 914-3006.

Student Health Service is forming a diabe-

tes support group. Call 966-6562 to enroll.

The Human Rights Campaign needs volunteers for phone operators, posting flyers, data entry and routine office tasks. Shuttle service from UNC to our Research Triangle Park office is provided. Contact Brian at 572-9863 for more information.

For great trips, free gear check out, fun and more, join the UNC Outing Club. Meetings are on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in 109 Fetzer Gymnasium. Check it out.

UNC Men's Rugby holds practices every Monday and Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Ehringhaus field. For more information call Jon at 968-1967 or Neil at 914-5111.

If you'd like to advertise your club or organization meeting in The Daily Tar Heel's Campus Calendar, just drop by the DTH office and fill out a Campus Calendar slip. The deadline for a Campus Calendar announcement is 1 p.m. on the day before you'd like it to run. The cost is free. You must be an officially recognized student organization to use the Campus Calendar.

MINI MART

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"Harris Teeter bases prices off of volume sales," he said. "They buy in larger quantities, so there is more savings in cost."

Lenoir Grand Marketplace Food Court consists of several off-campus fast food venues at an on-campus location, although in several cases the food is more expensive at UNC.

The Lenoir Pizza Hut charges \$2.39 for a pepperoni individual pan pizza and \$2.24 for plain breadsticks with sauce. The same items at the Pizza Hut at 110 W. Franklin St. cost \$2.19 and \$1.69 respectively.

Each Chick-Fil-A sandwich and eight-nugget pack is six cents more at its Lenoir location than at 201 S. Estes Drive. Small

and medium drinks also cost six cents extra at Lenoir.

"We're not always going to be the least costly program. In the case of Pizza Hut, we offer such a limited program that we are not locked into their regular prices," Myers said.

The Sub Connection vendor is significantly cheaper than the Subway located on East Franklin Street, and the Taco Bell in Union Station features the same prices as its counterpart on East Franklin Street, with the exception of a 20 cent increase on seven-layer burritos.

Students said they had mixed feelings about the costs.

"I suppose that for the convenience, it's worth the extra price," said Melissa Putman, a freshman from Charlotte. "But I hate how expensive everything is."

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