



## BRIEFS

Stories from the University and Chapel Hill

### Student dies in Raleigh following 3-week coma

Robert Jin Park, 20, of 1524 Granville Towers West died at Rex Hospital in Raleigh on Oct. 20, according to a press release from the Office of the Dean of Students.

Park had been a patient at Rex Hospital since Sept. 28 when he was suddenly stricken with a severe medical circumstance. He had been in a coma since his initial admission to the hospital.

Park began his studies at the University during the first summer term of 1996 after completing his first two years at N.C. State University. He was a student in the Kenan-Flagler Business School.

Funeral arrangements are not known at this time.

### CUAB to sponsor political issues forum tonight

The Critical Issues Committee, a branch of the Carolina Union Activities Board, will sponsor a political issues forum at 7:30 p.m. today in 209 Manning Hall.

The forum will focus on items of interest in the upcoming November elections. All interested students are encouraged to attend.

The forum will be set up like a debate, with two opposing panels. One of the panels will consist of members of the Young Democrats. Representatives from various conservative groups at the University will be part of the other panel. Provost Richard Richardson will serve as the moderator for the event.

"We are excited to focus on the issues, not the candidates, during this election time. But, most importantly, we are lucky to have Dr. Richardson participate. No one is more knowledgeable in the subject of political issues," said Chris Busby, president of CUAB.

Richardson will introduce five major issues for the panels to discuss. Alan Stevens, who is the student in charge of the forum, said the issues would include foreign policy, the tobacco controversy, the war on drugs, welfare reform and economic affairs.

"This election has been one in which there has been a great deal of apathy. Hopefully, this forum will allow students to have the opportunity to become aware of the issues," Richardson said.

Each panel will take a few minutes to express their views about each of the specific issues. The committee hopes that the actual debate part of the forum will take about 45 minutes.

Though initially only the five items will be addressed, audience members will have a chance to bring out additional issues that are important to them during a question-and-answer session that will follow the debate.

"We're hoping that people from the audience will bring out questions and additional issues," said Amy Lawler, chairwoman of the Critical Issues Committee.

They have sent invitations to the heads of many University organizations that might be interested in attending the forum.

### Chapel Hill police report no break-ins during break

Despite the exodus of many UNC students from Chapel Hill for their first vacation of the fall semester, no crimes of breaking and entering were reported in apartments occupied by students.

The lack of "Fall Break-ins" is not unusual, Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said.

"Fall Break is not a big time for break-ins," she said. "We see more on Spring Break, Thanksgiving and Winter Break during Christmas. Those are the times when we really urge people to take valuables with them and lock up."

While police have little to deal with during Fall Break, patrols are increased during Winter Break, Cousins said.

The areas in Chapel Hill that have large student populations are often popular and easy targets for perpetrators, Cousins said.

"The breaks are very predictable and it is usually obvious when students' apartments are empty," she said.

Both fraternity and sorority houses are prime targets for break-ins during long school breaks, Cousins said.

"Both experience problems," she said. "Both have a lot of rooms that can all be broken into at one time. This makes them very easy targets."

Most of the items taken from students' apartments include valuables such as jewelry, electrical equipment and even jars of change. There are ways to discourage unlawful entry, however, Cousins said.

"When students are out of town, they can check their locks and windows, keep their curtains drawn and put timers on lights," she said.

"Also, take valuables with you or relocate them, but not in cars. Have someone check on the apartment and pick up the mail and newspapers that can accumulate at the end of driveways. If one can do all these things, the apartment will appear occupied."

FROM STAFF REPORTS

## U.S. senator lectures on government

Sen. Nancy Landon Kassebaum stressed the importance of community.

BY CHERRIECE WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Sen. Nancy Landon Kassebaum, R-Kan., delivered the third annual Weatherspoon Distinguished Faculty Scholar Lecture on the importance of government and new business leaders Monday.

Kassebaum, who was hosted by the Kenan-Flagler Business School in George Watts Hill Alumni Center spoke to alumni, faculty and students from the business school on the media circus that today's elections have become due to negative campaign ads and constant polling.

"We have these guys over here saying the opposition voted to raise taxes 40 times, and then we have the opposition saying 'No, no, they voted to raise taxes 45 times,'" Kassebaum said. "It's just depressing."

She also urged students to get involved



Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., spoke Monday to Kenan-Flagler Business School alumni, faculty and students about the government's role in business.

in their communities.

"There is no sense of common cause if there is no sense of community," she said. "All of us need to help solve the problems at home."

Drugs, crime and problems with education were issues Kassebaum said deserved direct attention in communities.

"We cannot solve these problems in Washington," she said. "We can only institute programs that help bring about change."

Neighborhoods without a sense of community are isolated and alienated,

Kassebaum said.

She also said there should be changes in the federal government's fiscal and foreign policies. "Our budget is really our road map of where we want to be."

"It took us nearly a century to build a national debt. Since 1982, we have added 4 trillion," she said.

Among the changes should be an increase in the age of retirement and changes in Medicare coverage. "Procedures now covered weren't covered 10 years ago,"

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## Nelson still hopes for 24-hour registration

BY EVAN MARKFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

Although Student Body President Aaron Nelson's goals to improve the Caroline telephone registration system have not been met, student government's executive branch is pursuing improvements in the registration process.

One of the goals originally stated in Nelson's platform was to have Caroline open 24 hours a day.

Nelson said potential changes in the registration process were being explored to better serve the students' needs. "We are working to do whatever we can to make Caroline a more student friendly service," he said.

University Registrar David Lanier said Caroline was open 24 hours a day but was not always available to students because the system must be used for other purposes during some nighttime hours.



Student Body President AARON NELSON said he wanted to make Caroline more "student friendly."

Lanier said the system was used for certain data processing entries which are usually done at night. "My intention was to have it open 24 hours a day, but I was forced to cut it back," he said.

The executive branch and the Registrar's office are exploring the option of establishing an online registration system on the Internet.

Some students feel online registration may be easier than the current system. "(Online registration) would be really convenient because you could see which classes are available without trial and error," said Jon McCarty, a freshman from Winston-Salem.

Lanier said he had looked at some of the online registration sites of other universities, but because not all students have access to computers, online registration may be difficult.

Although online registration may not be initiated in the near future, it is being explored by student government.

"It's something we're committed to working on, but it's kind of a long-term project," Chief of Staff Marc McCollum said.

The executive branch is also exploring options for the production of a Carolina Course Review, including having it published by a private organization.

## Proposed development prompts traffic concerns

Residents spoke out at a public hearing held by the Chapel Hill Town Council.

BY MARY-KATHRYN CRAFT  
STAFF WRITER

Many residents of the Timberlyne neighborhood said they were concerned that nearby proposed developments would pose traffic, safety and environmental problems to their existing residential area.

At a Chapel Hill Town Council public hearing Monday, Timberlyne residents spoke against The Estates development proposal, a neighborhood that would be constructed on 34 acres of land at the intersection of N.C. 86 and Weaver Dairy Road.

Roger Waldon, Chapel Hill planning director, said there would be 22 single home lots and 240 apartments in The Estates development.

Kelly Dunbar, a representative of States Inc., the firm that wants to develop The Estates area, said a study three years ago showed that Chapel Hill was a prime market to build luxury apartments. Dunbar said the apartments would range from \$600 to \$1200 a month and would include features such as jacuzzi-sized bathtubs, hardwood floors and crown molding.

The addition in population generated by the new development could cause a significant number of traffic problems, Waldon said.

"The big issue has been traffic," he said. "How much traffic it would generate and where it would go (were key issues)."

## Organizations prepare area Halloween haunts

Proceeds from one haunted house will benefit three unnamed charities.

BY STACEY TURNAGE  
STAFF WRITER

Signs of Halloween are everywhere: ghosts, ghouls and gremlins decorate windows and doors; carved pumpkins perch on porches; and last but not least—haunted houses.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Jaycees is sponsoring its annual haunted house in the old Roses store at the Carrboro Plaza, off of N.C. 54. The house will be open Oct. 24 through Oct. 26; and Oct. 29 through Oct. 31 starting at 7 p.m. The regular admission price is \$5, or \$4 if you bring two canned goods.

Kris Tell, co-chairwoman of the haunted house, said the money raised would be donated to three local charities. The canned goods will go toward replenishing the North Carolina Food Bank.

Last year \$15,000 was raised and nearly 3,000 people went through the house. The goal this year is to match, if not surpass that amount by \$2,500, Tell said.

Melissa Liles, another co-chairwoman of the house, said this year's theme was "Your Worst Nightmare." Each room will house a distinct nightmare. Liles said the house was geared toward a variety

of age groups, but it was not recommended for kids under 8 years old.

"Our promise is that you will not be able to sleep in the dark after you come through the house," Liles said.

Tell said the highlight of the house was that the skits were interactive rather than spectator oriented.

If the idea of people chasing you with chain saws and running through dark tunnels maneuvering around obstacles seems a little too scary, then there is the Halloween Carnival sponsored by The Kantner School's Parent Council.

Admission is free, and the carnival will be held in the gym on Oct. 25 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

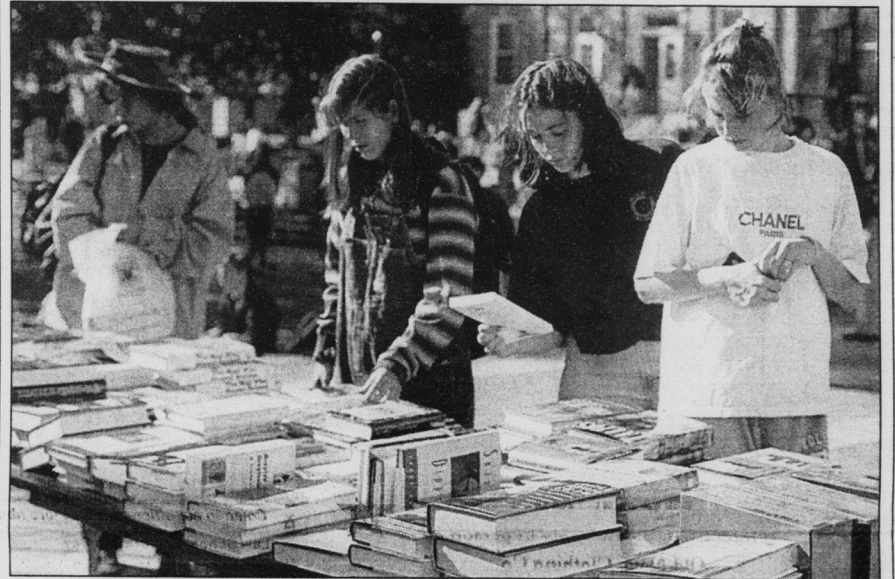
Activities include booths, games, pony rides, cake walk, silent auction and a haunted house, said Gin Wiegand, director of the carnival.

The haunted house has several separate skits that contain frightening aspects but are still suitable for virtually all ages, Wiegand said.

"Even though this house is not as gruesome as other haunted houses, it is frightening and directed towards kids that can distinguish between reality and fantasy," Wiegand said.

Wiegand said she looked forward to seeing the entire community come out to support the school and enjoy a wholesome form of entertainment. "This is a good, clean activity that is most importantly family oriented for the entire community."

### TURNING THE PAGES OF TIME



Monday's outdoor sale at Bull's Head Bookshop brought out many UNC students. These four women spent their time browsing through the wide selection of books on sale while enjoying the last remnants of fall's sunshine.

## Code of Student Conduct might face revisions

The court will examine loopholes created by issues of jurisdiction.

BY MINDY HODGES  
STAFF WRITER

Honor Court members will address potential improvements to the Code of Student Conduct in future meetings, said Margaret Barrett, judicial programs officer.

Even though the Code of Student Conduct is effective, the Honor Court cannot foresee every potential situation, Barrett said.

"I think it's impossible to close every loophole and still have a fair and specific code," she said.

Student Attorney General David Huneycutt said there were some loopholes concerning jurisdictional issues, including the geographic location of offenses and the enrollment status of the offender.

For example, the Honor Court did not prosecute the case of two fraternity members accused of burning a couch near the corner of Pittsboro Street and West Cameron Avenue in August because the infraction was not within the court's jurisdiction.

Katherine Kraft, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, said she supported efforts to review the loopholes.

"I think it's a shame," she said. "Any of us who are affiliated with the University, regardless of where we go, should be expected to behave by some standard."

Kraft said students and faculty had a definite responsibility in respecting the University's academic environment.

"We carry the name with us everywhere we go, and that carries responsibility," Barrett said every good code needed to be reviewed occasionally, because community standards can change as the community changes.

"The community's values must be decided and then the jurisdiction will fall

into place," she said. Huneycutt explained that meetings concerning improvements to the Instrument of Student Judicial Governance, the written document containing the Code of Student Conduct, would be a process of research and continued discussion.

"Our code is the highest level of due process here," Huneycutt said.

"It involves a reasonable doubt standard, and most schools don't have this. This code has been around a long time and we know it works well in most instances."

Huneycutt said there were several strategies to inform students about the Code of Student Conduct, such as presentations at Freshmen Orientation and C-TOPS and distributions of the Instrument.

The main goals of the Code of Student Conduct are to protect the academic integrity of the University and to protect the welfare of UNC students, he said.

Kraft said, "The standard should be the goal to which we all aspire."

## Group wants 'pull plug' on media violence

BY ROBIN SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

With the help of Gov. Jim Hunt and various advocacy groups statewide, pulling the plug on media violence is becoming more of a reality.

"People need to take a little more control of TV in their homes," said Kathleen Clarke-Pearson, founder and chairwoman of the North Carolina Coalition for Pulling the Plug on Media Violence. "We're seeking to educate people that violence on TV and video games is having a negative impact on children."

The coalition, formed only 18 months ago, has more than 40 members ranging from the N.C. Pediatric Society and Kiwanis Club to the state Department of Public Instruction and the Governor's Office.

On Monday, Hunt officially kicked off "Pull the Plug on Media Violence Week," during which a bookmark and flyer will be distributed to 800,000 students—from kindergarten to fifth grade—statewide.

Tom Vitaglione, chief of the children and youth section of the N.C. Division of Maternal and Child Health, said continuing to raise awareness was essential.

"When we started a year ago, we thought it would be a one-time thing," he said. "But it really needs to be an ongoing campaign."

Clarke-Pearson said the phrase "pull the plug" was only an attention-getter. "We're not saying turn off the TV or don't buy video games—it means get involved."

Based on more than 200 studies, she said there were three consequences that children repeatedly exhibited from watching violence on television: desensitization, imitation and fear.

Drawing from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the coalition advocates setting limits such as one to two hours of television a day, not allowing a television set in a young child's room and getting involved in making decisions with the child on what to watch.

"It all comes back to parental responsibility," said Pamela Riley, director of

the N.C. Center for the Prevention of School Violence, also a member of the coalition. Riley is particularly bothered by violence with no consequences. "It's shown, but you never see the young person in a wheelchair who happened to catch a stray bullet," she said. "The message glorifies violence—if you have a gun, you have power."

Vitaglione found fault with the unrealistic nature of media violence, where someone recovers miraculously after a horrible accident. He said the youngest viewers are watching as "Wyle E. Coyote keeps getting up."

Despite the fact that statistics show children will see 250,000 acts of violence on television before they are 18, advocates of the coalition are optimistic.

"I think the tides are starting to turn," Clarke-Pearson said. "People are seeing the rise of juvenile crime. There is a relationship."

Currently, the coalition is trying to spread the word by distributing materials, keeping in touch with newspapers and organizations and billboards.