

# New class to promote sense of community

BY MINDY HODGES  
STAFF WRITER

While some UNC students lie on Florida beaches or cruise the Caribbean during Spring Break, those enrolled in a new course will spend their time building houses and volunteering in a North Carolina town.

Special Studies 91P was implemented by the group assisting people to plan learning experiences in service and will be offered for the first time during the spring semester.

Mary Morrison, a p.p.l.e.s. service-learning coordinator and the instructor of the new course, said students' work in Franklin would allow them to concentrate on service without the pressure of academic work.

"Our focus is to try to have a more conscious and deliberate approach to community service," she said.

Morrison said students would be able to work on the construction of new housing, adult day care or Head Start. They will stay at a Methodist church camp where they will be able to "reflect on the day's experience," she said.

Jeremy Cummings, a student enrolled in Special Studies 91P, said it was important for students to give something back to the North Carolina community.

"We're getting just as much from (the residents of Franklin) as they are from us," he said. "I know what a tremen-

dously rewarding experience this is."

Morrison said many students who did not have time to volunteer during a normal academic semester were interested in the class. "Several students said it just sounded like fun," she said.

"Service learning enhances learning in the classroom," she said. "It makes the theory and research come alive."

Morrison said the course also included an academic component, with assignments which would include readings, papers and journals concentrating on learning about leadership and being a "healthy helper" through various learning styles. "It is a semester-long experience and commitment," she said.

Morrison said projects in other communities involving student volunteers had been successful. "We are getting phone calls every day from community service agencies that have had fabulous experiences with college students," she said.

"Students are so isolated on campus," Morrison said. Connecting with the community outside the University gives students a chance to come in contact with a diverse group of people, she said.

Other a.p.p.l.e.s. programs include another community service course during the academic semester and a summer volunteer program.

Students can register for Special Studies 91P by calling Morrison at 962-0902. All undergraduates are eligible for the class.

# Local officials prepare for annual holiday parade

BY GIBSON PATE  
STAFF WRITER

Even though thoughts are of turkey and pumpkin pie this week, plans are well underway for the annual Chapel Hill-Carrboro Holiday parade, which will be held in downtown Chapel Hill Dec. 7.

Co-sponsored by the Village Advocate, Chapel Hill News, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Commission, the parade will last from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and will make its way from Morehead Planetarium to Carrboro Town Hall.

As director of promotions for the Village Advocate and second year parade coordinator, Carol Richards said the parade promoted a lot of community involvement and was a reminder of the advantages of living in a small town.

"This is a community oriented event," she said.

"So many people participate, which brings the community together and puts them in a holiday spirit."

Richards said she was anticipating about 100 floats and organizations to participate in the parade. The number of participants has risen in comparison to previous years, she said. However, Richards said traditional favorites have not been forgotten, with Santa Claus scheduled to be in his usual spot at the end of the parade.

Area students will also be a part of the festivities.

*"So many people participate, which brings the community together and puts them in a holiday spirit."*

CAROL RICHARDS  
Parade coordinator

Hill High School, Chapel Hill High School and Hillsborough High will march in the parade, along with the bands of McDougal Middle School and Culbreth Middle School. In addition to the students, several local scout troops were also planning to march in the parade, Richards said.

Capt. Tony Oakley of the Chapel Hill Police Department said people should remain patient during parade hours. During this time, Franklin Street will be roped off and traffic will have to wait for the conclusion of the parade.

"We will have every intersection covered with an officer, and plan to open the street back up as soon as the parade is over," he said.

"I just want to stress the virtues of patience to everyone."

In addition to the Christmas parade, Chapel Hill's annual tree lighting will be Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.

The parking deck on Rosemary Street will be the location for the celebration. Richards said several groups are scheduled to sing during the festivity.

# Head of FDA to resign after 6 years in administration

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — David Kessler, the Food and Drug Administration commissioner who waged war on the tobacco industry and is alternately admired or reviled as a fierce consumer protector, announced Monday he is leaving the post.

Kessler said the Clinton administration asked him to stay Friday and again Monday, but he decided six years was enough as head of the regulatory agency. He will leave as soon as a successor is chosen, expected no sooner than late January.

"We took on some of the most difficult regulatory challenges, and I think

we've made some progress," Kessler told The Associated Press, listing as his top achievements slashing the time the FDA spends approving new medicines, racing new AIDS drugs to the market and giving consumers nutrition information on food labels.

But Kessler's legacy will be the government crackdown on tobacco. He declared nicotine an addictive drug used to hook children on cigarettes and published in August the nation's first regulations of tobacco marketing.

"I hope the world is a little bit safer for our kids because of what we've done," Kessler said.

President Clinton praised Kessler on

Monday as having "a tireless commitment to better the lives of our citizens."

While many doctors admire Kessler for also cracking the whip over medical and food manufacturers, he is arguably the FDA's most controversial chief.

Critics call him everything from "Eliot Knessler" to "gestapo-like." He ignited an outcry as soon he took office by seizing thousands of gallons of orange juice labeled "fresh" when they were made from concentrate, and ended this year antagonizing anti-abortionists by giving conditional approval to the abortion pill RU-486.

Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, has accused the FDA of killing patients by not

approving new medicines fast enough and welcomed Kessler's imminent departure as opening the door for agency reform. "I think it's a decision that was overdue," Barton said. Kessler defended the status quo and "might have been an impediment" to congressional action in January, he added.

Kessler disputes Barton's charges — and government documents show that when he took office in 1990, the agency spent a median of 25 months approving each of 64 drugs, while in 1995 it spent 16.5 months on each of 82 new drugs.

Kessler vehemently opposes congressional plans that he says will deregulate the FDA.

## SEARCH

FROM PAGE 1

1995-96, 81 came to the University as a result of a full search. There was no search in this case — the history department knew whom it wanted to hire.

Soloway said that because the creation of Isenberg's position arose from the desire to retain Wailoo, there was no need to search for other applicants.

"The only reason the position was there was because of the efforts to retain a very able member of the faculty, and that's how the opportunity was presented," Soloway said. "If you had a full and open search, what would you be searching for? This is the wife of a particular individual."

Soloway said that in early October, faculty in the history department voted "overwhelmingly" to hire Isenberg as an

assistant professor. Her application is now working its way through the administration, which generally follows the department's recommendation.

Lotchin said he worried the history department lowered its standards to achieve the goal of increasing the number of black faculty members. "The University usually tries to get the best person it can," he said. "In this case, they were just looking for someone acceptable, and there's a considerable difference there."

History Professor Melissa Bullard said examining only one candidate for a position could yield less qualified professors.

"In these types of cases, if the person meets the minimum standards, then generally they go through," she said. "Potentially there is (a problem), but it totally depends on individual cases."

Still, Soloway said forgoing searches was necessary under some circumstances.

"I would have problems with it if this were the way we hired normally, but I have no problem when we do this on an occasional basis, when it's a win-win situation," he said. "Here we have an exceedingly able colleague whom we've been trying to retain and whose wife is an able historian who colleagues thought was well-qualified for the position."

Despite support for the position from the dean and provost, Lotchin was opposed to its creation because he believed it served no purpose. "The position has no justification in terms of the function of the history department," he said. "We already offer a number of courses that Isenberg is trained to teach."

At Florida International University, Isenberg teaches modern American history. UNC's fall 1996 class schedule lists five professors who teach a modern American history survey course.

Lotchin also said he was concerned taxpayer money was being wasted on an unnecessary position. He said the cost to the state would be about \$1 million, the average \$35,000 salary times 30 years of service. According to statistics from the Employee Records Office, the average salary for assistant professors in the history department is \$43,880.

Soloway disagreed that Isenberg's position was unnecessary. "It's necessary to carry out the policies of diversity and affirmative action, and it's advantageous in a sense that we need more faculty," he said.

Bullard said the opportunity to hire Isenberg was presented at no cost to the history department. Normally, since funding for professorships is scarce, the dean decides which departments receive new faculty. If a department has recently hired a professor, it might have to wait until other needs in the school were met before bringing in someone else.

Not in this case. "When you're presented with a gift horse, you have to look it very squarely in the mouth," Bullard said. She said when the department voted to recommend Isenberg, it was clear that the money for the position would not count against the department's budget.

The University's "Special Search Requirements" policy, part of the University's Equal Employment Opportunity Plan, states that while fully advertised searches are "most likely to assure equity," there are some cases in which not advertising positions is consistent with "achieving equity." In the latter cases, the department must secure a search waiver from the equal opportunity office, which Soloway did.

It is not necessary to conduct a search

if the candidate is the "best qualified for a particular position" and offers "unique skills, perspectives and experience to the University not currently available and unlikely to be available in a timely way following normal advertising and search procedures."

Lotchin questioned whether this policy was followed, since it is difficult to know without a search whether Isenberg is the best qualified for the position. In addition, he said a search would produce experienced applicants in a "timely way."

For an assistant professorship, employers look for applicants who have highly regarded dissertations, evidence of publications, positive teaching evaluations and strong letters of reference.

According to Isenberg's resume, she has no published articles, but one is forthcoming, and she has a manuscript under review. Her manuscript is based on her dissertation, which won an award from the Society for American City and Regional Planning History. In 1992, she won a teaching award at the University of Pennsylvania.

Soloway said if a search were conducted for the position, Isenberg would fare well. "I don't think there's any question this person would be on the short list," he said, adding that the history department's evaluation committee and the vote of the entire department said Isenberg was qualified.

Isenberg declined to be interviewed. Wailoo was unavailable for comment.

Bullard said she believed that in Isenberg's case, the University adhered to the appropriate policies. "They were followed in the spirit, but maybe not with the 'I's dotted and the 'T's crossed."

# Discrimination, nepotism policies also in question

■ Hiring a professor's wife will not violate policy, the department chairman says.

BY TONY MECIA  
STAFF WRITER

In addition to the special search policy, two other University policies could shed light on Alison Isenberg's case.

The nepotism and nondiscrimination policies were developed, in part, to ensure fairness in hiring. With regard to the position created for Isenberg, Richard A. Soloway, history department chairman, and Stephen S. Birdsall, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said they did not violate any University procedures.

The nepotism policy states that a relative of an existing faculty member cannot be hired "if the professional qualifications of other candidates for the available position are demonstrably superior to those of the relative."

When Birdsall was asked if the nepotism policy applied in Isenberg's case, he said that if the conditions for the special search policy were met, "then we're not talking about other candidates."

He denied this was a violation of the nepotism policy. "We do not circumvent University policy," he said. "The policies are followed scrupulously."

The University's nondiscrimination policy states that "employment decisions should be based on individuals' abilities and qualifications and should not be based on irrelevant factors or personal characteristics that have no connection with academic abilities or job performance."

Although being the spouse of an existing faculty member might be considered an "irrelevant factor," Birdsall said the nondiscrimination policy did not apply.

"That's a false perspective to say someone is hired simply because they fall into a particular category," he said. "People are hired on the basis of their qualifications."

## REPORT

FROM PAGE 1

increased. This may be due in part to some of the programs sponsored by the Office of Minority Affairs.

"The Office for Minority Affairs and the Office of Student Counseling have made tremendous headway in terms of creating programs," Robbins said.

Gragg said she felt programs offered by student counseling and minority affairs were also helpful in aiding retention of black students.

"Continuous support of these offices and their programs are very important."

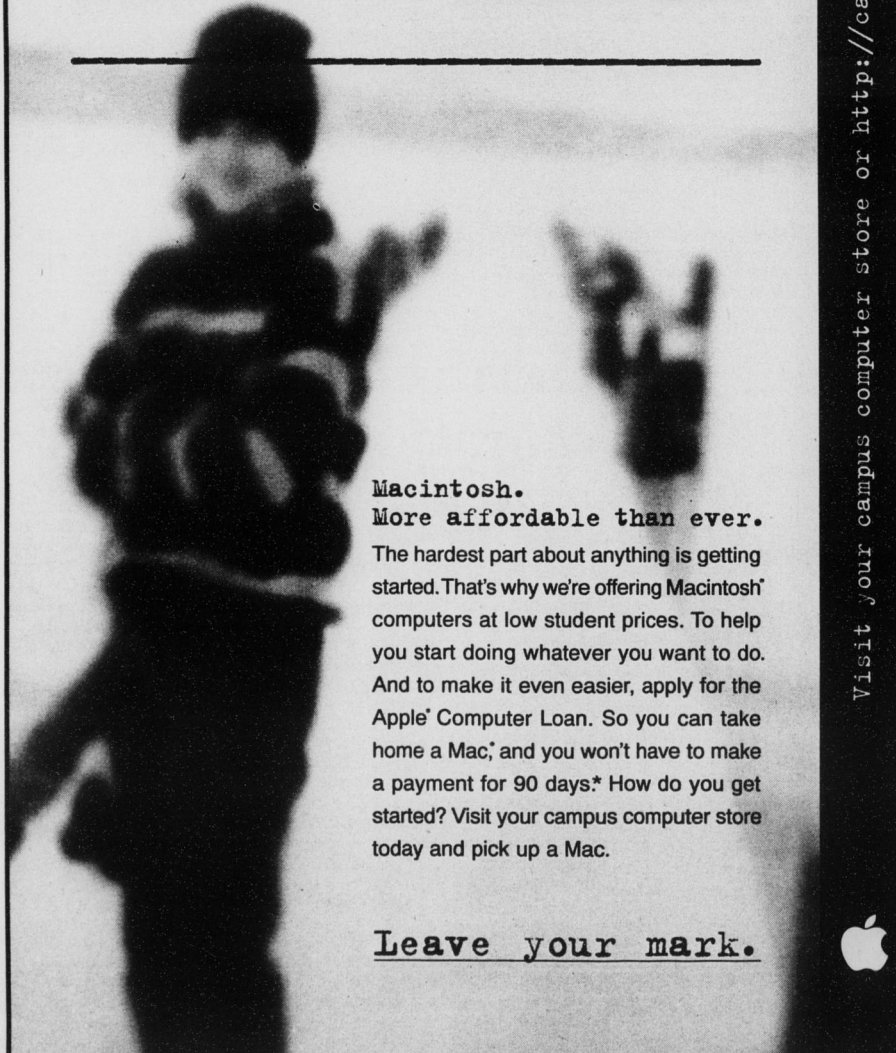
## Campus Calendar

Tuesday

noon to 1 p.m. — The UNC Injury Prevention Research Center will present "International Injury Trends," featuring Pan American Health Organization researchers, in 1301 McGavran-Greenburg.

2 p.m. to 9 p.m. — The PlayMakers Repertory Company will conduct a session of auditions for its 1996-97 season. All auditions will take place in the Graham Memorial Building, and are specifically for African-American women aged 18 to 25 years, African-American women aged 45 to 65 years, Caucasian women aged 45 to 65 years, and Caucasian boys aged 10 to 16 years. To arrange an audition, call Maura Murphy at 962-2489.

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## UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES' CAREER CORNER

211 Hanes Hall  
UCS@UNC.EDU  
<http://www.unc.edu/depts/career/>

### Upcoming Events • Week of Nov. 26-Dec. 3

**PLEASE REMEMBER!!** There are many exciting opportunities available through UCS. Come to our office to learn more about career options in Non-Profits, the arts, social work, etc.  
**DO NOT FORGET TO RETURN YOUR COMPLETED DISK TO USC IN ORDER TO REGISTER!!**

**FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE/JUNIOR WORKSHOPS:** Introduction to Internships Tues., Nov. 26 3:30pm 209 Hanes

**EMPLOYER PRESENTATIONS: (Presentations open to all interested students unless otherwise specified)**

Ralston Purina (Pet products) Mon., Dec 2 7:00pm Carolina Inn

Harvard University (Arts & Science Grad. Prog.) Mon., Dec 2 10am-2pm Student Union

**NO RESUME DROP ON NOV. 26**

**OPEN SIGN UP BEGINNING NOV. 27 (ORGANIZATIONS RECRUITING WEEK OF DEC. 2-6)**

AT&T Solutions	Tech. Associate	BA,BS	Appl. Sci, Comp. Sci, All Math Sci
Bethlehem Steel Corp.	Sales	BA,BS	Any Major
Caribou Coffee	Managers	BA,BS	Any Major
Entergy	Info/Tech positions	BA,BS,MA,MS,PHD	Any Major
Ford Motor Co.	Sales	BA,BS	Bus., Econ
General Electric	Finance	BA,BS	Bus., Econ, All Math Sci, Math, Oper. Res
Jefferson Pilot	Agents	BA,BS	Any Major
Lowe's Food Stores	Management	BA,BS	Any Major
Maersk	Int'l Training Prog.	BS	Business
MGV America	Software Dev.	BA,BS,MA,MS,PHD	Appl. Sci, All Comp Sci
Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc.	Rsrch Scientists	PHD	All Chemistry
Ralston Purina	Mgmt & Interns	BA,BS	Bus., Comm Studies, Indust. Rel
Wheat First	Finance	BA,BS	Any Major

Division of Student Affairs