



BRIEFS

Stories from the University and Chapel Hill

NationsBank evacuated because of bomb threat

A bomb threat at NationsBank Plaza on Franklin Street on Wednesday night caused local authorities to evacuate the building for approximately 45 minutes. Officer L.B. Sparrow of the Chapel Hill Police Department said an unknown suspect called 911 around 6 p.m. and reported that there was a bomb located inside NationsBank. The suspect warned that the bomb had a 30-minute detonation time, Sparrow said. Police arrived on the scene shortly after the 911 call and warned all the people inside the building about the potential bomb. He said 10 people were evacuated. No one was hurt in the incident, and Sparrow said the police would begin investigating the suspect who called in the bomb as soon as they left the scene.

By 7 p.m. it was back to normal at NationsBank. The building had been declared safe, and people were using the ATMs by the entrance. The only remnants of the bomb scare were three police cars parked across the street.

Jimmy Dula, a bartender at Papagayo Restaurant, said he was not in the building when it was evacuated but heard about the bomb threat from an employee at Ram Theaters. He said he wanted to talk to police and make sure the building was safe.

'Eyes on the Prize' looks at civil rights movement

February is the month in which all people can celebrate African-American history and realize its importance as a driving force in American history.

Aiding in this celebration and hoping to educate members of the UNC community about the struggles African-Americans endured during the civil rights movement, Sigma Gamma Rho sorority Inc. is sponsoring a video series, "Eyes on the Prize."

This is the second year Sigma Gamma Rho has sponsored the event, President Tora Williams said.

"It is a documentary of the things that happened during (the civil rights) era (from 1954-64)," Williams said.

Videos planned for Thursday are "Ain't Scared of Your Jails," which documents the 1960-61 freedom riders who fought the segregated bus laws, and "No Easy Walk," which covers the non-violent marches held by black leaders from 1961-63. Friday's viewing will include "Awakening," which chronicles the murder of Emmett Till.

"Not only do the tapes deal with the civil rights movement, but what events led up to the civil rights movement," said Jocelyn Gladney, secretary of Sigma Gamma Rho.

Gladney said she hoped members of the campus community would become aware of the sacrifices that were a part of the civil rights movement by viewing the films. "It is a very big part of American history, not just African-American history."

By providing a basic knowledge of the civil rights movement, Sigma Gamma Rho member Theresa Williams said she hoped the films would help students and faculty members to think about the issues affecting Americans, both past and present. "If we can educate students and faculty, perhaps we can spark some thought in their minds."

The video series will show from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center.

— Jon Williams

Cellar Door now taking poetry, photography

The Cellar Door, the undergraduate literary magazine, is now accepting submissions of prose, poetry and black-and-white photography.

Please send submissions to the Student Union, CB #5210, P.O. Box 23, or use the drop box located in the Undergraduate Library.

Please submit two copies of prose or poetry, one including your name and phone number and one anonymous.

Submissions will be accepted through Friday.

Spangler's decision angers town

BY JULIA WOOD STAFF WRITER

A decision by UNC-system President C.D. Spangler to allow jets to land at Horace Williams Airport may have put town-gown relations in jeopardy.

Spangler broke an understanding between the town and University prohibiting jets landing at the airport when he decided to allow jet landings in November but neglected to notify the town of his decision.

Spangler said he decided to allow jets because they were the fastest and safest mode of transportation. He said the jets would be used for official University business including the transportation of guests, hospital patients and organs needed for transplants.

"We are going through a change in technology," he said. "When that happens, we have to recognize technology, or we will be left behind. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will

not be left behind."

Council member Joe Capowski said although Spangler's decision took effect in November, the town did not find out about it until late last week, when a resident of the area near the airport called to complain about the noise of a jet landing.

The council asked Mayor Rosemary Waldorf on Monday to write a letter to Spangler asking him to rescind the new policy.

Capowski said Spangler made the decision without consulting the town, a move that may have jeopardized relations between the town of Chapel Hill and the University.

"In the last ten years, town-gown relations have improved significantly because of the work of two chancellors, many other UNC officials, town officials and town citizens," he said.

Spangler said, as president of the UNC system, he ultimately had to do what was best for the University and the

state. "I have to make the best decision for the people and University of North Carolina," he said. "There will always be people on the other side of an issue, but foremost is the safety of patients."

Chancellor Michael Hooker said he thought Spangler was doing what he thought was best for the people of North Carolina. "I certainly understand the rationale in respect to bringing in organs," he said. "That's pretty compelling."

Some residents, however, said they doubted the jets would be used for transporting sick patients. Chapel Hill resident Diane Bloom, who lives near the airport, said she thought the jets were used to transport lecturers to rural areas, not for life-saving functions.

Capowski also expressed doubts about the function of the jets. "The council is very sympathetic to (Area Health Education Centers), medical emergencies and pilots in distress," he said. "I question how many jet-plane

uses of the airport will be medical-emergency related."

Council members and Chapel Hill residents are also concerned about noise levels and safety concerns.

Spangler said new jets were actually quieter than old ones. "They originally made more noise, but now they don't," he said. "I made my decision in October, and the first jets landed during the first days of November. Apparently no one noticed the difference until last week."

Bloom, however, said she had done research on the topic, and the belief that jets were quieter than propeller planes was a myth. "Maybe pure jets are less noisy than they used to be, but they are still definitely louder than what is at the airport now," she said. "I've also been disturbed by regular planes."

Bloom said she was concerned with the safety of the airport. "The flight path goes over four schools," she said. "If there are more planes flying in, there is more likelihood of a crash."

Police nab vandalism suspects

Former Chapel Hill High School students were charged with vandalism.

BY ROB NELSON ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Four former Chapel Hill High School students were charged Tuesday for the January vandalism of East Chapel Hill High School.

Aric Hassell-Herndon, 17, of 2621 N.C. 87 North in Pittsboro; Bradley D. Kidwell, 18, of 2004 Pathway Drive in Carrboro; Aaron J. Peterson, 18, of 128 Carolina Forest Court; and Douglas W. Hearne, 20, of 5807 Old Greensboro Road were arrested for the Jan. 25 crime in which outside walls and windows at ECHHS were spray-painted.

According to police reports, each were charged with one count of injury to real property and placed under a \$500 unsecured bond. The trial date was set for Feb. 24 in Chapel Hill District Court.

CHHS Principal Butch Patteson said he knew two of the students who were arrested, and none of them actually graduated from his school.

"I am relieved that no current students are directly involved," he said.

Patteson said the vandalism was a sign of a rivalry between the schools.

"I think over time the distance between the two schools is going to grow," he said. "The vandalism is definitely some form of rivalry, and this event is part of that process."

ECHHS sophomore Kevin Tsui said the event affected the image of CHHS.

"I think it shows a lack of respect," he said. "I don't think you can really blame the situation on Chapel Hill High School, but I understand how someone could feel that way."

ECHHS student government Treasurer Conor Flannery said the incident was a sign of a much bigger picture of tension between the two schools.

"We knew where the graffiti came from," he said. "It shows the antagonism that Chapel Hill High School has towards East."

CHHS's student government President B.J. Perlmutter said he didn't think the spray-painters' intentions were to create a rivalry between the two schools.

"I think it was an attack against the school system in general," he said.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education member Ken Touw said he did not think the incident was indicative of any type of animosity between the two high schools.

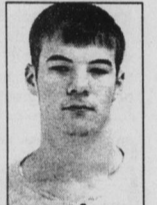
"I don't think (the vandalism) was due to a rivalry," he said. "I am glad (the police) has identified some suspects. I hope to get them through the appropriate process."

Perlmutter said there were some risks in a rivalry developing between the two schools.

"It would be good in some aspects, but it could get ugly."



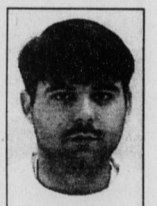
ARIC HASSELL-HERNDON



BRADLEY D. KIDWELL



AARON J. PETERSON



DOUGLAS W. HEARNE

Debate about Ebonics hits UNC campus

Students and faculty discussed the validity of Ebonics as a language.

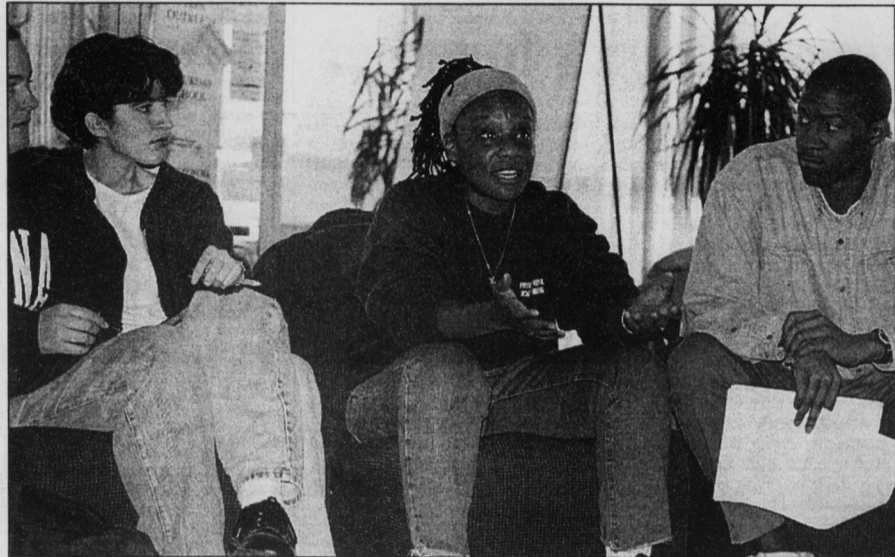
BY MONIKA ELLIS STAFF WRITER

A derivative of western African languages, a different dialect of English, slang or a separate language — just what is Ebonics?

A group of 30 students and administrators debated the Ebonics controversy in an Around the Circle discussion Wednesday in the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center.

Mediator Rachel Watkins, a doctoral candidate in anthropology, raised the issue of the validity of Ebonics as a language and a dialect.

Kelly Navies, a graduate student from Chapel Hill, said, "I believe Ebonics is a valid communication system that should be valued."



DTH/CARA BRICKMAN

Graduate student Rachel Watkins (center) moderated a discussion about Ebonics on Wednesday afternoon at the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center. The group discussed whether Ebonics was valid in today's society.

Many of the participants acknowledged their own use of Ebonics. "My friends and I have used the word Ebonics for a long time," said Shani Foy, a senior from Carrboro.

Participants said they believed the

controversy surrounding Ebonics stemmed from issues of identity in America.

"I think it's about identity," said Gerald Horne, director of the BCC. He said the issue had garnered so

much attention because it focused on an Afro-Euro dialect, and that middle-class African-Americans felt that Ebonics was another way to say they were inferior.

Participants said they felt the real issue should be the welfare of students.

Conservative group claims discrimination in funding

BY VICKY ECKENRODE STAFF WRITER

Conservative Emory University students fought a battle similar to that of a UNC student group last fall in trying to fund a speaker's visit with student fees.

The refusal of Emory's student government to fund a speech by Star Parker,

a former welfare recipient who went to college and became a successful businesswoman, proved to be the last straw for the school's Republican group.

Parker spoke at Emory on Nov. 14, but without the financial support of Emory's College Council. Jeff Frederick, chairman of Emory's College Republicans group, said the College

Council's Oct. 9 decision to deny funds for Starr reflected a larger liberal bias that exists at many universities.

"Liberal means all-encompassing, and on many campuses they promote this notion that a diversity of ideas are embraced, but this is not what we've found," he said. "There is a double standard with conservative issues."



CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

ANNOUNCING THE ALPHA HONOREE



DTH/DAVID SANDLER

Carolyn Cannon receives flowers and a plaque from Bryan Winbush on Wednesday after being honored as Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Inc.'s Alpha Honoree. The event took place at the African-American Women's Nubian Queen Luncheon, which was sponsored by the fraternity. It honored not only Cannon, but all African-American women for their strength, beauty, intelligence and poise. The Fifth Annual Luncheon also featured a musical performance by the group Harmonyx, as well as a poetry reading from the Ebony Readers.

Advertisement for Carolina Ring Event. Final 2 Days! DATE: TODAY! Thursday, February 13 and Friday, February 14 TIME: 10am-3pm PLACE: UNC Student Stores DEPOSIT: \$20 'Officially Licensed Carolina Ring Dealer' ARTCARVED COLLEGE JEWELRY UNC Student Stores ARTCARVED COLLEGE JEWELRY Special Payment Plans Available • Local Office (919) 968-7894