Education, Equality State Prison Reforms Receive Praise Top Broad's Speech BY ANNE FAWCETT of early release on parole. North Carolina began reforming sen-tencing to keep criminals in prison for Foundation as a winner of its 1997 Innovations Award. "The grant is, in a munity corrections," Brennan said. "We need to go with a system besides Staff Writer

BY ALEXANDRA MOLAIRE Staff Writer

Nearly 100 Chapel Hill and Carrboro residents gathered at the Morehead Planetarium Banquet Hall Sunday night for the 14th annual Martin Luther King Memorial Banquet to "remember, Jr. celebrate and act '

The banquet highlighted those in the community who worked to keep King's dream alive after his death.

UNC-system President Molly Broad, the keynote speaker for the event, said with education, UNC must uphold the principles King promoted. "The University of North Carolina is redoubling its efforts to promote education without barriers to expand equality of higher educational opportunities to North Carolinians of all races, of all cul-

tures, ages and geographic location." The MLK University/Community Planning Corporation presented the Martin Luther King Jr. Awards to the Orange County Disability Awareness Council and resident Marty Ravallette.

In her speech, Broad said UNC was working to make education more affordable for North Carolinians who can not afford higher education. "Next month, a university-wide task force is going to explore options for the development of a state-funded student aid program."

Broad also commented on the suc

cess of UNC affirmative outreach programs. In the last 25 years, the number of black students enrolled in the system of black students enrolled in the system increased by 118 percent, she said. Still, Broad called for more change. A

year ago, she called for a review of the system's affirmative outreach programs to make sure the universities were following the ruling set by the 1978 Supreme Court case of California vs. Bakke, which said universities could not se racial quotas in admitting students.

"It is imperative that we regularly review our procedures to make sure that they will withstand the scrutiny of the court," she said. In order to help black students in their transition to college. Broad called for increased involvement of traditional black churches in the campus ministries. "They play a very important role as a touch point for students, for the values and the beliefs of their home, their family and the churches

they attended growing up." Lillian Lee, dean of students at Chapel Hill High School, said she was pleased that Broad asked for more black ministers on campus. "If we can keep our young people grounded spiritually in the kind of connectedness they had at home, I think we will see better people with more respect for each other.

The University Editors can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Palestine Officials Denv Delay of Independence

Associated Press

IERUSALEM - The Palestinian Authority is ready to delay the announcement of an independent Palestinian state until Dec. 31, an Israeli daily newspaper reported Monday. Palestinian officials denied the claim.

The Haaretz daily cited sources close to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as saying that postponing the declaration from an earlier May 4 deadline would frustrate Israeli right-wing attempts to

make it an issue for elections on May 17. The Dec. 31 date would be symbolic, Haaretz reported the sources as saying, as it will usher in a new millennium with declaration of statehood. Palestinians had chosen May 4 because it marks a deadline in the 1993 Oslo accords

The Palestinians would seek U.S. backing for the year-end date, the report said.

A senior U.S. official told The Associated Press that the U.S. position is not to take any stand on final status issi

Palestinian officials denied the report. Palestinian Minister of Information Yasser Abed Rabbo called the report "a Haaretz-fabricated scenario."

Leaders from the dovish opposition Labor party have called on Arafat to avoid declaring statehood unilaterally on May 4, as such a move could boost the electability of hard-line Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Netanyahu staunchly opposes Palestinian statehood, saying it endangers Israeli security. He has vowed to retaliate to a unilateral declaration of statehood by annexing parts of the occu-pied West Bank still under Israeli control.

The Labor Party is not opposed to statehood, but says if it comes about, it

must be through negotiations. Netanyahu confirmed that a trilateral meeting is being considered for Washington, D.C., next month in a bid to reactivate the stalled implementation of the U.S.-brokered Wye memorandum.

The Israeli government froze the implementation of a scheduled troop redeployment out of West Bank territory, citing what it regards as Palestinians noncompliance.

An Israeli foreign ministry official said that contacts have been established between senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat and Tomer Orni, the head of the political team at the foreign ministry

But nothing has been decided on a meeting, the official said on condition of anonymity.

A summit is scheduled for March or April between Arafat and President Clinton

Bar-Illan said Israel would release about 20 Palestinians arrested during anti-Israel riots as a goodwill gesture.

A report released last week showed that state governments across the country are racing to redefine their prison sentencing in response to ongoing prob-lems. Many states are looking to North

Carolina as an example of success. The N.C. Sentencing Commissi implemented sentencing reform in 1994 and is now assuming a leadership role as it consults with representatives from other states about enacting reforms.

The bill reserved prison beds for vio-lent and chronic offenders and created intermediate sentencing programs, such as house arrest, for less serious offend-ers. It also mandated stricter sentencing guidelines, eliminating the possibilities

Campus Calendar

Tuesday

King Jr's legacy with Rev. John Burton

and Rev. Stephen Stanley in the confer-ence room in upstairs Lenoir.

in Union 226.

dents are welcome

committee

noon

only two days!

didates for 2000.

Manning Hall.

bility

mal rush in Union 205.

membership drive in the Pit.

5 p.m. - Masala will hold a meeting

For more information, call 914-2665

6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. – Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed national service frater-

nity, invites you to informal rush to learn more about us in 106 Fetzer Gym.

mation club is back with more free

Movie and Slayers Perfect in 113 Dey Hall. 8:15 p.m. - The UNC-CH Young

Democrats will be having a general interest meeting in Union 208. All stu-

8:30 p.m. - Phi Alpha Delta, the

pre-law fraternity, will be having infor

Wednesday

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – The **Sports Club Council** will be holding its semiannual

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. – The **Campus Y** will be having Y Horizons in the Great

Hall to give students an opportunity to come and sign up for membership.

vide information questions about each

Mammoth Records Legal Department will speak at UNC's School of Law on intellectual property

and entertainment law issues. All are welcome. Law School, classroom 3.

Cultural Center will sponsor an Around the Circle discussion, "Ending Domestic Violence." Members of Theta

Nu Xi sorority will lead the discussion. 4 p.m. – Habitat for Humanity

versity Blitz Build meeting in Fetzer 106. Be a part of the planning, fund rais-ing and construction of a house built in

p.m. - The UNC-CH College

Republicans will hold their first meet-

ing of the semester in Union 208. The meeting will feature in a discus-

sion on potential GOP presidential can-

7:30 p.m. - Alpha Phi Omega

Attendance is required for rush eligi-

invites you to our formal rush in 209

1 p.m. – The Sonja H. Stone Black

There will be someone there to pro

- George Nicholas of

showings. This week, its Ranma 1/2

7 p.m. - COUP: the Japanese ani

12:30 p.m. - Discuss Martin Luther

their whole sentences in 1980, but by 1990, prisoners were still leaving early judges sent down longer sentences. "Felons at the height of the credibility crisis were serving 20 percent of their

time," said Gregg Stahl, spokesman for the N.C. Department of Corrections. "North Carolina was ripe to do sentencing structure change. The reform has been effective at doubling inmates' average time served from 15.7 months in 1993 to 32.0 months in

1997, said Susan Katzenelson, executive irector of the commission.

She said this success was recognized nationwide when the commission received a \$100,000 grant from the Ford

sense, an educational grant to spread the word outside the state and within about our program," Katzenelson said. Delegates from several states have

contacted the commission for its aid. "Originally, we had heard about (the commission) because North Carolina is a success story in this kind of structured sentencing," said Mike Brennan, legal counsel for Wisconsin's Criminal Study Penalty Committee.

The committee has learned strategy from North Carolina's program, he said "What we've gained from North Carolina is that we have to address the crimes people are most prosecuted under, such as crimes against property and drugs, by adding resources to com

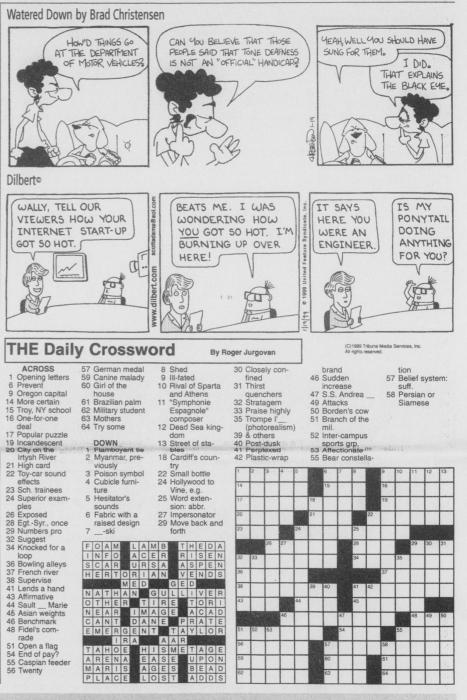
parole, which is ineffective, and prison, which is too expensive."

In constructing its program, likely to be implemented early in 2000, Brennan Wisconsin will combine the best said parts from several states' programs. Hawaii's committee has taken a sim-

ilar path, said Hawaii State Sen. Avery Chumbley, whose staff has been in communication with the N.C. commission.

Its interest in North Carolina lies in a forecasting computer program allowing the government to project the impact of crime trends on correctional resources, such as prison beds

> The State & National Editors can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.



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