



The University and Towns
IN BRIEF

Student Suspended For Possessing Knife

School officials suspended a 13-year-old McDougle Middle School student after he was found with a folding knife in his possession on school property Friday.

Carrboro police confiscated the weapon.

School policy states that the school can suspend the student for up to 10 days.

Officials said they did not think there will be further disciplinary action taken against the student.

There is still the chance that police will petition the juvenile court to try the student with misdemeanor possession of a weapon at school.

Indian Scholar Slated To Give Free Lecture

Ada Deer, former assistant secretary of Indian affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior, will address the topic "Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask," at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

The free public lecture will be in the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building.

Deer is a senior lecturer in social work and American Indian studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

For more information about her talk, call Michael Green at 843-9925.

Graduate Students Win National Health Grants

UNC graduate students Christina Ewig and Jessica Fields have received \$2,000 for research on women's and children's health from a public policy angle.

The students are among 15 winners of the 1999 Woodrow Wilson-Johnson & Johnson Dissertation Grants in Women's and Children's Health.

More than 100 students nationwide applied for these awards.

Advertising Executive To Give Annual Speech

Harry M. Jacobs, former chairman and chief executive officer of the Martin Agency in Richmond, Va., will deliver the Reed Sarratt Distinguished Lecture.

The address is set for 7:15 p.m. in the Carroll Hall auditorium.

Jacobs will discuss innovative new advertising techniques in his lecture titled "The Age of Anti-Logic."

Activist, Poet to Give Memorial Address

Chilean novelist Isabel Allende of Sonia Sanchez will deliver the Sonja Haynes Stone Memorial Lecture Tuesday in Carroll Hall.

Sanchez, an English professor and chair of women's studies program at Temple University, won the American Book Award in 1985 for "homegirls and handgrenades."

Local Women's Center Needs More Volunteers

The Chapel Hill Women's Center is recruiting First Response Volunteers to act as a first contact for individuals who call or walk-in to the center.

Volunteers will be offering information, referral and support to individuals and must be able to give at least three hours per week and a six-month commitment.

Training begins in late November and early December. For more information, contact Kim Shumate at 968-4610.

County Dispute Center To Sponsor Workshop

The Orange County Dispute Settlement Center is offering a workshop on "Communication and Conflict Resolution Skills," from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 22.

The workshop will be held at the Homestead Center, located at 600 Homestead Road in Chapel Hill.

This workshop will cover effective communication skills and offer creative ways in solving and learning from conflicts. The fee \$80. Preregistration is required. For registration information, call 929-8800.

Town Seeks Volunteers To Assist Flood Victims

Volunteers are needed to work Saturday in the flood-damaged town of Speed.

To register to volunteer, e-mail the Carolina Center for Public Service at cps@unc.edu or call Rachel Windham at 962-5296.

-From Staff Reports

UNC-TV Officials to Alter Gay Show

By WILL FOUSHEE
Staff Writer

After canceling a documentary aimed at teaching homosexual tolerance in schools, UNC-TV officials said Sunday they would recreate the program to include broader views of acceptance.

Diane Lucas, director of programming for UNC-TV, said the station would create a program that dealt with a definition of tolerance that included more than just homosexuality.

The documentary "It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in School" sparked controversy after it aired on several PBS stations across the country this summer. UNC-TV officials decided to cancel it last week because of its debat-

able content.

The film chronicles children in six classrooms around the country talking about what they thought it meant to be gay and how gays are viewed in society.

Lucas said UNC-TV was concerned about the national controversy and advocacy angle that the documentary took. "As broadcasters we have a responsibility to present a balanced presentation of all controversial issues."

The documentary, written and directed by Oscar-winning documentarian Debra Chasnoff, was canceled after viewers voiced pros and cons and officials had consulted the UNC-TV Viewer Advisory Board. "We received lots of e-mails, phone calls and letters vehemently attacking and defending the documentary," Lucas said.

Political science Professor Pamela Conover said she was disappointed in UNC-TV's decision but was not surprised because of its previous decisions regarding gay issues. "The documentary was more controversial than what the station airs," she said. "They did air feature shows during Gay Pride Week, but they were aired at 11 p.m. at night."

Conover said she applauded any tolerance programming, even broad-based, because it recognized connections between racism, sexism and homophobia. But she said it could not substitute a frank discussion about homosexuality.

"This state is reluctant to discuss issues of sexual orientation," she said.

Maia Kaplan, co-chairwoman of the Queer Network for Change, also said she was disappointed that the documentary

had been canceled. She said there was not enough material addressing the topic of gay bashing and acceptance in school.

"No one dealt with the topic of homosexuality when I was in school," she said. Kaplan said the topic needed to be addressed and felt that hiding the message in a broader documentary about tolerance would harm the message.

"They're trying to avoid controversy by clouding the issue in broader issues of tolerance, such as racial tolerance," she said.

"Chasnoff made the documentary on how to teach students about gay and lesbian tolerance, and a broader form is not what she initially intended."

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

Local Store Robbed at Gunpoint

Local police are faced with solving yet another armed robbery after a masked assailant held up The Pantry.

By JASON OWENS
Assistant City Editor

Chapel Hill police are still searching for a man who escaped with an undisclosed amount of money from a convenience store where he held the clerk up at gunpoint.

The robbery, which is the fifth to occur in the area in the past eight days, took place at The Pantry at 1501 E. Franklin St. around 8:45 a.m. Saturday.

According to police reports, the assailant fled west on foot after taking the money from the store.

The assailant is described as a 6-foot-3-inch black man weighing 220 pounds. He was wearing a plaid shirt, dark jeans, a multicolored knit hat, sunglasses and a white dust mask at the time of the incident.

Police reports state that no one was injured in the robbery.

Chapel Hill police Sgt. Jackie Carden said there was no known connection between the robberies, but investigators were looking into the separate incidents.

"Each individual robbery is assigned to an investigator," she said. "It's going to vary."

"We can't predict when the robberies are going to happen. There's no set pattern."

However, Capt. Tony Oakley said that while investigative reports on the robberies had not been released, he thought the incidents might be related to one another.

"I would speculate there probably is (a connection) to have so many (robberies) so close together," he said. "There is probably something going on there."

Two other armed robberies in Chapel Hill last week occurred at Domino's Pizza, located at 1289 Fordham Blvd., and at Fred's Beds, located at 117 Ram's Plaza.

They both involved multiple assailants with handguns. There were no reported getaway cars for any of the incidents.

Police described an additional two armed robberies that took place in Carrboro on Nov. 2 as unrelated to the incidents in Chapel Hill.

Carden said the rash of armed robberies in the past week was rare in Chapel Hill.

"It's not extremely common that we have three (armed robberies) in a week," she said. "They're fairly random."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

The Total Package
Hooker Selection Committee Reflects on '95 Decision

By JENNIFER HEFFERNAN
Staff Writer

Leaks to the press, withdrawn candidacies and secrecy behind closed doors marked the 14-month search that ultimately selected Michael Hooker as UNC's eighth chancellor.

For more than a year, the committee read 180 résumés and held interviews in the search for former Chancellor Paul Hardin's replacement. Members of the committee — including alumni, faculty, trustees and the student body president — had to select a new chancellor by Hardin's set resignation date of June 30, 1995.

Despite disagreements about the process, committee members still agree five years later that the man they selected was the best candidate for the job.

"As we were making decisions, we were looking for someone who would be the total package," committee member and former Student Body President Calvin Cunningham said.

The Total Package

"Charisma — can you find somebody that has charisma?" said committee member and Walter Spearman Professor of Journalism Chuck Stone

when he was asked to describe the interview process. "Who has a commanding presence? Who resonates authority and likability?"

The committee, at one time 22 members strong, echoed Stone's curiosity with an unceasing supply of questions as they searched for the next chancellor.

Some members of the committee looked for a leader in academia, whose intellectual excellence outshone the competition. Some wanted a chancellor whose concern revolved around the lives of students. Others searched for a strong administrator and gifted fund-raiser who would bring UNC to reign as the country's leading public university.

Factors distinguishing a candidate from the depths of anonymity, such as appointment to a White House commission or distinction as a Rhodes Scholar, carried great importance, Stone said.

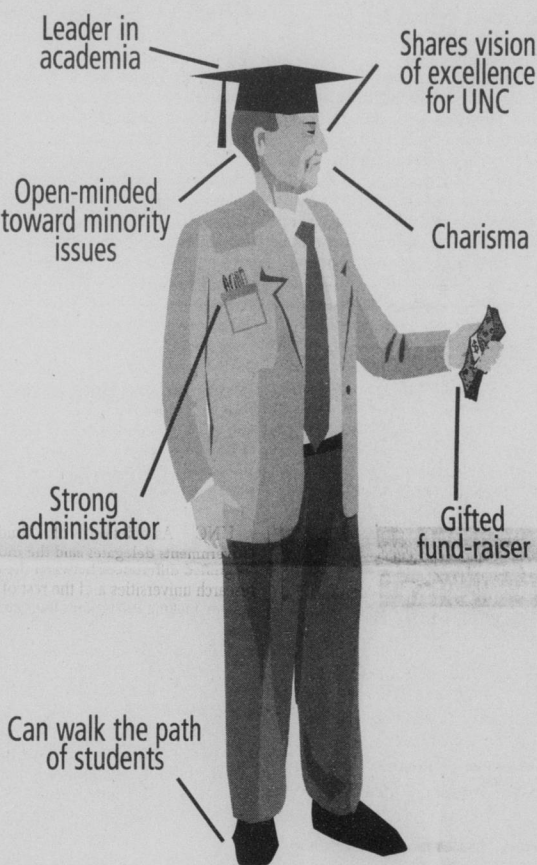
"You can quantify intellectual excellence," Stone said. "If you've got a (leader) who, half the faculty feel they're smarter than he is, you've got a problem," he said.

Academic excellence, administrative capabilities and active service factored into his decisions, Stone said.

In addition to those criteria, committee member and current Board of Trustees member Cressie Thigpen said he explored the vision candidates had for UNC.

The board's vision was to make UNC into one of the nation's best

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The Search



Is On

Part four of a series on UNC's search for its next chancellor

Student Dancer Takes Stage RSVVP Set to Benefit Area Shelter Tuesday

By ROBIN CLEWOW
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Sofia Vallila was squatting mid-stretch in the back of the dimly lit Union Cabaret late one September night when one of the Pauper Players' audition staff members tapped her on the shoulder.

"You're up next," she said.

Vallila looked up daunted. Still squatting, she turned her stare to the scuffed floor of the stage, then up to the girl who was singing scales for the judges. Her face got suddenly pale, and she let out a nervous laugh.

"Me?" she asked. "Sing?"

Two hours earlier Vallila had decided not to show up for her audition for Pauper Players' fall show "Pippin" when her phone rang.

It was David Lorenc, a Players regular, who will play Pippin in the show that opens Friday. He knew Vallila through her older sister, a senior at UNC, and convinced the young dancer to give it a try. He failed to mention she would have to do more than show off her 11 years of dance training.

"I didn't know I was going to have sing," she said, laughing at the surprise weeks later. "I specifically told them I just wanted to do a dance audition."

But on the prompt from the audition staff, the freshman slowly rose from her squat, swallowed her nerves and took the stage. "I haven't sung since I was 10," she told the judges, timidly smiling.

After a bit of coaxing from the judges, Vallila began singing scales in a



Freshman Sofia Vallila, a player in the upcoming show "Pippin," draws her sword during a rehearsal Sunday night in the Union Cabaret.

shaky but surprisingly in-tune voice. She stumbled through "My Country 'Tis of Thee" with lots of "la-las" thrown in for lyrics as an impromptu audition piece.

As for the monologue — another unexpected element of tryouts — Vallila shocked the room by offhandedly reciting the opening to "Canterbury Tales." And she did it in Old English.

"We had to learn it in high school," she said. "I thought it was a neat thing to know, so sometimes I recite it for friends just joking around."

She said she never thought such random knowledge would pay off, but the next week her name was on the posted cast list. Sophia Vallila — Player.

It was one of the dancing parts, and perhaps it was her energetic, skilled movement that won her the part rather than her knowledge of Old English.

But her poise on stage when the music was turned off proved she could

be more than silent grace.

Vallila has always been somewhat of a natural actress. "My mom's always wanted me to get into drama," she said. "I used to tell stories at the dinner table and do voices at home."

That humor and confidence rings in her laugh when she talks about her first acting experience. It's not hard to picture the bright-eyed, smiling dancer as Alice in Wonderland. "In third grade I was quite the actress," she said, joking.

"Since then my career has gone downhill a little. It's been on the back burner for, oh, about 10 years."

Meanwhile, Vallila became a dancer. She started training at 7, taking lessons at Lehmen Studios, Raleigh's first professional dance company.

"I started out taking ballet, and I kept taking more and more," she said.

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By SARAH BRIER
Staff Writer

Residents who decide to dine out Tuesday will find that 10 percent of their bill is going to help the local homeless shelter.

The Restaurants Sharing V(5) plus V(5) Percent eat-out will take place Tuesday. For breakfast, lunch or dinner people can eat at a participating restaurant and 10 percent of the tab will be donated to hunger relief programs throughout the Triangle.

Irene Briggaman, RSVVP chairwoman for 11 years, piloted the program in Chapel Hill in 1989.

"In the fall of 1989, I did it in Chapel Hill alone because I was ready and had sponsors," said Briggaman, recipient of an Orange County Governor's Award with RSVVP as the focus.

Now in its 10th year, the restaurant participation has risen from 42 in 1989 to 99 this year. About 12 local restaurants have participated every year.

Obtaining support from downtown restaurants does not usually present a challenge.

"Downtown has been good — there aren't too many restaurants not on the list," Briggaman said.

Various restaurants, however, chose not to participate in the fund-raiser.

"A couple of restaurants turned us down, and I was very disappointed," she said. "Local managers want to do it but district managers don't want to — like Starbucks Coffee, BW-3 and Wicked Burrito. I thought I'd get over 100 restaurants, and I was surprised when (Michael Jordan's restaurant) turned us down."

Peter Grills, manager of 23, Jordan's restaurant, said he did not recall being

approached by RSVVP to participate.

"It was probably because we were new," he said.

However, he has organized other charity events for the restaurant.

"What we did for the first week of opening was we donated 23 percent of initial revenue to flood victims," Grills said. "As different events come up, we will look at them individually."

"There is a certain amount of events we limit ourselves to."

When asked what these limits were, Grills said it was company policy to not release financial information during the first year.

Despite not receiving support from some restaurants, Briggaman said she expected the effort to be successful.

"My goal is to beat \$20,000, but we're in a position where we are about to peak out," she said.

Each chairman works independently and keeps the money they raise for their area. Last year Durham and Raleigh raised around \$7,500 each. Durham's proceeds go to St. Phillips Community Kitchen, and Raleigh donates its money to the Food Bank.

"Chapel Hill typically raises more (money than Raleigh and Durham)," Briggaman said. "We try not to be too proud about it. We do so well — the fantastic support comes from everywhere."

Getting support for the program is not always easy. Some people do not want their money going to people on the street. "We do what we think is right through the criticisms and bad press we get sometimes," Briggaman said. "We make sure the businesses know the money is for hunger relief programs. It makes a difference to downtown busi-

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