



POLICE ROUNDUP

University

Sunday, Feb. 13

■ A 1999 Nissan Altima crashed into a stone wall on Pittsboro Road, according to police reports.

The driver said she was traveling at 45 mph in a 25 mph zone when a car cut her off. She panicked and swerved to the left, reports state.

The vehicle ran off the road and continued 35 feet onto the sidewalk before hitting a stone wall.

The police found the damaged car abandoned with the driver and passenger side airbags deployed.

The driver told police that she left the accident scene and went to Kingswood Apartments on N.C. 54 to use the phone.

Reports state damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$3,000, and damage to the wall was an estimated \$750.

There were no reported injuries, reports state.

Saturday, Feb. 12

■ A UNC student reported that her wallet was stolen at the Smith Center during the UNC-Wake Forest basketball game.

The student left her wallet unattended in Section 111 and noticed the wallet was missing when she returned to her seat.

According to police reports, three credit cards, a UNC ONE Card, a key chain and \$45 in cash were in the wallet.

Friday, Feb. 11

■ An undetermined amount of cash was stolen from a Taylor Hall vending machine, police reports said. The estimated damage to the machine was \$200.

Thursday, Feb. 10

■ A UNC student reported that she lost her wallet and keys at the Chase Hall bus stop at 12:45 p.m.

An anonymous woman called her later that evening and made arrangements to return the wallet and keys but was not heard from again, police reports state.

The student said she believed that the call was made at the South Campus Mini Mart because the store number was displayed on her caller ID machine on Thursday afternoon.

She said the call from the Mini Mart might have been made by her roommate and not the anonymous woman, reports state.

Police have advised the victim to have her locks changed or rekeyed for her own protection.

City

Saturday, Feb. 12

■ Chapel Hill police officers arrested a man on fugitive charges after pulling him over for speeding at the corner of Airport Road and Estes Drive.

They then discovered he was wanted for drug smuggling in another state.

Ruiz Milagros of 2833 N.C. 87 South in Graham was taken to into custody after police served fugitive warrants on him.

The warrants were served for incident that took place in New York.

Reports stated that Milagros was wanted for bringing marijuana into the country from Jamaica.

He is being held in Orange County Jail in Hillsborough, pending extradition.

■ Carrboro police arrested a man after charging him with assault on a female.

Ronald James Holland, 36, of 101 Wesley St., was arrested around 2:40 p.m. after police received a phone call regarding the assault, police reports state.

A juvenile made the call and told police that Holland was attacking his mother.

Reports state that Holland hit the woman, and that she retaliated by biting and scratching Holland's hand.

When police went to the scene, Holland's shirt was ripped. Holland said the woman chased him with a knife. The woman was not charged in the incident.

Friday, Feb. 11

■ Thousands of dollars worth of stereo and communication equipment were stolen from two cars at 1009 S. Columbia St. around 2:30 p.m.

The first car, a Hyundai Scoupe, was missing a set of Boston speakers, a Kenwood stereo and a Motorola cellular phone.

The total value of the items missing from the Scoupe was \$650.

The second car, a Toyota Celica, was missing a set of Pioneer speakers, a Kicker subwoofer, a Sony compact disc player, a TXM crossover, a JVC amplifier and a radar detector.

The total value of the items missing from the Celica was \$1,470.

Windows were broken out of both of the cars. No arrests have been made in either break-in.

NCCBI to Examine System's Capital Plan

By JONATHAN MOSELEY
Staff Writer

In an effort to ensure sound fiscal policy, the Board of Governors recently voted to comply with UNC-system President Molly Broad's recommendation to delay action on a proposed \$275 capital fee.

In a last-minute move, Broad recommended Thursday that the board put off considering the fee so that members would have time to collaborate with the N.C. Citizens for Business and Industry, a business lobbyist group.

Broad originally proposed the capital fee in January as part of her budget recommendation to the BOG.

The fee, which was slated to go before the BOG's budget and finance committee last week, would have applied all UNC-system students and would be used to pay for capital improvements on each of the 16 campuses.

"(The BOG and the NCCBI) decided that they would just put off the decision rather than try to throw everything suddenly into concrete," said Phil Phillips, chairman of the NCCBI.

The two groups routinely cooperate on educational issues.

Phillips said they planned to use the time generated by the delay to work toward solutions to the BOG's capital funding shortage.

"The NCCBI shares (the BOG's) commitment to assisting university and community colleges," said Brad Wilson, chairman of the BOG Budget and Finance Committee.

"They have important information for the board to consider before addressing the capital facilities fee."

The capital fee was one aspect of

Broad's plan that received considerable opposition from some board members.

The BOG chose to work with the NCCBI as a way to buy time, expert advice and legislative support, Phillips said. "The business community is very strong in North Carolina, so the NCCBI will be a strong voice in the legislature."

Phillips said officials might eventually return to the idea of a capital fee, or they might ask the N.C. General Assembly to cover the funds independently, either with or without a public referendum.

"We need a plan that realistically

meets our needs and that the legislature can embrace," Phillips said.

He also said the NCCBI's support of education was an attempt to invest in the future of North Carolina.

BOG members said they were hopeful the NCCBI would be a defining factor in raising necessary capital funds, said BOG Chairman Ben Ruffin.

"The NCCBI has always been interested in making sure we get the money that we need."

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

Marchers Send Gifts In Sanctions Protest

SURGE activists say U.N. sanctions on Iraq prevent them from sending supplies directly to the country.

By ANYONAM KPEGLIO
Staff Writer

Waving an American flag, a procession of protesters marched Monday bearing love gifts for Iraqi children, demanding a lift of U.N. economic sanctions on Iraq.

Nine student activists carrying "Valentine's Day Love Packages" for Iraqi children led the way from the Pit to the Franklin Street post office in a protest organized by Students United for a Responsible Global Environment. This is the second year that the protest has been held on Valentine's Day.

Harry Halpin, one of SURGE's coordinators, said the packages consisted of needed clothing, medical and school supplies. But since the sanctions prohibit packages weighing more than 12 ounces from entering Iraq, he said the packages would be re-addressed and sent to politicians. "Since our packages cannot be directly sent to Iraq, we will send them to several political leaders on the state and national level," he said. "This will demonstrate that we, the American people, are not totally apathetic to our government's murderous foreign policy."

Stanley Richards, a member of SURGE, said regardless of the size of the march, he hoped the effort to send care packages to Iraq would make an impact on legislators' stand regarding the sanctions.

"Hopefully the president and representatives will see the packages as a wake-up call," he said. "It should not be a war against the children."

Jamie McGarty, a freshman from Charlotte, said he was passionate about the effort to send supplies to Iraqi children. "(The sanctions) are only hurting Iraqi citizens," he said. "Children are dying because they lack medicine, clothes and basic supplies."

Rania Masri, Iraq Action Coalition coordinator, made a plea to the small crowd from steps of the post office to lift the economic sanctions. She said she was disappointed that Rep. David Price, D-N.C., and Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-N.C., continued to support the economic sanctions against Iraq.

"Any U.S. administrator who would knowingly destroy a nation in the name of human rights is engaging in a hypocrisy," she said. "The media only mentions Saddam Hussein in an effort to convince many Americans that Iraq is a threat. However, U.S. weapons inspectors do not agree."

However, senior Ramzi Dabbagh, whose mother is from Iraq, said he did

See SURGE, Page 9



Rania Masri, coordinator of the Iraq Action Coalition, speaks at the Franklin Street post office. Students from SURGE marched from the Pit with boxes to mail to lawmakers in protest of U.N. sanctions on Iraq.

Teachers Deny Grade Inflation

Professor Darryl Gless says his class grade distribution has remained consistent for the last several years.

By WILL FOUSHEE
Staff Writer

Faculty members have shown little concern over a report demonstrating grade inflation, claiming higher grade point averages are indicative of increasing student quality at UNC.

The Educational Policy Committee released a report Feb. 2 that stated As and Bs accounted for 77.2 percent of all letter grades awarded to UNC students in spring 1999, compared to 66.4 percent in spring 1987.

The committee deals with educational policies and their implementation.

Economics Professor John Akin said his grade distribution had not drastically changed over the years.

"I'm not teaching many undergrad classes, mostly majors in this field," he said.

"It's a complex question worth studying, but there is no simple answer."

Chemistry Professor Don Jicha said his students' grades had not changed in more than 10 years. "I check the grade distribution and GPA of all my classes

every year," he said. "There are slight changes depending in the quality of students in the class."

Jicha said grade inflation did exist at UNC, but that it did not happen in his class.

"The quality of education in the chemistry department is the same as 10 years ago," he said. "The number of bright students have increased and they are better prepared."

Darryl Gless, professor of English and associate dean of humanities, said he had not made any changes in the grading patterns of his classes and the distributions had been the same since 1980.

"I have always gotten really good students at Carolina," he said.

Gless, who teaches an upper-level Shakespeare course, said he was positive that the quality of students at UNC had continuously improved.

The report also stated that UNC's grade inflation was part of a national trend affecting such prominent universities as Harvard and Princeton.

Professors are not sure how to approach the problem of grade inflation. Despite several proposed solutions, professors remain split about the best method of addressing the problem.

Several professors had mixed responses to grading on an adjusted scale to reflect students' true aptitude.

Jicha said he was not opposed to an adjustment in the grading scale, but he did not want an artificial standard.

"If it's apparent that you can't make a distribution between outstanding, average, and below-average students, then the scale should be adjusted."

Akin said it was unfair to augment the system and upset the standard grading scale among major universities.

He said this could impair UNC students when they were competing with other students for graduate schools and jobs.

Gless said he was against an adjusted grading scale at the University because it was far too mechanical.

"If students are worried about their GPAs and how the quality of a Carolina education stacks up against other universities, then the University should mention what the average GPA is on the transcript."

Gless said UNC students already compared to the best students at other prestigious institutions nationwide.

"I had a girl who wrote her graduate dissertation under me and is now working at Yale," he said.

"She said, 'The best students at Carolina are as good as the best students at Yale.'"

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

Homeless Candidate Faces Investigation

Attorney and former UNC student Jack Daly has filed papers and the filing fee for a state auditor candidate.

By TRICIA BARRIOS
Staff Writer

A preliminary court hearing held today will determine whether the political candidacy of a homeless man will be further investigated.

Kenneth Ray Campbell, a 50-year-old homeless ex-convict in the race for state auditor, is facing opposition from Democratic Party officials who question whether the address listed on Campbell's filing papers is legitimate.

Nate Pendley, a Guilford County lawyer and the Republican Party district chairman, said the charges were concocted by the Democratic Party.

"Politics is a blood sport. If I were a Democrat, and I thought my eight-time incumbent would have trouble beating this homeless man, I would go down there and trump up charges, too."

Pendley said Campbell's opponent, incumbent Ralph Campbell, had misused campaign funds.

He said he and GOP candidate Jack Daly plan to file a suit against Ralph Campbell later this week for alleged misuse of state funds. Daly said earlier that he had planned to file Monday. "Kenneth Campbell has never stolen a dime in his life," he said. "Ralph took nearly \$100,000 in campaign contributions without reporting the addresses of the givers or what they do."

But Zee Lamb, general counsel for the State Board of Elections, said the challenge was based on the fact that, since Campbell has never resided at the listed address, he should not be registered there. "He could use the homeless shelter," Lamb said. "That would have been a more appropriate address."

Lamb said candidates did not have to have an address, but they could not give a false one. "He claims that's where he gets his papers," he said. "But North Carolina law says you have to reside at a location and intend to make it your permanent address."

Guilford County elections Director George Gilbert said questions arose because of the circumstances surrounding Campbell's entrance into the race.

Daly, a Charlotte lawyer and

See CANDIDATE, Page 9



Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., shakes hands with Dean Smith after they announce the proposal of a new bill against gambling on college sports.

Smith, Edwards: Ban College Betting

Dean Smith says he is in full support of N.C. Sen. John Edwards' proposal to end all gambling on college sports.

By ALEX KAPLAN
Staff Writer

Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., and former UNC men's basketball coach Dean Smith joined forces Monday to battle for the prohibition of organized gambling on college athletics.

At a press conference in a corner of the Smith Center floor, Edwards announced he would introduce legislation to the U.S. Senate that would prohibit gambling on all high school, college and Olympic athletic events.

Edwards said the bill was necessary

because the image of college athletics had been stained by betting scandals.

Although Smith said he had no further plans to actively speak on the gambling issue, he attended the press conference in support of Edwards' efforts.

But the coach ended up with more attention than the crusading senator.

As the press conference ended, significantly more reporters approached Smith than Edwards. Smith stayed on the floor long after the conference ended to answer questions and chat.

Despite the attention given to Smith, Edwards continued to push his agenda.

He said that in the 1990s, several athletic point-shaving scandals were discovered at universities, including Northwestern University, Boston College and Arizona State University.

He said these incidents hurt the public's perception of college athletics and

called for change. "Some of the purity has unfortunately been lost in college athletics because of gambling and the influence of gambling," Edwards said.

He said the main goal of this bill was to stop big money gambling on college sports, specifically in Nevada casinos.

Last year, Nevada's gambling industry raked in about \$2.3 billion in sports bets, 30 percent to 40 percent of which were on college athletics, according to Edwards' press release.

But Edwards said that while the Nevada gambling establishments would accept bets on almost any college team in the country, they would not accept bets on local schools such as the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

He said the establishments' decision not to bet on local college sports showed

See BETTING, Page 9