

Ala. Officials: Reduce Death Row Appeals

By TAENA KIM AND KIMBERLY GRABNER
Staff Writers

To shorten the time served on death row before execution, Alabama state officials recently announced a plan to eliminate the Alabama Supreme Court's automatic appeals process.

But the proposal has elicited mixed responses from those on both sides of the death penalty debate.

In a March 22 press release, Alabama Gov. Don Siegelman also proposed to limit the objections raised during appeals and to remove the court's ability to extend deadlines and page limits when reviewing a death-row inmate's appeal.

"As I have said before, justice delayed is justice denied," Siegelman stated in the press release.

The appeals process currently goes through two levels of review, the intermediate and Supreme Court levels, said Clay Crenshaw, Alabama assistant state attorney general.

The proposal would eliminate automatic review and allow the state Supreme Court to decide directly whether the case should be reviewed.

"We have two courts doing the same thing," Crenshaw said.

The governor also stated in the press release that speeding up the appeals process would help eliminate cases where an appeal served simply to postpone punishment.

"We have executed people who lived on death row longer than their victims' entire lives," Siegelman stated in the press release.

"This is not the justice that the people of Alabama expect and deserve."

But individuals fighting against the death penalty planned to oppose the governor's proposal.

Anne James, program consultant for Amnesty International, said the organization was against the proposal to speed up the process.

Eighty-seven men were acquitted because of the process, and therefore it should be upheld, James said.

"Everyone is entitled to thorough review, especially when their life is at stake," she said.

James said members of Amnesty International in the southern United States were alerted to the proposal and were prepared to become active in fighting it.

"We will try to make everyone aware that it is not okay," she said.

The Alabama proposal also bothered at least one UNC student activist.

Brock Towler, a freshman from Charlotte and a member of the Campaign to End the Death Penalty, said Alabama was stepping in the wrong direction.

"Just because there hasn't been a large number of cases overturned, there have been cases overturned," he said.

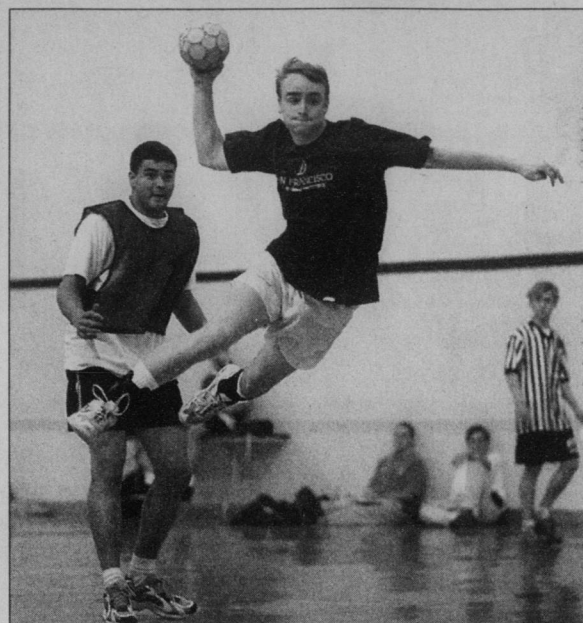
Towler said the governor and attorney general of Alabama were more concerned with statistics than death-row inmates.

"This is human life we are talking about," he said.

By taking the Alabama Supreme Court out of the appeals process, Towler said, important facts could slip through the cracks. "That's how innocent men get killed - when things are missed."

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

HANDY MAN



DTH/JEFF POULAND

Dental student Andy Geer fires a shot during the first half of an intramural handball game Thursday night in Fetzer Gym. His team, "Daddy's Boys," won the match 20-13 over "Wuz Up."

Students, Deans Focus on Sex in Roundtable Talks

Whitehead and Carmichael residence halls sponsored a dinner discussion focusing on opinions on sex at UNC.

By DENISE SCOTT
Staff Writer

A group of students took part in a frank discussion about sex and stereotypes on Thursday night at a program sponsored by the staff of Whitehead and Carmichael Residence Halls.

Entitled "Let's Talk About Sex: A Dinner Discussion About the Sexual Climate at Carolina," the evening allowed students and administrators to talk about sex in an intimate setting.

Jennifer McLamb, area director for Whitehead and Carmichael Residence Halls, welcomed the students for what she said she hoped would be an informative program.

The students sat at tables of 12 and discussed sexuality on television, gender roles, sex education and many other sex issues affecting students on this campus.

Dean Blackburn, coordinator of

Substance Abuse Services at Student Health Service, led an open discussion among 11 UNC students, seeking student opinion about sex.

Dean of Students Melissa Exum, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services Dean Bresciani, and Henderson Residence College Area Director Robin Broadnax facilitated discussions at other tables.

The students, who wished not to be identified in The Daily Tar Heel, agreed that sex was rarely discussed in open and honest terms.

"Society makes it hard to be open about sex," said one student. "People are interested in sex, but we are not socially educated to talk about it."

Most participants felt that the lack of sex education in schools and in the home was sending kids out into the world without the proper preparation.

"How many dangerous things are young people involved in because they are uneducated about sex?" wondered one student. "How many people are sexually active and not sexually informed?"

The program also highlighted the acceptability of homosexuality on cam-

pus, specifically stereotypes about gays and lesbians. "Just because a person acts a certain way, that does not determine their sexuality," said one student.

Blackburn suggested that fear of homosexuality may sometimes be a result of an individual's confusion with his own sexuality, citing themes in the Academy Award-winning film "American Beauty." While speaking about the sexual atmosphere at UNC, Blackburn challenged the students to define the term "hooking up."

The students laughed and agreed that everyone has a different definition of hooking up. At UNC, there is no one standard meaning.

Blackburn ended the discussion asking what role the threat of sexual harassment plays in the taboo of talking about sex. All of the students agreed that people should be able to talk more openly about sex.

One student summed up the evening saying, "You have to know who it is appropriate to talk about sex with and when it is appropriate."

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

Campus Calendar

Today

7 p.m. - Karen Mulder, art professor at Union University, will present "An Address to the Church at Large" at the Chapel Hill Bible Church.

The speech kicks off "In Whose Image Is Art Made," a visual survey of contemporary art by Christians.

The event is free and open to the public.

Saturday

9 a.m. - Join Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and run for research funding in the Tar Heel Trot 5K, which starts and ends at the Old Well. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and costs \$10, which includes a T-shirt. Funds will go to breast cancer research.

The public is welcome.

6 p.m. - Ebony Readers/Onyx Theatre, a subgroup of the Black Student Movement, is proud to present George C. Wolfe's "The Colored Museum," an African-American play.

Please join the troupe at 6 p.m. April 1 and at 7 p.m. April 2 in the Union Cabaret.

Tickets are on sale in the Pit and at the door the nights of the show.

The public is invited.

7 p.m. - Join Sangam for its annual extravaganza of fun, food and celebration.

The Annual Sangam Nite will be held in Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$11 and are available at the door.

7 p.m. - Professor Karen Mulder will present "An Address to Artists and Friends of the Arts" at the Chapel Hill Bible Church on Mason Farm Road.

The event is free, and the public is invited.

Have You Heard the News?
The Second Biennial George Moses Horton Society
"Exploring Community and Culture in African American Poetry"
Starts this Friday at 7:00 p.m. with Keynote Speaker and Award-Winning Poet
Nikki Giovanni
(with an introduction by Houston Baker, Jr.)
ADMISSION FREE
Conference panels all day Saturday, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding with a Poetry Reading that night from 8-10 p.m.
So Check It Out!
(It will impress your friends, and give you something to do this weekend.)
All events held in the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building, 301 Pittsboro St.
For more information, contact Ms. Fiona Mills at fmills@email.unc.edu

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"EXPOSURE 2000"
Saturday, April 8, 4pm-12am
at Pantana Bob's
Featuring **Sankofa, Hobex, Emma Gibbs, and The Nomads**
Tickets \$10 in the Pit -18 and over admitted
sponsored by Delta Sigma Phi & Sigma Sigma Sigma

HE'S NOT HERE
on the Village Green
2 Big Screen TVs outside for UNC vs. Florida
Now accepting applications for all positions
TUESDAYS: BLUE CUP SPECIAL \$3 All Beer • SUNDAYS: KARAOKE NIGHT

SPORTS SHORTS
This Weekend at Carolina...
FRIDAY, MARCH 31
UNC Baseball vs. Clemson
7:00 pm at Boshamer Stadium
SATURDAY, APRIL 1
Women's Crew
8:00 am at Lake Wheeler in Raleigh
Women's Tennis vs. Indiana
Noon at the Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center
Men's Tennis vs. VCU
1:00 pm at the Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center
UNC Baseball vs. Clemson
2:00 pm at Boshamer Stadium
SUNDAY, APRIL 2
Women's Lacrosse vs. Virginia Tech
1:00 pm at Fetzer Field
UNC Baseball vs. NCSU
1:30 pm at Boshamer Stadium
COME CHEER ON THE HEELS!
Hardee's Students & Faculty Admitted FREE w/ID!

NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER NIGHTLY SPECIALS
30% off Meal with Student ID (Good for April only)
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Try our Naturally Flavored Tropical Margaritas \$3.95
Mango, Guava, Tangerine & Passion Fruit
Mon-Fri Lunch 11:00-2:30
Mon-Thurs Dinner 5:00-9:30
Fri & Sat 5:00-10:30
Closed Sunday
Lunch: Patacon con fideo \$3.95, Burrito \$1.95, Two Enchiladas \$1.95
Dinner: Empanadas \$4.95, Shrimp Campeche \$14.95
Make your own nachos!
\$ Much More Available

WOMEN IN SPORTS 2000
SPRING TOUR
NORTH CAROLINA WOMEN'S TENNIS vs. INDIANA
Saturday, April 1 @ Noon
Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center
(off 54, past the Friday Center)
Free Admission, Free T-Shirts, and Free Food!!
Other Upcoming Women in Sports Tour 2000 Events:
Saturday, April 22 - UNC Softball @ 4 pm
COME CHEER ON THE HEELS!