

A Year of Anti-Sweatshop Controversy

Student protesters and a UNC advisory committee have spent the past year butting heads on labor code issues.

April 20-23, 1999: Students stage a sit-in at South Building to force the University to adopt their requests.

April 22, 1999: The Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee presents a new draft of recommendations incorporating student demands.

April 23, 1999: Interim Chancellor Bill McCoy endorses protesters' demands.

May 1999: The University joins the Fair Labor Association.

Aug. 15, 1999: Deadline for the CLC to notify all of UNC's licensees that they must implement the Code of Conduct.

Sept. 7, 1999: Members of Students for Economic Justice send McCoy a letter demanding he set March 31 as a firm deadline for full disclosure.

Sept. 24, 1999: Collegiate Licensing Co. CEO Bill Battle urges the advisory committee to focus on advancing the sweatshop movement.

SOURCE: DTH ARCHIVES

Sept. 29, 1999: McCoy sets March 31, 2000, as a firm deadline, rather than as a target date for full disclosure.

Nov. 3, 1999: UNC and four other colleges officially announce the pilot program to bring licensees into compliance with the code.

December 1999: McCoy, with committee recommendations, moves the full disclosure deadline to Jan. 1, 2000.

Feb. 25, 2000: SEJ leads an upbeat protest titled "I'd rather go naked than wear sweatshop clothes."

March 3, 2000: SEJ leads a march from the Pit to South Building in further opposition to the FLA.

March 29, 2000: Junior Todd Pugatch asks for an investigation of a UNC licensee that allegedly committed labor rights abuses.

March 3, 2000: McCoy agrees to join the Worker Rights Consortium and sign on to the FLA for another year.

LABOR

From Page 1

to move the date up to Jan. 1, joining more than 45 universities.

To date, about 98 percent of factories that produce UNC apparel have revealed their whereabouts, Tufts said.

At the onset of the new year, students continued to keep the FLA-WRC issue fresh in people's minds.

In late February, SEJ members staged an "I'd rather go naked than wear sweatshop clothes" protest denouncing the FLA in speeches, song and games.

The next week, they marched from the Pit to South Building singing sweatshop chants in opposition of the FLA.

Again, despite a minor defeat, the students' efforts paid off. McCoy agreed to

join the WRC but also signed on to the FLA for another year.

The advisory committee was forced to deal with sweatshop abuses when junior Todd Pugatch filed a complaint about possible sweatshop abuses at a UNC licensee's Mexican factory.

"I think it showed that sweatshops are real, that we're not just talking about hypothetical labor violations," he said.

The committee agreed to write a letter to the company asking it to investigate the plant and remediate any violations it found, Tufts said.

Although student protesters and committee members continue to disagree, both labor organizations are still in the development stages.

The WRC sponsored its founding conference April 7 while the FLA recently published its accreditation stan-

dards for independent monitors.

Many tasks lie ahead for student protesters and the advisory committee as many believe the fight to eradicate sweatshops will prove to be a long, complicated process.

"I think the issue of having fair working conditions for employees around the globe is an important standard," McCoy said. "The real trick comes in achieving that in a way to help the workers so we don't inadvertently put them out of a job."

Waszak said she wanted to see the anti-sweatshop movement grow.

"I hope to see the movement and other social justice movements that involve students expand so students can see the power that they really have."

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

FIRE

From Page 1

because he remained coolheaded and rational even though he was as devastated as everyone else.

"It's not that I'm a person who's a leader or takes charge, but in a situation like this, I'm strong," he said. "But I was damn scared also."

"I don't wanna come across like no damn hero."

The fire broke out on a second-floor balcony, burning the railing posts down to a row of fang-like stubs.

Deputy Fire Chief Caprice Mellon said officials had not determined the cause of the fire but that investigations were still ongoing.

Dan Jones, chief of the Chapel Hill Fire Department, said firefighters were able to contain the fire in 50 minutes.

"They did an excellent job, but we had a little luck on our side," Jones said. "We had a double shift respond to the fire, so we had twice as many fire fighters respond to the fire as we normally would have."

"Had the fire not occurred at a shift change, we still would have gotten the occupants out, but there would've been more damage to the building."

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

ECU

From Page 1

Thompson said that while there was a good possibility that the neighborhood would be annexed, any expansion plans were still in the early stages of development.

He said university officials were currently pulling ideas from many different proposals.

Judith Pulley, UNC-system president for planning, said town reaction to university growth varied across the system, but there usually was some opposition to university expansion.

"Anything you have expansion, some residents are going to be opposed to it," Pulley said.

She said the Board of Governors collaborated with each university to determine how much it would grow and how much funding it would need.

"We work with institutions to determine who will grow, how much will they grow and what they need to grow," Pulley said.

But she said ultimately each university decided for itself how much it would expand. "It is part of the institution's decision-making to decide where it will grow."

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GROWTH

From Page 1

working relationship of town officials and student advocates, saying the town welcomed the students in the area.

"I think it's generally positive," he said. "I think most people are very happy with the University."

Foy also emphasized that it was important for the town to remain in tune with the increasing enrollment of the University.

"It obviously means an increase in demands on town services," he said. "We have to be aware of the University's plans and work with concerns."

Sara Waters, a junior from Hendersonville who lives on Caldwell Street, said students living near her took the proper measures to ensure that they would not upset the neighbors.

"We have a band that lives behind us," she said. "They get noise (permits). They stop at 12:30 (a.m.) because they have to."

Holly Bagwell, a junior from High Point who lives on Jones Street, echoed Waters' sentiments.

"When our (student) neighbors have parties and stuff they call the cops," she said. "(But) for the most part they like us."

Julia Brooks, resident manager of Town House Apartments, at 425 Hillsborough St., a complex that rents to students, said she had not had problems between students and residents.

Town resident Glen Roberts of 205 Hargraves St., who has lived in Chapel Hill all his life, said he enjoyed living near students.

"So far, it's been good."

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



Top Stories From the State, Nation and World IN THE NEWS

Atlantis Crew Prepares For Florida Takeoff

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The eight-minute climb to orbit will be as tense and dangerous as always. But this time, the seven astronauts aboard space shuttle Atlantis have a technological edge.

After nearly 100 launches and 20 years, the cockpit's outdated mechanical gauges and four monochromatic screens are gone, replaced by 11 color screens and attention-grabbing images.

In a launch emergency where every millisecond counts, the new cockpit could mean the difference between life and death, says Andrew Allen, a former astronaut who works for shuttle contractor United Space Alliance.

"Any time you can provide a crew with more data, the right data at the right time, they can make better decisions," said NASA launch director Dave King.

Emergency Tapes Yield Clues in Train Death

SINKING SPRING, Pa. — Friends and family say the final terrifying

moments of Candace Wertz's life followed five years of abuse from the boyfriend suspected of using his car to push hers in front of a freight train.

"It's so horrible that no one was able to get to her in time to help," said Tammy Wertz, Candace Wertz's sister-in-law. "But something should have been done about this guy a long time ago. ... She tried to get away from him and she just couldn't."

On Saturday, several sources revealed the contents of Wertz's frantic 911 call made before she was struck by the train Thursday night.

Driving her car at high speeds through a residential neighborhood, Wertz grabbed her cell phone and desperately told a 911 operator to send police because her ex-boyfriend was chasing her.

With the shrieking of tires coming to a halt in the background, Wertz told the operator that she had a protective order against the man pursuing her, but that it had expired.

Pilgrimage Deaths Rip Through Community

CHIMAYO, N.M. — During Christianity's holiest week, this small rural community is struggling to come to grips with the deaths of two teenagers killed while making a traditional Easter pilgrimage.

Richard Martinez and high school sweetheart Karen Castanon were among thousands of pilgrims making the spiritual trek to the Santuario de Chimayo when they were shot to death. They were both 17.

The killer "needs to know that they were doing God's will," said Lynette Duran, a classmate and friend of Castanon. "I hope he can find compassion and give himself up."

Martinez's body was found before dawn on a highway about 30 miles north of Santa Fe. Hours later, Castanon's body was found nearby in a

remote, hilly area. "I feel it's a terrible thing, the way it happened," said Clotilde Castanon, Castanon's grandmother. "They were wonderful kids. We loved her very much."

On Saturday, investigators continued combing the crime scenes, looking for evidence and suspects. About 15 miles away, an entourage of pilgrims of all ages flowed into the Santuario, a small Roman Catholic church believed to contain healing dirt.

An ensemble of brightly adorned and feathered musicians replete with conch shells, drums and flutes, danced and chanted around a church altar.

"I prayed to the children that God called home," said Lorraine Urioste of Santa Fe. "It's a tragedy for two young people to lose their lives like that ... coming to pray."

Police Use Technology To Nab Serial Killer

SPOKANE, Wash. — A special task force spent three long years trying to track a serial killer who preyed on the city's most vulnerable women, its costs ballooning to \$2.2 million as the deaths continued to mount.

Time and money threatened to sidetrack the investigation. In January, budget cuts forced city police to pull all five of their detectives from the task force.

Detectives had samples of the killer's DNA from many of the crime scenes, but no description of a suspect.

Spokane County Sheriff Mark Sterk held an extraordinary public meeting two months ago and asked the public for fresh tips. He even wrote to Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, asking him to donate software to help analyze 10 years of homicide files; according to a sheriff's spokesman, Microsoft said no.

Now, thanks to advances in DNA technology and carpet fibers from a white Corvette, authorities believe they finally have their man.

— Associated Press

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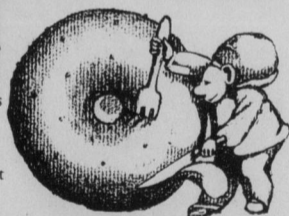
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Please join us for the following activities:

- Reverend Carrie Bolton •
Tuesday, April 25, 7:00pm Gardner Hall
Rev. Bolton will speak about local environmental issues.
- Earth Day Celebration •
Wednesday, April 26, 10:00am-3:00pm Polk Place
The celebration is entitled, "Sustainable College Kids: Things You Can Do Every Day." There will be information about campus and community groups, workshops, crafts, music, food and fun.
- Senator Ellie Kinnaird •
Wednesday, April 26, 2:00pm Polk Place
State Senator Ellie Kinnaird will speak about local and state environmental issues.
- SEAC's 4th Annual Vegetarian Banquet •
Thursday, April 27, 7:30pm Great Hall

