

POLICE ROUNDUP

University

Sunday, Nov. 11

■ Two Craige Residence Hall residents reported at 11:15 a.m. that unknown people drew a swastika and other profane words on message boards, walls and the elevator in that residence hall.

University police do not have any suspects at this time.

■ University police responded to a break-in and entry into Kenan Labs.

An employee said room C741 was broken into between 8 p.m. on Nov. 9 and 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 11, reports state.

A laptop, scanner, zip drive and two chemistry balances were taken from the room.

There are no suspects at this time.

Saturday, Nov. 10

■ A Chapel Hill resident reported that her wallet was stolen between 4:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. at the Smith Center.

She said it could have been stolen while she was walking around outside or while she was watching the game inside, reports state.

There are no suspects at this time.

Friday, Nov. 9

■ A UNC employee reported that between 8 a.m. on Nov. 8 and 7 a.m. on Nov. 9, gym equipment was taken from his locker at Woolen Gym.

There were no signs of forced entry, reports state.

There are no suspects at this time.

City

Sunday, Nov. 11

■ Chapel Hill police arrested Daniel Miller at 3:22 p.m. for forging a prescription.

Reports state that Miller, 23, of 503 Oak Ave., was arrested at 201 S. Estes Drive after attempting to obtain schedule II drugs with a forged prescription.

Miller faces one felony count of forgery for prescription and is scheduled to appear Wednesday in the Orange County District Court in Hillsborough, reports state.

■ Chapel Hill police responded to a damage to property call on Elliot Road at 8:14 p.m.

Reports state that the victim's wheel, which had been tampered with, fell off her vehicle while she was driving.

An unknown individual removed the lug nuts from the wheel, reports state.

The case is under further investigation.

Saturday, Nov. 10

■ Chapel Hill police cited Justin Reed, 21, of 108 Pine St. for public urination at 2:14 a.m.

Reports state that Reed was cited and released after urinating in the parking lot of Pantana Bob's, located at 305 W. Rosemary St.

Reed is scheduled to appear Dec. 18 in the Orange County District Court in Chapel Hill.

Friday, Nov. 9

■ Carrboro police responded to a larceny call at 2:26 p.m.

Reports state that the victim told officials that his vehicle, from which the items were taken, was involved in an accident in Chapel Hill earlier this year.

Reports also state that the victim said his vehicle was located at several different places after the accident, making the location of the larceny unknown.

The total value of the stolen goods was more than \$2,000, reports state.

The case is inactive.

■ Chapel Hill police arrested Lawrence Carpenter, 27, of 610 Knox St. in Durham for possession with the intent to sell and deliver cocaine.

Carpenter faces one felony count of possession with the intent to sell and deliver and one misdemeanor count of resisting arrest, reports state.

Reports state that narcotics investigators arrived on Nunn Lane after receiving information regarding a man selling drugs.

Reports also state that Carpenter attempted to flee from investigators, but was quickly apprehended.

Investigators found nine rocks of crack cocaine.

Reports state that Carpenter was confined to the Orange County Jail on a \$5,000 secured bond.

Carpenter is scheduled to appear Wednesday in the Orange County District Court in Hillsborough.

■ Chapel Hill police responded to a call at the BB&T located at 143 E. Rosemary St. at 2:56 p.m.

Reports state that an unknown subject presented four fraudulent checks for payment.

Reports state that the checks were valued at more than \$2,400.

The case is under further investigation.

Union Construction Delayed 2 More Months

The stairs between Student Stores and the Union have to be destroyed because they were not straight.

By JAMIE DOUGHER
Staff Writer

Officials at the Student Union now foresee that construction of the building's new wing will be completed in mid-February at the earliest – a significant delay from the original schedule.

The project was originally scheduled for completion in June and then was pushed back to December.

The delays in the construction work occurred because the work was not meeting standards set forth by the

University in its agreement with the sub-contractor in charge of construction, said Don Luse, Union director.

Luse said there are many reasons why the construction has been delayed. One example he cited is the construction of a new set of stairs between the Union and Student Stores. The concrete stairs did not meet the necessary specifications because they were not straight, Luse said.

Workers first attempted to fix the problem without having to destroy the previous work, but now the stairs will have to be demolished.

Luse said there also have been problems with the bricks used in constructing the building. "The brick work was not done to satisfaction," he said.

Additionally, workers found more rock underground than the contractor initially anticipated.

For now, space in the Union is limited because Union officials were counting on the extra spaces in the addition, Luse said. Student organizations that have space now are sharing with one another. "We feel like we've been able to provide everybody with adequate, if not equal, space," Luse said.

Organizations that reserved rooms in the Union for spring received an e-mail Friday regarding changes resulting from the problems in which Events Planning Coordinator Ryan Donahoe assured groups that they still have reservations, but they might be moved to a new location.

Upon completion of the construction, the same number of student organizations will be accommodated, Luse said.

The organizations with offices in the

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DTH/JESSICA NEWFIELD
A construction worker at the Student Union sweeps a walkway between the existing building and the new addition.

STRENGTH IN BELIEVING



DTH/JON KIRBY
Swaying to the music, audience members listen to Pastor Shawn Lipscomb of Greater Works Community Church in Durham on Sunday evening. UNC's gospel choir, established for 30 years, accompanied the pastor in the evening's festivities.

Discussion Highlights Rural Poverty in State

A series of speakers addressed UNC Young Democrats about the problem of rural poverty and its effects throughout North Carolina.

By JESSICA SLEEP
Staff Writer

UNC Young Democrats hosted a forum Monday night to inform students about the causes and effects of rural poverty in North Carolina – a problem experts said most people fail to see.

Young Democrats President Chris Brook said the goal of the forum was to educate. "(Our mission was) to get more information out to the campus community about a problem that is simply overlooked."

During the forum, a panel of three experts spoke to the audience of nearly 60 students about their knowledge and experiences with rural poverty, after which the speakers answered audience questions.

The speakers were Andrew Dobelstein, a professor at the School of Social Work; Eric Johnson, a senior and founder of the N.C. Student Ambassadors program, which sends UNC students to rural communities to talk about their college experiences; and Leah Totten, the communications director of MDC, a regional organization that seeks to combat poverty.

Totten spoke about rural poverty and how widespread the problem is in North Carolina. She said one aspect of poverty that is rarely discussed is how it affects children. "One out of every five kids in North Carolina lives in poverty," she said.

The number of North Carolinians living in poverty has increased recently, Totten said, despite the fact that the United States experienced its largest period of economic expansion in the late 1990s. Many factors affect poverty, such as education levels, race, gender and geography, she said.

Totten said people whose education stopped after they received high school diplomas have less

employment opportunities and make less money than people with additional education. "People with high school diplomas make less than they did 20 years ago."

Johnson spoke about education and said the main issues that hinder higher education for rural high school students are cost, admissions requirements and education quality. Johnson said tuition increases are a real threat to students who attend rural high schools. He said many families simply cannot afford the cost of sending their children to college.

Admissions requirements can make it difficult for rural students to be admitted to universities, Johnson said. He said many universities take into consideration the number of advanced placement classes a student has completed when they make admission decisions. But he said many rural high schools offer less AP classes than urban high schools.

Johnson said that often the problem lies with guidance counselors who discourage students from attending four-year colleges and leaving the rural community.

Dobelstein talked about poverty from a policy perspective. He said that as the U.S. economy slows down, poor people will be one of the most affected groups. "The burden will be on low-income people as the economic problem trickles down."

Dobelstein said rural family traditions and an ineffective welfare system can be hindrances to combating poverty. "A lot of families don't have motivation."

He said the best way to combat this lack of motivation is to get more people from outside the community to come in and energize students about education.

Dobelstein said poverty is an especially serious issue because it affects everything that happens in a person's life. "Money in America is the gate to opportunity," he said. "If you're poor in America, you're denied everything."

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Honorary Degrees Mark Achievements

UNC's five annual honorary degree recipients must go through a thorough process to be chosen for the award.

By BROOK CORWIN
Staff Writer

When UNC gave Chilean President Ricardo Lagos Escobar an honorary degree Friday, he joined a lengthy list of individuals who have received "the highest honor UNC can bestow."

Lagos was one of the honorary degree recipients nominated by the Faculty

Council's Honorary Degrees and Special Awards Committee. Five individuals are nominated each year. Members of the seven-person committee say the tradition of awarding honorary degrees, which dates back to 1799, benefits both the University and the degree recipients.

"As the cliché goes, the University does itself honor by honoring these individuals," said Townsend Ludington, an English professor and chairman of the committee. "With a distinguished University such as ours, I would also think the degree is a very prestigious honor for the people who receive these awards."

Some UNC honorary degrees recipients in the last 15 years include former President Bill Clinton, journalist Charles Kuralt, documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, N.C. Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, former White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles and athlete Charlie Justice. The committee evaluates

honorary degree nominees selected by members of the University community before choosing five to recommend. Those individuals – if approved by the Faculty Council and the Board of Trustees – receive degrees in a public ceremony held the following calendar year. The recipients are required to appear in person to receive their degree and often take the opportunity to speak, Ludington said.

Joe Ferrell, secretary of the Faculty Council and a committee member, said the committee typically looks at degree candidates who are UNC alumni or have made a positive impact on the state, although neither status is mandatory. "While we certainly aren't limited to people with a connection to North Carolina, the committee typically receives far more nominees than it can award degrees for, and we tend to focus on individuals with ties to this state," Ferrell said.

But Ludington said that because all members of the UNC faculty, General Alumni Association, Employee Forum, Board of Visitors and Board of Trustees can submit nominations for degree recipients, the list of candidates often includes individuals not well-known inside the state. "Some of the people we can consider will be very, very distinguished in their fields but whose names are unknown to us lay people in North Carolina."

In the last 15 years, 56 out of the 72 honorary degree recipients have had ties to North Carolina or UNC. Out of this group of 72, 48 have given a financial donation to UNC's Office of

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"(An honorary degree is) the highest honor we can bestow on someone."

TOWNSEND LUDINGTON
Chairman of Honorary Degrees Committee

RSVVP Day Proceeds to Aid IFC

Despite a decreased number of restaurants participating, organizers hope to surpass last year's donation totals.

By JENNY HUANG
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill residents can help combat local hunger today while filling their own stomachs – in the spirit of charity.

Chapel Hill and Carrboro restaurants will donate 10 percent of their total profits to the Inter-Faith Council in Chapel Hill as part of the 13th annual Restaurants Sharing V (5) plus V (5) Percent Day.

Patrons can eat in the restaurant or take their food out, and a portion of the proceeds will directly benefit the IFC Family Emergency Food Pantry and

Community Kitchen. This year, 75 local restaurants are participating in RSVVP Day, down from last year's 105 eateries.

Restaurants in Raleigh and Durham also will be participating in RSVVP Day to benefit their own local charities.

Local program organizers attribute the drop in participation to the slowing economy and the recent attention to national concerns.

"Everyone's been preoccupied with the weakening economy, recent terrorist attacks, and today's plane crash isn't helping any," Betty Longiotti, RSVVP chairwoman for Chapel Hill and Carrboro, said Monday.

Longiotti said national relief efforts provide an opportunity for residents to help out on a local level and address community needs.

"When we have a lot of things on our mind, it's good to go out and get a good

meal with friends," Longiotti said. "When we go out to eat, then the restaurants get good business, and then the people who can't go out to eat can be fed."

Since RSVVP's inception in 1989, similar hunger relief programs also have been organized by the Food Bank of North Carolina in Raleigh and St. Philip's Community Kitchen in Durham.

Chapel Hill IFC officials say they have noticed a continual increase in the number of clients in the Community Kitchen and Food Pantry.

Chris Moran, executive director of the IFC, said requests from people needing food have increased by 56 percent.

"Our economy is doing really bad now in North Carolina, and this is even before September 11," he said.

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Forum to Detail Benefits of Open Spaces

By TOM KINGSLEY
Staff Writer

A public forum scheduled for tonight will address the merits of using public space to create a lively and culturally vibrant downtown area in Chapel Hill.

The forum, scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Town Hall, is co-sponsored by the Orange-Chatham Group of the Sierra Club and UNC's Student Environmental Action Coalition.

The panelists for the forum include Greg Gangi, director of education for the Sierra Club.

Although Town Council members do not have an official role in the forum, Gangi said they are invited to attend.

He also encouraged residents to come out and voice any concerns or questions they might have.

"We're going to have to lobby the council to do something about (this

issue)," Gangi said.

SEAC member and forum coordinator Nicholas Grueff said special emphasis will be placed on the idea of turning parking lot No. 5 – which is located on West Franklin Street near Michael Jordan's 23 – into a courtyard featuring a town plaza.

The forum also will address the financial ramifications such a project might have for the town.

Finding a new use for the lot is part of the town's Downtown Small Area Plan, which was adopted in March 2000 to encourage residential and office development downtown.

Grueff said SEAC hopes to encourage business growth through its plan for a town plaza by including cafes and other local small businesses in the proposal.

"What we're envisioning is not just an open piece of land," he said. "I think it

would actually benefit the business community."

Gangi said the club hopes to educate the community on alternative options for open space and to generate public support for the proposed courtyard.

He said the forum will allow residents and students to have input.

"We want to provide an alternative way to get ideas out there," he said.

Gangi said the forum also will explore the role of open space in promoting the arts and in building a sense of community among residents.

He said fostering a sense of community is a common goal of both SEAC and the Sierra Club.

"We hope to foster a bridge between the town and the University," he said.

But the two organizations must first build public support for their plan and

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