

# University Celebrates Asian Heritage Week

By JESSICA SLEEP  
Staff Writer

Calligraphy, origami, sushi and the sounds of traditional Korean drum music will soon fill the Pit as Asian-American Heritage Week celebrations continue.

The Asian Student Association is sponsoring the cultural celebration, which will also include film screenings, food tasting and Asian games.

Events kicked off Monday night with a screening of "Eat Drink Man Woman," a 1994 Oscar-nominated romantic comedy about a Taiwanese chef and his family. On Tuesday, Asian Studies Professor Jan Bardsley gave a lecture titled "Reel Men Don't Eat Sushi: Why Hollywood Hates Japanese Men and Loves Japanese Women."

Heritage week continues today at 11 a.m. as ASA members sell traditional cuisine in the Pit for \$1 per serving.

Linda Kim, president of the ASA, said members will dress in traditional garb while selling cuisine, including Hmong jello, Japanese sushi and Vietnamese sweet rice balls and tapioca pearls.

Caroline Um, an organizer of Asian American Heritage Week, said many students are only familiar with popular Americanized versions of Asian foods, like egg rolls and fried rice.

This year's events signal a departure from previous heritage weeks, Kim said.

She said that in past years, ASA dedicated each day of the week to individual Asian countries, but this year's organizers wanted to give each day a specific theme so that more Asian countries could be included in the cultural celebration.

Other events this week include playing games in the Pit on Friday. The games include Chinese chess and mah-jongg as well as Korean cards and yut—a Korean game in which players throw sticks in the air to advance pieces on a game board.

The week will close with a semi-formal held at Cafe Parizade, a Mediterranean restaurant in Durham.

Kim said the heritage week is important because the events provide students with the chance to practice their traditional customs while away from home.

She said cultural celebrations are also important to improving diversity at UNC.

"If you just walk through the Pit, you can see that different groups of people segregate themselves," she said. "A lot of people don't understand each other and they're stuck in their own social cliques."

Um said she hopes the events will educate students about different aspects of Asian culture. "I hope this week will help break down the stereotypes people have about Asians, and they will become aware of how diverse our culture is."

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# Events Honor Native Culture

By JOY BUCHANAN  
Staff Writer

Native American cultural celebrations will take place on campus all this week, culminating Saturday with an annual powwow in which students will dance in traditional tribal dress.

The purpose of the week's events, which are sponsored by the Carolina Indian Circle and other campus organizations, is to educate the University community about Native American culture and history, organizers said.

The Carolina Indian Circle, founded in 1974, is a support group for UNC's Native American students. The organization's goals are to increase awareness about Native American students and to recruit and retain more of them.

There will be one event each night this week, culminating in Saturday's powwow in Polk Place. The events include an exhibition of traditional Native American dress and dance, a forum on Native American women's issues and CIC's annual banquet Friday night.

The Native American Women's Issue Forum, sponsored by the multicultural sorority Theta Nu Xi, will take place at 6 p.m. Wednesday in 107A Dey Hall.

Alpha Pi Omega, a Native American sorority founded in 1994, will sponsor the dance exhibition at 7 p.m. Thursday in room 104 in the Center for Dramatic Art.

"Before the dances we'll explain the significance of the regalia and of the dances," said junior Tonia Jacobs, president of Alpha Pi Omega.

The powwow, sponsored by CIC, starts at noon Saturday at Polk Place and continues until 5 p.m. Junior Rachel Blue, the group's president, said the powwow has taken place at UNC for more than 10 years.

The powwow, Jacobs said, is "a time when Native Americans come together to dance and sing." A powwow is a Native American ceremony during which tribes gather to dance and socialize, wearing traditional dress.

Blue said Native Americans from across the state—including students from UNC-Pembroke, N.C. State, Duke and

East Carolina universities—will participate. The dances and traditional dress represent many N.C. tribes including Lumbee, Cherokee, Coharie and Meherrin.

The public also will be included in Saturday's friendship dance.

There will be vendors selling traditional Native American crafts, jewelry and food on Saturday as well. All events are open to the public and, with the exception of Friday night's banquet, are free.

Blue said the group's cultural awareness week used to be an annual event, but it has not taken place in the last three years.

Although CIC traditionally sponsors events during Native American Heritage Month in November, Blue said this week's events are similarly important.

Blue said, "We wanted to have this cultural week so we'd have two times during the year to celebrate Native American culture and also to have events leading up to the powwow."

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## TOWN COUNCIL

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Larkspur Subdivision development.

About 18 residents from the Northwood Subdivision, which is located adjacent to the proposed site, attended the meeting to express their concern regarding the potential negative impact of additional traffic along Hunter Hill Road.

Chapel Hill Planning Board member Bob Reda agreed with the residents and offered an alternative. "I think in this case, forcing the merger of these two neighborhoods does not make sense," Reda said. "I would ask you to please have pedestrian, bicycle access into Northwood neighborhood." The council decided to replace the option of full vehicular access with a 12-foot wide path to accommodate pedestrians, bikes and emergency vehicles.

Chapel Hill Planning Director Roger Walden said the council's actions were aligned with its main objective—to maintain affordable housing options.

"The most important issue is affordability," he said. "Zinn's intention was not small houses next to big houses but to make some affordable opportunities."

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## HOMELESS

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like, this is just the way it is. But I know—putting it in perspective—that this is not the way it is. But after a while, you just think this is the way it's supposed to be—this is how I'm supposed to live."

Donald moved to Chapel Hill from Raleigh several weeks ago, hoping there would be more opportunities for him to find work and receive medical care at UNC Hospitals. Donald has been staying at the IFC shelter for several weeks. "Man, but it starts to smell," he says, laughing. "Especially once people take off their shoes. You'll get used to it. But once you walk outside you'll realize how bad it smells in here."

But Donald recently was given a bed in the upstairs part of the shelter, which is reserved for more permanent residents.

The IFC shelter has 56 beds that people are given depending on their situation. If temperatures drop below 40 degrees, the shelter officials will allow people to sleep on the floor in the lounge and the dining area on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"It's like I took one step, and they took two steps, and that made me feel really good," Donald says, referring to the volunteers who offered him a spot

upstairs that he thinks will help him get back on his feet. "They gave me a bed, even though I'm on the top bunk and the guy below me stinks."

There is an eclectic bunch of people at the shelter this Friday night—young and old, men and women, black, white, Hispanic and Asian. Conversations range from theology to the effects of drug use.

Like a family, people ask one another about how their days were and what their plans are for the next day. After dinner, everyone stands around outside talking and smoking cigarettes. Eight o'clock is curfew and the point at which IFC volunteers will announce who can stay the night and who will have to leave.

Because the temperature is below 40 degrees, floor space will be available.

A list had been placed on a bulletin board that morning for people who wished to be given floor space to sign. A receptionist begins reading off names, and it seems as though there will be room for everyone who has signed the list. After each name is called, people go upstairs to a crowded laundry room and are issued a mat, comforter and sheet for the night.

A tall, skinny man who carries a cane sets his bedding and belongings in the corner of what is the lounge during the day. He walks over to the bookshelf and retrieves an old Sony radio so he can listen to his headphones as he goes to

sleep. The man attaches a coat hanger to the radio for better reception.

"It's really the only way I can mellow out," he says. "I mainly like hard rock and heavy metal—you know, AC/DC, Judas Priest, Cinderella, Van Halen."

By 8:15 p.m., the lights are out and people begin going to sleep.

The sounds of a Friday night college town resonate in the background—cars honking, people yelling. With people snoring, headphones blaring and no pillow to soften the hard white tile floor, sleeping becomes increasingly difficult.

At 5 a.m., after the people on the floor catch a few hours of light and uncomfortable sleep, someone turns on the fluorescent lights and says it is time to wake up. People begin methodically folding their blankets and returning them to the laundry room upstairs.

Then, everyone gathers in the lounge, groggy from the early morning rise. Most try to go back to sleep. Some flip through the old issues of National Geographic that are lying around in the lounge.

The next night's temperature is already on the minds of many because the temperature will determine where they will be able to sleep—on the floor in the shelter, in an abandoned car or in the bushes somewhere nearby. "It's supposed to be 43 degrees tonight," one guy says after awhile. "You know what

that means. No floor space."

"Ain't no big deal," says another. "One night ain't going to kill nobody."

By 7 a.m., breakfast is ready. Scrambled eggs, toast, potatoes and grits are served. People discuss their plans for the day. "I might go to the library," a guy across the table says. "Nothing much to do today—it's Saturday."

Someone else is going to work at the Top of Lenoir.

The crowded dining room empties around 8 a.m. as people begin to go about their days, but most reassemble at the IFC in the evening.

Around dinnertime, Donald says he spent his day at University Mall buying some toiletries and applying for a job.

He comments on how much he has been able to use the recently implemented fare-free busing in Chapel Hill. "Whoever thought of that was a genius. I rode down to Carrboro five times the other day—just because I could," he says.

Donald, like many at the shelter, is hopeful that he can get back on his feet, although he admits that he is battling drug and alcohol problems. "I have to take it one day at a time and focus on what I have to do."

Standing just outside the shelter's door, as dusk descends on another day of attempting a small step toward self-sufficiency, Donald shakes his head. "Hard is not the word," he says. "The word is just survival."

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## The Student Undergraduate Teaching Awards (SUTA)

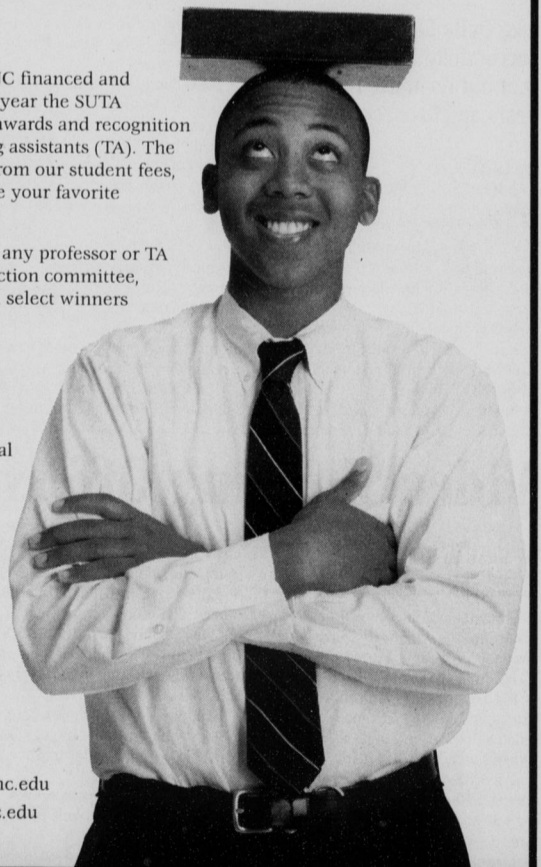
are the only teaching awards at UNC financed and selected entirely by students. This year the SUTA committee will provide monetary awards and recognition to three professors and six teaching assistants (TA). The money comes directly and solely from our student fees, so please take the time to nominate your favorite professor or TA now!

Any undergraduate may nominate any professor or TA in any department. The SUTA selection committee, composed entirely of students, will select winners based on the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated and consistent excellence in undergraduate teaching
2. Creation of a dynamic intellectual environment
3. Success in positively affecting a broad spectrum of students both in and outside the classroom.

**Deadline is Thursday, February 28**

For more info, contact  
Wes Brinkley - [wesbrink@email.unc.edu](mailto:wesbrink@email.unc.edu)  
Jeff Walden - [jnwalden@email.unc.edu](mailto:jnwalden@email.unc.edu)  
[www.unc.edu/student/orgs/suta](http://www.unc.edu/student/orgs/suta)



## Student Undergraduate Teaching Awards

## CABINET

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on a information from the application, résumé and an interview.

The committee looks for criteria including experience in leadership positions, willingness to make the time commitment and the applicant's initiative, Baker said. About four or five applications typically are received for each of the three positions, she said.

Daum said she expects the selection process to be tough. "From what I understand, we have a lot of qualified applicants, so competition will be tight."

Students interested in applying can find the application at <http://ils.unc.edu/studentgovt/applications>.

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