

# Seniors to Celebrate, Scale Bell Tower

By NIKKI WERKING  
Staff Writer

Today, seniors have the chance to participate in a one-time opportunity — they get to see the inside of the Bell Tower and scrawl their names on its hallowed insides.

"Climb the Bell Tower," an event in which seniors will be allowed to scale the Bell Tower from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today, is one of the events included in Senior Week, which started Monday.

Senior Class President Ben Singer, who helped organize the week's events, said the purpose of Senior Week is to bring the class together one more time before graduation May 19.

"(Senior Week) gives seniors a week to be a kid again and enjoy the undergraduate experience," he said.

He added that because the mystery of the Bell Tower is a large part of this experience, seeing the inside is a rite of passage.

"A lot of people wonder what the inside of the Bell Tower looks like," he said.

"It's something to say you did before you graduate."

As part of Senior Week, the class of 2002 also sponsored sumo wrestling in the Pit on Monday and a ceremony for the first Edward Kidder Graham Awards, which were held in the George Watts Hill Alumni Center on Tuesday.

Singer said the awards are a way to honor fellow classmates as well as faculty and student organization advisors.

The awards were divided into 13 categories: 11 for different types of student organizations, one for faculty members

and one for advisors. Twelve of the 41 seniors nominated won awards, while five of the 14 faculty nominees and one of the four advisor nominees received awards.

Singer said a committee of faculty and senior marshals selected the winners by deciding which nominees best represented their respective categories.

Other events this week will include a money management seminar; the "Senior Class Last Blast," a barbecue Thursday in Carmichael Auditorium; cotton candy in the Pit; and senior nights at He's Not Here on Thursday and Players dance club on Saturday.

Singer said senior marshals have been planning the events for Senior Week during the course of the semester. He also said some events, such as the Senior Success Series money management seminar, were intended to be

informative.

Other events, including "Climb the Bell Tower" and senior night at He's Not Here, are traditions of Senior Week, Singer said. He also said these events spice up the week and ensure that final exams will not be the only memory seniors have of their final days at UNC.

In addition to Senior Week, the final events held for seniors before graduation include the Concert for a Cure on April 17 and the Senior Ball on April 20.

But Singer said he hopes all seniors take advantage of the events going on through Saturday.

"It's a chance for everyone to enjoy these last few weeks," he said. "Because before you know it, we're gone."

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## Developments in the War on Terrorism

### 4 Indicted on Terror Charges

An attorney and three other people were indicted Tuesday on charges that they helped an Egyptian Islamic militant imprisoned in the United States communicate with his followers.



### Al-Qaida Suspect Charged With Waging War

Indian police claim Mohammed Afroz, a pilot from the Bombay area, was charged Tuesday with waging war against India after confessing to being part of an al-Qaida plan to hijack a plane and crash it into the British Parliament.

### INS Sets New Rules for Student Visas

Hoping to better track foreign visitors and keep out would-be terrorists, immigration officials are tightening student visa rules and proposing shorter U.S. trips for tourists and business travelers.

# Memorial Hall Renovation Ready to Be Set in Motion

By ESHANTHI RANASINGHE  
Staff Writer

After two years of planning, Memorial Hall's long-awaited face-lift will soon be underway as it finally reaches the era of elevators and air conditioning.

Construction bids will take place during the third week of May, and then work on the hall should begin in June, said Carol Aquesta, design manager of the project. Officials have said the project should take about 18 to 24 months.

Construction will begin with the removal of all movable objects from the hall, followed by asbestos abatement, said Priscilla Bratcher, director of principal gifts for the Office of Development.

Next, the construction crew will set to work on the floor, planners said. Due to limited space between the roof and the ceiling of the hall — where most buildings fit air ducts for air conditioning — designers placed the ducts under the floor, making it necessary to repour its concrete foundation, Bratcher said.

The construction crew then will move on to demolish the entire stage area, expanding the stage house and public facilities.

The stage space will be doubled with updated stage equipment and lighting. Dressing rooms, elevators, a loading dock and rehearsal space also will be constructed.

Later in the project, new seats will be added to replace the seats that were installed in 1959. More leg room will accompany the new chairs, which will bring seating down from 1,626 to about 1,500 chairs, Bratcher said.

Many midsize concert halls at other universities have a range of 2,000 to 2,500 seats, Bratcher said. But she said she thinks a smaller hall is more beneficial for audience members. "We are thrilled because it provides a more intimate experience for the audience."

The project's budget doesn't include enough funding to renovate the balcony, Bratcher said. The total projected budget is \$14.5 million. Fund sources include \$800,000 from state funds, \$8.7 million from state bonds and \$5 million garnered through fund raising.

Officials said they are certain the renovations will attract more attention from the community, especially with the expansion of the performance season to 12 months.

While the hall is being renovated, performances will take place in Hill Hall and in the halls of local churches, Bratcher said.

The biggest obstacle to overcome when designing the new building is incorporating its original style in the renovations, Aquesta said. "With such a nice historically based building, the challenge is to maintain that character yet make it more functional," she said.

In all, the renovations will make shows even more enjoyable, Bratcher said. "The experience of watching a performance will go from adequate to spectacular," she said.

A series of events will be hosted in Memorial Hall before it closes at the end of April. "Memories & Stories," with former Provost Richard Richardson, will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. April 19 in Memorial Hall.

An open house at the hall will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. April 21.

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

# 'Our Town' Features Diverse Cast and Audience

By JENISE HUDSON  
Staff Writer

Few plays underscore the importance of cherishing the little things in life as clearly as Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Our Town."

The introspective play, which runs through April 28, will bring PlayMakers Repertory Company's 26th theater season to an end.

"(Our Town) is an American masterpiece," said PlayMakers' artistic director, David Hammond. "It looks for the meaning in daily life, and people feel

a need for that now."

First produced in 1938, the play looks at the imaginary town of Grover's Corner and explores the townspeople's struggle to cherish life before it's too late.

To reflect the play's universal nature, Hammond said his decision to incorporate a multicultural cast into the play was a refreshing twist, with good reason. "If one comes to a play and doesn't see themselves mirrored, why should it be their reflection?" he said.

Actress Hannah Moon, who plays Emily Webb, said she applauded

Hammond's choice to select cast members from different ethnic backgrounds.

"It's a great representation of the world today," Moon said. "As an Asian-American actor, it opens a lot of doors for me and says it doesn't matter what you look like be able to convey a character."

To further ensure that all people can enjoy the play, PlayMakers will run a special performance for the hearing and visually impaired on April 12.

The performance is part of the accessibility project, an initiative sponsored by the N.C. Arts Council to make plays

more accessible to the handicapped.

PlayMakers' Managing Director Donna Heins said several aides will be available during the performance so people with disabilities can enjoy the play to its fullest. "There will be a Braille program, sign language interpreters, audio description and large-print programs available," she said.

Heins said that while the performance April 12 will be the company's first ever to cater to people with disabilities, hopefully it will not be its last. "We hope that next year we'll have more fully accessible plays," she said.

Hammond said he hopes that by making sure all people feel included in PlayMakers' production of "Our Town," audiences will be more able to take in the play's larger message about life.

"The message — embrace life and never take it for granted," Hammond said.

For more information about the accessibility project and "Our Town" ticket prices, contact the PlayMakers Box Office at 962-PLAY.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at [artsdesk@unc.edu](mailto:artsdesk@unc.edu).

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**Campus Calendar**  
Today

11:30 a.m. — A volunteer awareness fair will be held in Polk Place until 1:30 p.m. Geared toward matching interested students with Orange County organization in need of volunteers, the fair will have 12 organizations represented, including the Orange County Rape Crisis Center, El Centro Latino and the Red Cross.

5:00 p.m. — Royster Society of Fellows hosts "Can You Say This on Campus?": Perspectives on the Limits of Free Speech" in the Faculty Lounge in Morehead Planetarium. The two-hour forum will examine the role of universities in shaping and debating public issues.

6:00 p.m. — The Wesley Foundation will host a dinner and discussion on the Holocaust. The foundation is located at 214 Pittsboro St., across from the Carolina Inn parking lot.

6:30 p.m. — Carolina Union Activities Board, N.C. Hillel and Campus Y will host a dinner and discussion with Holocaust survivors today in Union 226. Held in conjunction with Holocaust Remembrance Week, the topic of the discussion will be "How to Best Memorialize the Holocaust."

**For the Record**  
"Quotables" on the April 6 Opinion page incorrectly characterized a quote from Justin Young as referring to an evaluation of his performance. Young had rated his term as a 9.8.

The April 9 article "Council Finalizes Licensing" incorrectly reported that landlords will be required to pay a \$10 monthly fee. That fee will be \$10 per year.

The April 9 graphic "Student Parking Options for 2002-03 Academic Year" incorrectly states that PR lot spaces will be \$305 each. They will be \$230 each.

The Daily Tar Heel regrets the errors.

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