

Don't Paint Over UNC's Character

It's not the best publicity to have UNC's supposed best and brightest passed out and snoring in public. The restored Graham Memorial Hall opened its doors in January 2000 and houses the Honors Program, the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Office of Distinguished Scholarships and Intellectual Life, essentially making it the unofficial home base for student academic excellence on campus.



KAREY WUTKOWSKI
UNIVERSITY COLUMNIST

But since its opening, the oak-paneled downstairs lounge of Graham Memorial, with its sinfully plush leather couches and pillow-laden armchairs, has lulled many of UNC's best and brightest into an unconscious state.

As of late, officials at the James M. Johnston Center for Undergraduate Excellence, which is housed in Graham Memorial, have actively implemented a policy barring sleeping in the building's lounge.

But the stated motivations behind the policy are not entirely convincing. The party line is that the sleepers have been creating a "socially awkward situation."

James Leloudis, director of the Johnston Center, has said, "Many, many students indicated that they felt uncomfortable trying to talk to professors when the couches and chairs next to them were crowded with sleepers."

The official statements most likely do not paint the whole picture, however, as it is hard to believe that concern for UNC's public image does not play at least some part in the policy.

Graham Memorial constitutes one of the main stops on the campus tours that give potential students and their families a view of what college life is like at UNC.

Understandably, officials don't want students unconscious in a building that is supposed to represent a haven for academic excellence, but true college life at UNC is indeed the presence of students randomly sleeping in public.

Officials' concern for public image, often at the expense of portraying an accurate reflection of life at UNC, has cropped up on other occasions as well.

Take the new South Campus residence halls, for example. It seems a little convenient that the placement of the residence halls essentially shields the older, institutional high rises from view to any visitors passing through that area of campus.

The new buildings seem to be practically toppling over on to the sidewalks in order to create the facade that life on South Campus means attractive covered walkways, terraces and picture windows.

But institutional high rises is what life on South Campus is to most residents housed in the region.

And although it is not necessarily the most aesthetically pleasing aspect that UNC officials would want to boast about, it is a false impression to essentially sweep the high rises under the rug that is shown to visitors.

Perhaps one of the most base forms of UNC's publicity - its brochures - further perpetuates a false impression of UNC to outsiders.

The semi-glossy packets pumped out by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions are packed with pictures of campus life at UNC.

Granted, the look of UNC's student body is fairly homogenous. But noticeably absent from these pictures of student life are some major factions, namely the hippies, the street-style kids, the indie rockers or anyone with a style that reflects an alternative attitude.

Instead, the collection of pictures generates the idea that UNC is stocked with the non-threatening variety of clean-cut, well-groomed students.

Naturally, it is good public relations for UNC to put a best face forward. But students enrolled at UNC don't go to an airbrushed, polished and touched-up version of a university.

They go to one whose campus is littered with snoring students, one that sticks most of its freshmen in housing that is dominated by brick and iron and one that has students who don't all wear collared shirts and UNC gear.

These characteristics are what give UNC its true personality and its distinctiveness. And although some students might have been lured to UNC by the glossed version presented to them, I would dare say most would not trade it in for the real UNC they attend every day.

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Heavy Rainfall Aids Drought Situation

Water conservation efforts are still in place

By JON DOUGHERTY
City Editor

After a downpour brought more than 6 inches of rain to the area, local reservoirs made significant gains in the amount of water in their banks.

University Lake and Cane Creek, the two reser-

voirs Orange Water and Sewer Authority draws from, increased in their overall levels from about 34 percent full Friday morning to 56 percent full by 4 p.m. Friday afternoon, an OWASA press release stated.

University Lake, by far the smaller of the two with a 450 million gallon capacity, rose to within 3 inches of full after being 4 feet 7 inches under its limits. Cane Creek, which is about six times larger than University Lake, was 18 feet

below full and rose 6 feet to rest at 12 feet under capacity.

The drenching rain was a welcome sight for the area but not the end of OWASA's water problems, said the utility's executive director, Ed Kerwin.

"We're much, much improved," he said. "(Friday's) rain helped us out a whole lot."

Kerwin said despite the rain, the drought is yet to be beaten and customers must continue to conserve water wherever possible. "Responsible use of water is good practice year 'round, in a drought or not," he said.

The water emergency restrictions in place for the area, which do not allow for any outdoor water use except for firefighting, were enacted in other areas nearby, including Durham and Wake counties. Officials in those areas say their residents might see a relaxation of their restrictions in the near future. Kerwin said OWASA will make its decision based on what is good for OWASA and its customers, not moves by other water authorities.

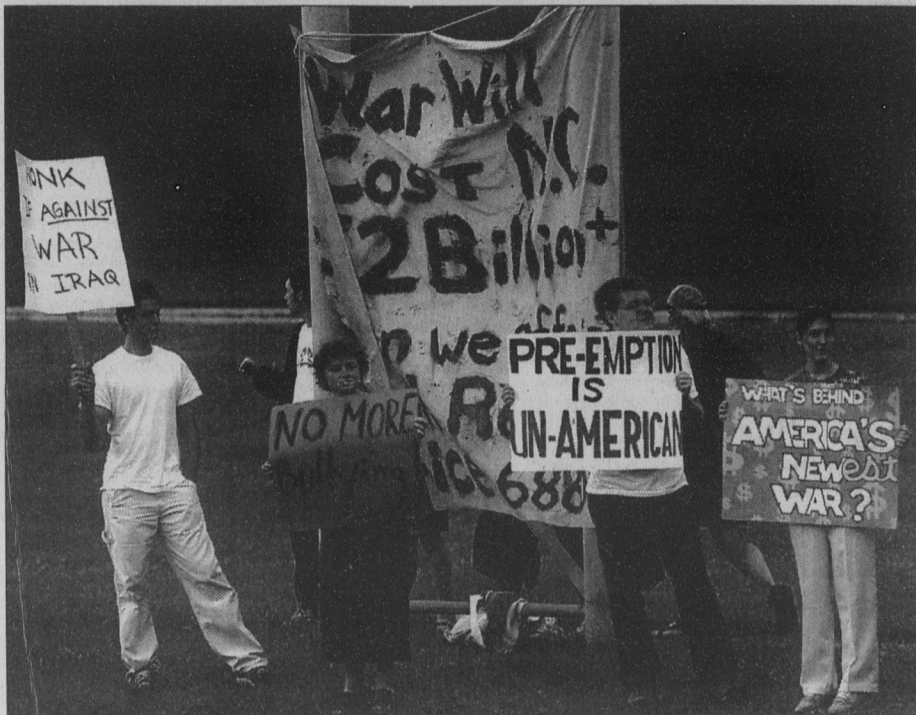
"We're going to do what we need to do based on our situation, not what anyone else does," he said.

Kerwin said it's too early to tell if restrictions would be relaxed as a result of the weekend's weather. Nothing will be changed unless decided by Kerwin or OWASA's board of directors. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the board is Oct. 24.

Kerwin said he will not move until he's satisfied with the data concerning the flow to the area's reservoirs.

"I just can't say right now, we'll have to see," he said. "It's going to take some time to evaluate what's happening with

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Protesters hold up signs outside Crabtree Valley Mall on Sunday afternoon for passers-by to read. More than 100 protesters showed up to voice their opposition to U.S. involvement in a war in Iraq.

Protesters Rally Against War

Demonstration in response to Congress' decision on Iraq action

By ASHLEY HOLT
Staff Writer

RALEIGH - More than 100 protesters gathered outside Crabtree Valley Mall on Sunday afternoon to encourage people to take an active stance against U.S. involvement in a war with Iraq.

The busy intersection of Glenwood Avenue and Marriott Drive was flooded with anti-war signs, instruments and the sound of car horns responding to signs with slogans like "Honk if you agree" and "Not in our name."

The rally was organized in part to protest the U.S. Congress' approval last week of a resolution giving President Bush permission to attack Iraq if its leader does not allow U.N. weapons inspectors into the country.

The protest comes in the wake of a similar one at the Chapel Hill office of Rep. David Price, D-N.C., which resulted in three people being arrested for trespassing after refusing to leave Price's office.

Some participants at the rally Sunday stressed that getting their message out is important because it shows people who

are afraid to get involved that they are not alone in their views.

"Many people are in agreement but afraid to speak out," said Susan O'Neill, a member of the local community and protester. "We're here to transfer courage to those in cars and passing by to call politicians."

Representatives at the rally included members of UNC groups Students United for a Responsible Global Environment and the Campaign to End the Cycle of Violence, as well as people from local religious organizations and the community at large.

Participants said they hope the rally at Crabtree will increase awareness and encourage more people to get involved with the anti-war campaign.

"We hope to build a movement and spread a message that we should not go to war," said Danny De Vries, a senior anthropology major at UNC.

Michael Reichert, a junior majoring in biology at the University, also said he wanted the rally to invoke actions against Bush's policy.

"(We) are trying to let people know there is a strong feeling against a war

with Iraq," he said.

But not everyone agreed with the protesters' message.

While drivers seemed to approve through shouts of encouragement and honks of their car horns, some mall customers said they were shocked at the group.

"I disagree wholeheartedly with (the protesters)... They need to find better things to protest for, like the needy," said Michelle Christopher, a Long Island, N.Y., resident shopping at the mall.

Others said they think it is important that all viewpoints be expressed equally.

"It is important for (the protesters) to spread their opinion and get (their message) out," said Jacque Powns III, who worked at the Dell store in the mall.

The protesters said that despite some disapproval, they were satisfied with the response to the rally.

SURGE member Cameron Hartofelis said, "We had a few thumbs down by people passing by, but we have had a good response."

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Campus News Options May Expand

Student government mulls new program

By HEATHER KNIGHTON
Staff Writer

A new program could allow University students to have expanded news resources on campus, although not all universities participating in this program would encourage others to join.

In hopes of offering students expanded news resources, student government is considering the implementation of the USA Today Readership Program.

The program would offer access to three newspapers, including USA Today, The New York Times and a daily local paper to students in their residence halls.

Funding options are under discussion, but students could pay a fee each semester, possibly \$5, for the distribution of 5,000 papers. The goal of the program is to make students aware of national and international current events, said Student Body President Jen Daum.

"Students get so entrenched in what goes on here on campus and get cut off from the outside world," she said.

The program is still in the planning stages, but officials said they are looking to implement something similar to an earlier attempt at extended news distribution, possibly by fall 2003.

In the fall 2000 semester, USA Today conducted a pilot program at UNC. Newspapers were distributed to four residence halls where students could pick them up every morning.

USA Today representative Christine Bannerman said the pilot was successful but the idea didn't catch on immediately.

USA Today recently re-established contact with UNC's student government to discuss putting the program into full effect. Whether the program moves forward "really depends on feedback from student government," Bannerman said.

Provost Robert Shelton said the decision to end the program was made because "the concerns raised outweighed the advantages."

It was not a good use of the University's dollars in a time of uncertainty for the budget, Shelton said, adding, "I don't know what could have changed in a year."

Gerry Hamilton, the general manager of The Daily Collegian at Pennsylvania State University, also has concerns about the repercussions of the program.

"The Readership Program caused a major disruption in distribution," he said. "Our major concern was in preserving circulation of the school paper."

The price tag to put out a revised paper to match the program's papers totaled nearly \$180,000 per year for The Daily Collegian. "The goal of increasing readership is a good thing," Hamilton said. "But we had readership on campus long before the program began."

Some universities, such as the University of Texas-Austin, have turned down the program completely. Issues they raised in opposition include Internet availability to other newspapers, extra charges to students and students' lack of time to read the extra newspapers.

Daum said the several schools contacted by student government, such as Duke University, liked the program and said Penn State is a minority in expressing opposition to the program.

She said, "I voiced my concerns to the employees of the readership program and was reassured that in no other place where the program exists have they had the same problems as those at Penn State."

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BOG Approves Social Work School Dean

Faculty member, interim Dean Jack Richman appointed to job

By EMILY STEEL
Staff Writer

A national search for a dean of the School of Social Work ended Friday when the UNC-system Board of Governors approved the appointment of Jack Richman, a faculty member of the school since 1983.

Richman assumed his new position Saturday after acting as interim dean of the school since January. He also has served a professor, teaching courses in both the master's and doctoral programs.

"He is going to be an absolutely stellar dean," Provost Robert Shelton said.

The search for a new dean began after former dean Dick Edwards resigned in February 2001. Before Richman, Kim Strom-Gottfried served as interim dean. When the position opened, Richman originally served on the search committee.

Richman said the faculty was unsatisfied with the first round of applicants, so they reopened the search. In the next round, the applicant who was offered a position refused. He said the provost then decided to look for a candidate both nationally and inside the school. Shelton said Richman was highly rec-

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D.C. Sniper Still at Large; N.C. Officials Placed on Lookout

Not much information on the sniper is available to the public

Staff & Wire Reports

ROCKVILLE, Md. - Investigators hunting an increasingly brazen sniper defended their meager release of information, saying Sunday that they don't want the killer to know what they know.

Authorities pointed to the dangerous balance between pleading for public help and revealing too much.

"We don't want to release anything that may cause ... anyone to think they're a suspect," said Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent Mike Bouchard.

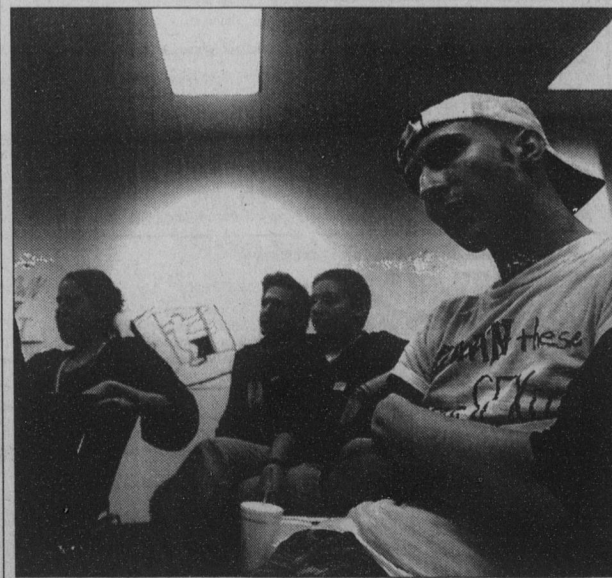
Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose has cut back on his news briefings while saying he wishes there was more he could reveal. "I wish we could give you a name, a mug shot and an address, but we're not at that point," he said in one of four appearances he made Sunday on national TV talk shows.

Moose has become the public face of a massive task force investigating a random shooter who has fired a single round into each of 10 victims, killing eight, in suburban Washington, D.C., since Oct. 2.

The last killing occurred Friday morning, when a 53-year-old father of six was shot while fueling his sedan in a gas station

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COMING OUT



Curtis Main (far right), publicity chairman of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender-Straight Alliance, listens to coming out stories told by members of the LGBT community Friday, National Coming Out Day.

DTH/MICHAEL JERCH