

POLICE ROUNDUP

Small fire at Granville Towers is this year's 4th

A resident assistant found a poster on fire at 10:23 p.m. in Granville Towers East at 125 W. Franklin St., reports state. The fire was started by using matches and caused \$100 in damage to the concrete floor, reports state. Few details about the incident were available Wednesday. But the fire was the fourth this semester at Granville Towers. Police are investigating the other incidents as arson, but they would not comment about whether the latest fire is related to the first three.

University

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

Police responded to a belated larceny report at about 4:22 p.m., reports state.

The victim told police that her laptop had been stolen from Lenoir Dining Hall sometime after 2:30 p.m., reports state. According to reports, the victim inadvertently left her laptop at Lenoir. Once she realized she had left it, the victim returned to Lenoir and checked with managers and in the lost and found files, but she did not find it. The victim said her laptop is an IBM ThinkPad, reports state. Reports state that the laptop is estimated to be worth \$2,500.

At 8:54 p.m., police responded to a report of vandalism at the S10 parking lot near Boshamer Stadium, reports state.

The victim reported that he had parked his 1994 Pontiac Grand Am in the lot earlier in the afternoon, reports state. When he returned to his car, he found that an unknown object, possibly a baseball, had struck his vehicle in the lower left corner of the driver's side windshield, reports state.

The damage to the victim's vehicle is estimated to be about \$150, reports state.

MONDAY, MARCH 31

Police responded at 12:54 p.m. to two reports of vandalism at East Franklin Street's park and ride lot, reports state.

According to reports, a passer-by reported two damaged vehicles. A 1999 Toyota Corolla was found with the driver's side window smashed and a JVC CD player valued at \$180 missing, reports state. The damage to the car is estimated at an additional \$100, reports state.

A 1985 Honda Accord was found with the rear driver's side window smashed, according to reports. The damage to the vehicle is estimated at \$100.

The vandalism is slated for further investigation, reports state.

City

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Chapel Hill police reported that a man was stabbed in the chest with a knife at 3:05 a.m. on the 600 block of West Rosemary Street, reports state.

The victim said he heard a knock at the door and answered by slowly opening the door. The criminal pushed the door open, stabbed the man in the chest and then ran away. The criminal is a black man between 5 feet 6 inches and 5 feet 8 inches tall with medium build. He was wearing a baseball cap at the time, reports state.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

Chapel Hill police reported that the weight room at Foxcroft Apartments was broken into. Police found holes in the upholstery of the weight equipment and items stolen from the snack machine at 11:55 a.m., reports state.

The holes in the upholstery of the weight equipment caused \$25 in damage, and there was \$10 worth of damage to the vending machine lock. A pack of M&M's valued at \$1, a bag of Cheetos valued at \$1 and a Honeybund valued at \$1 were stolen from the vending machine, reports state.

Julia Beatriz Leon, 23, of 306 Estes Park, Apt. D9, was arrested at 1:30 p.m. by Carrboro police and charged with felony child abuse, reports state. Leon was taken into custody without incident and was scheduled to appear Wednesday in Orange County District Court.

Carrboro police reported that an armed robbery occurred at a business on the 600 block of North Jones Ferry Road, reports state.

An employee said the robber came in the store and pointed a pistol at the employee.

The robber told the employee to put money into a bag, reports state. The employee took money out of the register and placed it in a brown paper bag that belonged to the business, reports state.

The robber then took the bag and ran out. The robber is a 5-foot-10-inch man, reports state. He was wearing a gray jacket and black pants at the time of the incident, reports state.

Compiled by Staff Writers Will Arey and Jim Hawes

Iraq debate presents reasoned views

BY BRIAN HUDSON STAFF WRITER

At a time when many conversations about the war in Iraq have been reduced to oversimplified banter, the Campus Y hosted a debate Wednesday to offer students a straightforward discussion on the recent U.S. action in Iraq.

More than 100 people gathered Wednesday afternoon in Bingham Hall to watch a debate that covered issues ranging from the United Nations' involvement in a post-conflict Iraq to the stability of the Middle East.

"I just wanted to hear an intelligent conversation from both sides of the spectrum," said junior Kathy Pruitt. "I always appreciate people who can see both sides (of an issue)."

Members of the Campus Y began planning the debate in mid-March, before the invasion of Iraq began. They originally set the date to coincide with Human Rights Week. The Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies were asked to moderate the event.

The two speakers chosen to represent opposite perspectives were retired Col. James Abrahamson, a West Point graduate and former head of the Department of History at Campbell University, and Mark Crescenzi, UNC professor of political science.

"I am going to support the proposition that when the United States and the United Kingdom chose to overthrow the regime in Iraq, they acted justly," Abrahamson explained.

"Iraq poses a threat to international peace and security." He said that Iraq presents a threat both to its Middle Eastern neighbors and the United States and that during Saddam Hussein's rule, Iraq has shown aggression toward Iran, Kuwait, Israel and Saudi Arabia.

"No modern leader has murdered more Muslims than Saddam Hussein," Abrahamson said. Crescenzi, on the other hand, represented the opinions of those opposed to the action in Iraq.

"What the idea of using preemptive force boils down to is war is unavoidable," he said.

"This war was not necessary under the rubric that a war was necessary for national security."

Crescenzi said the "first-punch" policy of the Bush administration is "fundamentally inconsistent" with U.N. policy.

Despite the contradiction of opinions, both speakers enjoyed the discussion.

"This wasn't really a debate; it was more a presentation of people with different views," Abrahamson said. "I think it was a great success."

Students in attendance also said they enjoyed the exchange of ideas. "What I really liked about the debate was it was about both the issues and practical policy," said senior Eric Allison, a member of DiPhi.

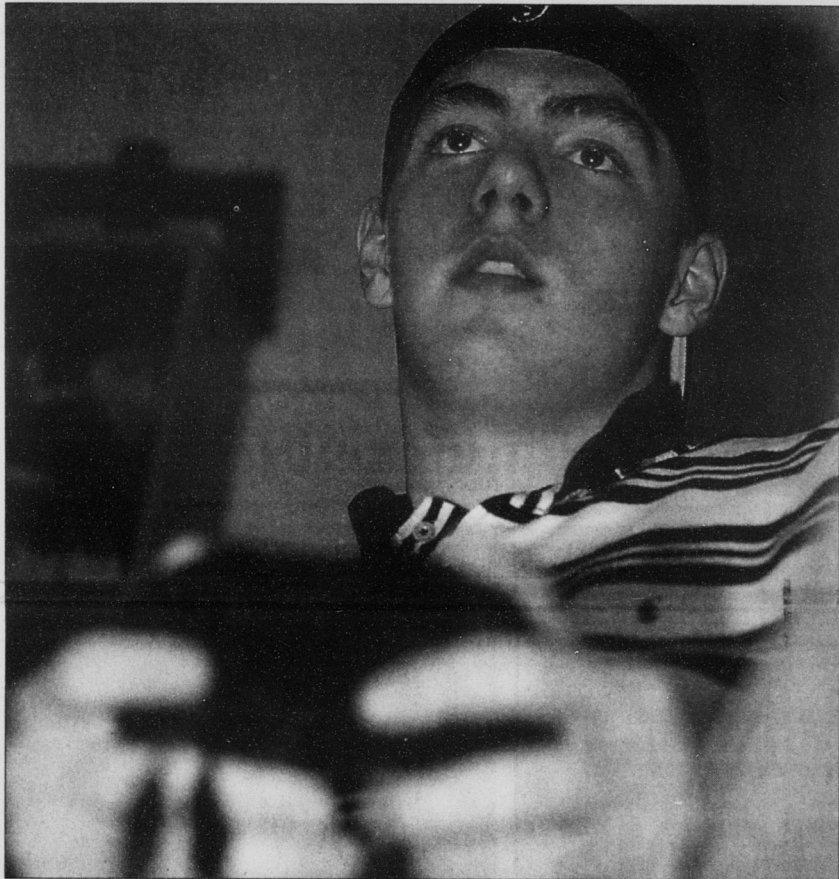
He said that although his opinions didn't change, he was impressed by the speakers' performances.

"They had a much more sophisticated understanding and discussion of the issues."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.



Col. James Abrahamson (left) speaks during the Campus Y's debate while political science Professor Mark Crescenzi prepares his response.



Freshman David Muellerweiss plays Xbox in his Hinton James Residence Hall room Wednesday. Muellerweiss will go to New Orleans to play in a national Xbox tournament held in conjunction with the NCAA Final Four.

Student showcases Xbox skills

NCAA video game played nationally

BY ALISON ROSS STAFF WRITER

Freshman David Muellerweiss isn't 6 feet 11 inches tall like UNC basketball player Damon Grant.

He can't dunk like Rashad McCants, and he lacks Raymond Felton's ballhandling ability. But unlike Grant, McCants, Felton and the rest of the UNC men's basketball team, Muellerweiss is playing in the Final Four of the NCAA Tournament.

Sort of. On Friday night at a Hooters restaurant in New Orleans,

Muellerweiss will compete in the semifinals of Xbox Live Hoop Madness, an Xbox Live basketball tournament that mirrors the real NCAA tourney. If he wins, he will go on to play in the championship match Sunday. At stake are \$1,000 and tickets to the 2003 NCAA men's basketball championship game.

Former Duke player Bobby Hurley will be on hand at the final game to coach the players.

"I never thought playing a video game could get me this much stuff," Muellerweiss said Wednesday afternoon, his eyes only occasionally straying from the "NCAA College Basketball 2K3" game on the television screen in his residence hall room.

Unlike most other video game systems, Xbox can connect to the Internet, so it "allows for the creation of tournaments where people all around the country can play each other," said Xbox representative Courtney Leddy.

Wednesday's practice match was against one of those unseen players, but Friday, Muellerweiss will come face to face with an opponent in New Orleans.

Muellerweiss will play against one of three other competitors who, like him, were invited at the beginning of March to be among the 1,500 Xbox Live players to participate in the online video game tournament. Out of that mass, Muellerweiss emerged with a 290-90 record and a ranking

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Future of water supply looks good

BY EMILY VASQUEZ STAFF WRITER

April marks the beginning of drought season in North Carolina. But in stark contrast to last year, officials are optimistic about the local water supply.

"The reservoirs are all full," said Ed Holland, director of planning for Orange Water and Sewer Authority. "This is the first time in more than two years that we've been able to say that by April 1."

OWASA has 3 billion gallons of water in reserve — a 300-day supply. In the heart of last year's drought, reservoirs had dropped to as low as 32 percent capacity.

Although the winters of 2001 and 2002 were dry, increased rainfall since October replenished reservoirs. As a result, drought conditions, which began as far back as 1998, have subsided. "In terms of surface water supply, the drought's over," said Ryan Boyles, associate state climatologist of the State

Climate Office of North Carolina.

Boyles said officials still are watching groundwater supplies, which feed wells and contribute to surface water supplies. "It may be months or years before groundwater is back to normal levels," he said.

Although reservoirs are full, long-term water conservation remains an objective for OWASA and Orange County officials. Woody Yonts of the N.C. Drought Monitoring Council said that after last year's months of drought, local governments began an overall effort to develop better plans to deal with water shortage.

Updated plans will focus on efficiency and accountability in the use of water.

OWASA has approved a new Water Conservation Ordinance that Chapel Hill and Carrboro will take up after April 14.

New year-round requirements in the ordinance will limit lawn irrigation to three days per week. Restaurants will be able to serve only water upon request, and

hotels will be limited to changing linens only between guests or upon request.

Seasonal rate changes also will continue this year, as residents will pay more for water from May until September.

OWASA reports that last year, water consumption fell by 20 percent because of the drought. Even after the rain returned, much of the reduction in water use continued throughout the county.

"Now people pay attention to things like settings on irrigation systems," Holland said. "Demand has noticeably decreased."

OWASA doesn't want to see the attention to reducing water use disappear. The outlook might be good for this year, but last year's drought, which left 65 counties in North Carolina eligible for emergency funds, has prompted OWASA officials to prepare actively for future emergencies.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

3 incumbents, 5 newcomers elected to BOG

8 new members' official terms will begin in July

BY ELYSE ASHBURN STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

The N.C. Senate on Wednesday elected eight UNC-system Board of Governors members, only three of whom were incumbents.

"There were a lot of good candidates," said Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, D-Orange. "It was very hard to choose between some of them."

BOG member William Burns, who was re-elected in Wednesday's vote, acknowledged that the election process can be difficult, especially once politicking gets in full swing. "You never know when politics are involved," he said.

Burns, who first was elected in 1999, said he is eager to continue serving the state's public universities. "The university system is one of the great economic engines in the state," he said. "Being a part of that is quite special."

The 34-member BOG recommends policy for the UNC system's 16 institutions to the N.C. General Assembly. Each chamber of the legislature elects eight members every two years. A governor emeritus and a student representative also serve but do not have votes.

According to The Associated Press, the Senate elected Steve Bowden, Ed Broadwell Jr., Burns, John W. Davis III, Peter Hans, Adelaide Daniels Key, Charles S. Norwood Jr. and Estelle Sanders.

The House has not yet selected any candidates for its eight positions. New members' terms will begin officially in July.

Kinnaird said those elected to the board by the Senate are not only highly qualified but also are well-balanced in race, gender and geographic location.

"Those are goals that will help represent all the universities," she said. "They represent our state very well."

The minority political party, however, did not fare well in the election process.

The Democrat-dominated chamber elected one Republican and seven Democrats from the 16 final candidates.

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Compromise marks Iraq strategy for politicians, military

BY ADAM CARDAIS STAFF WRITER

Civilian leaders, not military officials, now appear to be making the important decisions about the war in Iraq, which some experts say is markedly different from the Persian Gulf War.

The Bush administration's plan for war in Iraq was put together through nearly six months of discussion and compromise between the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the president's top advisers.

William Galston, professor of public affairs at the University of Maryland, said military and civilian leaders worked together to create the country's strategy in Iraq.

"It is my sense that the plan that's being followed represents a compromise between the Joint Chiefs and the civilian leadership," he said.

Galston said the part of the strategy that required the most compromise was determining the number of troops needed to fight the war.

Military officials reportedly wanted a much larger force than politicians — closer to the 500,000 troops the United States sent to fight in the Gulf War.

But politicians wanted to deploy considerably fewer troops, Galston said. In the end, the two sides met in the middle.

It is natural for politicians and military officers to have conflicting opinions about war, said Chris Gelpi, professor of political science at Duke University.

But he said civilians' influence is much different than it was 12 years ago, when the military, under Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf's leadership, had the strongest role in the war decision-making.

This civilian-dominated dynamic might be a mistake, Gelpi added, saying the civilian leaders' strategy could have significant flaws.

But Gelpi said that regardless, civilian leaders in the Department of Defense are highly involved with the war — possibly making more decisions relating to

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