

Community focuses on fighting sexual diseases

BY SAM SHEPARD
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to combat the rise in North Carolina's confirmed cases of HIV, the University and the community are working to raise awareness of the issue and to fight irresponsible sexual behavior.

There were 2,100 new HIV diagnoses reported in the state in 2003, up from 1,700 the previous year. This figure marked the third consecutive year the state faced an increase.

And two-thirds of STD transmissions occur in people 25 or younger, according to the American Social Health Association.

An estimated 65 million individ-

uals in the United States live with incurable sexually transmitted diseases, according to the association.

In 2001, North Carolina ranked in the top five among all states in the number of people from non-metropolitan regions who became infected with HIV.

"HIV is not going away. It's far from over," said Jerry Pipoly, HIV counselor for the Orange County Health Department.

Pipoly works both in the community and at the department's clinic in Chapel Hill to help raise awareness and promote safe, responsible sexual behavior.

He said the county health department offers free and con-

fidential HIV and STD testing to help achieve those goals.

Services are available by walk-in or appointment from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the department's locations in both Chapel Hill and Hillsborough. Walk-ins and appointments are also offered from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays in Hillsborough and Thursdays in Chapel Hill.

The test process includes a counseling session in which Pipoly helps patients develop a plan that will prevent future infection as well as an outline for future practices of responsible sexual behavior.

"Our ultimate goal is to help people change unhealthy, risky behavior," Pipoly said.

The University also offers free, confidential HIV and STD testing by appointment. At the Center for Healthy Student Behaviors, the Carolina Health Education Counselors for Sexuality are trained to discuss any sexual health topic.

Beth Burt, an employee at Student Health Service, said the health services clinic administers an average of 50 HIV tests for students each week.

But Pipoly said he has seen a tremendous drop-off in the number of individuals tested each week in the past four years.

As the number of tested individuals is decreasing on the state and county levels, the number of HIV cases is increasing, according to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

Pipoly said the number of tests administered has declined because of an "epidemic of complacency, apathy and indifference regarding HIV."

Health officials urge anyone interested in more information to visit the University's Student Health Service Web site at <http://www.shs.unc.edu>, and the county's health site at <http://www.co.orange.nc.us/health>.

Such information can only serve to help students, Pipoly said.

"Everybody thinks they're an expert; the fact of the matter is they're not."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

BY LORELLE BABWAH
STAFF WRITER

A crowd of students packed into the rotunda at UNC's School of Law on Monday night to hear David Limbaugh, brother of radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh, speak about what he said is a left-wing discrimination against Christianity.

The trip also helped Limbaugh tout his book, "Persecution: How Liberals are Waging War Against Christianity."

Limbaugh began by asking if there were any liberals in attendance, then thanked the few raised hands that peppered the crowd for adding diversity to the room.

He then set a religious, conservative tone that carried on throughout the evening.

"God bless George Bush. God bless the troops," he said. Limbaugh went on to bless various other members of the Bush administration and finally Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi.

He said he believes the freedom of religion does not mean the country should have to be free from religion.

Although Limbaugh conceded that the separation of church and

state is written into the Constitution, he also said the nation has achieved success because of its Christian foundation.

"I think our freedom tradition is rooted in Judeo-Christian values," he said.

University law student Tinu Akintola said she agreed with Limbaugh's sentiments of Christianity's involvement in America's development, but admitted to some internal conflict.

"There is a lack of response to social issues. When it comes to day-to-day life, sometimes the church is silent."

Limbaugh also said Christians are being attacked by liberals and the media, creating heated conflict within the country.

"We are in a culture war," he said. "Christians are the primary target of the secular culture warriors."

Limbaugh said he believes secularists are trying to undermine America's moral and social foundations in "the schools, the media and in Hollywood."

He also said pro-choice liberals are, in fact, pro-abortion.

"If they are pro-choice, why do they keep pregnant women from counseling about the potential



Author David Limbaugh spoke about his new book at the law school Monday.

harm in abortion?" he said. "They don't want you to know about that because you might choose life."

While Josh Diver, a first-year law student, sympathized with Limbaugh on most points, he said the attorney-cum-author brushed over some important issues.

"He should have touched more on slavery," he said. "It's a double standard when talking about the value of human life."

Limbaugh closed by taking questions from the crowd, though a few liberals in the audience said they resisted the temptation to comment for fear of ruining the good mood.

Matt Cordell, a first-year law student, said, "It's refreshing to get a view that you normally don't hear on campus."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Global center set to break ground

BY LINDSAY MICHEL
STAFF WRITER

Five years ago, Raymond Farrow was asked to imagine a building that would bring together UNC's international components.

After years of planning, officials' efforts will come to fruition as construction of the Global Education Center breaks ground Nov. 12.

"It will be a destination point on campus for all things international," said Farrow, development director for the University Center for International Studies. "(It's) the concept of one-stop shopping."

The center, which will replace the parking lot on the corner of Pittsboro and McCauley streets, is expected to open its doors by 2007.

The 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum is providing \$19 million for the project, and private fund-raising initiatives will provide \$7.5 million.

The center will house offices for international affairs, study abroad and international student scholar-

ship services. It also will allot space for foreign researchers at UNC.

In addition, students and faculty will benefit from many seminar rooms, a lecture hall, a 250-seat auditorium and a student-run coffee shop to serve international beverages.

Administrators said they hope the environment will provide an ideal venue for discourse among UNC's diverse population.

"The programming there should be so exciting that it will kind of whet their appetite either to go abroad or to meet international students," said Peter Coclanis, associate provost for international affairs. "It will be a lively hive of activity."

Administrators also said they hope the center's location will link the health affairs buildings with the rest of the academic areas of campus.

The site location will be a wonderful symbol of the weaving of international programs and initiatives,"

said Marjorie Crowell, assistant provost for international affairs.

Andrea Leers, the architect behind the center's design, is also responsible for facilities at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. She designed the center so that it would reflect UNC's traditional architecture while at the same time giving it a modern flare.

"We felt it was really important for an international building to have a modern form," Farrow said. "We want it to be a building of its own time."

Administrators said the new building should spark serendipitous actions within the international community on campus.

"It will be a really nice crossroads for research and teaching, UNC students and international students, health affairs and academics," Coclanis said. "It should be really exciting."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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Sign up: Oct. 4-19

Today is the LAST day to sign up for:

VOLLEYBALL :: 6 Players

Sign up in 203 Woollen Gym.
>More info: 843.PLAY

Sport Clubs

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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Ice Hockey @ VA Tech

Saturday, October 9
Women's Rugby, 12 PM on Hooker Fields
Men's Rugby @ Georgia Southern, 12 PM
Women's Soccer (HEELS) @ VA Tech
Cross Country @ Raleigh & Furman
Baseball @ Craven

Sunday, October 10
Football, 2 PM at Henry Stadium

Student Recreation Center

PUMP & RUN :: October 8

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