

Bush appoints UNC alumnus

BY MEGAN MCSWAIN
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Claude Allen's career started small, but the UNC graduate's new appointment places him in the White House as President Bush's right-hand man on domestic policy.

Allen, who was tapped for the position Jan. 5, graduated from UNC with degrees in linguistics and political science. In 1982, he was selected to be the press secretary of Bill Cobey's failed campaign for the U.S. House.

Being a major part of a campaign the same year as college graduation is rare, Cobey said. But Allen, who has also received a law degree from Duke Law School, exhibited leadership qualities beyond his years.

Important roles continued to be a regular part of Allen's career, the most recent being deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"He just seemed to always be composed about things," Long said. "He was not easily ruffled."

Jesse Helms' office also seemed impressed because Allen was hired as Helms' first black aide right after Cobey's campaign ended in defeat.

According to friends, Allen takes compassionate conservatism to another level.

Along with his wife, Jannese, he served on the board of Caramore Community in Carrboro for a number of years. He led the board twice for the community, which provides the mentally ill with real-world skills.

As board chairman, Allen did more than just oversee the finance and business matters of the center. He worked to show his compassion for the people in the community, said Jack Simonds, former president of Caramore Community.

"He's actually one of the finest men I've ever known," said John Dodd, president of the Jesse Helms Center and a longtime friend.

"(And) he hasn't forgotten his roots both in North Carolina and the African-American community."

Allen has been nominated for a position by President Bush before. In 2003, he received the president's backing for the Fourth Circuit of the United States Court of Appeals.

Democrats blocked the nomination because of Allen's stance on

abstinence and a statement he made during Helms' 1984 gubernatorial attempt. Allen said then-N.C. Gov. Jim Hunt had ties to "queers."

"Bush's appointment of Claude Allen is disappointing and appalling," said Terry McAuliffe, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, in a Jan. 6 statement.

"If Bush wants someone with a history of intolerance to set domestic policy for the country, then the American people are in for a difficult four years."

But opposition did not concern Allen when accepting the position. The biggest concern he had about taking the new job was how it would affect his family, said Steven Long, a Raleigh tax attorney and friend from Allen's years at UNC.

Friends and colleagues say Claude Allen is the right man for the job.

"He certainly is a conservative, but he also has a heart for those who are less fortunate and the impact of the policies he will be working with the president on," Dodd said.

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

City schools favor limit for exchange students

BY ADAM W. RHEW
STAFF WRITER

Opportunities for foreign exchange students to study in local schools might be harder to come by in the future.

Before their meeting was cut short because of deteriorating road conditions, members of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education voted unanimously to accept a policy that includes a provision to limit the number of foreign exchange students admitted to district high schools.

According to the policy, the cap — which will be set at six students per school per year — was needed because of the popularity of the district's exchange program and the overcrowding situation at both Chapel Hill and East Chapel Hill high schools.

Board member Nicholas Didow made a motion to remove the cap from the policy and allow the number of international students admitted to be flexible.

"I would much rather (the cap)

be determined by ISD staff," he said, referring to the district's instructional services division staff, which ultimately oversees the foreign exchange program.

But after Didow's motion failed, board member Mike Kelley made a motion to set the limit on exchange students at six, in addition to the number of students from each high school who are studying abroad.

Nettie Collins-Hart, assistant superintendent for instructional services, said the cap would help school system employees know exactly how many foreign exchange students would enroll in the district.

But, she said, a cap would not exact a large change in that number.

"I don't suspect it would greatly impact the number," she said.

Collins-Hart said it is not clear exactly how many foreign exchange students are currently enrolled in the school system.

District Spokeswoman Kim Hoke said about seven foreign

exchange students enroll in each school annually.

But Hoke also said that most, if not all, exchange student applications received each year by the district are approved.

City Schools Superintendent Neil Pedersen reminded board members that they still had the option to revise the number.

"Once we better define the students, we can come back to the board in a year and see if we want to adjust the number," he said.

According to the policy, potential exchange students must, among other things, be a high school junior or senior and have "academic command" of the English language.

Students also must be eligible to enter the United States on a J-1 visa — used for non-immigrants who want to come to the country to study, teach or participate in other educational activities.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

THE Daily Crossword

By Robert H. Wolfe

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ACROSS

- 1 Branch of the Amazon
- 5 Mary ___ Lincoln
- 9 Character flaw
- 14 Actor Sharif
- 15 Grimm creature
- 16 Mile High Center architect
- 17 Bear's hangout
- 18 Thick piece
- 19 Fertilizer ingredient
- 20 What the meteorologist was?
- 23 Prospector's pay dirt
- 24 Woodland deity
- 25 Balance
- 27 Remote station
- 30 Obstacle
- 33 In the past
- 36 Calf front
- 37 Dodge
- 38 Wee one
- 40 Enjoy!
- 42 Pays to play
- 43 Protective spray
- 44 Entry charge
- 45 Actress Arlene
- 46 Hangs around
- 49 "___ Madigan"
- 51 "Full House" star Bob
- 55 Bird's beak
- 57 What the tired kangaroo was?
- 60 Malkovich film
- 62 Wash-basin partner
- 63 Musical tag

- 64 Soulful Hayes
- 65 Actress Rowlands
- 66 Abu Dhabi leader
- 67 Leave alone
- 68 Throws in
- 69 Meets a bet

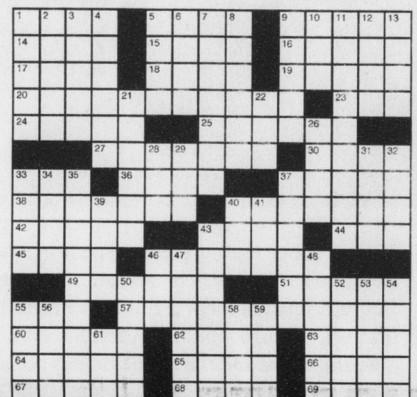
DOWN

- 1 Metro terminus?
- 2 Maytag rival
- 3 John or Bonnie
- 4 Dry gulch
- 5 Nonsense!
- 6 Eyeball rudely
- 7 Gets inspiration from
- 8 Red entries
- 9 Discovers
- 10 Pal of Pierre
- 11 What the tobacco lover was?
- 12 Lascivious look
- 13 Become weary
- 21 Depends on
- 22 Journalist Hentoff
- 26 ___ of Dogs

- 28 Vietnamese Nobel, Le Duc ___
- 29 Cherry stone
- 31 For two, in music
- 32 Dancer Kelly
- 33 Somewhat
- 34 Ms. Lollobrigida
- 35 What the musician was?
- 37 Very
- 39 Scream
- 40 Kepi or shako
- 41 Hotshot
- 43 Made cat calls

- 46 Lucy of "Charlie's Angels"
- 47 Sandinista leader
- 48 Tasty toppings
- 50 Give tongue to
- 52 Pithy saying
- 53 "Frasier" pooch
- 54 Russian rulers
- 55 First name in astronauts
- 56 Other
- 58 ___ off (repeal)
- 59 Lingerie pieces
- 61 Grab

ALE CRAB STEAMY
SEA AERO PEALLED
CAT RAGU APRILS
AHEN PRODUCTIONS
PYRO NOSED NIRA
SHANTIA CIMON
ASS APERFECTEGG
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HASAPERFECT TRY
ETTA CENSOR
SEE ATPAR ISPY
RIGHTTTOACKLE
JACKIE HULL AYN
FREELY ETAT TET
KISSES REPO ERA



School board OKs middle college

BY SPENCER GIPPLE
STAFF WRITER

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education voted unanimously Thursday to endorse the mission statement and approve funding for the planning and creation of a middle college program.

The program — a component of high school reform — will allow high school juniors in and around Chapel Hill to take honors high school classes at Durham Technical Community College.

Students also will be able to take college-level courses as electives.

City school board Chairwoman Lisa Stuckey said the program will provide another option for selected students to gain the high school experience.

"We know some students in the district just don't fit in with the 1,000-plus students we have," she said. "But those same students might be able to thrive in a smaller environment."

In its first year, the program will be available to 50 students from Durham Public Schools, 25 from city schools and 25 from Orange County Schools.

Anne D'Annunzio, spokeswoman for county schools, said she sees this as a great opportunity for county students.

"Some students just prefer to focus on academics to get ahead, rather than joining clubs or participating in extracurricular activities," she said.

D'Annunzio added that the program is not designed for students who have been in trouble, and it should not be viewed as a remedial program.

"The program is designed for capable students who want to do high-school work but aren't necessarily engaged in their current high school setting," she said.

D'Annunzio said that in order to proceed with planning, the statement still needs the endorsements

of the school boards of Durham and Orange counties. It also needs an endorsement from Durham Tech.

Once each party endorses the statement, Stuckey said it will be a matter of working out details such as how students will be able to apply.

Durham Tech spokeswoman Wanda Winslow said classes will be held in whichever facilities the school has available.

It will be up to the high schools to provide a principal and staff for the program, Winslow added.

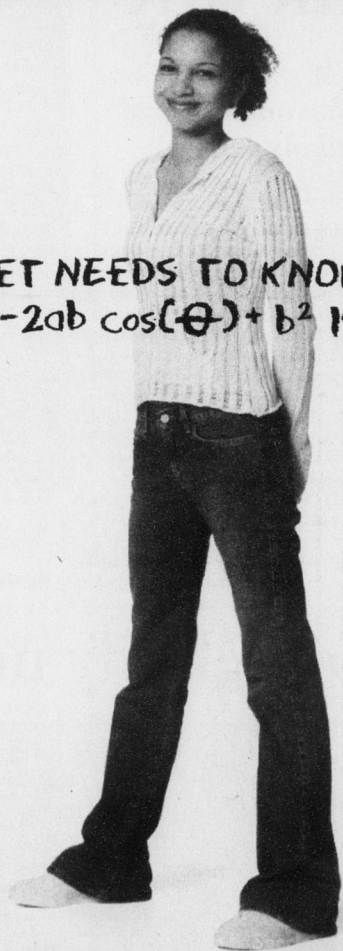
Neil Pedersen, superintendent of city schools, said he expects the program to start in early 2006.

"We've got some work to do to make that happen," he told the school board.

"Right now, there's about a 50-50 chance it will happen on time."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

★ Application Deadline: February 4, 2005 ★



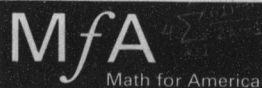
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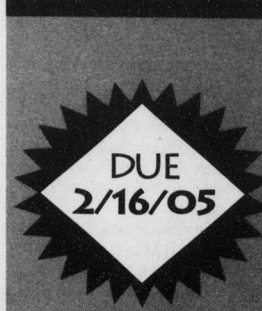
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