

CITY BRIEFS

Driver in Gates hit-and-run gets community service

The N.C. State University senior who was driving the vehicle that struck and killed Tar Heel Sports Network reporter Stephen Gates was sentenced Wednesday to a 30-day suspended prison stay.

District Attorney Jim Woodall said the sentence for Emily Caveness means that she will not actually serve prison time. She also was sentenced to 18 months of supervised probation and 200 hours of community service.

Caveness was driving a white Cadillac Escalade the night of Oct. 4, 2003, near the split of Interstates 40 and 85 when she struck Gates, who was changing a tire.

She initially was charged with both felony hit and run and failure to report an accident. But the hit-and-run charge was dropped after she pled guilty to the failure to report charge and struck a deal with the district attorney's office.

She appeared in Orange County Superior Court on Wednesday to be sentenced for the failure to report charge.

The court recommended that she be put in a youth tutoring program in Wake County to fulfill her community service requirement.

The man driving with her at the time of the incident, Rabah Samara, was acquitted of the hit-and-run charges in November.

Rep. Mary Taylor Price Harrison, D-Guilford, introduced a bill called "Stephen's Law" in February that would clarify the state's laws on leaving the scene of an accident. The bill now is referred to the House Judiciary committee.

County commissioners to discuss various issues today

The Orange County Board of Commissioners will hold a work session today at the Government Services Center in Hillsborough.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. after a brief closed session.

Commissioners will discuss an application for a grant for agricultural conservation easements, the county open space report, school capital improvement plans and a proposed change in the way that the county distributes its capital funds.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Chapel Hill man charged with trespassing in library

University police charged a Chapel Hill man with trespassing at UNC's Health Science Library at 12:46 a.m. Tuesday, police reports state.

Police received phone calls complaining that Alfred Sesay, 60, of 106A Bright Sun Place, was trying to solicit money from other library patrons, reports state.

Sesay said he was trying to obtain money to use the printer, according to reports.

Sesay has no affiliation with the University, and police charged him because the incident was a reoccurring behavior, reports state.

STATE & NATION

83-year-old woman wrestles, shoots at intruder Tuesday

KINGSPORT, Tenn. — An 83-year-old woman fought with an intruder in her home and fired two shots at him before he fled with her gun and purse.

Mark Foulk, 44, of Fall Branch, was pulled over by a Sullivan County Sheriff's deputy about 20 minutes later and charged with DUI and speeding.

Authorities at the jail found glass in his pockets, cuts on his hands and a gun and purse in his car. He was then charged with robbery and aggravated burglary.

An intruder broke into the house of Clara Groseclose early Tuesday. She heard a noise downstairs, retrieved a handgun and went to check on it.

Groseclose encountered a man near a broken window, and he demanded money, police said.

She struggled with the man and fired two rounds at him. Police said Foulk had an abrasion on his face that could have come from the muzzle of the gun when it was fired.

The man took Groseclose's gun and purse and fled.

She had a minor cut on her knee from the struggle but was not seriously injured.

CALENDAR

Today — U.S. Rep. David Price, D-N.C., will hold a town hall-style meeting at 7 p.m. for area residents at the Chapel Hill Town Hall.

The meeting is open to all members of the public to express concerns or talk about federal issues.

— From staff and wire reports.

Recontracting process a fiasco

Housing officials promise to fix glitches

BY DANIEL WILKES
STAFF WRITER

Minutes after online housing recontracting began at 7 a.m. Tuesday, phone calls and e-mails from confused graduate students and upperclassmen were piling up in the housing office.

Rick Bradley, information and communications specialist for the Department of Housing and Residential Education, said complaints of login errors, double bookings and other complications continued as the morning progressed.

Bradley said officials shut down the system about 2:30 p.m. after realizing the extent of the situation. Following an assessment of the problems, they decided to postpone online recontracting until April 5.

The almost 250 applicants who successfully filled out an application Tuesday will need to repeat the process, Bradley said.

That might inconvenience students who were able to reserve an

open room, but they had an unfair advantage because others could not log in, said Larry Hicks, director of the housing department.

"Everyone is back on a fair playing field," he said.

Before heading off to an emergency meeting between the housing department and Information Technology Services, Bradley sent an e-mail to campus residents alerting them that open-campus recontracting would be closed until further notice.

He said three problems led to the decision to shut down and postpone online recontracting.

Login errors arose from a software glitch, causing Student Central to not recognize certain students as on-campus residents. This made students ineligible to fill out the application.

Rooms that were reserved through previous recontracting processes showed up as available and led students to double-book many rooms.

"There was apparently a bug in that program that caused those rooms already occupied to not be deducted from the master file,"

SEE HOUSING, PAGE 10

Trash tops list for cost cutting

BY JAKE POTTER
STAFF WRITER

Fees for apartment complexes using large trash bins and relocating a museum to the heart of downtown might be some ways to alleviate Chapel Hill's budget outlook, area residents charged with reviewing the budget said Wednesday.

The entire citizen subcommittee will review these and other recommendations today.

The residents form a part of a larger committee, which throughout the last two months has been looking for ways to reduce the projected 10-cent property tax increase the town might face for next fiscal year.

Town budget consultant Maximus Inc. recommended several solutions to the committee at its March 23 meeting, including cutting the town's commercial garbage program.

Dropping the services could downsize the budget by more than \$600,000, Maximus claims.

But doing so could create a conflict with a 1999 county interlocal garbage agreement, requiring that the town ensure garbage delivery to the county landfill.

The subcommittee will instead recommend to charge fees evenly to all places using large trash bins, such as schools and nonprofits.

"The Maximus analysis was superficial," said subcommittee member Alan Rimer. "There were things not factored in. All these factors say, 'You know, you've got to think this through a little more.'"

Fellow member Joe Capowski pointed out that residents would end up paying more if the garbage system was privatized.

The subcommittee also will recommend to sell one of four public buildings that the town has deemed as underperforming assets. In addition, they will explore the possibility of using marketplace leasing for one or more of the buildings.

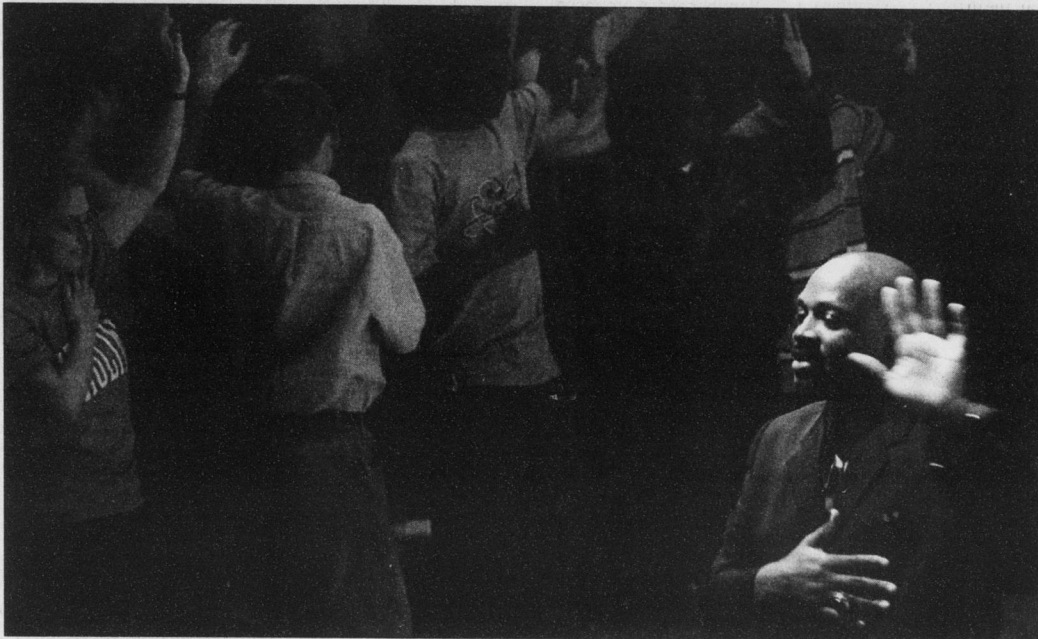
The list of proposed buildings to be sold include the Franklin Street post office and the old Chapel Hill library building, where the Chapel Hill Museum now resides.

Subcommittee member Aaron Nelson said moving the museum's services to the post office might reap large benefits. "If you put the museum's function in the post office, you've got a downtown museum."

Moses Carey Jr., chairman of the Orange County Board of Commissioners, spoke out on behalf of the post office — which also houses sessions of Orange County District Criminal Court — in a letter last week to Town Manager Cal Horton.

"The continued use of this facility"

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 10



Coach Ken Carter and audience members raise their hands, touch their hearts and spin around at the end of Carter's speech Wednesday night in Hill Hall. The coach asked the audience to say that his speech raised their hands, touched their hearts and turned them around.

A COACH'S HOOP DREAMS

Real-life 'Coach Carter' praises responsibility

BY ALEX ROBINSON
STAFF WRITER

Just hours after the men's basketball team departed from campus, students welcomed a hoops legend to the University.

Coach Ken Carter — who made national news in 1999 when he locked out his inner-city high school basketball team after members failed to meet his academic standards — gave an animated speech to an audience of almost 100 campus and community members Wednesday night in Hill Hall Auditorium.

"My speech will be like a lady's dress, long enough to cover all the basics but short enough to keep your interest," he said.

Recently, MTV and Paramount Pictures turned Carter's story of hard work and dedication into a major motion picture: "Coach Carter," featuring Samuel L. Jackson.

Carter's speech focused on the importance of family and personal responsibility. Carter said that in order to be successful, one must

have accountability, integrity, teamwork and leadership skills.

"Eighty percent of success is showing up," he said. "There is a reason you guys showed up tonight. You're searching for something."

He reminded his audience to remember its past and retain its values while working to accomplish its life goals.

"One thing I want you to take from this lecture is that being kind and respectful will simply never go out of style," he said.

Carter said his family's influence helped shape his character and encouraged him to stay strong in the face of adversity.

"My seven sisters validated my ability to be successful," he said. "Ladies have played an important part in my life, because women will tell the truth."

Carter said the audience was full of future leaders of the world. Education will provide students with the foundation for a successful future, he said. "You don't get paid by the hour but by what you bring to the hour," he said. "That's why you are here at college — investing in yourself."

During the meet-and-greet after his speech, Carter decided to have a little bit of

fun based on the film bearing his name.

He insisted that two students who hadn't viewed "Coach Carter" do 10 pushups before he would sign autographs — and gave them \$10 each for their hard work.

Throughout the movie, Jackson's character required members of the team to do pushups if they broke his rules.

The speech was organized by the Campus Y and sponsored by other campus organizations, including the Carolina Athletic Association and the Office of Greek Affairs.

Campus Y President Elizabeth Sonntag said she thought Carter would provide students with inspiration to push the limits.

"We thought he had a lot to contribute to our community," she said. "As a large organization, we felt that we had a commitment to the students to bring someone with a big name."

Carter left his audience with a message of empowerment.

"If you plant your seed in fertile ground, you will blossom. This campus is fertile ground."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

University can't find definition of 'diversity'

BY JENNY RUBY
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

The University community lacks a universal definition of diversity, campus officials said Wednesday.

And until it has one, solving many of the problems UNC faces will prove difficult.

Members of the Chancellor's Task Force on Diversity met Wednesday to discuss the findings of a campus-wide study on the topic, completed early this month.

They came together after a week of intense scrutiny from three subcommittees. Ultimately, they decided that differing ideas on diversity make talk more difficult.

"I don't know that we are going to come away with a satisfactory answer," said Charles Daye, Henry Brandis Professor in the School of Law. "I am worried about a discussion of diversity without an anchor."

During the full task force meeting, the student, faculty and staff subcommittees presented their findings and recommendations for further investigation of various issues.

As the meeting progressed, members noticed underlying themes that emerged in all the groups.

They reported that the University embraces and celebrates diversity on campus.

But the student subcommittee noted that more should be done to promote interaction among groups.

"Presence is not enough," said Sandra Hoeflich, associate dean for interdisciplinary education. "We need more opportunities for interaction."

Subcommittees also reported

"I don't know that we are going to come away with a satisfactory answer."

CHARLES DAYE, LAW PROFESSOR

that survey respondents had mixed feelings about UNC's recruitment practices.

More than 60 percent of both students and faculty said the University makes sufficient efforts to recruit diverse communities — but that didn't stop committees from making recommendations.

UNC should pay more attention to recruiting and retaining graduate and professional students, the subcommittee on students suggested, though it does a good job recruiting a diverse student body.

And the faculty committee said that while the University does well in recruiting a diverse staff, its retention efforts don't reflect the same care. Citing a low level of diversity among tenured faculty, group members said a smaller percentage of faculty were pleased with retention.

The study also showed that most people surveyed said they are able to discuss diversity on campus.

More than 70 percent of staff members said they are comfortable discussing diversity in the workplace, while only 13 percent said they aren't.

But members of the staff subcom-

SEE DIVERSITY, PAGE 10

UNC alumnae talk politics

Legislators speak for Women's Week

BY MATTHEW BOWLES
STAFF WRITER

Three female state legislators discussed their political careers Wednesday night and offered words of inspiration to a group gathered in the Student Union's Cabaret.

"The State of Women in the State" hosted an audience of about 30 people, most of who were women.

Although all 10 of the UNC alumnae serving in the General Assembly were invited to speak at the forum, only three were able to attend the event.

The purpose of the panel was to create a dialogue among state leaders and students.

"I hope that these women leaders in our state legislature can show our young people on campus how to be effective leaders," said Diane Kjervik, director of the Carolina Women's Center, which sponsored the event as part of Women's Week.

During the discussion, each legislator spoke of her experiences in politics and the specific challenges women face in the political scene.

Rep. Alice Bordsen, D-Alamance, discussed her campaign for the N.C. House. "It was primarily women working for women," she said, noting that they were motivated to help elect a female representative.

She also said men dominate politics in her county, and raising enough money to mount a competitive campaign can be difficult for women.

Yet Bordsen offered encouragement to those considering a run for public office.

"Anybody in this room is a can-

didate," she said, stating that personal confidence is essential for a strong campaign.

Sen. Ellie Kinnaid, D-Orange, talked about her own experiences in politics. Possessing a master's degree in music, Kinnaid said she eventually changed her career path. "I decided what I really wanted to do was to go to law school, and I did."

Kinnaid later became mayor of Carrboro and now is serving her fifth term in the N.C. Senate.

She said more women should consider entering politics at the state level to strengthen the female perspective in the legislature.

"I think women's public policy is very different from men's public policy,"

Elected last November to the House seat previously held by her husband, Rep. Melanie Wade Goodwin, D-Richmond, provided her own insight on the political process.

It is first important to be active in the community, she said. "I felt like the best way to get to know the people and the issues was to get involved."

At the close of the discussion panel, Goodwin gave a final piece of advice to women interested in politics:

"Don't hesitate. You're never too young, you're never underqualified, and there is always a place for someone who is passionate and interested and engaged in public discourse."

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



N.C. Rep. Alice Bordsen, D-Alamance (left), and N.C. Sen. Ellie Kinnaid, D-Orange, speak on their experience as women in North Carolina politics.