

# CFK founder addresses impact of Kenyan violence

BY ZACK TYMAN  
STAFF WRITER

UNC alumnus Rye Barcott learned about the world while studying in Chapel Hill.

But it is 8,000 miles away, in Nairobi, Kenya, where his impact on the world truly can be felt.

In 2001 Barcott founded Carolina for Kibera, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting peace and prosperity in the region.

On Friday, Barcott gave a presentation to about 100 people on the history, growth and state of CFK, in an effort to raise money for the organization. The lecture was held in the FedEx Global Education Center.

Starting with only \$26, Barcott and Tabitha Festo, a nurse from Nairobi, Kenya, established a small medical clinic in Kibera, Barcott said.

Kibera is the largest slum in east Africa — no bigger than Central Park but with a population of about 800,000 people.

CFK also attempts to promote peace and development in the area with sports programs and a girls' education center.

The group is collecting funds to add another wing in one of the medical clinics.

But CFK removed its volunteers from Kibera last month because of rising ethnic violence in Kenya, Barcott said.

"What's been happening over the last 30 days has been very frustrating," Barcott said during the lecture. "CFK was put together in order to prevent violence."

With the escalating violence, CFK has few options. But members of the organization are doing everything they can to help, Barcott said.

"We're providing emergency medical relief and food vouchers to those in our program," he said.

Barcott visited Kibera during his senior year and was inspired to help.

After graduating from UNC, he served for five years on active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps. While serving in the Marines,



UNC alumnus Rye Barcott's foundation is the designated cause for the class of 2008 senior gift.

Barcott raised about \$10,000 a year, he told ABC.

Many students who attended the lecture said they were inspired by Barcott's words.

"(CFK) is fantastic," freshman Yaniv Barzilai said. "It's such an unbelievable theory ... and self-sustaining organization."

The evening concluded with a presentation on the senior class

campaign from Senior Class President Ashley Shores. She said the class could raise more than \$75,000 for CFK.

If 30.5 percent of the senior class participate in the campaign, anonymous donors will give \$25,000 to CFK.

Donors also will match seniors' contribution of an amount up to \$25,000.

"We were inspired by CFK and all the work that they do," Shores said. "Our class is very altruistic, and it's all about becoming a more international university."

For some students in attendance, Barcott's message hit very close to home.

Mark Laichena, a freshman of Kenyan descent. "Hopefully Kenya can move past tribalism, and there are a lot of people that really care about it."

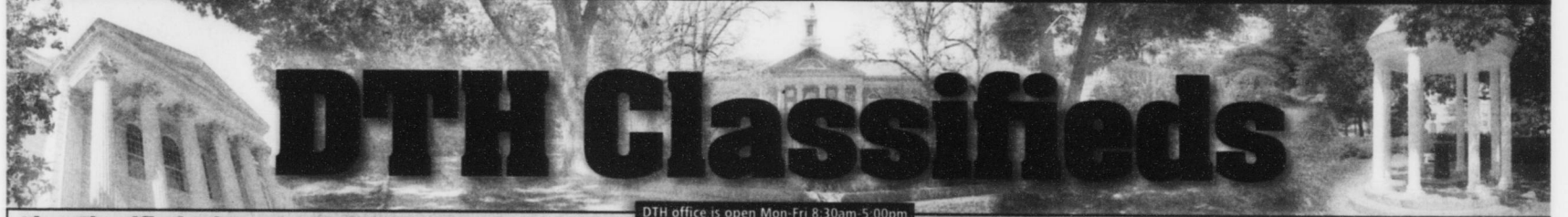
The state of Kenya leaves CFK in jeopardy, but Barcott said he has hope for the future.

"We're trying to build an endowment. ... The main goal of (Friday) was to raise money and get seniors to donate," Barcott said, adding that he hopes his presentation inspires students to take action.

"Get involved. You can make a lot of difference in the world by listening to people."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

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**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
Today is an 8 - Continue your determined quest for truth. If you don't understand the answers you get, gather more information. Make sure you ask in a way that denies any subtlety.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**  
Today is a 5 - Your margin of profit could diminish if you have to go very far to get what you want. Figure in your transportation costs. It might be cheaper to have it delivered.

**Gemini (March 21-April 19)**  
Today is an 8 - Continue your determined quest for truth. If you don't understand the answers you get, gather more information. Make sure you ask in a way that denies any subtlety.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**  
Today is a 5 - Continue to be quick in finishing whatever's left on your list. Possibility a financial disaster. If the subject comes up, ask more questions than you answer.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
Today is an 8 - You find the very person you've been looking for by looking farther away than you've ever done. Ask of geographical proximity does not present a problem.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
Today is a 5 - Don't spend all your money on toys, even for other people. Follow the investment advice of an older person, instead, if none have offered any aid.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
Today is an 8 - You're learning fast, and that's a good thing. The game is intense and quick. Put your plan into action and be ready to make immediate corrections.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
Today is an 8 - A compromise can be worked out with a person of strong opinions. Even better, it looks like you can get most of what you want. Logic overrules passion again.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
Today is an 8 - Home and family draw your attention, but you must take care of other things too. Balancing all your responsibilities is a full-time job in itself. Luckily, you're good at this.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
Today is an 8 - You're learning fast, and that's a good thing. The game is intense and quick. Put your plan into action and be ready to make immediate corrections.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
Today is a 5 - Create the quantity wheel and you'll improve the quality of your life. Others will benefit, too. This is a win-win situation, and you'll be the hero.

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