

Remembering all victims of war

Carrboro event centers on peace

BY SARAH RIAZATI
STAFF WRITER

Guilford College professor Joe Cole looked out into an audience Monday afternoon at Carrboro Town Commons and asked, "What does it mean to support the troops?"

His speech, which helped set the tone for the day's events, was part of the seventh annual Orange County Peace Coalition's "Victims of War" Memorial Day event.

The program included musical performances, speakers and readings by OCPC members.

Jan Broughton, co-chairman of OCPC and a member of the N.C. Society for Ethical Culture, said that after Sept. 11, members of OCPC wanted to organize an event that would broaden typical Memorial Day celebrations to include remembrance and commemoration of all victims of war, not just American casualties.

"Certainly we are commemorating United States casualties, but there are people dying in other places," OCPC co-chairman Wes Hare said.

Broughton, who emceed the event, said it took about two months of planning to line up all the speakers for the event.

She said she wanted the event to emphasize the consequences of the war and how serious they are today.

"People have given the highest sacrifice, and we are honoring what they have done."

JAN BROUGHTON, CO-CHAIR OCPC

"The casualties of war seem so wasteful," she said. "People have given the highest sacrifice, and we are honoring what they have done and trying to prevent future loss."

Cole said true support for the troops means providing health care, education and jobs to them upon their return and holding the country's leaders accountable.

"We have a lot of work to do before we become a country that genuinely supports its troops," he said.

Wally Myers, a member of Veterans for Peace, shared a story about Michael Monsoor, a soldier who fought and died in Iraq. Myers praised Monsoor's altruistic courage and self-sacrifice but said Monsoor was a hero despite war — not because of it.

"What we admire about Michael Monsoor is that he saved lives, not that he took them," Myers said.

Myers is a Vietnam veteran and has participated in many war protests. He said that, initially, hate was the driving force behind his protest but that his motives have changed.



Ann Powers, Liza Farmer, Kay Mercereau and Jane Hare sing classic "old-time" tunes with new and satirical anti-war lyrics as The Raging Grannies.

"I firmly believe you have to start peace within your own heart," he said. "The war mentality has to get washed out. The key to this is patience and understanding."

The Raging Grannies, a performing group that sings its social message by rewriting satirical lyrics to old songs, passed out song sheets before the program began and invited the audience to join them in renditions of "Zippity Doo Dah," "Down By the Riverside" and "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" that supported nonviolent solutions.

"We are the Raging Grannies,

and we are singing for peace," they said before they began.

Ann Powers, a Raging Granny and member of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, has performed at every "Victims of War" memorial since its creation. This year, she said, the event gave her an increased awareness about what she can do to help.

"We really have to work toward peace," she said. "We have to put our bodies where our words are."

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INTERIM DEAN

FROM PAGE 3

well equipped to handle the load.

"I think I've learned enough about how the College operates that I think I'm ready to step in and take care of things for a year," he said.

Gray-Little confirmed that she expects Carney to be in the post for the full 2008-09 academic year. He will officially begin on July 1, though he says he is already brushing up on the dean's responsibilities, including learning more about UNC's goals for leadership.

He further acknowledged the University's pressing problems, and described some of his priorities as dean. He said he will focus on keeping up fundraising goals, helping to institute new curricula in environmental and applied sciences and continuing to plan for

impending enrollment growth. Carney represents the fourth dean of Arts and Sciences in as many years. Gray-Little was dean until she was hired as provost, followed by Levine as interim and Thorp.

Gray-Little said she had not yet charged a search committee with finding a permanent replacement, but that it would be led by Jack Boger, dean of the UNC School of Law.

While Carney refused to rule out the possibility of being included in the search for a permanent dean, he stopped far shy of saying he was looking for the job.

"The College is going to be best served by as broad a search as they can put on," he said.

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CHIDLEY

FROM PAGE 3

opened up last year on the NCCU campus.

Building that facility cost about \$12 million. The university is reusing the design plans from the Ruffin building, which is a 354-bed dorm. Reusing the plans will save about \$1.5 million in design costs.

According to the consultant's report, the renovation of the main Chidley building will cost an estimated \$12.4 million.

The project will include hazardous-material abatement and the replacement of heating, air conditioning, plumbing, electrical and sprinkler systems.

Despite the building's storied past, Isaac McGraw, the Webmaster for the NCCU Alumni Association who lived in Chidley in the 1960s, said that people didn't always think of the dorm as a socializing hot spot.

"It was different in the '60s," he said.

"We weren't allowed to have co-educational kind of activities in Chidley Hall."

He also said the dorm was in better shape, so the students didn't live with cold water and other inconveniences.

"We didn't have those kind of issues when I was there."

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SCROGGS

FROM PAGE 3

enthusiasm for his job.

He said that improving kids' learning experience in the school system is the main focus in his job.

He said that "making kids' lives better through support services" is his favorite part of what he does.

It is that passion that got him out of bed and brought him to work every morning for so many years, he added.

Scroggs said his greatest contribution as assistant superintendent for support services has been managing to keep up with the huge amount of student growth which has taken place within the school district as the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area continues to grow rapidly in population.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools just completed its 10th elementary school, Morris Grove

"I'm very passionate about my job. I love coming to work, and I love kids."

STEVE SCROGGS, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR SUPPORT SERVICES

Elementary, "on time and under budget," Scroggs said.

He said the district, which currently has 11,600 students, certainly is not a small one and continues to grow each year, leading to more building projects for new schools.

And finalizing work on projects such as building the new school and beginning the building of an 11th elementary school within the district are all part of the "loose ends" Scroggs said he is trying to tie up this week, his last on the job.

He said that he feels it is a good time for someone to come in between bigger projects and that the break point will give his successor a window to join the school system.

"I will always be available, because I love the school system," Scroggs said.

He said that he is not sad about retiring now and that choosing his profession in education was one of the three decisions he made in life that he knew he would never regret.

"I picked the right profession the first time," he said.

Scroggs added that one of the other two important decisions was marrying his wife, who is "the right person to support you and what you do."

The third decision, he said, was having the right superintendent to lead him.

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5 TH An Evening w/ ADRIAN BELEW** (\$18/\$20)

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10 TU MUDHONEY w/ Birds Of Avalon

13 FR PAUL THORN w/ JULE BROWN** (\$15/\$20 AT DOOR)

16 MO MARIA TAYLOR / JOHNATHAN RICE / Nik Freitas

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5 SA DIRTY SOUTH FEST w/Lower Class Brats, Murphy's Law, Patriot, more

6 SU BORIS w/ Tarche, Clouds

12 SA & 13 SU: CLUB IS OPEN Local FESTIVAL

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TUESDAY, JULY 29
WOLF PARADE
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SELECTION
FROM PAGE 3

lowed by a final committee meeting, Rimer said.

The final step for the committee will be to send a letter to the provost detailing the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate, ultimately recommending one for the position.

Such a selective process means it is possible that a decision will not be made before Jones leaves his post at the end of June.

If the new dean is not chosen by that time, an interim dean from inside the school will be appointed until the search is complete, Gray-Little said.

The provost's office said that while not all candidates have been interviewed, the bulk of the committee's work is nearly complete.

"We have an excellent, dedicated search committee looking for the best dean for an outstanding school," Rimer said.

"We are determined to complete our mission in a timely manner, but our job is not yet done."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu

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