

APPLES launches its winter break program

BY DANIELLE ADAMS
STAFF WRITER

The APPLES service-learning program received about 40 applications for its first Alternative Winter Break program this December. Designed for students to travel and perform service activities in the community, the program will choose 13 students to learn about American Indian issues with N.C. tribes. APPLES decided to launch the winter program to complement its fall and spring trips. "Our budget allowed for us to plan for another service-learning trip," said Hillary Stoker, program development coordinator for APPLES. "But we wanted to do it at a different time from the spring and fall." Marion Boulicault, co-chairwoman of the Alternative Winter Break program, said group leaders have not decided on a final location, but they are in contact with community leaders to find one. In collaboration with the Native Health Initiative at UNC, the program either will take the 13 students

to Pembroke to perform service activities with the Lumbee tribe or to areas around the University to interact with the Haliwa-Saponi tribe. Boulicault said a final decision will be made before the end of October. She also said the timing of the trip is beneficial to students. "I don't think students' minds are completely focused during the fall and spring break programs because it takes place in the middle of a term," she said. "But the winter program is perfect because it's between the two semesters, and it allows students to stay better involved in what they are doing on the trip without having to worry about school work and exams." Leaders will hold interviews in the following weeks to select the participants. "In choosing the 13 students, we are looking for someone who has thought about the issues pertaining to the service program," Boulicault said. "There isn't a designated requirement in applying, we just want people who can show what they

have learned through this experience and apply it in context to UNC." Junior Sam Wurzelmann attended a service-learning program that worked with migrant farm workers. Upon returning to UNC, he created Alianza, a student organization concerned with the social justice and issues regarding farm workers. Boulicault said Wurzelmann's ability to bring what he learned back to UNC is the goal of APPLES. "It's exactly the kind of thing that we're looking for," Boulicault said. The Alternative Break program also has launched trips to New Orleans to help with Katrina relief and the Outer Banks to research environmental issues. "This will be a very good experience for everyone involved," Boulicault said. "In participating in the program, we want students to go places where they feel they would fit in best and have to most impact. We feel the winter break program will do that."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Guilford County draws criticism for voting sites

BY JEN SERDECHNAIA
STAFF WRITER

Guilford County Commissioner Steve Arnold has accused the county board of elections of bias in the selection of early voting locations. Arnold said that the locations are favorable to Democrats, which he said directly reflects the Democratic majority on the Guilford County Board of Elections. "Despite what they like to claim as being nonpartisan, they are partisan boards set up to maximize their parties," he said. "It's human nature." However, in North Carolina, each county election board is currently composed of two Democrats and one Republican. One seat is automatically allocated to each party, and the third matches the governor's affiliation. "That's the way it's set up — the party that controls the governor's mansion controls the Board of Elections," Arnold said. "I'm just trying to inform the public that these supposed non-partisan boards are instead working in very partisan ways." Arnold cited one polling station

on the campus of N.C. Agricultural & Technical State University as proof of bias on the board. Guilford County Board of Elections Deputy Director Charlie Collicutt rejected Arnold's claims. He said the board unanimously approved the sites based on population density, not on partisan affiliations. "Certain parties lie in certain densities and I'm not going to say that was ignored, but everyone can vote in different sites," he said. Orange County Board of Elections Director Tracy Reams said the main criteria in Orange County are funds, as well as facility and staff availability — not partisanship. Guilford County Board of Commissioners Chairman Kirk Perkins said that Arnold's views do not reflect the other board members' stances. He said the Board of Elections tries to serve voters, locating the early polling stations near where people live, work and run errands. At a point this close to Election Day, there is nothing Arnold can do to change the locations of the

polling stations, Collicutt said. Any changes must be submitted to the N.C. Board of Elections 60 days prior to early elections. Even if there was time for Arnold to petition for a change in polling locations, he would need the Board of Elections to pass a resolution and receive approval from the N.C. Board of Elections and the N.C. Department of Justice. Arnold said he doesn't expect that support because seven of the 11 members are Democrats, and Perkins said six votes would be needed. "I don't think he has that support from the board. I can assure you he doesn't have support from me," Perkins said. Collicutt said support from the board would not be Arnold's only obstacle. "We're one of those counties that anything we do, whether it's moving a pole across the street or changing early election sites, the Justice Department needs to know 60 days prior."

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

Morehead renovation on hold

Construction backlog delayed project

BY ANDREA MARCHIANO
STAFF WRITER

A lack of funding has caused the six-year delay of the renovation of Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, now scheduled to begin in January 2010. The Morehead renovation has been on UNC's maintenance list since 2002. But a \$400 million backlog of campus maintenance has set the project back, said Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction. The backlog has also delayed renovations to Wilson Library, Davis Library and Carr Building. Although the state legislature and the Morehead-Cain Foundation contributed a combined \$5.7 million to craft design plans, Runberg said it will take another large appropriation from the state legislature to begin construction. "Hopefully in the next session they will appropriate about \$55 million to construct the building," Runberg said. "But we won't know that until next August." The renovation will update the building's utilities and correct

uneven floor elevations that inhibit the functionality and flow of the building. The building has never seen a significant renovation. "Building codes are very different than they were when Morehead was built in 1949," said Todd Boyette, director of Morehead Science Center. "The building will be brought up to current code." The renovation also will add an atrium for group orientations, as well as exhibit space for the planetarium. "Right now, we just don't have the space, and the space we do have wasn't designed to be used this way," Boyette said. Administrators said they are hoping to keep the building's character intact through the renovation. Hartman-Cox Architects of Washington, D.C., was chosen to design the renovation because they specialize in historic buildings, said Peter Krawchuk, UNC facilities architectural supervisor. "Basically it's an iconic, historic building, so we will keep the exterior the same," Krawchuk said. He said the proposed renovation would only obstruct 15 to 20 of the

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TODD BOYETTE,
MOREHEAD SCIENCE CENTER DIRECTOR

The planetarium also will be updating its technology by installing a digital projection system in place of the 40-year-old projector currently in use. "The digital planetarium is current, modern technology," Boyette said. "Whatever you can render on a computer you can put on the screen." The planetarium is developing a private campaign to fund the technology updates. Boyette said he anticipates that these updates, along with new hands-on exhibits, will increase visitors to the planetarium. "We are most excited that it will enhance the quality of experience that the visitors have," Boyette said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

UNC prepares to welcome families

Weekend includes long activity list

BY MARYANN BARONE
STAFF WRITER

The University's annual Family Weekend begins today with activities intended to show families the University teeming with life. The agenda includes a barbecue in the Pit, the UNC-University of Connecticut football game and a 5K fun run, whose course will be kept secret until right before it starts. The weekend gives students the opportunity to show their families what life is like for them on a daily basis. "I think it's a great idea because it gives parents a chance to experience what their kids get to experience," said junior Sara Fender, who said her parents aren't participating in any of the events besides the football game. First-year biology major Matt O'Neill, from Kernersville, said he has no problem with his parents coming for Family Weekend. "My parents are going to want to come over and over, which means I will be participating," he said. The goal of Family Weekend is for families to see the University in action, said Josh Hewitt, assistant director for the Office of New Student and Carolina Parent Programs. "We want them to see Carolina alive with all the students out

there," he said. "They can connect with their students on campus." Hewitt said they expect a total of 2,000 students and family members to attend the weekend's events. The weekend is sponsored by the Office of New Student and Carolina Parent Programs, which is within the Division of Student Affairs. The weekend's events require the use of many places on campus, including the Student Union, the Friday Center, the Pit and Coker Arboretum. Planning for the weekend started in early January. After the past year's Family Weekend, students were invited to take a survey and offer advice on how to improve it. These responses were taken into account when planning this year's activities. Two new events have been added to the calendar — an out-of-state student reception and a kickoff event. Hewitt said that it is important to recognize that a lot of families are coming from out of state to participate in Family Weekend. "They are coming to Family Weekend, so why not bring them together?" he said. The kickoff is made up of three events: an open house in the Union, a presentation by sports announcer Woody Durham and a time for student organizations to present themselves to students. Hewitt said the Union is the

A few family weekend events

- Friday:**
Family Weekend Kickoff, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Frank Porter Graham Student Union
Student organization showcase, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., Student Union auditorium
Pericles at Playmakers Repertory, 8 p.m., Paul Green Theatre
- Saturday:**
Tar Heel BBQ, 1 p.m., the Pit
Tar Heel Town, 4 p.m., Polk Place
MASALA Cultural Night, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Great Hall
- Sunday:**
5K Fun Run, 9 a.m., Woollen Gym
Brunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Carolina Inn
Legacy pinning ceremony, 11 a.m., McCorkle Place
- Source: Office of New Student and Carolina Parent Programs

hub of activity for students and serves as a background for the students to show families what they have been up to since school started. "It's a nice opportunity for students to show family and friends what Carolina is all about," he said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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THE JAMES A. HUTCHINS LECTURES

Brave Enemies, Cowpens, and the American Revolution

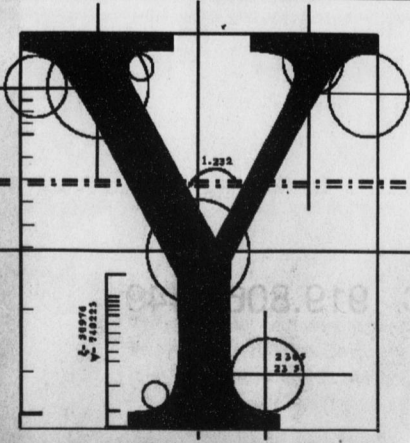
UNC alumnus Robert Morgan discusses his book, *Brave Enemies: A Novel of the American Revolution, and how historical fiction is created*

Robert Morgan
Kappa Alpha Professor of English, Cornell University

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