

Handicapped — prospects rising

by Laura Toler
Staff Writer

Flashing caution lights and signs commanding motorists to "Yield to Pedestrians" mark the crosswalk on Columbia Street between the School of Public Health and the Health Sciences Library. Any observer on foot is able to time his crossing wisely if he can observe the speed of automobiles popping over the crest of the hill.

But those unable to watch the cars approaching may fare less successfully.

Jonathan May, a blind student in the School of Public Health, was nearly run down on that crosswalk three times during the past year.

"A blind person doesn't have the ability to counteract the breaking of the law," Jon said, recounting his experiences. "I can listen until the traffic is clear, but a car may come once I'm in the crosswalk. And when you can feel the heat of the motor next to you—well, that's close."

When Jon even heard his non-handicapped friends complaining about the crosswalk, he decided to do something. But Jon is still waiting for results.

A push button pedestrian stoplight for the intersection was his first goal, but last fall Chapel Hill officials told him Columbia Street was under jurisdiction of the state, not the town.

Twice earlier this year, Jon asked State Highway Department officials to evaluate the crosswalk. They considered it safe.

After nearly being hit again last June, Jon wrote Gov. James Holshouser, Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor and the UNC Board of Trustees. From the Governor's office, Jon's letter was referred to the Department of Transportation; the Chancellor and the trustees complained to Transportation.

And Transportation referred Jon's letter to a special state officer for citizen complaints. The officer investigated the intersection, said Jon's complaints were justified and wrote Jon that the town would receive state permission to decide whether to install the light.

After a State Highway Department official called Jon to tell him a stoplight would be installed, Jon called the town manager to find out when. "Probably within the next 45 days," was the reply.

But those 45 days are practically up. "Unfortunately, you need pressure in a big system," Jon said. "That's what the task force is for."

Jon is one of 12 members of a student task force formed last November to consolidate efforts of handicapped students in solving campus problems.

The group is in the process of applying to Dean of Student Affairs Donald A. Boulton for status as an independent campus organization—recognition which would allow the group to apply for Student Government funds.

Preparation of an up-to-date information packet for handicapped students is a major project on the task force agenda for this year, according to Linda Yeatts, co-founder of the group.

"They need to know where there are specially designated elevators, ramps and

bathrooms; what resource people they can contact; how they can go to games; and how to use the Wilson library back entrance."

Linda, whose knee injury prohibits her from using the front stairway to Wilson, was instrumental in getting a special phone installed at the back door of the library. On weekends and after 5 p.m. weekdays, when the back entrance is locked, handicapped students may contact the library desk via the phone and have someone come down to let them enter.

Before this system was established, Linda said, "I had actually been told I would not be allowed to use the library except on weekdays."

Specific problems with physical barriers on campus are the responsibility of Bob Adleton, an intern for the handicapped in the Office of Student Affairs.

He investigates complaints about physical barriers on campus and recommends to Dean Boulton that improvements—such as curb cuts and ramps—be made. If a professor or a student complains that the class a handicapped person wishes to take is to meet in an inaccessible building, Bob has the class relocated.

Bob sees the task force as a link between himself and individual handicapped students. "They need this organization. There's no other place they can go and find someone to speak for them."

Last spring, the group sponsored a Walks Across Campus, in which Director of Housing James D. Condie and other UNC officials accompanied wheel chair student Debbie Younker to observe the barriers a handicapped student may encounter.

This year, the University has allotted \$133,000 for use in making the campus more accessible.

"Since last fall, our office has conducted a survey of all campus buildings with accessibility in mind," said Gordon H. Rutherford, director of Facilities Planning for the University. "From the resulting report, we assigned what we felt were first priority needs to get at this problem."

Rutherford hopes to complete this year the addition of handrails to all stairways, construction of a ramp to Ackland Art Center, modification of restrooms in Davie and Dey Halls and extensive renovations to Woollen Gymnasium and Carmichael Auditorium.

Rutherford is also considering possible renovation of two North Campus dorms—one men's and one women's—and installation of elevators in Saunders Hall and the Alumni Building.

A portion of the funds will be set aside for special needs, Rutherford said. "The numbers game makes no difference—they're people, and there's reason to make changes for just one."



Staff photo by Peter Ray

Members of the Claude Kipnis Mime Theatre caught in a scene from "Opus Blue... Is Pink," performed last night on campus

C.P. Snow to speak Thursday

"Technology often presents us with great benefits on the one hand and knives us pretty sharply with the other."

Lord C.P. Snow, physicist, novelist, and socio-cultural commentator, will deliver the UNC School of Medicine's annual Merrimon Lecture at 8 p.m. Thursday in Hill Hall.

Snow applies his view of technology to all the apparatus of a modern hospital.

"The climate of the hospital always has

within it some wafts of fear," Snow wrote in an article in *Journal of the American Medical Association*. "Those can't be gotten rid of, but perhaps we can prevent them from chilling us too much."

A physicist turned novelist, Snow is best known for his 11-volume sequence *Strangers and Brothers*, which outlines the cultural separation between science and the arts in the atomic age. Acclaimed as one of "the most impressive imaginative constructions

of the century," the series began in 1940 and closed with 1970's *Last Things*, a novel about the accidental victim of a usually harmless medical procedure.

Snow is married to Pamela Hansford Johnson, one of England's foremost novelists. She is the author of eight novels, including *The Honours Board* and *The Holiday Friend*. Lady Snow is also noted for her criticism and playwrighting. An authority on Marcel Proust, she is interested in Thomas Wolfe and has written a critical study of his work. Lady Snow will accompany her husband on his UNC visit and intends to peruse the Wolfe collection in Wilson Library.

abc southeastern Theatre

SHOWS 3:45-5:30
7:15-9

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Cinema

"The Thin Man"—William Powell and Myrna Loy star in Dashiell Hammett's murder mystery of the 30s. They play Nick and Nora Charles and, with their dog Asta, they solved mysteries through seven sequels and a T.V. series. This was the original. (Wednesday at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in Greenlaw Auditorium, \$1, Alternative Cinema American Comedy Series.)

"The Adventures of Robin Hood"—A dashing Warner Brothers swashbuckler, perhaps the best of all, with Errol Flynn as Sir Robin Locksley and pure Olivia deHavilland as Maid Marion. Full of sword fights on staircases, jousts and near-hangings, it's the best of any Robin Hood incarnation, past or future. (Carolina at 1 and 4 p.m. Thursday, \$1.50 or subscription.)

"Carnal Knowledge"—It was only banned in a small town in Georgia, but the ads are proclaiming "Now you can see it!" as if it's been suppressed everywhere. Mike Nichols directed Jack Nicholson, Ann-Margret, Art Garfunkel and Candice Bergen stunningly, and Jules Feiffer's script is telling and sad. A very good movie, and even better the second time. (Carolina, 2, 3:45, 5:30, 7:15 and 9 p.m. \$2.25.)

"Bananas"—Another wild trip down to the Caribbean with Woody Allen and Howard Cosell. This really isn't his best film, although an objective choice would be hard to make—the funniest Allen film seems to be the one you've just seen. Still "Bananas" is the spottiest, and perhaps the most offset. (Plaza 1, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05 and 9:05 p.m. \$2.25.)

Music

The North Carolina Symphony, featuring a Brahms concerto played by violinist Charles Treger, will perform at 8:15 Wednesday in Memorial Hall. Admission is free.

An "Evening of Jazz" will be presented at 9 p.m. Wednesday in the Union Snack Bar. Admission is free.

The Nicotones and The Natal Throes will perform at 9 p.m. Thursday in the Union Snack Bar. Admission is free.

The Black Heat concert will be at 9 p.m. Friday in Memorial Hall. Tickets, \$2, are on sale at the Union desk.

Tickets, \$2, are on sale at the Union desk for the Taj Mahal concert at 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 in Carmichael Auditorium.

Tickets, \$2, are on sale at the Union desk for the "Six Stars of Ballet" performance at 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3 in Memorial Hall.

Tickets, \$4, are now on sale at the Union desk for the Loggins and Messina concert at 9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11 in Carmichael Auditorium. Tickets will be \$5 the night of the concert.

Earth, Wind and Fire will appear in concert at 8 p.m. Friday in the Greensboro Coliseum. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the concert. Call the Coliseum box office for tickets at 294-2870.

Theater

The Lab Theatre presents Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" at 4 and 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday in 06 Graham Memorial. Free tickets may be picked up in the Lab Office on the south mezzanine of Graham Memorial.

Tickets, \$1.50, are now on sale at the Union desk for the Soviet Georgian Dancers performance at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31 through Saturday, Nov. 2 in Reynolds Coliseum on the N.C. State campus in Raleigh.

The Duke Players present a studio theatre production of "The New York Times," "Chamber Music" and "Slave Ship" at 8:15 p.m. Friday through Sunday in Branson Theatre at Duke University. Call 684-3181 for tickets.

The Hoop 'N' Horn Club presents "Company" at 8:15 p.m. Friday through Sunday in Fred Theatre at Duke University. For tickets, \$2, call 684-3181.

Durham Theatre Guild presents "Dames at Sea" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Shows also Thursday, Oct. 31 through Saturday, Nov. 2. Tickets, \$2.50. Call 682-5519 for reservations.

Plaza 1

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BANANAS

Plaza 2

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