

Dispute settlements subject of conference

By SHARON SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

A conference entitled "MEDIATION: Creative Conflict Resolution" is being held today at the Presbyterian Student Center, located at 311 Henderson St. in Chapel Hill. Workshop topics will range from "Setting up a Dispute Settlement Center" to "Mediation in Prison" to "Family Mediation."

Registration and check-in will take place from 8:15 a.m. to 9 a.m. The registration fee at the door is \$25 (\$15 for students).

The conference is being presented by the Dispute Settlement Center of Chapel Hill. According to Conference Coordinator Roy Baroff, the purpose of the conference is twofold. The conference will introduce people to the idea of mediation and to its wide range of uses. It also will provide information for people who already are working in the field and will give people in the field the chance to meet each other, he said.

It would be "helping people who are specifically in-

terested in pursuing mediation in the context of a dispute settlement center in their community," said Chapel Hill center Director Evelyn Smith.

Chapel Hill's Dispute Settlement Center helps to settle interpersonal disputes between neighbors, family members, friends or ex-friends, Baroff said. Students, for example, might have a disagreement over rent and utility payments.

The idea of mediation is to allow these people to sit in a neutral atmosphere with a mediator and, with the mediator's aid, reach a mutually satisfactory resolution, Smith said.

"It's very important to have the mediator there," Smith said. "The mediator's role is to listen to whatever the disputants want to say about an issue and then to help define whatever the issues are that are involved and then to help come up with a creative solution that will be satisfactory to all who are involved."

The mediator may make suggestions, she said. "(But) the parties themselves are the ones that have to agree on a

solution that they're satisfied with." This is different from arbitration, where the arbitrator is given the right to make decisions.

Smith explained that there are three main types of Dispute Settlement Centers. One type is officially linked to the court system. Another is a completely separate community system. The third type, she said, is a hybrid of the other two. The center in Chapel Hill fits into this third category.

"We receive two-thirds of our cases from the court system, but we're working all the time to increase our visibility in the community so that people will contact us directly," she said. "We will save them the time and trouble of entering the court system if it's not necessary."

Baroff said that the majority of the cases referred by the courts to the center are assaults, trespassing and communication of threats.

For more information about the conference of the Dispute Settlement Center, call the center at 929-8800.

Armed robbery at frat house yields culprit small amount

An armed robbery at the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity house early Wednesday morning yielded the robber only \$1; the victim went back to sleep after the robbery occurred.

According to Chapel Hill police reports, George Duffield Smith III, 18, of 23 Old East Dorm, was asleep on a couch in the DKE library when he was awakened by a black male around 3:30 a.m. Wednesday. The suspect pointed a .38-caliber snub-nosed revolver at Smith and demanded his money, the report stated.

The suspect took Smith's wallet, which contained \$1, and left the house. According to the report, Smith then went upstairs to a fraternity brother's room and went back to

sleep. The incident was not reported to police until 1 p.m. Wednesday.

Elsewhere, Chapel Hill Police Lieutenant Manley Dawson discovered a fire in front of Wachovia Bank on Franklin Street at 4:13 a.m. Thursday.

According to police reports, a pile of old carpentry materials that had been stacked in front of the bank had caught fire, and flames were leaping 15 to 20 feet in the air by the time officers arrived. The fire was extinguished by Chapel Hill Fire Department Engine Number 1 and crew. The front west wall of the bank was scorched 20 feet high. The report did not state the cause of the fire.

— ALAN MARKS

funds

From page 1

Such a large transfer of funds from the general reserve could endanger the possibility of a 1983 Chapel Thrill and Student Government's proposal to purchase a computer balloting system, Vandenberg said.

"If the money does have to come from our unallocated funds, it will leave us less flexibility," Vandenberg said. "However, we are getting indications from Mrs. Sparrow that we might be able to correct the problem painlessly to Student Government."

Sparrow declined further comment on the issue until she conferred with Jones.

CGC Finance Committee Chairman Charlie Madison (District 23) downplayed the potential effects of the transfer on the general reserve fund.

"It was an error that was made that will have to be rectified," Madison said. "There will be less money to work on Chapel Thrill, but overall, it's not a catastrophic event."

"It wasn't a matter of anyone trying to do a number on anyone," he added. "It's just a matter of policies being changed and not everyone being notified."

Because of the correction, the GPSF budget will increase to about \$20,000 per year, Mallinson said.

The additional money will help the GPSF grow from a simple administrative body to better serve UNC's graduate and professional students, he said.

"In the past we've simply distributed funds and lobbied on behalf of graduate and professional students," Mallinson said. "While those functions are quite important, I think the GPSF can be more of a programming organization for graduates. We can plan activities and functions that better unify the graduate community as a whole."

taxes

In the last session of the N.C. General Assembly, legislation was passed requiring car owners to sign an affidavit attesting that they have listed their car as personal property with the county tax office. If a resident refuses to sign the affidavit, he will not receive new license plates. Violating this statute is punishable as a criminal offense, with a prison term not to exceed six months, Lloyd said.

The tax office has not actively pursued collection of taxes from dormitory residents because they have very little appreciable property, other than stereos. Lloyd said most students would "exempt out" because they own property valued at less than \$300 resale value.

Lloyd said he encouraged all residents of Orange County to list their property with the tax office in Hillsborough to avoid any confusion.

"The penalties for not listing are much greater than for listing," he said.

Bernholz said she advised those inquiring about the tax office to list their property because they are under legal obligation; failure to do so results in a misdemeanor. The average tax for students in apartments is between \$20 and \$40, she said.

There are advantages to listing personal property with the local tax office. In case a student files an insurance claim, the tax office has an official listing of property owned and its retail value.

Many employers check with local tax offices, especially government employers, to verify if the applicant has been paying his personal property taxes, Lloyd said.

Collecting taxes from students can be costly to the county," he said.

From page 1

"It costs us more to administer (collection) in a lot of cases than the taxes are," he said. "But the law says we have to treat everyone equally. The amount doesn't make any difference."

Chapel Hill Town Council member Bev Kawalec said she supported the tax office's attempt to locate students who have not listed their property with the county and city. Students use many of the town and county services without contributing to their operation, she said.

"In fact, students get unequal fire protection," she said. The Chapel Hill Fire Department inspects dorms and fraternity and sorority houses more frequently than residential houses, she said.

The following guidelines, listed by the county tax supervisor, advise students if and what they should report to the county tax office:

- Students who will have had property situated in Orange County for the majority of the calendar year preceding Jan. 1, 1983, should list all personal property with the tax office in Hillsborough or Carrboro during the month of January 1983.
- Tangible property, including cars, stereos, furniture and clothing should be listed at their retail value. Property that is owned by your parents, but that is in Orange County, must be listed in this county.
- If the total retail value of the property is less than \$300, the student is exempt from paying taxes on that property.
- Differences in the value assessed may be appealed to the tax supervisor, and then the Board of Equalization and Review. Further appeals may be made to higher courts.

studies

From page 1

"I want to work with Indians on the reservations when I graduate. They have so many disadvantages and either situation is a real mess."

To fulfill her requirements, Boisvert is taking courses in political science, folklore, anthropology, history, writing, public health and environment. These do not include her core courses which are the Indian studies courses.

Andrew Lawler said the interdisciplinary program allowed him to write an honors thesis on social systems in space colonies, a topic he said would be difficult to pursue through one discipline. Lawler, a senior, studies a combination of political science, geography and anthropology.

"The idea of the interdisciplinary program is not just that I can combine three majors, but that I can do this honors thesis," he said.

The interdisciplinary program has developed into an established part of the University's curricula. And Lawler predicts that it could be the beginning of a movement that will revolutionize the University system.

He said the existing structure was an ivory tower, an unrealistic world that does not prepare the student for the future. But the interdisciplinary program encourages the student to learn and to make decisions.

"It's the first crack of reform in the University," he said. "I see it as the beginning of radical change in the structure of the University."

Ted Millsbaugh is following another interdisciplinary major — political change.

He said he had to take four core courses in political science and he also had to take history, economics and geography. He also will take applicable science courses. Millsbaugh said he hoped to go to graduate school in law or planning.

"The interdisciplinary program is designed for students who don't necessarily have an interest in one of the disciplines," he said.

Helms, Hunt match-up may pull attention from governor's race

By KELLY SIMMONS
Staff Writers

A 1984 Senate race between Republican Sen. Jesse Helms and Gov. Jim Hunt could thrust North Carolina's gubernatorial race in to the background, said Thad Beyle, UNC professor of political science.

"Everybody's attention will be on the presidential and senate races," Beyle said. He predicted that the amount of attention focused on the Helms-Hunt match-up could cause a "drying up" of funds for candidates for the governorship. "The money's going into the biggie," he said.

Beyle added that whoever runs will have to already be popular within the state. "The well-known name and face will be the most likely to win," he said.

However, Richardson Preyer, chairman of the North Carolina Campaign Fund, Hunt's political action committee, said that it could be that two colorful candidates would run and a strong race would emerge in 1984.

Preyer said since Hunt and Helms would attract so much of the attention in 1984 the governor's race would not receive as much press coverage as it normally would.

Beyle agreed with Hackney. "What goes on in Raleigh is much more important (to the people in the state) than what goes on in the senate."

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