

# Students' return means increase in business

By AMY TANNER  
Staff Writer

The students are back in town, and no one is happier than Chapel Hill merchants.

"We like to see the new ones coming in, and the old ones coming back," said Genny Wrenn, a salesclerk at the Shrunk Head Boutique downtown. Business improved at the boutique 10 to 15 percent during Orientation week, said owner Shelton Henderson.

Business also has been brisk at 153 East on Franklin Street.

"One girl bought ten bandannas — one for every outfit," said manager Mayo Griffin. The store sold four times more merchandise during Orientation week than the previous week, he said.

University Florist floral designer Chrystal Cloninger said plants are popular with students eager to decorate dormitory rooms.

"The guys are sending roses to the new people they meet," she said. "They send flowers to ex-girlfriends they left behind."

The late movies are twice as busy now that the students are back, said Warren Stiles, manager of the Carolina Blue and White Theater. "Flashdance has picked up — I guess because the sorority girls have come back," Stiles said.

"It's a madhouse," said Danny Fox, city executive of First Citizens Bank & Trust Co. "People opened things on the spur of the moment and have to come back and change them or get more explanation."

Orientation week meant a busy restaurant at Spanky's restaurant, said waitress Rebecca Dalton. "The freshmen didn't have anything to do so they went out to lunch and then dinner," she said.

As for books, sales are better now than they were at this time last year, said Dede Hall, manager of The Intimate Bookshop downtown. "Maybe students have more money; or parents are coming, and they have more money," she said. Sales were up 25 percent during Orientation week from the week before, Hall said.

"This summer we were as slow as could be," said Mark Hamrick, an employee at Soaps laundromat. When school started, business boomed as students came in with

dirty clothes, he said.

Huggins Hardware salesclerk Jennifer Plott said the store ordered extra amounts of padlocks, picture hangers, towel holders, extension cords and fans to prepare for students. "Everybody comes at one time," she said.

Student Stores director Thomas Shetley said it was great to have the students back.

"It's not just the sound of the cash registers. It's awfully lonely here in the summer," he said.

Shetley said figures were not available on the business tremendous during Orientation week, but there was a tremendous increase because students were in the store early buying school supplies.

Logos Christian bookstore has been selling lamps and posters and other items for students' rooms, said assistant manager Cecelia Belk. She said the store was two or three times busier during Orientation week than usual.

John Hartley, manager of the Upper Deck Tavern, said the beverage business was as good as elsewhere on Franklin Street during Orientation week. "The people who came back are the ones who said goodbye, but there are a lot of new faces too," he said.

# Alumnus goes where no Tar Heel has gone before

By JIM ZOOK  
Staff Writer



Dr. William Thornton

UNC graduate Dr. William Thornton is out of this world — literally.

Thornton, a 1952 graduate of the physics department and a 1963 graduate of the UNC School of Medicine, is part of the five-man crew currently on the eighth mission of the space shuttle Challenger. The space shuttle took off from Cape Canaveral early Tuesday morning.

A native of Faison, Thornton is conducting medical research and observing the physical condition of himself and the other four passengers.

Although this is his first trip into space, Thornton is no stranger to space research and technology. This mission is the climax of Thornton's 16 years of experience with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

During his career, Thornton has acquired 15 patents for equipment used in space. He has studied the effects of weightlessness on the neurological system with doctors who flew on previous space shuttle missions.

Recently, he has worked with Dr. William Biggers, professor of surgery in otolaryngology, and Dr. William Thomas, associate professor of surgery in otolaryngology, on the effects of weightlessness in the inner ear. Both are on the faculty at the UNC School of Medicine.

Several current members of the UNC faculty taught Thornton while he was a student here.

"He was very interested in building and fixing things and was very curious," said Everett Palmatier, professor of physics and astronomy. "He was a good average student, but when it came down to making things work, he really turned the heat on," Palmatier said.

It wasn't Thornton's knack for electronics, though, that most impressed his professor.

"To me, his outstanding characteristic is his sincerity. I think that it's

more pronounced than his curiosity to make things work," Palmatier said.

Anthony Jenzano, former director of the Morehead Planetarium, met Thornton when he came to the planetarium with 11 scientists for astronaut training in 1967.

"With all his degrees and brilliance, he seemed to be just an ordinary American lovable kind of guy. All of the astronauts who came here were that way," Jenzano said.

From 1960 to 1975, 56 astronauts came to Morehead Planetarium for aerospace training. During those years, the planetarium was a training ground for future astronauts.

Thornton didn't forget to take a little bit of North Carolina with him on his voyage. Several items of state memorabilia are also on board the shuttle, most of which will come back to the state.

Those items include a standard-size North Carolina flag that will be presented to the state, three UNC school emblems that will go to various University departments and a copy of "Carolina Victory," a school fight song.

# 'La Cage' musical version makes good soundtrack

By JEFF GROVE  
Arts Editor

Jerry Herman is back in form with his new musical comedy, *La Cage aux Folles*, which opened in New York Aug. 21 to critical raves. The original cast recording of the musical's score is one of the most enjoyable show albums produced in a long time.

Based on the French play *La Cage aux Folles*, which spawned a successful film adaptation, the musical tells the story of a middle-aged pair of homosexual lovers, Georges and Albin. Georges owns a St.

his toe-tapping scores for such old-fashioned musicals as *Hello, Dolly!* and *Mame*. After writing these shows, he entered something of a slump, a period which included the lackluster musicals *Dear World*, *Mack and Mabel* and *The Grand Tour*.

*La Cage aux Folles* puts Herman back where he was with his first shows — at the top among Broadway's songwriters. The recording is full of memorable, hummable songs, a case which becomes rarer with each passing Broadway season. Perhaps the reason for this is that once again, as with *Dolly Levi* and *Mame Dennis*, Herman is writing songs for characters who go out and live their lives the way they want to, accepting no guff from anyone.

The songs are of uniformly high quality. There are big dance numbers, such as "We Are What We Are" and the title song, which are standard chorus pieces sporting thick but listenable vocal arrangements by Donald Pippin, who has handled musical direction for *La Cage* and the last four Herman musicals. The only drawback to these cuts is their tendency to contain long stretches of nothing but rather dull dance music.

For Jean-Michel, played by John Weiner, Herman has provided a simple but effective song on the discoveries of

young love, "With Anne on My Arm." Weiner carries the number off well, but is immediately overshadowed when Georges and Albin do a slightly modified, jazzed-up reprise of it, this time titled "With You on My Arm."

The re-run provides an exuberant introduction for the show's stars, George Hearn and Gene Barry.

Yes, this is the Gene Barry who is well-known for his tough-guy film and television roles. He began his career in Broadway musicals and has a surprisingly warm and smooth singing voice. Herman obliges him with two haunting solo numbers. The first, called "Song on the Sand," seems to pour right out of Georges' fondest memories of the night he met Albin. His other song, "Look Over There," is a reply to Jean-Michel's insistence that Albin not be present when the Dindons arrive for dinner. Angered, Georges forces Jean-Michel to see what Albin really is — a parent figure who provided more love and care than most biological parents ever lavish on their children.

While Barry is the show's "romantic" lead, Hearn is the outgoing, brassy star. Hearn has an impressive list of Broadway credits, but only with *La Cage* has he achieved true stardom. The score provides him with several big turns, but he is at his

best in the impressive first-act finale, "I Am What I Am." Undeniably the best song in the album, "I Am What I Am" is an upbeat anthem for anyone who has ever been forced to deny his or her feelings because someone else disapproved of the truth. The lyrics are simple but moving, and the music reinforces the words, beginning slowly and quietly before building to a loud, shattering finale, when Hearn's powerful voice hammers the meaning home.

The only real failure in the score is "Masculinity," an attempt at a comic song from the second half of the show. Having convinced Jean-Michel to allow Albin to appear to the Dindons as "Uncle Al," Georges tries to teach his lover how to appear "masculine." The song's lyrics are vulgar and forced, and the music is an undistinguished march.

Jim Tyler's orchestrations provide the Gallic flavor the melodies lack in themselves. Tyler knows when to subdue the orchestra to the voice and when to pull out all the stops.

Small complaints aside, though, the score is a joy, featuring catchy songs solidly performed by seasoned musical comedy veterans. Given the popularity of the film version of the story, this album should find a wide and receptive audience.

# Three's roommates for tripled students

By JOEL BROADWAY  
Staff Writer

The 55 freshmen who have been living in temporarily tripled rooms for the past ten days may soon have a room to call their own.

Those freshmen — 28 females and 27 males — are placed second on the priority list for permanent room assignments and will be placed as soon as possible, said Jan Bakewell, an employee of the University housing department's contract office.

"They won't stay tripled all year, they never do," Bakewell said.

University housing also placed 41 females and 19 males in study rooms around campus this fall after they qualified for housing because of financial hardship.

While these upperclassmen had all been assigned to new rooms Tuesday, it could take significantly longer to place temporarily tripled freshmen.

"I would say an estimated date would

be a marginal three to four weeks," said Cindy Wolf, Hinton James Residence Hall area director. Hinton James now has 11 females and 10 males living in temporary triples, she said.

But the tripling situation is not as bad as it has been in the past. In the fall of 1982, there were 122 males and 93 females placed in temporary triples, though University housing had just decided to make an additional 220 rooms into permanent triples.

University housing places students in tripled rooms for several reasons, said Al Calarco, Olde Campus area director.

Many students who are already living in one area of campus and trying to change dorms may request a voluntary triple to increase their chances of changing areas.

This was the case of three sophomores who had lived in Ehringhaus last year, and wanted to move to North Campus this year.

"We figured by entering the lottery as voluntary triples we would have a much

better chance of getting in," said Stan Becton, a sophomore from Wilkesboro.

Becton and two of his suitmates, Andy Harper, a sophomore from Chapel Hill and Paul Fitzpatrick, a sophomore from Hendersonville, are now tripled in Mangum Residence Hall, which they said they like for its proximity to campus.

But residents can also find themselves placed in a tripled room which is not temporary or voluntary.

"They really should give the triples to upperclassmen, because they know what to do with them," said Pat Riordan, a freshman from Lawrence, Kansas.

Riordan and his two freshman roommates, Eric Quinn from Greenville, and Chuck Osborne from Raleigh, were a little surprised to find that they had more than one roommate when they received their room assignments this summer. But they are not bothered by the idea, they said.

"We like each other so it really doesn't matter," Osborne added.

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