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for the latest
weather developments
High 65. Low 40.

Will North Carolina up
the speed limit? — Page 2

'Bent' looks at society's
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It's Trivia Time!
What picture won the
best picture Oscar
in 1940?

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Bryan Hassel gives speech during Tuesday's anti-apartheid rally on the steps of the South Building

DTH/Tony Deifel

Board fails to appear at student rally

By LAURA PEARLMAN
Staff Writer

Seven faces were conspicuously absent from Tuesday's divestment rally held in front of South Building. They were the faces of members of UNC's Endowment Board, all of whom were sent copies of a petition signed by 95 faculty members asking them to attend the rally.

The petitions were also signed by student members of Action Against Apartheid (AAA).

In front of seven empty chairs labeled with the names of board members, five speakers addressed a crowd of about 45 people on the steps of South Building Tuesday.

Junior Bryan Hassel began the rally by outlining five arguments against apartheid he said are most often heard.

"We can't divest because it will hurt the blacks who'll be left without jobs," Hassel said. "I think we've heard all this before, like about 120 years ago with the freeing of the slaves, and then again about 20 years ago with the civil rights movement. We can't free the blacks because it'll be too hard for them to adjust to society."

Later, Hassel compared the board to the South African government. "Sure the students and faculty members want divestment, but we're being spoken for by a small group of people. Does that sound like any other place you've heard of?"

And if board members think that investments in South Africa maximize profits, Hassel said, they could

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Speaker says 'ecstasy' drug may be useful in medicine

By MARK FOLK
Staff Writer

The psychedelic drug "ecstasy" may have a good medical purpose, Lester Grinspoon, psychiatric professor from Harvard Medical School, told a capacity crowd in Hamilton Hall Tuesday night.

"I believe that ecstasy could have a great effect on medicine," Grinspoon said in a speech sponsored by the Carolina Union Current Issues Committee. "But we still have a great deal to learn about it."

Learning about ecstasy is a problem, Grinspoon said, since the Drug Enforcement Agency has listed it as a Status I drug, which includes LSD and marijuana. According to the DEA, Status I drugs have no medical uses, can't be used safely and have a great potential for abuse.

Because of the classification of ecstasy drugs, Grinspoon said,

researchers aren't allowed to study them.

"Once drugs are in Status I, then they never see the light of day," Grinspoon said. "We're fighting to get ecstasy out of Status I so it can be studied like it should be."

Grinspoon and three of his colleagues are now attempting to move ecstasy from a Status I to Status III classification. Although drug trafficking with ecstasy would still be illegal if it were classified Status III, Grinspoon said the move would allow researchers to learn more about the drug.

"All the DEA has been talking about recently is how bad the ecstasy is," Grinspoon said. "But how do they know, since there hasn't been much research done on it?"

Although ecstasy may have good medical use, Grinspoon said he wasn't sure what kind of effect the

drug had on frequent users.

"I am very concerned about those who abuse the use of ecstasy, since we don't know much about it yet," he said. "Anyone who uses it should be very cautious."

Ecstasy was discovered in 1914, but it didn't become well-known until 1954, when the Department of Defense tried the drug in research of chemical weapons. It was not illegal to use ecstasy until the early 1970s.

Grinspoon said that he tried the drug once while it was still legal, but that he wouldn't advise using ecstasy often because of the lack of knowledge about its long-term effects.

But using the drug once or twice would probably not have adverse effects on users, he said.

The drug may be valuable med-

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Housing proposes program for student-faculty interaction

By BARBARA LINN
Staff Writer

The Department of University Housing is seeking support for a Faculty Fellows program to increase faculty and student interaction in residence halls.

The program would allow students to interact with faculty on an informal basis through educational programs and informal discussion, L. D. Newman, assistant director of housing, said Tuesday.

A recent "quality of life" survey conducted by University housing revealed that students want more opportunities to interact with faculty in residence halls, she said. The survey was given to a random sample of about 1,800 students across campus.

"We don't want a program that the students won't participate in,"

Newman said.

But RHA President Kelly Clark said Tuesday that not enough students have been consulted about the proposal, and that only two questions on the Housing survey specifically addressed faculty-student relations.

"Nothing was directly said about a faculty fellows program on the survey," he said.

The questionnaire asked how likely it was for students to attend activities involving faculty members in residence halls. "Very likely to attend" was the response given by 12.2 percent of the students surveyed, while "Not likely at all to attend" was the response given by 10.4 percent.

And 46.2 percent of the students surveyed said they were satisfied with opportunities for

faculty involvement, while 28.4 said there was too little involvement.

According to a draft of the proposal, University housing hopes to recruit 20 faculty members, who will be assigned to each of the 10 residence areas on campus. An interested group of students from each area will be chosen to commit themselves to the program.

Clark said University housing officials should list their priorities in order of student needs. Before funds are channeled toward student development programs, he said, the basic needs of students should be met.

"This winter, students on South Campus went weeks at a time without hot water," Clark

See PROGRAM page 4

Student volunteers bridge generation gap by working with elderly

By KIMBERLY EDENS
Staff Writer

The problems of growing older may seem remote to many college students, but the more than 50 UNC student volunteers who work with the elderly come face to face with those problems every week.

Young people can make a special contribution to the lives of the elderly, said Mary Chenoweth, regional representative for the American Association of Retired Persons, which coordinates volunteer opportunities for working with the elderly. "Older people seem to understand and have a rapport with younger people," she said. "There's a better relationship, a more giving relationship at that level. It's like grandparent-grandchild."

Campus Y and Alpha Phi Omega (APO) service fraternity sponsor programs for students who want to volunteer to help the elderly.

Campus Y coordinates a student-

Student Volunteers

- Monday: Overview
- Tuesday: Working with Children
- Wednesday: Helping the Elderly
- Thursday: Working in Hospitals
- Friday: Helping fellow students

elderly exchange and a nursing home committee, while APO has a "Furry Friends" program that serves the Carol Woods Retirement Community.

Organizers said the student-elderly exchange, also known as Adopt-A-Grandparent, helps to bridge the generation gap. "It helps people to understand each other," said program co-chairwoman Dawn Williams. "It's an opportunity for people from different generations to know each other."

Adopt-A-Grandparent involves about 25 UNC students and 25 homebound elderly people, Williams said. Interested students apply and are interviewed by organizers.

Campus Y's nursing home committee also involves about 25 students in two groups. One group alternates between visiting Carol Wood Retirement Community and Lakeview Nursing Home each Monday. The other group visits Lakeview every Wednesday.

Participants in APO's Furry Friends program take a puppy or kitten from the Chapel Hill Animal Shelter when they visit Carol Wood on Wednesdays.

"The animals give the students something to start a conversation about," said sophomore Lynn Jacobs, APO vice president. "I know that a lot of elderly people don't get a lot of attention, and it brings some youth back into their lives."

Students gave many different reasons for volunteering to help the elderly. Some said they hope working with older people will make dealing with their own aging easier.

"Those people are going through the same happiness and sadnesses that young people are, just in a different form," said sophomore Diane Just, nursing home committee co-chairwoman. "I can deal with getting older because old people don't scare me."

Other students said they volunteer because of feelings about their own grandparents.

"I volunteer because I didn't ever get to know my grandparents."

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Diane Just, co-chair of a Campus Y volunteer committee, visits Alma of Lakeview Manor Nursing Home

DTH/Charlotte Cannon

If at first you don't succeed you're running about average — M.H. Alderson