

Geologists to set up seismic network

By LACY CHURCHILL
Staff Writer

UNC geologists are planning to set up a network of four stations to measure earthquakes and other seismic activity in the North Carolina Piedmont.

The project is North Carolina's first seismic network, and may be a factor in the state's bid to be chosen as the location for the superconducting super collider.

"The stations will be monitoring ground vibrations, since the earth vibrates continuously," said Christine Powell, associate professor of geo-

logy. "The two tasks of the network will be to monitor earthquakes — where and how deep — and to measure daily and continuous vibrations."

Because there is a low risk of major earth tremors, North Carolina was recently named one of seven potential sites for the superconducting super collider (SSC), said Paul Frampton, professor of astronomy and physics.

The ground around the SSC needs to be free of vibrations so the measurements will not be thrown off, Powell said.

The SSC is an underground tunnel

that has two beams of charged particles, Powell said. During experiments, scientists use magnets attached to the ground to smash the beams together. When the ground vibrates, the magnets move and disrupt experiments, she said.

Powell said the Piedmont area experiences minor quakes about every 18 months, but adjacent areas such as central Virginia and the North Carolina-Tennessee mountains experience much more seismic activity that needs to be monitored.

Powell said the University received funds to clean out and renovate a

seismic observatory near University Lake as part of the project. The observatory had not been used for 10 years, but it is now one of the best facilities in the Southeast, she said.

Powell said the super collider would benefit the area.

"It would be a really good thing if the SSC would come here," she said. "Not only would it bring many high-powered technicians to the area and UNC would benefit immensely, but environmentally it is very clean, underground and virtually harmless."

Program helps students work in England

By ELLEN THORNTON
Staff Writer

The thought of final exams may be beginning to make you feel a little queasy and you dread going home to spend another boring summer working for minimum wages. You may even feel like running away to a foreign country.

If you like the idea of living in your own flat, working in London's Hard Rock Cafe and traveling on weekends, then the British Universities North America Club (BUNAC) may hold the key to an enjoyable and productive summer.

For an \$82 administrative fee, BUNAC provides the means for U.S. college students to live and work in the United Kingdom for up

to six months.

American students are not ordinarily able to obtain work permits in Britain without proving that they are more qualified for the jobs than any British workers. But BUNAC helps students overcome this problem by providing "Blue Card" work permits.

The \$82 fee also includes discount accommodations for a student's first three nights in London, job and accommodation files, and personal and employment advice during the stay.

"The best thing about the program is that students have to cope with the world on their own," said Jim Buck, general manager of BUNAC in America.

Last year, 3,700 students partici-

pated in the BUNAC program. More than half of the students found their jobs through BUNAC, usually working in offices, restaurants, pubs, stores and hotels.

American students receive the same wages as British workers. The average weekly wage is £134.43. For live-in jobs, such as nannies, the average wage is £81.73. Since the average weekly rent in London is £34.72, most students make enough money to cover living expenses and travel in Europe.

Margaret Barrett, a 1987 UNC graduate from Buies Creek, said she made enough money at her bartending job to cover her living expenses and was also able to save some money to take home.

"You can find much better jobs

through BUNAC than you could on your own," Barrett said. "It makes it much easier to afford traveling."

Melissa Perrell, a junior from Lexington, spent a summer working as a secretary at London's Westminster Hospital and waiting tables at the Swiss Cottage Pub.

"It was scary when I first got off the plane because I didn't have a place to stay yet, but it all worked out," she said. Perrell also was able to spend a weekend at a co-worker's home in Dublin, and she back-packed around Europe after completing her job.

For further information, call campus representative Marie Isikli at 962-5661, or write BUNAC USA, Box 49, South Britain, Ct., 06487.

Keever enters race for class secretary

By MANDY SPENCE
Staff Writer

Kathie Keever, a junior education major from Raleigh, has announced her candidacy for senior class secretary.

Keever said improving senior class unity and communication are the two main issues of her campaign.

"I've seen a big problem since I've been at UNC," Keever said. "Students have no class unity until they are seniors. The current senior class officers began trying to create class unity after they were elected in their junior year. As an officer in general, I'd like to push that again."

A junior mini-week and junior nights out are some of the activities Keever said would create class unity.

"I think the current senior class officers did really well at creating unity," she said. "I want to continue what they have done and come up with more things."

Senior class officers have trouble getting in touch with committee members and the senior class, Keever said.

"I want to set up a bulletin board-size calendar somewhere accessible like in the Union or in front of the Campus Y," Keever

Campus Elections

said. The calendar would contain announcements of senior deadlines, senior nights out and other information important to seniors, Keever said. A copy of this calendar would be included in the senior newsletter, she said.

Another area of communication which needs improvement is between senior class officers and the faculty, Keever said. Because of this lack of communication, faculty members have been reluctant to approve senior class projects and activities, she said.

"Informing them of the good things we're doing will improve that," Keever said.

Keever was secretary and president of the Central District of North Carolina Association of Student Councils in high school. She has held offices in Alpha Chi Omega sorority, including secretary/treasurer and historian. She has been a freshman camp counselor and a member of the Campus Y Dillon School Committee. She is a member of the Union Social Committee.

VHS recorders may be erasing the Betamax market, dealers say

By PATRICIA BROWN
Staff Writer

When Sony first introduced Betamax, the original home video cassette recorder, it dominated the market. But some VCR dealers believe Beta machines are losing ground in the booming home video business.

"We don't stock Beta videotapes because there just isn't a high enough demand in this area, and we don't

feel we're losing any profits by not offering this service," said Barbara Lopez, owner of Wizard of Vid video store in Carrboro.

Not long after Sony introduced the Betamax in 1975, JVC, a Japanese company, started marketing the VHS video recorder. Although the two models were compatible in price, the quality differed.

Steve Bullock, manager of Foister's Camera Store Inc. on Franklin

Street, said, "Beta has much better sound and picture quality, but Beta lost its edge on the market when VHS licensed the machine to other corporations."

After JVC signed with other companies, Sony lost 40 percent of its market, and by 1987, 90 percent of VCRs sold in the U.S. were VHS models.

Although Sony has less than five percent of the VCR market, David Kawakami, manager of corporate communications at Sony, believes Betas will not become obsolete.

"The Beta market has boiled into a stable, minority market of 4 to 5 million people," he said. "These people get hooked on the high quality found in Betas, and we expect them

to eventually replace their Betas with other Beta machines."

Kawakami said the Beta market is becoming finely segmented. "It's impossible to think one product will satisfy the whole world, and Sony doesn't miss being in that blood-thirsty market," he said.

While some people think Beta machines soon will become extinct, Gary Messenger, president of North American Video Ltd., said Chapel Hill Beta owners make an impact on company sales.

"Out of 185,000 costumers, 30 percent of them are Beta users, and these people have been with us for many years," he said. "We don't plan on just abandoning them. We're going to take care of our old

members, as well as the new ones."

Michelle Loyd, part-time employee of The Video Bar in Eastgate Shopping Center, said as long as people still have Beta recorders, they will continue to rent Beta tapes.

"Ten to 15 percent of our customers rent Beta tapes, so we're still making money, but VHS owners get a better selection," she said. "When 'Dirty Dancing' came in, we got six VHS copies and only two in Beta, so in general we get more copies of VHS tapes."

Some UNC students experience both the benefits and the drawbacks of owning a Beta VCR.

"Because there's only a couple of stores that carry Beta tapes in Chapel Hill, they usually don't have the

competitive prices other stores do," said Barbara Jackson, a first-year law student from Raleigh. "But, on the other hand, whenever I want to rent a new release, the (Beta) tapes are almost always there."

Mary Colbert, a senior from Morehead City, said it's frustrating when she goes home and tries to rent movies for her parent's Betamax recorder.

"It was great when the Beta first came out, but now it's nearly impossible to get the more popular movies because there are always less Beta tapes than VHS tapes," Colbert said. "The Beta owners have to sign request forms for the store to even order new movies on Beta, and even then the tapes are usually rented very quickly."

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committee conducted a poll and found that 94.6 percent of 667 students supported the proposal. Students expressed mixed emotions about the proposal.
"Sounds cool to me," said Trevor Fearon, a sophomore from Greenwich, Conn. "That way, if you do well you still have the option to help your GPA."

from page 1
Meredith Page, a freshman from Ayden, said, "It would be good for the students, but I can see where the administration would not like it at all. It's like having your cake and eating it too."
Arrests from page 1
Although the three students will have to appear in Raleigh court sometime in early March, Loth said he's not too worried.
"We'll probably get a fine, community service and a lecture from the judge," Loth said. "I'm concerned but not preoccupied by it."

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