

Mostly sunny,
high 64
Tomorrow: chance of
rain, high 63

Omnibus

Artist creates skull sculpture
that's heads above the rest

Tonight at the
Union — "Manchurian
Candidate"
9:30 p.m.

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Soviet Union to release prisoners, official says

By STACI COX
Assistant Staff and National Editor

The Soviet Union will release all of its political prisoners by the end of this year, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced Wednesday after talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. But who will be considered a political prisoner and how many will be released is not clear.

"It's unclear at this time what the release would mean because earlier this month Soviet prison officials stated they have only 12 political prisoners," said Steve Herrick, director of the Southern Region of Amnesty International, U.S.A.

Amnesty estimates that there are about 150 "prisoners of conscience" interred in the Soviet Union, Herrick

said in a telephone interview Wednesday. Until the prisoners are actually released it is impossible to say who they will be, but Amnesty welcomes the release of any such prisoners, he said.

Although the numbers are uncertain, there is little doubt the Soviets will release some prisoners by the end of December, said Joel Schwartz, UNC professor of political science. The Soviet Union wants to maintain friendly relations with West Germany and would not risk embarrassing Kohl by not releasing anyone, he said.

"I think that it would make the person that announced this look quite ridiculous if it is not legitimate," Schwartz said.

The State Department announced

Wednesday that it had received assurances from the Soviet Union similar to those given to Kohl, said Ben Justesen, a State Department press officer, in a telephone interview.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the United States estimates there are 200 political prisoners incarcerated in Soviet labor camps, prisons and psychiatric institutions, Justesen said.

"What the definitions are could become an issue," he said.

The number of prisoners of conscience is a gray area between Soviet estimates and Western approximations, Schwartz said. The number of political prisoners in the Soviet Union has decreased dramatically over the

last few years, and even the highest estimates quoted are well below the numbers from a few years ago.

"(The release of political prisoners) certainly would not have happened if Gorbachev was not in charge," Schwartz said.

Releasing the prisoners not only sends a positive message to the West but also to the average Soviet citizen whom Gorbachev tries to bring into his policy of "perestroika," he said.

"Gorbachev has to convince his people that there will be no political repercussions from following his plan," Schwartz said. "They need to know what guarantee they have that someone like Stalin isn't going to reappear and they'll pay for it with their lives just following orders."

Parking panel prepares to submit report

By JAMES BURROUGHS
Staff Writer

The chancellor's ad hoc parking committee, a staff committee appointed by the chancellor to examine campus parking issues, is in the final stages of preparing its report, committee officials said Wednesday.

Garland Hershey, vice chancellor of Health Affairs and chairman of the committee, said the group will submit its report to Chancellor Paul Hardin.

The report deals with many parking issues, Hershey said, and "attempts to at least give some attention to all those issues." The committee does not make conclusions concerning the problems but gives the chancellor usable information, he said.

There are different aspects to the parking crisis, and the committee's proposals could change as more information becomes known, he said.

Hershey said the committee is still debating the option of eliminating sophomore parking on campus. Last month the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee, a standing student and faculty committee, suggested the option and several others to alleviate UNC's parking problems.

The ad hoc committee, formed last spring by former Chancellor Christopher Fordham, consists of Hershey; Wayne Jones, acting vice chancellor of business and finance; and Dennis O'Connor, acting

provost. The committee works directly with the Office of Facilities Planning and Design.

Fordham formed the committee following the proposal of a South Campus parking deck, said Gene Swecker, associate vice chancellor of facilities management. Students protested the idea after learning that the price of parking permits would rise dramatically to accommodate the construction costs, he said.

The committee differs from the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee, Hershey said. The ad hoc committee is appointed to "digest and collect some of the information and suggestions that are coming from a number of people on campus," he said.

The advisory committee submits its report to the ad hoc committee, which compiles a report for the chancellor. Although the two committees are independent, the differences between the two proposals will be small, Hershey said.

The Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee submitted its six-point proposal to the ad hoc committee at the end of September and added a seventh point last week, Roger Lotchin, committee chairman, said Wednesday.

Recommendations in that report include moving all sopho-

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Fair presents foreign study options

By SIMONE PAM
Staff Writer

UNC students had a chance to learn about opportunities to study in foreign countries at Wednesday's Study Abroad Fair, sponsored by the UNC Study Abroad Program.

The fair was designed to inform students about the programs available at UNC and to allow them to speak with representatives from foreign universities about other programs, Heather Brown, director of the fair, said Wednesday.

UNC's Study Abroad Program gives students a chance to spend an academic year studying at a foreign university while remaining enrolled at UNC. Students earn academic credit

at their host schools that transfers to UNC, said Rachel Lattimore, office assistant for the program.

Some of the countries affiliated with the University's program include Australia, Brazil, China, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Scotland, Spain and the Soviet Union.

UNC's programs for foreign study are geared to academics, but the office can also provide information about internships, employment and research opportunities, Lattimore said.

The office recommends that students go abroad for a year, Lattimore said, but there are semester programs also. The summer session also spon-

sors summer study abroad programs, she said.

One of the biggest advantages of UNC's study abroad programs is that in most cases, credits and grades are transferable and can be used to fulfill major and perspective requirements at UNC, Lattimore said.

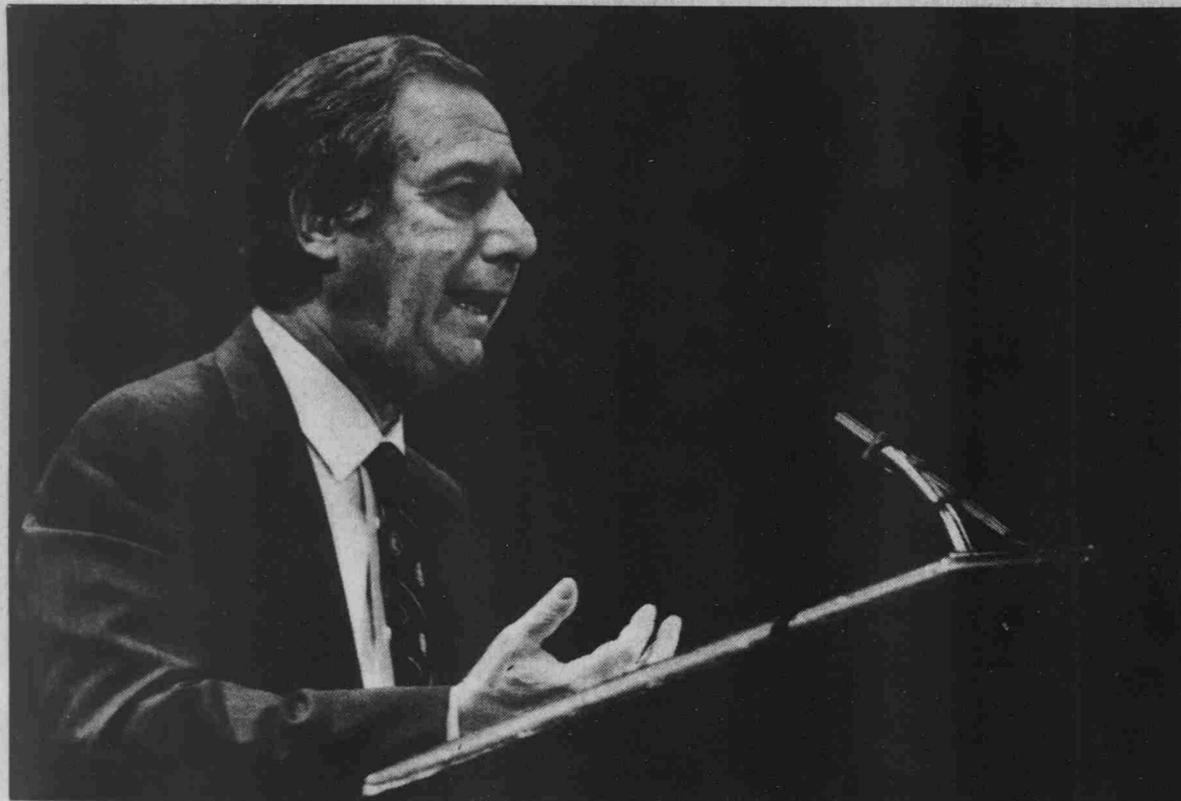
Students who receive federal financial aid are also eligible for the same assistance for exchange programs, Lattimore said. Most scholarships are also transferable, she said.

Students must have a 3.0 grade point average to participate in study abroad programs and usually must be upperclassmen, Lattimore said. Students must apply to be accepted to a program.

The cost varies from country to country, Lattimore said. Certain expenses, such as transportation, are usually not included in the tuition and fees. In some cases, students have the option of living with a family or in a university dorm, she said.

Lattimore, who studied at the University of Bristol in England, said she enjoyed the "opportunity to meet people with totally different backgrounds and the opportunity to do so many unusual things that you could not do in this country."

Students interested in spending a year or a semester abroad can contact the Study Abroad Office in the basement of Caldwell Hall or call 962-7001.



DTH/Brian Foley

Murray Weidenbaum, former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, speaks about the U.S. economy Wednesday night

Financial expert discusses legacy of Reaganomics

By DAVID BALL
Staff Writer

The lack of a long-term outlook and problems such as the trade deficit are underlying problems for America's economy that the next president must make hard decisions about, the author of "Rendezvous with Reality" said in Memorial Hall Wednesday night.

Murray Weidenbaum, the first chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors under President Reagan, spoke on "The Policy Agenda for the New President," for the UNC business school's Kenan Enterprise Lecture.

Now the director at Washington University's Center for the Study of American Business, Weidenbaum said Reaganomics leaves a legacy for the next president, who will have to try to enhance American competitiveness in the global economy.

He began with a summary of economic progress made during the Reagan administration, giving what he called a "non-partisan Republican version of the pluses and minuses."

"Reaganomics is now a legacy, for good or for ill," he said. Lowered inflation and interest rates, lowered unemployment rates, lowered tax

rates, and "labor peace" were successes. But the larger presence of the federal government in the economy, the increased budget deficit, and the focus of spending on "current consumption" were failures, he said.

Weidenbaum also cited the government's inability to make "tough choices" as one reason for the budget deficit's continued growth.

"If you look at any public opinion poll . . . you see that the American people want a balanced budget," he said. "The same public opinion polls show that they don't want to pay for the decreased deficit by increasing taxes or cutting spending."

Weidenbaum's own plan for enhancing American competitiveness includes improving education, changing the priorities used in governmental reform and reducing the budget deficit.

"We're literally consuming more than we produce," he said. "I think the time to pay the piper is rapidly approaching."

Weidenbaum proposed making education a higher national priority, with emphasis placed on how the money is spent rather than how much

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Group to protest administration's stand on student dissent

By LACY CHURCHILL
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Coalition for Freedom to Dissent (CFD) will hold a rally in front of South Building today at 12:30 p.m. to demand that UNC Chancellor Paul Hardin "take a stand" on the Graduate Student Court's trial of Dale McKinley.

The rally will be a plea to the University to reconsider its position on freedom to dissent, said Lisa Hughes, CFD member. The group will present more than 600 petitions,

which were signed by students, community members and faculty, saying that the UNC campus should be more democratic. The group presented about 200 petitions at a rally last Friday.

CFD member Christina Kendrot said, "Once there's a student outcry about a policy, the University has a duty to review it. The University is students, not the Board of Trustees or administrators."

McKinley, a member of the CIA Action Committee, was brought

before the graduate court on charges of obstruction of official University business, trespassing and disorderly conduct related to a Feb. 23 incident at the University Motor Inn and an April 15 protest against the presence of a CIA recruiter in Hanes Hall.

McKinley walked out of his graduate court hearing last week after the court ruled not to allow him to discuss CIA activities as evidence in his defense.

Kim Deans, CFD member, said the rally would be similar to the last CFD

rally, held Tuesday. "Originally, we had planned to deliver the petitions to the chancellor in person, but since he won't be present, we will issue some statements and read what is in the petition," she said.

The statements will advocate the CIA Action Committee's right to dissent and will attack aspects of the honor court system. Deans said the final statement would ask Hardin to take a position on McKinley's case, because Hardin knew the case was urgent and chose not to deal with it.

Hardin has taken two separate positions, Deans said. First, the chancellor said he was not involved because the arrest occurred before he became chancellor of UNC, and then he called McKinley's case "nonsense."

"We just want him to take a stand and stick with it," she said. Group members said they tried to set up a meeting with the chancellor so they could talk with him in a non-threatening, non-disruptive way, but his secretary said he would not have time to meet with them until

December.

"We were very upset to know that he didn't even have 10 to 15 minutes for a student concern," Deans said.

The chancellor will be unable to attend the rally because he will be meeting with the UNC Board of Trustees.

Group members will also hold a political theater production at noon today in the Pit. It will be an improvisational production dealing with the right to dissent.

It is a very Grand thing to be an Afternoon. — Winnie-the-Pooh