

WEATHER
TODAY: Rain; high low 70s
WEDNESDAY: Rain; high 60-65

CAREER FAIR '91: The internship, job hunt gets underway ... SPECIAL INSERT
NORPLANT: Student Health offers newest birth control FEATURES, page 2

ON CAMPUS
A can crush will be sponsored by TARP at 12:15 this afternoon in the Pit as part of TARP Recycling Week.

The Daily Tar Heel

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T.U.E.S.D.A.Y Up Front

Prisoner's son appeals for Amnesty International aid

By Beth Tatum
Assistant Features Editor

Masankho Banda was 22 years old when his father, Aleke Banda, was imprisoned in Zomba, Africa. That was 10 years ago. His father has yet to be released.

"There has been no charge, no trial, no investigation," Masankho Banda said.

Aleke Banda's imprisonment came after years of service within the Malawian government. He wrote the Malawian constitution when the country first became independent and served as the first secretary general in the initial government. He was the next in line for the presidency.

Resentment against Aleke Banda grew, especially from the official hostess (similar to first lady) and her uncle, the governor of the Central Bank in Malawi, who wanted to take over, Banda's son said.

The government soon began to have money problems, due to the couple's pocketing money, and in 1980 the country came to a monetary crisis, he said. Aleke Banda was sent to tell the president.

As a result, he was fired from all positions and was told to start packing. Soon after he was put behind bars.

Masankho Banda came to the United States in 1987 to flee from the Malawian government that was holding his father. Now the director of the Southeastern outreach branch of Student Coalition for Action in Literacy Education on campus, Banda is doing all he can to get his father released. That means publicity. Lots of publicity.

Enter Amnesty International. Amnesty is a group that works to fight human rights violations. Its purposes are threefold: to work for the release of all prisoners of conscience, to work for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and to work to end torture and executions.

Working for the release of a prisoner is done by one primary tool — letter writing. The group floods the government holding the prisoner with letters demanding a release or at least a fair trial.

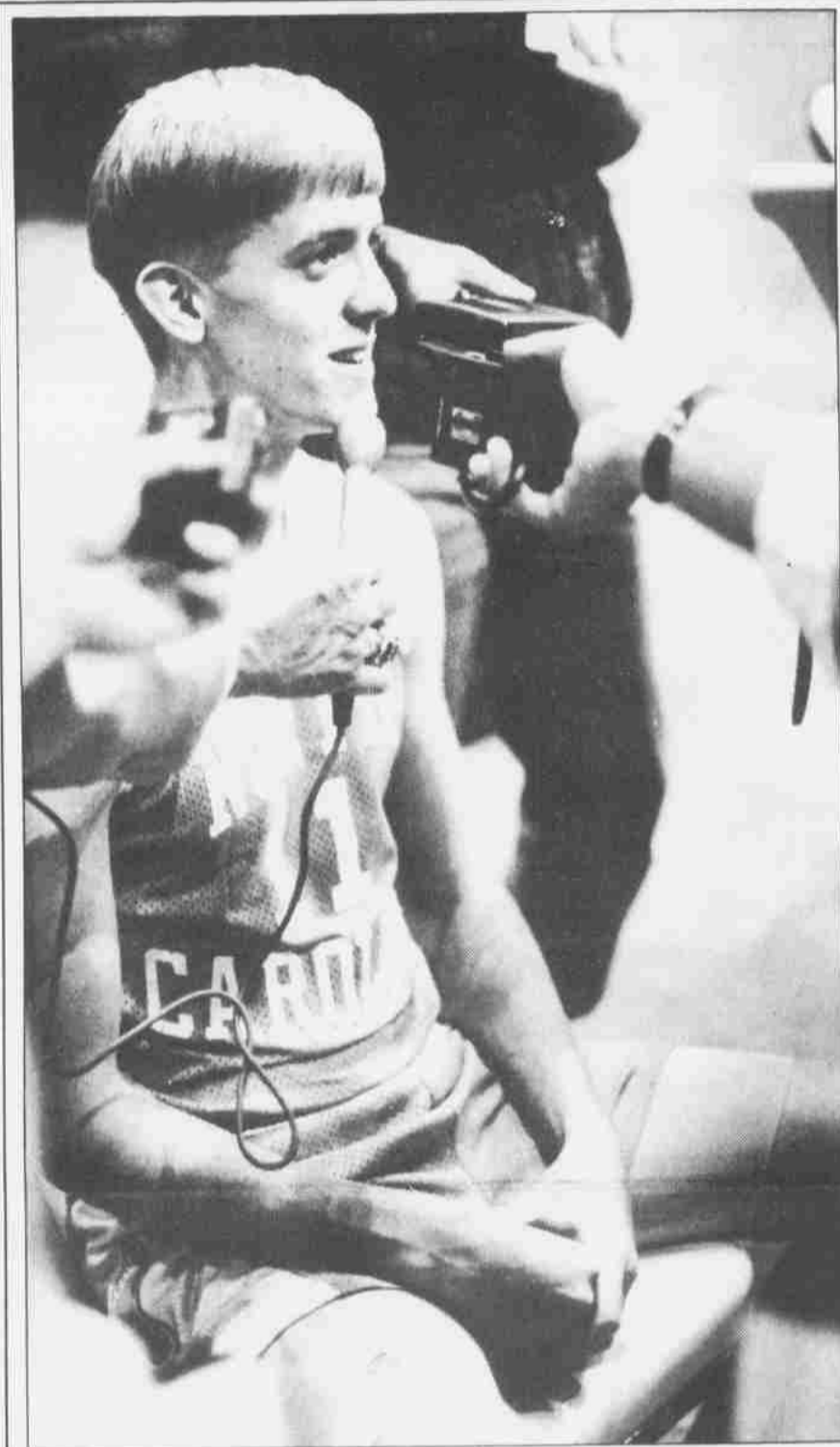
"Some people ask if letter writing makes a difference," said Geoffrey Mock, a five-year member of the group. "It does. There have been too many cases where people were released after the letters. We've received too many letters thanking us to think they are not worthwhile."

This year is Amnesty International's 30th anniversary. The organization was begun in 1961 by a London lawyer, Peter Benenson, said Rodney Jones, editor of the Amnesty International newsletter. Benenson read about a case in Portugal where students were arrested for toasting freedom in a bar, wrote an article, and began a letter-writing campaign. Amnesty International was born.

Chapel Hill formed its local chapter, group 84, in the late 1970s, around the time Amnesty International won the Nobel Peace Prize, Jones said. The group comprises both students and non-students.

In the years since, the group has fought for the release of several prisoners of conscience "adopted" by the group. All

See AMNESTY, page 3



Cherry holds court

Scott Cherry, a UNC basketball player, answers questions from reporters at a basketball press conference in the Smith Center Monday. Reporters came from all over the state to learn about this year's Tar Heels.

DTH/Andrew Cline

Smoking rules approved for public buildings

By Chris Goodson
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council voted 7-0 to approve an ordinance Monday night that heavily restricts smoking in public places, including the Smith Center and other campus buildings.

Chapel Hill Mayor Jonathan Howes said the ordinance was a step to improve life in Chapel Hill and that later councils could add to and improve the law.

"The quality of life of people in the community will be greatly improved," he said.

The new ordinance restricts smoking in public buildings, including retail stores, movie and stage theaters, convention halls, restaurants with 30 or more seats and sports arenas.

The ordinance also prohibits smoking in the hallways and lobbies of multiple-unit residential facilities such as apartment buildings and condominiums. Campus dormitories fit the description.

The ordinance allows a designated smoking area in all affected buildings that can be as large as 25 percent of the public area in the building. But non-smokers must be able to obtain access to facilities in the building without crossing smoking areas.

The ordinance would affect University sports arenas, including Carmichael Auditorium and the Smith Center.

Smith Center director Jeff Elliott has said plans for designated smoking areas in the center would continue on schedule regardless of a town ordinance. Elliott declined to comment after the vote Monday night.

UNC Chancellor Paul Hardin wrote in a Sept. 30 letter to the town that the ordinance was commendable but that he could not support it because the University is empowered to enforce the policies regarding its own facilities.

"Consequently while our goals on the question of a smoke-free environment are compatible with those of the town, and while we are working on a parallel course to achieve them, we can-

not endorse the proposed Smoking Pollution Control Ordinance insofar as it purports to apply to University buildings and campus," he wrote.

But Donald Boulton, vice chancellor for student affairs, said he was pleased with the ordinance and added that the University had been working on its own smoking policies for a long time.

"We're all going in the same direction," Boulton said.

Council member Joe Herzenberg said the only problem with the ordinance is that it may not be effective enough in combating second-hand smoke.

Employers are responsible for providing smoke-free areas in their businesses, according to the ordinance.

Bars, as well as restaurants with less than 30 seats, will have to post signs telling customers whether they provide non-smoking areas.

Local attorney Donald Stanford presented the council with an alternate proposal that would have created an even stricter ordinance.

Stanford said his alternative would be simpler than the town's rules and would remove smoke from the workplace.

"Reliable studies have shown that breathing second-hand smoke is a cause of disease ... in healthy non-smokers," Stanford wrote in his proposal.

Stanford's proposal would have eliminated smoking in all public areas, as well as workplaces, without the addition of designated smoking areas.

But Howes said the alternative was too drastic to be enacted now. "We need to walk before we run," Howes said.

At a public hearing May 20, the council heard opinions from town residents, including one speaker who questioned the constitutionality of the ordinance.

But the town staff said the ordinance was a legal use of power. "We believe the ordinance would be a reasonable exercise of the town's police power and is constitutional," Town Manager Cal Horton and Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos wrote in a report.

Bicentennial Campaign funds could help BCC find home

By Birch DeVault
Staff Writer

The Bicentennial Campaign could provide organizations such as the Black Cultural Center with the funds they need to carry out plans, said Donald Boulton, vice chancellor of student affairs.

"There will hopefully be gifts specifically pledged for programs like the Union, the Black Cultural Center and the Campus Y," Boulton said Monday.

The campaign will focus on programs with specific needs, he said. "At this point, as we go out and campaign, we will try to make the donating public aware of organizations such as the BCC," he said.

Chancellor Paul Hardin announced Friday that the Bicentennial Campaign goal was \$320 million. Administrators hope to raise this money over the next four years and already have received \$155 million in donations and pledges.

Boulton said the Black Student Move-

ment has made administrators aware of the BCC's need for a new building, and they would keep this in mind.

"We have talked about a variety of things to solve the need for a new building, but nothing concrete has surfaced," he said. "This is due to the fact that we have no money as yet, since the campaign has not yet begun."

A building renovated especially for the BCC would be a more realistic goal than an entirely new structure, Boulton said. But everything depends on how

much donated money is designated for the BCC, he said.

Margo Crawford, BCC director, said the possibility of using money from the campaign for the BCC had not been discussed with her.

Ivana Pelnar-Zaiko, Bicentennial Campaign director of principal gifts, said details about fund-raising efforts and the attempt to focus attention on the BCC will be ironed out in the next few weeks.

"I would think that the present struc-

ture the BCC uses will continue to be used by the BCC unless, of course, sufficient funds are raised for the center itself to compensate for renovations or building," she said.

The task at hand is to plan a campaign and raise donors' awareness about the plight of the BCC, Pelnar-Zaiko said.

"There is a goal to raise money for the BCC, but the amount is to be decided by the donors," she said.

Boulton said activities over the next

two years would help the campaign reach its goal of \$320 million and help plan for an improved structure for the BCC.

"As we move towards a stage where we can actually plan a campaign with programs, literature and the like, we will keep in mind the BCC," he said.

"You have to be realistic about the kind of money you can raise, but if a guy walked up to me and said 'Here's \$4 million for a new Black Cultural Center,' I would be quite elated."

Council approves bike helmet law but exempts people 16 and over

By Chris Trahan
Staff Writer

An ordinance requiring the use of bicycle helmets gained unanimous approval from the Chapel Hill Town Council Monday night, but the law will not affect University students and others over 15 years old.

"This is a good compromise," Chapel Hill Mayor Jonathan Howes said. "University students just wouldn't be able to handle it. It's a very sensible step."

Under the law, all people under the age of 16 operating bicycles on public rights of way are required to wear protective helmets with chin straps. In addition, no people operating bikes can legally allow anyone to ride as a passenger unless the passenger is wearing a helmet.

Before the council amended the proposal Monday, the ordinance would have required all people, including University students, to wear helmets while operating bicycles.

People caught in violation of the law will be required to purchase helmets if

they do not already own them. On subsequent offenses, the offenders will be charged \$10 penalties.

Council member Art Werner, who wanted the ordinance passed when it first appeared on the agenda Aug. 26, said he supported exempting college students from the law.

"UNC students are not very anxious to be put under town authority for using their helmets that I can see," Werner said.

People under 16 years old live with their parents, who can teach them about bicycle safety, Werner said.

"Because these people live at home, it lets parents supervise and educate children," he said. "If we have (people under 16) wearing helmets, they might continue wearing them over the age of 16."

Council member Al Rimer said the law should include.

"This is a compromise, to be under 16," he said. "But I think it's important to urge the council to vote for this. We're talking children, to keep them safe."

The council voted 7-0 to approve the ordinance and to form a committee to teach the public about bicycle safety. Council members Jimmy Wallace and Nancy Preston were absent.

But council member Joe Herzenberg said he didn't think an education committee would be strong enough to teach people about safety.

"The main problem with the committee is it doesn't deal with education with respect to the law," said Herzenberg, who voted in favor of the committee. "I saw upstanding citizens with helmets on riding across Franklin Street in the middle of rush hour on a red light. This resolution is weak."

Orange-Chatham District Attorney Carl Fox has said that he would not prosecute violators of the ordinance because it would be a waste of time.

"The system simply isn't set up to enforce this kind of ordinance," Fox said at the Sept. 10 public hearing.

Most of the 30 people who spoke at the September hearing opposed the ordinance, saying it would violate their right to free choice.

Departments reinstate class sections canceled in fall due to budget cuts

Many restored classes fill General College requirements

By Sarah Suiter
Staff Writer

Relief may be in sight for students dreading spring registration because of canceled classes.

Many University departments that were forced to cancel sections for fall semester now have funds that will allow them to reinstate the classes.

Beverly Taylor, English department assistant chairwoman, said seven English courses that were canceled for fall semester would be available for spring registration.

Those courses will help freshmen, sophomores and graduate students the most, she said.

Freshmen and sophomores suffered because the courses that were cut filled the General College literature requirement. Graduate students also were affected because they taught the classes, she said.

Stirling Haig, chairman of the Ro-

manche languages department, said 12 sections were restored from fall semester, mostly French and Spanish courses. "So we look like we're in good shape," he said.

Jane Lindley, history department administrative manager, said more history courses would be offered spring semester than in the past two semesters.

Almost all of the classes canceled because of budget cuts will be offered now, she said.

Karen Hildebrandt, psychology department administrative manager, said no classes were expected to be cut for spring registration.

The department originally had planned to offer fewer classes, but additional funds made the cuts unnecessary, she said.

John Billing, chairman of the physical education department, said no undergraduate restrictions were being placed on activity classes for the spring.

The department originally had lim-

ited fall classes to students who had not completed their required courses. The restriction was lifted when the department added several sections early this semester.

Students should be able to get the physical activity classes they want for the spring, Billing said.

But the department may have to restrict who can take the classes again next fall because enrollment for activity classes peaks during fall registration, he said.

Lucy Burgin, a junior from Marion, said she always has had problems registering for classes.

A political science course she had registered for was canceled this semester and she had to add a class she didn't need, Burgin said.

"I always expect problems with registration, and if there are not any, then I'll be pleasantly surprised," she said. "As of yet, I've never been surprised."

Don't forget to swing hard, in case you hit the ball. — Woodie Held