

# Students trying to find niche should 'Go West' at the movies

"What am I going to do with my life?" According to its creator, this was the question that sparked the making of the film "Go West," which premiered Monday night at the Hanes Art Center. Filmed, acted and produced entirely by students and a few family members,

"Go West" tackled one of the toughest problems facing college graduates: employment. Although many of the people in the crowd might have attended hoping to catch a glimpse of themselves in this Chapel Hill movie, they soon became engrossed in a film that not only ad-

resses a topic of concern to many of them, but also does so in an engaging and original manner.

One of the most interesting features of the film is its use of humor to convey serious messages. Director, writer and star John Ward plays a hapless political science major, whose chief problem is that he does not know what to do with his life. He first realizes the future may be a bit more difficult than he expected when he encounters the "specter of unemployment" in a political science major turned homeless wino.

Things continue to worsen for Ward, whose subsequent job interviews elicit pangs of sympathy for anyone who has suffered through a bad one. And as if his employment problems were not enough, Ward's girlfriend of five years, played by Heather Simmons, is trying to nudge him toward marriage.

The true crisis, hilariously illustrated by a spoof of "The Last Crusade," comes when Ward finally realizes he must begin making decisions for himself. But true revelation comes with a screening of "My Own Private Idaho," when he recognizes that a "successful" job is less important than acting on his true desires.

Along his road to redemption, Ward is aided by Simmons, the dutiful girlfriend who types his resume for him

## Jonathan McCall Cinema

without his knowledge, a gruff-but-lovable old dad who acts as the voice of reason and a truly obnoxious roommate, who at least gives him the impetus to get out of the house.

Although obviously a homemade effort, "Go West" is none the worse for being a bit rough around the edges. The movie, which was filmed in Chapel Hill and Wilmington, makes up in imagination what it lacks in technical gloss. Camera work is an important part of the film, as it frequently heightens the humorous effects with odd angles and

"dramatic" zooms. Flashback and dream sequences are another mainstay of humor. The audience seemed especially appreciative of sequences depicting the potential horrors of married life.

Bits and pieces of other films frequent their way into "Go West," where they often heighten humorous effect. One scene shows the discouraged Ward, wishing he could remain in his college idyll forever, screening the cartoon version of "Peter Pan." Indeed, film seems a passion for Ward's character, who possesses an apparently inexhaustible library of videos.

Despite the overlay of humor, "Go West" poses a number of serious questions. Especially at a time when employment prospects are rather grim, post-graduation plans take on a new sense of


urgency. But as the film points out, there is also the tension between seeking success in the financial sense and fulfilling impractical dreams that might entail a great deal of risk. Even the task of defining one's own aspirations can be a difficult process.

Judging from the reaction of the audience, "Go West" makes its point and makes it well. The crowd obviously appreciated both the importance of the film's subjects and the honest and down-to-earth fashion in which the film was made. Certainly it spoke to anyone about to enter the job market. Many of the film's points may have been made before, but it was still reassuring to realize that everyone has shared a measure of that uncertainty.

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## Campus Calendar

**THURSDAY**  
NOON: Black Faculty/Staff Caucus will hold its general body meeting in 212 Peabody.  
3:30 p.m. JOB HUNT 104: UCPPS will offer tactics for competing in a difficult job market for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.  
5 p.m. Students Against Drunk Driving will meet in the Union's South Gallery Meeting Room.  
5:30 p.m. Amnesty International Student Action Group will meet in the north dining room of Lenoir.  
6 p.m. "BROTHERS" discussion and support group will meet in the first-floor lounge of Hinton James.  
6:30 p.m. Collegiate Black Caucus will meet in the BCC.  
7 p.m. The Advisory Board Company will give a presentation in the North Dining Room at the Carolina Inn. Sponsored by UCPPS.  
Leadership Matters will offer a workshop in "Working with Leadership and Organization Style" in the Cobb Training Room.  
Northern Telecom/BNR will give a presentation at the Carolina Inn. Sponsored by UCPPS.  
Peer Tutoring on the second floor of Dey for Econ 10; Poli 41; Bio 11; Chem 11; Math 10, 16, 17, 18, 22, 30, 31; French 1-4; Spanish 1-4; Stat 11, 23.  
7:30 p.m. Hillier Foundation welcomes Raleigh attorney Marshall Doyan to speak on "Capital Punishment: The Jewish Options" in 213 Union.  
FOCUS welcomes Ernest Lucas, Ph.D., to speak on "Green Spirituality: Christian & New Age Approaches to Ecology" in Gerrard.  
Orientation Counselor interest session in 208 Union.  
8 p.m. La Casa Espanola os invita venir a "Charlemos" en el segundo piso de Carmichael. Tenemis una discusion picante sobre el bosque tropical en contra de la gente.

## Legacies

percent, of total donations. The statistics verify the lower standards for legacies.

In-state students — not counting exceptions in areas such as music, drama and athletics — average a score of 1,100 on the SAT and rank just below the top 5 percent of their high school class. In a class of 300, that means the average applicant ranked between 15th and 20th.

The average out-of-state applicant scored 1350 and ranked between 6th and 12th in his class.

Legacy out-of-staters tend to rank between 15th and 20th, and their SAT scores only average about 1200.

History shows a pattern of alumni children finding easier access to universities. Ivy League schools first lowered admission requirements for legacies in the 1920s, when Jewish applicants began outperforming more traditional applicants. The universities restricted Jewish entry by holding interviews to measure character and by using legacies, which ensured the future of a homogeneous student body.

Today, 20 percent of Harvard students are legacies. Harvard officials argued for years that children of alumni were naturally superior because of genes and a good home environment. But after the university repeatedly rejected highly qualified Asian-American students, the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights ordered that the confidential admissions files be opened.

The department discovered the following comments written by admis-

sions officials:

■ Classical case that would be difficult to explain to dad.

■ Without lineage, there would be little case. With it, we'll keep looking.

■ Double lineage who chose the right parents.

Strickland justified admitting in-state legacies to UNC because these applicants come from highly educated backgrounds. "They tend to have a little better record — the home environment (is) going to be generally greater than the population at large."

But UNC is not the only public university that gives preferential treatment to alumni children.

At the University of Virginia, the acceptance rate of out-of-state students is twice as high as it is at UNC, while the rejection rate of in-staters is double that of the University. UVA enrollment caps allow the university to admit twice as many out-of-state students than UNC does.

As a result, the difficulty level of in-state and out-of-state admission at UVA is much closer than at UNC, and the legacy edge is much less dramatic.

About 12 percent of UVA's student body is composed of legacy admissions, said Mike Mallory, UVA's assistant dean of admissions.

Strickland said admissions officials often were confronted with questions about whom they reject.

"We feel it's incumbent on us to try to be fair and try to make our decisions as explainable as possible."

Not all legacies are marginal applicants. "Probably a third to one half of the legacies would have made it on their own in the out-of-state quota," Strickland said.

The office measures its fairness by tracking students' achievement once they are enrolled in the University. Strickland said the research was designed to find out, "Are we doing people a favor necessarily by admitting them?"

The results have given them confidence, he said.

But Tim Sanford, director of the Office of Institutional Research, said legacies were not specially marked in their statistics.

Unlike many minority students admitted to college, legacies, who generally are much more statistically significant, have escaped the wrath of those who cry "equal opportunities."

"Legacies have been honored in tradition and all kinds of things for years and years and years, and other groups have not," Strickland explained.

"Accepting wholesale alumni (children) goes against the grain," Strickland said, explaining why parents understand when told why their child was rejected.

"There's always been a very democratic element — that's always been part of the Chapel Hill legacy."

## Rates

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distance package to students that would be more affordable than present rates.

Nick Franzese, HAB chairman, said he had not reviewed the budget proposal comprehensively, but thought it would be beneficial to students.

"It's great if housing can cover their budget without increasing room rates," Franzese said. "It will be beneficial to students because the rates have been increasing the past couple years."

The advisory board will meet to approve the housing budget March 10. The board is a committee of students, faculty and staff which meets monthly with the housing department and Residence Hall Association.

Kuncl said the housing department would submit a proposal to Hardin for final approval by the end of the semester.

## On-campus job recruiting March 23-27

Resume drop: Feb. 25		*Open Sign-up: Mar. 18	
Date	Company	Positions	Majors
3-23	AFL-CIO	Union Organizer	LIBA/BA/MA/PHD, SOWO/MS/PHD
3-24	Geo. A. Hormel & Company	SALE	BU/BS
	*Vista/Action	SOCs	ANY/BA/BS
3-25	Aerotek	SALE	ANY/BA/BS
3-24 to	*Fund for Pub. Inst. Res.	Envir. Cpgn.	ANY/BA/BS
3-26		Staff Member	

Additional information available at 211 Hanes Hall

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# REQUESTING:

## NOMINATIONS FOR CHANCELLOR'S UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP

Nominations are encouraged from all members of the University Community

<p><b>Senior Awards</b></p> <p>Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award Irene F. Lee Award Walter S. Spearman Award Frank Porter Graham Award</p> <p>George Moses Horton Award</p> <p>E. Eugene Jackson Senior Class</p> <p>John Johnston Parker, Jr. Medal J. Maryon Saunders Award</p> <p>Ferebee Taylor Award</p>	<p><b>Primary Area of Achievement</b></p> <p>humanitarian contribution (one male, one female) character, scholarship, leadership (female) character, scholarship, leadership (male) improving quality of life of the University community through principles of equality, dignity, and peace among men leadership, initiative, creativity in multicultural education programs member of the graduating class whose leadership and selfless dedication have strengthened class pride and University loyalty, enriched the lives of seniors, and made the most significant contribution to the University student self-governance recognizes the greatest contribution to the preservation and enhancement of the feeling of loyalty and goodwill recognizes the principle of honor as one of the University's most hallowed ideals</p>
<p><b>Junior Awards</b></p> <p>Jane Craig Gray Memorial Award Ernest L. Mackie Award</p>	<p><b>Primary Area of Achievement</b></p> <p>character, scholarship, leadership (female) character, scholarship, leadership (male)</p>
<p><b>Any Undergraduate Awards</b></p> <p>Ernest H. Abernethy Prize Cornelius O. Cathey Award</p> <p>Gladys and Albert Coates Award</p> <p>Robert B. House Distinguished Service Award</p> <p>International Leadership Award Jim Tatum Memorial Award</p>	<p><b>Primary Area of Achievement</b></p> <p>student publications recognizes the greatest contribution to the quality of campus life or the efficacy of University programs for student through sustained, constructive participation in established programs, or through creative, persistent effort in development of new programs given to a member of the Student Congress judged most outstanding on a criteria of statesmanship, commitment and constructive involvement in issues affecting the quality of University community unselfish commitment, through service to the University and to the surrounding community international awareness and understanding athletics plus extracurricular activities</p>

**NOMINATIONS DUE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1992**

**NOMINATIONS FORMS AVAILABLE AT: Union Desk, Y Building, Leadership Development Office (01 Steele), Office of the Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs (104 Steele).**

Letters of nomination are also acceptable, and should include information requested on forms.

For further information contact Selection Committee Chair, Cynthia Wolf Johnson, Office of Leadership Development, 966-4041.