

CAMPUS AND CITY

NEWS BRIEFS

Activities slated to celebrate Fourth of July

Chapel Hill residents and UNC students will have lots to do but not a lot of ways to get around during the Fourth of July holiday.

Those staying in Chapel Hill for the weekend will be able to enjoy free fireworks Saturday night at Kenan Stadium. The program, which will begin at 8:30 p.m. July 4th, will include a welcome to residents and a performance by the Triangle Brass Band.

Although organizers are suggesting that those attending donate \$1 for next year's Fourth of July celebration, admission is free.

The July 4th celebration is sponsored by the towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, UNC, the Village Companies Foundation, Cablevision and Pepper's Pizza.

For amateur astronomers, the Morehead Planetarium will hold a free public session with the Morehead Observatory telescope July 3. Participants may use the observatory's 24-inch telescope and some smaller ones starting at 9 p.m. Friday.

Observatory staffers may be able to see Jupiter, the Ring Nebula and the Great Global Cluster of stars in Hercules. If the weather is cloudy, the session will be canceled.

Interested stargazers should call 962-1235 for more details.

The Ackland Art Museum will be closed both July 4 and 5 in observance of the holiday.

The museum will resume its normal schedule July 8. Normal hours are noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.

Vandals deface CGLA cube announcements

Unknown vandals defaced Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association announcements on the cube in the Pit Saturday for the second time this summer.

On the west side of the cube, the vandals wrote: "To all gays I know who you are here all your names and where you live I will be by to fill your coffins."

Three weeks ago vandals spray painted over CGLA information on the east side of the cube.

In a letter to The Daily Tar Heel, CGLA member Kathy Staley stated that the CGLA "decided not to repaint our advertisement immediately so that everyone can see what lesbians have to confront daily."

Book published about African-American hymns

Jon Michael Spencer, an associate professor of African and Afro-American Studies, is the author of a new book, "A Hymnological History of the African-American Church."

The book documents the hymnological tradition of black churches in America through an analysis of the hymnbooks of 10 denominations representing every persuasion of the Afro-Christian faith.

Spencer is a graduate of Hampton University and received his Masters degree and Ph.D. from Washington University.

The book is a publication of the University of Tennessee Press.

University begins glossy magazine recycling

Starting July 1, UNC students, staff and faculty members will be able to recycle glossy magazines in addition to newspapers, aluminum and glass at the more than 30 outdoor sites.

The newest outdoor bins, provided by the UNC Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling, will be for glossy magazines and catalogs.

No bags, strings, phone books newspapers or other types of paper should be put in the new bins.

In addition to the numerous recycling sites around campus, outdoor bins behind Craige Dormitory, between Davis Library and Hamilton Hall, beside the Circus Room and between Alexander and the tennis courts are available for students.

English department instruction at risk, Locke report states

By Anna Griffin  
Associate Editor

Although it still remains highly competitive on a national level, the UNC English Department may be facing a long-term erosion of traditional liberal arts teaching, according to the report "A Tradition at Risk: Undergraduate Education at the University of North Carolina."

In the study, conducted for the John Locke Foundation, researcher Charles Sykes suggests that the UNC English program slowly is succumbing to the politically-correct thinking that has turned other schools, such as Duke University, into centers of "trendy, ideologically-charged (literary) criticism."

If retiring faculty members are not replaced and if the University does not reaffirm its commitment to a core of liberal arts courses, the English department faces a decline in the quality of education it provides, Sykes said.

"Although the general consensus of my report was that the department was fundamentally sound, there were concerns that there is not a solid commitment to core courses and providing a fundamental, nonpolitical education," said Charles Sykes, author of the report.

UNC no longer has established professors teaching fundamental courses such as Victorian literature, the works of Geoffrey Chaucer or the literature of the Renaissance, Sykes said. Instead of filling these positions, the University is searching for someone to teach critical theory and feminist literature, he said.

"What you're seeing is a slow breakdown of the study of classical literature at UNC," Sykes said. "It is not an immediate, pressing need. It's a slow erosion of a very quality department."

Although he has not seen the report, Laurence Avery, chairman of the English department, said he did not believe the department was shifting away from basic liberal arts teaching.

"I don't know of any distress (within the department) or shift from what we've been doing," he said. "I don't give much credence to the report."

Because the study of literature is based on the individual professor and the individual student, it may seem as if different instructors are focusing on unique aspects of a work or period, Avery said.

"When you have a department with 65 professors, each brings their own background and experience to what they teach," he said. "The study of literature changes as the teachers of literature and students of literature change."

Avery dismissed suggestions that the department was suffering from any sort of generation gap.

"When you have a faculty of 65, people are always going to be retiring," he said. "Some of the younger faculty members have just as firm dedication to education as someone who's 70-years-old."

Sykes said that during his four-months of researching, he spoke to more than 20 UNC faculty members and between two- and three-dozen students. His study of the English department included interviews with "several" teachers and close review of course syllabi, he said.

Buses to connect RTP, Chapel Hill next month

By Dana Pope  
City Coordinator

A new bus service linking Chapel Hill and the Research Triangle Park will begin in mid-August and plans for additional services are in the works, the director of the Triangle Transit Authority said this week.

"The intent is to permit service from Chapel Hill to Research Triangle Park through south Durham," said Jim Ritchie, director of the authority.

Citizens will be able to voice their views on the proposals at a public hearing Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will be held on the first floor of the Chapel Hill Post Office located at 179 E. Franklin St.

Another bus also will be added in mid-August to the Blue Line route run-

ning between UNC and Duke University. A bus will run once about every 45 minutes instead of the 85-minute interval now in effect, Ritchie said. Chapel Hill Transit will use existing buses for the new Blue Line route and the Chapel Hill-RTP route, he said.

Bus service between Raleigh and RTP is slated to begin next January, Ritchie said. "Someone could easily ride the bus from Chapel Hill to work in Raleigh," he said.

The funding for the regional express bus service comes from a \$5 vehicle registration fee that was approved by the General Assembly and the Orange County Commissioners last year.

Residents began paying the fee in January, and will end providing \$2.5 million for the bus service, Ritchie said, adding that the anticipated cost for the

two services for Chapel Hill was \$171,300.

Fares have not been determined for the Chapel Hill-RTP route, but Ritchie said the cost was not expected to vary from the \$1.20 now charged on Blue Line routes.

The Triangle Transit Authority still is working with the Durham Area Transit Authority, which runs Durham's bus system, to begin bus routes from Durham to RTP, Ritchie said, adding that Raleigh did not have sufficient equipment to begin the regional service yet. "Chapel Hill is starting earlier because it has the equipment," he said. "The regional bus service is still in its infant levels."

The authority also is in the preliminary stages of its Fixed Guideways Study, which will consider constructing a light-rail system in the Triangle.

Internal strife divides congregation

By Richard Dean  
Staff Writer

The most traumatic problem for members of Olin T. Binkley Memorial Baptist Church is not the church's recent expulsion from the Southern Baptist Convention, but having to deal with disagreements among church members on controversial issues, a church official said this week.

"The greatest difficulty for the church has been to try to come to grips with how we make decisions," said church spokesman Forrest Page.

Last April, a Binkley church conference voted 145-107 to grant licensure to John Blevins, a former Duke divinity student who is gay. Granting licensure meant that the church deemed Blevins qualified to become a minister, although the licensure was not itself an ordina-

tion. The Southern Baptist Convention, the nation's largest Baptist organization, voted June 10 to expel Binkley and to amend its constitution to bar any churches that tolerate homosexuality. North Carolina's Baptist convention voted in May to expel Binkley.

Despite the publicity surrounding the expulsions, many church members say they are more upset by disagreements within Binkley than by the SBC's actions.

"It's been hurtful," said former Deacon Gove Elder. "It has hurt to have friends that have decided differently than you have."

But Elder was optimistic that the church soon would recover. "We're pulling together, and I think it will be fine," he said. "We'll continue with perhaps a smaller congregation."

Page said it was too early to tell how many people would move their membership from Binkley to other churches.

Binkley's ties to the SBC had been weakened in recent years, said church member Bob Phillips, who is also UNC's Baptist minister. Phillips said the church had not sent representatives to the Southern Baptist Convention for the last two or three years.

"I think (Binkley) has grown dissatisfied with the Southern Baptist Convention, as many churches have," Phillips said. "The church was dually aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention and American Baptist Churches USA and will probably just strengthen its ties with that organization."

Some church members are unhappy with the attention Binkley has attracted

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'Mother figure' Bridgers retires from Victory Village

By Todd O. Walton  
Staff Writer

Mary Bridgers, director of Victory Village Day Care Center, recently retired after nearly 30 years of service at the University-affiliated center.

Phoebe Alston, a worker at Victory Village for the past three years, said Bridgers had been a leader in child care.

"She's a remarkable and wonderful woman," Alston said. "She's influenced me a hell of a lot." Alston also said Bridgers was a "mother-figure for the staff. Mary is great with the kids and supports the staff wonderfully."

Donald Boulton, vice chancellor for student affairs, said Bridgers built Victory Village, a state-funded center that primarily serves students and faculty members, into one of the area's finest child care facilities.

"Mary has been a leader and an innovator," Boulton said. "Because of her, we found out what good is. She has produced a model for day care in America, and we are very fortunate for her. She runs the best day care center around."

Bridgers said the retirement gave her the opportunity to try new things. "I think this starts a new part of my life, and now I'll have time to do things I've always wanted to do, like travel," she said.

But she added that she would miss working with kids. "The children are what I'll remember most," Bridgers said.

"Dealing with the children every day meant a lot to me because of the instant gratification they give. If they're happy they'll come and give you a hug or smile at you."

Working in a University community made for an unusual mix of children and parents, Bridgers said.

"Dealing with the children of the students and faculty from other countries was wonderful because everything was new to them," she said. "It renewed my own views through their eyes."

Bridgers said lowering teacher-child ratios was a goal she emphasized while at Victory Village. "The creative teaching methods of the teachers really inspired the children," she said.

Bridgers added that reform still was needed in the national day care system. "We've got a long way to go before the problems are solved," she said. "It is a problem that's not going to go away, so the government has to look towards the future."

The state of child care in the United States is a growing problem, she said. "We've got a lot of work to do," she said. "We need more subsidies for the people who can't afford the full cost of day care."

"It takes two people to raise a family ... but at the same time, they need care for their child. The caregivers, however, are being paid very little."

Bridgers said the problem was a fi-

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Friends, family mourn law student's death

By Anna Griffin  
Associate Editor

While police this week continued their investigation into the motorcycle accident that killed third-year UNC law student Bryan Tighe Crooks, friends and family mourned the loss of a man described by almost everyone who knew him as humorous, intelligent and well-liked.

Crooks, 29, of 463-B Orange High Loop Rd., Hillsborough, died at UNC Hospitals at 4:36 a.m. June 23. Hospital officials said Crooks died of head injuries sustained in the crash.

Crooks was driving his motorcycle on East Franklin Street last Tuesday when he ran into a sharp curve near the Park Place intersection. Because of slick road conditions, Crooks lost control of his vehicle, which went over the curve

and crashed into a tree, according to Interim Police Chief Ralph Pendergast.

The town medical examiner's office reported this week that Crooks was legally intoxicated at the time of the accident.

Crooks received his bachelor of arts in international studies from UNC in December 1986. He was a graduate of Washington High School, where he served as a member of the student council, played football and basketball and served as sports editor of the paper.

As an undergraduate Crooks served in the Air Force ROTC and was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity.

He also worked part time at the Carolina Union and had worked as a bartender at Spanky's for about four years and at Squids for the past three years.

Crooks was a favorite of both employees and regular customers because



Mary Bridgers (left) celebrates her retirement from Victory Village Day Care with friends in the Student Union Tuesday.

Mill Creek residents fear strangers in their homes

By Dale Castle  
Staff Writer

Some Mill Creek Apartment residents have said they fear that break-ins through adjoining attics and faulty door locks may jeopardize their safety.

Meredith Irvin and Mary Craven, residents of a Mill Creek apartment in building E, asked an officer recently to walk around their apartment with them after they heard strange noises and saw a shadow of either a man or of the pull-down attic door closing.

The next day they demanded to have the attic sealed off before they would sleep there or pay rent. Apartment managers blocked the

adjoining attics with a two-by-four that afternoon, but didn't use a lock as initially promised.

"We've had some prowler reports in that area," Interim Police Chief Ralph Pendergast said.

The police officer showed the women that anyone could pull away the fiberglass insulation and crawl into the next apartment.

Irvin said the officer's demonstration confirmed what friends had told her. Often, when Mill Creek residents are locked out of their apartments, they knock on a neighbor's door and crawl to their apartment through the

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