

Summer 2007

The Capital Connection

July 12, 2007

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A publication for University of California students studying in the nation's capital.



UC WASHINGTON CENTER FORUM

Presents

Dr. John Parmentola
**Director for Research and Laboratory
Management, US Army**

John Parmentola has broad experience in the private sector, academia and has held many positions in the Federal government and Defense Community. He currently serves as Director for Research and Laboratory Management for the US Army, directing laboratory management policy for all Army laboratories, research, development and engineering centers-including the Army's Basic and Applied Research programs spanning 12 basic research disciplines and 14 technology areas at the Army Research Laboratory, Army Research Institute, Army Corps of Engineers, and Simulation and Training Technology Center.

Dr. Parmentola will discuss how the Army is applying modern technology and scientific advances to their troops on the ground and talk about the latest advances the US Army is employing. He will be showing a superb multimedia presentation of Virtual Human Capabilities as well.

Monday, July 16
6:30pm-7:30pm (food ready at 6:15)
Room A/B

FREE FOOD and DRINK

UCDC Students Find Safe Haven in July 4 Deluge By UCLA Summer Journalism Program

Several UCDC students were among the tens of thousands of people evacuated from the National Mall during Independence Day celebrations, as warnings of tornados and golfball-sized hail stones threatened the annual July 4 parades and firework display.

At least seven students following the UCDC summer journalism program wondered if they hadn't stumbled into their very own major news story as police and park rangers, enacting the city's Operation Safe Haven, herded them into public buildings including the National Air and Space Museum and the Holocaust Memorial Museum.

"The place was absolutely packed, with people all over the floors," said Gregor Hunter, a student from St Andrew's in Scotland on a one-year exchange with UCLA, who found himself staring at Cold-War-era spy planes and V2 rockets at the Air and Space Museum.

Esther Park, an English major from UCLA, and Tansy Tan, a journalism student from Singapore, had to stand in line outside the Holocaust museum for half an hour while everyone went through metal detectors and bag searches. They were eventually taken down to the museum basement. "I think the precaution was well-meaning," Park said. "But in a real emergency situation it wouldn't have

continued on page 2

Journalists Discuss Politics, Global Warming, and the Future of Newspapers

By Kaitlyn Voyce

Free food may have brought the students out, but two journalists from the Bay Area who talked about politics, global warming, and the media kept UCDC residents around long after the pizza was gone on consecutive Mondays this month.

Frank Davies, Washington correspondent for the San Jose Mercury News, and Ed Epstein, from the San Francisco Chronicle, led forums on everything from global warming to the media's role in the upcoming election. Both journalists also reflected on the declining prevalence of newspapers in everyday life.

Davies, a reporter with over 25 years of experience in Florida as well as California, said politicians are finally starting to realize that global warming is a real problem that needs to be addressed.

"A lot of people on the Hill are congratulating themselves for agreeing [that global warming is real]," Davies said. "They are where scientists were four years ago."

Davies explained that as politicians struggled to keep up with scientists with regards to global warming, newspapers were struggling as well.

"Newspapers are in trouble," Davies said. "Online revenue is up, but it's not making up for the loss of print ads."

Davies explained that his newspaper faced a number of cut backs due to the popularity of Craigslist and other online classified sites that have eaten into advertising revenue.

Epstein personally experienced the crisis in newspapers when he was laid off after 23 years at the Chronicle. When he spoke to students on July 9, he had three weeks left.

Epstein said people were unhappy with the Democratic majority in Congress because they felt things were not being accomplished. He said that the Democrats needed to explain to voters that they couldn't accomplish certain goals because they only have a narrow majority.

Epstein also said that the primary elections for President have become too long. He proposed going back to the old system where primaries started in June.

The longer primaries raised questions as to what was being reported and what was really news. While some in the audience felt stories such as John Edwards' \$400 haircut and Rudy Giuliani's marriage to his second cousin were trivial issues, Epstein maintained that they were important because they resonated with people.

"I don't think they're trivial. They tell people a lot. Your personal conduct, your personal behavior tells people a lot about you," Epstein said.

continued from page 1

helped us very much because of the long wait."

Park and Tan stayed inside the museum for about an hour, listening to the head of the museum and others explain how something very similar happened last year when a sudden downpour disturbed the celebrations.

Hunter, meanwhile, was at the Air and Space Museum for almost two hours before being given the all-clear.

None of the dire weather predictions came true. Although small tornados were reported in Maryland and Virginia, the District suffered nothing worse than a thorough soaking. The parades and music resumed in the early evening, and the fireworks erupted, on cue, shortly after 9pm.

Cal in the Capitol Presents: Congresswoman Barbara Lee

Wednesday July 18th, 7-9pm
Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA-9) represents Berkeley area in NorCal and has been doing this job since 1998. She is on House Appropriations Committee, which controls the federal purse strings and is widely viewed as one of the most powerful committees in Congress. She serves on the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee, the Foreign Operations Subcommittee and the Legislative Branch Subcommittee. She is the Co-Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, First Vice-Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and a Senior Democratic Whip.



Around Town

Mars Day

All ages can learn about Mars at this fun filled day long event. See a real Martian meteorite, view the latest images from the Mars Odyssey mission, see a full-scale model of the Mars Exploration Rover or talk to scientists active in Mars research and learn about future space missions. A variety of kid-friendly and educational activities are scheduled. For more information, see the National Air and Space Museum Web site.

- 10am-3pm Friday, July 20th
National Air and Space Museum - Smithsonian Institution
Fourth Street and Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC
Information: 202-633-1000
Price: Free
Nearest Metro: Smithsonian (Blue and Orange lines), L'Enfant Plaza (Blue, Green, Orange, and Yellow lines)

D.C. Hip Hop Theater Festival

Returning for its sixth year, the *Hip-Hop Theater Festival* arrives this summer with an exhilarating plethora of performance, dance and poetry. The Festival continues to engage Hip-Hop generation artists from in and outside Washington, DC in a dynamic mix of developing and established works. Highlights include: Jerry Quickley's *Live from the Front* about a B-boy in Baghdad at the start of the war and J. Kyle Manzay's *The Actor's Rap!*, a comedy about a group of frustrated actors who take matters into their own hands as rappers relentlessly steal their roles in film and theater. Local playwrights and performers include Holly Bass; Bashi Rose; Hueman Prophets, Goldie Patrick and poets from Sol y Soul. And thanks to the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, The Hip-Hop Theater Festival is proud to present all events free of charge.

Monday-Saturday, July 9-14
For more information: <http://www.hiphoptheaterfest.com/>
All events free of charge

Washington: Symbol & City

This exhibition explores how residents experience the city and how Washington itself expresses the tension between the demands of a working seat of government and the desire for a national symbol, and the hopes and needs of an evolving city.

- Ongoing until end of summer
National Building Museum
401 F St. NW (Judiciary Square Metro)
For more information: <http://www.nbm.org> or call (202) 272-2448

CRIME REPORT

These listings are taken from the Washington Post, Weekly Section. We have reprinted them here to make you aware of trends in areas you might frequent. Use caution and good judgment when you are out and about.

NW, DC

Corcoran Street, 1400 block, 2:15 a.m. June 17. A man approached a pedestrian, showed a handgun and demanded money. The pedestrian complied, and a wallet containing cash, credit cards and IDs was taken.

17th and Fuller Streets, 3:10 a.m. June 17. Four males approached two pedestrians, and one of the males showed a handgun. A cellphone, credit cards and IDs were taken.

Massachusetts Avenue (Union Station), I-99 block, 3:43 p.m. June 24. A male at a train station robbed a person of a digital camera. An arrest was made.

K Street, 1600 block, 5:20 p.m. June 25. Two men in an alley assaulted a person and fled with cash and a wallet.

Massachusetts Avenue, 1800 block, 2:05 a.m. June 28. A man snatched a purse from a female pedestrian and fled in a vehicle. The purse contained cash, a passport and hotel keys.

Activities Update

Alverta will provide detailed information about all events as the time approaches. If you have any questions regarding the events, please contact Alverta at alverta.scott@ucdc.edu or stop by her office room 412, in Residential Services.

Tickets for Phantom of the Opera and the Orioles game are in! If you signed up and paid for these events, please stop by Alverta's office to pick up your ticket. Alverta's office hours are 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you send another student to pick up your ticket, please notify Alverta in advance.

Boat ride to Mt. Vernon, Saturday, July 14, 9:00 a.m.-----Students who signed up will meet Maria Ponce (CA) in the Center lobby at 9:00 a.m. Please check in with Maria as you arrive. You will travel by Metrorail and bus to the pier (please see directions on the flyer that was emailed to you.) The group will leave the Center at 9:10 a.m. so please check in on time. Latecomers will have to catch up. The group is scheduled to be at the pier by 10:30 a.m., to depart for Mt. Vernon at 11:00 a.m. Please keep in mind that the boat leaves at the exact time! If you need a flyer with all the details, you can pick up one outside the window at Residential Services, or stop by Alverta's office. **Please make sure you turn in a waiver of liability form to Alverta by 5:30 p.m. on Friday, July 13th.**

Phantom of the Opera, Sunday, July 22, 7:30 p.m......Alverta will provide you with a flyer with the details when you pick up your ticket. You do not need a waiver of liability form for this event.

Baltimore Trip/Orioles Game, Sunday, July 29, 9:00 a.m......All the tickets for the game are gone. However, there is still space on the bus. If you wish to ride to Baltimore with the group, there may be a chance that you can purchase a ticket once you arrive. Please keep in mind that the Orioles vs. Yankees is a popular game so you should check ahead before making a decision. The Orioles website is www.theorioles.com. The group will be sitting in Section 344 Rows A-E. The cost to take the bus with the group is \$18, payable by check or money order only.

Kings Dominion trip (CANCELLED)...If you signed up for the Kings Dominion trip, please remember to provide Alverta with a copy of your credit card statement showing the actual purchase. Once this is received, Alverta can start the process for your refund.

Philadelphia Trip, Saturday, August 11, 6:30 a.m...... The bus is full with a waitlist of 10. Alverta will provide you with information as the time approaches.

Law School Insider: The Competitive Edge

Prospective law school applicants can increase their knowledge about the competitive admissions process and prepare to overcome the testing and application hurdles ahead by attending Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions' free Law School Insider Seminar.

- 07/16/2007 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Fairmont Hotel
2401 M Street, NW (Dupont Circle / Foggy Bottom Metro)

● **Additional Information:**
Attendees will benefit from Kaplan's inside tips on admissions, strategies on test taking, and an informative discussion on careers. The seminar is designed to give attendees an advantage over other law school applicants.

For more information: 1-800-KAP-TEST or (202) 835-9745

July 25th Career Networking Night with UC Alumni

Planning on staying in DC or moving back soon? Need a job? Need tips for finding a place to live? Don't miss the Career Networking Night on July 25th from 6:30-8:30pm.

There will be alumni from each campus and career field to network with and learn from.

RSVP (campus and grad year) is required to roya.soleimani@ucdc.edu
Watch for fliers in the elevators for more info!



Capital Connection
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