

ELECTION
JUDGES NEEDED

The Elections Division is still looking for people to serve as election judges for the Nov. 7 General Election. Boulder County needs 1,200 judges to work on Election Day to help this year's General Election run smoothly. No experience is necessary to serve as an election judge, the Elections Division is currently holding training classes.

Requirements to serve as an election judge:

- Must be 18 years old or older
- Must be registered to vote in Boulder County
- Party affiliation does not matter

Job description for election judges:

You must attend a 4-hour training class. A variety of classes are being held in Boulder and Longmont. Classes are available in the evenings and on the weekends.

Once you attend a class, you will be assigned to a polling place that may not be your own, but very likely within the city of your choice.

You must be at your assigned polling place at 6:00 a.m. on Election Day so you can help set up the voting area. After the polls open at 7:00 a.m., you will process voters while serving as a: sign-in judge; ballot judge; poll book judge, machine judge, etc. After the polls close at 7:00 p.m., you will help break down the polling place and follow end of day procedures.

Due to election law, once you are at your assigned polling place, you can't leave until the polls are closed; so you will need to bring food/drink with you.

You get paid \$150 for the day.

Please contact Gloria Callaway at 303-413-7754 if you are interested in becoming an election judge or if you have any questions.

MAYOR DECLARES
OCT. 4 "ENERGY
STAR® CHANGE A
LIGHT DAY"

Boulder Mayor Mark Ruzzin will present a declaration at tonight's regular council meeting at 6 p.m. to declare Wednesday Oct. 4, 2006 as "ENERGY STAR® Change a Light Day." In an effort to help Boulder save energy, money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Mayor Ruzzin is encouraging the community to celebrate the day with a pledge to change at least one light at home to an energy-efficient model.

The city's Office of Environmental Affairs will be at Whole Foods Market, 2905 Pearl St., from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 4, giving away limited quantities of energy saving compact fluorescent light bulbs in honor of ENERGY STAR® Change a Light Day.

Community members are encouraged to switch to light fixtures or bulbs that have earned the ENERGY STAR® label, which designates products that meet strict energy efficiency criteria set by the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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CU & BOULDER

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CITY GOVERNMENT

Polk wants to stay

POLICE CHIEF BECKNER SAYS COUNCILMAN GOT NO PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT DURING ARREST

Colorado Daily Staff Report

Boulder City Councilman Richard Polk on Tuesday asked the Boulder City Council, his family and friends for forgiveness for his arrest last Monday night on drug charges and declared his intention to stay on the city council despite the incident.

At the meeting, Boulder Mayor Mark Ruzzin said the council would not act against Polk while the city attorney investigates whether his arrest violates the charter that governs council member conduct, and Boulder Police Chief Mark Beckner

said Polk did not receive special treatment during and after the arrest.

Polk was arrested last Monday night after an officer said he smelled a strong odor of marijuana on him and in his car during a traffic stop near 15th and Pearl Streets.

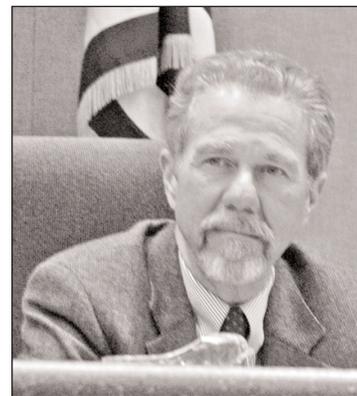
Officers found two bags they said contained small amounts of marijuana, a wooden pipe and rolling papers in Polk's car and in his pockets.

Polk read a five-paragraph statement before the council meeting began (see BOX for full statement) that said he "made a mistake that I deeply regret."

"I understand that the voters have placed a level of trust in me that has been shaken," Polk said. "Words cannot say how deeply sorry I am. I intend to regain that trust and confidence."

Polk said he was seeking "professional counseling" and that "I am confident that despite this incident, I am fully capable of fulfilling my public duties and carrying on the work that I was elected to do."

Boulder Mayor Mark Ruzzin spoke briefly after Polk and said that the city attorney is investigating the incident and that while that investi-



Boulder City Councilman Richard Polk stated his desire to remain in office Tuesday evening. [KATE JOHNSON/COLORADO DAILY]

[See POLK, Page A7]

ACADEMIC LIFE

'Convergence'

AT ATLAS, THIS BUZZWORD
IS MAKING DEPARTMENTS OBSOLETEBy PAULA PANT
Colorado Daily Staff Writer

In a black-box theater at the center of campus, dancers are playing the piano by touching only the air.

Students are videoconferencing with peers in Australia and Ireland.

And print journalists are gearing up to make live on-air appearances.

Meanwhile, the faculty keep repeating a hot new buzzword: "convergence."

And they swear they're only "one lesson ahead" of their students, at best.

The cutting-edge, interdisciplinary nature of the Alliance for Technology, Learning and Society (ATLAS) building, located in the heart of CU-Boulder's campus, is responding to a bigger trend, say CU officials: one in which traditional disciplines are a thing of the past.

On Tuesday in a special unveiling of the ATLAS complex for the media, the present and future were on display, and the past was nowhere to be found.

"Many of the new problems we face are at the edges of the traditional fields of study," said CU-Boulder Chancellor George "Bud" Peterson.

"The way we see society moving," he said, is in the realm of cross-disciplinary projects.

As a result, the new ATLAS building is designed to encourage people to work with each other.

For one thing, the 66,000 square foot, \$34 million dollar building has a noticeable lack of walls.

"A lot of spaces that are usually walled are glassed, so you can see in," said Bobby Schnabel, Director of ATLAS.

Even several faculty offices are built with glass walls, with a common lounge area linking them together.

Plans for building a computer lab were scrapped in favor of building an open-air wireless lounge.

"If you look at higher education as a whole," said Schnabel, "interdisciplinary (projects) . . . is really where a lot of education is going, where a lot of society is going."

Michael Theodore is a music professor. Steve Jones is the assistant dean of the school of journalism and mass communication. But both men kept using the word "convergence" to describe the future of their fields.

[See ATLAS, Page A6]



ABRACADABRA!

Jim Monroe (left) of the Maze Experience performs a magic trick that involves mind reading with students at the Art Building on Tuesday. [LAUREN WARD/COLORADO DAILY]

LIFE ON CAMPUS

Changing times

THE 'FUTURE' OF ALUMNI PRIDE MIGHT BE SEEN
IN THIS WEEK'S HOMECOMING FESTIVITIESBY KATE JOHNSON
Colorado Daily Staff

This Friday, CU-Boulder kicks off homecoming weekend with a march into the "future" of the university—a future belonging not only to its students, but also to returning alumni who continue to revitalize its past.

Beginning with a parade through Boulder's University Hill neighborhood Friday, the vision of "CU in the Future" continues with a pep rally immediately following that features CU football coaches and concludes with a free outdoor concert by The Motets on campus.

Kevin Lee, director of university communications, said this year's theme reflects the recent shift in CU's administration and coaching staff.

"There are a lot of changes that have gone on at CU in the last few years," Lee said. "It's also related to the

strength CU has in the 'future' sciences."

As Friday's activities draw to a close, alumni from across the nation will gather together in Boulder preparing for Saturday's football game, which will pit the Buffs against the Baylor Bears.

Despite the abundance of undergrads likely to attend the game, the presence of the smaller group of CU alumni will not go unnoticed.

"Alums have fun when they come to campus," Dennis Van Gerven, CU professor of anthropology and Grand Marshal of the parade, said. "They like to have a good time. They like to see the team win."

Adding to the festivities, former CU and Pittsburgh Steeler quarterback Kordell Stewart will stir the memories of many alums while serving as hon-

[See HOMECOMING, Page A6]



CU-Boulder Chancellor "Bud" Peterson introduces the new ATLAS Institute Media Center to the press on Tuesday morning as the screen behind him broadcasts a live dance performance elsewhere in the building. The \$34 million ATLAS Center was partially funded by student assessments and houses state-of-the-art technology serving the whole campus. [JENNIE MARCH-ALEU/COLORADO DAILY]

CU & BOULDER

ATLAS: A brave new paradigm

[ATLAS, from page A4]

For Theodore, that means co-teaching an interdisciplinary performance class in which dancers – led by a theater department professor – make swift motions in front of a video camera, which triggers sensors that cue a retrofitted grand piano to play itself.

“The convergence of technology and art and media is absolutely a new wave,” said Theodore. “If you look at the programming in the most prominent performance venues around the country, it’s clear. Piece after piece after piece uses technology.”

For Jones, “convergence” means uploading broadcast packages onto the Web site of his departments’ student newspaper – which will also begin podcasting news clips.

And videostreaming live interviews with print reporters during the noontime public broadcast of the student news show “Newsteam Boulder.”

“We’ve been trying to learn one day ahead of the students,” said Jones.

“We’ve got a couple of students that are about a week ahead of us.”

CU senior Sarah Winters says she likes that both the learning and teaching are collaborative.

“The teachers and the students are all learning together, so that’s kind of helpful because it makes us more equal,” she said.

Winters, a broadcast production major, worked at a television news station in Boston this past summer. “They use things similar to what we have now” in ATLAS, she said.

In a third-floor ATLAS classroom, tables are mobile rather than fixed, encouraging small-group projects. A laptop-carrying cart, filled with 20 Apple PowerBooks, sits in a corner of the room underneath an LCD screen.

Deborah Keyek-Franssen, co-director of the Colorado Coalition for Gender and Information Technology, said even the way teachers dole out homework has changed.

“A lot of the final projects are not individual papers but client-based group work,” she said.

“There are trends in higher education toward small group work and collaborative learning,” said Keyek-Franssen. “I think that this building acknowledges that trend.”

In fact, that collaborative learning was going on elsewhere at CU-Boulder on Monday. As CU officials were hosting the tour of ATLAS, the National Renewable Energy Laboratories, based in Golden, Colo., and CU were hosting a joint symposium on sustainable energy.

Between 60 to 80 poster presentations at the symposium covered the issue of renewable energy from a variety of field perspectives – the technical harvest of energy, the politics of implementing it, the economics of selling it.

“I think it was the interdisciplinary nature” of the energy symposium that made the event so successful, said Peterson.

Contact Paula Pant in regard to this story at pant@coloradodaily.com, or at (303) 443-9508.

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HOMECOMING: Renewed excitement

[HOMECOMING, from page A4]

orary Grand Marshal for the parade.

Van Gerven said the continuing presence and support of steadfast alumni are strong assets to the university.

The alumni, he said, are people with the long-term view to see CU’s temporary setbacks for what they are – only part of a greater whole.

“As people get older, they see it [CU] in the context of an entire life history,” he said. “They don’t get rattled by any one thing.”

Yet the future of alumni attendance has drawn mixed opinions from CU faculty.

English professor Paul Levitt remembered a time when the face of the campus community was much different than today.

“We lived within the community and so there was a great closeness. You can’t do that anymore. For a great many people, that is impossible now. We have lost that fraternity because people cannot afford to live on campus or in the Boulder community,” Levitt said.

Levitt said a decline in interest in school activities, compounded with other problems, such as faculty members who are unable to attend meetings, are just a few of the potential problems facing CU, Levitt said.

“They’re not as close emotionally or spiritually because they’re not there physically,” he said. “I think it’s a very serious problem the regents need to address.”

Van Gerven said that the university has a large role to play in ensuring CU continues to thrive as an institution for learning, and a haven for alumni.

“We have to work at it if we’re going to be loved and cared about,” Van Gerven said. “It [CU] cannot simply be complacent.”

Contact Kate Johnson in regard to this story at (303) 443-6272, ext. 113, or at editor@coloradodaily.com.

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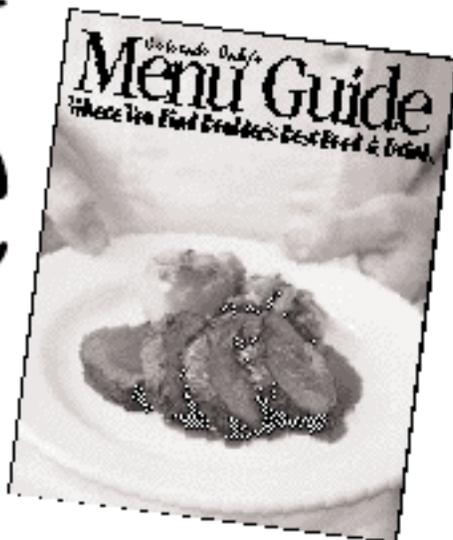
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