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SHIFTING BALANCE

OFFICIALS SEE DISCREPANCY IN DINING HALL NUMBERS, SUCCESS OF MARKET

BY KATHRYN BALES
STAFF WRITER

This semester students took advantage of the dining hall, recreation center and grocery store that make up the massive Rams Head Center, but administrators hope to see more growth.

Ira Simon, director of food and vending services, said the dining halls are moving toward equilibrium now that the novelty of the new Chase Dining Hall at the Rams Head Center is wearing off.

"In the beginning of the semester, we had high participation in Rams Head because it was new," he said. "Throughout the semester that has balanced itself out."

Shalonda Mathis, a junior management and society major, said that though the new Chase is attractive, it doesn't have all the comforts of an all-you-can-eat buffet.

"The workers seem a little stingy when they put two strips of bacon on your plate," she said.

"I can't get the right amount of food."

Simon said attendance at lunch and breakfast at Lenoir Dining Hall is overwhelmingly larger than at Chase, and he hopes to balance those numbers with increased advertising.

He said he hopes to see midday numbers increase at Chase. "Lenoir is a more seasoned facility. We like to think of it as a well-oiled machine."

Dinner at the facilities is more balanced on average, Simon said, which he said is a sign of progress.

"We've got some plans and goals and expectations," he said. "We're still not where we want to be."

Lisa Dixon, a sophomore from Goldsboro, said she prefers Lenoir because she believes that officials pay more attention to little details such as ensuring there are accessible trash cans, straws and clean tables.

"I don't know if they're just busy or what," she said, referring to Chase. "But there's been

days when I've come early in the morning for breakfast and there's still trash on the tables."

Lauren Mangili — director of the Student Recreation Center and assistant director for campus recreation for more than 10 years — said campus recreation has seen a redistribution of numbers thanks to the addition of the new Rams Head Recreation Center earlier this semester.

"Having two facilities has spread people out a little, but it's also increased the number of patrons overall," she said.

Kate Johnson, a junior public policy major who works at Rams Head, said she thinks the numbers have balanced out between the fitness centers after an initial spike at Rams Head.

"(Patrons) say they can almost always get a cardio machine at anytime of the day now," she said.

Mangili said the feedback she's received from students has been positive.

"The people who were previously complaining about the SRC being crowded are very

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Adding Rams Head to the mix

The Rams Head Center sees less recreational traffic than its older counterpart, and it is serving fewer patrons at its dining facilities than Lenoir. Rams Head Market prices fall in the middle to upper range when compared to other local grocery stores.

	RAMS HEAD MARKET	HARRIS TEETER	FOOD LION
2-liter bottle of Pepsi	\$1.59	\$1.39	\$1.49
Box of Easy Mac	\$4.19	\$6.00 (for 2 boxes)	\$2.89
Loaf of white bread	\$2.29	\$1.29	\$0.97
10 oz. box of Cheerios	\$4.99	\$3.19	\$2.79
1 pink grapefruit	\$1.19	\$1.49	\$0.99

Gym traffic

Rams Head Recreational Center	700-800 people per day
Student Recreational Center	1,800 people per day

SOURCE: CAROLINA DINING SERVICES, CAROLINA CAMPUS RECREATION, LOCAL RETAIL STORES

Dining hall traffic

	RAMS HEAD	LENOIR
Breakfast	150	650-700
Lunch	750	2,000-2,200
Dinner	1,800-2,000	1,800-2,000

DTH/ALLIE WASSUM

"There is some indication that the United States is slowly ... moving away from the death penalty." FERREL GUILLORY, SCHOLAR OF SOUTH

EXECUTIONS TRAIPSE ON

Controversial practice nears landmark

BY KRISTEN POPE
STAFF WRITER

Seventeen years ago, Kenneth Boyd, a Vietnam veteran, shot and killed his estranged wife, Julie Boyd, and his father-in-law, Thomas Curry.

He is scheduled to be executed Friday, which will make him the fifth man to be executed by the state of North Carolina in 2005.

Tom Maher, the lawyer who defended Boyd in federal court in 1994, said last week that Boyd would file for a writ of certiorari to ask the N.C. Supreme Court to review the decision of a lower court.

Maher said it will be an uphill battle, but they hope the state will listen.

The most recent execution in North Carolina was that of Elias Syriani on Nov. 18 for the murder of wife, Teresa Syriani.

His case was publicized highly by his four adult children, who traveled across North Carolina pleading for clemency for their father.

Approaching a landmark

More than 1,000 inmates have been sent to North Carolina's death row since 1910, when the power to execute criminals was taken away from local governments and reserved for the state.

And the 1,000th execution in the

United States since 1976 likely will occur this week. Robin Lovitt, scheduled for execution in Virginia today, was granted a last-minute clemency from Gov. Mark R. Warner.

All contemporary executions in North Carolina are carried out by lethal injection, with the use of poison gas having been retired in 1998.

Criminals in North Carolina only can be executed on charges of first-degree murder.

While a majority of Americans support capital punishment, there is growing public concern about some of the issues surrounding the death penalty, experts say.

A 2005 Gallup poll found that 64 percent of Americans support the death penalty. But a 2004 poll found that when presented with the alternative of sentencing inmates to life in prison without parole, support for capital punishment dropped to 50 percent.

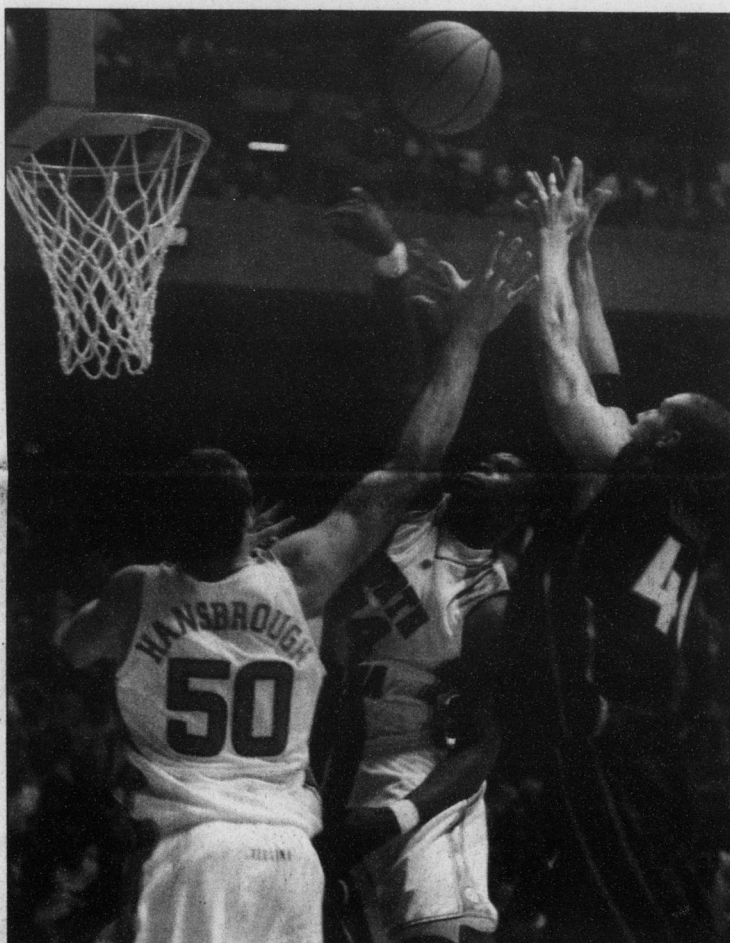
"Support is broad but it is not that deep," said Jack Boger, a professor of law at UNC.

Experts say that Americans are increasingly uncomfortable about the possibility of executing innocent people.

The N.C. Coalition for a Moratorium is fighting to suspend all executions for two years while

SEE EXECUTIONS, PAGE 5

ILLINI REVENGE



DTH/WHITNEY SHEPTE

Forward David Noel (34) has his shot contested by Illini center James Augustine during the second half of Tuesday's rematch of last year's national championship

game. North Carolina came up short in this game, 68-64. Freshman forward Tyler Hansbrough (here, going up for the rebound) led UNC in scoring with 17 points, adding six rebounds.

Unique district appeals to all

"There's nothing to draw me to downtown." "The downtown offers little else than entertainment, eating, drinking and people watching." "There's nothing for younger kids other than food." "There's

hardly anything I want or need downtown." "It feels like a place for students." "There's no bookstore." "Parking is overpriced."

These are just some of the comments that have been made and the gist of how many people view our downtown. One of the problems is

that people just don't know what there is downtown. We know our downtown is a vibrant restaurant and dining area and a district of clubs and bars.

After all, our downtown is contiguous to a huge University community.

But it is so much more. Downtown Chapel Hill has it all.

It has bookstores, five that I can

SEE DOWNTOWN, PAGE 5

Campuses rally against research-centric policies

BY ELIZABETH DEORNELLAS
STAFF WRITER

UNC and other research institutions and corporations have sent 309 letters to the U.S. Department of Commerce, hoping to derail policy proposals that would affect the number of foreign researchers working in the United States.

The proposal would expand export controls, designed to limit the transfer of sensitive technology to countries that are potential national adversaries.

"There are some serious legal questions about making restrictions based ... on country of birth." ADRIAN SHELTON, COMPLIANCE OFFICER

The U.S. Defense Department also has proposed changes that could force universities nationwide to comply with the strict security standards employed by private companies conducting classified research, said Adrian Shelton, UNC's research compliance officer.

Tony Waldrop, UNC vice chancellor for research and economic development, sent a letter Oct. 11 to the Defense Department opposing these changes.

The amended export control policies, which the departments

SEE RESEARCHERS, PAGE 5

Police fight to keep numbers

Using academy to fill shortages

BY ALLISON MILLER
STAFF WRITER

Low pay, danger and shifts only a doctor would envy are some of the drawbacks local police departments face when trying to recruit and retain officers.

Capt. Jackie Carden of the Chapel Hill Police Department said recruiting and retaining enough police officers to fill empty positions has been a long-term problem.

"It's a statewide, probably a nationwide problem," she said. "We're about average on trying to

retain them."

Jane Cousins, spokeswoman for the Chapel Hill Police Department, said five officers have resigned so far this year and three officers have retired or are planning to retire. The department has 113 positions.

As turnover rates illustrate, a career as a police officer is a hard sell, Carden said.

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Battling turnover in-house

113 positions in the department

5 resigned so far this year

3 have retired or are planning to

8 officers in the academy who plan to stay on

bloggin' | dailytarheel.com

A DRINK FROM THE WELL blogs about coverage plans for rest of year.

BEYOND BLUE HEAVEN blogs about World AIDS Day events in the Triangle.

THE ORANGE REPORT blogs excerpts from Tuesday's leadership council meeting.

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ONCE UPON ... THE END

University student writers read from their submissions to the creative writing program's fourth annual Mini Max Short Fiction competition.



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DOWNTOWN LIGHTING

While talk of downtown visibility at night continues, area stores put out their Christmas lights in time for the holiday season.

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KEEP ROLLIN', ROLLIN'

The women's basketball team improves to 5-0, despite a sluggish start, by soundly beating UNC-Asheville, 83-43, at home Tuesday.

weather

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