

The Daily Tar Heel

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008

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diversions | page 5

MUSICAL CHAIRS

Student musicians have to juggle school work and band duties like writing music, practicing songs and performing in order to stay out on top.

city | page 3

COURAGE TO LEAD

Former Chapel Hill Mayor Howard Lee releases a memoir about the challenges he faced as the first black mayor of a predominantly white town in the South.



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'EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL'

Men's basketball coach Roy Williams said senior Tyler Hansbrough most likely will not play against Pennsylvania in the season opener Saturday.

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CAROLINA RINGS

A General Alumni Association committee spent months designing a class ring meant to encompass school symbols such as Davie Poplar, the Old Well and the University seal.

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BAILOUT DISCUSSION

Mike Munger discusses the federal bailout package.

UNC-C SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship is created for nontraditional students.

this day in history

NOV. 13, 1926 ...

William Rand Kenan Jr. announces a \$275,000 gift for the construction of Kenan Memorial Stadium in his parents' honor.

Today's weather

Rainy
H 61, L 55

Friday's weather

T-Storms
H 74, L 64

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Kidnapping trial begins

Football players bound, robbed

BY MAX ROSE
CITY EDITOR

HILLSBOROUGH—The man accused of tying up and robbing two UNC football players during Winter Break last year saw his first day in court Wednesday.

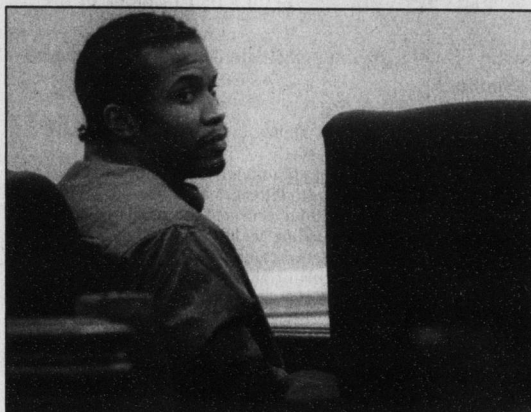
The attorneys picked a jury and the state began its case against Michael Troy Lewis, 33, who faces several felony counts and at least eight years in prison if convicted.

The prosecution says that three football players were celebrating a 21st birthday early Dec. 16 when one of the players met Lewis and two women, Tnikia Monta Washington and Monique Jenice Taylor, at a Franklin Street bar.

The player then invited the three to his apartment, where prosecutors say the robbery and kidnappings took place.

The victims have testified that at the apartment, Lewis, a Durham resident, tied two of the football players up and put a sharp object, possibly a knife, to their neck.

Events that night remain



DTH/BRITTANY PETERSON
Michael Lewis sits at trial Wednesday in an Orange County courtroom. Lewis is charged with kidnapping and robbing two UNC football players.

unclear, but around 3:20 a.m. the victims called the police.

The two women were arrested that night, but Lewis got away.

He bit in the groin and pushed down a flight of stairs the officer who attempted to arrest him, according to warrants.

Police originally charged all three with sexually assaulting the players

but dropped the felony charges when only two of the victims could testify during Winter Break.

The Daily Tar Heel is not identifying the football players because of a policy against naming the complainants in cases that involve sexual offenses.

SEE TRIAL, PAGE 4

The story so far

Dec. 16: Police receive reports at just past 3:20 a.m. from the cell phone of one of the three victims — UNC football players — and arrest two women. Michael Troy Lewis is arrested three days later.

January: A judge determines there is enough evidence to pursue charges against Lewis and Monique Jenice Taylor. Charges against Tnikia Monta Washington are dropped.

Feb. 4: The Grand Jury indicts Lewis on two counts of first-degree kidnapping, robbery with a dangerous weapon, two counts of attempted felony larceny, two counts of assault on a government official, resisting a public officer and conspiracy to commit a felony.

Taylor is also indicted on charges of first-degree kidnapping, felony conspiracy, sexual battery — a misdemeanor offense — and resisting a public officer.

Wednesday: Lewis' trial begins.

Taser used in campus arrest

First-year Tasered 3 times; resisted police

BY MATTHEW PRICE
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Officers Tased a student multiple times in front of Hinton James Residence Hall after he resisted police Tuesday night, said five students who witnessed his arrest.

The student, first-year Frank Fraboni, 18, was "acting strangely" and found to be under the influence of drugs, the police report states.

Student witnesses said police Tased Fraboni after he made attempts to get away and otherwise resist arrest.

He was taken to UNC Hospitals and released Wednesday. He will have to appear before the Honor Court.

"It looked like a movie. They finally got him down and Tasered him," first-year Kaylee Baker said. "I was genuinely scared. He was screaming."

Fraboni said he was Tased three times, at least once on the chest.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Randy Young said officers Tased him after trying lesser uses of force.

"It's going to be a well-trained officer's discretion in the field as to what's the best option for the suspect being apprehended," Young said. "This was used as a resort to prevent injury to the suspect."

Campus police were called after Fraboni approached first-year Rachel Hamlin as she went to retrieve her laundry. Hamlin said Fraboni was standing outside the laundry room door and was not wearing a shirt.

"I thought he was drunk," Hamlin said. "He put his arm around me and I didn't know him at all. He was just really incredibly out of it."

Hamlin took Fraboni to the resident adviser on duty in the Hinton James lobby, who then called the police after Fraboni could not give his name and left the building.

First-year R.J. Yost said Fraboni kept trying to get away from officers and was yelling incomprehensibly.

"They finished putting cuffs on him and then he kept trying to get away so they Tased him to get him to stop," Yost said. "Then he looked like he was trying to get away again so they Tased him again."

First-year Ben Buck also saw the Tasing.

"They were just having him do the 'put your hands behind your back and be unthreatening' thing, and he wasn't doing it," Buck said.

The police report did not mention that Fraboni was Tased. Young said any "use of force" reports in the case would be internal within DPS.

Police officials review any use of force, Young said.

Staff Writer Gabby Pinto contributed reporting. Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

A SEAT AT THE TABLE



DTH/NUSHMIA KHAN
Scott Wilson and James Howard sit at a table outside of Lenoir Dining Hall between classes Oct. 30. The students are part of a larger group of gay students who sit together for lunch at the same table outside of Lenoir so regularly that they have begun to call it the "gayble."

Spot offers gay students acceptance

BY CAITLYN GREENE
STAFF WRITER

Not until his sophomore year in college did Scott Wilson get to know a gay student.

"I grew up in a really small town," said the Whiteville native. "You have these presumptions that gay people are this way ... and they're not."

Wilson's presumptions shattered when three gay students joined his club gymnastics team last year.

"It kind of made me see that it's not bad; it just is," Wilson said.

He came out in May.

Wilson still didn't have a group to identify with. But he soon started sitting outside Lenoir Dining Hall with two friends in August.

By mid-September, their three-person lunch gathering had grown into a social hub now known as the "gayble." It grew to around four tables with 15 people, he said.

About five guys sit at the gayble throughout the day. Others, including straight friends, float in and out, peaking around lunch hours.

"It had gotten to where it was like you had to make an appear-

ance here as a member of this community," he said.

But the table is more than a social spot.

"We have so many different ways of life all converging around this one commonality amongst us," explained Wilson. "And how it's different for each person, how each family has a different reaction to it, different dating experiences."

The table has provided Wilson support during the college equivalent of his adolescent years.

"When you're gay and you don't come out until later, all of that six or seven years of emotional development kind of gets crammed into

one or two years," he explained.

So Wilson recently went on his first date at the age of 20.

"When my sister was going on her first date, my mother helped her pick out what she should wear and helped her think of things she should say," he said. "They kind of did that for me a little bit."

Having a place like the gayble would have helped Wilson feel comfortable coming out earlier, he said.

"It was kind of something I was dealing with on my own — and not very well."

Wilson said the table is the kind

SEE TABLE, PAGE 4

Prussing leads ACC streak

BY BEN BADEN
STAFF WRITER

No one has played a more important role in the North Carolina women's volleyball six-game winning streak than senior hitter Lauren Prussing.

Prussing is the top Tar Heels hitter this season, averaging just fewer than three kills per set.

She has led the team in kills in five of the six games on their streak, averaging 12 kills a match.

Coach Joe Sagula said Prussing has become more effective and accurate throughout the season.

"The key stat is not only that she's leading in kills, but her kill average," Sagula said. "(Lately) she's really probably averaging four for us."

"If you get an outside hitter averaging four hits per set, that's awesome."

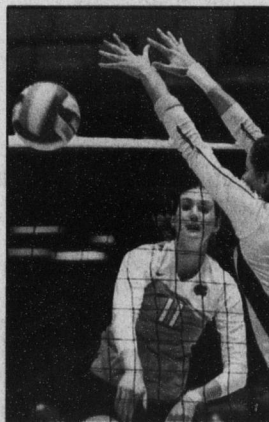
ATTEND THE DUKE GAME
Time: 7 p.m. today
Location: Smith Center
Info: www.tarheelblue.com

The Tar Heels once again will be relying on Prussing when they face conference rival Duke tonight.

The Blue Devils have won five in a row against the Tar Heels, the longest such winning streak for Duke since taking seven straight, ending in the 1993 season.

The last time the North Carolina faced off against Duke in early October, the Tar Heels lost in four sets and found themselves just one game above .500 in the ACC and struggling to win on the road.

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 4



DTH FILE/STEPHANIE TAN
Senior hitter Lauren Prussing has proven invaluable for the North Carolina volleyball team in its six-game conference winning streak.

Lifting stem cell ban would help researchers

BY MEGHAN PRICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Both the study of stem cells and the development of research in North Carolina might soon benefit from a promise made by President-elect Barack Obama.

Part of his campaign included lifting the ban on embryonic stem cell research that President George Bush implemented in August 2001. This excites UNC researchers.

"From what Obama has said during his campaign, I would certainly expect that the ban would be overturned," said Tony Waldrop, vice chancellor for research and economic development.

"I believe that is very good news for research."

Bill Marzluff, executive associ-

ate dean for research in the School of Medicine, said lifting the ban would also have a major impact on North Carolina's competitiveness in attracting researchers.

He said other states, such as California and New Jersey, fund research with embryonic stem cells, so they attract more researchers in that field.

"The longer that these other states get to develop these programs, the more we're going to fall behind as a state," Marzluff said.

Waldrop and Marzluff both said UNC would have increased this type of research whether or not Obama was elected but that more cells might be available because of his election.

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