

# The Daily Tar Heel

**INSIDE THURSDAY**  
MARCH 14, 1996



**Doing Unto Others**  
Sangam donated \$800 to the North Carolina Jaycees Burn Unit. Page 3



**Homosexuals and Entertainment**  
Diversions highlights the careers of gay performers and their supporters. Page 5



**Silly Old Bear!**  
Students who are kids at heart bring their Winnie-the-Pooh paraphernalia to school. Page 3

**Today's Weather**  
Partly sunny; high near 70s.  
Friday: Mostly cloudy, high 70s.

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Volume 104, Issue 10  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
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## Media Enhance Negative Stereotypes of Hispanics

■ A new poll says North Carolinians have negative feelings about Hispanics.

BY ERIC FLACK  
STAFF WRITER

Media stereotypes of Hispanic-Americans could contribute to North Carolinians' fears about the increasing number of Hispanic-Americans in their community, said one faculty member in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

A new poll conducted by the journalism school reported that 41 percent of North Carolinians surveyed thought the Hispanic influx was bad for the state, while 24 percent thought it was good. Fifteen percent of those polled thought it was equally good and bad, while 21 percent had no opinion.

Assistant professor of journalism Lucila Vargas, a native of Mexico, said North Carolina's negative attitude toward Hispanic-Americans was the result of the stereotypes portrayed by the mass media.

"In my opinion, people think about Hispanics in stereotypical ways, an image which has been disseminated by the mass media," Vargas said.

The poll results also suggest that North Carolinians do not want Hispanics living next door to them. When asked how their neighbors would feel if Hispanics moved into their neighborhood, 66 percent said that their neighbors would not like it and 8 percent said their neighbors would. Thirteen percent would be indifferent and another 13 percent had no opinion.

Vargas said it was up to the Hispanic-American community to make sure they were no longer portrayed by the mass media in this fashion.

"I think we have to change our image in the media. This is one thing Hispanics themselves need to take very seriously and do something about. North Carolinians don't have complete knowledge about us. It seems to me if they knew us they would like us."

For their part, North Carolina's schools and businesses are doing what they can to make Hispanic-Americans' assimilation into society easier. The English as a Second Language program is a major component for a smoother transition.

The ESL program allows Hispanic-American students who speak little or no English to learn the language with the help of volunteer tutors who come to their school and give one-on-one instruction.

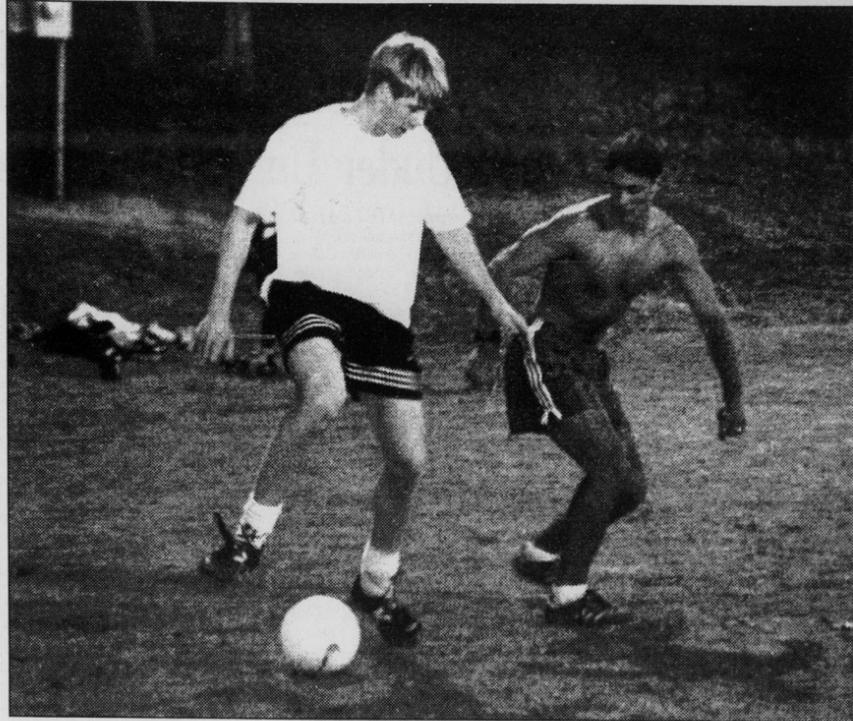
Jo Harris, director of staff development and secondary instruction for Orange County Social Services, is also the ESL supervisor for the Chapel Hill schools. Harris said the ESL program allowed students to learn English while not being taken out of the English speaking school environment. "We have volunteers and tutors who come and work within the classroom setting, one-on-one with the ESL students," Harris said.

But the ESL program is not limited solely to schools. During the past six months The Siena Hotel, which has about 20 Hispanic-American employees in the maintenance, housekeeping and food and beverage divisions, has been providing ESL classes for any of their employees who choose to attend.

Anita Vaughn, assistant general manager of The Siena, said the program had been so successful that in the next three to six months, the hotel would bring in tutors to teach all the English-speaking staff Spanish. Vaughn said the program's benefits have been apparent.

The journalism school's poll, which surveyed 665 North Carolina residents over the age of 18 and had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points, was conducted February 18-22.

## Warming Up



Intramural Club soccer players take advantage of the spring-like weather to practice shirts against skins on South Campus on Monday night.

DTH/KATHERINE BROWN

## Officials: New Parking Plan Will Benefit Students

BY REINO MAKKONEN  
STAFF WRITER

Several University parking officials said Wednesday that a campus parking plan proposed for next year would increase safety for students without limiting parking options.

The proposal would require permits to access several campus lots from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Katherine Kraft, former chairwoman of the executive branch's parking committee and president-elect of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, said the 1996-97 plan would benefit students, not harm them.

Kraft noted the availability of free evening parking in the Bell Tower lot and the opening of a pay-for-use lot on the Mitchie property (located across from Fraternity Court) as viable

student parking options under the proposal.

"If the Bell Tower lot does not provide sufficient free parking usage, we can expand to the West lot or the Water Tower lot," Kraft said. "Also, at the Mitchie property lot, if people don't want to pay for more than an hour of use, they don't have to."

In addition, P2P Xpress would serve the Bell Tower lot, which would have a night guard under the plan, Kraft said. "We really wanted to have a gated, guarded, free lot available to students, because nobody should ever have to walk alone to their car at night," she said.

Kraft said student needs and the effective use of the University's limited parking resources were the principal aims of the parking plan. "It's unfortunate that when you increase safety and transportation options, it costs a little bit. But we

don't have other options," she said. "There are too many people with nighttime obligations who need access, and we must provide for those people in some way."

To park in the night lots, drivers must purchase a \$64 permit or have a valid daytime permit. The policy would go into effect in the 1996-97 academic year if the BOT approves it at its Friday meeting. It would include lots near the Undergraduate, Davis and Wilson Libraries; Bynum, Caldwell, Steele and Peabody Halls; Grimes, Ruffin and Old East Residence Halls; and the Hanes Visitor Lot.

Kraft said the proposal would only negatively affect students who live on campus, have residential permits and need access to the employee lots anyway. "The problem is that we have very limited resources, period," she said.

Randy Young, marketing specialist for transportation and parking services, added that his department and its parking plans were almost always cast in a negative light. "Criticism of (the Department of Transportation and Parking) isn't really unexpected, it's more like tradition around here," Young said. "People feel better when feeling worse about parking."

Young said the new plan was influenced by faculty, staff and students. "These proposals are just the next step to increased flexibility, via parking permits, for students and staff in centralized parking areas," he said. "If people paid as much attention to the rules printed on the parking signs at the entrances and exits of lots as they do to the NCAA Final Four brackets, we would probably issue one tenth the parking tickets," he said.

## Aid Application Backlog Should Not Affect UNC

■ The federal shutdowns have created a backlog that could keep some freshmen from making a final college acceptance decision.

BY ANDREW PARK  
STAFF WRITER

When the federal government closed down in January, many high school and college students didn't think it would make a difference in their lives. But some who applied to universities and for financial aid may still be waiting for their aid awards, and the Washington impasse is partly to blame.

The shutdown is one reason the U.S. Department of Education is now burning the midnight oil to process financial aid forms for students across the country. Crippling winter storms and serious computer difficulties have also delayed the processing of 1996-97 Free Applications for Federal Student Aid, said Stephanie Babyak, a public affairs officer. The department now has a backlog of applications to complete by March 31. Independent contractors are working 24 hours a day, seven days a week to finish the forms, Babyak said.

Applicants to UNC should not be affected, thanks to a new form being used by the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid. In November, UNC sent supplemental applications to prospective students who expressed interest in financial assistance, said Eleanor Morris, the office's director. The new form, called the profile application, gives UNC a more complete picture of a student's need and is processed by the College Board.

By April 1, prospective freshmen will receive an estimate of their financial award based on the profile, Morris said. When the College Board chose not to be involved in the federal process, it allowed the company to send completed forms back to universities earlier, Morris said. "It was serendipitous for us," Morris said. "The backlog is not going to impact entering freshmen."

No longer at the mercy of the federal government, UNC can compete with private universities that have used supplemental forms for years. With the profile, prospective students get financial information as they are deciding where they want to go to college. Applicants can then compare the cost of attending UNC with other schools to which they apply.

At N.C. State University, applicants may not have that luxury this year. The financial aid office does not require the profile, and some prospective students will be notified late, said Julie Rice Mallette, director of financial aid. Those applicants may not be able to choose their school by May 1, the date when universities traditionally require a decision, said Jim Belvin, director of financial aid at Duke. "That's one of the things that happens when you put your eggs in the federal basket," he said.

After processing applications for entering freshmen, the office moves on to applicants to graduate programs. Since they do not fill out profile applications, their awards may be a couple of weeks late, Morris said.

## UNC Freshman Mauled Over Break At Western Carolina Fraternity Party

■ Trisha Roberson, who was injured March 8, is in fair condition and will undergo surgery on Friday.

BY JOHN PATTERSON  
STAFF WRITER

A UNC student remains in fair condition and will undergo surgery Friday at Asheville's Memorial Mission Hospital after being hit by a pickup truck and dragged nearly 700 feet while visiting friends over Spring Break.

Trisha Roberson, a freshman from Weaverville, was leaving a Pi Kappa Phi fraternity party at Western Carolina University March 8, when she and three other people were struck, reports state.

According to N.C. Highway Patrol Sergeant C.L. McMahan, Roberson was walking down a driveway from the fraternity house when a 1990 Ford pickup, driven by Herbert Marshall Conley Jr., 20, of Sylva, struck and dragged her about 680 feet.

Terry Roberson, Trisha's father, said she was visiting high school friends at Western Carolina University, when they decided to attend the party.

"She was with some high school friends, and they decided to leave the party after the driver of the truck got in a fight with some other person," Terry Roberson said.

"Everybody started screaming and hollering when the truck came down the driveway, and when Trisha fell, her jacket got caught on the truck somehow and dragged her down the driveway."

Conley has been charged with four counts of felony hit and run and four counts of assault with a deadly weapon and is being held under a \$30,000 secured bond, police reports state.

According to Terry Roberson, among the four people hit, his daughter's injuries were the most serious.

Trisha Roberson suffered second-degree burns on her chest and arms, and the bone was completely exposed around her elbow, he said.

"She is in a lot of pain right now, and has been since the accident," Terry Roberson said.

"They are going to operate on her Friday — they will work on a nerve in her arm and the plastic surgeons will take a look at her also. Luckily, she didn't have any broken bones."

Joe Kledis, a sophomore from Asheville and a close friend of the Roberson family, said he was not sure if Roberson would return to UNC this semester or not.

"Our families have been close friends since we were born, and it's terrible to see something like this happen," Kledis said. "Most of the information I have heard has come from my parents, but I am not sure whether or not she will be able to come back this semester."

Terry Roberson said the outcome of the surgery would determine if and when his daughter could come back this semester.

"The doctors have said that it would be best to wait and see how her condition is after Friday," Terry Roberson said.

"I talked with the University on Tuesday about Trisha's options for the rest of the semester, but we haven't made any decisions yet."

## Still Undefeated



UNC's Merrill Turnbull charges past a Lehigh defender in Wednesday night's 17-9 victory. The Tar Heels are now 5-0 on the season. See story, page 7.

DTH/RYAN MATTHEW

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## UNC Students Can Make Voices Heard in Straw Poll

■ Democrats and Republicans alike can participate in the poll today and Friday.

BY JOSH AHN  
STAFF WRITER

Students have the chance today and Friday to break the stereotype that they do not care about

voting and to make their voices heard in the May 7 primary.

Students for Vinroot will sponsor a straw poll from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. today and tomorrow in the Pit. Former Charlotte Mayor Richard Vinroot is running for the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

"It's important to get the message out to all the candidates," said Speaker of Student Congress and Co-Chairman of Students for Vinroot Roy Granato.

The straw poll will measure where students stand on the presidential and gubernatorial races and will be unbiased, said Lacey Hawthorne, a member of Students for Vinroot.

"I think it's a great opportunity to get college students involved in politics more," Hawthorne said. "Sometimes the older generation thinks that college students don't care, but the straw poll is an excellent way to get students involved and let them

See STRAW, Page 2

## Make History for The Daily Tar Heel

Students can apply now to be members of the 11-person board to select the 1996-97 DTH editor. Selection Board applications are available at the Carolina Union information desk and are due by 5 p.m. this Friday.

Being a member of the selection board provides a unique opportunity to make a vitally important decision with a relatively small time commitment. Applicants must be available for a briefing session from 5-6 p.m. Thursday, March 28 and all day Saturday, March 30, beginning about 8:30 a.m. for editor candidate interviews and selection.

The DTH editor applications are also available in The DTH office in Union Suite 104, and are due by noon on March 22.

Motivation is when your dreams put on work clothes.

Unknown