

# Summer Bridge Gives Freshmen a Head Start

**Incoming minority freshmen take classes for credit through the program.**

BY SHENG LEE  
STAFF WRITER

While most incoming freshmen are wondering how their first year at UNC will be, a select group of incoming black and Native American freshmen will be receiving a hands-on experience of what college life is like in a program called Summer Bridge, which begins today.

Program Director Joseph Willow, Jr., said the focus of the program was to shrink the gap between high school and college life.

"We try to acclimate the students to Carolina's atmosphere, socially and academically," Willow said.

Summer Bridge is an academically-oriented program that lasts for seven weeks. The 62 in-state participants are selected based upon academic records, the sizes of hometowns and the educational structures of high schools.

Expenses such as tuition and room and board are covered. Participants also receive stipends for textbooks and school supplies. The students enroll in an English and a math class. The course they take is contingent upon the results of

placement tests, which participants must take before attending class.

If the students successfully complete their courses, they can enter as freshmen with a total of six credit hours on their transcripts.

Summer Bridge students are exposed to the same course material as UNC students, but they do not have class with them, Willow said.

"We hire instructors to teach the courses so the students are placed into classes where there are only Summer Bridge participants," Willow said.

Besides attending workshops about school-related topics such as financial aid and academic advising, participants are also exposed to leisure activities.

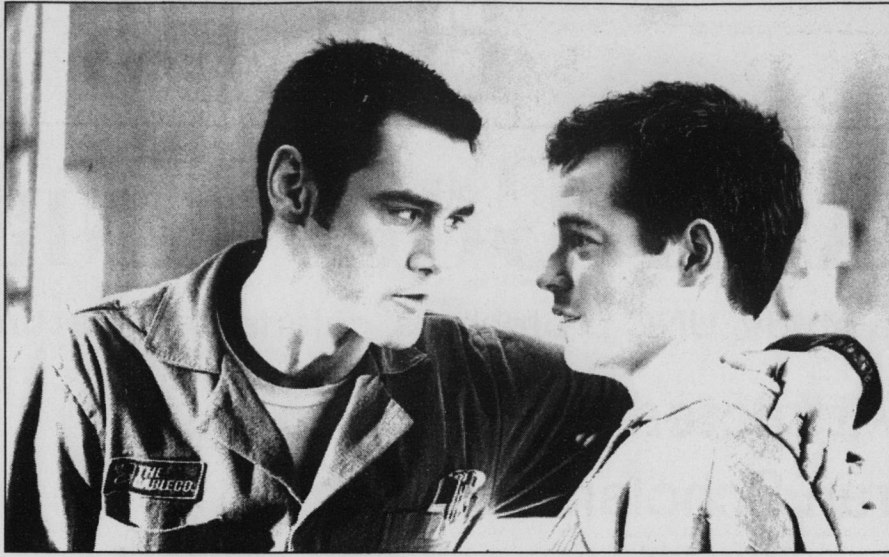
Students get a taste of the culture that makes up the area. In former years, students attended plays and a ballet. Organizers planned similar events this year.

Brandi North, a counselor and former participant, said the program prepared the students for the quality of academic work expected of them at the University.

"The program gets the students into the mindset of the college's academic environment," North said.

Former 1995 Summer Bridge participant Cheryl Chance said she thought the program helped to prepare her for college life.

"It was a big help because it made the transition easy."



Jim Carrey harasses Matthew Broderick with his zany sense of style in Ben Stiller's 'The Cable Guy.'

## 'Cable' Unplugs Audiences With Boring Humor

**Carrey's new film pits the actor somewhere between serious and pathetic.**

You should not expect much from Jim Carrey. He delivers the empty laughs, ridiculous slapstick and face-bending humor that America has come to love. Every film he has starred in since "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" has been a hit. Well, that has changed now that he is the \$20 million star of Ben Stiller's "The Cable Guy."

DEAN HAIR

Movie Review  
"The Cable Guy"  
D

Carrey plays the title character who is raised by television. Carrey adopts names such as Larry Tate from "Bewitched" and Chip Douglas from "My Three Sons" throughout the film. He is a sulky, pathetic man who is a leech to anyone who shows him a glimpse of kindness.

The man who gives him some much

needed attention is Steven (Matthew Broderick) who has recently broken up with his girlfriend and moved out.

Carrey becomes the friend that everyone hates, the one that calls all the time, leaves long messages on the answering machine and shows up at every corner.

Carrey invades Steven's world and forces him into an unwanted friendship that soon turns into terrorism as the cable guy realizes that the friendship is one-way.

The scenes that follow are pointless. They serve only to show how inventive the cable guy can be in harassing Steven. The only humorous scene is during dinner at Medieval Times, where Carrey and Broderick wear armor and fight out their frustrations.

Carrey thinks that since he has dyed his hair black and has a lip that he is now an evil character. The film's central problem can be attributed to its director, Ben Stiller.

Is Stiller attempting to direct a dark drama with some comedy or a dark comedy with some drama? This question plagues the audience as Stiller forces the

audience to jump from one form to the other.

If Stiller had gone for the goofball humor that has made Carrey a "leading man," then the film would have worked. The film could have also been successful had it been made into a drama.

"The Cable Guy" is precisely filmed by Stiller, but it seems he may have had too much control over the film, adding too much subtle humor to the already unfunny screenplay. One interesting scene is when Carrey performs karaoke to Jefferson Airplane's "Somebody to Love." Carrey is explosive and imaginative during this scene and the audience glimpses the side of Carrey they all know and love.

Carrey wants to be taken seriously in Hollywood now with "The Cable Guy" acting as a transition vehicle into his "serious" roles, where he leaves his slapstick humor behind.

What Carrey needs to focus on is the kind of humor he is known for. He should not step out on a wire for a new, darker humor. The cable just might not hold.

### Bizarro



### BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

reach. "We thought we were going to have a hard time getting the money for graduate health insurance," Walters said.

Instead, the Senate allocated \$4.5 million for health insurance for graduate assistants in a plan that would allocate \$700 per graduate teaching and research assistant to buy insurance.

Graduate and Professional Student Federation President Katherine Kraft said the Senate's budget was particularly friendly to graduate students.

Mo Nathan, a member of the team, said he was particularly impressed with money allocated to research. The Senate allocated \$17.8 million to enhance research at UNC-CH and NCSU.

"I'm particularly pleased that the budget works to enhance the research mission of UNC and North Carolina State," he said.

The Senate's budget also included \$200,000 to survey seniors on their education. Under the proposal, any item with a 33 percent or more disapproval rating would be revised.

Now the budget is in the hands of the conference committee that will iron out the differences between the budget proposed by the House and the Senate.

Dibbert said he thought the University's main goal, to let the legislators know how important higher education was to the state, had been met. "It's taken the administration, the faculty and the alumni to accomplish this, and it's not over," Dibbert said.

University leaders will find out if their efforts paid off today. The committee is expected to have the budget completed by today, or Monday at the latest.

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**CAROLINA Union SUMMER PROGRAM BOARD**

**Summer Schedule**

All the Carolina Union Summer Programs are open to currently registered UNC Students & their guests. Admission to films is free with UNC-ID, Union Privilege Card or conference identification. Programs indicated as open to the public require no identification. All programs are limited in space availability.

Thursday, June 20 **Mr. Holland's Opus**  
8:00 PM • Union Auditorium  
Mr. Holland (Richard Dreyfuss) is a music teacher who, faced with the disappointment of his son's deafness, finds fulfillment and success in his profession. Immersed in his work, he does not realize how much his teaching influences and inspires his students. (145 minutes)

Thursday, June 27 & Friday, June 28 **Schindler's List**  
8:00 PM • Union Auditorium  
In this Academy Award winning film, based on a true story, director Steven Spielberg creates a heart-wrenching drama about life, death and despair. Liam Neeson portrays one man's fight to save more than one thousand Jewish men, women, and children during the Holocaust. (195 minutes)

Sunday, June 30 **440th Army National Guard Band**  
6:00 PM • Polk Place (grassy area between South Building & Wilson Library)  
Rainsite: Memorial Hall  
Come hear the patriotic sounds of the 440th Army National Guard Band in the area between the South Building and Wilson Library. In addition to saluting Old Glory, one can also hear the jazzy melodies of the Troubadours at this concert event. Bring a blanket and/or chairs and enjoy a fun-filled evening of music on the lawn. Free and open to the general public.

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