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Magazine rankings place UNC 27th among schools

U.S. News and World Report ranked UNC fourth among public universities.

BY NAHAL TOOSI
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

UNC dropped two spots in this year's "America's Best Colleges" rankings from U.S. News and World Report.

The magazine ranked UNC 27th among national universities. The University of California at Berkeley and Carnegie Mellon University surpassed UNC and were part of a four-way tie for 23rd.

UNC was ranked fourth overall in a separate survey for public universities behind Berkeley, the University of Virginia and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

In the national university survey, Harvard and Princeton universities were ranked first and second respectively, while Duke and Yale universities tied for third. U.S. News ranked a total of 1,400 schools.

"I'm disappointed but not surprised," Chancellor Michael Hooker said about

UNC's slip.

Hooker said the reason UNC lagged behind other universities, including UVa. (21st) and Berkeley, was its low faculty salaries.

UNC was ranked 65th in faculty resources, one of seven main attributes U.S. News uses to calculate the rankings. Faculty resources, which includes faculty salaries, counts as 20 percent of the calculation for rankings.

Although the N.C. General Assembly is considering a 4 percent pay increase for faculty members, Hooker said that was not enough to lift UNC above schools like UVa. or Berkeley.

He said since Virginia recently approved a 5 percent increase for faculty salaries and California is raising faculty salaries almost 7 percent, UNC's future rankings could suffer even more. "We know right now we're going to fall behind even further next year," he said.

Student Body President Mo Nathan said it was frustrating when faculty salaries, which are controlled by the Legislature, prevent UNC from climbing in rank.

"There's a lack of institutional commitment on a statewide basis," Nathan

said. "I'm not ignoring these rankings — none of us should. But the key is to learn to improve these rankings on where we need to improve."

"I don't believe our self-worth as an institution should be based on the yearly rankings from U.S. News and World Report."

The public university ranking was a first for U.S. News.

Bob Morse, director of research for "America's Best Colleges," said several public universities had requested that they be ranked separately.

"We figured it was useful information to students," Morse said. "A lot of students want to go to the flagship school in their state."

UNC tied for ninth with five other schools in a ranking measuring "high-quality education at reasonable cost."

Last week, Money magazine ranked UNC first in value for education among public universities and third among national universities.

Hooker said rankings could not measure the quality of education a university offers.

"On the other hand the public puts a lot of stock in these things," Hooker said. "It makes a difference."

1998 "America's Best Colleges"

UNC was ranked 27th among national universities and fourth among public universities.

Rank	School	Last year's rank
1.	Harvard University	(3)
1.	Princeton University	(2)
3.	Duke University	(4)
3.	Yale University	(1)
5.	Stanford University	(6)
6.	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	(5)
7.	Dartmouth College	(7)
7.	University of Pennsylvania	(13)
9.	Brown University	(8)
9.	California Institute of Technology	(9)
9.	Columbia University	(11)
9.	Emory University	(19)
9.	Northwestern University	(9)
14.	Cornell University	(14)
14.	Johns Hopkins University	(15)
14.	University of Chicago	(12)
17.	Rice University	(16)
17.	Washington University	(17)
19.	University of Notre Dame	(17)
19.	Vanderbilt University	(20)
21.	Georgetown University	(23)
21.	University of Virginia	(21)
21.	Carnegie Mellon University	(28)
23.	Tufts University	(22)
23.	Univ. of California-Berkeley	(27)
23.	Univ. of Michigan-Ann Arbor	(24)
27.	Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	(25)
28.	Brandeis University	(29)
28.	Univ. of California-Los Angeles	(31)
28.	Wake Forest University	(25)

SOURCE: U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

Violent crime reports drop in all categories

BY SHARIF DURHAMS
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Reported violent crimes at UNC followed a national trend by dropping in every category in 1996, but University police dealt with more reported burglaries and substance abuse crimes.

■ Reports of forced sexual offenses dropped to five last year, down from nine in 1995 and from 21 in 1994.

■ Four robberies were reported, down from six in 1995 and from 13 in 1994.

■ Aggravated assault reports dropped to 58 incidents from 89 in 1995.

Burglaries and breaking and entering reports jumped to 53 from 37 in 1995. Police also made 109 arrests for alcohol violations and 50 arrests for drug-related crimes. There were only 28 alcohol and 34 drug-related arrests in 1995.

UNC Police Chief Don Gold said the national drop in crime probably influenced the drop on campus, but that efforts to put better lighting on campus and teach people safety tips helped.

"One of the goals of the department is to give people information so that they have alternatives," Gold said.

The department worked with student government last year to inform the campus quickly when any violent crime was

reported, such as in the case of two assaults and one rape reported in April.

Police also went on lighting tours with members of student government and town officials to find out what areas could use more help.

"The University seems to be doing all it can and is aware of the need for safety and security on campus," said Student Body Vice President Chris Yates.

The University added lighting near the School of Law last school year and plans to add more.

Crime prevention and safety officer Lt. Angela Carmon said the increase in substance abuse arrests shows the University's emphasis on stamping out the irresponsible use of alcohol and drugs has worked. "The officers are out there and looking for the violations."

She said most of the drug arrests were due to students calling the police about their roommates or friends.

Gold said a series of burglaries in University parking lots last spring caused the jump in reports. Several stereos were stolen out of Honda Accords parked in satellite lots.

"You have to look at the statistics with a very critical eye," he said. "You can have an incident or rash of incidents that can drive your statistics up."

Granville residents get lighted path to campus

BY B. FORREST ANDERSON, III
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

In response to student government concerns about off-campus lighting, the Chapel Hill Department of Public Works plans to install lights on Cameron Avenue.

Last week's closing of the walkway between the Sigma Nu fraternity house and Granville Towers brought the safety of Granville residents to the attention of the Safety and Security Committee, who contacted Chapel Hill officials.

The committee was concerned about the safety of students walking on Cameron Avenue because it is not well lit, said Nic Heinke, an executive assistant in student government.

The committee has two options to improve the safety of Granville residents, including increasing the amount of lights on Cameron or creating a Granville access closer to campus, Heinke said.

Richard Terrell, field operations superintendent at public works department, said "The Department of Public Works has authorized Duke Power Company to install additional lights along Cameron Avenue between Columbia Street and Merritt Mill Road."

Specifically in the Granville Towers area, Columbia Street to Mallette Street, three lights will be installed and four

lights will be upgraded, Heinke said.

The lights are a response to the request by UNC students, Terrell said, although he did not specify when the lights might be installed.

"We're looking at ways to make it easier and safer for Granville students to get to campus," said Mo Nathan, student body president.

The committee will also consider creating a closer entrance to Granville along Cameron Avenue, he said.

"We have not yet contacted any of the property owners this may affect," Heinke said.

The committee is looking into installing a call box along Cameron Avenue, Heinke said.

The walkway was closed by the Sigma Nu House Corporation on Aug. 15 because of liability, said Ron Binder, director of the Office of Greek Affairs.

After members discovered the fence torn down twice, the Sigma Nu House Corporation started contemplating what they are going to do next.

"The house corporation is exploring what their going to do at this point to possibly restrict walking through the Sigma Nu parking lot," Sigma Nu House Manager Laurie Norman said.

Karen Schuller, safety and security coordinator for student government, said "We don't know what Sigma Nu is going to do about the fence but are assuming they'll put it back up."

Welcome wagon

BY TRISHA L. DABB
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

For many students, Fall Fest signaled the start of a new school year, but for three UNC students it was a celebration after months of work.

As Orientation Leader Coordinators (OLC) for C-TOPS, LaTasha Britt, Shannon Okerblom, and Ashley Queen spent their summer preparing new students for their first year at UNC.

"Many new students don't know what Carolina is like," said senior Okerblom, from Hampton, Va. "Even if they think they know about college, we help them make the transition."

After their own experiences, the three women wanted to continue with C-TOPS. Before becoming OLCs, they were counselors and leaders for the program. In January, after two interviews, they were appointed to their current positions.

"I attended C-TOPS in 1994 and had a great experience," said Britt, a senior from Wilson. "This year I was a coordinator and leader, so I was carrying double duty."

But she said she would never regret her choice. "I would do it the rest of my life if I could," Britt said.

The OLCs were in charge of recruiting and selecting the orientation leaders and counselors. Together the three groups helped execute C-TOPS and launch the first Fall Fest.

"The OLCs trained us as orientation leaders, since they had been there before," said Butch Garris, a C-TOPS orientation leader. "They didn't act above



Ashley Queen (left), LaTasha Britt and Shannon Okerblom stop in front of the Old Well en route to various activities. The trio served as orientation leader coordinators for 1997 C-TOPS.

us, but they were our friends and mentors."

Garris, a sophomore from Wilson, plans to become an OLC, partially due to his relationship with Britt, Okerblom, and Queen.

With all the responsibilities involved in being an OLC, the year was not without problems.

SEE COORDINATORS, PAGE 2

MERRILY WE BLOW ALONG



Tommy Horton, a University employee, cleans the walkway of the Morehead Building to keep it free from debris. Horton is one of many dedicated people who work hard to beautify the UNC campus.

Budget deadline extended by N.C. General Assembly

■ N.C. legislators pass their fourth stopgap budget with a resolution in sight.

BY VICKY ECKENRODE
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Students are not the only ones guilty of procrastination, N.C. General Assembly legislators proved during Thursday's session.

They passed the fourth stopgap measure of the year to keep the state from shutting down without a completed budget.

"This has been the most bizarre session with regards to number of continuing resolutions," said Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange.

Theoretically, the General Assembly should have passed a final budget by July 30 — the end of their fiscal year.

Each stopgap budget allowed the state budget director to continue writing checks out of last session's operating base budget.

However, operating in the continuing budgets meant the state could not hire new employees or start new programs, Lee said.

"The harm done by continuing resolutions are that they restrict the state from moving ahead with plans to be implemented," he said.

"For example, some schools systems are still uncertain about hiring new teachers because there's still no budget."

Legislators cited this year's massive welfare reform bill as the primary issue keeping them in session for so long.

"The biggest policy change that has ever been in the budget has been this welfare bill," said Rep. Ruth Easterling, D-Mecklenburg.

SEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PAGE 2

INSIDE Friday

Late summer night's drama

The Anti-Shakespeare Festival will showcase three plays during the next two week-ends at the Forest Theatre. Page 4

Today's weather

Partly sunny; low 80s
Weekend: Sunny; high 70s

No experience needed

Apply to become a DTH writer, designer or photographer. Applications are available at The Daily Tar Heel front desk in the Student Union. Get more details at interest meetings Monday at 5:30 p.m. in Union 226 or Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Union 210.

There usually is an answer to any problem: simple, clean and wrong.

H.L. Mencken