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Court date closes in for sexism suit

■ An employee says a job offer from UNC Hospitals was unfairly revoked.

BY SHARIF DURHAMS
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A University employee who claims she was passed up for a promotion because of her gender and because of politics within the University administration will face the officials in court next week.

Kristy Pittman, who manages the pay operations office for the Department of Transportation and Parking, said the University offered her a job at UNC Hospitals, then took the offer away after another applicant with more political connections made a few phone calls, said Pittman's attorney, Alan McSurely.

"She was refused this employment by the hospital because she is a woman and factors involving her sex," McSurely said.

McSurely will argue the case in Hillsborough Superior Court on Wednesday and Thursday before Judge Brenda Becton.

Court documents filed by McSurely include a memo written on Feb. 21, stating that Tom Smith, head of police and parking for UNC Hospitals, had chosen Pittman as his new administrative office manager.

Documents from the next week indicate applicant Greg Graves, former commander of the operations division of University Police, accepted the position.

A few days later, Graves married a secretary of Carolyn Ellland, director of Auxiliary Services and supervisor of the police department, the filings state.

The new job had Graves report to police chief Don Gold, who reports to Ellland.

Smith could have based his decision on rumors that Pittman dated another employee in her department and could have considered filing a sexual harassment suit.

SEE PITTMAN, PAGE 4

SKANKIN' INTO THE NIGHT



Quicksteps' members Jeremy Boomhower (left), Andy Smith and Virgina Rolls skank it on down during rehearsal. An all-student ska band, the Quicksteps blare their horns Wednesday nights in Gerrard Hall.

DTH/LAURA GIOVANELLI

Students to snuggle next to Kenan gates

■ Student gates will open at 5 p.m. Saturday for the much anticipated matchup.

BY KENYA ELDRIDGE
STAFF WRITER

Football fever has many students taking extra measures — including camping out — and local services planning early for the game against Florida State.

Eric Hart, sports marketing co-director for the Carolina Athletic Association, said Gate 5 will open at 5 p.m. Saturday, and there will not be any specific cutoff time for admittance.

The Department of Athletics and the Department of Public Safety will decide when they need to close the gate for

safety reasons.

Hart said an additional 750 bleacher seats will be added for students, bringing the total number of student seats to between 12,000 and 13,000.

Another 750 will be available for the general public, Hart said.

Several students said they planned to camp out at the gates before the game.

Jonathan Barker, a sophomore from Statesville, said that he was planning to camp out in front of the gates before they opened.

"I just want to make sure I have a really good seat," Barker said.

Hart said he encourages students to come out early Saturday, but not to camp out overnight.

"There's really no point in camping

SEE GATES, PAGE 4

With game finally at hand, UNC focuses on dethroning 'Noles

■ Saturday's winner will have the inside track to the conference championship.

BY AARON BEARD
SPORTSATURDAY EDITOR

It's been a long nine weeks for fifth-ranked North Carolina.

The Tar Heels cruised to an 8-0 record and dropped opponents by an average of 17 points during that span.

Yet questions persisted about their showdown with Florida State, about UNC's potential to win the big game. The Tar Heel players replied they wouldn't think about the game until the time was at hand.

It's time. The hype has reached stratospheric levels. And the Tar Heels are finally able to focus on their showdown with No. 3 FSU (8-0, 6-0 in the ACC).

"It's what you want," UNC linebacker KIVUUSAMA MAYS said. "You want all the hype. You want the glory. You want the implications that whether

you beat them or they beat you, the cream rises to the top."

Saturday's 7:30 p.m. kickoff at Kenan Stadium will be televised nationally on ESPN.

The winner will all but lock up the ACC title and take the inside track to the Orange Bowl, where it will likely face Nebraska for a shot at the national championship.

The loser will hope for an Alliance Bowl berth.

"It's a game to get up for," UNC cornerback Dre' Bly said. "Everyone will be watching. It's something everybody's been dreaming of."

North Carolina is riding the nation's second-longest winning streak at 10 games, dating back to last season (Penn

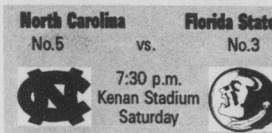
State owns the longest at 12). For the first time since 1980, the Tar Heels are undefeated as late as November.

"We've put ourselves in a great position," Tar Heel defensive tackle Vonnie Holliday said. "We have a great opportunity. For the first time, our destiny is in our own hands."

To get to the Orange Bowl, the Tar Heels must dump Florida State, a feat accomplished only once in ACC play the last five years. Since the Seminoles joined the league in 1992, they have won 45 of 46 league games. The lone loss came vs. Virginia in 1995. Saturday's game will take place almost two years to the day from the Cavaliers' upset.

UNC has flirted with knocking off the 'Noles. In last season's game in Tallahassee, Fla., the Tar Heels held FSU to 213 yards of total offense, its lowest output in 10 years. But Florida State managed to capitalize on a host of blocked kicks and UNC mistakes to claim a 13-0 victory.

Two years earlier, FSU won a 31-18 decision. In that game, the Tar Heels had two costly fourth-quarter fumbles — one at the Seminole 6-yard line — that



killed any chance of a win.

In the five league contests between the two teams, FSU has outscored UNC 141-50. But as far as the Tar Heels are concerned, the gap between the squads is narrowing.

"We feel like we've been close," Holliday said. "Since I've been here, we have felt like we've had the teams to beat Florida State."

While North Carolina has had talent in past years, this is its strongest challenge to the Seminoles' conference supremacy.

The Tar Heels mirror Florida State's defensive philosophy, relying on team speed and putting a great amount of pressure on the opposing quarterback.

The two teams rank at the top of every major ACC defensive statistic. Offensively, the two teams rank 1-2 in

three offensive categories: passing yards, total yards and scoring offense.

With the two teams evenly matched at most skill positions, the difference could come down to intangibles. With an expected record crowd of nearly 60,000 at Kenan, the Tar Heels should have a sizeable home field advantage. The Seminoles, however, boast big-game experience against the likes of Florida, Notre Dame and Nebraska.

With the stage set for a contest with national implications, the atmosphere surrounding what many consider to be the biggest game in ACC football history should be nothing short of electric.

"I can't even describe it," Bly said. "I can't describe how I'll feel coming out of that tunnel on game day. I know the night before the game, I won't be able to sleep like always."

The 'Noles own a 7-0-1 advantage against the Tar Heels. But, Holliday said, Saturday's game will be different.

"We really think this is our year," Holliday said. "We think this is our time. This is Carolina's big chance, and we're hopefully going to capitalize on it."

County Board of Education debates ousting its chairman

BY BARRETT BREWER
STAFF WRITER

Debate over the replacement of Larry Haverland, chairman of the Orange County Board of Education, as board spokesman has created discord among board members.

Board member Robert Bateman said he felt the accusations of Haverland's failure as spokesman for the board were unfounded and unnecessary. "I've suggested we sit down and talk about it," he said. "I'll just have my say and hope everybody sees this is pure folly. I definitely think if (he is replaced) it will create animosity on the board."

Haverland was accused by board members of misrepresenting the majority opinion of the board after he stated recently that he did not support a new high school in the county. The majority of members support a new high school.

Some members said they believed Haverland had violated his role as chairman and spokesman of the board by giving his own conflicting opinions of the school instead of representing the consenting opinion of the board.

"We have a chairman who I feel hasn't represented the majority opinion of the board, and we need someone to get that across," said board member Richard Kennedy, who made the motion to elect a new and arbitrary spokesperson for the board.

Board member Keith Cook said he felt the responsibility of the chairman was to speak for the majority of the board and not to express personal opinion. "We don't think that in some areas the position of the board was heard," Cook said. "I'm convinced that we need someone different."

Haverland said the majority position of the board is not his position or the voters position.

Cook said if the board were to elect a

"We don't think that in some areas the position of the board was heard. I'm convinced that we need someone different."

KEITH COOK

County Board of Education member

new spokesperson, that person would be Delores Simpson, vice chairwoman of the board.

Board members will discuss Haverland's possible replacement at the Nov. 24 board meeting.

Bateman said he felt the accusations, fostered by Kennedy, were the result of Kennedy's personal and bitter resentment at losing a prior board race to Haverland. "I don't think Mr. Kennedy likes Mr. Haverland at all. There was accusations of pulling up campaign signs when running together," Bateman said. "I think Larry is the type who can put it behind him, but I'm not sure about Mr. Kennedy," he said.

Haverland said he, too, was concerned that this latest attack was of a personal nature and without merit. "It is absolutely personal," he said. "Any action I am in agreement with I will tell the board's position; if I disagree I will make it clear that it is my opinion and not the opinion of the board."

Kennedy said he felt strongly that Haverland was undermining his responsibility as chairman and spokesman by speaking out against both the board's majority decisions. "We need to represent to the community what (the board) stands for, and Larry Haverland's opinion is not as important as the board's," Kennedy said.

"Anyone who says it's personal is just trying to blow smoke."

'Head'

Cheerleader

BY KAITLIN GURNEY
STAFF WRITER

All of Chapel Hill is in a frenzy of anticipation for Saturday's football game against Florida State, but no one more than Shelton Henderson, owner of the Shrunken Head Boutique.

Henderson and his staff are prepared for a spirited crowd Saturday. The boutique, located at 155 E. Franklin St., is full of UNC paraphernalia. On game days, the lines to purchase game memorabilia and get free buttons and Tar Heel tattoos are out the door, Henderson said.

"This is the largest game in the history of the (University). We are all hyped. It's nuts, absolutely nuts."

Henderson said this was the year UNC football would triumph.

"We'll see you at the Orange Bowl."

Henderson and his boutique have been Franklin Street fixtures since 1969, when the store opened as a men's and women's clothing store.

Henderson is proud of his shop, which has been under the same name and ownership for its 28 years of existence.

"When alumni come back, they want to have lunch at The Rathskeller and visit the Shrunken Head," he said.

A UNC fan long before he came to Chapel Hill, Henderson grew up cheering for football great Charlie "Choo-Choo" Justice.

"I've been a Carolina fan since before I knew anything about sports — before I knew anything about college," Henderson said.

SEE HENDERSON, PAGE 4



Shelton Henderson, owner of the Shrunken Head Boutique, has been a UNC fan since before he learned about sports.

DTH/MATT KOHUT

INSIDE

The Tar Heels' new order

New coach Bill Guthridge returns four starters from last year's Final Four team. Look inside for our guide to the upcoming season.



Football frenzy grips town

The biggest SportSaturday issue of the year hits stands this afternoon with full coverage of the showdown between No. 5 UNC and No. 3 FSU.



Adding to the madness

Three of the nation's top four teams will compete in the ACC field hockey tournament at Navy Field this weekend. Page 5



Today's weather

Cloudy, rain;
low 50s
Weekend: Chance of rain;
high 50s

Becoming number one is easier than remaining number one.

Bill Bradley