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Study shows preferences for blacks in admissions

BY HUNTER LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

According to a conservative think tank's recent study, black applicants receive preferential treatment over whites in admissions to six of the UNC system's 16 schools.

The Center for Equal Opportunity, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit group opposed to affirmative action, announced the findings Monday.

"The evidence is very strong that North Carolina schools discriminate in favor of black applicants," stated Linda Chavez, president of the CEO, in a press release.

The study analyzed 1995 admissions data of applicants, admittees, rejectees and enrollees regarding race or ethnicity, SAT scores and grade point averages.

It shows a qualifications gap between black and white applicants at N.C. State University, UNC-Asheville, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Charlotte, UNC-

Greensboro and UNC-Wilmington.

"Whether you look at verbal SAT scores, math SAT scores or high school GPAs, at none of the six schools was the median black admittee as qualified as the median white admittee," Chavez stated. "The odds of that happening without racial preferences are the same as flipping a coin and getting 18 heads in a row."

The verbal SAT scores of white students admitted to UNC-CH averaged 90 points higher than black students' scores, while math SAT scores were an average of 100 points higher.



UNC-system President MOLLY BROAD said the Center for Equal Opportunity's study failed to take into account all admissions factors.

White students admitted to UNC-CH also had a higher average GPA by a difference of 0.39. While the degree of disparity varied at each school, UNC-CH had the highest difference in median scores for the SAT verbal section and the second highest difference in scores for the SAT math section and GPA.

This disparity is typical for a selective college, said CEO spokesman Roger Clegg. "The more selective a college is, the more likely that the college will use preferences within its admissions department. It turns out that in the selective process, race is given enormous weight."

But UNC-system officials said the results did not tell the entire story. "Any gross analysis of admissions data cannot provide a full or valid picture since college admissions decisions are never made solely on the basis of standardized test scores and high school grade point averages," UNC-system President Molly Broad stated in a press release.

UNC-CH Director of Admissions

Study reveals differences in admissions standards for minorities

The Center for Equal Opportunity recently released a study on racial and ethnic preferences in the UNC system. They found that the admissions process at six of the 16 UNC-system schools contained preferences for minorities.

White-black admittee differences			
School	Verbal SAT scores		
	Whites	Blacks	Difference in median scores
UNC-Chapel Hill	570	480	90
N.C. State University	510	430	80
UNC-Asheville	580	500	80
UNC-Wilmington	460	390	70
UNC-Charlotte	460	400	60
UNC-Greensboro	450	400	50

School	Math SAT scores		
	Whites	Blacks	Difference in median scores
N.C. State University	590	480	110
UNC-Chapel Hill	630	530	100
UNC-Charlotte	520	420	100
UNC-Wilmington	520	420	100
UNC-Greensboro	490	410	80
UNC-Asheville	560	490	70

School	Grade point averages		
	Whites	Blacks	Difference in median scores
UNC-Wilmington	3.40	2.95	0.45
UNC-Chapel Hill	3.99	3.60	0.39
N.C. State	3.65	3.27	0.38
UNC-Charlotte	3.38	3.10	0.28
UNC-Asheville	3.54	3.36	0.18
UNC-Greensboro	3.14	3.10	0.04

School	Odds of admission*		
	Black to white	Hispanic to white	Asian to white
N.C. State University	177.10	0.85	0.79
UNC-Wilmington	57.20	0.47	0.68
UNC-Asheville	10.00	14.40	0.97
UNC-Charlotte	8.37	0.72	0.61
UNC-Chapel Hill	3.40	0.31	0.62
UNC-Greensboro	0.97	1.21	0.43

*This chart refers to the odds of admission of applicants with equal scores. A number greater than one means an applicant has a greater chance than a white to be admitted. A number less than one means an applicant has a lesser chance.

Conclusions from the report

- The odds of admission at five of the six schools studied indicate a strong degree of preference in admission given to blacks over whites.
- Schools routinely reject many white applicants with higher test scores and grades than black applicants who are admitted.
- North Carolina schools would not become segregated in the absence of preferences. There would be no universities without black admittees. Only UNC-CH, UNC-A and NCSU might lose a significant portion of those who would currently be admitted.

SOURCE: CENTER FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DTH/JAKE ZARNBERG

Jerry Lucido agreed. He said the study requested limited information, only test scores and GPA. "We look at a variety of factors in the application process including class difficulty, class performance, extracurricular contributions and leadership ability," he said.

Lucido said the Office of Undergraduate Admissions also considered supplemental additions including

overcoming obstacles, financial obligations and the family's college experience. But he said differences in population

SEE RACE ADMISSIONS, PAGE 4



Richard Riley expresses his concern for education in the South as he addresses the Southern Regional Educational Board at the Carolina Inn.

Riley says education more than job training

■ The education secretary spoke to governors and educators during a seminar.

BY SUSAN QUEEN
STAFF WRITER

Southern political and educational leaders are working together to close the gap between schools in the South and the rest of the country, said Richard W. Riley, U.S. secretary of education, at a conference Monday.

"We have come a long way in large part because we in the South have held to a vision that education was and remains the way up for everybody," Riley said.

Riley was the featured speaker at the 50th anniversary dinner for the Southern Regional Educational Board at the Carolina Inn.

Riley focused on the importance of

elementary and secondary public education, and he praised the SREB for its hard work and progress in the past 50 years.

"The sum of education has to be much more than just the certainty that another well-trained worker is ready to help the economic progress of our region," Riley said.

"We must help our children develop good character even as we encourage them to think creatively and learn skills for the future."

The SREB, the first interstate compact for education in the country, is composed of 15 member states, including North Carolina and South Carolina.

The SREB is governed by a board of each member state's governor and four others from each state.

Several state governors, former governors and former university presidents attended the dinner, and 25 of them

SEE RILEY, PAGE 4

Hunt pushes Smart Start to improve state's schools

BY MICHAEL STEEL
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Jim Hunt told the Southern Regional Education Board on Tuesday morning that early childhood education was crucial to improving education in the South.

The SREB, the country's oldest regional educational organization, held its 50th anniversary meeting at the Carolina Inn earlier this week.

"We have had success in North Carolina because we have had an education strategy," Hunt said.

He pointed to his Smart Start program, which focuses on children from

birth through 5 years old.

"We have children coming into kindergarten without knowing the alphabet, without even knowing the colors," Hunt said.

"We need to give them the stimulation they need to develop their brains at that age."

Smart Start is a partnership of state and private groups, organized at the county level.

It is a nonprofit corporation that has received more than \$30 million in private funding, including the largest contributions ever from First Union,

SEE HUNT, PAGE 4

Festivities to add sparkle to holiday

■ Music and a fireworks show at Kenan Stadium will light up Chapel Hill.

BY JUSTIN HONSCHE
STAFF WRITER

Barbecue celebrations, coolers of drinks, fireworks and the gathering of friends and family is usually a sure sign of one thing: summer. This weekend the nation will experience that type of atmosphere in the spirit of America's 222nd birthday on July Fourth.

Chapel Hill will take its place among the nationwide jubilee as it, along with neighboring Carrboro, will sponsor a number of events in celebration of Independence Day.

Kenan Stadium will be the site of a free fireworks show on Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. The Nomads will kick off festivities by performing an American blend of blues, rock and soul.

Following the band, local dignitaries, including UNC Chancellor Michael Hooker, Carrboro Mayor Mike Nelson and Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf, will welcome the crowd. Fireworks will follow at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Also on Saturday, the town of Carrboro will welcome area residents to the Carrboro Town Commons from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for its 25th Annual Family Fourth Celebration. Contests for the best decorated vehicle and costume will be held for those who register by 10:20 a.m. at the Weaver Street Market

lawn. The Patriotic Dessert Contest will also be held, giving attendees a chance to enter their sweet creations. Entries will be judged on the merit of their USA-related decoration.

In Hillsborough, Abundant Life Christian Church will hold a family picnic at Lake Michael from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., followed by a large fireworks show held in the parking lot of the Hillsborough church. Both members and nonmembers are welcome to attend.

These events, of course, cannot appeal to everyone. Because the Fourth of July is a tribute to the spirit of independence, many people have chosen to exercise their own.

Instead of making the trip to see a fireworks show put on by someone else, many students make a run for the South Carolina border to purchase a personal batch of explosives.

"I left on Sunday morning to get a bunch of fireworks, but I had a lot of trouble because the majority of outlets are closed on Sundays," said Walter Kruger, a senior biology major from Stamford, Conn.

"I had planned on just going over the state line, but I ended up at least 40 miles into the state in a place I have never heard of, but it was well worth the trouble."

No matter how one chooses to celebrate the occasion, whether it be with the family barbecue, a small gathering or just a day off to sleep in and watch television, Americans find a way to observe the occasion in their own way.

Dense traffic, low gas prices to mark July 4

BY MELODY JEWELL
STAFF WRITER

During the July Fourth holiday this weekend, the N.C. Highway Patrol estimates that about 878,678 North Carolinians will travel more than 100 miles from home, and troopers plan to be well-prepared.

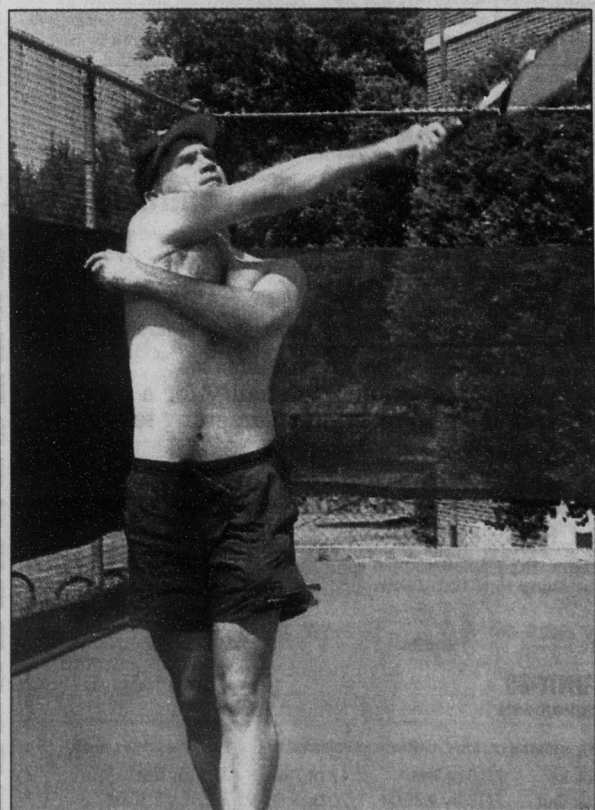
The highway patrol is participating in the statewide "Booze It and Lose It" anti-drunk driving campaign, which began Monday. "It is a statewide program for detecting and removing impaired drivers," said Sgt. Mark Johnson of the Wake County division of the highway patrol.

Bill Figulski, spokesman for the N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, said, "It basically means there are going to be a whole lot of checkpoints."

The highway patrol will target 25 roads in North Carolina that have had the most crashes and fatalities during July Fourth holiday period for the past five years. In that time, there were 687 crashes, 531 injuries and six fatalities on the targeted roads, according to a high-

SEE JULY 4, PAGE 4

SERVE IT UP



Jim Kennedy, professor in the UNC School of Law, sweats it out while playing a match at the tennis courts near Cobb Residence Hall.

DTH/DANA GARDNER

INSIDE Thursday

¿Está un médico en la casa?

A nearly \$500,000 grant will go to teaching health-care workers Spanish so they can better serve the state's growing Hispanic population. Page 2

From Batman to bank man

George Clooney cashes in as a bank robber with the best cinema performance of his career in "Out of Sight." Page 5



Lockout with no place to go

Summer boredom isn't just for school kids anymore. The NBA lockout has left dozens of grown men scrambling to find something to do. Page 6

Apply within

So, you're back into the swing of things with the second summer session and you would like to make a difference. Why not join The Daily Tar Heel staff. We are accepting people to work on all desks. Just stop by the office, Student Union Suite 104. Also, we are still looking for design and graphics editors for the fall. If you think either of these positions might be right for you, stop by the office and ask for Jon Cox.

True patriotism hates injustice in its own land more than anywhere else.

Clarence Darrow