

# Brown Taps 1st Black Leader

By SALLY FRANCIS  
Staff Writer

A black woman was recently selected to head Brown University, making it the first Ivy League school to appoint a black president.

But higher education leaders are more impressed with the candidate's résumé than her race.

Smith College President Ruth J. Simmons was unanimously elected by a search committee Nov. 9 as Brown's 18th president.

Simmons also will be the first permanent female president in Brown's 228-year history, and she follows University of Pennsylvania President Judith Rodin to become the second female president in Ivy League history.

She will take office July 1, 2001, after spending six years at Smith.

Simmons will succeed former Brown University President E. Gordon Gee and replace the interim President Shelia E. Blumstein.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead this outstanding university in this exciting time in history," Simmons stated in a Brown press release Nov. 9.

"It gives me enormous pride and joy to think that I will serve as president of an institution that not only has ideals I can share, but also earnestly seeks to love those ideals."

Simmons graduated from Dillard University in New Orleans and later received a doctorate in romance languages from Harvard University.

She also has held administrative positions at the University of New Orleans, the University of Southern California and Spelman College.

Simmons has received numerous honors, including the Fulbright Fellowship to France, the Centennial Medal from Harvard University, the National Urban League Leadership Award and was named CBS' 1996 Woman of the Year.

UNC journalism Professor Chuck Stone, who became acquainted with Simmons in the early 1990s, said she would be an asset to Brown.

"Simmons sends a message about making schools more inclusive," Stone said. "She will attract faculty, professors and students if people submit to her goals."

Stone said Simmons was working at

Princeton University when he met her.

Simmons started as director of Princeton's Afro-American studies program before becoming associate dean of the faculty and then vice provost.

"Her progress is inexorable, and she is a dynamite scholar and good educator," Stone said. "I am not surprised at how fast she has risen up the ladder."

Brown spokeswoman Laura Freid said Simmons was well received by the campus community, which greeted her with four standing ovations at a Nov. 9 assembly.

"We are elated and the campus has been electrified since Thursday's announcement," Freid said.

Freid said Simmons' accomplishments at Princeton, where she was vice provost for three years, and the success of her presidency at Smith proved that she was a charismatic leader and well qualified for the position.

"We did not make the decision based on gender or race," Freid said. "We were just fortunate to find someone so capable."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

# Erosion Compensation Dredges Up Concerns

By TIM SULLIVAN  
Staff Writer

Dare County residents whose homes and businesses have been threatened by erosion will soon receive aid from the federal government, despite protests from some environmental experts.

Congress recently passed a bill calling for a comprehensive beach nourishment program along a 14.8-mile stretch of beach in Dare County.

The program, which will cost roughly \$1.8 billion over the next 50 years, involves relocating sand from the ocean floor to the rapidly eroding beach.

Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., sponsored the bill.

Glen Downs, Jones' chief of staff, said it is important to protect shore structures from natural forces. "There are a lot of debates about the efficacy of beach nourishment," Downs said. "But the

benefits outweigh the costs."

Downs said half of the funding for the current project will come from the federal government and the rest must be raised at the state and local levels.

But opponents of the bill have voiced both economic and environmental concerns.

"We think it's ill-advised," said Molly Diggins, director of the North Carolina chapter of the Sierra Club. "It's the single most expensive beach nourishment program in the nation."

Orrin Pilkey, a Duke University professor with knowledge of the program, also expressed concerns about the projected cost. "It will cost \$30,000 a year per each piece of beachfront property," Pilkey said. "It would be cheaper to just buy out all the property."

Matt Stutz, a Duke Earth and Ocean Sciences graduate student, said buying all of the property along the beach

would cost the government \$300-400 million.

Jim Stephenson, N.C. Coastal Federation policy analyst, said the beach nourishment program might damage the environment along the shore, dumping large quantities of sand that will smother coastal wildlife. "We are also concerned about the potential impact on fisheries," Stephenson said.

Pilkey said the program is designed to protect man-made structures lining the shore, not to preserve the natural environment. He said nature should be allowed to take its course, and structures built near the sea should either be demolished or allowed to succumb to erosion.

"Their time has come," Pilkey said. "Let it come."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

## MAMMOTH

From Page 1

opportunity that we lost to get a little more nationwide audience."

Tyfu recently released its second album, *Out Of Control*, on the band's independent Ill Gore label.

He said individual members might seek deals with major labels in the future but that Tyfu would probably remain independent.

Far Too Jones was in the midst of recording an album when Mammoth closed shop in Carrboro and dropped the band. The record, *Shame and Her Sister*, finally appeared Nov. 7, released on Far Too Jones' own Azams Records.

Vocalist Chris Spruill said discussions are in progress with other major labels, but the process is a slow one.

"We're not turning our back on major labels at all, but it's going to have to be the right situation," he said. "The whole experience with Mammoth has made us a bit smarter than we were three years ago."

Raleigh's alt-country act The Backsliders, which released two albums on Mammoth, has remained inactive since the move.

Melchiorre said the company's orga-

nizational structure had changed, but its spirit remains the same. Mammoth now operates with only 14 employees, and former Hollywood Records executive Rob Seidenberg serves as its president.

"It's almost like a new beginning," Melchiorre said. "The roster has been pared down. All the staff is fairly new, but they seem to be signing some rootsy stuff, the same type of thing (as when the company was based in Carrboro)."

Spruill said that in Far Too Jones' case, the parting of the band and the label was a mutual decision.

"We had a meeting with the new president and basically told him if we were not going to be a priority as we had been before, then we didn't want to continue with the label," he said. "The new Mammoth regime was polite and honest. There was no animosity, just each of us wanting to move in different directions."

Mammoth's former Carrboro employees also have found that life goes on without the company. Steve Balcom, a Mammoth executive who lost his job with the company when it moved, said he felt no resentment.

"There's no hard feelings, just sadness in the way it went down and disappointment," Balcom said. "I think most of us still believed in ourselves and the

artists we were working with."

Balcom and two of his former co-workers founded a marketing company called the Splinter Group, where they use marketing techniques they developed at Mammoth, he said. Far Too Jones is among its clients.

Melchiorre said Mammoth plans to expand its lineup. Several groups have already joined up since the move: folk singer/songwriter John Wesley Harding, the Seattle indie pop act the Young Fresh Fellows and rock group A.

"We're looking to sign a lot of bands," Melchiorre said. "We have complete support by Disney for that."

The label's current lineup is filled out by the Zippers, the Freestylers, Joe Henry and California pop band Fu Manchu, all of which Mammoth retained from its Carrboro era. The label also put out the soundtrack to the summer movie "Jesus' Son."

In the wake of Mammoth's departure, both the company and the local music scene it once enhanced look not to the past, but to a very much alive future.

"It's going to be fun to get back (on tour)," Spruill said. "I want to keep moving forward."

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.

## SHUMAKER

From Page 1

Richard Cole, dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, said plans are in place to fill the three journalism classes Shumaker teaches while he is hospitalized.

Mac Secrest, a former newspaper editor and former UNC faculty member, will be teaching Shumaker's editorial writing class, while journalism Professor Cindy Stiff will be teaching newswriting,

and Jay Eubank, director of career services for the journalism school, will be overseeing Shumaker's practicum class.

But Cole said the intangible role that Shumaker plays at UNC will be harder to fill. Shumaker is perhaps best known for his cartoon counterpart, P. Martin Shoemaker, in the comic strip "Shoe" drawn by the late Jeff MacNelly, Shumaker's former colleague.

MacNelly, a UNC alumnus who died in June, worked with Shumaker on The Chapel Hill Weekly from 1968 to 1970. But besides lending some of his per-

sonality to a cigar-chomping cartoon duck, Shumaker has distinguished himself in the journalism school as well.

"Shu has been a splendid professor for many years - students worship him," Cole said. "He is a legendary teacher."

Cole said students, faculty and staff already have felt Shumaker's absence and expressed their support by sending cards to him and visiting him in the hospital. "I think we're doing everything we can."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

## Campus Calendar

**Today**  
4 p.m. - Bernard Chazelle of Princeton University and NEC Research Institute will speak on "The Discrepancy Method" as part of the Triangle Computer Science Distinguished Lecturer Series.  
For more information about the speech, held in 011 Sitterson Hall, go to <http://www.cs.unc.edu/Events/DistLectu> res/.  
5:30 p.m. - "Environmental Policies and Ecological Protest in Communist Czechoslovakia," a lecture by Dr. Miroslav Vanek, senior researcher at the Institute of

Contemporary History in Prague, will take place in the conference room of the Center for International Studies.  
7 p.m. - Auditions will be held for Eve Ensler's *Vagina Monologues* in 111 Murphey Hall.  
7:30 p.m. - Join the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for Praise and Worship night in the Ram's Room of Old Kenan Fieldhouse. All are welcome.

**Tuesday**  
7 p.m. - Auditions for Eve Ensler's *Vagina Monologues* in 106 Greenlaw Hall.  
8 p.m. - An interest meeting will be held in 301 Greenlaw for those interest-

ed in joining the steering committee for Project UNC, the campuswide community service day.  
All students are invited to attend.

**Wednesday**  
noon - Is interracial dating acceptable on UNC's campus? Join the discussion at the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center about pressure to date outside of your race.

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# WORLD AIDS WEEK

November 27th through December 1st

**ALL WEEK LONG**  
See the Names Project AIDS Quilt in the Great Hall (RHA)  
Get HIV info and freebies in the Pit (10-2)

**MONDAY, NOV. 27TH**  
Film Showing and discussion of "Philadelphia,"  
Campus Wesley Foundation, 6-9pm

**TUESDAY, NOV. 28TH**  
For Men Only/For Women Only—  
7-8pm in Murphy III — Everything you ever wanted to know  
about HIV and AIDS

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29TH**  
FREE Walk-in HIV Testing Clinic (5:30-8pm) in the SRC.  
(Orasure) Oral Test—No Needles!  
Film Showing of "And the Band Played On,"  
Sponsored by QNC, 7:45pm in Bingham 103

**THURSDAY, NOV. 30TH**  
Safer Sex Squad will be out on Franklin St. at midnight  
with information and freebies!

**FRIDAY, DEC. 1ST**  
UNC's AIDS Walk (see right) Speakers, free t-shirts and food

**THE MAIN EVENT!**

## WORLD AIDS DAY WALK

**FRIDAY, DEC. 1ST @ 2:30**

Registration begins at 2pm  
at the Bell Tower.  
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For more information contact:  
Center for Healthy Student Behaviors, 966-6586

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(\*Top Five in the U.S., U.S. News & World Report, September 2000)

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## Pet Night with Santa

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This year make sure your holiday memories include every member of your family! Join us after hours at South Square Mall for "Pet Night with Santa". Bring your dog or cat to pose for a photograph with the "Jolly Old Elf" himself. For more information, contact our Santa Photo Center at 919-493-4144.

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