

Downtown  
3-pointers key for  
Duke. See Page 7



Sweetie  
A four-part series on the lives of  
touring musicians begins with a  
profile of Matthew Sweet. See Page 3



Brrrrrr!  
Today: Windy, 34  
Wednesday: Rain, 46  
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# The Daily Tar Heel

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Tuesday, March 6, 2001

## 15 IDC Counselors Ready for April Start Date

By STEPHANIE HORVATH  
Staff Writer

Students facing charges before the Honor Court will soon have the freedom to choose their defense counsels.

The Independent Defense Counsel, a group that provides an alternative to the student attorney general's defense counsels, is expected to begin providing ser-

vices no later than April, said IDC founder William Hashemi.

Hashemi said the organization, which consists of about 15 members, has received official recognition from the University, requested office space in the new Student Union and set up three March training sessions for its counselors.

So far, the interaction between the IDC and the student attorney general has

been limited. Former Student Attorney General Taylor Lea said the IDC has not tried to establish any kind of relationship with the student attorney general. Hashemi said he has gone to the attorney general only to request training materials.

Hashemi said IDC will use the same training materials as the student attorney general's office and that Dean of Students Melissa Exum, Associate Dean of Student

Affairs Winston Crisp and Committee on Student Conduct Chairman Bob Adler will aid in IDC's training. "I've taken it as my responsibility to make sure we have the support of the necessary administration to get us off the ground and make sure IDC members are competent."

Hashemi decided to form the IDC after speaking to students convicted in the controversial Computer Science 120 cases, in

which 24 students were accused of cheating. Many of those convicted were later exonerated by an appellate board. The students' complaints about their defense counsels convinced Hashemi that an independent organization was necessary.

Members of the student attorney general's office currently can both investi-

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## UNC Hiring Undergoes Close Study

The arrest of former UNC employee Dwayne Russell Edwards prompted a review of hiring policies and safety.

By ERIC MEEHAN  
Staff Writer

Tar Heel Temps is considering revamping its hiring policy to increase security at the University after the January arrest of former UNC employee Dwayne Russell Edwards for a variety of charges.

Edwards was placed in three different University facilities from August until the time of his arrest through Tar Heel Temps. He was charged with seven felonies by Chapel Hill police in connection with the rape of a UNC student in January and also was charged with 33 felonies by Carrboro police in relation to one rape and one sexual assault late last December.

Representatives from Tar Heel Temps, a division of the Human Resources Department that provides temporary employees for the University, say background checks are only run on employees who are being hired for a position of trust. Positions of trust are occupations, such as housekeeping, in which the employee has access to others' personal property.

But a committee recently has been formed to discuss the possibility of changing Tar Heel Temps' hiring policy. Although Edwards worked at Student Health Service where he had access to personal information of student callers, his position was not classified as one of trust and his criminal past was not discovered until after his arrest.

Prior to his arrest, Edwards had served more than five months in jail in 1997 and 1998 in Illinois for burglary and forgery. He also was arrested in Cumberland County for breaking and entering and felony larceny last year.

Drake Maynard, senior director of human resources, said he felt his department was reacting in a proper manner in regards to the hiring policy after Edwards' actions. "We'd like to think we're being responsible," he said. "I think the natural response is to say, 'Is what we have in place adequate?'"

Joe Hewitt, director of library academic affairs, said he would like to see changes made to the Tar Heel Temps' hiring policy. University libraries are often staffed by Tar Heel Temps, and Hewitt discussed the possibility of looking elsewhere for employees if no changes are made. "(If

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## Group Will Work To Restructure Students' Tests

Some local parents want to replace current testing methods with tests that are more diagnostic of what a student has learned.

By CAROLYN PEARCE  
Staff Writer

Local parents who feel high-stakes testing procedures are not indicative of their children's abilities are organizing to propose a different approach.

The group, Advocates for Testing Alternatives, has worked with organizations like N.C. Citizens for Democratic Schools to develop a multifaceted testing procedure platform. The proposal would offer alternative means for determining students' retention or promotion to the next grade level.

Kathie Guild, a member of the ATA, said the group's main problem is the exclusive use of end-of-grade test scores as criteria for evaluation. The group claims such tests are an inaccurate measure of what students actually learn in school.

The ATA proposes a more varied approach to evaluation, including a portfolio showing a student's progress during the school year and a restructured performance exam that would better test a student's creative abilities. The proposal would maintain standardized testing but would make the traditional tests hold less weight. "We are all for proficiency and standards, but we want to make sure it isn't restrictive," Guild said. Presently the state requires students in fifth grade to pass an end-of-grade test before moving on to sixth grade. But Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools and 64 other N.C. districts have mandated these tests for promotion after third and eighth grade as well. If a student does not pass the test, he or she can retake it a week later and again after summer school if necessary. The student's principal then decides whether to retain or promote the student to the next grade level.

But Guild said having students retake the test is not a good way of addressing the problem. "We need to see if they actually understand the learning process," she said.

School board member Teresa Williams said the board knows the tests are a concern among some parents and teachers, but added that the board does not have the authority to change the standards. "North Carolina has accountability measures," she said. "We can't move beyond what the state calls for."

The Common Sense Foundation has also worked with the ATA, providing them with research on the effects of standardized testing. Daniella Cook, a fair testing organizer for Common Sense, will present a report on national trends in standardized testing and its impact on the state's students at the next ATA meeting. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. March 15 at the Chapel Hill Public Library. "One thing in educational research that is solid is that retention doesn't work."

Cook also said that the process of changing the system won't be easy, but is possible. "Reforming public education is complex. If there was a simple answer, we would have found it already."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.



AP PHOTO/NICK UT

Corà Reeder, left, her father Joe Lynch, and her sister Tiffany Lynch, right, console each other near Santana High School in Santee, Calif., after a student allegedly shot 15 people on the campus Monday, killing two. SWAT team members, below, search the grounds.

## 2 Dead, 13 Injured In School Shooting

The Associated Press

SANTEE, Calif. — A 15-year-old boy who had been picked on and had talked about shooting classmates allegedly opened fire in a high school bathroom Monday, killing two people and wounding 13 in the nation's deadliest school attack since Columbine.

One student said the boy had a smile on his face as he fired away with a pistol at Santana High School in this middle-class San Diego suburb.

The boy, a freshman whose name was not released, surrendered in the bathroom, dropped his gun and said he acted alone, telling officers, "It's just me," according to sheriff's officials.

They said he will be charged as an

adult with murder, assault with a deadly weapon and gun possession.

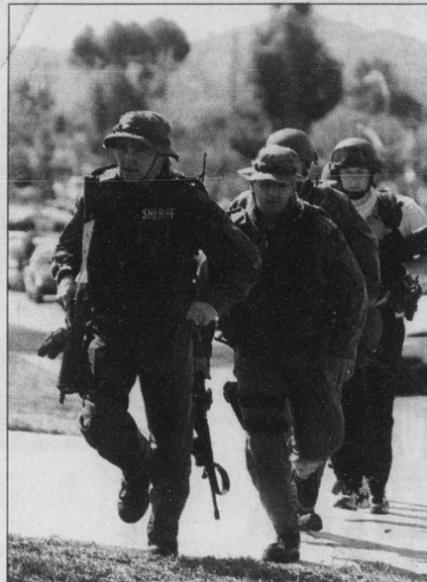
Both of the dead were students, Sheriff William Kolender said.

"I know in your minds is the overriding question: 'Why?'" District Attorney Paul Pfingst said. "The suspect has made statements. I will not share the contents of the statements with you at this time, but there is no real answer. I am not sure in any real way we will ever know why."

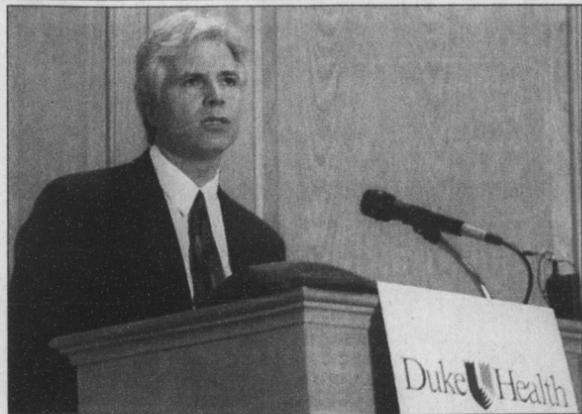
Investigators said the boy used a .22-caliber revolver, stopping once to reload, and retreated after the shooting into the bathroom.

The attack was the nation's deadliest school shooting since the April 1999

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AP PHOTO/DENIS POROY



Dr. Robert Brooks speaks at Duke University on Monday about the importance of faith-based health care for aging Americans.

## Duke Hosts Talks About Faith-Based Aid

By MICHAEL DAVIS  
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Health care professionals met Monday at Duke University's West Union to discuss ways that President Bush's controversial faith-based initiative could be put into action.

"Faith in the Future: Religion, Aging and Healthcare in the 21st Century" was held Sunday and Monday. Health issues explored included those concerning the elderly in America.

Bush's faith-based initiative would provide funds to religious groups to subsidize their charitable endeavors, including health care. Critics have claimed

that this violates the principle of separating church and state.

Participants discussed partnerships between health care organizations and churches to meet the medical needs of the growing elderly community while not breaching the church-state doctrine.

Florida Secretary of Health Robert Brooks cited his state's Shepard's Hope program, where clinics were formed by professionals and volunteers determined to provide free health care for the poor, as a successful example of the type of program needed.

"As a nation we are going to have to build on these early successes to meet these needs (of the elderly population),"

he said.

Brooks said officials plan to encourage these partnerships by holding seminars and conferences across the nation to educate the interested parties about the process of becoming involved with faith-based programs.

Brooks responded to the criticisms from civil libertarians by saying that contracts forbidding the mixing of health care and church money will keep the two separate.

He also said the country will have to reconsider the barriers between church and state.

Brooks added that faith-based organizations will be increasingly important

in the future as the elderly population continues to grow.

Harold Koenig, director of the Center for the Study of Religion/Spirituality and Health at the Duke University Medical Center, said that with 50 percent of church populations over the age of 60, the elderly cannot be neglected. "Most churches want to bring young people into church, as opposed to meeting the needs of older adults," he said.

Koenig added that faith-based programs would try to educate younger people in taking care of the elderly.

Koenig explained that federal money

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*He always gets picked on. He's scrawny, he's little. People think he's dumb.*

Student Neil O'Grady, on the alleged Santana High School shooter