

# The Daily Tar Heel

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 • Road hearing draws 400 residents  
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**On Broadway**

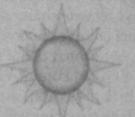
UNC alumnus plays the lead role of Simba in the traveling tour of the musical "The Lion King."  
 See Page 3

**Revenge**

Seminoles send Tar Heel to sixth straight loss.  
 See Page 10

**Weather**

Today: Sunny; H 53, L 32  
 Tuesday: Partly Cloudy; H 59, L 31  
 Wednesday: Cloudy; H 56, L 38



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The Bhangra Elite (above) and Dola Re Dola (below) perform at the 16th annual Sangam Nite on Saturday in the Great Hall. Sangam Nite, a celebration of traditional South Asian culture, began Friday night at the Hindu Bhavan Hall in Morrisville.

DTH PHOTOS: JOANIE TOBIN

## SANGAM BRINGS COLORS OF SOUTH ASIA TO STAGE

By JESSICA BONNEM  
 Staff Writer

On Saturday night, sophomore Sameer Tanakia and five of his friends performed on the stage of the Great Hall wearing red and white robes and swinging swords and staffs to the beat of traditional South Asian music.

But after a few minutes, they exchanged their traditional garb for UNC T-shirts and added American step and break-dancing moves to their act as colored lights flashed and the crowd cheered and clapped.

Dances, skits draw diverse audience

Their performance was typical of the annual Sangam Nite, now in its 16th year – an evening filled with dances and skits that fused aspects of traditional South Asian culture with modern American elements.

The opportunity to compare traditional values with modern American culture is one of the most important aspects of Sangam Nite, said Surabhi Aggarwal, a graduate student at UNC who moved to the United States from India one year ago.

"I feel that if (students of South Asian descent) have been born and brought up here, (Sangam



Nite) is important," she said. "It exposes them to traditional language and culture – and plus it's very entertaining."

The large number of people who attend Sangam Nite every year attests to the captivating nature of the performances, said Nalin Parikh, Sangam's faculty adviser.

He said the crowd for last year's show filled

Memorial Hall, the campus's largest venue.

This year, because Memorial Hall is closed for construction, Parikh said, Sangam officials decided to hold two shows, which both sold out, adding a performance Friday night at the Hindu Bhavan Hall in Morrisville.

"(Friday) was for the community," he said. "(Saturday) is for students and friends."

On Saturday, Sangam members, their parents, other UNC students and even students from other universities made up the standing-room-only crowd that filled the Great Hall with applause all night. "It's not just that (the crowd) liked it," Tanakia said. "They loved it. It really brings your spirits up."

Members of the enthusiastic audience were not only entertained by the dances and skits but also educated about South Asian culture, Parikh said.

He estimated that 60 percent of the crowd was of South Asian descent while the remaining 40 percent were students of other descents.

Senior Jigna Patel, who performed one of the dances, said the diverse audience increased the educational value of all the performances. "(Sangam Nite) is a good opportunity to introduce the culture not only to South Asians but also to others at UNC," she said.

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## GOP Power Could Change Budgeting For UNC System

By MATT HANSON  
 Staff Writer

Officials say the new Republican majority in the N.C. House will cause increased scrutiny of higher education budgets – but Republicans say the UNC system's budget will not be singled out for cuts.

Republican party officials and legislators have criticized past state budgets for overspending. This past session, Republican leaders – including House Minority Leader Leo Daughtry, R-Johnston – blasted the budget, saying it was unbalanced and typical of a budget produced by a Democratic majority.

The N.C. General Assembly expects to deal with another deficit of more than \$1 billion in 2003.

The GOP's gains in both chambers of the N.C. General Assembly have put it in a position to play a more decisive role in creating budgets in the coming years.

Republicans officially have a 61-59 majority in the House, according to results released Friday after the final recount in Wayne County was completed.

"It moves the Republicans from a clear opposition party to a party that has some share in the responsibility in setting the future course of the state," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC-Chapel Hill's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

Republican party leaders said part of their efforts to streamline the state budget will include a closer look at the way money



DTH FILE PHOTO

Leo Daughtry could lead a GOP House majority that will have increased say over the UNC system's budget.

is spent on higher education.

But Daughtry maintained that his party will not focus on cuts to higher education, adding that plans for the coming term are not yet finalized. "Everything that we need to fund is here on the table, and we're not going to single out any one thing," he said.

Legislators also said the shift in leadership on various committees will influence the General Assembly's approach to high-

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## Forum to Address Student Concerns

Safety, registration to be discussed tonight

By LANCE JOHNSON  
 Staff Writer

In an attempt to get students to speak their minds about campus issues, Student Congress has scheduled a Fall Forum for tonight to better understand the concerns of UNC's student body.

The forum will be held at 7 p.m. in 209 Manning Hall.

Campus safety, registration problems and reform of the Honor Court will be the main topics of discussion at the event, but representatives say students are encouraged to share their opinions, regardless of

the issue.

Congress Speaker Tony Larson said the forum is organized in a manner that will make it easy for students to speak.

"We tried to create structure but not an overly structured event," Larson said. "We want more listening and less talking on our part."

The forum will devote about 30 minutes to each of the three key issues, with audience questions and feedback after a brief topic presentation by a Congress representative.

"We want to hear what students have to say about issues like safety and registration," said Fall Forum Co-chairman Alak Shah. "But basically we just want to know what's on their minds."

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## Republican Caucus Nominates Daughtry for Speaker Post

Opposition remains from Democrats, GOP members

By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.  
 Assistant State & National Editor

Republicans, who hold a paper-thin majority in the N.C. House, chose party leaders Sunday – including those who will take on Democrats for top leadership positions in January.

The House is split 61-59 in favor of Republicans, according to election results released Friday after a final recount of votes in contested elections in four counties. House Minority Leader Leo Daughtry, R-Johnston,

defeated Rep. Connie Wilson, R-Mecklenburg, and Rep. Cary Allred, R-Alamance, to win the nomination for House speaker, the chamber's highest leadership position. Daughtry likely will face current House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, who has said he will seek re-election.

Rep. Richard Morgan, R-Moore, a former House minority leader and one of Daughtry's biggest critics in the GOP, said he plans to run against the caucus nominee in January as a bipartisan candidate, according to the Associated Press.

"The caucus nominee ... can't pull this off," he stated. "The work begins today to find a consensus candidate."

Rep. Joni Bowie, R-Guilford, won the Republican

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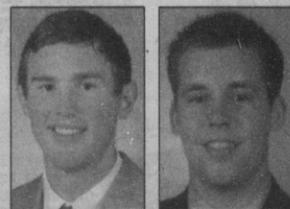
## NCAA Lifts Suspensions of Johnson, Holmes

Staff Report

The NCAA has rescinded the one-game suspensions for North Carolina basketball players Jonathan Holmes and Will Johnson for participating in a charity basketball event that raised money for cancer research.

Holmes and Johnson, the only two seniors on this year's men's basketball team, will play in UNC's regular-season opening game against Penn State today.

Holmes and Johnson issued this joint statement: "First, we appreciate the University's help in the appeal process. We thought our administrative staff made a great argument on our behalf. Obviously, this is a lesson to every student-athlete about the importance of clearing things with your compliance staff. We were just trying to help out a great cause and didn't understand the



UNC basketball players Will Johnson (left) and Jonathan Holmes have been cleared to play tonight against Penn State.

harm of playing in a charity event. We want to thank the NCAA for taking a serious and fair look at our individual case. This is something we have been dealing with for a while. Now we can focus completely on Penn State

and the rest of the season."

Holmes and Johnson participated in a one-day, 3-on-3 basketball tournament last spring to raise money for cancer research. They each paid the \$10 entry fee to participate in the fund-raiser and received no prize money or other gifts for participating. The event was run by the Carolina Cancer Focus, a student organization.

UNC's compliance office became aware of the student-athletes' participation after the event and declared them ineligible per NCAA regulations. NCAA rules prohibit men's basketball student-athletes from participating in outside competition.

On Friday, UNC officials appealed the suspension in a conference call to the NCAA's Division I Committee on Student-

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The sole advantage of power is that you can do more good.

Baltasar Gracian