

**CAMPUS BRIEFS**

**UNC student robbed near Ehringhaus Residence Hall**

A robbery occurred outside Ehringhaus Residence Hall early Tuesday morning, police reports state.

According to reports, a University student was hit from behind while walking toward the residence hall, reports state.

The perpetrators were described as four black men, all more than 6 feet tall with medium builds, all in their late teens or early 20s, according to reports.

According to reports, they were wearing dark sweatshirts with the hoods pulled over their heads and bandanas tied around their faces covering their mouths.

According to reports, while three of the men kicked the victim in the head, one stood over the victim and demanded his money, which only amounted to \$2. The victim also turned over his cell phone and residence hall keys.

Reports state that upon receiving the items the suspects fled toward Avery Residence Hall.

Police are still investigating the incident.

In an e-mail sent Tuesday evening to all students and faculty, University police asked anyone with information in connection to the case to call University police at 962-8100 or Crime Stoppers at 942-7515. All conversations will be kept confidential.

**Five UNC officials honored for dedication to students**

The executive branch of student government has honored five UNC administrators for their exceptionally strong commitment to students and student issues.

At Thursday's meeting of the UNC Board of Trustees, Student Body President Matt Tepper presented the Student Advocacy Award to its first recipients. Honored were Dean Bresciani, interim vice chancellor for student affairs; D. Scott Hudson, associate director of the student union; Provost Robert Shelton; Judith Wegner, Faculty Council chairwoman; and BOT member John Ellison.

Tepper said the winners were chosen from 40 candidates nominated by members of student government.

The recipients were chosen based on their efforts to ensure that students are engaged in debate about campus policies and involved in the decision-making process.

**UNC student charged with trespassing in Union**

An intoxicated UNC student was arrested Sunday on charges of trespassing on campus, police reports state.

Andrew John Macchiavello, of 110 Old West Residence Hall, was taken into custody after an officer repeatedly asked him to leave the Student Union.

After Macchiavello failed to comply, the report states, the officer transported Macchiavello to the Orange County Jail. According to the report, no bond has been set.

**CALENDAR**

**Today**

7 p.m. — Relay For Life will hold its Bank Night in 103 Bingham Hall until 9 p.m. All team captains are encouraged to turn in money they have raised thus far.

7 p.m. — The Collegians for a Constructive Tomorrow will host Paul Driessen, author of "Eco-Imperialism: Green Power, Black Death." The event will take place in 105 Gardner Hall. Contact wampler@email.unc.edu for more information.

**Thursday**

7 p.m. — The White Ribbon Campaign invites all men to come to a campaign interest meeting at 5:30 p.m. in 174 Morrison South Residence Hall.

Training materials — including T-shirts, buttons and pledge sheets — will be provided and free pizza also will be available.

White Ribbon Week is scheduled for April 5 to 8.

**Friday**

8 p.m. — Company Carolina will present "The Marriage of Figaro," (Le Nozze Di Figaro), by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, in Gerrard Hall.

The opera also will be presented Friday through Sunday. Saturday night is Gala Night.

For tickets, call 619-6136. Student tickets cost \$5. For faculty, staff and senior citizens, the cost is \$8. Tickets are \$10 for the general public.

Gala Night is \$2 extra.

From staff and wire reports.

# N.C. revenue estimates optimistic

## UNC-system officials remain wary

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN  
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

State revenues are above target for the 2003-04 fiscal year, but system officials say that the state's public universities still might have to trim their budgets.

UNC-Chapel Hill Provost Robert Shelton said he hopes state revenue projections will continue on the current track. "It's a good sign that we will not take midyear

reductions," he said. "(I hope) that we'll end the year without an additional budget cut."

Higher education officials will watch the state's budget closely as the end of the fiscal year approaches, Shelton said.

In February, Gov. Mike Easley ordered state agencies to complete budget-reduction scenarios of 1 percent, 2 percent and 3 percent. UNC-system schools returned their sce-

narios to the system's Office of the President on March 9.

Last week, the governor released state budget revenue figures that show that tax collections are about \$24 million higher than projected for this point in the fiscal year.

"We'll take every good piece of news we can get," said Jeff Davies, UNC-system vice president for finance. But \$24 million will have little impact on a \$14 billion budget, he said.

Nevertheless, UNC-Pembroke officials said they are optimistic

about the \$24 million cushion.

"I hope what it means is that there will be no last-minute budget cuts," said Neil Hawk, vice chancellor for business affairs at UNC-P. "For the last two years, that's what we've been hit with."

UNC-P planned for budget reductions before the governor asked them to do so, Hawk said.

Since UNC-P officials correctly predicted the budget issues they might face, they were able to spend funds this year without the fear that they would have to make cuts,

Hawk said. If officials had been incorrect, the university would have had to freeze personnel expenditures immediately.

Though UNC-system officials said they are optimistic about the budget outlook, Davies said, he remains concerned.

He said the state previously targeted revenue growth at 5.5 percent, but that growth rate will not generate fully the \$500 million to \$800 million in new revenue needed to

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*"It's like revisiting your youth. As you get older, it's tougher to meet girls."* CLAIRE HESTER, MEMBER OF CAROLINA ROLLERGIRLS



Carolina Rollergirls Caili Casey (left) and Renee Ring compete in a balancing exercise called "swordfight" during roller derby practice Sunday. Below: Heather Yurko (left to right), Anne Cokochersberger and Natalie Bolster get ready for practice at the rink in Raleigh.

# SKATERS AIM FOR DERBY GLORY

BY ANDREW SATTEN  
STAFF WRITER

It's noon Sunday, two hours before the Raleigh Skate Ranch opens its doors.

Later in the afternoon, the rink plays host to kiddie birthday parties and weekend family outings set against a soundtrack of Village People tunes and other bubbly ballads.

For the moment, however, the facility is catering to another demographic: a host of women in their 20s and 30s who go by

names such as Deamonatrix and Maiden Hell, at least when they are on the rink.

The Carolina Rollergirls are seeking to attract new members and to return roller derby to its glory days of the 1970s.

The group's Web site incites potential recruits to "pull out that can o' Whoop Ass and come on out to show 'em what some Southern Hellfire's made of."

Sunday's practice was off to more of a subdued start than usual, after what one skater dubbed "a weekend of debauchery."

To fund and publicize the roller derby endeavor, the group set up a spanking booth at the Blood, Sweat and Gears Show, a car show and rock music festival, in Raleigh on Saturday. Participants could opt to receive spankings or to give them.

"We were there all day long and took quite a few spankings," said Laura Weakland, founder of the Carolina Rollergirls.

A conservative radio station even called in to object to the spanking booth, but Weakland, who goes by her derby name Celia Fate, downplayed the event.

"I was like, 'There's a controversy?'" she said. "It was all in good fun. Everyone was watching us and cheering us on."

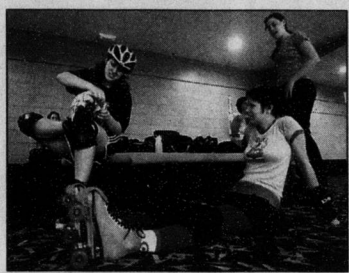
Despite the slow start to Sunday's practice, the women eventually took to the rink equipped with helmets, wrist guards and knee pads to protect themselves from the frequent injuries that accompany the rough-and-tumble sport. One team member already had experienced a spill that required a CAT scan.

"Laura totally cut her off from behind and snaked her," said Claire Hester, a 2001 UNC graduate. "But she's fine, mostly."

Led by fundamentals coach Tom Welsh, the rollergirls practiced skating backward, a critical skill because of the versatility skaters must bring to the rink for competition.

The group has about 20 to 30 dedicated members. A typical week includes the two-hour Sunday practice session and one-hour speed skate sessions Wednesday and Friday.

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# Navy fighter jets' safety in question

BY AMY THOMSON  
STAFF WRITER

Three U.S. Navy F-18 Hornets have crashed at separate airfields in the past week, raising speculation about the military branch's standards of safety and emboldening opponents of a Navy landing field in Washington County.

One of the incidents occurred Friday at Raleigh-Durham International Airport, eliciting mixed reactions about the aircraft's safety.

"(Hornets) basically have an outstanding safety record," said Mike Maus, deputy public affairs officer for the Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet.

But the planes are not so safe, according to an article written by Lt. Matthew Bartel, an F-18 analyst at the time of the article's publication.

Bartel, who worked for the Naval Safety Center, published an article in June 2003 about the Hornet's poor safety record.

According to the article, the Hornet had 10 serious mishaps between October 2002 and

February 2003, including midair collisions, out-of-control flights and a crash caused by fuel starvation.

Bartel was out of the country Tuesday night and could not be reached for comment.

In the article, he claimed that human error was responsible for the mishaps and suggested that F-18 pilots be trained more thoroughly in the future.

RDU spokeswoman Mindy Hamlin said that an average of eight military aircraft land at RDU daily. But Friday's incident was the first of its kind, she said, adding that everything at the airport is back to normal.

"It was a mishap, and we understand that," she said.

The Navy is expected to have removed the wreckage by today.

The recent crashes also have raised eyebrows in Washington County, where the Navy wants to build a landing field.

The local government, community members and some state

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# Pro-choice advocate speaks at rally

BY ALLISON PARKER  
STAFF WRITER

A noted reproductive rights activist espoused the importance of fighting for a women's right to choose Tuesday in a number of appearances at the University.

Named by The Washingtonian as one of the 100 most powerful women in Washington, D.C., Kate Michelman, national president of NARAL Pro-Choice of America, was on campus to participate in a rally and speak to students.

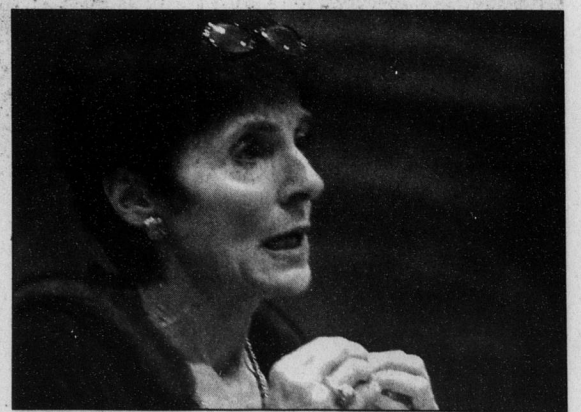
About 30 people gathered near the steps of South Building to hear Michelman speak about the importance of fighting for women's reproductive rights.

The rally was held to promote awareness for the "March for Women's Lives," to be held April 25 in Washington, and was sponsored by a coalition of student organizations, including Choice USA and Voices for Planned Parenthood.

Michelman also spoke to a standing-room only crowd in 116 Murphey Hall on Tuesday evening.

NARAL Pro-Choice of America is a reproductive rights group that advocates for the right to choose and lobbies for access to reproductive health care information.

Michelman, who has served as



Kate Michelman, president of NARAL Pro-Choice of America, speaks to students Tuesday to promote the March for Women's Lives.

NARAL president since 1985, will step down after the march.

We hope the march, a nationwide event in support of women's reproductive rights, will send a message to the White House, Michelman said in an interview with The Daily Tar Heel. "Our goal is to have a historic number of pro-choice Americans, speaking strongly for the right to choose."

Michelman said she hopes the march will mobilize people. "There is a difference between active and passive participation," she said. "The march gives people a means to act on their beliefs."

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Even if students can't attend the march, they can still participate locally in the fight for women's

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