

# Searchers discover student's body in lake

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

May 13 — The search for a missing UNC-Chapel Hill student ended Sunday afternoon after his body was discovered near Jordan Lake.

Junior Ziyun "Tim" Mao, 19, had been missing since the morning of May 4.

His death is being treated as a suicide, and no foul play is suspected, said Randy Young, spokesman for the Department of Public Safety. He said University Police are still waiting for a report from the medical examiner's office to confirm the cause of death.

Officials don't know what led to Mao's death, Young said.

Mao had last been seen by his roommate at 11 a.m. on May 4. Mao's father had arranged to meet him that afternoon to move out of his room in Carmichael Residence Hall, but when Mao did not arrive his father called the police.

Campus police interviewed friends, family members and students for information. Officials released a statement late Saturday requesting help in the search from the public. The statement included a description and photo of Mao.

UNC-CH has experienced an increase in student suicide as four students killed themselves last school year. The increased trend has caused the University and its mental health services to come under scrutiny as UNC was criticized by parents of two of the victims.



Missing student Ziyun Mao had been missing for several days when his body was discovered.

The UNC-CH Board of Trustees and the UNC-system Board of Governors recently approved a measure that will fund the University's Counseling and Psychological Services solely through student health fees, rather than a combination of student fees and state budget appropriations.

CAPS Director John Ederly said in April that the revenue will be used to add four members to the CAPS staff: one psychiatrist, two psychologists and one social worker. The waiting period to get an appointment now is about two weeks, but the new initiative will reduce that time to less than seven days.

UNC-CH administrators organized a suicide prevention task force, which is expected to make its recommendations over the summer.

University officials also have taken several steps to help students address mental health problems. C-TOPS, a summer program for first-year students, now devotes discussion time to inform students about CAPS services and other available campus resources.

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

# UNC atheletes mourn a mentor

BY MICHAEL PUCCI  
SENIOR WRITER

July 15 — Burgess McSwain, associate director of the academic support center at the UNC Department of Athletics, died Friday at UNC Hospitals as a result of complications from surgery. She was 60.

The beloved Morganton native, who had been battling colon cancer for several years, had been an academic counselor at UNC since the 1960s, but was most closely linked to the men's basketball program. "She devoted the last 20-plus years of her life working with the basketball players," said former head coach Bill Guthridge.

A funeral service Monday afternoon at the Chapel of the Cross church on Franklin Street was well attended by players past and present, including Jason Capel, Will Johnson and Brendan Haywood.

"Their attendance here shows what she meant to them," Guthridge said. "It's a great showing."

Capel remembered McSwain as a woman who was there whenever players needed her, helping to keep the team's morale high despite its enduring the worst slump in the program's history.

"She helped with papers, took 7:00 calls to help you finish," he said. "She was a mother figure away from home."

The UNC alumna assisted athletes, primarily the football team, throughout the 1960s and '70s while also teaching history at St. Thomas More Elementary School and in area public schools. She began working with the basketball team in 1982,

when a colleague recommended her to then-coach Dean Smith.

Through the years, McSwain acquired a reputation of being an understanding but demanding teacher — a woman who could be extremely compassionate but also extremely blunt in offering an opinion. She meticulously gathered each player's schedule and knew when every assignment was due.

It was not uncommon for McSwain to receive an early-morning call for assistance, since that might be the only time a player could study. The Tar Heels pride themselves on their outstanding athlete graduation rate, thanks in no small part to McSwain's efforts.

"She was a great ambassador for this school," said current head coach Roy Williams. "She loved for her teams to win, but she was also very concerned with academics."

In addition to tutoring the players, she acted as their mentor, providing guidance and advice during the program's darkest hour. During the team's 8-20 campaign in 2001-2002, McSwain was known as the woman the players consulted to keep spirits up.

But in December 2002, McSwain was diagnosed with a potentially fatal case of colon cancer and underwent chemotherapy treatment. Despite the diagnosis, McSwain continued to perform her duties as academic counselor. By March of this year, however, her condition had worsened, forcing her into the hospital.

Finally, early Friday morning, her battle ended.



DTH/GILLIAN BOLSOVER

Daniel Murphy, 87, shovels earth onto his daughter's grave as part of her funeral. Burgess McSwain was an academic counselor for UNC atheletes.

"I'm so sad," said rising senior Jackie Manuel in a statement. "She helped us out a whole lot my freshman year, with much more than just academics. I'm really going to miss her."

The Burgess McSwain fund has been established in her honor. Contributions may be made in care of the UNC Department of Geography, Saunders Hall, Campus Box 3220, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599-3220.

McSwain is survived by her father, Daniel Murphy, 87, of Chapel Hill.

Guthridge said that while her position will be replaced with someone else, nobody will ever really achieve the same relationship with her students.

"She was not married," Guthridge said. "This was her family."

Contact the Sports Editor at [sports@unc.edu](mailto:sports@unc.edu).

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