

**CITY BRIEFS**

**Police seek man in assault at drug store on N.C. 54**

Chapel Hill police are looking for a man involved in an incident Wednesday evening at the Eckerd Drug Store on N.C. 54.

Police are looking for the man to charge him with assault with a deadly weapon.

According to reports, the suspect entered Eckerd Drug Store, located at 1218 Raleigh Road, at 8:08 p.m. and was asked for identification when he attempted to purchase prescription drugs.

When asked for his identification, the man laid cash on the counter of the pharmacy, grabbed the drugs and ran out of the store, reports state.

According to reports, a worker from the pharmacy ran out to try to stop the man and then had to jump out of the way of the robber's green sedan to avoid being hit.

Reports describe the man as being 6 feet 2 inches tall, weighing about 160 pounds and having blond hair.

**Chapel Hill Public Library to hold book sale Saturday**

The Friends of the Chapel Hill Public Library will sponsor a book sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the meeting room on the ground floor to raise funds for the library.

The books will be sold as individually priced on Saturday, and the remaining books will be sold Sunday at \$3 a bag.

Hardback fiction books are priced at \$1, high-quality paperback fiction at \$1 and pocket paperbacks at \$.50. Hardcover nonfiction and children's books are priced individually inside the cover, a release from the library states.

According to the release, the books are donated by community members throughout the year to help support the library.

Each year, these book sales generate about \$20,000 a year to the library to purchase new books.

Over the past 30 years, the book sales have brought in about \$400,000, reports state.

**STATE & NATION**  
**SBI to examine Wake Co. school equipment sales**

RALEIGH — The State Bureau of Investigation is examining equipment sales within the Wake County school system, where three transportation employees have resigned.

Wake County officials said Wednesday they are reviewing "a serious concern about a vendor's substantial sale of equipment, parts and supplies" to the district's transportation department.

School officials said they are determining whether the unnamed vendor owes them money. Michael Evans, a school district spokesman, said the school district began an audit after receiving a tip.

"We are still trying to get all the information, but what we've found warranted calling in the district attorney," Evans said.

District Attorney Colon Willoughby referred the matter to state investigators. William McKinney, a spokesman for the state Attorney General's Office, confirmed that the SBI is looking into the case.

The three transportation employees resigned Tuesday afternoon, Evans said.

None of the workers could be reached for comment Wednesday.

Wake County has 822 school buses that expects to transport 62,000 students this school year.

**Fewer N.C. middle schools hit expected goals on tests**

RALEIGH — Fewer North Carolina middle schools reached expected goals in test scores this past year, possibly because students were judged by an outdated formula, education officials say.

Only 32 percent of the middle schools made expected progress under the ABCs of Public Education program, compared to 85 percent during the 2002-03 school year.

The drop-off meant fewer teachers qualified for bonus pay and more administrators scratched their heads about what went wrong.

Examining the scores in sixth- and eighth-grade reading, officials now believe the lackluster showing may have been caused by the yardstick the state uses to measure that progress from year to year.

"There's something wrong with the formula," said Karen Banks, an assistant Wake County schools superintendent and the chairwoman of a panel that advises the State Board of Education on testing issues.

"They're going to have to go back and do the research to develop new formulas."

From staff and wire reports.

# Honor Court cases on the rise

*Internet, publicity up trust in system*

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Thanks to increased publicity and the advent of technology, more cases than ever before are being reported to UNC's Honor Court.

Though the court heard about 30 cases this summer, it still has a backlog of 80 cases. At this time last year, the court was similarly

backlogged, but Student Attorney General Carolina Chavez said the number of cases being reported is higher now than in the past.

Figures from the summer cases show that there were 13 pleas of guilty and 12 pleas of not guilty. The court ruled that 23 of those students were guilty and 2 were not guilty.

Data for the remaining five cases were not available.

Chavez attributed the increase in cases to initiatives that she said have resulted in a growing confidence in the system. For example, a growing number of violations have been reported online, she said.

She noted that while the Internet makes turning in violators easier, it also spurs more cheating.

"It's easier to find stuff," she said. "What students don't under-

stand is that if they can find it on the Internet, a professor can find it just as easily."

Glenna Goldis, president of the Independent Defense Council, said her group also has seen an increase in the number of students it represents in Honor Court. The organization only tried one case this summer but has about 10 in its backlog.

The IDC is an independent group that appeals to students who

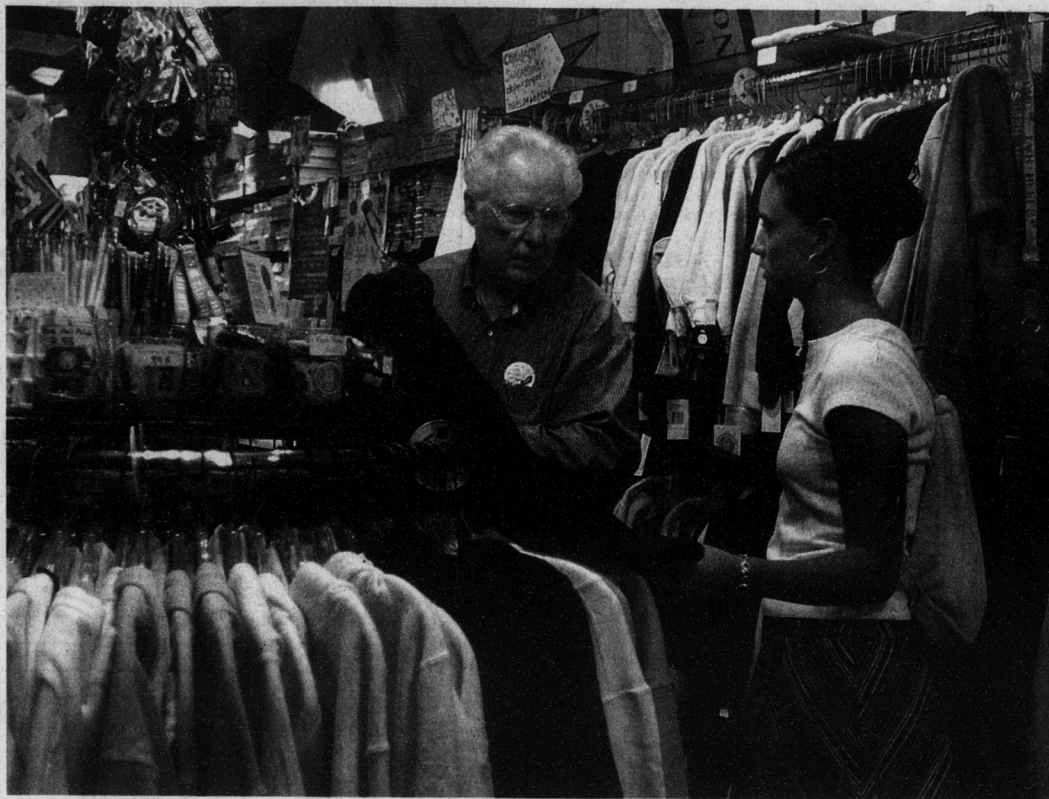
do not want to be defended by a member of the Honor Court.

Goldis attributed the group's growing number of cases to better advertising and a more established presence within the University community.

To combat the increasing number of court cases, both Chavez and Goldis are looking to expand their staffs.

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*"I usually work about six to seven days a week, but I am very happy. I love to sell."* SHELTON HENDERSON, MANAGER, SHRUNKEN HEAD



Shelton Henderson helps graduate student Courtney Sapp shop for Tar Heel clothing in the Shrunk Head Boutique on Thursday afternoon. Henderson has owned the store since it opened in 1969 and has managed the Franklin Street mainstay for the last 33 years.

## SHRUNKEN HEAD CELEBRATES 35TH

*Officials attribute longevity to owner's diligence*

BY MEREDITH LEE MILLER  
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

People can buy a T-shirt for the University almost anywhere in Chapel Hill.

But local business owner Shelton Henderson knows business owners must have an innovative way to connect with customers to survive in the long run.

On Monday, Henderson's shop, The Shrunk Head Boutique, celebrated its 35th anniversary of being in downtown Chapel Hill.

Henderson has owned the store, located at 155 E. Franklin St., since it opened in 1969, and has managed it for the last 33 years. "I usually work about six to seven days a week, but I am very happy," he said. "I love to sell."

Some town officials say an active owner is the key ingredient to having a successful business downtown, an area that has suffered from recent business turnover.

"When you look at the successful businesses in Chapel Hill, most of them are owned and operated by local owners," said Bob Epting, chairman of the new Downtown Economic Development Corporation.

The corporation is in the process of finding a way to reinvigorate downtown, Epting said.

He said Henderson is a good example of the type of person the downtown business community needs — a business owner who knows what Chapel Hill residents want to buy.

The corporation has no stated preference for local or out-of-state owners, Epting said. But he added that it is hard to ignore how many local businesses succeed in the area because they are familiar with Chapel Hill.

Some locally owned businesses that have lasted for decades in Chapel Hill include Julian's, at 140 E. Franklin St.; University Florist, at 124 E. Franklin St.; and Sutton's Drug Store, at 159 E. Franklin St.

John Woodard, owner of Sutton's, which has been in Chapel Hill since 1923, said Henderson and The Shrunk Head Boutique are mainstays on Franklin Street.

He said it is reassuring for UNC alumni to see the same faces in stores each year.

Charles House, owner of University Florist, said the benefit of having a locally owned business is that the owner can make on-site decisions.

House said that because Henderson is a private owner, he has the option to adapt his store to meet the desires of local shoppers.

Henderson said he gains a perspective on what students want to buy from his own employees, who are mostly University students. "College kids are the backbone of this store," he said.

A manager in a national or regional chain might not have the flexibility to react to what area consumers want, House said. National chains such as The Gap might not have long-term success in towns like Chapel Hill because corporate headquarters make the decisions instead of private owners, he added.

Henderson said he knows he must be active and adjust to the needs of customers in Chapel Hill to keep his business thriving.

"You have to go with the times," said Henderson, who said he has learned what works in downtown by trial and error and by seeing businesses come and go.

"There are hundreds of people walking by on Franklin Street," he said. "But you have to reach out to people when you want to sell something."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

## Theft of laptops cools off in town

*Number drops from record high*

BY RYAN C. TUCK  
CITY EDITOR

More than four years after first requiring incoming freshmen to purchase laptops, the University appears closer to showing students that a laptop is a safe investment.

That assurance might hinge on the number of laptops being stolen on and off campus every year — numbers that are down this year after last year's historically high rates of off-campus laptop theft.

On Aug. 26 last year, the Chapel Hill Police Department reported that 64 laptops had been stolen from off-campus student residences since Jan. 1.

Police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said Thursday that there have been reports of only 47 stolen laptops for the calendar year thus far.

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## UNC panel to review grievances

*Workers' union set to participate*

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

University employees have the opportunity today to directly impact the revision of UNC's grievance procedure.

The State Personnel Act Dispute Resolution Committee is holding a meeting from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Gerrard Hall to solicit input on proposed revisions of the grievance policy.

Throughout the committee's revision process, which began in June, University employees have been able to comment on the changes through e-mails and written statements.

Committee members received recommendations to hold a forum from several sources, including the N.C. Public Service Workers Union,

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## Groups join forces for voter campaign

*Drive celebrates women's suffrage*

BY AMY KINGSLEY  
STAFF WRITER

While students sat through their third day of classes, a lone figure walked up to the folding tables at the Campus Y's voter registration drive on Women's Equality Day.

Dressed in dusty jeans and a black T-shirt, Louise McKay lifted tattooed arms to remove a beaten hard hat, revealing a French manicure and a pile of golden hair.

The 50-year-old owner of Q.J.'s Welding and Steel might not be the target audience for Thursday's voter registration drive, but she could be its poster woman.

McKay cast her last vote in 1978 and hasn't been registered for several years.

But this year she plans to change

that, and she isn't the only one.

A handful of construction workers from Memorial Hall, many of whom hadn't voted or been registered in years, mingled with first-time student voters at the drive.

The Carolina Women's Center and the Campus Y co-sponsored the campaign, which ran from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This is the first year the groups have celebrated Women's Equality Day, which honors the 84th anniversary of women's suffrage, but organizers intend to make it a regular event.

Although volunteers aimed to register 100 voters during the day-long celebration, only 22 new voters registered.

In addition to that, 74 people who are already registered pledged to vote.

"The right to vote is something

SEE EQUALITY, PAGE 7



Chimi Boyd, assistant director of the Carolina Women's Center, works at a voter registration drive Thursday at the Campus Y. The campaign celebrated Women's Equality Day on the anniversary of women's suffrage.

DTH/GILLIAN BOLSOVER