

CAMPUS BRIEFS
See the big dance on the big screen with 15,000 fans

The Department of Athletics, Division of Student Affairs and Rams Club will sponsor a 15-by-20-foot screen and open 15,000 seats in the Smith Center on Monday for a free viewing of the NCAA men's basketball championship broadcast.

UNC students, faculty and staff with UNC ONE Cards will be admitted first at 8 p.m. at Entrance A. Doors open to the general public at 8:30 p.m. There will be no re-entry.

Free parking will be available at the Smith Center off of Bowles Drive and in the Kenan-Flagler Business School parking deck. Alcohol is prohibited, but concessions will be sold during the game.

Masked vandal assails Israeli speaker at student event

A masked man threw balloons filled with red paint at an Israeli man speaking Thursday night in Murphey Hall during an event sponsored by Carolina Students for Israel then escaped on a bike, University police reports state.

The speaker, Jacob Dallal, is a former spokesman for the Israeli Defense Force.

The suspect left a note at the scene calling the assault an act of civil disobedience, said Jackie Terry, president of the student group. The note also said the red paint represented the blood of Palestinians who have died in the ongoing conflict with Israel, Terry said.

Police still are investigating the incident.

Public service center honors faculty, students with awards

The Carolina Center for Public Service honored members of the community for their commitment to public service during an annual awards program Friday.

Gordon Whitaker, professor of public administration and government, received the third annual Ned Brooks Award for Public Service.

The award honors a faculty or staff member with a record of community service through individual efforts and the involvement and guidance of others.

The center also presented the Office of the Provost Public Service Awards, for student groups that serve North Carolina, to Team Epi-Aid and Project OpenHand.

Team Epi-Aid helps the N.C. Division of Public Health and local health departments with outbreak investigations and other short-term applied public health projects.

Project OpenHand is a student organization that helps people living with HIV and AIDS.

Seniors Rebecca Sowder and Philip Sherrill and faculty members Jock Lauterer and Dr. Lee Marcus received the Robert E. Bryan Public Service Award, which honors exemplary public service efforts.

CITY BRIEFS
Local visitors bureau director dies unexpectedly March 27

René Campbell, director of the Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau, died March 27 in Lexington. Her death was unexpected.

Campbell had served as director since May. County Economic Development Director Dianne Reid said she liked Campbell when she first met her.

"When René walked into the room, we knew she was the person for the job," Reid said. "She had a warm, bubbly personality."

Campbell, a Lexington native, had a bachelor's degree in speech and theater arts from Wake Forest University and doctoral degrees in theater history and film from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

A memorial service was held Saturday at Lexington's First Reformed United Church of Christ.

Community theater group to host musical auditions

Auditions begin tonight for the Orange County Community Theatre's production of "Honk," the musical tale of "The Ugly Duckling."

Auditions will be held at the Central Center in Hillsborough. Participants should bring a familiar song and can perform a cappella with sheet music. An accompanist on piano will be present.

Call 245-2660 for one of the 10-minute blocks. Tonight's audition are from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Additional times will be Wednesday, Thursday and April 19 and 20.

CALENDAR

Today — Valery Orr, the plaintiff in the Supreme Court case Adarand Constructors v. Peña, will take part in an affirmative action discussion with other campus groups.

The event, which kicks off Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Inc.'s Greek Freak Week, will take place in at 6 p.m. in 100 Hamilton Hall.

Number of rapes on campus spikes

Student groups try to spread message

BY STEPHANIE NOVAK
STAFF WRITER

The number of sexual assaults reported on campus is on the rise this year, and the University community is trying to fight back.

Since the start of the academic year, victims have reported 25 sexual assaults — 18 in the fall and seven this semester, said Melinda Manning,

assistant dean of students.

All have been "blind reports," in which victims do not release their names. In a typical year, between 10 and 20 students make these reports to University personnel.

It's unclear why there's been an increase in reports. It could mean more sexual assaults, or it could mean more victims have filed reports.

Either way, UNC students say, they're going to lead the way in trying to stop the trend.

"Women clearly are leading the way in trying to end this issue, but if we as men don't begin to step up and play an active role in this issue, then change won't come," said Homecoming King T.J. Abrams, who is leading efforts to raise awareness of domestic violence.

During his tenure, Abrams has worked to secure permanent funding

for the Victims' Assistance Fund. The resource pays for the costs of trips to the emergency room and follow-up visits for necessities such as X-rays and rape kits, which doctors use to help identify a victim's assailant.

The program has faced a Catch-22: When victims report more assaults, they need more money, and the fund is depleted.

In November, the fund fell to \$900. The ideal balance hovers between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

Abrams has worked with student government and the University Safety and Security Committee to increase funding to \$6,000, but only for this semester.

The committee will vote on a permanent increase for the fund before the end of the semester.

UNC also hopes to start an additional program this fall in conjunction with Duke University. The

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"John Paul II was a great man. He was a holy man. He was a brilliant man." REV. PHILLIP LEACH, NEWMAN CENTER CAMPUS MINISTER



Students at the Newman Catholic Student Center participate in a service Sunday. Students and others at the Newman Center, like millions of Catholics around the world, remembered Pope John Paul II at the first Mass since the pontiff's death Saturday afternoon.

HONORING A FALLEN LEADER

BY BRIANNA BISHOP
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

The congregation at the Newman Catholic Student Center Parish on Sunday night joined hundreds of thousands of mourners around the world in remembering the life of Pope John Paul II.

At the center's Sunday evening Mass, churchgoers lifted up special prayers for the pope, the cardinals who will choose his successor and the Catholic Church during its period of transition.

The 84-year-old pope died Saturday afternoon of septic shock and cardiocirculatory collapse. He had served as pope for 26 years.

An estimated 100,000 turned out to St. Peter's Square in Rome on Saturday night for a special Mass, and thousands more have arrived since then to offer their prayers. The church laid out John Paul's body Sunday, giving the public its first glimpse of the late pope since his death.

"He was a wonderful leader and will definitely be missed," said senior Melissa Danie.

Although she's glad the pope was relieved after his long illness, it was sad to see the church lose such a special person, she said.

Junior Jessica Lumsden shared similar thoughts, saying she was saddened to hear about John Paul's death. "He's been our leader as long as I've been alive," she said.

Noting that many of his parishioners have not known any other popes in their lifetime, Rev. Phillip Leach, the center's pastor and campus minister, took Sunday's Mass as an opportunity to remember the pope and discuss what will happen next for the church.

He explained what the future will bring as the effort to find a new pope begins.

The funeral will take place in two to four days. About two weeks after the funeral, cardinals under the age of 80 from around the world will gather to select the next pope, he told the congregation.

Leach also shared with attendees the opportunities he had on several occasions to meet John Paul.

"He'd speak to each one of us in our native

language," Leach said of the way the pope would greet those celebrating Mass.

He added that when the pope walked past people, he would look at them as if they were the only person in the world.

"John Paul II was a great man," Leach said. "He was a holy man. He was a brilliant man."

He told the congregation to be grateful for the privilege of learning from a man who put everything into his faith.

"He's really an extraordinary person," Vicky Fernandez, an exchange student from Argentina, said about the pope.

She said the next pope will be challenged in trying to fill his shoes and added that she hopes everyone in the parish will have the opportunity to hear about his amazing life.

A special Mass for the pope will be held at noon today at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, located at 2718 Overbrook Drive in Raleigh. The service will be televised live on FOX-50.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Struggle over law mirrors others

Admissions fight goes past Texas

BY ELIZABETH DOUGHERTY
STAFF WRITER

A Texas bill that has ensured the diversity of students admitted into public colleges and universities has come under fire from school officials, and the debate has sparked discussions about diversity on campuses nationwide.

The law, enacted in 1997, guarantees the top 10 percent of students in each Texas high school admission to state universities.

Now, officials at the University of Texas-Austin and Texas A&M University say the program has led to qualified applicants being turned down just because they're not in the first tenth of their class.

"We've been very successful, too successful if you wish," said Augustine Garza, deputy director of admissions at UT-Austin.

In 1999, 42 percent of total admits were in the top 10 percent of their graduating high school class. In 2004, that number had increased to 66 percent.

But campus officials say the law has a plus side as well, because it encourages people to apply.

That was the intent of the law in the first place. The bill was a response to a Texas court ruling that prevented race from being used in admissions, which led to a noticeable decrease in the number of minority applicants.

UT-Austin has seen 1,000 more applications from black students and 2,000 more from Hispanic students since Texas enacted the law, according to a report on the demographic makeup of freshmen published by the admissions office.

Still, Garza said, he's in the business of recruitment, so for him the law is good. He pointed to the rise in the number of applications to UT-Austin as the most revealing factor of the law's progress in diversifying the student body.

The debate is part of a national trend: considering the role of race in college admissions.

In 2003, the U.S. Supreme

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Dearmin gets help on platform planks

BY HEATHER ANDREWS
STAFF WRITER

With two of his platform planks nearing completion, Student Body President-elect Seth Dearmin said he will center his attention on lobbying and uniting student organizations once he steps into office.

The progress already made on two of his major planks — providing condoms in residence halls and wireless Internet on Franklin Street — will allow Dearmin to target different aspects of his platform after he is inaugurated Tuesday.

"It's an asset in that it opens up time to focus on other issues," he said. "It's a huge help."

Though the two initiatives were major points on Dearmin's platform, their early completion owes much to the work of many other student, University and local officials.

A pilot program for the sale of condoms could be instated before students leave for summer break, said Christopher Payne, associate vice chancellor for student affairs.

Outgoing Student Body President Alexa Kleysteuber has been aiming to "fix the condom situation on campus" since before Dearmin was running for office.

"He hasn't been that involved," said Kleysteuber, who has been working with the Center for

Healthy Student Behaviors on the initiative. "I think he knows what's going on. He seems excited."

Noting that Dearmin has yet to attend any meetings about the condom plan's implementation, Payne said he is looking forward to working with him on a variety of issues that affect students.

"I have visited with Seth about this," Payne said. "Because this is a pilot program, there will be discussions over the summer and into the fall that will involve him."

Meanwhile, the Downtown Economic Development Corporation has been working to create wireless Internet access on Franklin Street.

Nick Didow, the corporation's interim executive director, said the project is progressing.

"I've met with part of the (Chapel Hill) advisory committee to see what their interests are," he said.

"We've not yet gathered everybody around the same table. That will probably happen next, in about 10 days to two weeks."

Dearmin said the work of people outside his campaign displays the passion other people bear toward issues that affect students.

He added that the outside help

Businesses gear up for hoops game

BY LAURA OLENIACZ
STAFF WRITER

The Tar Heel basketball team's success in the NCAA Tournament this weekend brought in record sales for area businesses, and a brighter future still glimmers on the horizon for fans and merchants.

Franklin Street bars and restaurants made special arrangements to support the large crowds of enthusiastic fans for UNC's bout with Michigan State in the Final Four on Saturday night.

"We increased our staff levels, ordered extra food and beer. We'll be bringing in extra TVs," Hams of Chapel Hill restaurant manager Stephan Johanson said Friday before the game.

Johanson said Sunday that the bar made about three times as much as it normally makes on a Saturday night because of game crowds.

Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery made similar arrangements.

Manager Tim Sullivan said the business was totally tournament-oriented Saturday night. All of the restaurant's tables were organized in front of TVs and a full security staff watched the outdoor, upper-level patio — a potentially dangerous site for ecstatic UNC fans.

The restaurant and bar expected to be at capacity by halftime, but fans began lining up by 11 a.m. in order to reserve seats.

Woody's Tar Heel Tavern and Grill



Shoppers look at the merchandise at the Shrunken Head Boutique on Franklin Street. T-shirts with Final Four logos have been in high demand.

experienced similar crowds. The restaurant reopened after lunch at 4:30 and reached capacity by 4:45.

But despite the big crowds, area bars had relatively few incidents Saturday night.

Woody's owner Joe Hatch said that while the crowd was excited, the night went smoothly. But he said he was disappointed when some of his clientele decided to punch their fists through his ceiling.

"I think that comes with the territory," he said.

Sullivan said he did not have any problems until after the game, when people crowded into the stairwell and tried to push into the bar.

"We had to have the Durham

police control the crowd," he said.

Sullivan said that with added security, Top of the Hill will be ready for Monday's championship game.

And local eateries are not the only ones gearing up for the game.

Stores dedicated to UNC paraphernalia have been selling T-shirts all week in record numbers in preparation for Monday's game.

John Hudson, co-owner of Carolina Pride on Franklin Street, has been selling thousands of the 16 different tournament-related T-shirt designs for the past week.

"I'm going to be running a third shift big time," he said, adding that

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— From staff reports.