

CAMPUS BRIEFS
Athletic ticket distribution applications available today

Applications for the 2005-06 Carolina Athletic Association Ticket Distribution Committee are available beginning today outside of the CAA office, Union 3508C.

The Ticket Distribution Committee oversees and implements all ticket distributions.

The applications are due by 3 p.m. Oct 3.

Students can contact CAA President Justin Johnson at justinj@email.unc.edu with any questions.

CITY BRIEFS

Area counties receive grants to curb drug, alcohol usage

Orange and Chatham counties received a Drug-Free Communities matching grant last week for The Community Backyard from the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Community Backyard is a collaborative that serves children in the two counties.

The \$100,000 grant will allow the group to work toward preventing and reducing drug, alcohol and tobacco use among area youth.

It is one of 176 grants awarded to community anti-drug groups nationwide. The grants totaled \$17.1 million.

More than 400 groups applied for the 176 grants, and the grantees were selected through a review process.

The Drug-Free Communities Program gives grants to community organizations that involve residents in the effort to prevent drug use.

Police report many incidents of local property vandalism

The Chapel Hill Police Department is looking for information about several incidents of vandalism.

During the past month, police have received numerous reports of vehicle windows being broken by rocks and BBs. In the last two days alone, eight vehicles had windows broken, seven had at least one tire punctured, and two had both.

Most of the crimes occurred overnight and were in the northern part of town.

Police also still are looking for the person who broke into Big John's Store at the intersection of N.C. 54 and Barbee Chapel Road.

Warrants have been issued for the identified suspect, James Michael Lloyd, but his whereabouts are unknown.

Anyone with information regarding any of the incidents is asked to call the police department at 968-2760 or Crime Stoppers at 226-CRIM(E).

STATE & NATION
Cheney stable after surgery to repair two aneurysms

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Vice President Dick Cheney had successful surgery Saturday to repair aneurysms on the back of both knees and was alert and comfortable after the six-hour procedure, his spokesman said.

Cheney, who has a history of heart problems, was under local anesthesia during the surgery at George Washington University Hospital.

"He will remain in the hospital for up to 48 hours to monitor his recovery. He is expected to resume a regular schedule when he is released to home," said Steve Schmidt, counselor to the vice president.

An aneurysm is a ballooning weak spot in an artery that, as blood pulses through, eventually can burst if left untreated. Cheney's aneurysms, known as popliteal aneurysms, were discovered during his annual physical in July.

WORLD BRIEFS

Armored car robbery, bombings rock Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr ambushed an Iraqi patrol in an eastern Baghdad slum Sunday, and U.S. forces joined the 90-minute battle, killing as many as eight attackers in the first significant violence in the neighborhood in nearly a year.

Elsewhere in Baghdad, armed men pulled off a daring armored car robbery, killing two guards and escaping with \$850,000, and a suicide car bomber slammed into a convoy carrying Interior Ministry commandos, killing seven of them and two civilians.

South of the capital, two bicycle bombings in town markets killed at least seven and wounded dozens.

The ominous resurgence of violence in the poor Sadr City region began about 1:30 a.m. when an Iraqi patrol searching for three insurgents came under attack. U.S. forces in the neighborhood joined the battle and reported killing between five and eight of the attackers.

— From staff and wire reports.

Groups court campus voters

Elections forum to be held Wed.

BY BRIAN HUDSON
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A campuswide coalition of student groups will hold a municipal elections forum this week to encourage more students to cast their vote in November.

The forum, which will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday on the first floor of Greenlaw Hall, will allow students to register to vote and learn about election issues.

Students are invited to attend for any period of time and pick up information on elections issues.

The forum will consist of a candidate meet-and-greet and brief remarks on the importance of municipal elections in students' lives by Jonathan Howes, former Chapel Hill mayor, and Ryan Tuck, editor of The Daily Tar Heel.

Seventeen of the 18 candidates in the Chapel Hill and Carrboro races are scheduled to attend.

Student leaders met Friday to finalize plans for the forum.

"As this campus' newspaper — and with these different groups on campus — (we) have to really publicize how to vote," Tuck said. "Or else people won't know and they won't go."

The Daily Tar Heel is organizing the forum with co-spon-

ATTENDING THE FORUM

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 28

Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location: Greenlaw 101

Info: www.dailytarheel.com

sors in more than a half-dozen campus groups — the UNC College Republicans, the Young Democrats, the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, the Interfraternity Council, the Black Student Movement and Student Government.

The groups planning the forum were invited to participate to represent a cross-section of the campus community.

Each group brought to the table

a different aspect of the role town politics plays in students' lives.

Mike Brady, president of the GPSF, said that because most graduate students live off-campus in Chapel Hill or Carrboro, they are very invested in the town's politics.

The key to getting them involved is making the elections process more accessible, Brady said.

"First and foremost you have to get them registered and then get them to the polls."

Brandon Hodges, BSM president, highlighted the opportunity that elections provide to students who want to effect change in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

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Locals attract office seekers

3 races converge on neighborhood

BY TED STRONG
CITY EDITOR

It was the homey side of a distinctly affluent neighborhood that came out Saturday as a variety of local candidates met with members of three Democratic precincts at a lake shore on the east side of Chapel Hill.

There candidates for three local offices mixed into the crowd, surrounded by birds, children playing in the lake and a woman running her dog.

It was at Eastwood Lake Park, a private facility on Eastwood Lake that Democratic party residents

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2005
from Coker Hills, Booker Creek and Colony Woods

met with the 14 candidates running for Town Council, mayor of Chapel Hill and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education.

The candidates spent much of their time mingling with residents, discussing issues like Carolina North and the failed attempt to replace a movie theater at Village Plaza, off of Elliott Road, but they also gave brief speeches and answered resident questions.

For town candidates, the issue that came up almost invariably was development, though in many forms and guises.

Candidates Will Raymond and Jason Baker, a UNC sophomore, called for better amenities downtown, like restrooms and water fountains.

"I know that's not whiz-bang," said Raymond, who has also called for high-tech innovations like high-speed Internet as a public utility.

Resident Neal Bench asked the candidates what they would do to improve lighting in the downtown.

Mark Kleinschmidt, an incumbent council member, said that the town's streetscape project is extending lighting down Franklin Street.

"It takes a considerable amount of time," Kleinschmidt said.

Also during the question and answer session, controversy swirled around a question referencing the accusation by candidate Robin Cutson that the council drove out the potential theater at the Village Plaza through a difficult permit process.

The forum temporarily devolved into a version of he-said-she-said with incumbents like Mark Kleinschmidt and Mayor Kevin Foy blaming the debacle on bickering among business owners.

"What Robin said was incorrect," Foy said.

Cutson insisted that she was right, and Foy urged residents, if they doubted the truth of his claims, to check with Jim Groot, owner of Jim's Famous BBQ, which is on Elliott Road near the

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 9



Jo Jameson plays one of the N.C. Pride Marching Band drums before the N.C. Pride Parade on Saturday. Jo and his parents came from Charlotte for the event, which saw more than 5,000 people, 135 booths and vendors and 145 marching units in attendance.

A RALLYING POINT

THOUSANDS TAKE TO STREETS FOR ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE

BY ADAM RODMAN
STAFF WRITER

The air was a bit muggy and the sky threatened at any moment to rain on their parade Saturday, but weather couldn't cramp the 21st annual N.C. Pride Parade and Festival's style, held in downtown Durham.

The largest lesbian, gay, transgender and bi-sexual festival in North Carolina, it had more than 135 vendors and booths set up among the towering oaks of Duke University's East Campus, more than 145 brightly-colored marching units and floats and an estimated 5,000 people in attendance.

The crowd didn't disappoint members coming from UNC's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender-Straight Alliance.

"It's actually really refreshing," says UNC freshman Taylor Brown, a business major. "I've never seen so many (LGBTQ) students in one place."

The students marched alongside dozens of peers from other universities, carrying the GLBT-SA banner and yelling at jubilant supporters.

Though it was the first Pride Festival for most of the UNC students, sophomore psychology major Brittany Wofford, a Chapel Hill native, says she has seen the gathering

change during the past few years.

"It's definitely got a lot more organizations for businesses and (cultural) diversity," she says. "And a lot more churches too."

Several churches and religious organizations had booths at the festival, such as the Imani Metropolitan Community Church, an evangelical Christian group dedicated to helping homosexuals reconcile their faith and their sexuality.

"We help those people who grew up in Jerry Falwell types of churches," says Clyde Zuber from Durham. He says the group holds regular Bible studies to help people understand what he calls "clobber passages."

Many other religions were represented at the parade, with marchers holding up large, black and white signs declaring, "I'm a Unitarian!" or "I'm Buddhist!"

All ages were represented at the festival too, as well as a smattering of different species.

There was a grandmother who tricked out her ride, a wheelchair decorated with rainbow stickers, and toddlers playing with their multicolor leis. Festival-goers also brought their bandana-clad pets, mixing a sea of prideful canines with the humans.

A large number of teenagers from local high schools also showed up to give their

support to the LGBTQ community.

"Here, no matter what you are, people aren't going to automatically assume anything about you," says Clare Smith, a senior from East Chapel Hill High.

Her friend, sophomore Ellery Wieve from Durham School of the Arts, had her own reasons for showing up.

"The drags queens have the coolest shoes!" The footwear was four inch sparkling heels in the case of Genea L'Tate, Tina Turner look-alike and Independent Weekly's Queen of the Triangle, who rode in the position of honor on a float.

She said she's seen the parade change a lot throughout the years.

"It's a lot flashier and there's a lot more people."

And though the parade, which made a meandering circuit around Main and Ninth streets in downtown Durham, was flashy, and the screaming crowds were enthusiastic, the accepting attitude was the real draw.

"It's a really friendly atmosphere," says Brown. "It's almost as if we're straight on campus."

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu.

Rams Head provides new fitness alternative

BY KATHRYN BALES
STAFF WRITER

With the whir of the stationary bicycles, the clank of free weights and the thump of feet on a rubber-coated track, the Rams Head Recreation Center was full of the sounds of energy last week.

And while the South Campus community celebrated the center's grand opening Friday, many more were inside taking advantage of the facility's new offerings.

Student Recreation Center Director Reggie Hinton said he has high hopes for the center and wants to see patron numbers peak as soon as possible.

"I would say at least 2,000 patrons a day in the beginning," he said. "It's a small representation of the campus, but it's a start."

Right now, there are between 400 and 700 people have been working out daily at the Rams Head facility since it unofficially opened Sept. 7.

Since then, the Student Recreation Center, located on South Road, has experienced a decrease in patronage.

At the end of May, there were 2,000 patrons at the SRC each day, Hinton said. But these numbers recently decreased to between

Workin' out at UNC

Although both fitness centers on campus offer a similar mix, each has features unique to its location.

Student Recreation Center
■ Two full Cybex circuits
■ Free weights
■ Cardiovascular equipment
■ Two group exercise studios
■ 40+ fitness/aerobic sessions per week

Rams Head Recreation Center
■ Three basketball/volleyball courts
■ Weight training and cardio areas
■ Multipurpose studio
■ Suspended indoor track
■ Indoor climbing wall

SOURCE: WWW.CAROLINAFITNESS.UNC.EDU
DTH/FFIELDING CAGE

1,500 and 1,700 a day.

But many factors affect that number, Hinton said.

"I wouldn't necessarily attribute that to the opening of the new center," he said. "Whenever the weather is nice, we are competing with that too."

The new facility offers a variety of cardiovascular and weight training equipment not seen at the SRC, including a suspended indoor track and three full-size basketball courts.

While the majority of fitness

SEE GYMS, PAGE 9

Tournament meets 'gooaal!'

BY LAURA OLENIACZ
STAFF WRITER

For all-star midfielder Charles Murro of Liga Latinoamericana of Durham, soccer is like a religion.

Thanks to his childhood experience in Trinidad and Tobago — where the sport is the king of weekend entertainment and kids dream of growing up to play professionally in the U.S. — Murro has learned to rely on soccer as a diversion from drugs and a source of community and friendship.

"People have passion," Murro said of his experience in Trinidad and Tobago. "People cry, people commit suicide if (they) lose."

This weekend, the El Centro Latino Torneo Independencia, a soccer tournament at Chapel Hill High School Saturday and Sunday, gave that same cultural opportunity to the communities of the Triangle and its neighbors.

The event featured seven all-star teams made up of the best players from Hispanic leagues in Orange, Wake, Alamance, Chatham and Durham counties.

The team Liga del Pueblo won the tournament title with a 7-6 win against Irapuato, taking home a trophy and uniforms worth \$4,000.

For El Centro, an agency that represents the 4.5 percent of Orange County's population that is Latino



Salvador Rosales kicks the ball during the first ever El Centro Latino Torneo Independencia at Chapel Hill High School on Sunday.

through festivals, support groups and various programs, the tournament was the first of its kind.

In years past, the festival centered its activities around road races that didn't reach out to the Latino population, said Ben Balderas, El Centro's senior program director.

This year's event, which included booths, music and, most importantly, soccer, aimed to increase awareness about El Centro while acting as

a community event and fundraiser.

Chris Flanagan, who organized the tournament, said for an organization that has experienced financial and leadership difficulty in recent years, the event is a hallmark of the agency's recovery.

"We've been through some tough times, (but) now we're coming back," Flanagan said.

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