

CITY BRIEFS

OWASA receives 10-acre land donation for conservation

The Orange Water and Sewer Authority received 10 acres near the Cane Creek Reservoir for conservation easement as a gift from Bernadette Pelissier and Vann Bennett.

The tract off Mystic Lane will be protected from development, preventing storm water runoff from being carried into Cane Creek, one of OWASA's major water sources.

Bennett and Pelissier, chairwoman of the Orange-Chatham Sierra Club and former OWASA board chairwoman, also donated the adjacent 10 acres to OWASA in 2003.

As part of its water-quality protection plan, OWASA has acquired ownership or conservation easements to more than 1,500 acres in the Cane Creek watershed to limit or prevent development.

Other parcels of land have been purchased through grants from the N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund and OWASA customers' fees.

STATE & NATION

Four N.C. university students selected as Rhodes Scholars

RALEIGH — Four North Carolina college students — three of whom attend Duke University — were chosen Sunday as prestigious Rhodes Scholars for 2006.

They are among 32 recipients selected from 903 applicants across the nation.

William Hwang and Rahul Satija, both of Potomac, Md., and Adam Chandler of Burlington attend Duke. Lakshmi Krishnan, of Sugar Land, Texas, attends Wake Forest University.

The scholars, endorsed by 333 colleges and universities, will enter Oxford University in England next October.

Hwang is a triple major in biomedical engineering, electrical and computer engineering and physics. He is planning to pursue a doctorate in biological physics at Oxford.

Satija, a senior majoring in biology and music, has been teaching violin to inner-city kids in Durham. He plans to get a doctorate in bioinformatics at Oxford.

Chandler, a senior math major and accomplished cellist, has served as research intern at the National Security Agency. At Oxford, he plans to study applied and computational mathematics.

Krishnan is writing her senior thesis on vampires and blood contagion in 19th-century literature. She plans to major in English at Oxford.

Investigations continue into recent shooting of four men

DURHAM — Police are investigating the fatal shooting Saturday night in an upscale neighborhood in Durham of four men, whom neighbors described as young professionals.

The four bodies were discovered in a town house after police responded to a shots-fired call shortly before 10 p.m. Saturday.

The first officer on the scene found a male sitting outside the home who had been shot and was bleeding from his face, according to a news release. Officers then went inside the town house and found the four men who had been shot. They were pronounced dead at the scene, police said.

A sixth man who was injured in the shooting also was found inside the home. He and the man found outside were taken to Duke University Medical Center in serious condition, police said.

The names of the victims had not been released Sunday afternoon pending notification of family members.

WORLD BRIEFS

U.S.-China negotiations still cloudy after Sunday meeting

BEIJING — Amid concern about a crackdown on dissidents, President Bush pressed China on Sunday to expand religious, political and social freedom and won renewed promises but no concrete actions from President Hu Jintao to open China's huge markets to U.S. farmers and businesses.

Hu said the two leaders sought an outcome of "mutual benefit and win-win results."

But their meeting Sunday at the Great Hall of the People on the edge of Tiananmen Square appeared to produce no breakthroughs on U.S. demands for currency reforms in China and no details about how China would cut its trade surplus with the United States, on track to hit \$200 billion this year.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said the U.S. side would raise the issue "quite vociferously with the Chinese government to both get a clarification and to make clear that we believe open societies allow people to express themselves."

— From staff and wire reports.

UNC tops in admitting blacks Schools press on in search for deans

BY KATHRYN ROWLAND
STAFF WRITER

Numbers are on the up for the percentage of black students at UNC — but not up enough, say campus leaders.

According to survey data from The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, UNC has the highest percentage of black freshman from among the nation's 30 highest-ranked universities.

This year, 416 freshman, or 11.1 percent of the class, are black — an increase of 3 percent from last year.

"In North Carolina blacks are (about) 20 percent of the population," said Curtis Conway, director of research at JBHE. "With blacks as only 11 percent of the freshman class, those figures could get a lot higher."

Conway said the University's Carolina Covenant, a financial aid program that enables low-income

students to graduate from UNC debt free, probably has been a major factor for UNC since it was initiated.

"That's a big incentive that they're not going to be in huge debt when they graduate," he said.

According to the Carolina Covenant Web site, 225 students entered into the program in fall 2004, and new adjustments this year added an estimated 120 students to the 2005 incoming class.

"We don't focus on the numbers as much — we focus on the experience that those numbers represent," said Steve Farmer, director of undergraduate admissions at UNC.

"We still have to be able to prove when they visit campus and when we offer them admissions and (financial) aid that this would be their best choice," he said.

Farmer said last year's 18,706 applications for admission includ-

ed 2,138 black students.

The acceptance rate of black students was higher than the average for students.

Of those who applied, 6,740 were admitted, or 36 percent. Of those admitted, 804 were black — a 37.6 percent yield of black applicants.

"We certainly practice affirmative action and have never been shy about saying so," Farmer said.

Conway said affirmative action has played an important role in increasing the numbers of black students on campuses nationwide.

For example, he said, the University of Virginia ranked first in the JBHE survey for the first several years — but their numbers dropped when there were "rumblings over the affirmative action," he said.

"Now there's still a pressing need for it," Conway said. And since a 2003 Supreme Court decision reaf-

firming affirmative action, he added, numbers have gone up somewhat.

"I think (11 percent) is a good statistic for a bad situation," said Brandon Hodges, president of UNC's Black Student Movement. "It's a good step in the right direction, but it's not nearly where we need to be."

Hodges, a senior who has been involved in BSM since his freshman year, works with UNC's office of diversity and multicultural affairs.

"Carolina does do a good job in trying to recruit blacks and minorities," he said. "I get to see the recruiting efforts in person."

Farmer said he doesn't know if the numbers this year represent an upward trend for black and minority student representation. "I do know we're working very hard."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

"It was good to see it was for a good cause, too. I will gladly pay money to play in the tournament." NATHAN HEFFINGTON, SOPHOMORE



Sophomore Justin Tosco (far left) and seniors Nate Shaw and Paul Christianson (right) play in a dodgeball tournament Sunday afternoon at the Rams Head Center. UNC Dance Marathon organized the event to raise awareness for the dance, which will be held in February.

Not dodging the children

BY ERICA RAFFERTY
STAFF WRITER

As Paul Christianson launched a red rubber ball at his opponents, the Highlanders, it became clear how he got his nickname "The Flamethrower."

Christianson, a senior, and his team, Team Scoo Cups, won the UNC Dance Marathon dodgeball tournament Sunday after a grueling three-game series.

"We're all avid fans of the sport and we're going to do the (intramural) dodgeball tournament as well," he said.

It was Dance Marathon's first dodgeball tournament, and eight teams battled it out for the championship in the gym of the Ram's Head Recreational Center.

It was a single-elimination tournament with each game lasting five minutes. There was a \$2 fee per person to enter the fundraiser, and Dance Marathon also sold Carolina blue wristbands and Dance Marathon T-shirts with all proceeds going to the N.C. Children's Hospital.

"We raised just over \$100 to support the kids at the hospital, but we're excited that

committee members came out to support the organization as a whole and not just their respective committees," said Peter Attwater, the group's overall coordinator.

The Pi Lam Sharks, the team organized by the Pi Lambda Phi fraternity, came early to practice its dodging and throwing techniques.

"It's for the kids," said Matt Sherman, junior and Pi Lam Sharks team member. "I learned that last year. I also like making boys cry."

Sherman was the last Pi Lam Shark member standing after an intense battle with the Highlanders. He dodged and hurled ball after ball until the whistle was blown — ending the game and the Pi Lam Sharks' participation in the tournament.

Members of the Highlanders said they were ecstatic with their win and with their luck at finding the dodgeball tournament on their way to work out at the recreation center.

"Some people would call us amateurs," said Justin Ward, sophomore and Highlanders team member. "I'd call us enthusiasts."

The fact that proceeds went to the hospital was a bonus, said members of the Highlanders.

"It was good to see it was for a good cause, too," said Nathan Heffington, a sophomore and Highlanders team member. "I will gladly pay money to play in the tournament."

The Highlanders' victory was short-lived because Team Scoo Cup entered the dodgeball ring ready to win. The team's strategies included the members throwing all their balls at one opponent to ensure a knock-out and a tournament win.

Team Scoo Cup members said they had a great time helping out Dance Marathon, and they attribute their success to a great team dynamic.

"What it comes down to is everyone on the team knew their role and what they did with their role helped us win the tournament," Christianson said. "It's about teamwork and doing what you do best."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

N.C. State stamps \$325 tuition hike

BY SAMUEL LAU
STAFF WRITER

It was a scene right out of a Hollywood feature.

Flanked by press and met by a pirate, about 30 N.C. State University student senators marched into the Board of Trustees meeting Friday carrying a 5,500 link red and white chain of petition signatories.

The chain, which was the end product of the student government's "Chained by Tuition" campaign advocating for a lower tuition increase than the \$325 one being voted on by the Board, was dropped defiantly in the center of the Trustees, a tangible representation of their purpose.

But despite the last minute request from N.C. State Study Body President Will Pivais, also known as the Pirate Captain, to consider raising tuition by a smaller amount, this story had no Hollywood ending.

The Board of Trustees voted to increase tuition by \$325, with Pivais being the only dissenting

vote. "We wish we didn't have to raise tuition," said Board of Trustees Chairman Wendell Murphy to the students, right before the vote was cast.

"Our goal is to have the lowest level as possible so we can maintain your education and those who will follow you as students."

Trustee Suzanne Gordon was equally apologetic with her remarks.

"We want you to know that we did listen to you," she said. "When we talk to the legislators we hope to have your same support."

Still, the students, many of whom had been standing with their arms locked in a chain, could not help feeling rejected after the vote had finished.

"Was it worth it? I'm not sure," said a disappointed Kasey Phillips, one of the main organizers of the campaign. "I'd like to say that they got the message."

Student Senator James Hankins,

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Ads offer quasi-celebrity status

BY NATALIE HAMMEL
STAFF WRITER

People always see them near the Pit — it doesn't matter what time of day.

There they stand, with wide smiles, arms wrapped around each other, slapping high fives, larger than life.

But some people might wonder, who are the quasi-famous UNC-clothed models who decorate the front of Student Stores?

"I have done the Student Stores banner twice now," says Spencer Nadolsky, a junior exercise and sport science major.

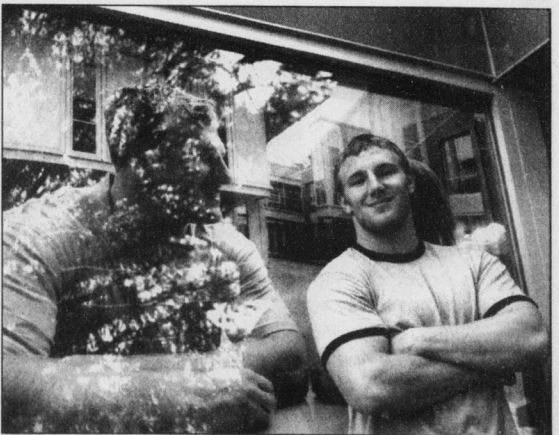
Nadolsky says he was approached by some of his friends who work at Student Stores and asked if he wanted to be in the advertisements.

Wayne Stephenson, manager of human resources, promotion and purchasing for Student Stores, says he selects the models primarily through word of mouth.

The banners most frequently feature UNC students.

"We think it's more fun to use students, and then people see their friends," Stephenson says.

Vincent Ramirez, a sophomore who started working at Student Stores during the summer, says



Junior Spencer Nadolsky stands next to the Student Stores poster in the front window bearing his likeness. Friends encouraged him to be in the ad.

Stephenson asked him to find female students to model for the banners.

"Since I was involved in finding models, I naturally was asked to be in some (advertisements)," he says.

Other UNC-affiliated people, such as staff members and their families, also are asked to model. A perk of the job is that the

models get to keep the clothing they wear in the photos.

Stephenson says that most of the time people love doing the advertisements but that they're sometimes shocked by the size of the banners.

"Sometimes they're really sur-

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