

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 114, ISSUE 75

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

www.dailytarheel.com

University fights for best and brightest

BY ASHLEE SADLER
STAFF WRITER

Competition between Tobacco Road universities starts well before basketball season. Surveys of fall 2006 applicants show that some top-ranked students choose competitor schools over UNC based on academic reputations. To increase enrollment, UNC officials are stepping up efforts to turn more applicants Carolina blue. Steve Farmer, director of undergraduate admissions, said officials are working to publicize the University to high school students. The admissions department plans to visit as many as 350 schools this fall — including western states, where applicant num-

bers are usually low. Farmer said the aim is to encourage applicants to see the University first-hand. "When they visit, we want them to talk to currently enrolled students," he said. "So we have tours with guides and students panels." Survey results show that this fall Duke University and UNC saw 773 cross admits — students admitted to both institutions — and less than half of those students chose to come to Chapel Hill. The majority of students who chose to attend Duke cited academic reputation as their reason. Student Body President James Allred said college applicants often base decisions on arbitrary ranking

systems, many of which weigh universities' amount of funds heavily. "If we're not doing very well in perceived academic reputation, then we're going to lose those top-ranked students, and our real academic reputation will suffer," he said. Allred said increasing faculty salaries improves academic ranking. The University now stands just below the 50th percentile for faculty salaries in a group with peer institutions. He said the short-term goal is to rise to the 67th percentile. "It's not enough just to increase monetary amount," Allred said. "We need to increase our salaries faster than our peers." Although a large percentage of cross admits between Duke and

UNC cross admissions

Comparison for top 10 schools

SCHOOL	CROSS ADMITS	ENROLLED AT SCHOOL	ENROLLED AT UNC	REASONS FOR NOT ENROLLING AT UNC
Duke University	773	266	203	31%
Wake Forest University	720	99	355	39%
U. of Virginia	601	171	171	42%

Legend:
 ■ I chose to attend a school with a better academic reputation in my major.
 ■ I chose to attend a school that would better prepare me for grad school and/or career.
 ■ UNC-CH didn't offer me a merit-based scholarship.

UNC choose Duke, the story is different in Raleigh. About 70 percent of N.C. resident cross admits between UNC and N.C. State University turned down the Wolfpack. That percentage equates to more than 1,000

students choosing Chapel Hill. Allred said the comparable prices of the two institutions show that the preference for UNC is academic — not monetary. Sydney Smith, a high school senior from Pinehurst, who took a

tour Wednesday, said UNC is her top choice. "I like a campus with a big population with sports. I've always had my heart set on Carolina."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

CROSSTOWN SHOWDOWN



Amanda Reams, a sophomore at Chapel Hill High School and a member of the Tigers' varsity cheerleading squad, paints a tank top to wear at today's much-anticipated matchup against East Chapel Hill High School. CHHS has won the game for the past two years.

This town ain't big enough for the both of 'em — and in the classic East vs. West showdown, only one will emerge the winner tonight.

In a game with conference and playoff implications, the East Chapel Hill High Wildcat football team will travel to the home of their arch-rivals, the Tigers of Chapel Hill High School, tonight to battle for the Hodgkin Cup — and bragging rights for the next year.

Tigers want another year with coveted cup

BY RACHEL ULLRICH
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

In these parts, you'll see plenty of Chapel Hill T-shirts — but none of them are baby blue. Students at Chapel Hill High School sported yellow and black apparel Wednesday in preparation for tonight's big game. "It's a rivalry game ... so the team takes it more seriously than other games," said senior Chris West, the team's punter. Coach Isaac Marsh agreed, saying he sees

SEE CHHS, PAGE 13

East students eager to reclaim town pride

BY TRACEY THERET
STAFF WRITER

Chapel Hill High is to East as Duke is to Carolina. Needless to say, East Chapel Hill High is out for blood tonight — blood that bleeds Tiger black and yellow. "It's definitely the biggest game of the year," senior William Sendor said. The Wildcats are hoping to reclaim the Hodgkin Cup that has remained in Chapel Hill's athletic office for three years. The

SEE EAST, PAGE 13



Students at East Chapel Hill High School pass by a banner in the lobby stating their mission for the week, "Beat Dem Tigers."

ATTEND THE GAME
Time: 7 p.m., Today
Location: Chapel Hill High School
Info: www2.chccs.k12.nc.us/CHHS

Bush approval spikes in N.C.

Experts cite drop in gasoline costs

BY JONATHAN TUGMAN
STAFF WRITER

President Bush seems to be regaining the high approval ratings he once enjoyed in North Carolina. The September Civitas DecisionMaker Poll shows that Bush's N.C. approval rating rose to 50 percent, up 10 points from last May. A Gallup poll gauges the national approval rating at 39 percent. "A 10-point jump in a four-month period is a sizeable increase," said Jack Hawke, president of the Civitas Institute. Experts, including Hawke, said falling gas prices likely played a role in the rising approval ratings. Ferrel Guillory, director of the UNC Program on Public Life, and George Rabinowitz, a UNC political science professor, both attributed the rising ratings to decreasing gas prices.



President George Bush is enjoying a sudden resurgence in support from N.C. residents.

But Rabinowitz also said Bush's strong stance against terrorism has garnered support. Tyson Grinstead, chairman of the UNC College Republicans, said renewed concern following the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks could have helped Bush. "As we get closer to midterm elections people are paying more attention to the issues," he said. Bush's approval ratings hit a record high — topping 90 percent — after the terrorist attacks. David Beard, co-president of the UNC Young Democrats, said the attacks' anniversary could cause a similar, though smaller, bump in the polls.

SEE BUSH, PAGE 13

Field hockey freshmen embrace new 'South'

African duo adjusts to U.S. game, life

BY SAM PERKINS
STAFF WRITER

Imagine the culture shock Tyler Hansbrough would have faced if he went to Greece to play basketball after high school. That's essentially the move made by field hockey freshmen Dani Forword and Illse Davids, both South Africans who came to UNC in January. Forword and Davids are standouts on a Tar Heel team ranked No. 5 in the nation. Both have played field hockey since elementary school, and both have played for the youth South African national teams. Life in the U.S. has been a transition but one they have embraced. "We've adjusted fine," Forword said. "It was kind of built up for us. We knew there'd be a lot of pressure. It's intense with time management — juggling school, work, friends and everything. But that's what athletes have to juggle." Of course, anyone coming to a new setting has expectations. What did they expect? "Hot boys!" Forword exclaimed before quickly, but unconvincingly, trying to retract. "I didn't know what to expect,"



Illse Davids and Dani Forword brought their field hockey skills to UNC from their native South Africa where the game is more popular but a bit less competitive. she continued. "I didn't know how prestigious the University was here, but I saw a few basketball games, settled in and thought, 'We're really lucky to be here.'" Davids especially likes Chapel Hill's balance. "If it was back home we'd be so one-sided to field hockey," Forword agreed. "Whereas here we get a mix of things — academics, making friends, socializing. We're broadening our horizons." Still, with so much more national prominence for field hockey in South Africa, one might expect it to harbor a better setting for learning the game. Not quite, Forword said. "We compared it to what we could have had back home, and everything here is so professional."

SEE FIELD HOCKEY, PAGE 13

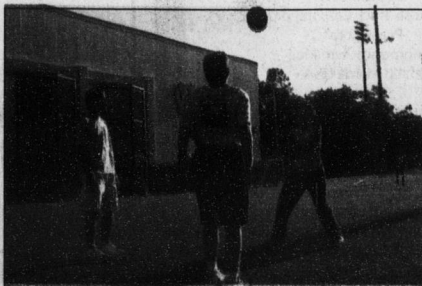
UNC gay life changing

BY KATIE HOFFMANN
FEATURES EDITOR

It wasn't something Matt Telford really considered when looking at colleges. But after coming out as a gay student his freshman year at Wake Forest University, the Winston-Salem native realized the importance of a gay-friendly campus. "The students there were hostile to alternative lifestyles," Telford said. "I

felt like I stood out in a bad way." That feeling was the main reason he transferred to UNC, where he is now a junior. "I feel like this campus is really willing to work with gay or lesbian people," he said. While Telford and other students said there's still room for improvement, they said UNC has made strides recently in becoming more accepting of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender-

SEE GAY LIFE, PAGE 13



James Goins (left), Terri Phoenix and Joy Cranshaw engage in "Come out and play" Wednesday at Hooker Fields. The event was put on by the LGBTQ Center.

online | dailytarheel.com

LIVING ON BORROWED TIME City schools ups time for delayed openings

OPEN FOR BUSINESS A new center aims to bring industries to Pittsboro

HAVE A MONTH Orange County commissioners decree local Latino month

LIVE AND ON TAPE



dive | page 5

STEAL BOOTS
Divisions takes a look at the growing trend of bootlegging live music and what's being done to curtail illegal recording.

national | page 14

UP TO SPEED
An education expert comes to campus to tell students about the many benefits and flaws of the No Child Left Behind Act.

this day in history

SEPT. 21, 1950 ...
Today marks the first day of the Interfraternity Council's "modified silence" period where members are not allowed to engage each other in social conversation.

weather

Sunny
H 72, L 50
index
police log 2
calendar 2
games 13
sports 17
opinion 18