

# The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 115, ISSUE 30

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2007

www.dailytarheel.com

## Nifong apologizes for missteps

### AG suggests way of removing DAs

BY SARAH WHITWORTH  
STAFF WRITER

Michael Nifong, who last year charged three former Duke University lacrosse players with rape, issued a much-demanded apology Thursday. "To the extent that I made



Durham District Attorney Mike Nifong said he made judgments in the case that were wrong.

judgments that ultimately proved to be incorrect, I apologize to the three students that were wrongly accused," said Nifong, Durham County district attorney. The admission of faulty judgment came one day after state Attorney General Roy Cooper

dropped the remaining charges of kidnapping and sexual assault against the athletes.

The original rape charges were dropped in December after the accuser, who was an N.C. Central University student and an exotic dancer, changed her story. In a press conference Wednesday, Cooper criticized Nifong for failing to exercise caution and overstepping his boundaries during the trials.

"This case shows the enormous consequences of overreaching by a prosecutor," he said.

Nifong, who is facing ethics

charges of withholding evidence and lying to the court, is set to appear before an N.C. State Bar hearing committee today.

Cooper, guarding against any repeat of Nifong's actions, proposed a law that would give the N.C. Supreme Court the authority to remove a prosecutor from a case.

"This would give the courts a new tool to deal with a prosecutor who needs to step away from a case where justice demands," he said.

Under current law, no one can be forced to relinquish control of

a case, N.C. Central University law professor Irving Joyner said.

Nifong removed himself from the case Jan. 12 because of the ethics charges against him, passing on the case to state prosecutors.

Joyner said that although the fundamental idea behind Cooper's proposed law is a good one, the state Supreme Court is the wrong agency to be given this discretion.

"It would create an unnecessary conflict that the court shouldn't have to deal with," he said.

"In addition, it puts the court in

a position of intruding on the role of the prosecutor, an elected official in the executive branch."

Rep. Cary Allred, R-Alamance, said he supported Cooper's suggestion, which as of yet is little more than an idea.

"I don't know the details of the process, but it seems like a reasonable proposal," he said.

Noelle Talley, public information officer for Cooper, stated in an e-mail that no further details about the proposal are available.

If Nifong is found guilty, he

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## SHOWTIME FOR NEW-LOOK HEELS

DAVIS LEADS TEAM INTO SPRING GAME AFTER FIRST PRACTICE PERIOD



DTH/TIMOTHY REESE

Junior wide receiver Brandon Tate tucks the ball and takes off during UNC's practice Thursday at Kenan Stadium. Tate, the team's return man last season, will take the field this Saturday as the Tar Heels participate in the spring game, their first game under head coach Butch Davis.

BY GREGG FOUND  
SENIOR WRITER

When Connor Barth sat down in the Kenan Stadium dining hall with his teammates this spring, he found himself surrounded by more than just burly linebackers and beefy tight ends.

A few older faces pulled up chairs next to him, and they were all of a sudden asking him questions and striking up conversation.

Barth sat alongside the new North Carolina football coaches, who were getting their feet wet in the program over scrambled eggs and hash browns.

"The one thing I really noticed was that we have breakfast and dinner here, and

### ATTEND THE GAME

Time: 12 p.m. Saturday  
Location: Kenan Stadium  
Info: tarheelblue.com

they're always down here talking to us," Barth said.

"Usually, the coaches last year, they'd just kind of get their food and then go back up to their offices, but now they're down there; they're trying to get to know you."

And Barth said that tone has continued throughout a spring practice season that he characterized as "really exciting, upbeat and

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 5

### Key position switches

- Joe Dailey**  
► Senior  
► Former position: Quarterback  
► New position: Wide Receiver
- Anthony Parker-Boyd**  
► Redshirt freshman  
► New position: Running back
- Deunta Williams**  
► Redshirt freshman  
► New position: Defensive back
- Nick Starcevic**  
► Junior  
► Former position: Fullback  
► New position: Defensive end

## Arts series set for new season

Director: 3rd year will be the best yet

BY JESS THOM  
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Aretha Franklin will try to show a UNC audience why she's called the "Queen of Soul" in September when she opens the Carolina Performing Arts 2007-2008 season.

The series, which begins Sept. 13 and consists of 35 performances through May, will be rolled out officially today.

More than 15 different countries are represented in this year's lineup, and Emil Kang, executive director for the arts, said the group made it a priority to book as many international artists as possible.

"For us to actually bring these artists to the community provides a great opportunity for cultural change," Kang said.

Some noteworthy acts include a dance group from Uganda and Caetano Veloso, an internationally renowned Portuguese poet.

Along with the myriad foreign performers, familiar names and recipients of multiple Grammy awards, including singer-song-

writer Mary Chapin Carpenter, k.d. lang and renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma, will make appearances. Single tickets to all performances will be available July 23 and will be available online with a feature that allows you to pick your seat and see the view. The series will present world premieres of two pieces commis-

### Five must-see performances

**Sept. 13**  
(Season Opening):  
**Aretha Franklin**  
Sixteen-time Grammy-award winner and first woman to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

**Oct. 26**  
**St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra**  
The first Soviet orchestra to tour abroad.

**Feb. 27**  
**Yo-Yo Ma and Friends**  
A renowned cello player who has produced more than 50 albums and won 15 Grammys.

**April 8 and 9**  
**STOMP**  
An eight-member percussion group that uses everyday objects in a unique way.

**April 12**  
**Bang on a Can All-Stars with Glenn Kotche of Wilco, Lee Ranaldo of Sonic Youth and Kyaw Kyaw Naing**  
An electric chamber ensemble from New York that blends classic and contemporary music.

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## Professor's days overseas help bring history alive

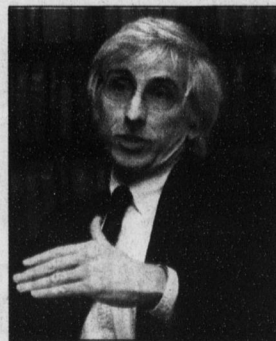
BY ERIN WILTGEN  
STAFF WRITER

From the way professor Michael Hunt spoke to his Vietnam War class Wednesday afternoon, it would seem that he was addressing a class of 10 to 15 people.

In fact, about 100 students perched in the movie-theater-style chairs of Chapman Hall, all eyes following Hunt's movement across the front of the classroom.

"Even though it's a big class, he manages to keep it engaging," said

SEE HUNT, PAGE 5



COURTESY OF UNC NEWS SERVICES

UNC professor Michael Hunt uses his experiences living in places such as Vietnam and Iran to make his lectures engaging for students.

## Freedom ride resonates 60 years later

BY TOM HARTWELL  
STAFF WRITER

Sixty years have passed since members of a civil rights group were arrested in Chapel Hill for demonstrating against segregated busing on April 13, 1947.

White residents assaulted members of the group, who were on a 14-day journey through the upper South to exercise rights secured by a 1946 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that said segregation laws did not apply to interstate bus travelers.

That afternoon, a Sunday, they boarded a Carolina Coach bound for Greensboro. They took their seats up front and refused the driver's order to move until Chapel Hill police arrested four of them for disorderly conduct. They were released after paying \$200 in bond money.

White passers-by, including taxi drivers that observed the incident,

menaced the riders and struck one of them, James Peck, on the head.

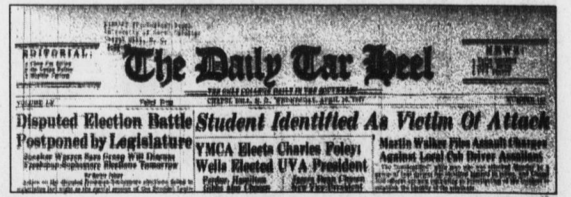
Tension grew following the arrival of a group of students, summoned by Presbyterian minister Charlie Jones to protect the riders.

Manny Margolis, member of the University's class of 1947, recalled standing with the riders and about 12 to 15 other students as the group of residents continued making threats and shouting insults.

"We had several cars down there to get those guys to a place of refuge," he said. "I recall there was a baseball bat or two, and whether it was in their hands or ours, I couldn't tell you."

Students drove the riders to the pastor's home and were chased by men who hurled rocks at the house and epithets at those inside.

Margolis, a Brooklyn native, said the racial attitudes he encoun-



The Daily Tar Heel from April 16, 1947, leads with a story about a UNC student who was attacked after being misidentified as a freedom rider.

tered in Chapel Hill troubled him, and he became involved in liberal activist groups on campus.

"Many of us were unhappy to be attending an all-white university."

Several years before the civil rights movement really took off, there already was an atmosphere of change on campus.

"Ideas were being circulated and exchanged," Margolis said.

"People began questioning." The next day, a UNC student misidentified as one of the riders was hit in the face by taxi drivers after conversing with a black woman, The Daily Tar Heel reported.

Bill Woestendiek, who was editor of the DTH, also joined the group that came to assist the riders.

SEE FREEDOM, PAGE 5

### CORRECTION

Due to an editing error, Wednesday's front-page package "Remembering Ray" incorrectly stated the day that Jason Ray died. The student who played Rameses for three seasons died March 26. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

### online | dailytarheel.com

**SIGNS OF ANGER** Carrboro residents still angry about Weaver Street signs

**MAKING A LIST** Latino community reacts to El Pueblo's legislative agenda

**CHEMICAL REACTION** Apex residents make clear they want EQ gone for good

### campus | page 4

**IN MEMORIAM**  
The University dedicates a monument outside Memorial Hall to alumni who served in war. It includes a book of names listing all those who have fallen.

### viewpoints | page 6

**UP OR OUT**  
Leaders debate the Chapel Hill Town Council's approval of two high-rise projects for downtown. Some say they prevent sprawl; others say they are eyesores.

### this day in history

**APRIL 13, 1933 ...**  
Debaters and athletes from 60 N.C. high schools arrive at UNC for its annual high school week. The week begins with a tennis tournament and a debating competition.

### weather

Sunny  
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