

# The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 115, ISSUE 31

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007

www.dailytarheel.com

AN ANALYSIS OF HOW THE UNIVERSITY FUNDS THE CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

MONDAY  
SPOTLIGHT

## Arts series trying to balance books

BY MARGARET HAIR  
SENIOR WRITER

The arts don't make money, and neither does the Carolina Performing Arts Series.

"It's not like running a private performing arts venue. It's not the case where we'll be making money on this," Executive Associate Provost Steve Allred said.

"We're trying to bring top-level artists and still balance the books at the end of the year."

It is a fact of funding that is common knowledge within the arts community but is not always understood outside of it, Executive Director for the Arts Emil Kang said.

And it is the central reason why, going into the third season of the Carolina Performing Arts Series, fundraising and University support have become the two factors most

important for the sustainability of the program.

Boasting acts such as Aretha Franklin, Yo-Yo Ma and STOMP, Kang said the new season, which was announced Friday, is the strongest yet.

But maintaining a series with so many internationally recognized acts is, of course, expensive. The average artist fee for the 2007-08 season is \$28,000, Kang said. Franklin cost \$100,000, Ma \$75,000, STOMP \$50,000.

Add on the \$1.3 million in total salaries of 19 full-time performing arts staff members, plus the cost of putting on 35 shows, and things get pricey quickly.

There is, Kang said, a "long-term imperative to create a sustainable source of support to ensure that this won't drop off in the future."

In 2005, the series received a \$5 million challenge grant from the William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust, which would create a \$10 million endowment for the program. Half of the \$5 million promised was given up front, and the other half will come once the series has met the match.

The performing arts series has raised \$9.2 million toward that goal, and Kang suspects he will surpass it by the Dec. 31 deadline.

Until that endowment comes in, all of the series' financial shortfalls will be covered by the University. Because much of the money donated was pledged, as opposed to cash, it might be a while before all of it is readily available.

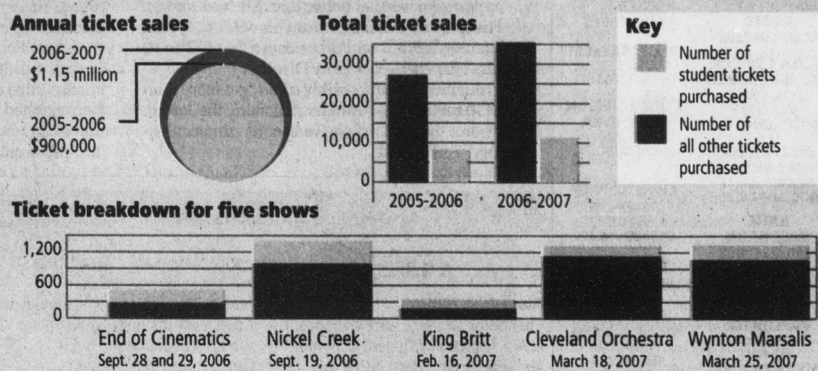
"We probably won't see that

SEE SERIES, PAGE 8

### Carolina Performing Arts Series revenues

SOURCE: CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS SERIES  
DTH/REBECCA ROLFE

A look at the Carolina Performing Arts Series tickets sales and revenues to date, comparing sales in the past two years.



## ALL WALKS OF LIFE

BY CATARINA SARAIVA  
STAFF WRITER

Like the millions worldwide who travel great distances for daily necessities, Chapel Hill and Carrboro residents walked four miles Saturday for local and international hunger.

Sunday marked Chapel Hill's 21st Annual CROP — Community Reaching Out to People — Walk, an event held nationally by Church World Service and sponsored locally by the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service.

Church World Service uses 75 percent of the money raised from each CROP Walk to aid international and domestic hunger and development problems. The remaining 25 percent comes back to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area to aid local hunger.

"We get between \$15,000 and \$20,000 for local purposes," said Chris Moran, executive director for the IFC.

Charles Williams, assistant to the executive director at the IFC, said the money will go to the organization's food pantry and its community kitchen.

"This year we're on target to serve over 92,000 meals," he said. "This money goes a long way."

The CROP Walk aims to create a sense of community by involving people of all religions and University students, Moran said.

"One of the symbolic efforts behind the walk is to bring people together who recognize that there is a great divide between the haves and have-nots," he said.

With Delta Sigma Pi, a University business fraternity, running the registration table and providing crossing guards, participants walked down Rosemary Street, through campus and back to the starting point of Carrboro Town Commons.

Marie English, an East Chapel Hill High School sophomore with the University Presbyterian Church walkers, said the international hunger aspect of the walk was what initially interested her.

"Then I found out, oh, dang, it's also here," English said of local hunger problems.

Chapel Hill resident Vincent Wingate

SEE CROP WALK, PAGE 8



Jane Merrifield 14, Emma Lo, 13, and Annie Lo, 10, made the four-mile walk for hunger Sunday afternoon during the CROP Walk. Starting at the Farmers' Market in Carrboro, groups of supporters made the trek despite the rain.

DTH/CANDACE DELMASTRO

## Jones wins ASG helm in landslide

Some take issue with vote being conducted by voice

BY ERIC JOHNSON  
SENIOR WRITER

DURHAM — Cole Jones, a two-term student body president at East Carolina University, cruised to an easy victory in Saturday's election for the presidency of the UNC-system Association of Student Governments.

Opposed only by the delegation from UNC-Chapel Hill, Jones' election marks a continuing trend of strong influence among campuses outside the traditional power centers of UNC-CH and N.C. State University.

Jones and his running mate, Student Body President Cody Grasty of Western Carolina University, defeated UNC-CH juniors Stephen Moore and Jake Parton, both in their first year as ASG officers.

"Ever since December when I expressed my interest, there was overwhelming support for me and my campaign," Jones said. "I've been a member of the association for the past two years, and the work I have done and my character speaks for itself."

As late as three weeks ago, Jones was facing no opposition in his bid for the presidency and had secured Moore as his running mate. But the revelation of pending criminal charges against Jones, which had not been disclosed to ASG officials,

prompted Moore to run independently. Though a number of delegates privately expressed unease with the idea of a president-elect facing misdemeanor counts of assault and breaking and entering, the issue provoked very little public discussion.

The charges stem from a February custody dispute involving Jones' 2-year-old son, and Jones has insisted there's no basis for them. He is scheduled to appear in court May 8.

"I have no concern in reference to anything next month, next semester or next year," he said.

With little time for either ticket to mount a genuine statewide campaign, Jones and Grasty benefited from long-standing relationships within the association. Both are two-term student body presidents.

Moore and Parton have been praised for their work as ASG officers, most notably their successful effort to create a systemwide textbook policy. But the fact that both hail from UNC-CH was considered a liability, as Moore acknowledged during Saturday's debate.

"Politically, it doesn't make any sense," he told delegates, referring to his choice of Parton as a running mate. "That's how you know I was just looking for the right expertise."

Though neither UNC-CH nor N.C. State have held the presidency since the 2004-05 academic year, a history of dominance by the two flagship schools still looms large in ASG elections.

During Saturday's debate, Jones made reference to his status as ECU's first black president and suggested that having a ticket from two non-flagship campuses would help the association with its focus on diversity.

SEE PRESIDENT, PAGE 8

## Bills seek to ease Medicaid's chokehold

Poor counties struggling to pay for program's costs

BY LINDSEY NAYLOR  
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

WINDSOR — In counties such as Bertie, where more than a third of residents are eligible for Medicaid, the drive to expel poverty often is stalled by state demands for contributions.

But last week, four legislators introduced a bill in the N.C. House that would cap county Medicaid spending and provide millions of dollars in additional relief to the state's poorest counties.

North Carolina is the only state to require its counties to pay a fixed portion — 15 percent — of the cost of Medicaid, a federal program providing health insurance for low-income individuals and families.

Bertie County Manager Zee Lamb said the bill could go a long way toward easing the expense of care.

"It is strangling some of our counties," Lamb said. "The sooner we can get relief, the better off we are."

### A foot in the political door

The amount that N.C. counties pay toward Medicaid costs is determined by the number of area residents who are eligible for the program.

But counties with the highest percentages of low-wealth eligible citizens often don't have the tax base to foot Medicaid expenses while adequately providing for other county initiatives.

"The current policy has the effect, though it might not have had the original intent, to punish and to penalize poor counties for being poor," Lamb said.

"If you have a county that has a high Medicaid-

eligible population, as we do, it just compounds the problem."

For a long time, he said, county commissioners lobbied for the state to assume more of the Medicaid burden, only to be ignored by their elected state officials, especially the powerhouses who hailed from urban and wealthy regions.

But today the N.C. General Assembly has six Medicaid reform bills in the works, including the one introduced last week.

Co-sponsored by a former county commissioner, two Democratic chairmen of the House appropriations committee and the House minority leader, the bill has 119 signed supporters: every representative except House Speaker Joe Hackney, D-Orange, who declined because of his post.

Todd McGee, director of communications for

SEE MEDICAID, PAGE 8

### CORRECTION

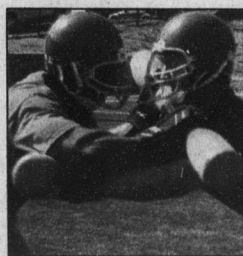
Due to a reporting error, the Friday front-page story, "Arts series set for new season," incorrectly states the total ticket revenue taken in by the Carolina Performing Arts Series. So far, the 2006-07 has taken in about \$1.15 million. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

online | dailytarheel.com

**GET UP, STAND UP** Liberian activist set to come to campus for Human Rights Week

**CHECKING IN ON YOU** UNC's Board of Visitors hears from Chancellor Moeser

**GREEN THUMBS, WALLETS** Elementary school gets grant to buy gardening tools



campus | page 6

### REAL AMERICAN HEROS

Students face off against Campus Recreation staff Friday afternoon in the annual Gladiator Challenge, which mirrors American Gladiators.

this day in history

APRIL 16, 1945 ...

UNC is named the headquarters for a proposed permanent Conference of Southern Students including more than 50 colleges and universities from the Southeast.

weather

Partly Cloudy  
H 60, L 41

### index

police log ..... 2  
calendar ..... 2  
games ..... 8  
opinion ..... 9  
sports ..... 12