

CAMPUS BRIEFS
PlayMakers official named
director of Outdoor Drama

Rob Franklin Fox was named the new director of the Institute of Outdoor Drama. Fox formerly served as general manager for PlayMakers Repertory Company. Fox has managed PlayMakers since 1999 and has been with the University for more than 10 years. The institute is a public service agency that advises theater companies about various techniques, including management, promotion and technical elements. It works with 100 companies in 37 states. Fox succeeds Scott Parker who held the position for 17 years. Parker will serve as the dean of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre, an honorary society at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., beginning next April.

CITY BRIEFS

Public works will remove, replace 11 tree grates

The town of Chapel Hill's public works department will remove 11 tree grates from streets on the north side of the 100 block of East Franklin Street and on the west side of the 100 block of North Columbia Street next week. Crews will make the grates larger to accommodate growing trees that were planted seven to nine years ago as a part of Streetscape in 2000, an initiative to improve the experience of town pedestrians. The improvements are funded by voter-approved bonds. The town uses raised brick planters for trees to prevent compaction of the root space. When there is not enough space for the planters, trees are planted at sidewalk level and are protected by tree grates. Chapel Hill has been recognized eight years running as being a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for its dedication to planting and maintaining healthy trees.

Stewart to create report on food vending at free market

During the summer, Carrboro town officials voiced concern about the food vending practices of Really Really Free Market patrons. The idea behind the market is that community members come to a common space to exchange goods and services without exchanging money, including the open exchange of food. It takes place in the Carrboro Commons the first Saturday of every month. But Carrboro Police Department Capt. Joel Booker said the group lacks insurance necessary for food vending, a violation of the event's contract with the town. "It puts the town in the position of potential liability without these folks having insurance should someone become ill or sick from eating the food there," Booker said. Town Manager Steve Stewart is in the process of compiling information on the market and forming a report, which he will present to the Board of Aldermen. "There's not a problem with the crowd, a traffic problem or any kind of crime wave," Booker said. "I believe the town looks at it like, 'No food, no problem.'"

Construction mishap closes Franklin Street on Monday

East Franklin Street was closed Monday between Estes Drive and Boundary Street due to a severed gas line. The gas line apparently was cut by workers in the area and repairs took a few hours. Chapel Hill fire and police department officials responded to the scene. Traffic was rerouted to keep cars from the area. The street reopened about 2:20 p.m.

County group is awarded for health initiatives

The Orange County Board of Commissioners plans to recognize a group that is working to improve the health of the county's residents at a meeting tonight. The Orange County Healthy Carolinians Council received an award in June from the N.C. Prevention Partners, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the state's health through prevention. The commissioners will congratulate the Orange County Healthy Carolinians Council on its award. The group worked to produce a recreation map for the county. Its work to help minority churches improve the nutrition and physical activity of their members also will be commended. The group also worked with the county's government to start an employee health program.

—From staff and wire reports

Forum and Gazette clash

Employees claim official censorship

BY WHITNEY KISLING
 UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A dispute between the UNC Employee Forum and the University is brewing. After more than a month of debate, the forum is calling a University Relations' decision not to publish an article an act of censorship. But UNC officials say the decision was within their editorial realm. As the forum drafts a resolution officially asking for action from Chancellor James Moeser, a greater debate about employee rights and University policy is coming to the forefront. The issue is muddled with technicalities and interpretation of the

First Amendment and the UNC system's protocol on recommending legislative agendas. It all started in June with a routine submission of articles for the forum's monthly InTouch newsletter, which is published each July in the University Gazette — a weekly print publication mailed to all permanent UNC faculty and staff. The forum planned to publish an article that they consider objective about collective bargaining — a hot topic that has caused some tension between the forum and the chancellor in the past. Last year Moeser warned employees that their resolution supporting the repeal of North Carolina's prohibition on collective bargaining

for state employees might be overstepping their role by attempting to directly influence legislation. Forum members said they consider the act censorship mainly because the InTouch insert is published under its own masthead. "It's always been treated as an independent publication — even by the Gazette," said Brenda Denzler, the forum's communications chairwoman, who served as the liaison between employees and the Gazette during conversations about the article. In addition to its annual printed version in the Gazette, the newsletter is published on the forum's Web site every month. David Brannigan, vice chairman of the forum, said that he hasn't seen the Gazette exercise this kind of editorial control in the past

but that he thinks it's because the forum has recently shifted to more serious content in its newsletter. "As the forum becomes more responsive to employees' concerns, the topics we've covered reflect that," he said. Patty Courtright, Gazette editor and director of internal communications for University Relations, said the article was not published because the department considers it an opinion piece about legislation. According to the UNC-system Board of Governors' policy, legislative priorities should come from the system as a whole, not individual schools or groups. "The Gazette is a University publication," Courtright said. "Anything that is published under the Gazette

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Online classes site to launch

BY ELIZABETH DEORNELLAS
 ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

As one of the highlights of the new state budget, UNC Online will kick off this year amidst high expectations for its potential to expand the reach of the UNC system. The Web site is designed as a central portal that provides links to courses at all 16 UNC-system university campuses. The N.C. General Assembly set aside \$4.2 million for the program's inaugural year. Although the program is meant to be a multi-campus collaboration, each university is responsible for providing faculty and ensuring quality content for their online courses. "The General Administration does not provide degrees for anyone — we do," said Joseph Templeton, UNC-Chapel Hill faculty chairman. The marketing of UNC Online is a balancing act, Templeton said, since the UNC name is linked to the flagship university in Chapel Hill, as opposed to the 15 other participating universities. "There is a branding issue that is important," he said, adding that the distinction between UNC-CH and the UNC system is not necessarily made in the other 49 states. "The Tar Heel logo is an important one, academically and financially." The UNC-system General Administration is focused on efforts to promote on sites that target working adults, especially those in their 20s and 30s, through banner ads placed on Monster.com and Yahoo.com. "We're only paying for marketing to reach a target audience that we feel would be most likely to enroll in an online program," said Jim Sadler, UNC-system associate vice president for academic planning. Funds also will flow through to the 16 university campuses to create new online degree programs and facilitate collaboration between UNC-system schools and the community college system. One priority is to develop undergraduate degree programs that combine two years of online community college courses and two years of online UNC-system courses. The focus is on integrating the two systems so that credits from online community college programs will count toward UNC degrees. Also in the works are pre-major agreements that would create online community college courses to satisfy requirements for specialized UNC majors. Undergraduate students at UNC-CH are allowed one online course per semester. About 400 to 500 on-campus UNC-CH students enroll in an online course each semester, along with 600 to 800 off-campus students, said Tim Sanford, associate director for credit programs at the Friday Center. The Web site will enable students already enrolled in a UNC-system university to take advantage of course offerings at other campuses. Undergraduate degrees earned solely from online courses aren't

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Audience members reach out to pat a giant bull puppet at the end of "A Shoe For Your Foot," the production performed by Paperhand Puppet Intervention in the Forest Theatre on Friday evening. The bull required two operators and meandered up the aisle.

HANDS-ON THEATER

BY BENNETT CAMPBELL
 ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Many students might have fond memories of puppet shows from their early youth. But there are puppet shows, and then there are Paperhand Puppet Intervention productions. And they are a whole different creature. The organization is presenting "A Shoe for Your Foot," which combines elements of dance, theater, music and visual art, in Forest Theatre at 7 p.m. Friday through Sept. 3. "It's not really like the Muppets or hand puppets that people think of. It's a much broader use of the word 'puppet,'" said Donovan Zimmerman, a seven-year Paperhand veteran. One of the puppets, a giant head with arms and hands, takes seven people to operate. By implementing stilts, masks and other puppets, Paperhand's production, which Zimmerman said is greatly influenced by Peter Schumann's renowned Bread and Puppet Theater in Vermont, also deals with an overarching theme. "The theme dealt with two words: simplicity and humanity, and the different meanings therein," Zimmerman said.

"It's all about finding the extraordinary in the ordinary," he said. The title of the work came from a conversation about that philosophy. Zimmerman said that the question "What is simple?" inspired him to think of a shoe. "A shoe has utility and form and meets a basic need," he said. "And that's what this show is really all about." Hence, "A Shoe for Your Foot." Zimmerman encouraged those who have not witnessed a production of this kind to give it a try. He said that the feedback people have given him about the theme and the production as a whole has been remarkably positive. "I hear a lot from people afterwards, and there's a lot of laughter, but also a lot of tears," he said. "We try to have some hard-hitting, topical stuff." Chapel Hill resident Melissa Krueger, who saw the show Saturday, noticed its themes. "It always seems that they kind of point out the important things in life," she said. Zimmerman said that evoking such a reaction is the goal of the production. "Without being didactic or preachy, we try to reflect what's going on in the world and

allow people to be stirred and have questions raised within themselves," he said. Jan Burger, who worked full-time on the production with Zimmerman, explained what the experience is like for first-timers. "It was very magical," he said about similar puppet shows he witnessed in his youth. "You often wonder, 'How are they doing that? How is it possible to move that way?'" Part of the profit from the show — a \$10 donation is suggested for admission — will go toward building a "puppet barn" to house the creations, which are currently stored at a defunct cotton mill in Saxapahaw. Sixteen people spent more than two months creating the puppets used in the show and stored in that mill. Zimmerman said that their dedication was an inspiration. "For me, that's moving," he said. "Having people getting out of their everyday lives on 105-degree days in black dress, business attire and costumes. It's really an intense experience, both to be in the show and to see it."

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New dean brushes up on arts

History at UNC eases transition

BY KATE SULLIVAN
 ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Holden Thorp is finally settled into South Building in an office he's been eyeing for more than three years. Thorp first applied for the position in 2004 when now-Provost Bernadette Gray-Little was named to the post. After being named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences this spring, Thorp officially took his post July 1 and has spent the summer acclimating himself. As dean, Thorp is responsible for overseeing all 54 of the arts and sciences departments, but as a scientist, he said he's been learning a lot this summer. Madeline Levine, former interim dean, called the months leading up to Thorp assuming office "a good transition period." "He began sitting in on all the meetings of all the senior associate deans," she said. "We really had a meeting of the minds on everything." Levine noted that the inherent



Arts and Sciences dean Holden Thorp comes from a science background at the University.

challenges of being dean are varied but said Thorp has the advantage of coming from inside the University. "There are a lot of people that I've known for 15 years or even ... 25 years, who will really tell me if I have a good idea or if my idea's crazy," he said. "If you're an outsider you don't really have that." He also noted that his six years in UNC administration — four as director of the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center and two as chairman of the Department of Chemistry — also have helped him understand how things work on campus. "I've met with all the chairs, so I think I'm starting to get a good handle on what the issues are," he said. Because his background is scientific, Thorp said he needed to expand his understanding of the humanities and the University's international scope. This summer he visited UNC students participating in study-abroad

programs in China. "I think he's trying to get a feel for the global internationalization activities that Carolina is involved with," said Joe Templeton, chairman of the faculty. Thorp said he hopes to include all students and faculty as he focuses on research at the college. "The challenges that we face are to excel in research and do a great job with undergraduate and graduate education and develop a strategy that allows us to do all of those things well." One way to meet that challenge is to increase faculty at the largest college in the University as it deals with an influx of students and greater pressure to succeed. Levine said Thorp's science background hasn't disadvantaged him because of the strong support structure available within the college. "I think a good dean knows where his or her strengths are and where they have to rely on senior associate deans," she said. "That's the beauty of the design of college administration." University Editor Whitney Kisling contributed to this article. Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

New businesses add to town thoroughfares

BY DANIEL PRICE
 STAFF WRITER

Downtown Chapel Hill and Carrboro continue to grow and evolve. And with the arrival of several new businesses, this summer was no exception.

Stocking the pantry

The Harris Teeter on Raleigh Road closed Aug. 1, but three Harris Teeter locations still operate within three miles of the spot. All 36 employees from the closed location were offered and have accepted positions at other stores, said Paul Marsocci, former manager of the Raleigh Road location. Marsocci now holds the same position at the store on Chatham Downs Drive. The vacant building soon will be selling groceries again. The Fresh Market, a high-end food chain based in Greensboro, will open in spring 2008. The market sells high-quality foods and offers cooking demonstrations, samplings and several other in-store events.

Fresh Market spokeswoman Karina Timmel said she believes the town will be receptive. "Chapel Hill has such a great sense of community and eclectic gathering of what it offers," she said. With several competing grocers, including Harris Teeter and Whole Foods, Timmel said customers will find The Fresh Market unique. "The Fresh Market is a specialty grocer and offers the highest-quality produce that it can find," she said. The market has a full-service meat counter with a butcher on duty, fresh seafood accompanied by a seafood specialist and more than 400 items of produce from which to choose. "Every store has its own unique offerings," Timmel said. "The Fresh Market is similar to the old-world European food markets, which had a very charming, warm and boutique feel." Mexican fare Another business new to the community is Chipotle Mexican Grill, which opened its doors June 29 after

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