

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UNC names new head of the pharmacogenomics center

UNC recently named Janelle M. Hoskins as the director of the UNC Institute for Pharmacogenomics's new molecular genomics facility.

The facility provides project design, data analysis, technology selection and genotyping.

Hoskins has a degree in pharmacology from the University of Sydney, Australia. She works with metabolizing enzymes and developing drug transporters.

UNC Hospitals seek DNA samples for research registry

UNC Hospitals are recruiting students to establish a DNA registry to help researchers study how gene variations affect disease risks.

This study is in partnership with the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Department of Health and Human Services.

The registry, known as the Environmental Polymorphisms Registry, aims to have 20,000 samples. Participants receive \$20.

For more information, visit dir.niehs.nih.gov/direpr.

Committee asks for student input on teaching awards

The Student Undergraduate Teaching and Staff Awards committee is collecting nominations for the 2008 teaching and staff awards.

These awards are funded, nominated and selected by undergraduate students only. Nominations must be made by undergraduates.

There are awards for teaching assistants, professors and staff. Cash prizes of \$1,000 for staff and TAs and \$5,000 for professors also accompany the awards.

Nominations are due by midnight Feb. 15. Students can visit studentorgs.unc.edu/suta for more information or to make a nomination.

Crime discussion postponed; no rescheduled time set yet

Organizers postponed a discussion about crime and the death penalty that was scheduled for Thursday night.

Susan Estrich and Barry Scheck were the panelists. Estrich's illness was the cause of the postponement.

Scheck is a lawyer and founder of the Innocence Project. Estrich is an author and syndicated columnist. The project is facilitated by Carolina Performing Arts. The group has not set a date for a rescheduled discussion.

CITY BRIEFS

Chapel Hill Crime Stoppers information available online

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro-UNC Crime Stoppers is now accessible online. The new Web site, available at www.crimestoppers-chcunc.org, includes information about the program, as well as wanted persons, unsolved crimes and a link to pass along information.

Individuals with tips on unsolved crimes or wanted people can still call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 942-7515.

STATE BRIEFS

N.C. Republican candidates for governor hold debate

RALEIGH — The four Republican candidates for North Carolina's governorship participated Thursday in a debate sponsored by WRAL News, discussing their credentials and their approaches to the state's most pressing issues.

Sen. Fred Smith, R-Johnston; Attorney Bill Graham; former N.C. Supreme Court Justice Bob Orr; and Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory all said in the debate that change must come but differed on where to start and how to follow through.

Visit www.dailytarheel.com for the full story.

NATION BRIEFS

South Carolina Republican primary still wide open

According to the latest polling data collected by Real Clear Politics, John McCain leads with 28.4 percent of the vote, followed closely by Mike Huckabee with 24 percent.

University of South Carolina political science professor Robert Oldendick said McCain's lead is not large enough to assume victory because a large number of voters remain undecided.

The Daily Gamecock, the USC student newspaper, endorsed Ron Paul, but USC political science professor Laura Woliver said McCain is also popular among young voters.

"I think they are intrigued by McCain," she said, predicting a "pretty good" turnout of student voters for Saturday's primary.

See The Daily Tar Heel's Tuesday edition for on-the-ground coverage from primary night in Columbia.

— From staff and wire reports

Leaders look to mend fences

Meetings to help plan united goals

MEGHAN PRICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Student government's executive branch and Student Congress had their share of disagreements last semester.

Interaction began on friendly terms at the beginning of their tenures, but relations quickly deteriorated after Student Body President Eve Carson vetoed one of Congress' bills.

But the two branches came together Wednesday to try to overcome their differences and combine forces to address student issues, such as blue books and grading scales.

"We have a responsibility to get feedback from the students and advocate on their behalf," Student

Body Vice President Mike Tarrant said. "It just makes more sense when we are working together." The two groups, which rarely met in the fall, plan to meet a few times per month this semester.

One shared goal is to resume providing students with free testing materials. This semester Student Stores began charging 15 cents per blue book and 8 cents per scantron, causing unrest in the student body.

"When it gets to exam time, this process of purchasing testing materials won't be efficient at all. Students will be lining up before exams," said Tim Nichols, Congress speaker pro tem. "We need to get this fixed before students actually have to buy blue books and scantrons."



Student Body President Eve Carson's veto in September sparked conflict between the two branches.



Congress Speaker Tyler Youns hopes to smooth tensions with the executive branch.

Nichols and other student government members will meet today with John Jones, director of Student Stores, to discuss the new charges.

The executive branch and Congress also agreed that they will fight against the Faculty Council's renewed push to adopt the Achievement Index, which would be paired with a student's GPA to determine performance.

The AI is different from a GPA because it considers grade disparities that often occur across courses

and departments.

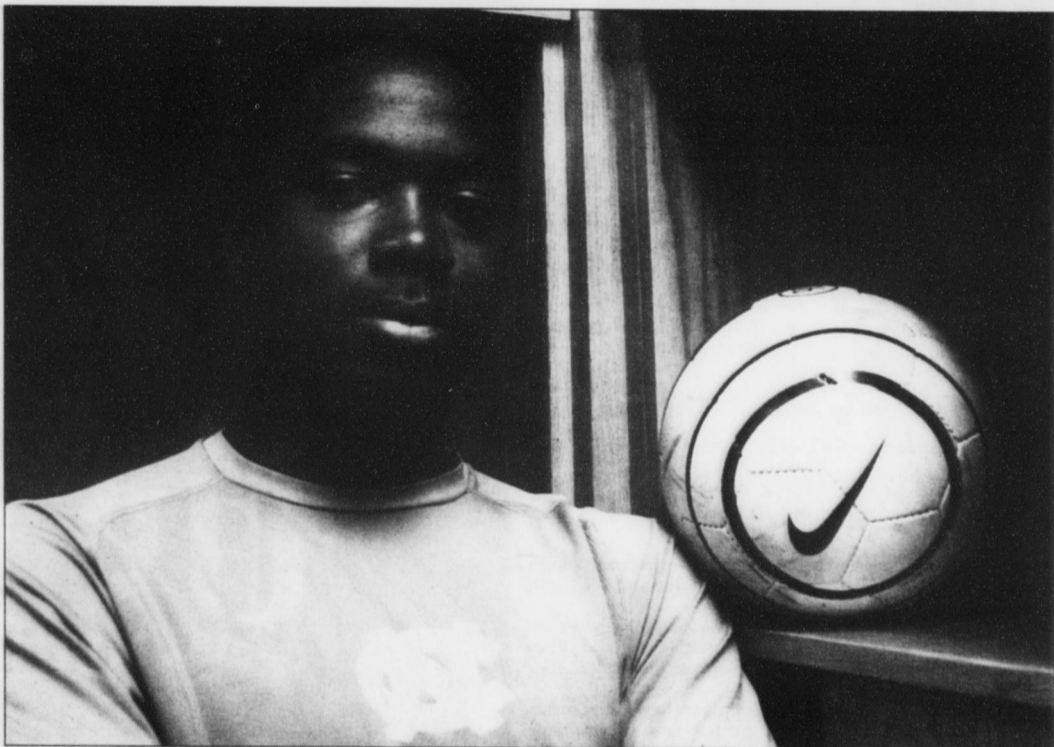
The index takes into account the actual number of As that teachers give to their students, meaning a class that grants only three As would have a different index than a similar class that grants 20 As.

Nichols said the system could hurt students' chances when applying to graduate school.

"If the University system as a whole doesn't take this up, then

SEE TENSIONS, PAGE 11

"One thing the team really will miss is just that sort of presence and confidence ... that they have this guy who just doesn't get beat." CAMERON LEWIS, SENIOR BACK, ON SHERARD



DT/HALLIE MULLIN

Senior defender and captain of the UNC men's soccer team Andre Sherard, a three-time all-conference and all-region pick, will see how he fares in the MLS draft at 2 p.m. today. Sherard was one of 54 seniors invited to the MLS Combine last weekend.

THE TRAITS OF A GAMER

AFTER FOUR YEARS, SENIOR MOVES ON

BY RACHEL ULLRICH
SENIOR WRITER

Andre Sherard knows the ins and outs of the McCaskill Soccer Center.

He knows where every light switch is. He knows the codes to the locker rooms' doors.

He knows that the shoot 'em up arcade game works during the season, even though it's turned off in January — 'cause the team "play it all the time."

And he should know, because he's spent much of the four years he's spent at North Carolina in it — or on the field behind it.

His presence as captain and the stalwart of the backline of the UNC men's soccer team is undeniable.

A three-time all-conference and all-region pick, Sherard this year was a pre-season All-America and a nominee for the Hermann Trophy and the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

But if you ask him, he'll tell you that at first he was just trying "not to step on any toes."

The other football

Andre Sherard was born to be a football player.

His father, Reginald Sherard, is a Hall-of-Famer at Winston-Salem State University and a member of two of its conference championship teams.

When his two older siblings shunned his father's choice — "their mother said it was too much contact," Reginald added — Andre followed suit.

"You don't break your neck in this football," Andre said with a laugh.

And his sport proved well chosen — when he was nine and growing up in Mississippi, he was playing with a U-12 club team.

"When I was like eight, I was practicing with my brother's teams. I thought I was real good because I was keeping up a little bit with them, so I thought maybe I could do well with this," Andre said.

By the time he was playing in North Carolina in high school, Sherard attracted the attention of UNC head coach Elmar Bolowich.

"What struck us was his competitiveness on the field — his athleticism, the will to win," Bolowich said. "That's what stuck out when we watched him play at a youth level."

Double threat

For a defensive leader who left with a single point on his college career, Sherard saw the back of the net more than a few times during the three years he spent at Greenville's JH Rose High School.

"Actually, when he was there, they won the conference for three years. They hadn't done that for several years," Reginald said.

Andre had 34 goals his junior year and was the leading scorer.

"Yeah, I know how to play offense," Andre said, laughing. "I played offense before I did club, actually, so it wasn't new to me."

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Installations use interaction

Audiences become performers in play

BY JESS THOM
SENIOR WRITER

When visitors enter the Studio Six Theater in Swain Hall, they will see a dozen wedding dresses hanging from the ceiling but no actors.

This weekend's performance of "Suspension/Belief" is an installation piece without actors, and instead of sitting down and watching the show, audiences will participate in the interactive production.

"Suspension/Belief" is co-produced by UNC's Wordshed Productions and Untimely Productions.

"It's like a play that has been broken up so the audience becomes performers," said Cameron Ayres, a doctoral student in the Department of Communication Studies who created one of the show's two installations.

Ayres said the primary idea behind his portion of "Suspension/Belief" was to question the institution of marriage.

Audience members might find it hard to avoid the subject when they enter the theater through a veil-like curtain and see suspended dresses.

A card will be placed under each hanging dress to instruct visitors about what to do at each station.

Multimedia, such as videos, will also be incorporated.

"It's a chance to play around with the images of marriage," Ayres said. "It almost functions like a game board — it's a lot more complicated than most of my installations."

Ayres said he chose to use 12 dresses for many reasons, including ideas relating to the 12 symbols of astrology and the months of the year.

Most of Ayres' dresses were obtained from thrift stores. He also uses his mother's and grandmother's wedding dresses.

"Marriage definitely isn't what it was 50 or 100 years ago," he said.

Annissa Clarke, a doctoral student in performance studies in the Department of Communication Studies, also created an installation piece for "Suspension/Belief."

Although Ayres and Clarke created their work individually, each piece will be displayed on the same stage and will share similar themes.

"This kind of work is almost like a fun house — it's more about the

ATTEND THE PERFORMANCE

Time: Continuous admission, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today through Saturday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday
Location: Studio 6 theater, Swain Hall
Info: www.unc.edu/wordshed

individual," Clarke said. "People do what they want in the space we've provided."

Clarke's display features wind-chimes and trees with leaves made of ribbon.

"We were interested in questions of belief and faith and identity, love, hope and ideas and what they mean in relation to each other," she said.

Both Clarke and Ayres have previous experience with installation pieces, and Ayres said he plans to take his marriage piece beyond UNC.

It was the unusual premise of the performance that drew Clarke to work in this medium.

"I like working in this way," Clarke said. "I feel like you can ask more abstract questions, and you can make it more about the audience and less about me telling you what I think."

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Software lets officials track student athletes

BY OLIVIA BOWLER
STAFF WRITER

A new software program released last week gives coaches and athletic departments the ability to monitor the Facebook pages of their student athletes.

The software, called YOU Diligence and developed by GlobalNI, is advertised as a tool to help institutions supervise their student-athletes' social networking pages.

GlobalNI CEO Bryan Rich stated in an e-mail that student athletes, who are subject to high media exposure, could unknowingly be associating themselves with information that could damage their careers.

"It's important that it's not characterized as an invasive technology," he said in an interview, stressing that the program was meant to be a safeguard for users.

However, some legal experts have raised concerns that YOU Diligence might violate athletes' First Amendment rights.

Some coaches already monitor their players' Facebook pages, said Larry Gallo, UNC senior associate athletic director.

"We tell them things that deal with alcohol and underage drink-

Defense lab stirs heated debate

UNC officials decry 'paranoia'

BY ERIC JOHNSON
SENIOR WRITER

The UNC system is readying for a public relations tug-of-war over a proposed biodefense lab in Granville County.

The University system has been a key player in lobbying to bring the federal research facility, which will focus on combating agricultural diseases, to North Carolina.

UNC has worked alongside a consortium of local officials and private companies to convince the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to select the Granville County site from among four other national finalists, touting the research opportunities and economic benefits of the high-security lab.

That campaign was taking place largely below the public radar until a recent outcry from several environmental groups.

"I don't think this facility is ever going to happen," said Janet Marsh, executive director of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League. "How anyone can trust the Department of Homeland Security, with its record of incompetence, I have no idea."

So far, in community meetings and news coverage of the proposed lab — known officially as the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility — trust has emerged as the central issue.

UNC officials, led by Dr. Warwick Arden at N.C. State University, have stressed that the lab will not work on high-risk human pathogens.

They have also highlighted the impressive safety record at federal research facilities.

"I have a young family, and I would be delighted to live next to this facility," Arden said during a public hearing last September.

For opponents of the lab, those assurances amount to little more than wishful thinking.

Marsh summed up the feelings of many opponents by questioning the true purpose of the facility.

"We are very concerned that this is a bioweapons lab proposal," she said. "An outbreak is a very nightmarish scenario."

Marsh said UNC officials and other lab supporters are being naive in trusting the federal government. "They are seeing dollar signs when they should be asking questions."

University officials have expressed frustration at what they see as deliberate misinformation by the lab's opponents.

Arden called some of the allegations about the facility "a little on the paranoid side," insisting that pathogen research is a far cry from bioweapons development.

"This politics of fear, these scare tactics, are having an impact on the general public," Arden said. "That's really unfortunate."

Increasingly vocal opposition is already having a political impact,

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"To be a member of an athletic team is a privilege, not a God-given right."

LARRY GALLO, UNC SENIOR ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

ing, profanity and vulgarity (should be removed)," he said. "You just have to use common sense."

Gallo said that the athletics department is aware of the new software but that he does not think it's necessary. "I hope it would never come to that," he said.

Karen Shelton, the UNC field hockey head coach, said she has a Facebook page and is friends with all of her players, so if something inappropriate comes up she can ask them to remove it.

Shelton said she is concerned about possibly career-destroying information being easily accessible to the public.

"We're not out there being Facebook police. We're just trying

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