

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, a date was incorrect in Tuesday's pg. 7 story "Di-Phi debates King's impact." Di-Phi members took up the issues of slavery and equal rights for women in the late 1790s. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UNC, ECU combine forces for cancer treatment, research

UNC's Lineberger Cancer Center and School of Medicine have partnered with ECU's Brody School of Medicine and Leo Jenkins Cancer Center to promote cancer research throughout the state.

Fellows at each school will benefit from the resources at the other location.

With more than 34,000 North Carolinians diagnosed with cancer last year, the center's main goal is to improve cancer treatment across the state.

UNC professor named finalist for nonfiction book award

Philip Gura, professor of English and comparative literature, has been named a finalist in the 2007 National Book Critics Circle Award for his book, "American Transcendentalism: A History."

The book is a comprehensive history of Transcendentalist writers such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau. It also highlights lesser-known writers of the era.

The Critics Circle will announce winners March 6.

Pastor, author to read from book on parenting today

Brett Webb-Mitchell, author, father and pastor, will read portions of his book at 3:30 p.m. today in the Bull's Head Bookshop.

A UNC alumnus, Webb-Mitchell also taught at Duke University for several years. He is now an advocate for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer issues.

His book, "On Being a Gay Parent: Making a Future Together," answers questions about the Christian gay parenting experience.

Law faculty member wins service award from the GAA

Judith Wegner, law professor at UNC, was awarded the Faculty Service Award on Friday by the General Alumni Association.

The award is given to faculty who have performed outstanding service to UNC or the GAA.

During her more than 25 years at the University, Wegner has served in a variety of roles. She was dean of the School of Law for 10 years and also worked as a law faculty and associate dean. Wegner also served as the chairwoman of the faculty from 2003 to 2006.

During her time at UNC, she helped develop the University's Public Service Roundtable and helped create the Center for Public Service. Wegner also focused on women, diversity and faculty retention, especially when she was chairwoman of the faculty.

CITY BRIEFS

Chapel Hill hotel the target of armed robbery attempt

An unknown armed perpetrator entered the Siena Hotel shortly after midnight Tuesday in an apparent attempt to rob the hotel, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The suspect entered through the front door of the 1505 E. Franklin St. hotel, displayed a handgun and asked for money, reports state.

No suspects were identified.

Feb. 11 deadline for nonprofits to request funds

Nonprofits requesting town funds must submit proposals by Feb. 11 in order to be considered.

The Chapel Hill Human Services Advisory Board is responsible for reviewing proposals and making recommendations to the Chapel Hill Town Council on funding levels for local human service agencies.

Local nonprofits that provide such services are invited to submit proposals. Applications should be submitted to Karen Rose at the Chapel Hill Police Department at 828 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

STATE BRIEFS

Pro-choice group endorses Orange County democrat

The NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina endorsed four women facing May 6 primary challengers.

N.C. State Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, D-Orange, was among those endorsed by the group, which advocates for the protection of a woman's right to abortion.

—From staff and wire reports

Violence upsets Duke area

Police step up safety on, near campus

BY CAROLINE DYE
STAFF WRITER

The murder on Friday of a Duke University graduate student and a recent rash of robberies have prompted Duke officials to increase security measures.

Abhijit Mahato, 29, an engineering doctoral student from India, was shot and killed Friday night in his off-campus apartment, a few blocks south of Duke's campus.

Another student and a Duke employee were robbed at gunpoint Sunday night in separate incidents, both off campus. Another off-campus armed robbery of a student occurred on Jan. 12.

In an e-mail to the student body the day after the Jan. 12 robbery, Larry Moneta, vice president of student affairs, urged students to walk in groups and utilize taxi services and SafeRides.

"Everyone knows you need to be vigilant," said Duke senior Nick Cuneo, who lives off campus in the Belmont Apartments.

"I think Duke is doing a good job keeping people informed about what's going on," he said, referencing the campus e-mails.

David Jarmul, associate vice-president for news and communications at Duke, said the school is taking extra precautions to better protect students living off campus.

"Duke (University Police Department) has been increasing its patrols in areas surrounding its campus," he said, adding that the university is meeting with the landlords of off-campus housing.

They will discuss plans for improving lighting around apartment complexes, repairing locks and improving transportation to campus, he said.

In a Tuesday press release, Aaron Graves, associate vice president of campus safety and security, stated that Duke would increase police presence along certain streets, including the area where the graduate student was killed.

"We're also expanding our use of private security forces to ensure we simultaneously remain safe here on campus," he stated.

Jarmul said the murder was atypical for the Duke community, and he downplayed the significance of the recent crime spree.

"This happens from time to time, not only in Durham but in other communities, as well," he said.

And Cuneo said the violent incidents are part of living in an urban area. "Nobody comes to Durham thinking it's the ideal place to live."

Jarmul emphasized that Duke has a symbiotic relationship with the surrounding Durham community, where more than half of Duke's employees live.

"Campus outreach with the Durham community is already very extensive," he said.

Liz Henderson coordinates the Duke-Durham partnership, Project HOPE, that pairs Durham public school elementary students and Duke student tutors.

"I think that it benefits the Duke students enormously to be engaged in off-campus life," she said. "The school students love it."

Henderson said Project HOPE began six years ago, as part of the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership, in an effort to provide the kind of support that Durham really wanted from the university.

In further efforts to educate students about safety on and off campus, Duke is sponsoring a town hall meeting tonight with the campus community and Durham Police Department.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

UNC mulls worker rights

Apparel factory draws concerns

BY LINDSAY RUEBENS
STAFF WRITER

UNC is facing controversy over licensing and apparel production, as the New Era Cap factory in Mobile, Ala., undergoes investigations for violating workers' rights.

Workers at New Era Cap, which makes UNC hats, tried to form a union after enduring racial discrimination, low wages and "ridiculous" disciplinary practices, said Zack Knorr, international campaigns coordinator for United Students Against Sweatshops.

Students from 15 universities nationwide mobilized this weekend to interview workers from the factory. Senior Salma Mirza served as the representative of UNC's Student Action with Workers organization.

"What we found were pretty shocking stories of being mistreated and having rights disregarded," Knorr said. "Workers are very upset about how they've been treated and how rights have been violated."

He said New Era management ran an illegal anti-union campaign and allegedly threatened to terminate employment and food stamp distribution. Twenty-four workers were fired under suspicious circumstances after workers unionized, Knorr added.

Derek Lochbaum, director of licensing at UNC, said the University is investigating the situation and how to move forward.

"The University and companies like New Era work as a collaborative effort to improve these issues and are currently working to address them," Lochbaum said.

Knorr said other universities have sent letters to New Era Cap, threatening to suspend contracts if working conditions do not improve.

Lochbaum said that this semester Chancellor James Moeser charged the Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee with developing a procedure to investigate New Era's compliance capacity. The committee will present a recommendation to him, depending on its findings.

UNC enforces a Licensing Labor Code that was enacted in 1999 to guarantee fair and just labor conditions for workers who produce merchandise with UNC logos.

In 2001 the University dealt with a similar concern with conditions at a Nike factory in Mexico.

At that time UNC students went to Mexico to conduct interviews and investigations at the Nike factory.

Knorr said he thinks UNC should join 38 other schools in the country that have joined the Designated Suppliers Program, a policy that allows workers the right to unionize. The program also forces brands to pay higher prices for the use of specific sources, guaranteeing better wages for workers.

"I'm hoping to try and get the licensing committee to recommend that we act on this," Mirza said. "We really need to evaluate what we're doing with our labor policies."

Assistant University Editor
Kate Sullivan contributed
reporting to this article.
Contact the University Editor
at udesk@unc.edu.

"I like the idea of freedom of expression. I like the idea of innovation. ... There's a freedom in the arts." RUBY DEE, ACTRESS AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST



Actress and civil rights activist Ruby Dee gives the keynote lecture during the 27th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration in Memorial Hall Tuesday evening. A candlelight vigil at the Old Well with speakers and performers also honored King Tuesday night.

'LOVE WILL WARM YOU'

Activist actress reads race-related poetry

BY MEGAN HANNAY
STAFF WRITER

Civil rights activist and actress Ruby Dee is not known for following society's conventions — and her performance Tuesday night was no exception.

Rather than give a straightforward speech Tuesday, Dee read poetry and gave a Memorial Hall audience of more than 1,000 a taste of her personal passion.

"You are at the other end of the steel spring of hate, so I cannot hate," Dee said, reciting one of her poems. "When you know my love, my love will warm you."

The audience gave Dee, 83, a standing ovation when she entered and exited the stage. The speech was part of Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration week.

Dee included poetry and written-word

readings, relating the story of Rosa Parks with great detail.

"Rosa Parks was consumed at this moment, not by history but by the tedium of survival in the Jim Crow South," Dee said. "A person with a keen eye would have seen that this was not the day, not the hour to give this woman a hard time."

As an activist, Dee has worked with Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X on civil rights issues.

She also is acquainted with the arts, beginning on Broadway in 1943 and becoming famous for her 1959 role in "Raisin in the Sun." And Tuesday Dee was nominated for an Academy Award for her role as Mama Lucas in "American Gangster."

Dee's devotion to the performing arts along with her involvement in the Civil Rights

movement related to the 2008 MLK Birthday Celebration theme of tying together the arts with activism, said junior Eboni Blake, planning coordinator for the chancellor's committee for the MLK Birthday Celebration.

"We felt Ruby Dee had both aspects that we wanted to show the students through our events. She's a legend," Blake said.

Dee touched on many issues of race and society, including a poem titled "Owed to a Funnyman" that mentioned a comedian who was disrespectful to his own race.

"I was watching a comedian. It was a comedian I like very much, but I didn't like the way he was depreciating himself and other people of color," Dee told the audience.

In this segment Dee decried "four-letter screams and messed-up minds" and reminded the "funnyman" of those who died for his rights as a citizen.

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Aldermen review building

Parking causes resident concerns

BY ANDREW DUNN
SENIOR WRITER

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen got a look Tuesday at plans for the second multistory building proposed in recent months before several community members voiced strong opposition.

David Ripperton, representing the development company Darcon, presented models of the proposed five-story complex, which would include homes, stores and restaurants at 203 S. Greensboro St.

Roberson Square, as the development is called, is shaped like a bowl with an internal courtyard.

It rises five stories on the Roberson Street side, while on the opposite side it slopes down in a V-shaped pattern to two stories.

The bottom two floors would house the commercial space, with 18 homes above.

A similar four-story structure to be located just down the street — called the Alberta — was approved in September.

The board did not vote to approve the development Tuesday. Another public hearing likely will be held Feb. 26.

But residents still spoke out because of the number of parking spaces that would be provided.

Though there was some disagreement among the developer, town staff and the town's Transportation Advisory Board on exactly how many spaces would be required, there was no disagreement that the proposal did not provide enough.

The plan calls for 65 spaces. Estimates on the number necessary ranged from 80 spaces by the transportation board to 104 by initial staff projections.

Ripperton argued that because the site is near bus lines and other parking lots and because he would be providing a courtyard, that he should not be bound by the standard.

"I know the big issue is parking, which most people have come to talk about," Ripperton said. "What I'm suggesting is what we're giving

School board continues

districting discussion

Parents speak

out on proposal

BY TRACEY THERET
SENIOR WRITER

The Orange County Board of Education continued debate Tuesday on how to fill the seats of Hillsborough Elementary School in order to help ensure a more economically diverse population.

The board heard from parents of students who might be forced to switch schools under a new plan, which caps enrollment from each of the district's school attendance zones at 20 percent.

Jeff Michalski is one parent worried about how the changes will affect his family.

Michalski has a rising kindergarten and a rising second-grader, who currently attends Hillsborough Elementary. Because only rising third-, fourth- and fifth-graders will be grandfathered into

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the school, his children might face a change of school assignment.

Siblings of the grandfathered students and children of the school's employees also will remain at the school as long as they fill out an intent to return section of the registration form.

Michalski's children are districted for Efland Cheeks Elementary. "So I am deeply impacted by the decision," Michalski said.

The cap means some students districted to Efland Cheeks and Central elementary schools might be forced to return to their original school assignments.

Students are not automatically assigned to Hillsborough Elementary because it is a year-round school and parents apply for their children to attend.

Hillsborough Elementary is the school with the lowest rate of students eligible for free or reduced lunch, at 14 percent. Central

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