

**CORRECTION**

Tuesday's pg. 3 story "Eighth annual improv festival begins today" contained multiple reporting errors.

Horatio Sanz did not perform at last year's festival as he had emergency surgery, and comic Louis CK performed in his place.

John Reitz's title is director of Chips.

Finally the Chips show at 8 p.m. Wednesday at DSI Comedy Theater is not a Dirty South Improv Festival 2008 Highlight Event as the pullout suggests. There will be an event featuring Chips and other college groups at 8 p.m. Friday in Hamilton 100 that is part of the festival. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the errors.

**CAMPUS BRIEFS**

**UNC researcher wins lung cancer grant for \$100,000**

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center researcher Dr. Albert Baldwin received a two-year \$100,000 grant. Baldwin will study how normal cells are transformed into cancer cells through molecular changes with the grant money.

The grant, a LUNGEvity Foundation Research Grant, is awarded by the National Lung Cancer Partnership.

**CAA seeking students for 2008-09 cabinet positions**

Carolina Athletic Association President-elect Andrew Coonin is looking for students to serve on the 2008-09 Cabinet.

No previous experience is required to serve.

The CAA is involved in determining ticket distribution policy for men's basketball games and hosting events such as "What Would You Do For Dook Tickets?"

Applications are due Feb. 25. Interviews will be held Feb. 26, 27 and 28.

For more information visit the CAA Web site at [unc.edu/caa](http://unc.edu/caa) or stop by the CAA office in the Student Union, room 3508C.

**UNC home page undergoing change; student input sought**

The UNC home page has been redesigned temporarily while the Office of University Relations solicits ideas for a new site design.

Students can submit suggestions online at [www.unc.edu/ssi/updateinfo.php](http://www.unc.edu/ssi/updateinfo.php).

**CITY BRIEFS**

**Commissioners hear from public on waste-transfer site**

The question of where to locate Orange County's new waste-transfer station was at hand again Tuesday night at an Orange County Board of Commissioners work session.

This time the board heard public comment on preliminary exclusionary criteria for the transfer station's site, first presented in a Feb. 11 meeting, which specify requirements for site size and location.

Ed Shuffler of Olver Inc., the engineering and applied science consulting company that developed the criteria, presented his work and fielded comments from the public and the board.

Members of the Rogers Road community voiced their displeasure with the criteria. Resident Nelo Jones, a regular fixture in waste transfer site discussions, questioned why some sites were excluded before the criteria were firmly in place.

Visit City News at [www.dailytarheel.com](http://www.dailytarheel.com) for the full story.

**New plaques will identify historic Carrboro buildings**

The mill houses on Weaver Street in Carrboro might slip by unnoticed. So might the Baptist Church on North Greensboro Street.

But the more than 150 historic bungalows, churches, mill houses and commercial buildings that date from Carrboro's distant past could soon sport plaques as unique as the houses themselves.

The Carrboro Appearances Commission is holding a public competition for the design of the plaque, which will denote buildings of historical and cultural significance.

Those interested in submitting designs for the plaques have until April 30.

Visit City News at [www.dailytarheel.com](http://www.dailytarheel.com) for the full story.

**Grant given to Carrboro Fire-Rescue for firefighters**

The Carrboro Fire-Rescue Department received a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant totaling \$314,262 to be distributed across the next four years.

The SAFER grant will allow the department to hire three new firefighters as Carrboro prepares to open Fire Station 2 at 1411 Homestead Road in summer 2009.

— From staff and wire reports.

# County to vote on transfer tax

Issue will be placed on May 6 ballot

BY EVAN ROSE  
STAFF WRITER

Despite substantial public comment in favor of a quarter-cent sales tax increase, the Orange County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to put a land-transfer tax increase on the May 6 ballot.

If approved by voters, the referendum would increase the tax owed by the seller of most land by 0.4 percent.

Board members spoke of the everyday burden a sales tax would place on residents and the benefit of being able to defer payment with a land-transfer tax until their property is sold.

"People are going to be paying the sales tax basically every time they go to the store," Commissioner Moses Carey Jr. said.

The commissioners said they plan

to educate residents through local media about the land transfer tax.

The choice, however, was not simple for the commissioners.

"There's no way we can insulate everybody from this tax," Carey said.

Commissioner Alice Gordon leaned back in her chair and joked, "This is why we get paid so much."

The board faced a petition with more than 1,500 signatures calling for the sales tax, in addition to signs in the back of the meeting room that said, "Stop the home tax."

Many residents said they were concerned with the specific burden of a land-transfer tax on people selling their homes.

"A sales tax would be more or less invisible," one resident said. "But a person selling a \$500,000

house would have to pay \$3,000."

The land-transfer tax faced opposition from the local real estate industry.

"Our taxes on property are already too high," said Mark Zimmerman, president-elect of the Greater Chapel Hill Association of Realtors. "I find the attitude patronizing that if voters could just be educated they would support this tax."

He said the tax unnecessarily targets home sellers.

"We care about our clients and our customers. Half are buying; half are selling at any given time. That means half will have to pay this tax this year," he said.

Many residents at the meeting were opposed to any form of tax increase at all.

"Even my coffee is taxed," one said. "Underwear is taxed. Now we're taxing intangible things. Why not do the right thing and

don't tax?"

Mark Hertzog, principal of Hertzog Research, whom the board hired to look into public opinion on the tax, presented the results of a survey of the county voters.

"It is statistically a tie," he said. Hertzog reported that 48 percent of those surveyed said they would support a sales tax while 43 would support a land-transfer tax. The study has a 5 percent sampling error.

Those who preferred the land-transfer tax in the survey either cited that taxes are already too high or were concerned with the regressive burden a sales tax would have on lower-income families.

Hertzog told the board that those surveyed who preferred the sales tax stressed that sellers were being unduly burdened.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Schools avoid recalled meat

Bad Calif. beef was distributed

BY ROBERT C. GUNST JR.  
STAFF WRITER

Meat that was part of a large-scale national recall never reached local school cafeterias.

Nearly 126,000 pounds of beef from the Westland/Hallmark Meat Co. were delivered to 25 school districts in North Carolina, said Jennifer Nixon, a public information officer with the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

One of the 25 districts was Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools.

"The children have not been endangered," said Stephanie Knott, spokeswoman for the school district. "All the meat is in our warehouses and has not been consumed by any students."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service suspended the company's operations Feb. 4 after allegations of inhumane treatment of cattle.

The plant allegedly did not follow proper inspection procedure, said Donald Delozer, a TA Coordinator in the N.C. Department of Agriculture's Meat and Poultry Division.

The USDA still is investigating the California meat packing plant's inspection procedures.

"There are safety measures in place to assure that a downer does not enter the human food chain," Delozer said.

A downer refers to an animal that is down on the ground and cannot get up. It is then subject to an inspection by a veterinarian who determines whether the animal is clear to be slaughtered, Delozer said.

Veterinarians at the California plant did not have a chance to inspect the downers before the plant slaughtered them and sent them to packaging, Delozer said.

The main concern is that cattle could be affected with bovine spongiform encephalopathy, a pathogen known as "mad cow disease."

The company decided to recall the meat after USDA began to investigate the plant's inspection procedure.

CHCCS sends all meat to processing plants to make patties, taco beef and spaghetti sauce, Knott said.

The extra time that the district puts into further processing the meat kept the meat out of students' stomachs.

"We incur more costs by processing our meat," Knott said. District warehouses are awaiting further instruction from the USDA for the destruction of the affected meat.

The district has a contract with the USDA in conjunction with the National School Lunch Program, which chooses manufacturers. This leaves little room for the district to pick where it gets its meat, Knott said.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# EAST TRIUMPHS IN LOCAL RIVALRY

High schools' 3rd season matchup

BY GREGG FOUND  
SENIOR WRITER

For its rubber match against rival Chapel Hill High, East Chapel Hill High wanted to use its speed.

So the Wildcats, atypical of their style, applied a constant full-court press.

Four quarters of nonstop pressure later, East Chapel Hill emerged with a 57-50 win against Chapel Hill High in the first round of the PAC-6 Conference Tournament.

"That's probably out of character for us," East Chapel Hill coach Ray Hartsfield said of the press.

"But it was our game plan, and the kids bought into it."

In front of a crowd mixed from both schools that erupted after each of the game's three dunks and that came to see if the underdog Tigers could topple the Wildcats, East Chapel Hill roused from an early slumber to dictate the game's pace.

Students from both schools jeered the referees and each team's cheerleaders steadily increased their volume while urging on the players against their crosstown friends.

By virtue of its record, East had earned the right to host the third match of the season series though home court was no advantage until Tuesday night's game.

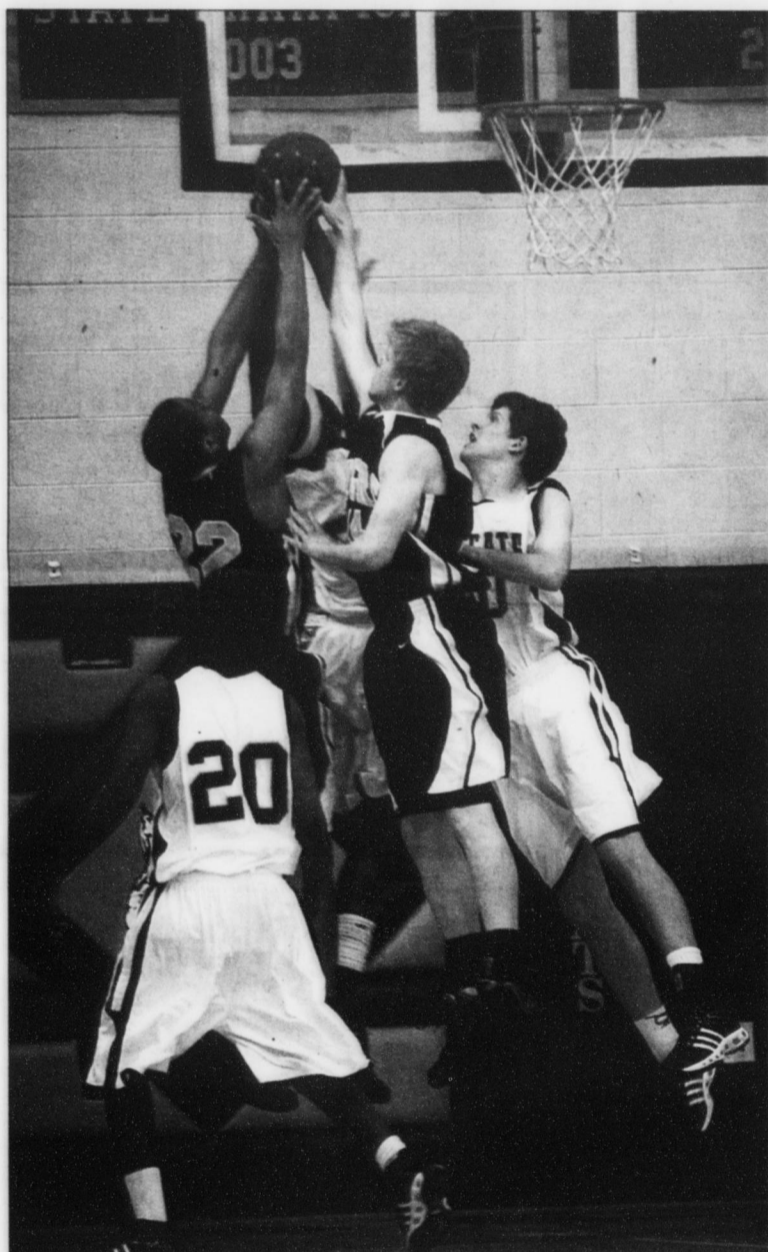
In the season's previous two contests, both Chapel Hill and East Chapel Hill had won as the visitor.

Tuesday looked to be much of the same as the underdog Tigers jumped to a four-point lead in the first quarter behind six early points from forward John Small.

Small relentlessly attacked the basket and spent as much time at the free throw line as Tyler Hansbrough, going 6-for-8 from the stripe in the first half.

"They played harder than we did," Hartsfield said.

As the press started to wear down Chapel Hill in the second quarter, East Chapel Hill's Ty Alston broke open a knotted game



Players from the East Chapel Hill and Chapel Hill High School varsity basketball teams compete for the ball Tuesday in the PAC-6 Conference Tournament. East Chapel Hill won the game 57-50.

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 7

# 3 vie to be education dean

BY MEGAN HANNAY  
STAFF WRITER

Out of 36 candidates, three men remain in competition for the next dean of the UNC School of Education — Leonard Abbeduto, Bill McDiarmid and Jonathan Plucker.

The dean search committee

hopes to make a recommendation to Provost Bernadette Gray-Little this week, but so far there is no preferred candidate, said Jean Folkerts, dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the committee's chairwoman.

The search has lasted for 10 months, since former dean Tom

James accepted a position at Columbia University in April.

Jill Fitzgerald, senior associate dean and professor of literacy in the School of Education, has been serving as interim dean since James took his new position in July.

SEE EDUCATION, PAGE 7



**Leonard Abbeduto**

Abbeduto emphasized the need for a demographically mixed school.

He spoke of a school that "respects individual differences in talents, interests and pathways to success."

The University of Wisconsin-Madison professor also mentioned on his Feb. 5 visit that an education school should focus on a wide range of strengths and not simply on one or two.

He has researched developmental disabilities in children and published many articles and books.



**Bill McDiarmid**

McDiarmid, a UNC alumnus, is a professor at the University of Washington.

During his Feb. 1 visit, McDiarmid spoke about improving early childhood education in North Carolina.

He also mentioned the need for a more diverse student and faculty makeup within the education school. He previously has worked with middle school math and science teachers.

McDiarmid has won several educational and research awards and published many books and articles.



**Jonathan Plucker**

Plucker, the third candidate to present his ideas, spoke about clarifying the school's

purpose by concentrating on specific goals.

He mentioned Morehead Planetarium and Science Center and other campus groups as learning labs for the next teaching generation.

Faculty and staff retention was also an area he said would need attention in the next 10 years.

Plucker is a professor at Indiana University. His research covers education policy, as well as talent development.

# School of Public Health utilizes Facebook tools

Aims to reach more students

BY MARY COLE ALLEN  
STAFF WRITER

When students feel like taking a break or just plain procrastinating, "Facebooking" is usually the first plan of action. Now the School of Public Health is taking advantage of the time-killing tool.

The school launched a Facebook fan page two weeks ago in an effort to connect to its students, answer questions and respond to concerns.

"Students are able to share information with a broader group of people," said Felicia Mebane, assistant dean of students in the School of Public Health.

Students easily can access and become a "fan" of the school by searching "UNC School of Public Health" on Facebook.

Chelsea Thomas, who is applying for the master's program in nutrition in the School of Public Health, is one of its fans.

"I received an e-mail inviting me to join the group that gave me instructions on how to find it on Facebook," Thomas said.

The school has more than 480 fans listed on its page, and the number continues to grow.

Mebane said prospective students are a key audience for the page.

"Many of our prospective students use Facebook, so it makes sense for us to be where they are," she said.

The Facebook page went live two weeks ago, and Mebane plans to keep it indefinitely.

The page includes photo albums of events, videos, contact information for staff, event information, a discussion board and the easily recognizable Facebook wall.

Students can post questions pertaining to the school and get them answered promptly.

Thomas said that she posted a question about decision dates for the master's program in nutrition, and that the administrators of the page answered within 24 hours.

SEE FACEBOOK, PAGE 7