

BSM RALLY

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'We're showing that our justice system does have room to change. There is a way to fix errors,' Black said.

The rally was part of a week-long effort to raise awareness of inequities and racism in the criminal justice system.

'It's the elephant in the courtroom,' said Al McShirley, the legal redress chair for the N.C. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

'What's often the case is that there's a real breakdown in what's called investigatory skepticism when it comes to a black person.'

'An objective observer sees all the opportunities they had to investigate further, but they didn't.'

McShirley referenced the case of James Johnson, a black man accused of murdering Brittany Willis, a 17-year-old white girl.

A special prosecutor could find no convincing physical evidence linking him to the crime, and the man who confessed to the crime said repeatedly that Johnson played no part in it, McShirley said.

After three years in jail on a \$1 million bond, Johnson was released on a lowered bond, in part because of legal help from the NAACP.

He will still face trial as an accessory to murder when Wilson County

Racial injustice in N.C. cases

Cases with black defendants:

> Lee Wayne Hunt: A faulty investigation and two questionable testimonies led to his murder conviction and 22 years in prison.

> James Johnson: After three years in jail, he was released and is now being charged with accessory after the fact to the murder of a 17-year-old white girl.

> Calvin Michael Smith: He is serving a 22-year sentence for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill; two witnesses have retracted their statements, claiming police coercion.

SOURCE: Campus Y Criminal Justice Action and Awareness Committee

is able to find another prosecutor. The elements of Johnson's case are not aberrations.

'Just being able to show that someone's innocent isn't enough to get them off,' UNC law professor Richard Rosen said. 'There's a history of people in this state of people resisting admitting errors.'

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

DANCE

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The use of hand gestures and facial expressions is very different from anything in modern dance, Sen said. 'It's lyrical; it's sensuous — it's definitely from a different world.'

Sen said the particular and unique use of physical expression is typical of Indian mythology and has its roots in the culture of Hindu temples.

'The movements of the dance reflect the motif of Orissa temple sculptures — these gorgeous ancient Indian temple structures — which are sacred but very sensual,' Holland said.

Satpathy said the stories told are all steeped in mythology but explained that the ubiquity of human emotion and interaction portrayed in the performance makes them accessible and relevant to modern audiences.

Holland said the performance is important because of the access it affords audiences to the rituals of other cultures, as well as the understanding and appreciation it serves to cultivate.

'You communicate with your audience. You communicate with the imaginary character,' Satpathy said. 'It becomes a journey, and you take the audience with you.'

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BURR

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in August. However, whether Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton heads the ticket doesn't change the relevance of certain qualities in a running mate.

'You have to find somebody that you mesh with as far as your personalities go and can be a strong advocate on your behalf,' said Brent Woodcox, N.C. Republican Party communications director.

'You want someone who can be a leader ... you want someone who understands foreign policy who can guide the U.S. in world affairs. ... You want someone that has enough experience that can be trusted as the commander in chief.'

Even the most qualified vice president is unlikely to sway vot-

'The only thing I'm doing is doing everything to make sure that John McCain is elected.'

RICHARD BURR, U.S. SENATOR, R-N.C.

ers, Towns said, although choosing a poorly qualified person could cause voters to doubt the presidential candidate's judgment.

'The majority of voters are focused more on whose name is at the top of the ticket and whether their qualifications match their comfort level,' Burr said.

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TIMBERLYNE 6
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SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES (PG)
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FOOL'S GOLD (PG-13)

The Lumina
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Chapel Hill
932-9000
Take 15/501 South towards Pittsboro
Exit Market St. / Southern Village

Varsity 967-8665
123 E. FRANKLIN
SEMI-PRO
Chelsea
other Boleyn girl
In Bruges
JUNO
PERSEPOLIS

games

Sudoku

Different kind of Lent

United Church of Chapel Hill asks congregants to focus on sustainability. Go online for story.

Is America ready?

A panel discussion Thursday concludes the country is ready for a black president. Go online for story.

Test prep

High schoolers will take the SAT on Saturday. Some spend all year preparing. See pg. 5 for story.

Indian dance coming

Nrityagram Dance Ensemble of India will perform classical Indian dance Sunday. See pg. 3 for story.

Jazz tunes

UNC's 31st annual jazz festival concludes with more events this weekend. See pg. 1 for story.

Sudoku puzzle grid with numbers and empty cells.

Sudoku solution to Thursday's puzzle.

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams. Includes across and down clues and a crossword grid.

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