

CORRECTION

Due to reporting and editing errors, Wednesday's pg. 3 brief, "Christian group protests Carson's memorial service" incorrectly states the words on the protestors' signs. The signs said "God sent the shooter." The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Men and women's basketball teams head to tournaments

The General Alumni Association, Rams Club and Department of Athletics will host farewell send-offs for the men's and women's basketball teams as they head to their respective NCAA Tournaments.

The men's team will leave at 2 p.m. today from the Dean Smith Center, Entrance D.

The women will depart at 11:30 a.m. from Carmichael Auditorium, at the South Road entrance.

The men will face Mount St. Mary's at 7:10 p.m. Friday in Raleigh, while the women will take on Bucknell at noon Sunday in Norfolk, Va.

Medical students will hear about next phase of careers

Graduating students from the UNC School of Medicine will hear the location for their residency training today.

The fourth-year students were matched through the National Resident Matching Program.

The announcement will be made at noon today in the fourth-floor clinic auditorium.

CITY BRIEFS

Democrats to hold forum to discuss land transfer tax

Orange County Democrats will sponsor a forum tonight to discuss the proposed land transfer tax.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners proposed the tax, which would place a 0.4 percent tax on all eligible property transactions. It will now be on the ballot for the May 6 primary but faces fierce opposition.

The county needs a revenue source other than the property tax in order to bring in more money for capital expenditures, Board Chairman Barry Jacobs said.

The forum, to be held at 7:30 p.m. at Homestead Community Center, will serve as an unbiased informational meeting for the community, said Sally Crumbaugh, chairman of the St. John Democratic Precinct in Chapel Hill.

"So far I think the information has been unbalanced," she said.

Visit City News at www.dailytarheel.com for the full story.

Carrboro Fire-Rescue will hire four new firefighters

Carrboro Fire Chief Travis Crabtree is looking for an applicant who can muscle his way through a burning house, carry an oxygen tank on her back and hang upside down on a ladder under pressure.

But the main requirement is a commitment to providing service to the community, he said.

There are four open firefighter spots in the town of Carrboro Fire-Rescue Department, and Crabtree anticipates 75 to 100 applications.

Friday is the deadline for applications. Call 918-7349 for more information.

Visit City News at www.dailytarheel.com for the full story.

STATE BRIEFS

Governor offers \$10,000 for information in Carson case

Gov. Mike Easley issued a proclamation Wednesday offering a \$10,000 reward for information implicating others in Student Body President Eve Carson's murder.

Two Durham men — Demario James Atwater, 21, and Lawrence Alvin Lovette Jr., 17 — already have been charged with the murder.

The proclamation from Easley says that police are searching for further information that could implicate others as accessories after the fact.

To obtain a governor's reward, the chief of police or county sheriff must write Easley a letter. The State Bureau of Investigation is also involved in making sure the request is reasonable.

Orange County hasn't received a governor's reward since 2001.

Money is not given out until a conviction is obtained. The police chief and the district attorney determine who should get the money.

Carson was found shot to death early March 5 in an off-campus residential neighborhood.

People with information are asked to contact the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760.

—From staff and wire reports

System plans branch campus

BY ERIC PAINTER
STAFF WRITER

Plans are under consideration by the UNC-system Board of Governors for the state's first branch campus, tentatively scheduled to open within two to four years.

The branch campus would be based in Hickory and most likely would be paired with nearby Catawba Valley Community College and Appalachian State University. The area is the largest metropolitan region in the state that still lacks a public university.

Branch campuses will allow students from select community colleges to finish their four-year degrees without transferring to a university, either through distance learning or on-site instruction.

The campuses are being discussed as a way to cope with a burgeoning student population in North Carolina.

"We are expecting about 80,000 students to enroll in the UNC-system universities by 2012, but our campuses cannot accommodate them," said UNC-system Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Harold Martin. "Many campuses just cannot grow much more because they are landlocked."

ASU Provost Stanley Aeschleman also cited concerns about university growth. "It is difficult to expand our footprint to accommodate more students when there is no room. It just can't be done."

A branch campus would function mostly as an independent institu-

tion, handling its own admissions, registration and other administrative duties while still sharing instructional responsibilities with the community college and a nearby university.

"Branch campuses are a best of both worlds venue for students," said Catawba Valley Community College President Garrett Hinshaw. "The ability of both higher education systems to partner in the delivery of the programming without duplication of costs sets it apart from the traditional individual community college or university."

Martin said branch campuses will introduce new operational and faculty costs that will need to be worked into the budget each year.

UNC-Charlotte Chancellor Philip Dubois said the creation of branch

campuses might not be an easy task.

"Taking advantage of existing facilities does not necessarily resolve the question of how to properly distribute limited human resources, such as faculty and staff, to support such a branch operation," he said.

He said it is important to weigh the benefits of a branch campus versus those of increased distance education, considering the availability of online resources.

School officials said they will continue to accommodate as many transfers from community colleges to four-year universities as space allows while the campuses are being discussed by the Board of Governors.

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

Body to vote on ethics charges

N.C. Rep. Wright may be expelled

BY DEVIN ROONEY

ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

A Wilmington legislator's career is on the chopping block today.

Pending a vote at a special session of the N.C. General Assembly, it could be the first expulsion of an N.C. lawmaker since 1880.

At the session, a special ethics committee that investigated the conduct of N.C. Rep. Thomas Wright, D-New Hanover, will present its unanimous recommendation that he be expelled for alleged unethical conduct.

He allegedly failed to report \$180,000 in campaign donations and pocketed nearly \$19,000 in funds intended for a charity he ran.

"It's really a sad occasion, because over the years I think Rep. Wright has done some good things," UNC law professor Judith Wegner said.

The alleged misconduct also violates criminal law, and Wright has been fighting a criminal trial concurrent with the ethical hearings.

That trial is scheduled for March 31. Wright has filed to run for a ninth term, and only a criminal felony conviction would legally prevent him from reclaiming his seat.

"We don't have lifetime bans," said Gerry Cohen, director of the General Assembly's bill drafting division.

However, Wegner said politicians involved in ethical brouhahas often fail to win re-election and most resign. "It's kind of a blue moon situation we're in."

The rarity of the situation also meant that the ethics committee had little precedent to guide its procedure for the hearing.

Wegner said general statutes for ethical hearings would be too difficult to predetermine because potential ethical violations could vary greatly.

In this case, the hearing followed the general format of criminal trials, with opening and closing statements, witnesses and court reporters.

But while committee members did consider evidence from witnesses as a jury would, because they were part of a fact-finding body, they were allowed to ask questions of their own and faced a lower burden of proof than that used in criminal trials.

The committee also assumed the role of a judge in a criminal trial by recommending a sanction.

Wright's attorneys argued that granting committee members all those powers prejudiced the hearing against Wright.

Despite charges that the hearing was just for show, committee member Rep. Laura Wiley, R-Guilford, called it "one of the most difficult and saddest things that I have ever had to do in elected office."

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



DTH/ADAM GRAETZ

Eclectic New York rock crew Haale performed a dynamic mix of Eastern and Western music and poetry in a concert at Memorial Hall on Wednesday. Haale's name is derived from its lead singer, who incorporates Farsi, the native language of Iran, into the band's music.

HAALE HOOKS CROWD

Performance blends Persian poetry, classic rock

BY NASH ROBERTS

STAFF WRITER

Before Wednesday, the last time Haale performed in Chapel Hill was summer 2007 at Local 506 on the far end of West Franklin Street.

Haale took the stage in Chapel Hill for the second time last night, but this time it was in the 1,434-seat Memorial Hall.

Haale is a New York-based rock outfit fronted by the female singer that bears the band's name, Haale. Born in the Bronx to Iranian parents, Haale transcends the musical elements of both Persian music and Western rock. Much of her music is sung in Farsi, the native language of Iran.

"I really like being able to go from one to the other," Haale said. "It's almost as if you're able to pick up another instrument."

Flanked by a cellist and a violinist on one side and two percussionists on the other, Haale's dynamic voice was showcased Wednesday.

At times it was fragile, blending carefully between the lines of violin and cello, but moments later her voice would rage above

the pounding of tribal beats and groaning strings.

"There has to be a thread running through everything," Haale said. "What carries the thread with us is my voice and the percussion that keeps the fluidity."

During the performance, Haale was unafraid to wear her influences on her sleeve. Throughout the show she cited poetic inspiration from Persian poets such as Rumi and would draw upon her musical influences such as Jimi Hendrix and Joni Mitchell.

Wednesday's performance was marked by a seamless blend of psychedelia and Persian poetry and music. At times, the band carried the swagger typical of a rock act, yet the show was anything but a conventional rock concert.

"It's a cool combination of a lot of things," said cellist Brent Arnold, who has played with acts such as Modest Mouse, Built to Spill and Sleater-Kinney. "You don't necessarily leave certain kinds of music behind as these projects develop."

Though Haale is generally cast as a rock

act, the show didn't fit the conventional mold. The performance attracted a crowd diverse in age.

Yet throughout the show, the entire audience appeared subdued, drawn into the trance-like qualities of the fluid performance.

"At a club you get more instant feedback," said Matt Kilmer, who played percussion for Haale and produced the band's recent album *No Ceiling*. "Tonight we brought the club energy into the theater."

The show covered a lot of musical ground and moved in many different sonic directions, sometimes furious in tempo yet at other moments like a funeral dirge. Yet by its conclusion, Haale's performance was nonetheless unbroken.

It was as if the band was trying to take audience members to a place they had never been before — a place where different languages and cultures are fused.

"It took me when the drums and Sufi music blended together," said audience member Jonathan Allen. "It took me somewhere far away from here."

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu

Fee helps subsidize child care

Supports employee, student parents

BY MARY COLE ALLEN

STAFF WRITER

A small fee for child care services goes a long way in helping UNC families.

The fee money helps subsidize the cost of child care for UNC students and employees.

"As a student, there are already lots of issues around balancing social life, school work and other activities," said Sara Stahlman, health educator at Counseling and Wellness Services.

"When you add in caring for a child to that, you have a whole new level of responsibilities that drastically change priorities."

Examples of child care services that the fee covers include day care, preschool and after-school care.

The Graduate and Professional Student Federation runs the program with the help of UNC's Office of Human Resources.

Students each paid \$2.38 per year in child care fees for the 2007-08 school year. That amount will

increase to \$2.44 for 2008-09.

There is an application process that people must go through in order to obtain the aid for child care. Applicants must meet income and family size requirements to be considered.

"If selected, the parent will choose a place for their child, and the subsidy pays the difference between the price of the program and the amount the parents can pay," GPSF President Lauren Anderson said.

Parents must choose a facility that is licensed with the state to receive the money.

GPSF and human resources help the students who qualify for the aid find appropriate facilities for their children, which can be a difficult task.

"Facilities that are subsidized by the state often have regulations associated with them, and for places such as Orange County, can have a significantly long wait — up to two years," Stahlman said.

The amount of people the fee is able to help within the University is very limited because of the high price of child care, Anderson said.

She added that about 54 people

apply each year, and GPSF is able to give assistance to about 20 of the applicants.

"Because the fee is so small, we're not able to help all the people we could help," Anderson said. "We just hope the fee increase will help us to maintain the services we currently provide."

Stahlman said she was excited about the increased fee for child care for next year because there are so many challenges that come with being a parent and a student.

"Finding child care is definitely at the top of that list of barriers for a parenting student. Child care services are expensive," Stahlman said.

Kate Sanford, assistant director at Chapel Hill Day Care Center, said full-day child care costs between \$960 and \$1,330 a month, depending on the age of the child. She also said tuition increases yearly.

"The total amount (student-parents) pay is always less than what we charge normally," Sanford said.

Anderson said there is a need for the child care fee, despite the fact that not all students are benefitting from the service.

"It's students helping students," she said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu

Panel to review state's open records policies

Easley under fire regarding e-mails

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK

ASSISTANT STATE AND NATIONAL EDITOR

Amid accusations of deleting e-mails classified as public records and instructing other administrative departments to follow suit, Gov. Mike Easley announced

ONLINE
A guide on how to use public records to gather information.

According to a Tuesday press release from the governor's office, Easley's senior assistant for government affairs, Franklin Freeman, will head a panel to review the e-mail retention policies, which have not been updated since 1993.

"Many of the uses of e-mail today were not even contemplated at that time," said Seth Efron, Easley's deputy press secretary. "That's why it's important to bring together people to look at those policies and see what needs to be updated."

The panel will address state e-mail systems and new forms of electronic text communication, such as Blackberry messaging.

Easley has been under close scrutiny since early March, when former spokeswoman for the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Debbie Crane said that the governor's press office had instructed that agency, among others, to delete e-mails to the governor's office.

Soon after, Easley came under additional fire for deleting some of his own outgoing e-mails.

If true, both allegations are possible violations of the N.C. Public Records Law, which guarantees the public and the media access to most state and local government documents.

The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources is responsible for creating and enforcing retention schedules, which dictate how long documents must be kept.

According to the agency's records, e-mails may be deleted when their user decides they no longer have reference value.

That vague regulation is the

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