



DTH/LAUREN COWART

Host and former Nickelodeon star Kel Mitchell talks to the crowd at Memorial Hall, treating the audience to his most famous impressions.

HIP-HOP SHOW

FROM PAGE 1

TV and always thought he was really funny. I thought it would be cool to see a well-known person from my childhood," Patterson said.

Mitchell rapped along with the music as a break dancing duo brought the crowd to its feet while waiting for the judges' announcement of the winning teams.

"We're about to do this like 'American Idol.' We're going to make it dramatic," Mitchell said. And slowly, as characteristic of the popular TV show, Mitchell pronounced Underground Legendz the winners of a \$500 first prize.

The Underground Legendz's performance brought the crowd to its feet with a ninja fighting dance, which opened with the theme song to "SpongeBob SquarePants."

"They did their thing," Mitchell said after Underground Legendz's performance. "They have sound effects and what not," he said, proceeding to imitate robot noises used in the number.

UNC's Misconception Dance Company brought a theatrical dance to the stage, beginning its set with a young girl reading a bedtime

"It gave people a chance to show off things you wouldn't expect them to be able to do."

KELLY PATTERSON, FRESHMAN

story about the best hip-hop dance team in the world.

Misconception Dance Company's dramatic choreography landed them second place in the competition. Their UNC companions and defending champion, the OPEYO! Dancers, came in fourth.

Clad in pastel-colored shirts and shorts, OPEYO! put on an angelic performance featuring songs such as Rihanna's "Don't Stop the Music."

At the conclusion of the evening, the newly crowned Underground Legendz jumped across the stage in happiness, clutching their trophy.

Joining hands together, they declared their dominance until next year, chanting "U! L!"

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE 1

Cougars went overseas to haul in 6-foot-10 Aron Baynes from Australia.

Somehow this mix-and-match combination bought into the Bennett philosophy — defense 24/7 and an offense based on patience and open looks.

The Cougars have become the ultimate style team, winning games by forcing their opponents to adjust to them and averaging 67 points a game while giving up a mere 56.1 — second best in the country.

"On the defensive end, they guard you," Williams said in Charlotte on Wednesday. "You don't get an easy shot. There's a lot of teams that their defense is really strong for the first pass and the second pass or the third pass, then all of the sudden it starts breaking down. I think each time Washington State is prepared to guard you for 35 seconds."

But while the Cougars are different from most teams, tonight's game will accentuate those features even more.

UNC comes in averaging 89.9 points a game while the Cougars

give up 56.1 — a 34 point difference to be reconciled on the hardwood between a coach who loves to control the pace and another who thrives on a wicked speed up and down the court.

"The only thing I can probably relate to (UNC's scoring) is UCLA," Low said Monday. "I don't know if UCLA scores as much as they do, but they definitely have the same type of athletes and players that North Carolina does. They get a lot of transition baskets."

And while the Cougars ponder how to slow down UNC's vaunted fast break and the ever-improving health of Ty Lawson, the Tar Heels might be forced to win a game where they don't completely dictate the pace — a problem they haven't faced too much this season.

"I like to win in the 80s and 90s, but to be the team and reach the dreams that we have, be the team that we want to be, you've gotta be able to win at somebody else's different tempo," Williams said.

"It can't be your own comfort zone all the time."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu

THE LOWDOWN ON TONIGHT'S GAME

No. 4 Washington State vs. No. 1 North Carolina
Charlotte Bobcats Arena, 7:27 p.m.
Broadcast: CBS
Radio: 1360 WCHL

HEAD-TO-HEAD	
Backcourt	Guards are Washington State's strength, but Kyle Weaver and Derrick Low don't have the pure talent of Ty Lawson and Wayne Ellington. The UNC duo has been making the most of that talent lately, too. Edge: UNC
Frontcourt	An ominous sign for Wazzu: it's only playing its opponents even on the boards. UNC is out-rebounding teams by almost 12. Deon Thompson has picked it up, and it's never easy to stop Tyler Hansbrough. Edge: UNC
Bench	Watch the tape from UNC's win against Arkansas to see just how far Quentin Thomas and Alex Stepheson have come. Danny Green hasn't found his groove lately, but watch out when it happens. Edge: UNC
Intangibles	This game features the ultimate in contrasting styles. No way Wazzu lets UNC rip off 100 points, but they need to find ways to score enough. While the Cougars have nothing to lose, UNC is too determined. Edge: UNC

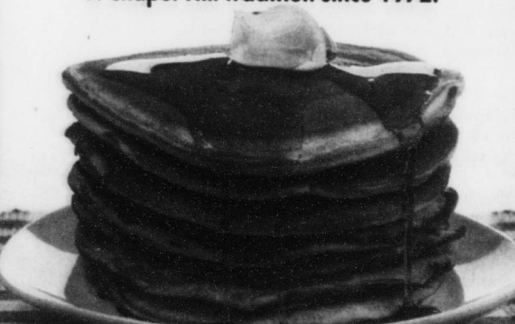
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BLUE LIGHTS

FROM PAGE 1

Additionally, one was hidden behind a tree, and one couldn't be touched because construction closed off the area around the light.

The women's affairs committee of student government brought many of those same concerns to DPS's attention three years ago.

"We met with (the women's affairs committee) and looked at it," Carmon said. "I have yet to date to get a concern from someone in the (DPS) office that they weren't able to readily recognize one."

But from a distance, many of the yellowed lights blend in with street lighting, making it hard to determine whether one is a call box.

"It makes it harder because you have a lot of other yellow lights," freshman Janki Patel said. "When you're in an emergency you probably need something that can jump out at you."

And because other call boxes are visible from only 13 of the blue lights, it's nearly impossible to see where to run to next.

Increased visibility is why the lights are supposed to be blue, said John Laetz, manager of Electric Distribution Systems, which is responsible for upkeep of the lights.

The blue color can yellow with age and deterioration, he said.

Laetz said that EDS does inspect the call box lights regularly, adding that while the company currently only does demand maintenance — fixing things that are broken — it is restructuring to provide more preventative maintenance.

"If something happens to it we go out and fix it," he said.

A changing role

UNC's first call boxes were placed in the 1980s. One trend seen nationwide, though, is the decreased use of blue lights as cell phones have become more available.

"It makes more sense to call 911 (on a cell phone) and keep moving," said Mibelli, who was chairman of the safety and security committee when it began looking at off-campus call boxes.

Steve Carlton, a senior officer in crime prevention at N.C. State University, said that police can track most cell phone callers to within 6 feet of where a call is made thanks to GPS technology.

Carlton said NCSU tells students that having a cell phone often is just as good as having a blue light.

Despite the decreasing role that emergency call boxes play, Maj. Gloria Graham said Duke University isn't looking to stop adding lights.

"Not all of our students have cell phones," she said. "We have not stopped putting them in."

At UNC, the number of students who use the call boxes also is small.

"It's very little, from what I've been given from dispatch," Carmon said. "I know that they're not used frequently."

Even when they aren't used, many still believe the lights play a significant role in deterring crime.

Part of that comes from the comfort of knowing the boxes are there if needed.

And crime reports from DPS since January 2005 show fewer reported crimes in areas where there are more blue lights.

"I continue to believe that call boxes have a deterrent effect on crime," former Student Body President James Allred said in an e-mail. His administration got the ball rolling on adding off-campus call boxes.

Away from campus

Although the visibility and accessibility of call boxes is inconsistent on campus, many students still say they feel safer there than off campus.

"I feel like on campus is really well lit," sophomore Eleanor Cooper said. "Off campus, not so much."

Cooper will be living off campus for the first time next year and said lighting is a concern, especially in

"I feel like on campus is really well lit. Off campus, not so much."

ELEANOR COOPER, SOPHOMORE

areas along Rosemary and North Columbia streets.

Liz Parham, director of the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership, said lighting plays a significant role in how safe people consider an area.

"If you're in more of a well-lit area it's perceived to be a safer area whether it is or not," Parham said.

In 1993, additional lighting was recommended for much of the downtown area as part of the town's Streetscape design plans.

Changes made since then include replacing lights on East Franklin Street with higher-watt bulbs and installing additional light poles on the 100 blocks of East Franklin and North Columbia streets, as well as parts of West Franklin Street.

Student government's push for pedestrian lighting and off-campus call boxes began before Carmon took office and aimed at making students living off campus feel safer.

"The idea of off-campus blue lights was largely student-driven," Allred said. "I pushed the idea based on the suggestions and affirmation of students."

Student government looked at reports showing areas with high student populations and overlapped them with crime density reports to find the best locations to place the call boxes.

Additional funds also were set aside for street-level lighting.

"It was our goal that by increasing street-level lighting you're also going to reduce crime in the first place ... so there wouldn't be a need for more call boxes," Mibelli said.

Since the September council meeting, town staff have been in discussions with residents, Duke Energy and student government about the logistics of placing the off-campus call boxes.

The town will host a forum April 8 for residents of the areas where the lights were recommended.

Growing pains

But adding the call boxes off campus was a long process that highlights the challenges of expanding the number of blue lights.

"One of the things to understand is that it's not as easy as saying, 'Let's add a light post here,'" Mibelli said.

The call boxes are managed by three entities — DPS, EDS and Information Technology Services.

DPS responds to activated call boxes, EDS maintains the strobe lights and ITS oversees the communication lines that link the call boxes with DPS. It takes all three working together to decide where to place new blue lights.

Some said the oversight of the blue lights should be streamlined.

"It does not make sense for three departments to share responsibility," Allred said.

Anyone can suggest locations for new call boxes through DPS, but limited funding means not all requests are granted, Carmon said. Some funding comes from individual departments.

"If there are additional needs then it's generally the job of the requesting school or department to look for or provide the funding for that request," Carmon said.

The cost of a new box ranges from \$5,000 to \$10,000, in addition to installation costs and recurring electricity and phone charges.

"In terms of adding blue lights, the dilemma comes with efficient spending of student fees," Mibelli said. "Those decisions aren't black and white."

"There's only so much you can do for a campus this size."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

OWASA

FROM PAGE 1

your bill increases," Grant said.

She said students living off campus who are responsible for their own water bills likely feel the same effects as homeowners.

But she said the type of responsibility they feel is different. They don't have long-term worries unless they plan on living in the area in the future.

The University's main long-term plan to conserve water is its reclaimed water project. When completed in January 2009, cooling towers at the University and UNC Hospitals will use highly treated wastewater, pumped from the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant, instead of potable drinking water, DuBose said.

But in the short term all residents face the effects.

"We all have responsibility to conserve, both residents and students," Morgan said.

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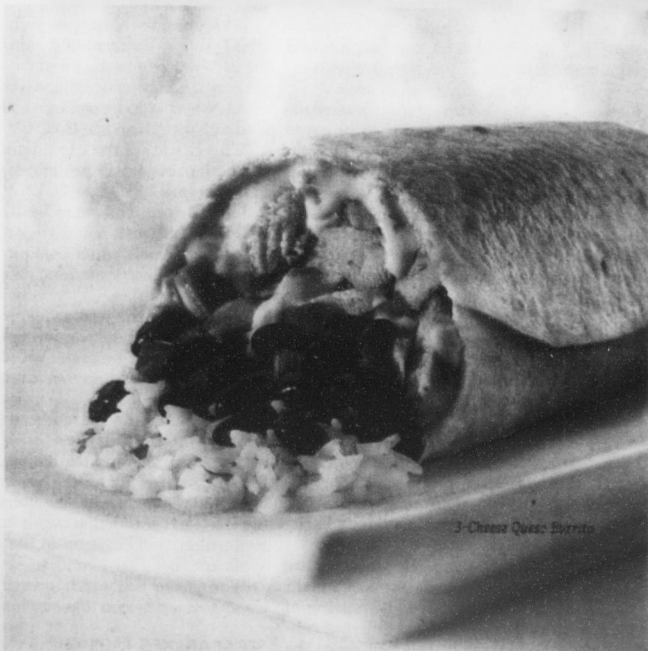
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