

CAMPUS BRIEFS
UNC Hospitals doctor sued for alleged sexual abuse

A lawsuit involving sexual assault, battery and abuse has been filed against Melvin Levine, an adjunct professor in UNC's Department of Pediatrics.

The lawsuit refers to allegations that between 1980 and 1985 Levine performed unnecessary physical examinations to child patients in his care. There have been lawsuits of similar issues for Levine in the past, but they have since been dismissed.

Levine, now in his 60s, is a retired professor at UNC and as an adjunct professor occasionally consults in the pediatric department, said Karen McCall, vice president of public affairs and marketing for the UNC School of Medicine and UNC Health Care.

"No complaints have been levied against Dr. Levine in relation to his work at UNC," McCall said, noting that Levine first came to UNC in 1987.

Students can send off team, watch games in Dean Dome

The General Alumni Association will send off the men's basketball team at 6:15 p.m. today outside the Entrance D of the Smith Center.

The Carolina Athletic Association will show Final Four games on a big screen in the Smith Center starting at 5 p.m. Saturday. Students will be able to get in with a valid One Card.

CITY BRIEFS

Carrboro hopes to prevent accidental fires in future

If Carrboro Fire Chief Travis Crabtree has his way, there will never be another year like 2007.

After several costly fires in Carrboro last year, Crabtree set out in December to find ways the town could prevent future fires.

The fire chief proposed enhanced code enforcement, where the fire department will inspect all commercial buildings and businesses annually and all multifamily dwellings semiannually.

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

Questions still linger over huge Efland development

A request to develop a large-scale commercial site near Efland took up the bulk of the Orange County Board of Commissioners' quarterly public hearing Tuesday night.

Buckhorn Road Associates applied to the board in December for permission to rezone 130 acres of the economic development district along Buckhorn Road.

While some residents withheld judgment, many, including some who live close to the proposed development, supported the project.

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

Outdoor burning ban lifted after rain soaks local area

Orange County and the state lifted the outdoor burning ban Monday, which has been in place since mid-February, after recent rain.

—From staff and wire reports

Sororities learn safety tips

Officials detail preventative measures

BY LAURA MARCINEK
 STAFF WRITER

Officers from the Chapel Hill Police Department and from UNC's Department of Public Safety presented safety tips Tuesday to members of several sororities.

Jenny Levering, assistant dean of students for fraternity and sorority life, said she has received numerous requests from members of the Greek community to have a

safety presentation following the shooting of former Student Body President Eve Carson.

Sgt. Jack Terry and Lt. Pat Burns from the Chapel Hill police and Officer Megan Brown from the University police presented the audience with tips for staying safe.

Be aware and ask for help

Terry said to call 911 immedi-

ately if you see something out of the ordinary.

"We would much rather come out to find out that nothing's wrong and everything is OK than to come out and find you're a victim of a crime," he said.

This also means to stay off your cell phone and to avoid using headphones when walking at night.

Brown told the audience to not be afraid to call 911, to use the call boxes on campus or to approach officers with questions.

"We don't think any questions

are dumb," she said. "If you have concerns, come and talk to us. That's what we're here for. We're here to serve you."

Lock your doors

"If you don't know the person on the other side, you probably need to conduct your business through the door," Terry said.

"You don't want to open that door and have someone walk in on

SEE GREEK SAFETY, PAGE 9

ECU could void its election

Corruption claim dampens results

BY REBECCA PUTTERMAN
 AND JAKE RATLIFF
 STAFF WRITERS

East Carolina University's Student Congress convened Monday night, issuing a joint resolution that seeks to void the results of its recent student body election, as well as to install a new election committee.

The resolution comes after charges of corruption from N.C. State student government officials who alleged election fraud in a letter to ECU's Student Congress Monday, urging it to hold new elections.

Greg Doucette, N.C. State student senate president, said the current ECU student body vice president, as well as the other candidates on his ticket, were the only candidates to receive real-time vote totals during the election — something he said is not supposed to happen and could have aided them in winning the election.

Doucette also alleged that the election commission was never approved by the school's senate.

"If they have a crooked election, it makes the rest of us look crooked, too," he said to explain why N.C. State student government officials felt compelled to get involved.

The resolution to hold new elections passed in a closed session with more than a two-thirds majority, which would automatically override a presidential veto. The student body president has a 10-day window before she must approve or veto the joint resolution.

Election committee members and executive officers were not allowed to share evidence at the meeting, causing some government officials to fear that the resolution might have been one-sided against them.

"The elections chair, our adviser and the attorney general were the only people who had access to (real-time vote counts). Even our vice chair didn't know the numbers at the end of the day," said Election Committee Chairwoman Ashley Fish in defense of the accusations.

Fish added that the reason the committee was sworn in without the senate's approval was because the congress had been dissolved and under reform at that point in the year. The election committee was instead sworn in by Student Government Association advisers.

Departing Student Body President Keri Brockett expressed a positive attitude about the election, saying that it attracted the highest turnout in school history: about 500 more than last year.

"From what I've seen, the election was fair and just, and the

SEE ECU, PAGE 9

SCROGGS STUDENTS READ A TON

Aim to reach 1 million minutes

BY SYDNEY HESS
 STAFF WRITER

Seven-year-old Quinn Jooss was sprawled on the floor of Sharla Coleman's second-grade class, his face buried in a paperback copy of "Wayside School Gets a Little Stranger" by Louis Sachar.

His class was in the middle of a reading session in preparation for Mary Scroggs Elementary School's ninth annual Read-A-Ton, which starts today.

"Every minute I spent reading," said Katherine Miller, 8, about last year's Read-A-Ton.

Today she will start recording those minutes. She plans to read "The Magic Tree House" series by Mary Pope Osborne.

The students will add all of their minutes together. The schoolwide goal is for students to read for 1 million minutes in two weeks.

Every year the Read-A-Ton has a different theme. This year's theme is "Reading with the Stars," after the popular television program "Dancing with the Stars."

Previous themes have included "Wrap Yourself around a Good Book" and "Raising It to the Roof."

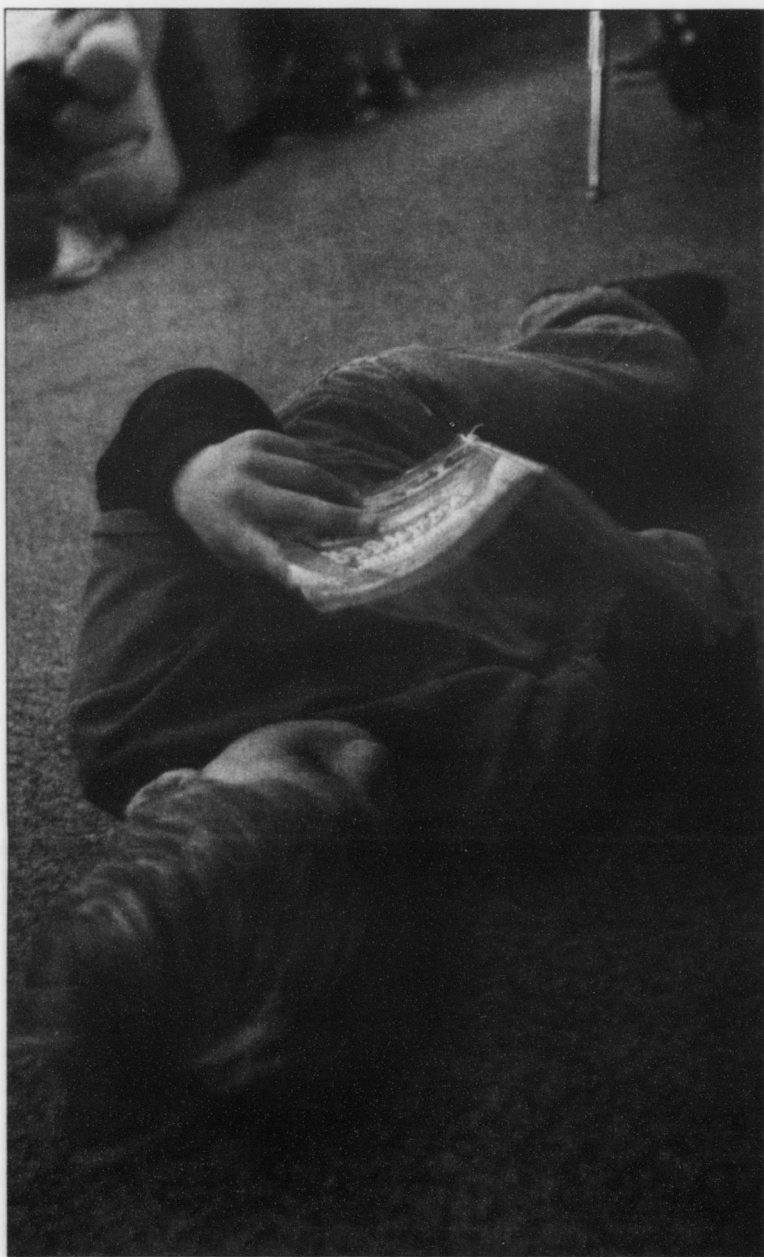
The UNC Ballroom Dance Team performed at the Read-A-Ton's kick-off assembly Tuesday morning, said Susan Miller, a PTA member coordinating the Read-A-Ton.

At the end of the two weeks, the dance team will perform at the closing assembly on April 18 with a surprise guest, and prizes will be awarded to students who have spent the most time reading.

"The last prize was a stomp rocket," said Elizabeth Lewis, 7, another student in Coleman's class reading "Miles of Smiles" by Bruce Lansky. "This year I'm gonna try and win a disco ball."

Students can win prizes based on the minutes they spend reading at home and at school. For example, a student who reads between one minute and 300 minutes

SEE READ, PAGE 9



Quinn Jooss, 7, reads Tuesday in preparation for Mary Scroggs Elementary School's Read-A-Ton, which begins today. The schoolwide goal is to accumulate 1 million minutes of reading in two weeks.

SEE PAGE 12 FOR THE CANDIDATES' ABBREVIATED EDITOR PLATFORMS, AND GO ONLINE TO READ THE COMPLETE VERSIONS

DeOrnellas pushes accessibility Nichols stresses collaboration

BY MARY COLE ALLEN
 STAFF WRITER

It was a love for the newsroom that led junior Elizabeth DeOrnellas to The Daily Tar Heel in 2005.

The English major and creative writing and Spanish minor from Fairfax, Va., had already spent countless hours working as editor-in-chief at her high school newspaper.

And after meeting then-DTH Editor-in-Chief Ryan Tuck at Freshman Camp, DeOrnellas said she knew she wanted to be a part of the DTH.

Now, three years later, she is a contender for editor-in-chief against Managing Editor Allison Nichols. The two will go before an 11-member selection committee Saturday at the Carolina Inn, where one will be picked for the position.

"Leadership in the paper has always been something in the back of my mind," DeOrnellas said.

She has worked as a staff writer, as an assistant editor and now as editor of the state and national desk.

"It's really interesting to have worked at all the different levels," she said. "It has given me the opportunity to meet so many incredible people on staff."

If selected as editor-in-chief, DeOrnellas plans to emphasize the teaching aspect of the DTH and bridge the gaps between different desks.

"There are ways we can streamline our operations to make it



State & National Editor Elizabeth DeOrnellas knew she wanted to work on the newspaper after meeting a former editor at Freshman Camp.

easier for our editors and writers," she said. "You end up with a better product and more experience."

By focusing on connecting the desks, DeOrnellas said the newsroom will become a better environment.

"We lose such a big part of our staff solely due to burnout from the long hours that can come with working," she said. "But if you have an enjoyable newsroom atmosphere, it will help everyone work better and make our overall product better."

DeOrnellas also has a goal of expanding and maximizing online and multimedia resources to better

reach readers.

"We've laid a great foundation with our multimedia, but we need to keep growing and stay at the forefront of that medium to give our readers everything they need," she said.

Another part of DeOrnellas' platform involves making the DTH more accessible to readers.

"Unfortunately letters to the editor are a dialogue that only goes halfway," she said.

To remedy that situation, DeOrnellas wants to expand the

SEE DEORNELLAS, PAGE 9

BY MARY COLE ALLEN
 STAFF WRITER

When junior Allison Nichols came to UNC in 2005 she signed up to be a part of several student organizations.

One of the groups Nichols decided to join was The Daily Tar Heel. And it was at the DTH that she found her niche, rising through the ranks to serve as the newspaper's managing editor this year.

"I fell in love with the DTH because in it I found a group of the most passionate and engaged people I'd ever met," said Nichols, who is from West Chester, Pa.

It is that love for the DTH that has led Nichols to where she is today — vying for the post of editor-in-chief. On Saturday she will go up against junior Elizabeth DeOrnellas, the state and national editor, and an 11-member committee will decide who will be the next editor.

Nichols, a comparative literature and journalism double major, began as a staff writer for the University desk and applied to be an assistant University editor, though she was not chosen.

But when that door closed, a window opened for Nichols.

"The state and national desk editor took a colossal chance on me at the time and made me an assistant editor — that's where I fell in love with journalism," she said.

As the managing editor, Nichols said she misses writing, but she



Managing Editor Allison Nichols joined several student groups after arriving at UNC and at the paper found that journalism was her passion.

enjoys working with all of the desks, which encompass both the visual and the writing sides.

"The job of managing editor has given me a ton of knowledge about how to put the paper together," Nichols said.

If chosen, Nichols said she plans to make some internal changes to the DTH.

"If we change things on the inside, it will better serve our readers by producing a better product," Nichols said.

One of her plans is to add a managing editor for online media and expand online content in hopes

that it will appeal to the busy student readers.

Nicole Norfleet, online editor for the DTH, said that as managing editor, Nichols has helped put multimedia ideas into action this year.

"She definitely supports expanding multimedia into the paper," Norfleet said.

"I always feel confident that I can go to her with an idea because she's not afraid to use other people's ideas."

Nichols said she also will focus

SEE NICHOLS, PAGE 9