

**CAMPUS BRIEFS**  
**UNC Achordants recruiting for next year with auditions**

The Achordants will hold auditions this week for next year's group. The oldest all-male a cappella group will have auditions April 16 to April 18, and all male singers are invited to come. For more information, visit [www.achordants.com](http://www.achordants.com).

**Speaker gives insight with Holocaust survivor stories**

Christopher Browning, a UNC history professor, gave a presentation Monday night about his experience with Holocaust survivors. Browning's research focuses on the testimonies of Starachowice survivors. Browning, who has been at UNC since 1999, has published seven books about the Holocaust. His lecture was one of eight that the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies has presented this year. Visit University News at [dailytarheel.com](http://dailytarheel.com) for the full story.

**CITY BRIEFS**  
**Arrested activist alleges unconstitutionality of law**

About 25 people gathered in front of the Franklin Street post office to rally in support of the student protester arrested in November.

Tamara Tal, a member of Students for a Democratic Society, was scheduled to appear in court Monday and planned to plead not guilty to a charge of failure to disperse.

Tal's lawyer, Al McSurely, filed a motion alleging that the Chapel Hill town ordinance addressing crowds is unconstitutional.

The ordinance states that it is unlawful for a person to refuse a police request to disperse from blocking any street, sidewalk, alley or public walkway.

Much of the rally focused on the police department's handling of Tal's case. Police officers were on hand Monday.

"We support their right to protest as long as they're not infringing on the rights of others," police Sgt. Danny Lloyd said.

Tal's court appearance was postponed until May 12 because the arresting officer was sick.

Tal said her arrest would not deter her from future protests. "I'm always going to speak out against what I think is wrong," she said.

**Chatham sheriff's deputies shoot man during search**

A Latino man was shot by a Chatham County Sheriff's Office deputy while officers were trying to search a home at 75 Irene Court, Siler City, for illegal narcotics, according to a press release from Chief of Staff Maj. Gary Blankenship of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies entered the mobile home at about 11 p.m. Sunday and found a man armed with a handgun. Several shots were fired.

The man was treated at the scene immediately and was transported by helicopter to UNC Hospitals. He is in serious but stable condition.

The shooting is being investigated by the State Bureau of Investigation.

A search of the residence following the shooting found several kilos of narcotics, which were seized.

**High school cellist honored as top string performer**

An East Chapel Hill High School junior was honored Monday as the top string performer from North Carolina at the Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle's inaugural Competition for Young String Soloists.

Alan Toda-Ambaras, who has been studying cello since he was 4 years old, received the Thomas S. Kenan award and \$1,000.

"The performance level of these young musicians was phenomenal," said Bob Greczyn, president of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, which sponsored the competition, in a press release.

The competition was open was open to all 16- to 23-year-old string instrumentalists not under professional management who lived in the United States.

**STATE BRIEFS**  
**Presidential candidates plan for Tax Day across the state**

Barack Obama's campaign will hold house parties and meetings today to discuss his plan for the N.C. economy, released last Friday and available at [nc.barackobama.com](http://nc.barackobama.com).

Those who attend Obama's Tax Day meetings will read and discuss the plan and will receive a conference call briefing from an Obama adviser. The closest forum to UNC will be held at the home of Monica Price, located at 1912 Ann Ave. in Raleigh.

— From staff and wire reports

**Lie-in comes year after Va. Tech Council hears housing concern**

BY DANIELLE KUCERA  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

The one-year anniversary of the shootings at Virginia Tech is sparking student action at UNC and across the country in the form of lie-in protests.

At noon Wednesday, the N.C. chapters of Million Mom March will ask students to call for "more sensible" gun laws by lying down near Gardner Hall in Polk Place.

The 75-chapter organization speaks out against gun violence.

Any student that lies down in Wednesday's protest represents one person killed by a gun in the U.S. So far, 80 lie-ins in 33 states have been organized this year.

"We are not against hunters, guns for private protection or collectors of guns," states the group's Web site, [proteasguns.com](http://proteasguns.com). "We are for background checks for gun purchases and keeping guns out of the hands of criminals, dangerous individuals and people not capable of handling a gun responsibly."

According to the National Education Association Health Information Network, the U.S. has greater gun safety problems than any other country.

Children and teenagers in the U.S. are 16 times more likely to be murdered with a gun and 11 times more likely to commit suicide with a gun than children and teens in 25 other

industrialized countries combined.

"I think that gun violence on college campuses is worrisome because when you come to a university it's like your new home ... and when you have all these scary things going on it's not very reassuring," said Leslie Gordon, a freshman who supports the protest.

Although several colleges are participating, there are some students with broader viewpoints.

Senior Ryan Jenkins, for instance, is a member of the Tar Heel Rifle and Pistol Club, and he said he believes in greater gun control but not a ban.

According to Americans for Gun Safety, 20 of the 22 U.S. gun laws are not enforced, and only 2 percent

of federal gun crimes were actually prosecuted from 2000 to 2002, according to U.S. Department of Justice data.

To call national attention to statistics such as these, there will be a lie-in at the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., after which participants will march to the U.S. Capitol Grounds.

This year, citizens from Maine to Texas have pledged to participate.

At UNC, students are invited to join the lie-in as a tribute to Eve Carson, though that is not the focus of the event.

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

**Council hears housing concern**

**Easing of water rules also OK'd**

BY MAX ROSE  
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

A group of local homeowners still believes their housing concerns have not been addressed.

Eight Culbreth Park households will receive home inspections, which might lead to later improvements, the Chapel Hill Town Council decided Monday.

But the residents say they want bigger change because the agreement that helped them find affordable housing in 1990 now prevents them from selling or renovating their homes.

Doris Lee, an accountant who works at UNC, originally submitted a petition in September 2007 after she could not take out a \$30,000

loan to make renovations on her house.

"To me, it's not acceptable," she said.

The council's compromise

came after the committee on affordable housing met with residents and a representative from the Orange County Housing and Land Trust.

The town originally provided a \$14,000 second mortgage to the people who bought the housing in 1990. They agreed that when residents sold their homes, they would have to pay back an amount determined by a shared equity agreement.

Residents said they wanted the agreement revised because they would be unable to afford a Chapel Hill house if they wanted to move.

Karen Kandah, president of the homeowners' association, said she would have to pay the town \$75,000 if she sold her house now.

"It doesn't pay to put investment into our homes if the city is going to take most of our profit," Kandah told the council.

The money from homeowners goes back into providing affordable housing in the town of Chapel Hill.

"The town doesn't make money on affordable housing," Mayor Kevin Foy said. "The town invests a lot of money."

**Drought concerns remain**

Police will now ease enforcement of water restrictions after the Orange Water and Sewer Authority moved from Stage 3 to Stage 1 on Thursday.

The council agreed to allow Foy to direct police officers to return to enforcing the lower restrictions.

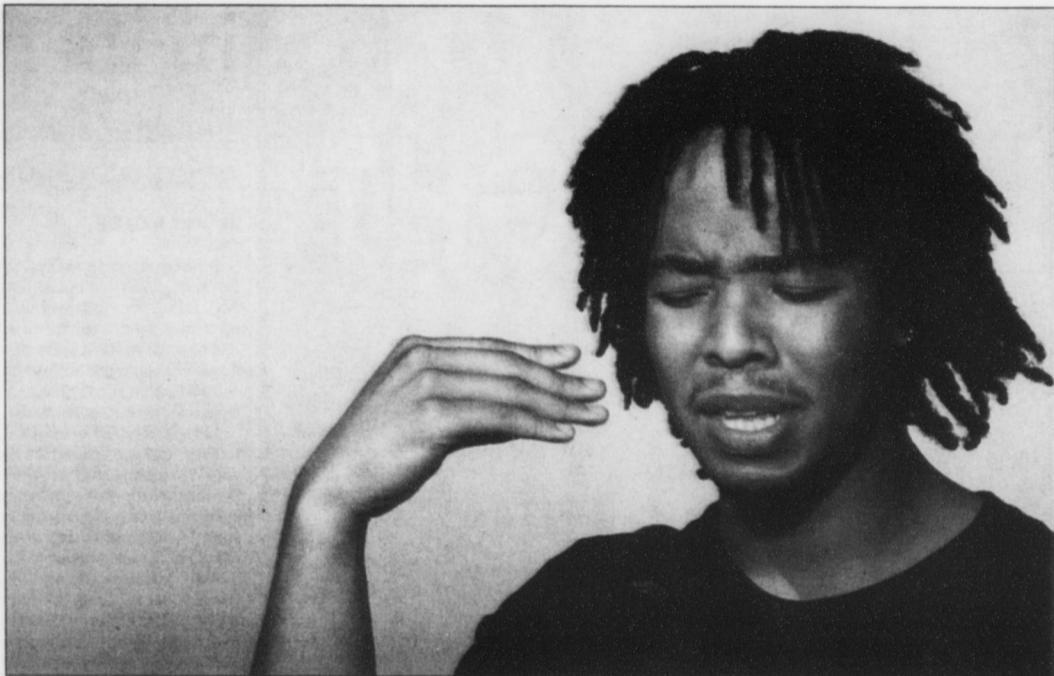
Although OWASA controls water rates, the mayor must issue a proclamation that directs police enforcement.

That came only after representatives from OWASA received an initially frosty welcome.

SEE TOWN COUNCIL, PAGE 7

*"No limits. It gives us the ability to have no limits."*

ANTHONY BARTLETT, EROT PRESIDENT



Ebony Readers/Onyx Theater member junior Ron McGill performs "Guns for the sake of 21" at the group's show "Free Verse" on Monday night in the Great Hall. The show featured solo spoken word performances and additional sets by rapper GZAZ and Harmonyx.

**WORDS FLOW FREELY**

**EROT hosts spoken word poetry show**

BY ZACK LEVINE  
STAFF WRITER

The original poetry of about a dozen students flowed out of the Great Hall on Monday night, as members of Ebony Readers/Onyx Theaters took to the stage.

The performers touched on numerous topics including relationships, politics, ethnicity and life in general. Others, like one group that made a break-dancing video, chose to simply entertain the audience.

Entitled "Free Verse: A Spoken Word Joint," the show presented a multicultural and multiethnic point of view on a variety of aspects of life. The audience watched as performers went on stage and presented poetry in different ways, including memorized readings, songs, raps and videos.

EROT, a subgroup of the Black Student Movement that puts on two theatrical performances per year, has performed this show for three years. It gives the writers of EROT

a chance to express themselves personally in any way they want, EROT President Anthony Bartlett said.

"We do this show because it's a way for us to do the pieces we write for ourselves," he said. Bartlett performed his poem "I Think Therefore I Am Original" at the show.

"The single fact of life is that we die. Well what am I going to do about it other than try to figure out why I'm alive in the first place," he stated contemplatively.

Sophomore Justin Byers said that the show was entertaining and that he has been to some of EROT's performances before.

"I like poetry. EROT always puts on entertaining shows," he said. "I mostly like the funny stuff, but the deep poetry is good, too."

Byers said he especially liked a performance called "She Rose" that presented a girl's life and sent a message that overcoming racism means nothing if sexism and homophobia still exist.

A "spit competition" — a competition between two final poets — rounded out the show. In the end, the contest was decided a tie, and both participants won \$50.

"As stressful as it was, it was completely 100 percent awesome," co-winner Phia

Nicholson said. "It definitely got me more interested in EROT."

EROT promoted the event through Facebook and advertised in the Pit. More than 100 people attended.

"We passed out flyers with random pictures on them," Bartlett said. "A lot of the advertisement didn't have anything to do with the show. It was more abstract."

The organization aimed to raise between \$500 and \$600 in proceeds from Monday night's show, Bartlett said. The money goes to helping EROT put on future performances and shows. The group is coming out with a new CD and plans to donate the earnings from those sales to an undecided organization.

"I don't ever miss an EROT show," sophomore Crystal Love said. "All of the members have their own individual style that they bring. I come here just to get a laugh."

The members of EROT particularly enjoy this show, Bartlett said.

"No limits," he said. "It gives us the ability to have no limits."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

**Candidates tackle economy**

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK  
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

With the national economy lagging, candidates for N.C. governor must face voters' concerns about how the state government will soften the effects in its own backyard.

The next governor must help complete the state's transition from traditional manufacturing and agricultural jobs to a knowledge-based economy.

Given the state of the national economy under a Republican president and the fact that Democrat-led North Carolina

has fared better than many other states, Democratic candidates for N.C. governor could have an edge, UNC political science professor Tom Carsey said.

"It will depend a little bit on the comparison that voters make in their heads," he added.

"Will they compare North Carolina's economy to other states or will they compare North Carolina's economy now to how it was two years ago, when it was growing rapidly?"

The state hit economic rough patches a few years ago. The response — a diversification of the economy — has helped lessen the impact of the recent downturn, said N.C. Department of Commerce

**Governor hopefuls' plans for the economy**

**Richard Moore:** "We can't sit back and watch a third of our children drop out of high school anymore."

[www.richardmoore.org/issues/issueArticles/educating.html](http://www.richardmoore.org/issues/issueArticles/educating.html)

**Beverly Perdue:** "I'm working on both a green economy, wrapped around the environmental opportunities in science and technology, and developing a green collar workforce so our state looks different."

[bevperdue.com/buildingnewNC.asp](http://bevperdue.com/buildingnewNC.asp)

**Bill Graham:** "We need to help business with tax incentives, with other incentives to allow them to continue to retrain workers to stay on the cutting edge."

[graham2008.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Issues.View&Issue\\_id=c9587dc6-0525-4991-a130-9ae7f9cc6717](http://graham2008.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Issues.View&Issue_id=c9587dc6-0525-4991-a130-9ae7f9cc6717)

Public Information Officer Charles Winkler.

And North Carolina is currently meeting its fiscal targets, according to a report issued in February by the state's Fiscal Research Division.

However, the report cautioned that revenue growth will continue to slow "dramatically" in the last five

**Pat McCrory:** "I'm a strong advocate of the trade and technical school concept. And also rewarding those universities that help fill those gaps of trade, of labor."

[www.patmccrory.com/docs/issues/Quality-of-Life.html](http://www.patmccrory.com/docs/issues/Quality-of-Life.html)

**Bob Orr:** "The governor has to be prepared to deal with revenue being reduced and a need for perhaps strengthening our safety net for individuals who are laid off."

[www.orr2008.com/issues/EcDev/EconDev.pdf](http://www.orr2008.com/issues/EcDev/EconDev.pdf)

**Fred Smith:** "We've got to create the best environment so that the private sector can make jobs, and to do that we've got to educate our workforce."

[2008.joinfred.com/web/content/issues/creating-jobs/](http://2008.joinfred.com/web/content/issues/creating-jobs/)

months of the fiscal year that ends June 30, potentially making future targets more difficult to reach.

North Carolina has planned carefully for such challenges.

State officials were more conservative and prudent in estimates so that a slowdown wouldn't put

SEE ECONOMY, PAGE 7

**Colleges make plans for budget crunches**

**N.C. better off than many states**

BY AMY EAGLEBURGER  
SENIOR WRITER

Economic concerns have forced cutbacks in higher education funding nationwide.

In 2009, 22 states are expected to face budget shortfalls totaling at least \$39 billion, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Those deficits have led states such as Florida and Kentucky to decrease higher education investment.

"Whenever we've had recession before, there have been budget cuts to higher education," UNC economics professor Stanley Black said.

Yet while other southeastern states struggle to find the funding to meet budget needs, the N.C. Office of State Budget and Management reports that North Carolina is meeting the revenue targets set by forecasters last year.

**Other schools face shortfalls**

A budget crunch of about \$3 billion has forced Florida to issue a 6 percent cut in higher education, with further cuts likely.

Florida State University has seen

*"This is my 40th year in higher education, and this is as difficult as I've seen."*

JOHN CARNAGHI, FSU SENIOR VP

\$16 million of its budget evaporate, said John Carnaghi, FSU senior vice president for finance and administration.

Measures the school has taken to reduce spending include raising tuition, leaving vacant positions unfilled and turning away students who would otherwise be well qualified.

"This is my 40th year in higher education, and this is as difficult as I've seen," Carnaghi said.

"We're looking at the possibility of closing units, reorganizing the structure of the university. There is no question that this is going to change the nature of the university."

Florida's economic woes stem largely from the slowdown in tourism, upon which the state depends heavily, and a drop in property val-

SEE BUDGETS, PAGE 7