

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, Wednesday's pg. 5 article "Commissioners hear school funds requests" incorrectly states that the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools' 2008-09 budget is \$6.8 million. That is the minimum increase the district says it needs to continue operations at present levels. The district's full budget request is for \$61,193,360. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Starbucks gives free coffee, promotes campus location

Starbucks handed out free samples of coffee Wednesday at Lenoir and Rams Head dining halls.

The promotional hand-out occurred in anticipation of the late-May opening of Starbucks' Rams Head location.

The new Starbucks, which will open in the space previously occupied by End Zone Sports Cafe, originally was slated to open in September 2007.

Construction delays prevented the coffee shop from opening on time.

Students continue to protest workers' rights violations

Today marks the beginning of the second week of protest for students camping out in South Building.

Members of Student Action with Workers said they will stay in the administrative building until Chancellor James Mooser signs onto the Designated Suppliers Program.

The protestors want the University to stop contracting with apparel manufacturers that violate workers' rights.

Visit University News at dailytarheel.com for the full story.

UNC a cappella group to perform at Memorial Hall

The Loreleis, one of UNC's all-female a cappella groups, will host their spring concert at 4 p.m. Saturday in Memorial Hall.

The 16-member group was established at UNC in 1981 and regularly tours nationally and internationally.

The group's new CD, *On The Record*, will be released at the concert.

Public radio station requests opinions on local news issues

North Carolina Public Radio, also known as WUNC 91.5, is asking residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro to join its new Public Insight Network, intended to help the station's journalists better cover local topics.

"It's a way for us to cover the news from the ground up," said Yasmeen Khan, a Public Insight Network analyst.

"We're building a network of people with different hobbies, interests and expertise."

The station will request community input on such topics as green development, immigration and workplace injuries, Khan said.

"This information helps us determine what's important to listeners in a given story and shows us angles and topics we might not have found otherwise."

CITY BRIEF

Local students raising money to visit civil rights sites

While most students learn about the civil rights movement in a history class, a group of local students will have the opportunity this summer to learn about it first-hand.

Ten chaperones will accompany local middle and high school students to Atlanta to visit the King Center, the Georgia Aquarium, and Morehouse and Spelman Colleges.

Although the trip is being partially funded from donations by the police department, one of the stipulations is that the students also raise money.

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

STATE BRIEF

Forty-nine former Edwards supporters endorse Obama

Barack Obama's campaign announced Wednesday the endorsement of 49 of John Edwards' most prominent N.C. supporters.

The group included Edwards' former National General Chairman, Ed Turlington. Many cited Obama's commitment to change, as well as his efforts on behalf of working Americans and against special interests as foundation for their support.

These lawyers, business leaders and public officials join the ranks of three N.C. superdelegates as Obama supporters — U.S. Reps. David Price, Mel Watt and G.K. Butterfield, all Democrats.

— From staff and wire reports.

Country star to play benefit

BY NASH ROBERTS

STAFF WRITER

Sometimes, it's more about who you know than what you know.

This holds especially true for Reece Holbrook, who was 2 years old when he was diagnosed with childhood leukemia in September 2004.

Soon after, Reece's parents — Chad, UNC's associate head baseball coach, and Jennifer, Roy Williams' administrative secretary — joined with friends from the North Carolina athletic community to start the Reece Holbrook Golf Classic.

The charity was organized to help cover the cost of Reece's leukemia treatments.

On April 30, the Classic will incorporate a new event outside of the golf tournament — a performance by country music star Vince

Gill at Memorial Hall.

"The first year was humongous," said Chad Holbrook.

"We got celebrities like Michael Jordan, Mia Hamm and even Peyton and Eli Manning to help out."

The Holbrooks' golf classic since has become an annual event, now aimed at raising money for the N.C. Children's Hospital's Division of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology.

"The Chapel Hill community reached out and opened up their arms and took us in," Jennifer Holbrook said. "It's just been incredible."

Today, Reece Holbrook is in remission from his leukemia after coming off of treatment in November 2007.

"He's an incredible kid. He's obviously my hero for what he's been

ATTEND THE CONCERT

Time: 8 p.m. Wednesday
Location: Memorial Hall
Info: www.unchealthcare.org/events

through," Jennifer Holbrook said.

UNC athletics and the Nashville country music scene collaborated to make Gill's performance possible.

The concert was put together with help from Kevin Stallings, former assistant coach to Roy Williams at Kansas and now head coach of the men's basketball team at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

Stallings, whose son Jacob is an incoming UNC baseball recruit, is good friends with Gill.

"Kevin went to Vince and asked him if he would do the event," Chad Holbrook said. "Vince called back the next day and said he'd only do it

on one condition, if he wasn't paid."

Though this is the first time a concert has been incorporated into the Classic, its planning committee hopes to include more concerts if the Memorial Hall show is a success.

"I am definitely a Vince Gill fan, and yes, I certainly plan on attending the concert," Williams said.

Former UNC basketball star Eric Montross will be present to introduce Gill.

"These events have been some of the most satisfying things I have ever been involved with," Williams said.

"Seeing young Reece go through these last three years and do so well will always bring a smile to my face."

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Land trust seeks support

BY JOSEPH R. SCHWARTZ

SENIOR WRITER

A local affordable housing leader is cautioning the Chapel Hill Town Council that his organization needs funding, not more homes that they are ill-equipped to sell and maintain.

Robert Dowling, executive director of the Orange County Community Land Trust, has been raising the issue for about a year now, but spoke up most recently at Monday night's meeting on the redevelopment of Town House Apartments into the more luxurious Residences at Grove Park.

Council members, adhering to a comprehensive plan, asked developers to either make 15 percent of their units affordable to low- and moderate-income buyers or to provide a payment in lieu. The land trust, created in 2000, is charged with selling and maintaining those units.

Grove Park developers are proposing to make 15 percent of the bedrooms in the complex, 52 total, affordable and to put them in one- or two-bedroom condos.

But rather than locking into this plan, Dowling is pushing for the council to leave payment in lieu on the table because Grove Park units are too small for families and because the land trust is already beginning to see an increase in available units overwhelm its six-person staff.

"I'm asking (the council) to allow flexibility to the developer such that they could make the decision once the building gets under way," he said, noting construction is at least a year away leaving them with enough time to assess demand for affordable condos.

No matter which course they choose, Dowling and council members said Grove Park raises a separate question about how the land trust can maximize its potential impact.

The group is projecting it will need to sell 28 units this year, 84 next year and 110 two years down the line, but they only have two realtors, though they want to hire two more.

"We simply don't have enough staffing capacity to sell all those units," Dowling said, noting that they currently have 17 units to show.

"I wanted to basically alert the council that if they rely on us to implement their inclusionary housing policy, they have to be cognizant of the stresses that are on this organization and all the volume that's coming on us."

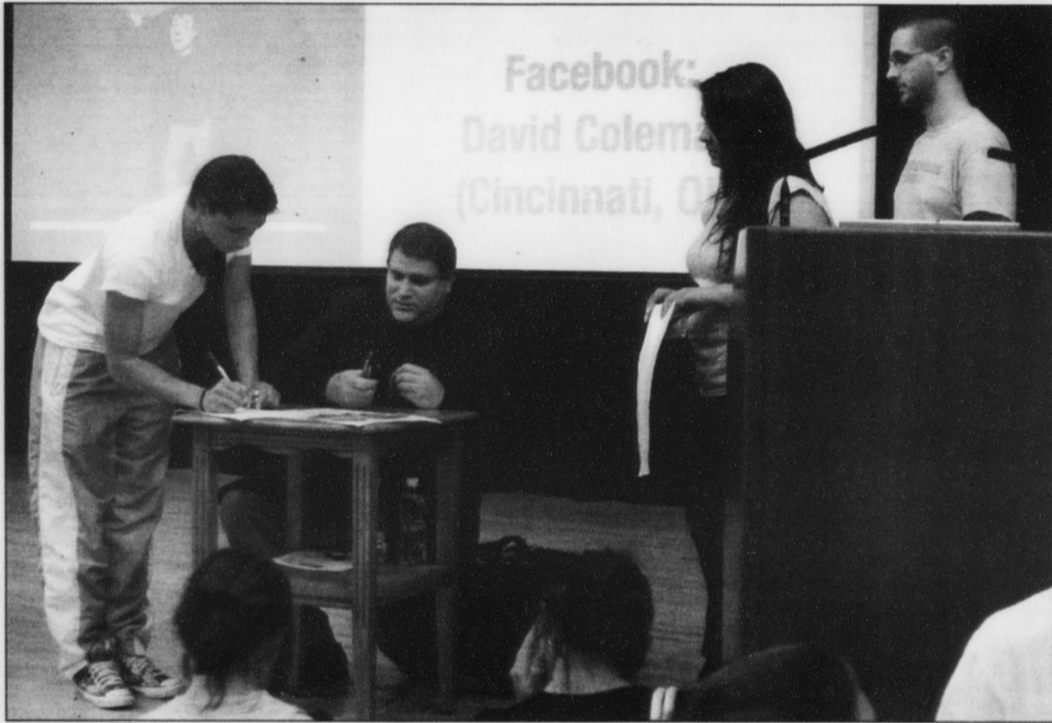
While council member Bill Strom said he is cognizant of that, he is undecided on Grove Park.

Most important to him, he said, is the community goal of creating as much affordable housing as possible, adding that the land trust might need to contract with outside realtors to achieve that.

"It'd be a shame to not be receiving these units, and I'm interested in an organizational model that can grow and manage to make this a success," he said. "That said, I'm interested in creating some flexibility if need be."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

"I was shocked when he talked to that guy straight. That was a real situation, and he told him the truth." JERIN JONES, JUNIOR, ON "DATING DOCTOR" DAVID COLEMAN



David Coleman, the "Dating Doctor" that Will Smith played in "Hitch," signs posters and copies of his book after his lecture in the Great Hall on Wednesday. Coleman told students how to know if there is a reciprocity of interest in a relationship and how to handle a breakup.

LOVE DOCTOR ON CALL

Coleman gives out dating advice to students

BY SETH WRIGHT

STAFF WRITER

Students seeking love advice got their answer Wednesday night, even if it hurt.

"Dating Doctor" David Coleman, the real-life inspiration for the 2005 movie "Hitch," gave dating wisdom to more than 150 students in the Student Union's Great Hall.

"I realize I look a lot more like Kevin James than I do Will Smith," Coleman said. James plays the fumbling love-struck client, while Smith is the suave dating doctor.

He started the two-hour show by telling the audience that he would be honest, even if it sounded harsh.

Coleman bluntly told one upset audience member that his ex-girlfriend was no longer interested and wanted to pursue other men.

Jerin Jones, a junior who attended the speech, said she was surprised that he lived up to his promise.

"I was shocked when he talked to that guy

straight," she said. "That was a real situation, and he told him the truth."

Students were given a 30-minute period to ask questions during Coleman's presentation, the last event of the year presented by the Carolina Union Activities Board's performing arts committee.

Some students asked questions such as why males never returned calls or what it means when men call daily to talk about other women.

One student asked why women expect men to read their minds, even when they say it's not necessary.

Coleman answered each question easily, as if he had heard it a thousand times.

Coleman told male audience members how to tell if a woman is interested in them through signs such as prolonged eye contact or sustained proximity.

He also clued in male students on the best Valentine's Day gift to give a woman.

He said to give her flowers the day before and attach a small note reading, "No one as special as you should have to wait another day."

"You are about to have some serious sex," Coleman joked about women's response to this gift.

Coleman made his audience laugh with sex jokes and ridiculous pick-up lines.

"Hey, baby, come sit on my knee," he said. "Not my left knee. Not my right knee, but my wee-knee."

Marie Monroe, chairwoman of CUAB's performing arts committee, said a miscommunication prevented the performing arts committee from properly advertising the event — resulting in 300 empty seats.

But Coleman said he prefers smaller crowds so he can better advise and connect with his tight-knit audience.

"Life goes by too fast," Coleman told a student. "Don't ever settle."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Impact of local currency mixed

BY AMY EAGLEBURGER

SENIOR WRITER

When the NCPlenty, a local currency used in Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Pittsboro, started up six years ago it was hailed as an innovative way to support the local economy — but the results have been a decidedly mixed bag.

Weaver Street Market was one of the first businesses to accept full payment for goods in the alternative currency. The currency flooded in, but the store found that it had few ways to use the currency itself. Once dollars are traded in for Plentys, they can't be changed back into dollars.

"They tended to accumulate here," said Ruffin Slater, general manager of Weaver Street Market. "We don't have a lot of ways to recycle them."

Eventually the store found a T-shirt maker in Carrboro that accepted Plentys, and now Weaver Street only accepts half payment in the currency.

"When you get the Plenty you have to spend it," Slater said.

The NCPlenty started up in 2002 with about a dozen stores accepting the currency. The full Plenty is worth \$10 but the currency also comes in half-Plentys and quarter-Plentys.

More than 150 businesses and individuals in Carrboro, Pittsboro

and surrounding areas accept the currency for some percentage of payment. But usage has dropped significantly since the introduction.

"There just doesn't seem to be as much in circulation," said Vance Remick, one of the owners of the Pittsboro General Store. He estimated that at the beginning, 20 to 30 customers per week would come in and use the Plenty to make their purchases. Now less than five customers per week do.

With local currency, consumers have to adjust what they want to what they can get. Users of the Plenty have to seek substitutes for goods, even if the goods are not perfect substitutes or are more expensive.

"It might not be the best for immediate personal economy, but it's best for the community," said Susan Witt, executive director of the E.F. Shumacher Society, which advocates for the use of local currency. "If your full goal is to get the cheapest now, then the local economy is not for you."

The inflexibility of the currency, while somewhat frustrating at times, has brought in new customers, one of the promised benefits.

"(Customers) would come use them at the store when they weren't necessarily going to come down to the store," Remick said. "Because they have the Plenty they will come

in. It just makes sense to do this."

His only suggestion to improve the Plenty was for more customers and more businesses to use it.

Mary DeMare, one of the general managers at the Chatham Marketplace, a farmers' cooperative, echoed that sentiment. The store chooses to take 100 percent payment in Plentys, even though it would be an admittedly better decision to accept a smaller portion.

"I really feel like the Plenty is an underutilized resource for the area, and I would like to use it as much as possible," she said.

As to the long-term success of the Plenty, the odds are not favorable. Ed Collom, a sociology professor at the University of Southern Maine, said that 80 percent of local currency systems eventually shut down.

"Even if the thing flops they're gaining new customers," Collom said of the businesses involved. "I can't imagine that there are seriously hurt by participating in local currency."

The key to success is the enthusiasm of the community for the currency, Collom said. There are risks, but for the NCPlenty members, it's worth the community reward.

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

2 UNC study abroad partners face scrutiny

BY LAUREN BERRY

STAFF WRITER

As the University pursues its goal of becoming a leading global institution, increasing the percentage of students who study abroad has been a key part of UNC's resume.

But an inquiry to see if study abroad providers receive preferential treatment from universities could reduce students' program options.

Associate Dean for Study Abroad Bob Miles said the office will cut ties with two providers, should questionable practices be found.

The Institute for Study Abroad at Butler University and the Institute for the International Education of Students combine to make up 25 of UNC's 184 study abroad offerings by third-party providers.

The investigation, conducted by the state attorney general's office of New York, is aimed at uncovering agreements that limit options and increase prices for students.

"I don't feel that we are beholden to anyone," Miles said. "If there is something that comes out of this investigation, we would have to take a hard look at not using that provider."

Five study abroad providers and 15 schools received subpoenas in August and January, respectively.

Miles said he did not know if UNC would be subpoenaed.

"Right now I have no concern about the agreements that we have," Miles said. "I can say that I have not been offered any inducements nor has anyone in my staff that may have caused us to choose a provider."

The subpoenas ask how and by whom agreements are made with providers and any benefits schools might receive, said John Milgram, press secretary for New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo.

Milgram said he cannot say if more subpoenas will be issued because the inquiry is ongoing. He compared the process to the attorney general's investigation into similar practices in the student loan industry, in which multiple rounds of subpoenas have been issued.

UNC's study abroad office works with IFSA-Butler on its Cooperative Programs in the Americas offerings in Argentina and Chile, in addition to programs at Cambridge and Oxford universities. Seventeen IES programs are offered to UNC students in places ranging from India to China.

Study abroad advisers said that students often come to them with

SEE STUDY ABROAD, PAGE 13