

The Daily Tar Heel

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2008

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RALLY IN RALEIGH

Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama travels to Raleigh on Tuesday for a town-hall meeting on the economy. The crowd's questions spanned many other topics.

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FOOTBALL PRACTICE

Watch Saturday's scrimmage and listen to commentary.

PIT RESERVATION RULES

See the full policy so your group won't be kicked out of the Pit.

TOWN HALL MEETING

View photographs from Sen. Barack Obama's Raleigh visit.



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PICTURE-PERFECT HOME

Artist Gayle Stott Lowry opens an exhibit of paintings featuring homes from Raleigh's historic Oakwood section.

this day in history

AUGUST 20, 1986

University Lake, Chapel Hill's main water supply, rises more than 8 inches in three hours, though the water level remained 29.75 inches below normal capacity. North Carolina had not seen such a severe drought in its history.

corrections

Due to a reporting error, Monday's front page story "Details of teenager's death still uncertain" states that Fraley Atlas was hospitalized last year for dehydration. Atlas was not hospitalized, he was treated by EMS at home.

Due to an editing error, Tuesday's front page story "Honor code amended" said that any Honor Court charges against junior Chris Kearney related to his Sunday drunken driving accident would not fall under the revised honor code. The revised guidelines took effect on June 3. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the errors.

Today's weather

Mostly sunny
H 89, L 67

Thursday weather

Mostly sunny,
H 87, L 65

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Lawson granted prayer

Prosecution: no special treatment

BY DAVE PEARSON
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Ty Lawson made a brief court appearance Tuesday to plead guilty and end the story which began with his June 6 arrest for driving after consuming alcohol underage.

"I don't think anybody will ever see Mr. Lawson again in a courtroom," said Ann Petersen, the attorney who represented Lawson.

Judge Alonzo B. Coleman granted Lawson a prayer for judgment continued.

This means that Lawson admitted guilt but that he will not be convicted for the charge, Assistant

District Attorney Jeff Nieman said.

The charge would count as a prior conviction on any further charges, but Lawson will not have to put a conviction on job applications.

"It's a fine-line distinction of the law," Nieman said.

Lawson, 20, had a blood alcohol concentration of 0.03 when stopped. Legal intoxication is 0.08, but underage drivers aren't allowed to have any trace of alcohol.

Prosecutors dropped misdemeanor charges of a noise ordinance violation and driving with a revoked license as part of a plea agreement.

After the hearing Nieman asserted the Office of the District

SEE LAWSON, PAGE 4



DTH/DANIEL VAN NIEKERK

UNC basketball star Ty Lawson appeared in court Tuesday afternoon where he plead guilty to three misdemeanor counts.

UNC names inside man

Strauss, of dental school, goes South

BY ANDREW DUNN
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Ronald Strauss, a 34-year veteran of the dental school, has been selected as the new executive associate provost.

He fills the position Steve Allred vacated when he became provost at the University of Richmond this summer.

"I thought it was an exciting time for the University," Strauss said. "Particularly as the new chancellor articulates his vision, I hope I can help make that happen."

The executive associate provost helps the provost in day-to-day matters involving academic personnel, finances, facilities and activities among academic departments. The position also works with deans to carry out the University's academic plan.

Though Strauss said he does not have a specific agenda yet, he said he is committed to increasing UNC's commitment to public service and to retaining faculty.

He also said he wants to be accessible to students, similar to statements made by new Chancellor Holden Thorp.

The executive associate provost is a high-level administrative position. Allred made about \$218,000 per year.

Strauss said he worked with Allred on the chancellor's advisory committee in the past, and was impressed by his predecessor.

"I was struck by the integrity he brought to the position," Strauss said.

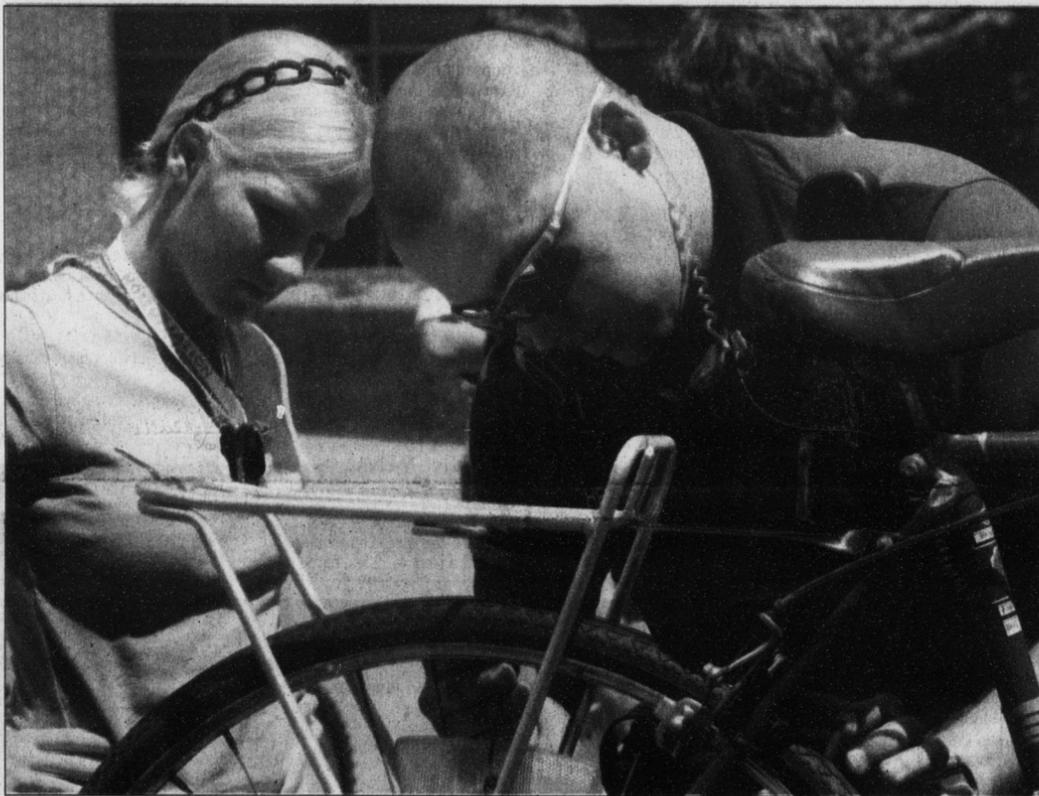
Allred had spent 26 years at UNC, counting his days as an undergraduate. He graduated in 1974 and started as a professor in the School of Government in 1986.

To keep the level of institutional knowledge in the position, the provost's office decided to only search internally for a replacement.

Provost Bernadette Gray-Little said she was looking for a candidate with extensive knowledge of UNC's policies and procedures and the school's educational mission, as well as the ability to work with students, faculty and administrators.

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'CYCLICIOUS' TIPS IN PIT



DTH/SARAH RIAZATI

J.T. Heinrich of the Department of Public Safety tunes first-year Stephanie Robinett's bike wheel in front of Davis Library on Tuesday afternoon. At the event, students were able to register their bicycles with DPS, pick up safety information and receive free tune-ups.

Event promotes using bicycles for transit

BY DANIELLE ADAMS
STAFF WRITER

Bicycles flooded the sidewalk between Davis Library and Lenoir Dining Hall on Tuesday as students got a crash course in cycling at UNC.

The event, "Cyclicious: A Celebration of Bicycle Transportation," was held as a way for the UNC community to learn the benefits of bicycling as transportation.

"As part of the wellness activity, we wanted to do this program the first week of school," said Sara Stahlman, a health educator for Campus Health Services.

"Bicycling has recently become more popular. And with gas prices so high, we felt that it was a good time to promote bicycling, and thus, Cyclicious."

Most who attended the three-hour long event brought their bikes with them.

Attendees received information about bike routes, bike and helmet fitting, bike shops, check-ups and learned how to put a bike on a bus.

Seniors Philip Freeman and Allan Sharpe attended Cyclicious as a way to register their bikes on campus.

The Department of Public Safety requires bikes on campus to be registered in case they are stolen and later recovered.

Freeman said his bike was vandalized when he was a sophomore, but he still prefers to ride around campus.

"Nothing is slower than walking," Freeman said. "I had a bike with me on campus since freshmen year, and it's a great way to get around."

Sharpe said it's nice to bike along local routes.

"Carrboro has some really nice trails," he said. "We go at least once a week, and our house is like a biking community."

But Stahlman said Cyclicious leaders agreed that both Chapel Hill and Carrboro need better paths.

"There are bike maps on campus, but it's like connect the dots," Stahlman said. "They don't connect in any way, so it's hard at the moment to bike where one would want to."

SEE CYCLICIOUS, PAGE 4

Workers want overtime pay

BY MARYANN BARONE
STAFF WRITER

A group of UNC housekeepers will try again today to reach a compromise with administrators regarding weekend schedules and overtime pay.

Housekeepers were hit with an unexpected change in their work schedules last winter when some were told they would have to work weekends and take a day off during the week.

In June, they stopped receiving overtime pay for the weekend work. UNC administrators said rising costs due to the economy made the changes necessary.

At 7:30 a.m. today, a housekeeper committee will have its third meeting with UNC department leaders to express their grievances.

"We're not getting treated the same as the rest of the University," said James Holman, a housekeeper on the committee. "We get paid less than anyone here."

SEE HOUSEKEEPERS, PAGE 4



DTH FILE PHOTO

Members of the On the Wake of Emancipation Campaign marched on April 2, 2001 to protest the mistreatment of minorities at UNC.

Shrinking student loans don't affect N.C., yet

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

While students nationwide are having a harder time getting adequate student loans, N.C. borrowers will remain sheltered for at least another year.

Cuts in loan subsidies and the lagging financial market have caused many private lenders to limit loan offerings, increase interest rates or leave the market entirely.

Many students rely on private loans to cover the difference between financial aid packages and college costs.

"It really was just the perfect storm of all these things coming together and it has made it very difficult for lenders to remain viable," said Tara Payne, vice president of corporate communication for the New Hampshire Higher Education Loan Corporation.

However, the N.C. State Education Assistance Authority, which provides the bulk of student loans in the state, will continue as

usual.

"I think we're in terrific shape. I'm optimistic," said Executive Director Steve Brooks. "We feel confident we'll be able to meet the needs of our students."

A private bond from the N.C. State Employees' Credit Union is largely responsible for NCSEAA's continued stability, Brooks said. It has helped generate the capital necessary to continue providing student loans.

"That was terrific help, that really was," Brooks said.

A federal program implemented last spring allows lending agencies to use the U.S. Department of Education as an insurer so that they can continue borrowing from banks. On their own, some agencies don't have strong enough credit.

In exchange for the support, the agencies are required to raise their interest rates.

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