

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Congress launches ethics inquiry

### Conflicting stories

► Sept. 30: Shaniqua McClendon and Anna Bays present Concept of Colors' funding request to the finance committee of Student Congress.

► Thursday: For a BUSI 405 assignment, McClendon discussed what occurred at the finance committee. She said she used the real event but tailored details to make a compelling story.

► Two students in the class reported the embellished story to Student Congress Speaker Tim Nichols.

► Tuesday, 6:19 p.m.: McClendon contacted Nichols clarifying she did not embellish the request to Congress.

► Tuesday evening: The request comes before Congress, which tables the request so the ethics committee can investigate the conflicting stories.

### Dispute over group's funding request

BY HILLARY ROSE OWENS AND ELLY SCHOFIELD

STAFF WRITERS

Student Congress will investigate whether the Concept of Colors' treasurer, Shaniqua McClendon, exaggerated the group's financial needs.

The modeling group's \$7,535 funding request is in question after Congress representatives heard that McClendon overstated the group's need from students in a class with her.

The group planned to use the money to buy costumes for fashion shows.

McClendon testified to Congress that she had forgotten to complete

an assignment for a business class. The assignment required her to bargain with a store worker to lower a sale price or to tell a story about a similar negotiation.

On the spot, she said she used last week's Congress finance committee meeting — where she first made the funding request — as an example of a time when she successfully bargained for more than she needed, saying that she expected the committee to cut the money significantly.

"It was mostly the way it was presented that made it seem like it was not true information," McClendon said.

"I don't remember exactly what

I said, but I don't think I implied that I just pulled numbers out of thin air."

McClendon's professor, Adam Grant, and at least two of her classmates informed Congress of what McClendon had said.

Though McClendon assured Congress that she had been truthful with them last week, many Congress members raised doubts about the validity of the request.

"It's our obligation to fund in the most economical way possible," said representative Harrison Brooks.

"If we were to pass this, we would be relinquishing all of our power and duty to the students."

Congress voted to table the funding bill until the ethics committee

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DTH/ALEXANDRA BRAWLEY

Senior Shaniqua McClendon asks Student Congress for forgiveness.



### sports | page 4

#### SWIMMING DIVES IN

The swimming and diving teams made their official returns to the pool this weekend marking the end of an unusual off-season.

### city | page 3

#### DAY OF ATONEMENT

Jews will observe Yom Kippur beginning at sundown today until sundown Thursday. By fasting and attending services, Jews will atone for their sins.



### features | page 3

#### FEEDING THE FEVER

Carolina Fever is looking at ways to keep members past their first year by offering incentives such as prizes and returning member sign-in lines.

### online | dailytarheel.com

#### SANTA BARBARA

Officials look to scale down unsanctioned Halloween party.

#### RHA BOARD

Residence Hall Association board hears kung fu proposal.

#### N.C. STATE FAIR

Officials say high gas prices won't prevent fair-goers.

### blogs.dailytarheel.com

#### REACTION TO THE DEBATE

State & National Editor Ariel Zirulnick liveblogged the presidential debate Tuesday. Read an analysis of the debate and hear students' reaction.

### this day in history

#### OCT. 8, 1988 ...

Renovation crews remove asbestos from the Student Union construction site, fearing that disturbances to the structure could make the carcinogen more dangerous.

### Today's weather

Partly cloudy  
H 74, L 62

### Thursday's weather

T-storms  
H 75, L 65

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## PALIN PAYS A VISIT



DTH/JESSE DEARING

Sarah Palin takes the stage before speaking at a Republican rally Tuesday night at Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum at East Carolina University in Greenville. Approximately 7,500 people were in the audience, which was a mixture of students and families.

### Stop is Palin's first of election season to N.C.

BY EMILY STEPHENSON

SENIOR WRITER

GREENVILLE — The fans packing East Carolina University's Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum had almost as much to say as Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin.

Purple-and-gold pom-poms waving, the crowd of about 7,500 hardly let Palin finish a sentence during Tuesday's rally, drowning out her words with cries of "U-S-A" and "Drill baby, drill."

And Palin had much more to say about



DTH ONLINE: Watch a video of Tuesday's rally at East Carolina University.



DTH ONLINE: View photos from Sarah Palin's first appearance in North Carolina.

running mate John McCain and his Democratic opponent Barack Obama than herself.

"Since my running mate won't say this on his own behalf, I have taken it upon myself to say it. Truthfully, John McCain is the only man in this race who has ever really fought for you," she said before waving a giant, purple foam finger in homage to the ECU fans filling the stands.

This campaign stop marked the presidential ticket's first public North Carolina rally in the general election season, and eastern N.C. voters in the crowd welcomed Palin with open arms.

"She's like a wholesome, all-American, God-Bless-America-type person," said Elizabeth Fornes, a 44-year-old Craven County resident who works in undergraduate admissions at ECU.

Fornes said she respects McCain and Palin because they stand for conservative, traditional values.

Palin kept her remarks straightforward, praising McCain's experience and reputation as a maverick in the U.S. Senate.

She also highlighted McCain's commitment to American troops and criticized Obama for promoting increased government spending.

"Government is not always the answer. In fact, too often, government is the problem," she said. "The phoniest claim in a campaign full of 'em is that Barack Obama is going to

SEE PALIN, PAGE 5

## Town might offer business incentives

### Weighing how to draw firms to area

BY DANIELLE KUCERA

SENIOR WRITER

Businesses that decide to locate on Franklin Street in the future may not have to worry about the traditionally high rent — because Chapel Hill might help pay.

After Optimal Technologies — a Canadian company that focuses on electricity solutions — rejected recruitment from Chapel Hill, town officials began preliminary discussions about how to make the area a more attractive place to do business.

The company chose Raleigh for 325 new jobs that pay about \$60,000 to \$70,000 per year

because of a downtown location and support from the city, said Ken Atkins, executive director of economic development in Wake County.

The company received \$325,000 through a state program and a matching grant from Raleigh, he said.

Chapel Hill does not offer similar incentives — something that got town officials talking about a change of policy, said Adam Klein, vice president for economic development and government relations for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce.

"That's sort of what I think sparked the conversation initially," he said.

SEE INCENTIVES, PAGE 5

## Show to explore sexuality, justice

BY KEVIN TURNER

ARTS EDITOR

After examining the state of acceptance of homosexuality in the world, DV8 Physical Theatre Director Lloyd Newson realized something had to change.

The award-winning London-based group will perform Newson's call for awareness, "To Be Straight With You," 7:30 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. Friday in Memorial Hall.

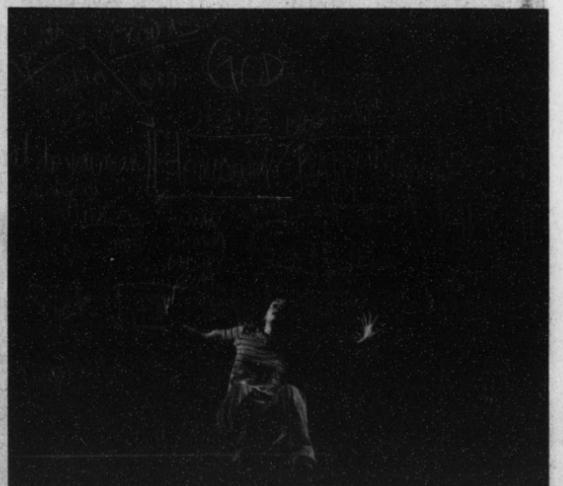
The provocative piece explores religion, sexuality and injustices faced by homosexuals.

Newson created "To Be Straight With You" following events that made him realize the oppression homosexuals face.

SEE DV8, PAGE 5

### ATTEND THE SHOW

Time: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday  
Location: Memorial Hall  
Info: carolinaperformingarts.org



COURTESY OF CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS

Critically acclaimed experimental theater group DV8 will perform "To Be Straight With You" at Memorial Hall on Thursday and Friday.

### HALLOWEEN:

## Student leaders work on safety

### Want to reroute Safe Ride buses

BY C. RYAN BARBER

STAFF WRITER

Student government is arranging altered bus routes and peer escorts in an attempt to address safety concerns Chapel Hill officials have cited in debates on whether to limit the night's festivities.

The annual celebration, which drew about 80,000 last year, is being downsized because of what officials say is a growing gang presence and risk of violence.

Medical services prepare for drinking-related emergencies with Halloween on a weekend. "We've been in the process of working with the town to keep Halloween since the beginning of the summer," Student

Body President J.J. Raynor said. "The town's initial sentiment was to stop it, and we were really active in saying, 'No, we need to keep Halloween, but let's make it safer.'"

In its efforts to secure Halloween, student government is collaborating with Chapel Hill Transit to reroute the Safe Ride buses, which run from Franklin Street to many residential areas.

In previous years, the routes were cancelled due to the closing of Franklin Street, Raynor said.

This Oct. 31, busing will be redirected to side streets and expanded.

"We've also increased the number of buses that will be running that night so that the intervals between routes

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