

# The Daily Tar Heel

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www.dailytarheel.com

## ALL EYES ON HAKEEM

### Nicks steps up as go-to playmaker

INSIDE: Virginia running back Cedric Peerman will be the UNC defense's biggest challenge Saturday. SEE PG. 11.

BY POWELL LATIMER  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Hakeem Nicks barely makes it out of the locker room Tuesday before a camera's in his face and he's being directed for a photo shoot.

Nicks takes it all in stride — the light, the flashes from the camera; he even manages to ask when and where the shots are running without breaking the photographer's rhythm.

It's obvious the junior wideout welcomes the spotlight — which is good, because it's going to be focused intensely on him for the rest of the season.

With Nicks' running mate wideout, Brandon Tate, out for the season, defenses know exactly where the ball is going: the XXL hands of No. 88.

Nicks, who wears the largest sized gloves offered (he says they still don't fit), has always welcomed that attention.

In the preseason, he casually dropped phrases such as "national championship" and "Heisman."

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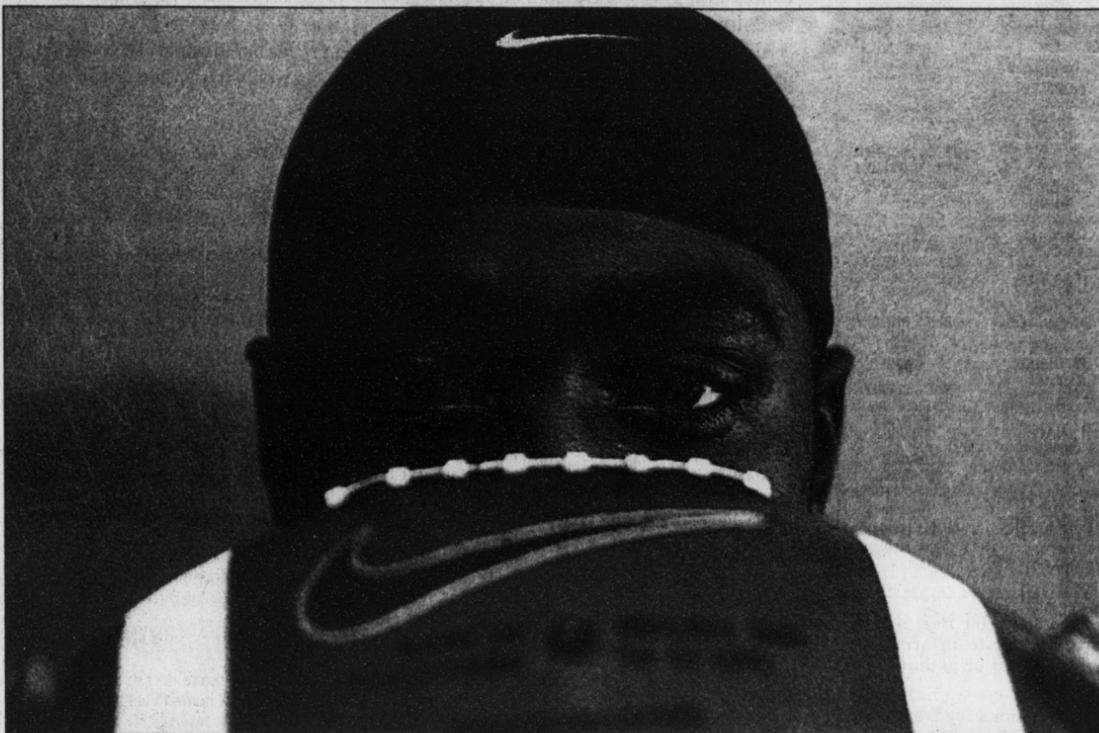


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA PATTI

Hakeem Nicks, junior wideout, will have to shoulder an even heavier offensive load this weekend against Virginia. "He's been the one really solid, consistent, week-in and week-out player," coach Butch Davis said. "You can always count on Hakeem to deliver this kind of performance."

## UNC scrambling for returns, receptions after Tate's injury

BY RACHEL ULLRICH  
SPORTS EDITOR

Butch Davis knows it won't be easy. "We don't just have another Brandon Tate that you just take off the shelf and plug him into the game," he said Monday.

But somehow, some way, the Tar Heels have to replace Tate. And fast.

With the senior playmaker lost for the season with ACL and MCL tears, Davis has to fill the roles Tate has excelled in all season.

And with the Virginia game looming, just one guy isn't going to do it.

"We talk about him providing almost 100 yards a game, from wherever he's coming," quarterback Cameron Sexton said. "And I think other people filled that role (Saturday) with 30 yards here, there."

Hakeem Nicks kicked it up a notch this weekend; he and Brooks Foster will both

help fill the receiving void.

But the return game remains the biggest problem for the Tar Heels. Without Tate, UNC has eight total punt return yards in 2008.

Though the kick return game is slightly better off, Tate still makes up more than half of the team's kickoff return yardage.

Against Notre Dame, Tate returned the only punt by the Irish. After he was injured, fullback Bobby Rome and cornerback Johnny White each returned one kickoff while Nicks returned two.

Combined, the trio totaled 82 yards for an average of 20.5 That's almost 7 yards less than Tate's usual clip.

"Johnny White has a lot of speed," Nicks said. "He definitely could return the ball."

And, Nicks pointed out, he'll still be back deep as well, and he's confident Tate isn't the only guy who can take returns to the house.

"Oh, I definitely think I could."

But the fact remains that Tate's loss is significant for both the Tar Heels' offensive and special teams units.

"Guys have just got to step up," Nicks said. "I don't have any doubt in my mind that Brooks will be able to step up and carry the load. Cooter Arnold's got to step up, Kenton Thornton."

Tate, for one, believes they can do it.

"Oh, we've got playmakers on the roster," he said. "Y'all will see Saturday against Virginia."

First-year Dwight Jones has also been mentioned as a player who might see time in Tate's absence, and Kendrick Burney sat deep for a kickoff return against Notre Dame.

All of these decisions will be made during practice this week and by talking to players about roles they could fill, Davis said. Sexton said he knows offensive coordina-

### FOLLOW THE GAME

Time: 3:30 p.m. Saturday  
TV: ABC  
Radio: WCHL 1360 AM; WRDU 106.1 FM  
Info: www.tarheelblue.com

tor John Shoop will make it happen. "There's plenty of guys to fill those roles. Coach Shoop will draw up an unbelievable number of ways to get the ball out there."

But for now, Davis is staying mum on the specifics. "Well, we've got some ideas," he said. "But rather than fax 'em to you and to (Virginia coach) Al Groh, we thought we'd maybe sit on them, you know?"

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.



### VOTING BEGINS

Early and one-stop voting begins Thursday at five sites in Orange County. Early voting is available through Nov. 1 and Election Day is Nov. 4. See pg. 4 for a list of races on the ballot.



state | page 3

### LAWSON DEBATES PRICE

Dr. B.J. Lawson, a Republican, is challenging U.S. Rep. David Price, D-N.C., for his District 4 seat. The Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies organized Tuesday's debate.

### announcements

#### FALL BREAK BEGINS

The DTH will resume publication on Monday.

#### TAKE A DTH SURVEY

Be entered to win \$500 in prizes. Visit www.dailytarheel.com/survey today.

#### GOT A GREAT COSTUME?

Seeking creative students and community members to model their Halloween costumes for the Oct. 21 TuesdayFocus. Contact Features Editor Nate Hewitt at nathadhewitt@gmail.com if interested.

### online | dailytarheel.com

#### BLOG: BICYCLE PLAN

Carrboro residents give their opinions about the proposal.

#### TAR HEEL BUSINESS

Seniors create magazine to explain economic issues.

#### CYBER STALKING

Speakers warn students about Internet abuse and predators.

### this day in history

#### OCT. 15, 1992 ...

UNC's water ski club team heads to the U.S. National Championship after a second-place finish in the 14-team South Atlantic Conference.

### Today's weather

Sunny  
H 88, L 62

### Thursday's weather

Sunny  
H 88, L 62

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## State Fair goes green this year

### Recycling facilities join fried candy

BY ALI YINGLING  
STAFF WRITER

Starting Thursday, fun-seekers can head to Raleigh for the annual N.C. State Fair.

The fair will have its usual quirks, including a demolition derby, a contest for animal sculptures, a pumpkin growing contest, carnival rides and its notorious deep-fried foods.

But it will also feature fresh performances and a new emphasis on sustainability efforts.

"It's a really good showing of everything North Carolina has to offer," said first-year Chelsea Miller.

Natalie Alford, public information officer for the State Fair, said they're aiming for 1 million attendees this year — up from the 857,000 people last year.

Attendees can enjoy everything from a BMX bike show to the world's largest portable roller coaster, she said. Alford said she is personally most excited about the 115 rides that will feature this year.

UNC students echoed that sentiment, citing the drop tower and the Vortex as two rides they are most excited about. Others said

#### ATTEND THE N.C. STATE FAIR

Time: 3 p.m. to midnight Thursday, 8 a.m. to midnight Friday until Oct. 26  
Location: 1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh  
Info: www.ncstatefair.org/2008

they have a fondness for the swings and the swinging pirate ship ride.

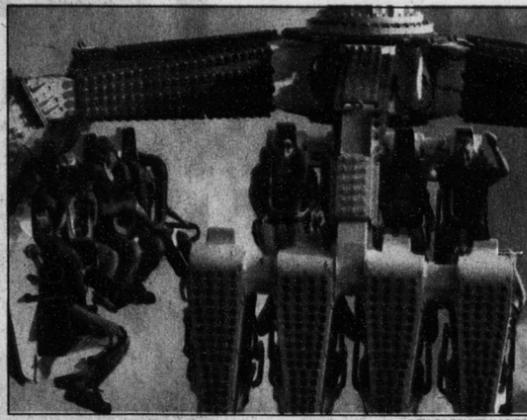
But the fair offers more than just rides, Alford said.

This year, some of the fair's biggest acts will be musical artists Mario, Toby Mac and Montgomery Gentry. All three will be performing in Dorton Arena on the fairgrounds during the fair's 10-day run.

Miller said she's excited to see Montgomery Gentry with her family — but other students said they are particularly excited about stuffing themselves with fair food.

Vendors are known somewhat unconventional fried foods such as candy and Coke. Miller said she's a fan of the fried pickles.

Senior Ben Mancheril said the blooming onion is his big draw. "That's basically my only attraction to going to the fair," he said.



DTH FILE/KATE NAPIER

Visitors enjoy "The Claw," one of the many thrill rides at the North Carolina State Fair in Raleigh last fall. The fair starts Thursday.

This year, the fair also will have some environmentally friendly features. Alford said they will be collecting vegetable oil from the vendors and donating it to biodiesel research facilities.

There will be four trial recycling facilities — the first time the fair will make any recycling efforts.

"We have plans to get greener and greener," Alford said.

Veteran fair attendees have recommendations for the experience.

"I would say get there early, go with a bunch of people and try everything they have to eat," Mancheril said.

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

## Luxury good retailers say business is steady

BY WHITNEY BAKER  
STAFF WRITER

Established customers remain faithful to retailers that sell luxury goods even as walk-in business declines in response to the economic downturn.

Although the number of first-time shoppers is on the decline, longtime patrons are still loyal to local businesses that sell items such as jewelry, name-brand clothing and automobiles.

Store owners say they focus on developing relationships with customers and cater to wealthy patrons.

"Because we're 30 years here

and with the Internet, I'm not seeing any effect," said Kim Maitland, co-owner of Creative Metalsmiths, a gallery that sells handmade items by artists from across the country.

Maitland said her business has not been threatened because it caters a specialized good that cannot be recreated by mass production.

Retailers that sell luxury goods in the area are holding their own despite the value of people's assets going down.

"People who are after high-end items still have their wealth," UNC economics professor Stanley Black said. They are less likely to see a noticeable change in wealth as

opposed to people who are losing jobs, he said.

People want items that will hold value, said Linda Kornberg, owner of Minata Jewelers.

Higher-end purchases are likely to be treasured longer or kept in the family as heirlooms, she said.

Retailers have been able to maintain relationships with old customers, but some have seen a decrease in spontaneous shoppers.

"You don't see the walk-in traffic that you might," Maitland said.

Minata Jewelers, in University Mall, has had a drop-off in the sales of gift goods in the \$50 to \$150 range, which is in the lower

range of its merchandise.

"I think people are cautious," Kornberg said. "We're not making frivolous purchases."

Customers buying luxury goods do so based on the reputation of the goods they want to purchase.

"We haven't really seen a decline, because we sell highline cars," said Jill McCullough, marketing director at Performance Acura in Chapel Hill.

Their number one franchise is BMW, she said, and customers shopping for BMWs know exactly what they like and specifically

SEE LUXURY GOODS, PAGE 9

## Deaths spark athletic review

### Proposed law will require trainers

BY VICTORIA STILWELL  
STAFF WRITER

Several Orange County Schools may have to change their policies concerning athletic trainers in order to comply with a law proposed in the wake of deaths like that of Chapel Hill High School student Atlas Fraley.

"We've had three very unfortunate and possibly preventable deaths here in the state of North Carolina in the last six weeks," said Kevin Guskiewicz, chairman of UNC's Department of Exercise and Sports Science.

Fraley died in August after complaining of headaches and body cramps following a football scrimmage.

Matt Gfeller of R.J. Reynolds High School in Winston Salem, and Jaquan Waller of J.H. Rose High School in Greenville also died after football-related incidents this year.

Last week, Guskiewicz and Frederick Mueller, director of the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research and a UNC professor, put forth a proposal to the N.C. High School Athletic Association that would require high schools in the state to hire a full-time certified athletic trainer.

Mueller and Guskiewicz say that schools should require a nationally certified trainer who doesn't have classroom responsibilities.

"The problem is most of the trainers are full-time teachers," Mueller said.

SEE TRAINERS, PAGE 9