

Freshmen drop out for various reasons; most intend to return

Editor's note: This is the final story in a five-part series dealing with the diversity of UNC students' backgrounds and how it affects their performance at the University.

By Eric Bolash
Staff Writer

More than 20 percent of 1989's freshmen dropped out before the end of their first year at UNC, according to UNC's Office of Institutional Research.

There is no single answer for why students drop out of school, according to Associate Dean of the General College Don Jicha. And dropping out is not always a negative thing, he said.

"I'm not so sure anything should be done about withdrawals," Jicha said. "If a student has to withdraw, in most cases I don't think we should try to convince them to stay. If the student continues in school, they usually end up paying you back later, and nobody's a winner then."

Jicha said medical problems were the most common reasons for dropping out.

"One of the worst mistakes a student can make is to miss four to five weeks of class and then want to come back," he said. "Normally if a student has been out for a long period of time, I end up

Education:



The Next Step

The list of reasons for dropping out of school is long. Jicha said sometimes students came to Chapel Hill for their first year and felt overwhelmed by the size of a university with a population of about 23,000 students.

"Some students are maybe not doing as well as they would like to and they move back to a school where they would be able to commute," Jicha said. "Per-

haps they were top dog in high school and they're not doing very well. Students like that will go to a smaller school closer to their hometown — like Appalachian State University or East Carolina."

Some students are forced to drop out of school because they lack money for tuition or living expenses; financial difficulties sometimes arise from a parent losing a job. Some students simply decide they need some time away from school.

Others drop out because of alcohol- or drug-related problems, serious family or personal problems or because

they have been raped or subjected to some other traumatic experience while in school, although Jicha said this group is small. He said a surprising amount decided to leave school to join the Marines.

Jicha and the assistant deans of the General College review cases of students who ask to withdraw from school or drop out. They meet individually with each student and talk about the situation.

"When I deal with a student, I usually ask for a reason (for withdrawal), and if it's personal, I usually don't press it," Jicha said.

He said he usually asked students if their parents knew about their decision to leave school. The General College sends the parents a letter confirming the decision to withdraw.

According to Jicha, if the student has been in school for less than six weeks and he or she submits a formal withdrawal, he or she can drop out with a clean record for the semester. But after six weeks, grades in courses begin to make a difference. If the student is failing more than six hours after six weeks of class, the grades will be recorded and the student will be given "semester in residence" status, meaning he or she is

considered to have spent a semester in school.

But these are broad guidelines, according to Jicha. "Not many students withdraw with a bad standing. Most withdraw without grades and without 'semester in residence' status."

And most drop out with the intention of returning to school, Jicha said. "Some students don't do anything until they come back to school. And if the student was eligible for school at the time they withdrew, then they can submit an application for readmission and come back. ... Not many students drop out without the intention of coming back to school."

Lab plays feature poetry images, relationship complexities

By Kitt Bockley
Staff Writer

This week the Lab Theatre features two productions that center on the common themes of love and relationships.

The first show, "nobody, not even the rain, has such small hands," is a presentation of nine romantic poems, each of which explores a different aspect of love ranging from desire to jealousy.

Allen Simpson, a UNC drama major, composed all the music for this production.

Director Laura Christopherson collaborated with Meg Dyer, choreographer and assistant director, on the project

Celebration

police officers, Jarvis said. "You hope they win, but you also hope they win and nobody celebrates," he said.

The Chapel Hill Police Department prepares for the worst in these situations, he said. "All our plans are there to

make poetry visually come to life.

"It's something new to the Lab Theatre," said Christopherson, "in that it approaches a text such as a poem, which is very image-oriented, and attempts to use dance and voice in order to create a visual effect."

Dyer added, "The show is a totally unique theater experience. It is our interpretation of these poems. You might see them in other productions, but you'd never see them done again in this way."

Actress Melissa Sprague said the show was demanding on a theatrical level due to the ambiguous nature of her role.

"I think it's the most creative thing I've ever done," she said. "It's more

than just memorizing lines and being believable. We're not even characters, really; we're depicting images."

Actress Tracey Bowles said, "It puts the actor more on the line. We couldn't just hide behind a character; what we decided to do with these poems was up to us."

Following "nobody, not even the rain, has such small hands," is "Welcome to the Moon," written by American playwright John Patrick Shanley.

Shanley is best known for his Academy Award-winning screenplay for the movie "Moonstruck."

In "Welcome to the Moon," Shanley explores the complex nature of human

relationships through a blend of six different stories in settings ranging from the Old West to the Bronx.

Director John Freshley said, "The play is about love and, conversely, loneliness, as well as the risk involved in finding love."

A unique aspect of this show is the overlapping of roles: although there are 21 characters, there are five actors. In order to challenge the cast creatively, Freshley required the actors to learn all of the roles.

"My main emphasis is on acting," he said. "Because of the switch in roles, the actors are forced to become involved with the show and be more honest. A lot of times actors end up being props for

the director ... I wanted to allow the actors to reach their goals and have the opportunity to be creative."

Actor Patrick Emerson commented on the difficulty of playing multiple roles, saying, "I have eight different personalities and different concerns. Theoretically, you could see the show five times and each time it would be a different play."

These two plays will be presented back to back at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Sunday and Monday and at 5 p.m. on Tuesday in the Lab Theatre, located in the basement of Graham Memorial. Admission is free.

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Corrections

In the March 21 article "World football league kicks off Saturday," the president of the World League of American Football was incorrectly identified. The president is Mike Lynn.

The March 21 photograph of the Afro 2 dance ensemble pictured Jovan Jones, not Donee Thomas, which was implied by the caption.

ex·pe·ri·ence *n*: direct observation of or participation in events as a basis of knowledge
2: practical knowledge, skill, or practice derived from direct observation of or participation in events or in a particular activity

from Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary

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The Daily Tar Heel

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Campus Calendar

FRIDAY
 Noon: The Carolina Indian Circle presents *Dancers in the Pit*, featuring Carolina Indian Circle students and visiting artists.
 The Lesbian Lunch is today and every Friday in the Union. See schedule at the desk for room number.
 "Measures of Managerial Power: A Cross-National Study" will be the topic today in O2 Manning until 1 p.m. Walter Davis, IRSS, will be the speaker.
 1 p.m. "Introduction to Categorical Data" will be explored by Kenneth Hardy, IRSS, today in O2 Manning until 4 p.m.
 3:30 p.m. "The History of Anti-Racism in the United States: An Introduction" by Herbert Aptheker of the University of California, in 101 Greenlaw. Sponsored by UNC African and Afro-American Studies.
 6:30 p.m. Don't apologize for your faith in God. Instead, hear Bruce Little, a pastor in Winston-Salem, speak on "Apologetics, No Apologies" at 7:45 p.m. in the Brooks' home, 413 Granville Road, Chapel Hill. Dinner is provided first. For more information or a ride to this FOCUS event, call 933-6687.

7 p.m. The Baha'i Club will sponsor an informal discussion titled "The American Experience — A Global Precursor" in the Black Cultural Center. All are welcome.
SATURDAY
 9 a.m. There will be a BIG sale on books today in Wilson Library until noon. Sale prices will be halved today and books will sell for \$1 per box in the final hour!
 11 a.m. The Carolina Indian Circle invites you to the annual Pow-Wow from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Great Hall. This event includes dancers and Native American crafts and food.
 Noon: The Fourth Annual Pi Kappa Alpha/Alpha Delta Pi/Hinton James Charity Run will be held Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23. Runners complete a course from Wilmington to Chapel Hill to raise money for the United Way and the Ronald McDonald House. Be at the Old Well for the BIG FINISH!
 5 p.m. "The Life and Work of W.E.B. DuBois" will be discussed by Herbert Aptheker of the University of California, in 121 Hanes Art Center Film Auditorium. Sponsored by the UNC African and Afro-American Studies.
SUNDAY
 Reggae with Rolly Gray and Sunfire tonight and every Sunday night at about 9:30 p.m. at Colonel Chutney's, 300 W. Rosemary. \$1 cover.
ITEMS OF INTEREST
 Carolina Women in Business is selling BUNNY BAGS in the Pit and in front of Carroll Hall. The \$1 bags of candy will be delivered Wednesday before Easter to all on-campus locations, fraternity and sorority houses and most apartment complexes.
 Great sale on Books! Come to Wilson Library today between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. and between 9 a.m. and noon Saturday. Sale prices will be halved on Saturday and books will sell for \$1 per box in the final hour.
 Student Congress candidates needed! Special election Tuesday, March 26 to fill Student Congress seats in Districts 3, 5, 9 and 10. Go by Suite A, 215-B Union or call Mary Jo at 929-1397 for more information.
 Intramural Aerobics Certification Workshop, April 3, 6 and 7. Apply by March 29 in the IM Office (203 Woollen Gym.) Call 962-1153 for further information.
 The Tar Heel Recycling Program announces that today's Mobile Drop is on Stadium Drive by the dumpsters between Teague and Parker residence halls for newspapers, glass and aluminum.

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