

## Campus Calendar

**WEDNESDAY**  
 11 a.m. Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center will hold open houses at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. for all students interested in finding out about the BCC.  
 5 p.m. Vegetarian Club will offer free dinners in the park across from the Franklin Street Post Office until 7 p.m.  
 AIESEC will meet in Carmichael Ballroom.  
 5:15 p.m. Asian Student Association will have a social in 206 Union.  
 7 p.m. UNC Seuba Club will meet in 220 Union.  
 Undergraduate History Association will have an organizational meeting in 569 Hamilton.  
 SEAC will meet in 211 Union.  
 8 p.m. UNC-Russia Exchange will meet in the Union South Gallery.  
 Amnesty International Student Action Group will meet in 211 Union.

## Court

sent" will be subject to the appropriate disciplinary action, Cannon said.  
 Since the new code went into effect, two cases have been tried by the Honor Court. Although the redefined process does give rape victims more options for prosecuting their attackers, the UNC system still is not perfect.  
 One of the two women to press Honor Court charges, a UNC sophomore recreation administration major, said her judicial experience was humiliating. Because the Honor Court has tried so few cases, the woman requested that

her identity not be revealed.  
 "It's been almost as hard to get over how I was victimized by the Honor Court than getting over how I was victimized by the rape itself," she said. "I chose the Honor Court because it is confidential, it's relatively quick, and I thought (the court) would be a well-educated board of my peers."  
 Although the system is structured to help victims, Honor Court members are not educated enough about the trauma of rape, she said.  
 "The fundamentals of the system have really strong potential, but these people are uneducated about rape and rape victims," she said. "If you are going to commit yourself to something as traumatic as rape, you have to be fully educated."  
 Honor Court members have participated in training exercises and lectures with volunteers from the Orange County Rape Crisis Center and other agencies to learn more about sexual assault and rape, Cannon said.

These sessions included learning how to establish the credibility of a witness' testimony, what evidence is relevant and what questions need to be asked of victims and accused rapists, he said.  
 The UNC sophomore said members of the Honor Court must undergo more extensive training if victims are to receive fair treatment.  
 "I was never given a fair chance because they weren't prepared to give me a fair chance," she said.  
 Although criminal court does offer a more authoritative, official environment, many student-victims shy away from taking their case outside the University judicial system.  
 Victims of date rape may not want to be responsible for incarcerating an acquaintance, Cannon said. The Honor Court can suspend or recommend the chancellor expel students found guilty of rape.  
 "Since the victim knows the probable outcome (for a rapist convicted in criminal court) is a 40-year prison sentence, she doesn't want to be responsible for that," Cannon said.  
 Also, rape charges, particularly in cases of date rape, are extremely diffi-

cult to prove in criminal court, said Carl Fox, Orange-Chatham district attorney. Fox was the prosecutor in a highly publicized date-rape case involving former UNC wrestler Carmen Catullo. Catullo was acquitted of the rape charge.  
 "The biggest difference between date-rape and stranger-rape cases is that date rape is sometimes consensual," said Rebecca Wilson, sexual assault investigator for the Chapel Hill Police Department. "The (acquaintance) has to say, 'Yes, we had sex,' and the stranger is going to say, 'We never had sex.'"  
 Staying within the University judicial system also keeps the accuser out of the public eye, Fox said. In several recent rape cases, including those involving William Kennedy Smith and heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson, the accusers, Patricia Bowman and Desiree Washington, had their backgrounds and behavior scrutinized by the media.  
 "The victim is on trial — her behavior, what she did," Fox said. "Her behavior is as much on trial as the defendant's in most sexual assaults."  
 In Honor Court cases, records are

kept private while police and criminal court records usually are open to the public, Cannon said.  
 For those who opt to take their case to the Honor Court, the process is similar to filing criminal charges.  
 First the victim writes a letter of complaint to the Student Attorney General, who conducts a preliminary investigation.  
 After investigators complete the initial inquiry, the attorney general decides whether to ask the Honor Court to bring formal charges against the accused. The victim receives a counselor from the attorney general's office, and the accused also can elicit the aid of a counselor or another student.  
 The Honor Court holds one hearing on the case, which consists of arguments from both the accuser and the accused. Once the court reaches a verdict, Cannon informs both parties.  
 If the accused is found guilty, he or she may file an appeal with the court. As in criminal court, the accuser cannot appeal the court's decision and does not take part in any appeal by the accused.

# Catch 22

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