

The Daily Tar Heel

SUMMER 2023

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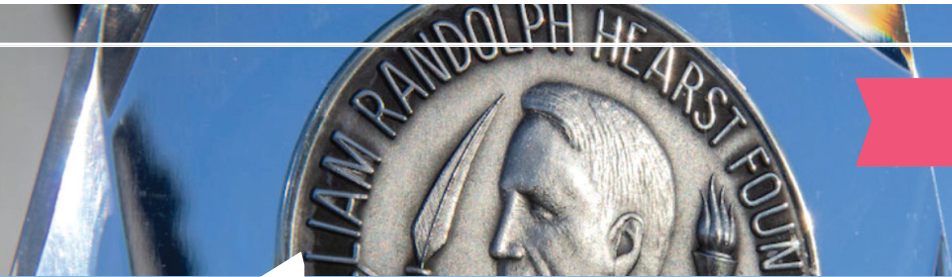
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FALLFEST

Carolina Union to host 28th annual FallFest

Organizers to bring back popular activities from prior years

By Ali Hardin
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New students have the opportunity to partake in a UNC tradition this fall — FallFest is an annual welcome back to campus celebration open to both new and returning students.

This year’s FallFest will be hosted on Sunday, Aug. 20, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. following New Student Convocation. Last year, FallFest had giveaways, free food, games, music and both indoor and outdoor activities.

FallFest logistics are primarily planned by Carolina Union professional employees. Tori Holder, associate director of communications and creative services, said that the Union staff wants to keep the event fresh for returning students while also bringing back popular activities from past years.

Holder said that this year’s FallFest will be offering favorite activities from prior years such as a build-your-own ram activity and a blackout party.

“FallFest traditionally has had the focus being first-year students, but really all students, everyone from first-year to graduate students, should feel welcome at FallFest,” Holder said.

Victoria Boykin is the associate director for event services at the Union. Holder and Boykin co-chair the sponsorship committee and manage the event’s social media.

Boykin said that the Union is hoping to provide an exciting welcome back experience for all students.

“We do have a large number of new students, but we do see a lot

of returning students as well as Carolina community members, like staff and faculty, so continuing to have an inviting welcome back to campus experience for everyone,” Boykin said.

This year’s event will be the 28th annual FallFest and the second FallFest after returning from the pandemic. Holder said that they were also considering the COVID-19 impact on this year’s planning.

“Some upperclassmen may not have had the opportunity to go to FallFest in the past, so we really hope that people come out this year,” Holder said.



DTH FILE/SAMANTHA LEWIS

Students enjoy FallFest activities on Aug. 14, 2022.

Boykin said that student feedback is highly valued in planning the event going forward.

“We know that things have changed a lot post-pandemic, and so we’re wanting to have some of that feedback,” she said.

SmallFest is another component of FallFest that will take place in the Pit during the second week of class. During SmallFest, attendees learn more about getting involved in student organizations.

Last year, over 350 clubs participated in SmallFest.

UNC Quizbowl Club President Jonathan Shauf said that last year’s SmallFest was one of the most important ways for students to find out about the club.

“I definitely think the format of it being in the Pit with people just spilling through has really helped it,” Shauf said. “At UNC, we have such a compact campus and everyone sort of goes through the same area.”

More information about FallFest will be released as the event date nears. Boykin said she recommends checking the FallFest website for updates and following the Carolina Union on Instagram.

Twitter: @dailytarheel

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BUILDING RENAMING

Organizations work to make UNC’s history accessible

Student leaders, historians discuss University’s past

By Akash Bhowmik
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Advocacy from UNC students and faculty in recent years have meant major changes for the way students interact with campus and its facilities. In April of 2021, the University Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward submitted its recommendation letter for renaming 10 buildings.

To help generations of Tar Heels better understand the University’s history, community leaders have taken steps to make this information more accessible.

Former University historian Cecelia Moore said there were not many up-to-date resources available for students who were curious about the traditions and history at the University.

Moore said she collaborated with University archivist Nicholas Graham to write the book “UNC A to Z,” a reference designed to be a short and affordable encyclopedia about UNC published in 2020.

“The history of UNC and that phrase ‘first state university’ really embodies a lot of things,” she said. “Not only being first or oldest, but the idea of public higher education was a relatively new idea for a new country. But North Carolina has really remained vested in that idea that the public university exists to serve the people of the state and to serve the state.”

The University is currently in the process of renaming several buildings whose namesakes have ties to white supremacy.

Although Moore said incoming students should get acquainted

with original campus landmarks, including the Old Well and McCorkle Place. She also said there is a difference between knowing history and commemorating ideas from the past.

“We now think of buildings having names because a donor contributed money toward that effort, and most of the buildings built from the mid-20th century on were like that,” Moore said. “But before that, they weren’t tied to a donor’s name. They were tied to ideas about the state history and who should be emulated and admired.”

Moore added that areas like the Pit and the Sonja Haynes Stone Center better represent efforts by the students and alumni to be more diverse and inclusive of others.

For Andrew Spratley, president of the Order of the Bell Tower, being able to preserve the past, engage with the present and look toward the future is an important principle for the organization.

The Order of the Bell Tower is a student group serving as the official student ambassadors and tradition keepers to the University.

Spratley said the group provides students with the chance to participate in activities like the University Day event, Biscuits at the Bell Tower and the formerly held Waffles at Wilson.

In 2009, the Order of the Bell Tower published “True Blue,” a guide to historic landmarks around UNC, such as Sutton’s Drug Store and the Varsity Theater. While Spratley said the organization helps students notice bigger sites and events around campus, he said it also clues people into smaller, lesser-known annual events.

Spratley said the Order of the Bell Tower will be setting up booths at FallFest to recruit and better engage with students.

Ananya Jain, a member of the



DTH DESIGN/OLIVIA GOODSON

Undergraduate Student Senate and an orientation leader, said she attempts to integrate culture and history into her orientation sessions regarding sites like the Old Well and the Bell Tower.

She said orientation leaders need to help students learn a shared history of the University through student advocacy.

“As we move forward into an institution that is now a top five

public school and an institution that prides on being the first university built in the United States, we also need to uphold those values and make sure that we’re bringing a safe and inclusive environment on campus,” Jain said. “That means instead of trying to hold onto our past views that we start moving on to a more progressive area.”

Ultimately, orientation leader Ayush Pai said despite UNC’s

complex past, current students need to spread awareness about that history to better understand it with each other.

“It’s important for students to see that nothing was built overnight,” Pai said. “They themselves, you know, their own sort of journeys aren’t built overnight too.”

Twitter: @dailytarheel

University

The Daily Tar Heel

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR NAVIGATING YOUR FIRST MONTH ON CAMPUS

august **4**

- Open enrollment begins for first years on ConnectCarolina.
- First year maximum credit limit increases to 18 credits.

august **6**

- Open enrollment period on ConnectCarolina ends at 11:59 p.m.
- The last day to add yourself to a waitlist in ConnectCarolina.

august **15**

- Tuition and student fees due. The payment period opens for all students on July 16.

august **16**

- Move-in begins. Students must make appointments for move-in time slots on the Housing Portal.

august **17**

- UNC Week of Welcome begins, ends on Sept. 3.
- WOW events include trivia, professor meet and greets and new student kickoffs.

august **20**

- New Student Convocation is hosted at the Dean E. Smith Center from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- FallFest to follow. To read more, see **FallFest** on page 3.

august **21**

- First day of classes (FDOC).

august **25**

- Course registration deadline. This is the last day to add courses to your schedule for the fall.
- Students wanting to add classes after today should go to the academic department.



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HISTORY

Campus tours shed light on UNC's past, traditions

New students can learn about UNC diversity, experiences, academics

By Akash Bhowmik
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Incoming students have the opportunity to go on several tours offered at UNC that highlight the campus's history and culture.

For Sarah Carrier, a North Carolina research and instructional librarian at UNC, focusing on UNC's history from student and staff perspectives prioritizes voices that have received less attention at the University.

Carrier is a co-creator of the Black and Carolina Blue Tour, which tells the story of Black life and history at UNC. The tour aims to make UNC's history of slavery, racism, memorialization and activism available to students and visitors.

Stops on the virtual tour include Carolina Hall, the former site of the Silent Sam Confederate monument and the Sonja Haynes Stone Center.

Part of the tour is devoted to labor activism on campus, according to Carrier. With recent protests by UNC housekeepers over wages and parking, she said learning about labor activism is one example of where students can build context for current issues while building a community to improve experiences of others on campus.

"That's why we collect archival material and why we collect about UNC-Chapel Hill," Carrier said. "It is not only our story as a community, but it's exciting to be able to see yourself, in many ways, in these stories."

She said that much of the campus's history is inherently diverse, allowing people to see themselves in stories told through the tour. She said incoming students can resonate with a cause that they have experienced personally or have found important.

"We want for all students, especially students of color, to see themselves in this story and that students have made UNC what it is," Carrier said. "All of the struggles and successes, and there are still struggles underway — things that need to be faced down and addressed. By seeing these successes and by seeing



DTH/ADRIAN TILLMAN

A guide talks to a group touring UNC on the quad on Wednesday, June 7, 2023.

the long history of this, I think that it is helping us to have conversations that move us, that help us understand the present and move into the future."

Admissions tours are also offered for prospective students interested in knowing more about UNC.

Annika Shi, an orientation leader and admissions ambassador at UNC, said learning about UNC's culture and history is important for people to figure out whether the school is a right fit for them.

As an international student, Shi said she understands the feeling of leaving home and living independently and shares her own experiences in order to connect with her tour groups.

"A lot of people, we come to Carolina, whether it's for academics or the spirit, school spirit and sporting events — I can just connect to them from various aspects, talking about the sporting events I've been to and talking about research that I've done on campus, really anything," Shi said.

The UNC Visitors Center's in-person Sense of Place tour aims to allow a general audience to gain a better understanding of the University's campus history and innovation.

Tours last approximately 90 minutes, beginning at the UNC Visitors Center on East Franklin Street and ending at Kenan Stadium. Along the tour path, visitors get a chance to view different UNC landmarks such as the Davie Poplar tree, the Old Well and the Unsung Founders Memorial.

The Visitors Center began operating in 1989 and is a separate department from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Unlike

regular admissions tours, which are geared toward prospective students, Sense of Place tours are oriented toward a wider range of people.

Rhonda Beatty, director of the UNC Visitors Center, said the tours were designed to have a balance between campus history and current UNC forward-reaching projects in research, service and innovation.

One of the stops along the tour route is the BeAM Makerspace located in Murray Hall. Beatty said the Makerspace gives the opportunity to "pepper in" stories while talking about new scientific developments.

"We're not talking at people," Beatty said. "We are kind of inviting them into our world to show them what it's like to be on campus, whether you're a student member, whether you're a faculty member, whether you're a staff member so that you can get a broader picture of what Carolina is about."

Beatty said she hopes that by sharing a broad swath of information, visitors will learn something about the University regardless of their interests.

"Our job, our goal, our mission is to welcome these guests to campus," Beatty said. "We want them to understand the great work and the wealth of work that happens every day from students, faculty, staff — how that work benefits the citizens of North Carolina and how it impacts our communities, whether it's locally in Chapel Hill, throughout North Carolina, the nation or even the world."

Twitter: @dailytarheel

AFFORDABILITY

Students, faculty discuss financial aid access

Carolina Covenant and other aid programs help students afford UNC

By Eliza Benbow
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Almost half of the students admitted to UNC qualify for financial aid.

In the 2021-22 school year, 62 percent of the students who applied for financial aid at the University received need-based financial assistance.

It can be challenging for new students to find information about financial aid on their own, but Erica Corini, the associate director for communications and outreach at the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, said there are financial aid resources available for students to understand the aid they receive.

"The most important thing for us is our office is really dedicated to affordability and helping students — so not being afraid or scared by us, we're here to help students," she said.

Corini said she recommended using the budgeting calculator on the office's website to understand how aid will be applied for individual needs.

The calculator allows students to customize their meal plans, housing choices and the scholarships and loans they received to better understand the cost of attending UNC.

Isaac Hwang, a junior at UNC, is on the Student Advisory Council for the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid.

Hwang, a biology and chemistry major, received a work-study program — where he does research on campus — as part of his financial aid package. Work-study programs allow students to earn money for college expenses by working part-time on campus or at selected community service agencies.

"I found it a good resource to get involved in research very quickly," he said.

Students can also seek out scholarships and funding from individual organizations — considered departmental funding — for scholarships specific to their major or identity.

One of the most difficult parts

of applying for aid for Hwang was navigating the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. He recommended students complete an application for aid as early as possible to ensure that it can be done within the deadline — which was June 30 this year.

Corini said that meeting deadlines for aid is an important aspect of the financial aid process. Students can find a detailed list of the financial aid deadlines on the Office for Scholarships and Student Aid website.

Some of the financial aid resources offered through the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid are geared toward specific student demographics, such as the Carolina Covenant Scholars package.

Students who receive aid from Carolina Covenant come from families with income at or below 200 percent of the poverty guideline and who meet additional economic criteria. These students are helped financially and are also given the opportunity to connect with mentors.

Peter Said, a medical school student who was a Carolina Covenant Scholar as an undergraduate at UNC, is now a Covenant mentor.

"The best thing about UNC that I experienced is that I never had a question and felt it went unanswered," he said.

Said, a first-generation student and immigrant, said programs like the Carolina Covenant pushed him to "excel and thrive."

Twitter: @eliza_benbow



DTH DESIGN/OLIVIA GOODSON

Q&A

New Campus Y co-presidents aim to promote rest, joy

Vasudeva says UNC at its best is reflective of the Campus Y at its best

By Noelle Harff
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Both Karina Vasudeva and Imani Rankins have been active in the Campus Y since their first year at UNC. Coming full circle, they will be leading UNC's chapter as seniors for the 2023-24 school year.

The Daily Tar Heel's Noelle Harff spoke to Vasudeva and Rankins about their goals, challenges and how they plan to lead the Campus Y next year.

This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

The Daily Tar Heel: What does the Campus Y mean to you? What does it mean to the University?

Imani Rankins: It's such a multifaceted place, and for me, it's truly been a place of growth. I've been able to grow as well as transform — it's been a really transformative experience for me.

It's given me a lot more courage and confidence in what I'm doing, and it also helped me build lasting connections to get me into some

very cool places and do some very cool things.

Karina Vasudeva: For the University, there's something that they say in the Campus Y charter — they say that the Y is the conscience of the University.

That resonated with me quite a bit because I think it's a spot where we have a great responsibility to be UNC as it should be — this inclusive, open community where you can come in and just come as you are, no expectations, nothing.

That's the really beautiful thing to me, and I think UNC at its best is very reflective of what the Y is at its best.

DTH: What are your main objectives for the Campus Y this year?

KV: Imani and I's overarching mission is to create meaningful, lasting change in the community, and so the way that we've centered that is with a few key values and directions.

So, we wanted to center education, tying into that idea of making the Y an inclusive and accessible space.

We wanted to also prioritize research. The Y has a rich history. It's been here for over 100 years, and there's so much social justice work that's gone on, but not a lot of



DTH FILE/JENNIFER TRAN

Imani Rankins and Karina Vasudeva pose in front of Campus Y on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023.

it's documented and there's a lot of research that still can be done and elevate the community, so that's something that we are looking forward to.

We wanted to also lean into this idea of community. You can't pour out of your cup if it's not full, and we really wholeheartedly believe that.

IR: We want to prioritize radical

rest and joy. We want to be able to have rest and do things that feed our souls, as well as have fun, because a lot of the work that people in the Campus Y are connected to is very daunting. It's very difficult work that we have to do.

DTH: What kind of leader are you?

KV: I've always really liked the term servant leader. I think the

term itself is kind of weird, but the principles that it stands for.

I think oftentimes when we think of leaders, at least growing up, I thought of the leader as this white man who was in this big position of power and would be making the decisions and people would follow along.

As I grew up and as I've had these experiences, especially in high school and college, I've realized that leadership is very much about really de-centering your voice and uplifting other voices, and then working together towards this common vision.

So, servant leadership, I don't love the term, but I feel like the principles of it are something that resonate with me, and I think that it ties really closely into this idea of coalition building.

We aren't the sole leaders of social justice on campus. It means that we are centering community, and so I think that's the type of leader I am.

Twitter: @noelleharff

CAMPUS HEALTH

A guide to identity-affirming mental health resources

CAPS offers Multicultural Health Program, gender-affirming mental care

By Ashley Quincin
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New programs at Counseling and Psychological Services are committed to providing culturally competent care to students of varying identities. For many communities, a deeply entrenched stigma surrounding mental health can hinder students from reaching out to relevant services on campus. One of these programs is the Multicultural Health Program, which centers the needs of Black, Indigenous and students of color on campus. The MCHP, which was created in 2020, offers support and care through specialized individual therapy, group therapy, outreach and partnerships with student organizations and departments on campus. The program's aim is to combat stigma and misconceptions about therapy and mental health for

BIPOC students, said Dr. Erinn Scott, assistant director of the MCHP. "I know, as someone who navigates the world as a person of color, that there's probably some similarities in our experience," she said. "A lot of times our BIPOC students don't even know that we have other therapists of color here that can really identify with and validate their lived experiences." Students can connect with the MCHP through walk-ins or triage appointments at CAPS. After the student fills out paperwork describing challenges or concerns and meets with a provider who will ask a series of questions, the provider will make a recommendation either for further care or a disposition. These recommendations can range from individual, short-term therapy to referrals to therapists in the community for long-term care or medication management and group therapy. At the point of recommendation, a student can request to meet with an MCHP therapist through CAPS for culturally-focused service. One of the groups CAPS offers is the Women of Color Empowerment Group, started in early June by Dr.



DTH FILE/ELIZAH VAN LOKEREN

The Campus Health Building, where the University's CAPS program is located, pictured on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022.

Alexis Leca and doctoral psychology intern Markera Jones. The purpose of the group is to provide a safe and supportive environment for women of color to discuss their experiences on campus. Topics can range from identity, relationships and self-worth to imposter syndrome and generational patterns, Leca said. UNC Campus Health Services, in collaboration with CAPS, offers resources related to gender-affirming care for transgender students, including identity-related mental health care, medical management, hormone treatment and referrals for surgical services. An initial appointment consists of discussing goals for transitioning, a detailed consent form and preliminary labs, Stephanie Edwards-Latchu, a nurse practitioner on Campus Health's gynecology staff, said. She also said that Campus Health does not require prior counseling or documentation from students to access these services. "Part of providing comprehensive health care is providing transparency," she said. "We want students to feel safe, and we want students to feel like they can come to us as a health care center for all of their care-based needs."

In the UNC community and beyond, the UNC Suicide Prevention Institute is partnering with Carolina Across 100 to focus on improving mental health, as well as to reduce suicide. Carolina Across 100 is a five-year initiative charged by Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz to connect UNC's resources to communities across the state. After an application process, communities will be participate in a cohort of collaboratives over the next 12 months focused on suicide prevention and improving the availability of mental and behavioral health support in their communities, Michael Welker, community engagement director for ncIMPACT, said. "I know that a lot of campuses, including Carolina, have not been unaffected by issues around worsening mental health and suicide," he said. "And I think that that's all the more reason for us to leverage the resources that the University has to think about how we address this in communities, how we address this on our own campus."

Twitter: @ashnqm

STUDENT SUPPORT

First-generation students find their way at UNC

FGSA and Carolina Covenant support first-generation students

By Natalie Bradin
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Kayla Tran, a first-generation college student and junior at UNC, said she felt imposter syndrome when applying to college on her own. But, Tran said she found support on campus through interactions with students who have similar backgrounds. "I think that one of my favorite experiences as a first-gen student was when I took Vietnamese 101 as my language requirement," she said. "I met a lot of Vietnamese people, and we were all first-generation students too." Tran said she formed a bond with these students and continued to take classes with them. First-generation college students make up nearly 20 percent of the undergraduate population at UNC. For some first-generation students, navigating college on their own without family support can be difficult.

There are also formal organizations for first-generation students at UNC that provide support and community. UNC's First-Generation Student Association is run by students to help their peers ask questions, seek opportunities and find community. Grace Wolf, secretary for the FGSA, said she is confident in the fact that she is a first-generation college student. "It's a source of pride for me to know that I'm where I am because I worked hard, and it's also a source of pride for my parents who encouraged me to go to college," Wolf said in an email. Wolf said the organization offers informative events and materials to support first-generation students. "We're dedicated to providing a safe space for all first-gen students at UNC and work to provide resources for career building, academics, and social events," Heeba Shaikh, a junior and marketing team member for the FGSA, said in an email. Gina Park, a recent UNC graduate and former FGSA marketing chair member, was a part of the organization for all four of her years as a student.

"My first-gen identity also ensured that I get as much out of my time at UNC as possible since I worked so hard to get here," Park said in an email. The UNC College of Arts and Sciences' Center for Student Success also supports first-generation students through events like National First-Gen Day and the Carolina Firsts Pinning Ceremony at the end of the year. Every first Friday of the month, the center also hosts First-Gen Fridays on campus that students can visit for informational sessions and snacks. The Carolina Covenant Scholars Program for low-income undergraduate students provided an additional pool of resources for UNC sophomore Kelvin Perez, a first-generation student. Perez said the mentorship through this program has been helpful for navigating challenges in college. "These upperclassmen have helped me with things such as finding classes, emailing professors to even helping me find clubs that I love being a part of such as Alpha Phi Omega and the Carolina Outing Club," Perez said in a statement. Tyra Rubin, a senior at UNC and member of the FGSA's communications

and public relations team, said that UNC could provide more opportunities that could benefit first-generation students and their families. First-generation graduate students come from families where neither parent or guardian received a master's or doctoral degree. Many of these graduate students were also the first in their families to receive an undergraduate degree. X. Ramos-Lara, a first-year doctoral student at UNC and a first-generation undergraduate and graduate student, said she felt intimidated during graduate school orientation because many students came from families who had previous experiences navigating higher education. "You have to realize that you made it to this University on your own merit," Ramos-Lara said. "And being a part of this community of first-generation students is something to be proud of, and you should openly claim that. You should never have to deny yourself the possibility of accessing that communal space that you deserve."



PHOTO COURTESY OF X. RAMOS-LARA

X. Ramos-Lara is a first-year doctoral student in English at UNC, and a first-generation undergraduate and graduate student.

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CAMPUS

Outdoor spaces provide opportunities for connection

Arboretum, Outdoor Education Center among available locations

By Mary Mungai
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Kenny Jones first spoke to his wife in Coker Arboretum, one of UNC's green spaces. Though he noticed her in their shared astronomy course, he said he never got the chance to talk to her after class.

"So then one day I was coming back from an exam and I saw her in there," Jones, now a microforms and government docs manager at UNC Libraries, said. "And she actually worked for the ground crew as a work-study student in the arboretum, so I went up and talked to her and the rest is history."

At UNC, outdoor spaces from Coker Arboretum to the Outdoor Education Center provide places to

rest or connect with others in the UNC community.

Coker Arboretum

Students can walk along the mostly flat brick or grit paths of Coker Arboretum from dawn to dusk throughout the year.

The arboretum is located on the corner of East Cameron Avenue and Raleigh Street.

Named for the University's first botany professor, William Chambers Coker, the arboretum has a variety of plants, some native to North Carolina and others to East Asia.

Students can take a tour of the five-acre arboretum led by a guide for \$6. Availability and tickets can be found on the North Carolina Botanical Garden's website.

Coker Pinetum

Along the eastern edge of Manning Drive, students can visit

the 25-acre nature preserve of Coker Pinetum, which mainly features a collection of pines and conifers.

Students can walk through the pinetum on two different trails.

The Campus to Garden Trail, which is one mile, can take students from UNC's South Campus to the North Carolina Botanical Garden.

The botanical garden is a conservation garden that works to preserve plant diversity and support sustainable interactions between people and nature.

The Creekside Crossings Trail, which is three-quarters of a mile long, has more challenging terrain that follows the Meeting of the Waters Creek.

Outdoor Education Center

The 67-acre Outdoor Education Center on Country Club Road offers various recreational opportunities and programming,

from an 18-hole disc golf course to eight tennis courts and three sand volleyball courts.

While you need to bring your own equipment, use of the facility is mostly free and available without reservations, according to David Rogers, senior assistant director of Carolina Adventures.

Carolina Adventures, which provides outdoor expedition opportunities for participating students, does require a fee and prior reservation, in part because they're led by paid student instructors, he said.

"It's helped me grow as an outdoors person and as a leader in general because it's kind of a unique opportunity for someone my age to be making like really big, impactful decisions about what a group is doing and kind of having that responsibility," James Brown, a student leader at Carolina Adventures, said. "I think, it's really helped me grow a lot."

Some of the expeditions offered by Carolina Adventures include outdoor climbing.

For Russell Hobart, assistant director of the climbing programs, the climbing community at UNC fosters connections and empathy between students because climbing forces you to be vulnerable with others and trust them with your safety, he said.

Hobart said having these connections can be important for incoming first-years who often have a new level of freedom and responsibility to make their own decisions.

"It's hard to have that level of freedom and it's hard to grow from there because you don't want to disappoint your parents, you don't want to disappoint your family community," he said. "So if you have that level of connection and friendships, I think it allows you to become a fuller version of yourself than you could otherwise."

Twitter: @dailytarheel

Campus can be beautiful during the summer. There are fewer people and less going on, but the sunlight still shines and the flowers are still in full bloom.

Here are some views of UNC's quieter — but still majestic — campus.

PHOTOS BY ADRIAN TILLMAN



ARTS

Black artists discuss their process, community

UNC student groups, projects and exhibitions encourage creativity

By Eliza Benbow

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For De'Ivyion Drew, art is like a love ballad.

Their art is a way to reflect and uplift their experiences as a Black, gender-fluid person, as well as the experiences of their community.

Drew, a graduate student in UNC's School of Information and Library Science, said that various aspects of her identity influence her creative process. They are resonant in the art they create, through mediums such as sculpture, photography, painting and writing.

"When I think about my personal art career, almost all of my work is narrative artwork," she said. "And I think that because I have that orientation, it allows me to not only dive deep into myself, but to dive deep within my community and where I find my support circle and really what makes me, me — in all of the different ways and all of the different wholenesses that shows up."

Drew was a collaborator and artist in #BlackOutLoudUNC, a project that included an exhibition of artwork by Black students in 2019 and aimed to uplift narrative art surrounding the experience of being Black at UNC.

Along with curators Jerry Wilson and Cortland Gilliam, she said that a large part of the project revolved around exploring the history of Black students at UNC through Wilson Library.

Their focus included the Black pioneers, the first Black graduates at UNC and the creativity that lies within the community of Black students at UNC.

Kolby Oglesby, a junior majoring in sociology and minoring in screenwriting, is a filmmaker who uses film to explore the intersections of his identity as a mixed-race Black man.

His sophomore year project was creating a show called Sunbather with UNC Student Television. It was a

"It's all about just making space, bearing witness and allowing time and space for our work, our methods, our art to show up in its full, authentic presence."

De'Ivyion Drew

A graduate student in UNC's School of Information and Library Science



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNC CYPHER

Junior Lansana Koroma raps for an audience at Linda's Bar and Grill on Sunday, April 30, 2023.

narrative, fictional show based on his own experiences navigating primarily white school environments, coming in contact more with his Black culture in college and navigating his experience with Black masculinity.

"The more vulnerable I am, the better I'm able to both recognize my trauma and my privilege and then navigate that and become a better human being through that," he said. "So my films are very much trying to capture that, very much trying to say, 'Here's a path forward for Black men to overcome their trauma and

to be the best human beings that we can be."

Lansana Koroma, a junior majoring in computer science and minoring in film, said he uses rap to "push the bounds of vulnerability" within himself and his audience. He said he wants his music to elicit emotions within his listeners, whether they are positive or negative.

"I want people to hear my music and feel things because I think that's the highest praise you could give to any artist," he said.

Koroma began rapping and writing lyrics eight years ago and has been making his own beats for four years.

He said that he began rapping as a way to grow in something he wasn't initially good at, outside of academics.

"I just wanted that sense of adventure," he said. "I just wanted that, because I knew that I would grow for sure, no matter what."

Koroma said that "it takes a village" and has found a community of friends and fellow rappers who support each other in their music.

Groups like Earthtones and UNC Cypher have provided him with supportive spaces to create art. Earthtones, a collective for artists of color on campus, has hosted beat-making showcases and members of Cypher meet in the pit every Wednesday night to rap together.

As a film student, Oglesby found community through organizations like the Carolina Film Association. He also praised organizations like Lightwood Entertainment, Earthtones and Xpressions for providing spaces for people of color to be able to make art together.

"UNC, for all of its flaws as an institution, I do love it," he said. "It's not perfect, its history is far from perfect, and the people who are leading it

are far from perfect, but as a place, a housing ground for a bunch of young, thoughtful diverse people, I love it for my own experiences and for my art."

Oglesby said he hopes that his films intuitively make sense to the Black community and that they encourage the pursuit of healing and understanding through methods like therapy, particularly for Black men.

He said that he also wants to encourage empathy among non-Black audiences through his art.

Drew said that she hopes to reflect and resonate her experiences for the audience to connect to and digest.

"It's all about just making space, bearing witness and allowing time and space for our work, our methods, our art to show up in its full, authentic presence," they said.

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In the Center for Student Success

UNC recreation facilities help students stay active

SRC, Rams Head provide places for weight lifting, cardio

By Thomas Hicks
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New students can stay active on campus throughout their time at UNC. Whether through team sports, solo gym time or fitness classes, there are ways for everyone to move their body and work out.

UNC's main gym, the Student Recreation Center, is located on South Road across from the Student Stores. The SRC is home to a weight room, cardio and strength training equipment and a multipurpose studio for group fitness classes on the second floor.

The SRC, conveniently located near mid-campus, also neighbors Fetzer Hall and Woollen Gym. Fetzer houses an indoor cycling studio, two multipurpose gyms and an indoor climbing wall. There are also six squash courts and 14 racquetball courts.

Woollen includes basketball courts, equipment rentals, a CPR training lab and additional multipurpose rooms for instruction.

On South Campus — and close to the first-year dorms — is Rams Head Recreation Center. Similarly to the SRC, Rams Head offers weights to lift, cardio equipment and fitness classes in a multipurpose room.



DTH FILE/ANNA CONNORS

Basketball courts at the Student Recreation Center are pictured on June 15, 2022.

This facility also offers an indoor track, basketball courts, an indoor climbing wall and is ADA accessible with a gender-neutral restroom.

Becky Eacho, the assistant director for fitness and wellbeing at Campus Recreation, says Rams Head has benefits, especially being on a large campus.

“I think that sometimes our satellite facility Rams Head is underutilized,” she said. “I think

people automatically think of Campus Recreation and they think the SRC but you can also do your traditional gym, weight room and cardio exercises over at Rams Head.”

Deeper into South Campus, located near the Dean Smith Center and Rams Village, is the South Campus Recreation Complex. This is an outdoor facility offering numerous pickleball, basketball, tennis and sand volleyball courts.

For those interested in the outdoors, the Carolina Outdoor Education Center also offers a wide array of ways to stay active.

“(The Outdoor Education Center) has 67 acres of green space, 18 hole disc golf, sand volleyball, tennis courts, four miles of multi-use trails and its awesome, really great trails,” said Senior Assistant Director of Campus Recreation David Rogers.

“There’s a high and low ropes challenge course, we do by reservation on the high ropes course. You can get quite a workout on the ropes course,” he said. “It’s called the Tar Heel Towers.”

The Outdoor Education Center also offers different outdoor experiences that students can sign up for, such as hiking.

With a vast amount of program offerings and ways to stay fit at UNC, Eacho said there is something for everyone.

“I think we touch a lot of different facets of fitness, aside from your traditional, just come in, lift weights and leave,” she said. “So, I think from an accessibility standpoint, there really is something for everyone, depending on where you’re at in your time here at Carolina.”

While there are plenty of options to stay active on campus, rising sophomore Sawyer Kohman-Eidem emphasized the importance of finding time in your day to exercise.

“I think there are opportunities and you have to get up early or stay up late to get them,” he said. “It takes a little bit of an ‘early bird gets the worm mentality’ to do it.”

Hooker Fields, Woollen Gym and Bowman Gray Memorial Pool also serve as places where students can stay active and participate in a wide array of sports or fitness that they enjoy.

Twitter: @dthsports

ATHLETES

Name, image, likeness changes transform college sports

NIL deals include brand endorsements, meet-and-greet sessions

By Grace Nugent
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Name, image and likeness — more commonly known as NIL — is highly debated, discussed and is rapidly becoming an integral part of collegiate athletics. Here’s the rundown on NIL in North Carolina and at UNC.

What is NIL?

The adoption of NIL has opened up legal pathways for college athletes

to monetize their fame, personal brand and on-field accomplishments while not being paid for playing their sport — something that is illegal in the world of amateur sports.

Under these policies, athletes can now participate in promotional and marketing campaigns, allowing their NIL to be used while receiving material or monetary compensation. This can include signing autographs, running camps, holding meet and greets or endorsing products via social media.

In North Carolina, both collegiate and high school athletes can profit from their name, image and likeness. Recently, decisions from both the U.S. Supreme Court and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association has changed the landscape of compensation for athletes — adding

an additional monetary layer to both collegiate and high school athletics.

In NCAA v. Alston, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that “education-related benefits” should not be withheld from student-athletes and that it is up to the NCAA to create regulations on athletes profiting from their NIL.

The policy is intended to keep college athletics fair and condemn “pay-for-play,” while allowing student-athletes the ability to make a profit due to their on-field ability and their personal brand.

How are high school students affected?

The NCHSAA’s board of directors approved a policy that would allow high school athletes in the state to

profit off their NIL beginning July 1. But, athletes, their families and coaches are expected to complete an annual instructional NIL course.

Though North Carolina has become the 28th state to pass NIL policies for high school athletes, legislators amended N.C. Senate Bill 636 to supersede the NCHSAA’s vote a few hours after the policy was approved. The bill currently sits in the N.C. House rules committee.

How does NIL work?

Athletes can gain social media followers, sign brand endorsement deals as well as hold autograph or meet-and-greet sessions.

At UNC, the athletic department’s “laUNCH” program partners with other groups to help assist athletes with navigating NIL. The program has partnerships with several other schools within the UNC system, The Rams Club and various other outside companies.

Tar Heel athletes have various NIL deals ranging from apparel companies to restaurants. College football and basketball players make the most in NIL at UNC.

UNC men’s basketball player Armando Bacot is one of the top NIL earners at UNC. The center signed a deal with Rhoback Apparel at the beginning of last basketball season and as part of his contract, Bacot will receive gear, compensation from sales and the opportunity for content creation on his social media.

Bacot and former UNC small forward Leaky Black both partnered with Chapel Hill’s Town Hall Grill, where both of the athletes have signature menu items: the Lock Down Chicken Tenders and the Mondo Burger.

Black also inked an inventive deal with local company Ease Plumbing in a “No leaks in this house” advertising campaign.

Others took other culinary routes, such as Bacot and UNC women’s basketball guard Deja Kelly, who both have NIL deals with Dunkin’. Kelly is the top female Tar Heel earner and has deals with Beats by Dre and Crocs.

Quarterback Drake Maye has also made a splash in the NIL world — as well as being the top NIL earner for UNC — signing an endorsement deal with Jimmy’s Famous Seafood, along with six members of his receiving corps.

The athletes will promote the meal prep service and receive weekly meals from Jimmy’s Famous Meals through December 2023.

What are the implications?

Profiting off NIL is not supposed to be “pay-for-play,” since athletes are not making money based on playing their sport — like professional athletics — but instead using their platform to garner deals.

However, according to a survey by On3, a college sports and NIL database, 30 percent of top recruits would be willing to attend a school that is an otherwise less desirable fit if it meant a bigger NIL payday.

On the other side, college athletes are able to profit off their name, image and likeness being used by businesses and corporations and earning their piece of the multi-million dollar college sports industry.

Twitter: @gracegnugent



DTH FILE/SAMANTHA LEWIS

A group of college athletes explores company options at an NIL Meet & Greet on Aug. 22, 2022.

SOFTBALL

Decorated UNC softball coach Donna Papa retires

Papa steps down after Hall of Fame induction and 38 seasons

By Emma Moon
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On May 25, Carolina softball coach Donna Papa announced that she was retiring after 38 seasons as the head coach.

Papa leaves the program with the second most wins by an active coach in college softball, five ACC regular-season championships and as a five-time ACC Coach of the Year. Along with these accolades, Papa secured an ACC championship win in 2001 and has appeared in the NCAA tournament 15 times. She was also inducted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2012.

Before reaching these heights, Papa shares her first experiences with the sport: days with her cousins, an open field and a baseball in hand. While open fields eventually turned into softball fields in high school, and then stadiums during her collegiate career, Papa always possessed a passion for playing sports that has continued to this day.

Although her love for softball has always been there, her journey to becoming a coach was more difficult. Papa's father began coaching high school-level football and basketball before she was born. Rather than persuade Papa to follow in his footsteps, he tried to convince her not to become a coach.

"For a man to raise a family, you know, the pay isn't that great," Papa said. "I wound up being an interior design major for a couple of years. And I told my dad, 'This is not my passion and I really want to coach.'"

Even with his fears, Papa's father remained supportive as she got her early start at St. John's University followed by a position at Susquehanna University where Papa was the head volleyball coach, head softball coach and physical education teacher.

"You wear about 10 hats at a division three school, but it was my



DTH FILE/JENNIFER TRAN

Head coach Donna J. Papa talks to the UNC softball team before the softball game against Elon at Anderson Stadium on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023.

first full-time job, you know, with benefits and all of that," Papa said. "So, for me, that is exciting too."

After a successful run at Susquehanna, Papa landed the head coach position at UNC during the 1985-86 season where she was successful throughout her entire 38-season stretch.

During her tenure at the helm of the UNC softball team, Papa totaled 1,339 wins.

"You stay with some of the things that are the cores of your program and I think some of the cores really have been passion, pride and excellence," Papa said. "I think trying to keep that infused in our program and making sure that every year you stay current."

While Papa is proud of her success on the field, she is most thankful for her experiences and the people that she has been able to connect with from it.

"I'm really going into retirement going to really miss the relationships more than anything," Papa said.

Redshirt senior Abby Settlemyre and senior outfielder Bri Stubbs

both feel like they have developed close relationships with Papa during their time at Carolina since meeting her.

"Coach P has been a really big part of who I have become as a person and a player," Settlemyre said.

Stubbs had similar things to say about her relationship with Papa.

"I could not thank her enough for all the confidence that she has built in me over the past four years," Stubbs said.

From being on the receiving end of various pranks to learning new dances with her players, Settlemyre and Stubbs emphasized that Papa has left a lasting legacy on the program that they will miss.

As Papa's time as head coach has drawn to a close, Papa described her tenure at UNC as a challenge.

"I was challenged every day to be better and to work and try to keep up with the people around me," Papa said. "I was challenged to be the best coach that I could be and the best person that I could be to my team."

Twitter: @dthsports

NEW PLAYERS

Football bolsters staff, roster for new season

New coordinator, wide receiver to impact offensive attack

By Matthew Maynard
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After a season that saw the UNC football team win nine games and an ACC Coastal Division title, expectations are high heading into the upcoming 2023 football season. Here's a look at a few notable new coaches and players.

Chip Lindsey

After the departure of offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Phil Longo, head coach Mack Brown hired Chip Lindsey to take on the same roles. Last season, Lindsey was the offensive coordinator at UCF and led an offense that ranked 11th in total offense, averaging just over 480 yards per game. UCF also had the eighth best rushing offense in the country.

The emphasis on the run game is something that Brown is hoping will translate to the field next season, and expects to happen.

"We will have a more aggressive and better running game, and that's what I wanted," Brown said.

Jason Jones

After a rocky year at the cornerback position, the Tar Heels decided to make



PHOTO COURTESY OF TNS/STEPHEN M. DOWELL

Chip Lindsey is joining UNC after the departure of offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Phil Longo.

a coaching change. Former UNC star cornerback Dre Bly and UNC parted ways, and Jason Jones was hired as the new cornerbacks coach.

Jones was the safeties coach at Indiana for the past three years, and also has experience as a defensive coordinator, serving as Ole Miss' co-defensive coordinator for six years.

Heading into the fall, Jones will look to revitalize a defense that ranked 116th in the country and gave up an average of just over 436 yards per game, with just nine interceptions on the year.

Antavious 'Stick' Lane

A graduate transfer from Georgia State, safety Antavious 'Stick' Lane was a standout safety for the Panthers, being named to the All-Sun Belt team three times in his career.

During his time in Atlanta, Lane started 30 games, recorded 226 tackles, caught 11 interceptions, forced four fumbles and added 13 pass breakups.

Last year — his junior year — he was named third-team all-conference and was a key piece in the Panthers defense.

"He's been working out with the older guys, and he looks really good," Brown said.

Devontez Walker

Another portal addition is wide receiver Devontez Walker, who transferred from Kent State.

The junior joined the team in the spring, and made waves during spring practices.

With redshirt sophomore quarterback Drake Maye losing his top two targets in Josh Downs and Antoine Green to the NFL, Walker could quickly emerge as Maye's WR1 this fall.

Chris Culliver

North Carolina's highest ranked incoming first-year is wide receiver Chris Culliver. In his senior season at Maiden High School, Culliver racked up 80 catches for 1,809 yards with 26 touchdowns.

Despite depth at the wide receiver position, Culliver provides another threat that could be utilized in Lindsey's offense.

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BASKETBALL

UNC men's, women's basketball teams retool rosters

Both teams utilize transfer portal to replace departures

By Ben McCormick
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As the men's and women's basketball teams navigate recruiting and the transfer portal heading into next season, here is a look at how the rosters are shaping up.

Men's basketball

After losing nine of its 13 scholarship players, the UNC men's basketball team has undergone some serious reconstruction over the offseason.

Head coach Hubert Davis has been tasked with replacing seven transfers — the largest amount leaving UNC ever. While the transfer portal took away half of the Tar Heels' roster, it has also provided the solution Davis needed to put together a top-25 caliber team.

Transfers

With the departure of every wing from last year's team, there was an

emphasis on adding shooters and versatile wing players from the portal.

The first addition was Brown graduate transfer Paxson Wojcik. Within two weeks of UNC reaching out, Wojcik committed.

Wojcik averaged nearly 15 points and over seven rebounds per game, and will contribute particularly as a shooter.

Speaking of three-point marksmen, Notre Dame transfer Cormac Ryan — who averaged 12.3 points per game last season — will be joining Wojcik on the wing. In 2022, Ryan set a school record for three-pointers in an NCAA tournament game, shooting 7-for-9 from deep against Alabama.

Following two seasons at Stanford, Harrison Ingram became the third McDonald's All-American on the Tar Heels' roster. Ingram is a great passer, especially when playing out of the post with his back to the basket.

The final portal player is Jae'Lyn Withers from Louisville, who adds depth to the frontcourt while adding another option to help stretch the floor.

First years

The most recent addition to the roster is first-year guard Elliot Cadeau, who recently announced his decision to

reclassify and join the Tar Heels' 2023 class. Even after reclassifying, Cadeau is ranked as the No. 11 prospect in the class of 2023. The Tar Heels will rely on Cadeau's passing ability to help run the offense from day one.

Zayden High is the second incoming first-year. The four-star big man will help provide relief for Armando Bacot and Jalen Washington inside.

Women's basketball

Despite some tough departures to the portal, the UNC women's basketball team looks to mix in some highly talented new additions in with some of its main contributors from last season like Deja Kelly and Alyssa Ustby.

First years

Head coach Courtney Banghart has put together a stellar recruiting class — headlined by Ciera Toomey, the No. 4 overall player in the class of 2023, according to ESPN. At 6-foot-3, Toomey will be the Tar Heels' most intriguing addition. Her interior play alongside Ustby should make for an impressive frontcourt.

Banghart added three more four-star recruits: guard Reniya Kelly,



PHOTO COURTESY OF TNS/TOM HORAK

Incoming first-year Elliot Cadeau makes a no-look pass in a game against Gill St. Bernard's School.

forward RyLee Grays and forward Laila Hull. The class is rounded out by incoming walk-on Sydney Barker.

Transfers

UNC lost Kennedy Todd-Williams and Destiny Adams, but added Iowa State transfer Lexi Donarski, former Boston College Eagle Maria Gakdeng and Indya Nivar from Stanford.

Donarski averaged 12.1 points per game for the Cyclones last season. The 2021-22 Big 12 Defensive Player of the

Year may prove to be the team's best two-way player and likely slide into a starting role for UNC.

Gakdeng averaged 11.3 points and two blocks per game last season. The 6-foot-3 center will compete for a starting spot in a solid frontcourt.

Transferring after her first year at Stanford, Nivar, a North Carolina native, rounds out the roster for UNC.

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Q&A

Erin Matson on new field hockey coaching job

Working with her former teammates is “special,” Matson said

By Caroline Wills

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The Daily Tar Heel's Caroline Wills sat down with field hockey head coach Erin Matson as she transitions from star player to head coach after she graduated in December. Matson is the most decorated field hockey player of all time, winning five ACC championships, four national championships and is a three-time Honda Award recipient.

The interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

The Daily Tar Heel: What was it like showing up for that first day of practice as the program's head coach?

Erin Matson: It was indescribable. The first meeting with the team was amazing, and then we got right to work the next day. It was great. There was lots of energy, excitement and support, and then there was that element of, “Okay, this is new. Let's figure this out together.”

We all kind of just bought into that — things are going to be different, things are going to feel different.

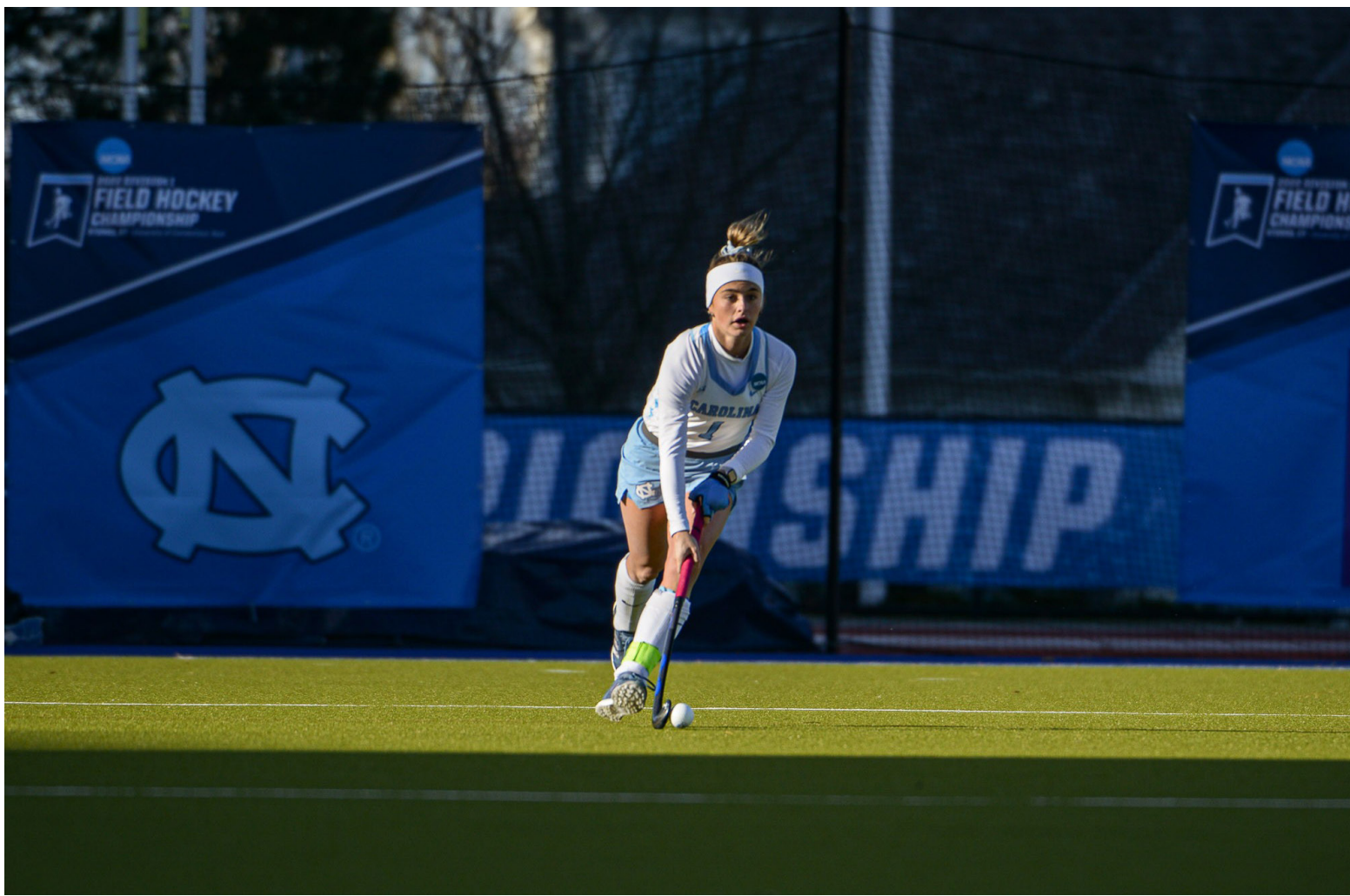
DTH: What has been the best part of this new role?

EM: I guess two things come to mind. One, the fact that I have a lot of interest with things, and I think it's an amazing job because there are so many things to take care of.

There's the team, and there's the scheduling and the planning part of it, and then there's engaging the fans and event management side of things and then there's handling the staff and individual meetings.

It's such a wide range of what coaches do. I think a lot of people think it's just coaching the sport, where that's the tiniest part of what we do. So, I really just love all of the little things that need to get done, paying attention to detail and all of the different kinds of jobs that it requires.

The overarching, most amazing thing that I love about it is just being in this position, where I have such an amazing group of girls, a team and people who want to excel, be the best at what they



DTH FILE/JEROME IBRAHIM

UNC forward Erin Matson (1) drives the ball during the NCAA Field Hockey Championship against Northwestern in Storrs, Conn., on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022.

do and come here and really enjoy their time here.

DTH: What is a lesson you've learned throughout this first initial period about coaching?

EM: The biggest piece of advice, or at least most frequent piece of advice I've gotten, is to just trust your gut. You're in this position for a reason. People trust you. You just need to gather all the data, gather all the information, ask the questions again and do all of the work that's necessary.

DTH: How has it been with players who are returning to go from seeing you as a teammate to a head coach role?

EM: It's been one of the most special parts of the job. I think about them every day — whether or not it's during practice or outside of practice. I've told countless people, “Some day, when they're all graduated and we sit around a table at alumni weekend, I'm going to have to figure out a really special way to just say thank you,”

because they are just such an amazing group.

It's my responsibility to balance that with holding them to high standards and not letting their heads get too big. But, I make sure to tell them how grateful I am for them every day. There will be a time when I can look at each of them in the eye and say, “Thank you,” because they respect the boundaries, they work so hard and they really care about this program, me, Coach Shelton, the legacy and everything so much.

DTH: What would you say is something that you learned about the team from the first couple of spring scrimmages?

EM: It was a big transition. One, with a lot of senior leadership like Meredith Sholder and I leaving after last season, plus the transition of Coach Shelton and now me and all of that.

I think at the start of it, it was, not doubt or anything, but just kind of, “Okay, who's going to step

up and be the leader or the core group? Who are the people going to look to, to carry the team and lead the way?”

I think throughout the spring, they really found themselves and found their confidence, in the sense that it doesn't need to be just one or two people and really kind of leaned on each other — really bonded.

They're so close. I think they just found that confidence in the fact of, “Okay, I'm going to do my job. I'm going to do it well. I'm going to make sure I'm doing it for the person next to me.”

The minute they found that and ran with it, the play got better.

DTH: You mentioned it's been the group as a whole emerging as leaders and standing together. But are there any specific players that you're seeing stepping up and filling any gaps left or anyone that is emerging as leaders?

EM: We have some veterans coming back for me.

Romea Riccardo is going to be

a huge force. Paityn Wirth, same thing. Ryleigh Heck had an amazing freshman year, and I know we're looking for her to be a leader. She's ready to assume that role.

Sietske Brüning is going to be an amazing person in the midfield working with Ciana Riccardo, Romea's sister — both of them played really great this spring. Abigail Taylor is going to come in and kind of lead the defense — Kelly Smith also.

We have a couple younger ones, a couple of first years, who will make an impact — Charly Bruder, Sanne Hak had a great spring. We have Grace Pottebaum in the backfield, who's going to really step up this year coming off a redshirt year. She had a great jump with her confidence and way of play in the spring.

Twitter: @carolinewills03

TRADITIONS

From ‘Sweet Caroline’ to ‘Jump Around’ to ‘Hark the Sound’ — how UNC students celebrate game day

Songs and chants are key game day traditions for students

By Jordan Gooch

Staff Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

UNC is rich in tradition with a love for sports. With 28 varsity teams and 49 NCAA Division 1 national championships in eight of those sports, it is easy to see why many call UNC the “University of National Champions.”

With such a talented athletics program comes an even more dedicated fan base made up of alumni, students and people from around the world.

A rich part of the UNC experience comes from the gameday atmosphere around Chapel Hill — whether that be tailgating, spending time with friends before and at games, walking down Franklin Street or waiting in line for gates to open.

One program that helps create the gameday atmosphere is Carolina Fever. “Carolina Fever is the student fan organization at Carolina,” sophomore Will Scurria, who served as the ticket and database operations director for Carolina Fever last year, said. “Our goal is to introduce students to various athletic events, bring them out to games.”

Though football and men's basketball games have a lottery system, all other athletic events are free to UNC students.

“We provide a great gameday atmosphere as well as incentives,” Scurria said. “If you need a little extra push, we try and convince you to come.”

Incentives including prizes and fan experiences are a common staple to encourage student attendance. Joining Carolina Fever includes guaranteed student tickets to men's basketball games.

Other mainstay in UNC traditions are the songs and chants that fill Kenan

Stadium with lyrics and support during the fall. Though these songs are sung at every athletic event, you will want to be familiar with them by the time the school year starts.

Some of those songs include “Vamp” — the third down cheer — and others where students spell out U-N-C and C-A-R-O-L-I-N-A with their arms and sing “Sweet Caroline.” The alma mater, “Hark the Sound,” is sung after each game, win or lose.

During football games, the Marching Tar Heels — UNC's marching band — will play these songs periodically. Band member Tyler Jade McMillan said she enjoys the atmosphere and chants the band plays during games.

“My favorite thing about gamedays is when we do pregame,” she said. “So that's whenever we run down the stairs and then we run onto the field. That whole thing before the actual game starts is my favorite part.”

McMillan said that her favorite songs to play during games are “North Carolina” and “Vamp.”



DTH FILE/KENNEDY COX

The Marching Tar Heels perform before the football game against Georgia Tech on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022 in Kenan Stadium.

When it comes to basketball games, during the pregame buildup, “Swag Surfin” and “Jump Around” are played. During the games, students are led in chants by the cheerleaders on the baseline by the student section.

Pragya Upreti, a rising sophomore and Carolina Fever member, said the best way to become accustomed to

these songs is by frequently attending athletic events.

“The Carolina experience is one like no other,” Upreti said. “Incoming students, I hope you know that Carolina gamedays are some of the best parts of being a student at UNC.”

Twitter: @Jordangoochi

Opinion

OFFICE DJ

Songs that keep Carolina in my mind



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELIZA BENBOW

Summer University Editor Eliza Benbow poses for a picture with her mother at a UNC basketball game in 2008.

By Eliza Benbow

Summer University Editor

When I was a kid, I often fell asleep to my dad quietly singing the Carolina fight song as part of our bedtime routine.

As a Tar Heel born and bred, I learned embarrassingly late in life that “Sweet Caroline” and “Carolina in my Mind” weren’t written exclusively for UNC basketball games.

On the way home from those games, I would fight to stay awake during the 50-minute drive down N.C. Highway 54 as my dad listened to The Avett Brothers. There was something special about sharing those songs with him, and I wanted to be awake for every second.

Years later, in the summer between being accepted to UNC and moving into my first year dorm, I made the same pilgrimage to campus with my best friend and future roommate as often as possible, a carefully-curated joint playlist boasting songs by artists like Dayglo and The Main Ingredient.

We would wander through then-unfamiliar landmarks and talk about the classes we would take, the places we would study and the people we would meet. UNC was a tempting mystery, and we were eager to solve it.

I haven’t solved the mystery any more than those first visits. I still

sometimes feel as if I am engulfed by such a large student body, still get completely lost in Carroll Hall and am frequently rendered speechless by visitors’ navigation questions.

I moved into my first year dorm faster than my family and I were ready for, my belongings packed into few enough boxes that I was tearfully hugging my siblings and parents goodbye less than an hour after I got my keys.

Almost as soon as they left, my roommate and I began to decorate the blank walls of our new home, made up of an eclectic collection of photographs, postcards and pages I’d taken from random books.

We listened to a playlist we’d made for moving in about new beginnings, with Declan McKenna and Paul Simon paving the way.

I felt uncomfortable and small in such a new space, and filling the walls with reminders of familiarity while singing along to songs I loved was a balm for move-in day nerves.

Since that first night, I’ve unpacked and repacked my life several times.

I’ve spent hours on the quad in front of Wilson Library, ignoring my homework to swap song recommendations with friends.

I’ve gone on many late-night walks around campus by myself to clear my head, blasting Phoebe Bridgers.

UNC has been both a constant

in my life and a driver of change in my relationship with myself and the world around me.

I have discovered new facets of myself with the encouragement of those around me and felt the joy of watching those I love grow.

These are the songs that I always come back to that remind me of Carolina, whether it’s driving down Highway 54, taping memories to the walls of my first dorm room or laying on the quad.

Hopefully, they remind you to stay grounded in the people and places you love, but to be open to growth.

Welcome (almost) to Carolina. I hope it’s already starting to feel like home.

LISTEN TO ELIZA’S OFFICE DJ HERE:



Twitter: @eliza_benbow

The Daily Tar Heel

SPEAK OUT

Interested in writing a letter to the editor or submitting an op-ed?

- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit submissions to 500 words.

Email: opinion@dailytarheel.com

COLUMN

What you really need to bring to move in



DTH FILE/ANGELA KATSANIS

Cheryl Autry helps her son Dylan, a sophomore at UNC, move in to his on-campus dorm on Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022.

By Caitlyn Yaede

Summer Editor

I am not the first person to share this advice, nor will I be the last. Moving into your first college dorm room is a formative experience in your young adult life and I’m here to make sure you have everything you need to be a full-time Tar Heel.

Dorm living doesn’t have to be complicated, messy or expensive, despite what you might have been told. I moved into Craige Residence Hall — also known as Crusty Craige for its less-than-modern accommodations — in the fall of 2019.

Despite sharing a single bathroom with seven other people and grappling with the dorm’s crusty reputation, I am glad to say I made the most out of this living experience. I want to help you do the same and prove you can have an MTV-worthy crib without breaking the bank.

Things to consider

If you stop reading right now and only heed one bit of advice, make it this one: bring additional lighting. Bring additional lighting.

Overhead lights in dorm rooms are less than ideal. They’re bright, they might bother your roommate and they usually kill the vibe. Invest in a cheap desk lamp, salt lamp or maybe even those colorful LED light strips (but, fair warning, they have been known to take the paint off walls. Remove with caution).

If you’re anything like me and you have way too many items in your wardrobe, consider bringing a second dresser. I used a three-drawer plastic storage space under my bed and it made all the difference.

A three-tier cart on wheels. You can probably imagine the one I’m describing — every major retail store has its own version and TikTok has already launched this item into popularity. It can help you move in and out and will serve you even after you don’t live in a dorm.

Don’t forget to be prepared for the rain, because it will rain and you will get caught in it. An umbrella is of the utmost importance, but consider rain boots and a rain jacket, too.

If you’re moving into a suite or any other shared bathroom situation, you may want to get another retention rod, shower curtain and curtain rings. During my first year, we used them to separate the toilet from the rest of the bathroom for more privacy and it was a game changer.

Whether it’s the frat flu or spring allergies, you will inevitably be ill, especially during your first year. Bring portable hand sanitizer or use the dispensers available in the dining halls, have tissues handy in your dorm and consider making a first-aid kit with all the medicine you may need.

You need shower shoes. Please trust me on this one. Dollar store flip-flops work perfectly.

Save some cash by printing your own posters and artwork for your walls. Most office supply stores and some UPS Stores have printing centers that tend to be cheaper than buying artwork online.

Things to avoid

Do not try to make your dorm room look like a Target display room because it won’t. The dorm furniture industry is big and full of stuff you may not really need, so be wary of items that seem like “dorm hacks.”

If you know you are going to work in the library a lot, don’t invest in a bed desk. If you don’t plan on having people over often, reconsider that futon. And how many decorative pillows do you really need and how many will end up on the floor?

You don’t need a Nalgene, a Hydroflask and a Stanley cup (or whatever other internet-famous water bottle the kids are into). Let’s be honest, you only need one and you probably won’t even wash that one often.

Things to reconsider

I have been living on my own for several years now. I have not, at any point in my adult life, had enough clothing hangers. If you don’t want to be like me, I recommend buying bundles of hangers for cheap at a dollar, bargain or thrift store.

You don’t need all your clothes at once. Consider leaving your winter clothes at home until Thanksgiving and keeping the shorts and tank tops away until Spring Break. If you travel home often, this will save you storage space and frustration.

In short, do what works for you this move-in season. Find items that you can use year after year and find ways to make your new space uniquely your own.

Welcome to UNC, Tar Heels, and happy move-in!

Twitter: @caitlyn_yaede

QuickHits

Duke tuition support

In June, Duke University announced its plans to fund tuition for all eligible North and South Carolina undergraduate students with incomes less than \$150,000. This is a major step towards educational equity, as it opens the door to tuition-free attendance for an expected 340 students. Finally, Dook gets something right!



Rain. Rain. And more rain.

In case you missed it (since you haven’t been in Chapel Hill), it’s been raining. We don’t mean it rained yesterday, too. And the day before that. And the day before that. And it will probably rain tomorrow, too. Are we being dramatic? Yes! Do we miss the summer weather? Yes. Hoping for sunnier, warmer days ahead.



Empty campus

The worst part about campus in the summer is not being able to see all the fresh, new Tar Heel faces. This gets a “thumbs down,” but it’s just because we miss crowded midday picnics on the quad, loud lecture halls and fan-packed stadiums. We can’t wait to see the new first year and transfer students on campus in August!



EDITOR’S NOTE: Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel or its staff. Editorials reflect the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel editorial board, which comprises 16 board members, the opinion assistant editor and editor and the editor-in-chief.

COLUMN

I'm a UNC student from Chapel Hill. Here's how I got to know my hometown and college town better.

By Walker Livingston
Summer City & State Editor

I've lived in Chapel Hill for what feels like forever, so while moving into my South Campus dorm last fall wasn't a change of place, it was definitely a big change of pace.

Living in a 10-story building in the town I've lived in for so long with strangers and friends was super weird, for lack of better wording. I felt like I was in a strange summer camp far away from home, when I was a 10 minute drive away.

I was used to going to the strip malls of Eastgate Crossing and Timberlyne Shopping Center and driving aimlessly on backroads just outside of town. I avoided Franklin Street and on-campus areas, because I wasn't a student and, honestly, it felt kind of cringe-worthy.

Chapel Hill outside of UNC felt quirky and boring, with its esoteric yard signs, weird roundabouts and concerning lack of drive-thrus, but it was my town.

I found the idea that specific spaces were built up around the University silly — it made me think that the rest of Chapel Hill was an afterthought to the institution that is UNC.

While all of my friends were experiencing the newness of being a college first-year in a completely new place last semester, I felt at odds with being new in the town



Deer walk through a clearing in Merritt's Pasture.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WALKER LIVINGSTON

that I've lived for 10 years because my personal Chapel Hill isn't as interesting or sensational as the school spirit-filled, prestigious UNC.

About a month into the fall semester of my first year, I decided I was going to find something new about Chapel Hill. I was on a

quest to find something exciting, something truly new.

Behind the ever-present buzz of college — schoolwork, social life, my newfound knack for journalism and the constant identity crisis that was my first year of college — I found little homes for myself across Chapel Hill.

I walked around town aimlessly with my wired headphones in feeling like a character in a coming-of-age movie. I spent hours and hours at Open Eye Cafe writing and, by proxy, finding out what I what I (kind of) want to do with my life. I went to concerts

at the Cat's Cradle on a whim and discovered artists that have become personal favorites.

I've sat and talked with friends at Weaver Street Market in Carrboro and not realized the sun was setting until it had turned pitch-black outside.

While these places weren't completely new to me, they felt new because I was using my newfound collegiate independence to actively seek out spaces that I could make my own in this town.

Few UNC students are from Chapel Hill (though it feels like I see someone I went to high school with every time I turn a corner), but I think everyone could stand to do a little exploring and self-searching. This town by no means is riveting — but there is a lot to see.

I encourage you to spend time alone and get to know Chapel Hill's quirks — coffee shops, beautiful neighborhoods, green spaces and all.

College is overwhelming, and taking a breather to get to know the place around you on your own is empowering.

I've grown pretty tired of Chapel Hill at times. After all, I have gone to elementary, middle, high school and college here.

Despite this, I think I've gotten around to making Chapel Hill my home. And I hope you can make it yours too.

Twitter: @wslivingston

COLUMN

An introvert's guide to making friends in college



By Ethan E. Horton
Summer Managing Editor

When I got to UNC in August 2020, I had just spent five months isolated from the outside world. After March 2020, when Wake County Public Schools shut down, my world was never the same.

I was already an introvert and coming to a place with more than double the number of students than my entire hometown was intimidating. But then, it got even worse.

I was planning to live in Granville Towers my first year — yes, I know, bad choice — but my building was undergoing major renovations. So, they stuck us in hotels near campus. I was lucky enough to be put in the Carolina Inn.

Very quickly, though, I realized that living in the Carolina Inn with no roommate and the only people I knew on campus living more than a mile away was not ideal. Day after day, remote class after remote class, I sat out in the hallway of the Carolina Inn waiting for someone to stroll by and strike up a conversation with me.

Remember, I'm an introvert. And I was desperate for actual human connection.

Nobody ever did walk by. Nobody ever struck up a conversation. In fact, two weeks after moving in, we were all sent back home because COVID-19 clusters began popping up everywhere.

Back at home, I had the people I knew and loved already. I wasn't pushed to make new friends. I had my gym buddy, Jackson. I had my girlfriend, Bella. It was all okay — given the circumstances.

Then, August 2021 rolled around, and I moved into an actual dorm. I was terrified. I had no clue who I was rooming with — I didn't meet a single new soul the first go around, let alone people to live with — and I had no clue what to do.

But then, I heard a couple of knocks on my door. "Who's that?" I thought. "Why would they want to talk to me?"

It was just my new suitemate. While he and I didn't stay in contact for long — he moved out of the suite because of some weird rearranging thing — having a new, friendly face around was nice.

We went to Mediterranean Deli, we watched soccer, we learned how to cook. Finally, after a year, I had a friend.

I made others through class — making fun of my Spanish professor with my classmates — and through my already-established connections, like Bella's new suitemates.

August 2022 rolls around. It's my third year at UNC and I'm starting a new big-time position at The Daily Tar Heel.

As I'm walking up the steps toward the office, my legs are shaking. My social anxiety is hitting new heights.

"What are they going to think of me? I don't know any of these people, and they don't know me. How am I going to make friends?"

And then I got to know them. And they got to know me. I got over the mental hump. I made friends. I'm even living with one of those friends that I made here when August 2023 rolls around.

Let's be very clear — making friends sucks. It does. You have to be vulnerable. You have to be nice. You have to give a little to get a little. You have to show emotion

and learn how your new friends show emotion. I've never been a big fan of any of that.

Do you know what I am a big fan of, though? The Cook Out runs, screaming along to one of the cabinet battles from Hamilton. The Lenoir lunch dates. The chair spins. The trash-talking in group chats. The trips to the fair. The elbows to the head. The Linda's trivia nights. The roof adventures.

Believe me, I know making friends is difficult. Social anxiety weighs you down sometimes. But having people to rely on and people to talk to and people to care about really does outweigh the bad.

Making friends sucks. But then, it doesn't.

Twitter: @ethanehorton1



DTH FILE/KENNEDY COX

City & State assistant editors Ethan E. Horton (left) and Samuel Long sit in a cable car at the North Carolina State Fair on Friday, Oct. 14, 2022.



DTH FILE/IRA WILDER

Assistant City & State Editor Samuel Long (middle left) elbows Assistant City & State Editor Ethan E. Horton (far left) in the head while posing with 2023-24 Editor-in-Chief Emmy Martin and 2022-23 Editor-in-Chief Guillermo Molero during The Daily Tar Heel's 130th birthday celebration on Friday, Feb. 23, 2023.

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

What to know about UNC's shared governance

Governing bodies include BOG, BOT, student government

By Eliza Benbow
Summer University Editor
university@dailytarheel.com

UNC is led by a variety of governing bodies that make decisions on the state, school and student body levels. These institutions represent the students, staff and faculty at UNC in their decision making, and decide where much of the University's money and resources are allocated. Whether you're an incoming student or need a refresher, The Daily Tar Heel has compiled a list of these entities and their roles in leading UNC.

UNC System Board of Governors

The UNC System is made up of all 16 public universities in North Carolina and the N.C. School of Science and Mathematics. It is governed by the UNC System President, Peter Hans, and a Board of Governors, made up of 24 voting members and one non-voting member from the UNC Association of Student Governments.

The governance of schools in the UNC System is ultimately the responsibility of the Board of Governors, which can dictate the development, planning and policies of schools, both individually and system wide. The Board of Governors members serve four-year terms and are elected by the N.C. General Assembly. These members elect officers — a chair, vice chair and

secretary — from within the Board every two years.

UNC Board of Trustees

The UNC Board of Trustees is made up of 12 voting members and the undergraduate student body president, who acts as a non-voting member. The trustees make decisions about the management and development of the University, as long as these choices align with the policies and guidelines set by the Board of Governors, and advise both the BOG and the chancellors on these decisions. The Board of Trustees has been critiqued by the UNC community for past decisions. Most recently, they accelerated the creation of the School of Civic Life and Leadership, a new school within the College of Arts and Sciences, without prior knowledge or approval from University faculty. Four of the 12 voting members are appointed by the N.C. General Assembly and eight are elected by the Board of Governors.

UNC Administration and Faculty Governance

Kevin Guskiewicz is the University's 12th chancellor and is tasked with carrying out the policies of the Board of Governors and Board of Trustees. The provost, Chris Clemens, oversees academic planning and budgeting, as well as recommending and approving decisions related to the faculty and deans of schools. The UNC Faculty Governance, led by newly-instated Chair of the Faculty Beth Moracco, advises the

GOVERNING BODIES OF THE UNC SYSTEM

UNC System Board of Governors

25 members (1 non-voting)
Elected by N.C. General Assembly

UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees

12 members (1 non-voting)
4 elected by N.C. GA, 8 elected by BOG

UNC Administration and Faculty Governance

Chancellor: Kevin Guskiewicz
Provost: Chris Clemens

UNC Student Government

Student Body President: Christopher Everett
Graduate Student Body President: Lauren Hawkinson

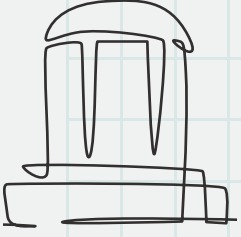
DTH DESIGN/ALAN HUNT

administrators and faculty on various matters, including educational policies and curriculum, research and campus climate.

UNC Student Government

The UNC Student Government is made up of both an Undergraduate Student Government and a Graduate and Professional Student Government. USG and GPSG both have their own executive, legislative and judicial branches, as well as a joint council of representatives from both of the governments. The 2023-24 Undergraduate Student Body President is Christopher Everett and the 2023-24 President of the Graduate and Professional Student Government is Lauren Hawkinson. UNC Student Government has various committees — whose roles include overseeing the distribution of student fees to campus organizations, enforcing the UNC honor code and hearing student grievances. Undergraduate students vote for their student body president, as well as their representative in the Undergraduate Student Senate, who represent districts based on groupings of majors. Information about voting can be found on the UNC Board of Elections page on Heel Life.

Twitter: @eliza_benbow



Transportation Guide 101: How to Get Around Campus

Transit

Chapel Hill Transit

- Provides direct service to UNC, Chapel Hill, and Carrboro

GoTriangle

- Provides direct service to UNC from Raleigh, Durham, and Hillsborough

Part Express

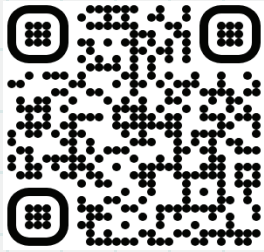
- Provides direct service to UNC from Mebane, Graham, Burlington, and Greensboro

Tar Heel Bikes

How Much Does it Cost to Ride?

Pay-as-you-go: \$1 to unlock + \$0.29 per min.
Monthly pass: \$6.99 per month (unlock fee waived) + \$0.29 per min.

Scan QR Code to Download App



Point-to-Point (P2P)

UNC'S fare-free P2P fixed-route shuttles circulate campus at light

- P2P Express** runs nightly, 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. every 20 minutes; on-demand service after 3 a.m.
- P2P Baity Hill** runs Mon-Sat., 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. every 30 minutes; on-demand service on Sundays.

Rideshare

Carpool

- Find free and secure ride-matching with ShareTheRideNC.

go.unc.edu/kickgas

LEGISLATION

NCGA votes on elections rules, reproductive rights, education

New Republican
supermajority passes
abortion, LGBTQ+ bills

By Walker Livingston
Summer City & State Editor
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This summer, the N.C. General Assembly has continued debating and passing pieces of important legislation that will impact North Carolinians. Here are some of the biggest pieces of legislation so far this summer.

LGBTQ+ rights

The NCGA passed House Bill 547 — the Fairness in Women’s Sports Act — on June 22, which legislation prohibits transgender athletes from participating in school sports.

This bill would designate sex at birth. Additionally, transgender female athletes would not be able to partake in school sports on a middle, high school or collegiate level. Gov. Roy Cooper has not yet vetoed or

signed the bill.
Sports betting

Cooper signed House Bill 347, a piece of legislation that makes sports wagering legal across the state, into law on June 14. H.B. 347 will legalize sports gambling and permit gambling corporations to run sports betting operations in the state.

Elections

Senate Bill 747, titled Election Law Changes, passed the N.C. Senate on June 21. A number of changes to the election process — like changing the deadline for the county boards of election to receive absentee ballots from three days after Election Day to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

Another elections bill that passed the Senate — S.B. 749, proposes changing the structure of the State Board of Elections by the NCGA making appointments through minority and majority party leaders.

Education

Cooper declared a state of

emergency for public education in North Carolina following the introduction of bills including House Bill 823 — which includes the Opportunity Scholarship Program, a program allocating private school vouchers.

H.B. 823, which passed the House in May, would expand the program by removing income eligibility requirements for private school vouchers by 2032.

Reproductive rights

The NCGA overrode Cooper’s veto of Senate Bill 20 — a law restricting abortion in North Carolina on May 16. Most parts of S.B. 20 are set to go into effect on July 1.

The law bans abortion in North Carolina after 12 weeks, but provides exceptions in the cases of rape, incest, fatal fetal anomaly and danger to the life of the mother.

In cases of rape or incest, abortions will be prohibited after 20 weeks, while in cases of fetal anomaly they would be prohibited after 24 weeks. The bill does not impose a limit on abortion for cases

where the mother’s life is at risk.

Protesting

House Bill 40 — called the Prevent Rioting and Civil Disorder bill — would cause those who participate in riots while showing a weapon or using a dangerous

substance with a Class H felony, which has a maximum sentence of 39 months in prison.

Earlier this month, the ACLU of North Carolina filed a lawsuit challenging certain provisions of H.B. 40.

Twitter: @wslivingston_



PHOTO COURTESY OF JULI LEONARD/THE NEWS & OBSERVER/TNS
Phil Berger, president pro tempore of the N.C. Senate, center, speaks at a press conference in 2021.

PACKAGE | BUDGETS

A look at Chapel Hill’s budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year

New budget, approved
8-1, includes property
tax increase

By Laney Crawley
Staff Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

The Chapel Hill Town Council adopted the budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year on June 7. This year’s budget comes out to about \$144 million.

The Council voted to approve the budget 8-1, with council member Adam Searing opposing.

“This year’s budget is really front end focused on people, facilities, fleet and all of the things that go into supporting our services,” Chris Blue, the Town’s interim town manager, said.

Included in the fiscal year 2023-24 budget are 13 new Town staff positions — an engineer, three firefighters, a planning technician, a commercial plans reviewer, a police crisis counselor, a municipal arborist, a housing maintenance mechanic, a planning project manager, an affordable housing manager and two inspector apprentices.

Blue also said that in the past 10 to 15 years, the recession and the pandemic caused governments to hold off on tax increases and hold the line on the budget firmly.

“The results of that 13- to 14-year cycle, is an awful lot of deferred maintenance of our Town facilities, deferred acquisition of fleet — like new fire trucks, new police cars, new trash trucks,” he said.

Blue said this year’s budget is an 11 percent increase from last year’s budget, and that much of this increase is funded by a 5 percent increase on the general fund tax rate.

“The price of living continues to go up from year to year — the cost of copy paper, uniforms for your employees, those costs continue to go up,” he said.

Blue said he was thankful to the council for approving the “bold” budget.



DTH FILE/EMMA PLUMLY

A sign for the Chapel Hill Town Hall is pictured on Aug. 28, 2022.

Searing said that he feels this budget is bad for the Town, noting that it contains one of largest property tax increases in the history of Chapel Hill.

“The problem is that we are spending money on things that are silly,” he said.

The budget dedicates \$2.84 million total — the equivalent of 2.9 cents on the tax rate — to support affordable housing projects and initiatives, Sarah Viñas, the director of Affordable Housing and Community Connections for Chapel Hill, said.

Viñas said this is a substantial commitment for a town of Chapel Hill’s size. She also said that the Town has allocated over \$90 million for affordable housing projects since 2020.

She said that the three main areas of focus in the affordable housing plan are public subsidies, tenants’ rights and land use.

“We’ve identified four key housing challenges that will be addressed through the plans, which are limited housing supply, decreasing homeownership opportunities, declining rental affordability and

ongoing displacement pressures,” Viñas said.

She also said that the affordable housing team is developing a new investment strategy to identify more substantial resources for affordable housing going forward.

Mayor Pam Hemminger said, though no one wanted a tax increase, Chapel Hill needed to catch up on some things — such as vehicle maintenance and parks and recreation.

“We didn’t raise taxes all during COVID, but it kind of caught up with us at this point,” she said.

Hemminger said the property tax ends up being around \$20 a month for the median income property. She also said people who qualify on lower income brackets can apply for tax relief through the county, after proving home ownership and lower income status.

“The Town itself doesn’t have a high tax rate, but when you combine it with Orange County and the school district tax, and our high values of properties, that’s what appears to give us one of the highest rates,” she said.

Twitter: @DELCRAWL

General Assembly works on compromise for new budget

Each chamber passed
own bill, compromise
committee now working

By Lucy Marques
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Republican members of the N.C. General Assembly are currently working on a compromise budget proposal for the 2023-24 fiscal year — but it may not be completed until early July. The new fiscal year begins on July 1.

N.C. Sen. Mike Woodard (D-Durham) said the N.C. House budget’s larger raises for state employees and the N.C. Senate budget’s acceleration of proposed tax cuts are the most notable differences between the two budget proposals. He said it is challenging to include the priorities of all the legislators working on the compromise budget.

“It takes a lot of time and it requires a lot of conversation and some negotiation back and forth between all the members of the conference committee,” he said.

Woodard said there is a lot of pressure to pass a budget that implements the Medicaid expansion that was passed by the General Assembly in March.

The bill — which was signed by Gov. Roy Cooper — expands Medicaid eligibility to include the majority of adults who make less than 133 percent of the federal poverty level. But, the final implementation of this expansion, Woodward said, is contingent on the adoption of a budget.

He said funding for transportation modernization is one of his personal priorities for the budget, as well as the expansion of behavioral health services across the state.

Jake Cashion, the vice president of government affairs for N.C. Chamber, said the business advocacy group is hopeful that state leadership will create a

budget that supports the state’s economy and job creation.

“North Carolina is the No. 1 state in the country for business — that wasn’t by accident,” he said.

He said the N.C. Chamber hopes the compromise budget will include an elimination of North Carolina’s regressive franchise tax and modernization of state transportation funding.

Suzanne Beasley, the government relations director for the State Employees Association of North Carolina, said the organization would like to see pay increases for all state government employees and retirees. She said there is an employee shortage in state government jobs and that there are not enough people to fill the positions that provide critical public services.

“Part of working for the state and spending your career serving the citizens of North Carolina is not that you came to get rich,” she said. “You knew you wouldn’t make as much money as you would in the private sector, but we had those benefits that balanced it out, and those benefits have eroded.”

Beasley said that the SEANC hopes the compromise budget will include fully funding the State Health Plan — which is the health insurance program provided by the state to teachers, state employees, retirees and their dependents.

Beginning in 2021, she said, new hires for the state no longer received state health care when they retired.

“Every single legislator has a responsibility and duty to consider the best interest of those employees,” she said.

Beasley said that SEANC appreciates the work of the state legislature, but would like to see them do more.

“We realize it’s coming up to the line and final talks, and hopefully we will have a budget by the end of the fiscal year: June 30,” she said.

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U.S. SUPREME COURT

State legislatures do not have full power over redistricting, SCOTUS says

Independent State Legislature Theory rejected, 6-3

By Ethan E. Horton
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The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on June 27, 6-3, that state legislatures do not have sole authority over redistricting, as was argued by North Carolina Republican legislative leaders.
Chief Justice John Roberts, who has ruled against federal court oversight on political

gerrymandering before, wrote in this case that state legislatures are not insulated from the process of judicial review.
“State courts retain the authority to apply state constitutional restraints when legislatures act under the power conferred upon them by the Elections Clause,”

Roberts wrote. “But federal courts must not abandon their own duty to exercise judicial review.”
The case, Moore v. Harper, was argued in the court in December after a decision from the N.C. Supreme Court that forced the state legislature to redraw its gerrymandered districts was appealed.
Legislative leaders in some states may have to contend with courts when drawing districts, but the Republican majority on the N.C. Supreme Court ruled in April that political gerrymandering is not a justiciable issue under the state constitution.
Becky Harper, the named defendant in the case, said while the case may not actually help maintain fair districts in North Carolina due to the state supreme court’s recent ruling, people around the country are relieved the Independent State Legislature Theory — the main argument of the plaintiffs — was rejected by the court.
North Carolina is currently represented in Congress by a 7-7 split of Democrats and Republicans, but another round of redistricting will be done by the state legislature before the 2024 elections.
“It’s actually pretty easy to draw maps that give voters a reasonable chance of electing people that

represent them and that is our goal,” Harper said. “It’s been our goal for all these years that we have been litigating, and I will hope that the legislature chooses to do the right thing.”
Recently, the new Republican majority on the N.C. Supreme Court overturned the appealed case, complicating whether or not the U.S. Supreme Court could rule on it.
While most parties, including the U.S. Department of Justice, subsequently argued the Supreme Court should dismiss the case, both legislative Republican leaders and Common Cause — an anti-gerrymandering nonprofit — argued the Supreme Court should rule definitively.
Associate Justice Clarence Thomas dissented, and argued the Supreme Court did not have the jurisdiction to decide the case.
“The majority’s views on the merits of petitioners’ moot Elections Clause defense are of far less consequence than its mistaken belief that Article III authorizes any merits conclusion in this case, and I do not wish to belabor a question that we have no jurisdiction to decide,” Thomas wrote.

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The Supreme Court of the United States pictured on Monday, Oct. 31, 2022. DTH FILE/IRA WILDER

CROSSWORD

“Starting Up at UNC”

This week’s crossword was created by Liam Furlong. Liam is a UNC student majoring in comparative literature and education. He is from Wilmington, Del.

This puzzle is about new beginnings at UNC, which the title implies with the phrase “starting up.” The “up” part also dictates the direction of the seed words, as they are all vertical. Each seed word expresses something related to the beginning of the new Tar Heels’ college journeys (TOP OF THE NEW DAY, FIRST PERIOD BELL, and MANY WELL WISHES as well as an unintentional horizontal entry IN THE FIRST PLACE).

Additionally, each of the three horizontal seed words includes a location “at UNC,” hence the title (TOP OF THE NEW DAY [TOPO Restaurant], FIRST PERIOD BELL [Bell Tower], and MANY WELL WISHES [Old Well]).

Across

- 1 Macs, more generally
- 4 Sunscreen unit
- 7 Fully join
- 13 Dominating victory
- 15 Roman three
- 16 At fault, like for an accident
- 17 “Among Us” target
- 19 Historical record
- 20 Loose synonym for depth
- 21 “The limit” for many dreamers
- 22 Malta monies
- 23 “American Dad” network
- 25 Make a ____ children
- 29 Pressure meas.
- 30 Settle a debt
- 32 Tech event
- 33 Overarching meanings
- 35 Alf or ET
- 36 To begin with
- 40 Challenges
- 41 “Stay out of sight!”
- 42 Like the Student Store, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- 43 Violent uprisings
- 44 Software update type
- 47 Jordan or Norman
- 48 Once owned
- 49 Savory jelly made with meat stock
- 51 Philosophy major’s favorite question
- 53 Badly-botched job
- 56 Iraqi president Hussein
- 59 Smugly obscure
- 60 Intrinsic
- 61 Spearheaded the expedition, say
- 62 AMC Plus series “Better Call ____”
- 63 “The One Who ____” (Shel Silverstein poem)
- 64 Drug that inspired “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds”?
- 65 Opposite direction for NNW

Down

- 1 June celebration
- 2 Breach the surface
- 3 Hunted group in Disney’s “The Incredibles”
- 4 Optometrist’s office location?
- 5 Apple, peach, and pecan
- 6 It rings in the school day
- 7 Showing high style
- 8 (“I’m a pig!”)
- 9 “Best of luck, new Tar Heels!”
- 10 Kenan-Flagler degree, abbr.
- 11 Edwin McCain hit “_’__ Be”
- 12 QB targets, often
- 14 Morning’s beginning
- 18 Chatroom ID
- 24 Droopy-looking hound type
- 26 Southern African plant
- 27 Freelance detail, briefly
- 28 Sharpen, like knives or skills
- 30 Whistle wearer at the Dean Dome
- 31 English actress Clarke, Fox, or Jones
- 34 _’_ Not Here (Franklin Street bar)
- 35 UNC service frat
- 36 Superstar’s out of work?
- 37 California wine region
- 38 “Star ____” (famed intergalactic series)
- 39 Transport layer security, abbr.
- 43 Paired ‘scared’ with ‘dared
- 45 “Carmen” and “The Marriage of Figaro”
- 46 The titular “Harry Potter” prisoner of Azkaban
- 49 Play in part of a play, say
- 50 Participate in a spin class
- 52 Natural emotion for Duke basketball
- 54 Puts into practice
- 55 “Chrisley Knows Best” member now jailed for tax evasion
- 56 ‘Bro’s’ alternative
- 57 Paul Rudd’s hero alias ____-Man
- 58 Double-helixed molecule

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BY LIAM FURLONG

PACKAGE | LGBTQ+ RIGHTS

A local history of queer people, spaces and movements

Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Durham, Pittsboro have distinct queer histories

By Emma Geis
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LGBTQ+ people have a storied history in North Carolina, marked most notably by legislation such as Senate Bill 49 and House Bill 2. Despite this, local community leaders have worked over the years to promote inclusivity and advocate for their community members.

Here are some people, spaces and movements in local LGBTQ+ history — from the early 1900s to now — that have impacted Chapel Hill and surrounding communities.

Chapel Hill and Carrboro

Joe Herzenberg made history in 1987 by being elected to the Chapel Hill Town Council — making him the first openly gay elected official in the American South.

Herzenberg grew up in New Jersey in the 1940s and moved to Chapel Hill in the early 1970s to attend graduate school at UNC.

During his time on the council, Herzenberg helped found the “Orange House,” a home located in Carrboro that supported individuals with the HIV infection and their families by providing education, awareness and outreach, according to their website.

The house opened in 1995, two years after Herzenberg’s last term on the Town Council.

“It was a vehicle for local community groups and charities and to be able to respond to them — to the health crisis that was occurring — to be able to provide for safe housing and access to health care for people who were suffering,” Mark Kleinschmidt, former Chapel Hill mayor and friend of Herzenberg, said.

Herzenberg died at UNC Hospitals in 2007 at 66 years old.

“He was always such a great mentor to other queer folk who wanted to be out and make a difference,” Kleinschmidt said.

As Chapel Hill’s first openly gay mayor, Kleinschmidt said that he felt like he was returning an LGBTQ+ voice to the council after Herzenberg left office.

Mike Nelson was the first openly gay mayor in North Carolina and served in Carrboro from 1995 to 2005. Kleinschmidt followed suit in 2009 in Chapel Hill. Lydia Lavelle



DTH/ADRIAN TILLMAN

The Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice is pictured on June 25, 2023.

was elected as the first openly lesbian mayor in North Carolina, serving in Carrboro from 2013 to 2021.

Kleinschmidt acknowledged that progress for the local LGBTQ+ community could not have been achieved without the work done during the civil rights movement.

“Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Durham are places where there are also other people who have experienced oppression at the hands of majority groups,” he said. “Largely African American folk who have been instrumental in creating the identity of what Chapel Hill is today and what Durham is today — that have infused within our culture a sense of what justice means and that justice isn’t about just us.”

Durham

Pauli Murray was a nationally recognized Black queer activist, lawyer, scholar and priest who grew up in Durham in the 1910s.

They grew up with their extended family, the Fitzgeralds. The Fitzgeralds’ house, located on Carroll Street in the historically Black West End neighborhood, was a formative space for Murray.

“That house, and the experience growing up there, was a catalyst for their activism,” Torrianna Foster, the communications and programming coordinator at the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice, said. “They learned everything that they knew about activism, about protesting, about

emancipation, about human rights and even about justice in that house and with that family.”

Murray co-authored the amicus brief for the Reed v. Reed U.S. Supreme Court case, the first time sex discrimination was found unconstitutional under to the 14th Amendment.

They also published the 1956 book “Proud Shoes: The Story of an American Family,” a detailed account of their life growing up in Durham.

Although Murray’s activism and work took them elsewhere, the house remained in Durham.

The Pauli Murray Center, established as a nonprofit in 2012, is a historic site and future community center based out of the Carroll Street home, according to its website.

Foster said the center will be an exhibit space where local artists, activists and community members can gather to learn about Murray’s legacy. During the pandemic, they held virtual activities, historic tours and outdoor events on the home’s lawn.

“This little known, but very powerful person, creates a space where Durham can be a rich center of activism,” Foster said.

Pittsboro

On June 11, the town of Pittsboro held its first-ever Pride parade.

Pittsboro joined other rural communities, like Sylva and Wilson, that began hosting Pride events in recent years.

PBO Pride, a local organization that aims to create a safe and inclusive community for queer people living in Chatham County, hosted the parade at The Plant, an eco-industrial park on the east side of the town.

Mary Beth Clark, PBO Pride planning committee member, said over 1,000 people were in attendance.

“We didn’t know how many people would attend,” she said. “We tried to advertise it as heavily as we were able, but we were thinking, you know, ‘How many people do you think will show up? Maybe, maybe 200? Maybe 300?’”

From stilt walkers to a Japanese fire truck heading the parade, Clark said the event turnout was terrific and that the organization is looking to the future for what they can do for their local queer community.

“We’re really thinking about, ‘How can we best use this thing that we’re creating?’” she said. “What’s the best way to serve the community?”

Providers discuss gender affirming care

In the Triangle, resources are enhanced by affirming spaces

By Caitlyn Yaede
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Amid a wave of legislation concerning transgender people — like H.B. 808 and H.B. 574 in the N.C. General Assembly — local clinics and health care providers offer gender-affirming care within their specializations and practices.

Gender-affirming care refers to a variety of services and resources that can help transgender and genderqueer individuals feel aligned with their gender identity, including hormone replacement therapy, surgical interventions and primary care.

Several health care providers in the Triangle are working to create accessible, gender-affirming spaces within their own practices.

The Student Health Action Coalition

The Student Health Action Coalition is a collaboration with student volunteers within a variety of UNC schools to provide free health care for underserved North Carolinians. Their gender-affirming care clinic offers telehealth appointments to patients across the state over the age of 18.

SHAC’s gender-affirming care clinic is staffed by four attending providers as well as fourth-year medical students at UNC who have been trained on gender-affirming care.

Clinic coordinators asked to remain anonymous for their personal safety.

“This is a medical space where (patients) can trust their providers to not just prescribe them something, but also affirm their gender as a person and help them on that journey,” one clinic coordinator said.

The clinic offers hormone replacement therapies, as well as referrals for surgeries or specialized care, like speech therapy.

A clinic coordinator said gender-affirming care doesn’t have to refer to medical interventions, and that the clinic works to provide a gender-affirming environment, support and gender and sexual education as well as meet the medical needs of patients.

They also said several of the student providers identify as queer, which has been instrumental in building a sense of community and understanding of patients.

UNC Campus Health

Michelle Camarena, director of nursing and performance improvement at UNC Campus Health, said patients interested in gender-affirming care can schedule an appointment with primary care and gynecology providers.

“Our mission is to help students thrive during their time at Carolina,”

she said. “We want to do what fits into helping them be successful in their lives and academic experience.”

No documentation or mental health evaluation is required to receive hormone treatment, which Camarena said is offered at Campus Health alongside surgical referrals. She said students may also access mental health care through Counseling and Psychological Services.

“It’s very much a patient-driven process,” Stephanie Edwards-Latchu, a gynecology nurse practitioner at Campus Health, said. “And that’s one of the things that I really love about it.”

Edwards-Latchu said patients seeking hormone therapy typically complete preliminary labs at their first appointment at Campus Health, and return to begin therapy upon a follow-up visit.

Triangle Wellness & Recovery

Lydia Johnson is a family nurse practitioner at Triangle Wellness & Recovery — a practice based in Cary that provides care for mental and physical health symptoms including anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and addictions.

Johnson provides primary care and hormone replacement therapy using an informed consent model. She said that while Triangle Wellness & Recovery usually only provides primary care for patients of the practice, transgender people can receive primary care and hormone replacement therapy without being an existing patient.

“Our goal, within this practice, is to remove barriers for people who very often encounter a lot of them,” she said. “I tried to make access to services that are really needed and life-saving available without burden or barrier.”

Duke Health

Dr. Clayton Alfonso, an OB-GYN at Duke Health, said he provides any care that someone with a uterus might need, including contraception, STI screening and routine pap smears, cancer screenings and pelvic exams. Alfonso also performs gender-affirming surgeries that involve gynecology, such as hysterectomies.

“I think it’s important to seek out resources in an affirming space,” they said.

As an openly gay man, he said it is important to advocate for people seeking gender-confirming care, especially those who might have experienced discrimination seeking health care elsewhere.

Alfonso said Duke Family Medicine Center, Duke Endocrinology and Duke Child and Adolescent Gender Clinic are other useful resources for gender-affirming care, including hormone therapy, within the Duke Health system.

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DTH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/JENNIFER TRAN



DTH FILE/CHICHI ZHU

Artist Michael Brown unveils his painting of former Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Herzenberg during the Pride Piper Walk in Carrboro on June 5, 2018.

Twitter: @DTHCityState

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2023

Carrboro Town Council to see shakeup in November

Carrboro to have a new mayor, with Seils not seeking reelection

By Emma Hall
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Candidates are already preparing for the Carrboro Town Council elections on Nov. 7, 2023.

Mayor Damon Seils and Mayor Pro Tempore Susan Romaine have announced they will not be running for reelection.

The Carrboro Town Council consists of 7 seats — including the mayor and mayor pro tempore. Four of these seats are up for election in November, including the two currently open seats.

Sammy Slade, who has served on the Carrboro Town Council since 2009 and whose seat is up for election, has not announced whether or not he will be running for reelection.

Candidate filing officially opens on July 7 for this year's municipal election. Below are the candidates who have announced their run for open seats.

Barbara Foushee

Barbara Foushee, a current town council member, is running for the open mayor spot in this upcoming election. She is currently the only person who has announced their candidacy for the seat.

"I'm going to answer the call to serve, and the next level is the mayor seat," she said.

She said her platform is based on community building — including issues like affordable housing, stormwater management, local and regional transit, race equity, climate action and environmental justice.

She said that service has been a part of her life for many years from serving with her sorority, Zeta Phi Beta, to being on the town council and now running for mayor.

"Any seat that I'm sitting in, as an elected official, or anywhere else, I'm always sitting for the people," she said. "I'm sitting for the voice that's not at the table."

Eliazar Posada

Eliazar Posada, another current

town council member and the first LGBTQ+ Latino to be elected in the state of North Carolina, is running for reelection.

He was elected to fill Damon Seils's seat once Seils was elected as mayor in 2021.

Outside of his time on the council, Posada has also worked with El Centro Hispano for seven years and works as the organizing director for Equality North Carolina.

Some of his priorities include a language equity plan, public transit and affordable housing. Out of all of these, he said that his top priority right now is affordable housing.

"I definitely want to continue to work with the council to ensure that we as a town are providing affordable housing for community members," he said.

Catherine Fray

Catherine Fray, the current vice chair of the Carrboro Town Planning Board, is also running for Carrboro Town Council.

Fray said that they were inspired to run for town council so that they could be a part of the decision-making process on issues such as climate action, equitable transit, walkability and affordable housing.

They said that as the town keeps growing, they don't want anyone to get left behind.

"If you live in Carrboro, then you know what a good life it can be," Fray said. "I just don't want us to pull the

ladder up behind us — I want to make sure that we keep welcoming more people to Carrboro."

Jason Merrill

Jason Merrill has also announced his candidacy for Carrboro Town Council. Merrill, the former owner of Back Alley Bikes, recently sold his shop to new owners and decided to dedicate his life to public service.

"I want to be of service and I'm available," he said.

He said that his six years of experience on Carrboro's Transportation Advisory Board and customer service experience with his bike shop prepared him for enacting change in Carrboro.

"It's easy to criticize change when it's proposed, but people don't look at the status quo with the same critical eye," he said.

If elected, he said, he would be particularly supportive of the Carrboro Connects comprehensive plan.

"It sets forth what I think are some of the greatest values of our community: the desire for greater racial and economic equity, the desire for greater environmental and cultural sustainability, the desire for greater affordability, the desire for greater transit conductivity," he said. "These are all the things that made me want to live in Carrboro in the first place."

Twitter: @DTHCityState



DTH FILE/ANASTASIA GARCIA

The Carrboro Town Hall is pictured on Monday, March 27, 2023.

A breakdown on early Chapel Hill Town Council candidates

Melissa McCullough and Michael Beauregard have declared so far

By Grace Whittemore
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This November, Chapel Hill residents will be able to vote on four Town Council positions. These seats are currently held by Jessica Anderson, Tai Huynh, Michael Parker and Amy Ryan.

The Chapel Hill Town Council is made up of nine members, including the mayor, who serves a two-year term. The other eight members serve staggered four-year terms, which means there is an opportunity for turnover on the council every two years.

Chapel Hill Mayor Pam Hemminger said local government elections are important because they affect the community in a more direct way than state and federal elections.

"Local elections affect you the most," she said. "We set your property tax rate, we set the vision for the community, we are in charge of zoning, we set the priorities of whether certain streets get paved."

Though candidate filing has not officially opened for town council or any other local positions, some candidates have already announced they will be running.

Melissa McCullough

Melissa McCullough, who moved to Chapel Hill in 2011, was one of the first candidates to announce her campaign for a Town Council seat. McCullough, who earned a Master's degree from Duke's School of Environment, has spent over 30 years with the EPA in a variety of positions.

She said her experience in environmental management and sustainability gives her a unique perspective that inspired her to run.

Twitter: @DTHCityState



DTH FILE/EMMA PLUMLY

The Chapel Hill Town Hall is pictured on Sunday, March 19, 2023.

How to vote in Orange County's municipal elections

Pre-early voting registration deadline is Oct. 13, election on Nov. 7

By Abigail Keller
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Election season is underway. Municipal elections in Chapel Hill will happen on Nov. 7, and multiple seats will be up for grabs.

Here are some of the voting resources to know to be prepared to cast a vote this November.

Registering to vote

This year's registration deadline is Oct. 13, as the elections for the towns of Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Hillsborough and for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will take place on Nov. 7.

"The smaller the election, the closer that government is to you and the more power they have over making decisions about your day-to-day life," Orange County Director of Elections Rachel Raper said.

In North Carolina, residents can register to vote and then cast their ballot at any early voting location in their county of residence during the early voting period. For this year's municipal elections, the early voting period is Oct. 19 to Nov. 4.

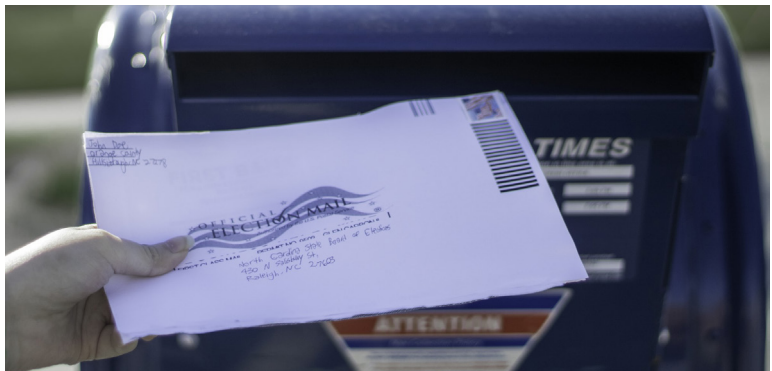
Proof of residency — like a North Carolina driver's license, other photo identification issued showing the voter's name and address or a current college photo identification card paired with proof of campus habitation — is required to register.

"Democracy doesn't work unless we all make it work," Natasha Young, adviser to UNC's Civic Engagement Working Group, said.

Specific information for UNC students

All UNC students have the option to register to vote in Orange County or register for their home county, whether in state or out of state.

If a student chooses to register to vote in Orange County, they can complete or update their registration once they have received their residence hall assignment and University address.



DTH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/PHILLIP LE

If a student is living off-campus, they can register to vote using their address.

Sophia Luna, a senior who is registered to vote in Buncombe County, said having a voting plan is important for students registered to vote outside of Orange County.

"It's empowering, it's important and it's rewarding to share information about," she said.

Absentee voting

If a student or community member chooses to vote in their home county,

they will need to request an absentee ballot. Deadlines to request an absentee ballot vary by state and county and can be found on each county's board of election website.

Absentee ballots can either be mailed back to the State Board of Elections or dropped off at respective county board of elections sites.

Where to vote in Orange County

Those who are registered to vote in Orange County, or who opt to use same-day registration at an Orange

County early voting site, can vote at their polling precinct which can be found on the NCSBE website.

Students registered at campus housing and in Granville Towers can vote on Election Day at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center.

The Orange County Board of Elections met in 2020 and decided to consolidate UNC into one voting precinct, the Sonja Haynes Stone Center, to make the election experience easier for students who were often going from precinct to precinct, Raper said.

Voter ID

A photo ID is also required to vote in North Carolina, a policy reinstated in April by the N.C. Supreme Court.

The N.C. State Board of Elections has opened an application process for colleges like UNC to allow students and faculty to use their One Cards as a valid form of photo ID. The application deadline for colleges to apply for this provision is June 28.

Twitter: @DTHCityState

TOWN COUNCIL

Chapel Hill approves new housing zoning change

Controversial 6-3 vote comes after months of debate

By **Ethan E. Horton**
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The Chapel Hill Town Council passed a text amendment to its land use management ordinance on June 21 that allows more multi-family housing to be built in what were previously single-family zoned lots. The full ramifications of the decision are yet to be determined. The change — which would permit two-family homes on all residential lots and three- and four-family homes in some higher-density areas — is aimed at creating more “missing middle housing” and promoting “gentle density.” Town Council member and now-mayoral candidate Adam Searing was one of three council members to vote against the ordinance change on Wednesday, partially because he said the ordinance would not apply to many neighborhoods in Chapel Hill, including his own.

State law, he said, does not allow the Town to override neighborhood pacts that ban non-single-family housing, which Searing said most neighborhoods built in Chapel Hill during the last 30 years have. A March study from the Urban Institute found that loosening zoning restrictions in single-family residential areas allowed for slightly higher density over time, but may not lower costs or make housing more accessible for those earning below the national median income. Searing cited this study in his remarks during the town council meeting on Wednesday and argued that the change wouldn’t impact affordable housing. Searing said the existing housing pipeline and what he projected as

25 percent growth of Chapel Hill in the next couple of years makes the zoning change unnecessary and too controversial to move forward with. He said the approval of South Creek, an 815-unit development near Southern Village, shows that the town has other ways to grow. “We’re approving these units,” Searing said. “I’m not sure why this is even a question. This is one thing that drives me crazy. It’s like, ‘Oh, Chapel Hill’s not growing at all.’ Of course, it is.” Molly McConnell, a member of the Chapel Hill Alliance for a Livable Town, said she opposed the measure because she believes it will not create affordable or missing middle housing. She said new developments will cause problems for those living nearby. “If you allow this kind of large housing to go on in a neighborhood that was not meant to have all that at a time when people are struggling to hold on to their jobs and their housing — the economy is not good — people are going to get displaced,” she said. About 530 homes are currently in the Town’s affordable housing development pipeline. Chapel Hill is in need of more than 5,000 additional affordable homes to fill the town’s need for those earning below 80 percent of the area’s median income, according to Chapel Hill Affordable Housing’s most recent quarterly report. But, several members of the town council have said the change was never directed toward affordable housing. “We have an explicit affordable housing strategy that is very effective and impactful,” Mayor Pro Tempore Karen Stegman said during the meeting on Wednesday. “There is much more to do, no question, but we have one and we invest significantly. This is a housing supply strategy. It’s to



DTH FILE/GAGE AUSTIN
A sign protesting the Chapel Hill Town Council’s rezoning efforts stands in front of a home on Hillsborough Street on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

increase housing supply and types of housing and diversity of housing.” Geoffrey Green, a city planner and Chapel Hill resident, said that one of the biggest barriers to creating affordable housing in Chapel Hill is that the state cannot require new developments to provide affordable housing. He also said statewide building codes make it difficult to build housing that is not single-family homes. He said that changes in housing policy, like in the text amendment, may cause residents to feel frightened due to the notion that the “feel” of neighborhoods will change. Town Council member Jessica Anderson voted for the proposal and said during the meeting that she believes increasing density can work to provide more housing options in town. “I grew up in this type of housing,” Anderson said. “And

based on that experience, I know that gentle infill can fit into existing neighborhoods, support a more inclusive community and support our environmental goals.” Zoning laws, like those Chapel Hill had prior to Wednesday, have historically been used as a tool of discrimination against people of color. A 2021 White House report found that restrictive zoning laws both increased housing prices and kept poorer community members out of high-opportunity neighborhoods. The report also connected restrictive zoning laws to racial segregation, increased disparities in financial outcomes and an increase in the Black-white racial wealth gap. Paris Miller-Foushee, another member of the town council, also voted for the proposal Wednesday evening. While she said the land

use amendments alone cannot fix systemic racial inequities in housing, it is an important step in the right direction. “Our land use housing systems create enormous costs and disparities, which are disproportionately worn by vulnerable populations, low-income families and Black and brown communities,” Miller-Foushee said during the meeting. “That analysis has been done. And those studies are very clear. The past common ideal of the American Dream is stuck in the 1950s and we can no longer wall off access to the future.” Summer City & State Editor Walker Livingston contributed reporting to this article. Twitter: @ethanehorton1

N.C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Abortion law challenged in court by Planned Parenthood

New state law bans abortions after 12 weeks in most cases

By **Lucy Marques**
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Planned Parenthood South Atlantic and a North Carolina health care provider filed a federal lawsuit on June 16 addressing parts of Senate Bill 20 — a law that

bans abortion in the state after 12 weeks of pregnancy. Both houses of the NC General Assembly approved S.B. 20 about 48 hours after it was introduced. Though Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed the bill, the Senate and the House overrode the veto. Molly Rivera, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic communications director, said after the veto was overridden, Planned Parenthood South Atlantic’s team of legal and medical experts began to look at the law to figure out how to comply with it.

“That is when we realized how confusing a lot of the law is,” she said. “We identified many parts of the bill that appear to contradict each other, and that’s when we realized it was going to be very difficult for a provider like us to simply comply with this law because it was very unclear.” Rivera said the lawsuit is not asking for a court to strike down S.B. 20, but rather to address and clarify the specific restrictions and parts of the law that are vague or contradictory.

She said that one part of the bill states that abortion is legal up to 12 weeks of pregnancy, but another part states that before performing a medical abortion, doctors must confirm that the pregnancy is no further than 10 weeks. “Some people might think that’s maybe not a big difference, but pregnancy care and abortion care are very time-sensitive,” Rivera said. “Days and weeks matter.” Dr. Robin Wallace, a local physician, said the 48 hours it took Republican legislators to approve S.B. 20 is less than the 72-hour period that a pregnant person must wait before they are able to receive an abortion. “They are continuing to push off access and limit access, such that it becomes more and more impossible for people who want or need abortion care to get to a provider within that 12-week timeframe,” she said. Dr. Erica Pettigrew, a family medicine and public health physician, said even if the lawsuit is successful, it will not overturn S.B. 20 or stop any “egregious” parts of the bill. “There’s really not any redeeming parts in this bill,” she said. “It’s 46 pages of at best, unnecessary things, and at worst, things that are adversely going to affect patient care and patient experiences.” Pettigrew said that she was not surprised to see that a lawsuit was filed against the bill. She said although one of the ways healthcare providers advocate for patients to have access to high-quality care is to practice the best care they can in the exam room.

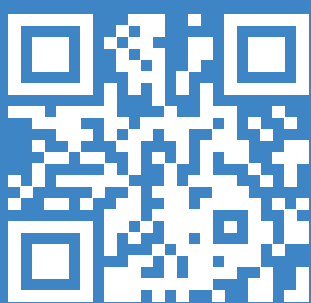
They also have to fight for it on the legal front, she said. “The fact that as a physician, I need to rely on keeping my fingers crossed that a reasonable judge helps us or allows us to take care of patients in the best way possible is just insane to me, that we’ve reached that level of political interference into the practice of medicine,” she said. Amber Gavin, the vice president of advocacy and operations at A Woman’s Choice, a reproductive healthcare clinic with multiple locations in North Carolina, said even though the lawsuit could potentially make changes, S.B. 20 is still detrimental to reproductive healthcare and abortion access. “It’s really important that folks who are upset organize and talk to each other about abortion, and we work to vote out the politicians who are voting against our interests,” she said. Kristi Graunke, the legal director for ACLU of North Carolina, said the lawsuit is scheduled to be heard in a federal court in Greensboro next week. The judge will decide whether or not to issue a temporary restraining order, which would prevent the law from going into effect on July 1. “We’re asking the court to block the law while we’re basically litigating it to the end,” she said. “And in order to do that, the court has to find a couple of things, including that people will be imminently harmed by this law.” Twitter: @lucymarques_



DTH FILE/ADRIAN TILLMAN
Chapel Hill’s Planned Parenthood location is pictured here on May 18, 2023. Planned Parenthood South Atlantic and a North Carolina health care provider filed a federal lawsuit on June 16 addressing parts of S.B. 20.

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