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130 YEARS OF SERVING UNC STUDENTS AND THE UNIVERSITY

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UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION



DTH FILE/IRA WILDER

Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz celebrates UNC's Final Four victory with students on April 2, 2022.

Guskiewicz up for MSU job, faculty concerned

By Abby Pender and Ashley Quincin

University Editor & Assistant University Editor
university@dailytarheel.com

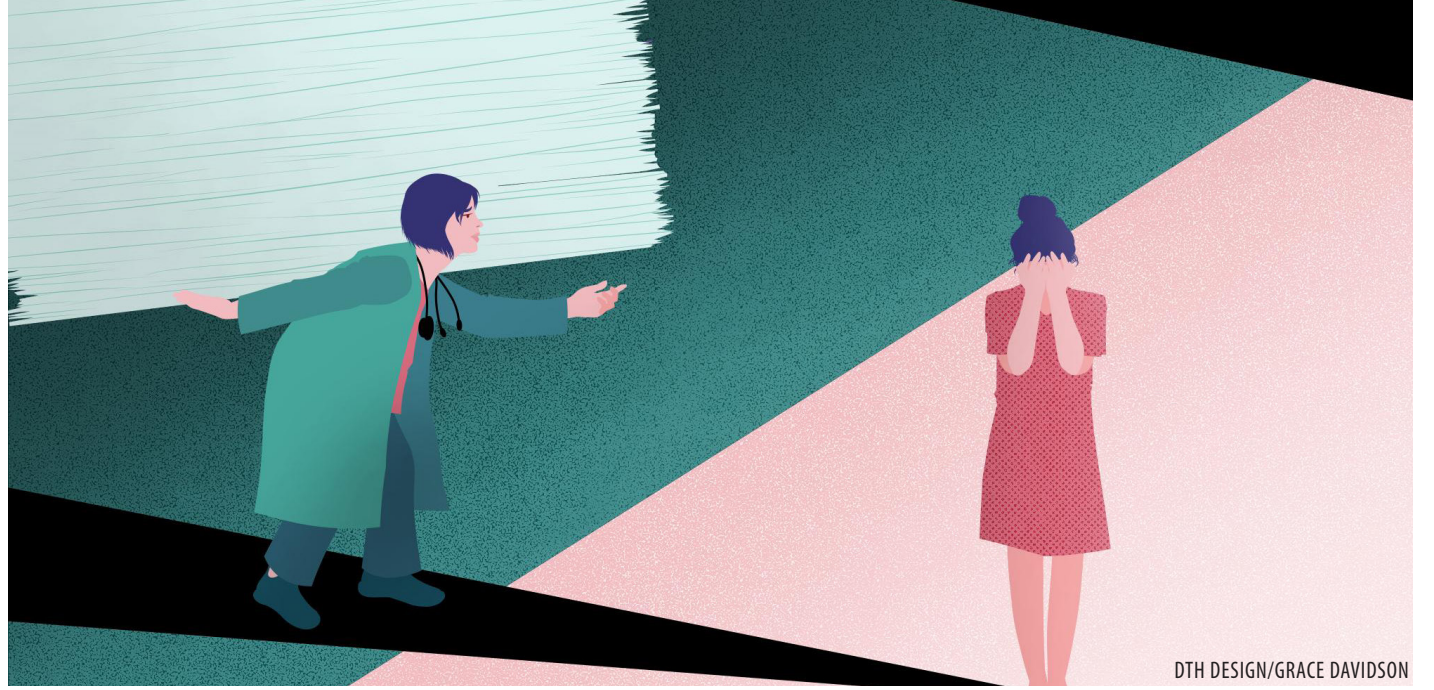
UNC Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz is the only candidate in the running for Michigan State University's presidency and is considering the job. Some prominent campus figures say they are not surprised.

Guskiewicz was named as UNC's 12th chancellor and 30th chief executive officer in 2019 and has led the University through the COVID-19 pandemic, the denied tenure of Nikole Hannah-Jones, the acceleration of a School of Civic Life and Leadership and a campus shooting, in addition to other campus events and controversies.

SEE CHANCELLOR PAGE 2

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Abortion law burdens providers



DTH DESIGN/GRACE DAVIDSON

As patients grapple with 12-week ban, providers say they struggle to keep up

By Lucy Marques

Assistant City & State Editor
city@dailytarheel.com

Since the implementation of Senate Bill 20, Dr. Robin Wallace has to travel to Virginia to provide abortion care for patients who are more than 12 weeks pregnant.

One of the first patients she saw after the implementation of the bill was someone who lives less than 20 minutes away from her in the Triangle. She said they both made the two and a half hour drive to Virginia in order for the patient to receive care.

S.B. 20, which went into effect on July 1, bans most abortions in North Carolina after 12 weeks of pregnancy and requires patients to attend an in-person appointment at least 72 hours before receiving an abortion.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, the number of abortions in the state decreased 31 percent between June and July this year.

Wallace said that since S.B. 20 has been in effect, she sees more patients coming in to receive abortion care earlier in pregnancy.

"My personal take on that is there is a greater sense of urgency than ever before because there is this very sobering check on what we have access to legally," she said.

Calla Hales is the executive director of A Preferred Women's Health Center, an abortion clinic with locations in Charlotte and Raleigh. She said her clinics have had to increase capacity and staff as well as make changes to the practical flow of clinic procedures.

Before July 1, counseling was required for abortion patients at least 72 hours before their procedure, but that counseling could be done over the phone, Hales said.

Now, individuals seeking abortion care must visit the clinic for an in-person consultation and return another day for their

SEE S.B. 20 PAGE 7

CULTURE

Native artists pay homage

By Kaitlyn Church

Senior Writer
lifestyle@dailytarheel.com

Art has marked the presence of Native American culture in North Carolina for thousands of years.

Rock petroglyphs, such as the carvings on Judaculla Rock in Jackson County, are artistic indicators of Native American peoples who have inhabited the state for more than 10,000 years.

Today, the breadth and variety of Native American art forms in North

SEE THE ARTWORK PAGE 10

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Women's soccer falls to BYU

By Noah Monroe

Senior Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

Amidst hundreds of Brigham Young students who stormed the field, the North Carolina women's soccer players were hidden in white — some standing, some sitting, but all crying and all in utter disbelief.

SEE TAR HEEL PAGE 15

FOOTBALL

Last regular season game ends in loss

N.C. State dominated the Tar Heels, 39-20, on Saturday night

By Matthew Maynard

Senior Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

RALEIGH — Cedric Gray saluted his family while walking off the field at Carter-Finley Stadium.

In what might have been the senior linebacker's final game of his collegiate career, Gray's unit was once again unable to prove what he had preached during the offseason: that the defense would look more comfortable and confident as they began to fully understand defensive coordinator Gene Chizick's scheme.

But in UNC's 39-20 loss on Saturday night at Carter-Finley Stadium, the defense couldn't get its footing. The Wolfpack scored on their first eight possessions of the game — four touchdowns and four field goals — and UNC's season slipped away in a similar fashion to last year.

In the first half alone, North Carolina gave up 327 yards of total offense and 232 passing yards. Armstrong was able to find receivers — mainly Kevin "KC" Concepcion — to slash open the Tar Heel secondary.

UNC head coach Mack Brown said after the game that UNC simply "didn't tackle well."

"Brennan Armstrong did a



DTH/SAMANTHA LEWIS

UNC head coach Mack Brown walks off of the field following a timeout during the football game against N.C. State in Carter-Finley Stadium on Saturday.

tremendous job," Mack said. "We didn't put pressure on him and he hit everybody. They were all open and he made some great throws, so gotta give him a lot of credit."

Despite starting the season 6-0 with what looked to be a renewed defense and understanding of the scheme, the Tar Heels have since

given up just over 450 yards per game, and it was no different against the Wolfpack. North Carolina gave up 504 yards in total, with 334 yards being in the air.

After the game, Brown and senior linebacker Cedric Gray had

SEE DEFENSE PAGE 14

AUG. 28 SHOOTING

Due to mental illness, suspect unfit for trial

Tailei Qi to be committed to Central Regional Hospital

By Abby Pender

University Editor

and Lauren Rhodes

Assistant University Editor
city@dailytarheel.com

Content Warning: This article contains mentions of self-harm.

Tailei Qi, the suspect charged with the murder of UNC associate professor Zijie Yan, has been found unfit to continue to trial due to mental illness.

During a hearing on Monday, Orange County Superior Court Judge Alyson Grine ruled that Qi will be committed to Central Regional Hospital for mental health treatment.

According to Grine, Qi demonstrated behavior consistent with severe mental illness while in detention, including delusional thinking, paranoia and self-harm. If his condition improves, doctors at Central Regional Hospital must notify Orange County District Attorney Jeff Nieman and court proceedings will continue.

SEE CASE PAGE 2

“If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one.”

DOLLY PARTON

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- EMMY MARTIN**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
EDITOR@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
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DEI COORDINATOR
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UNIVERSITY EDITOR
UNIVERSITY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
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CITY & STATE EDITOR
CITY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- SHELBY SWANSON**
SPORTS EDITOR
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- LE HA**
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DEPUTY COPY CHIEF
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Chancellor's exit could be 'destabilizing' to University

Continued from Page 1

"Chancellor Guskiewicz has done a good job of leading Carolina through some of the most challenging times in its recent history and it's no surprise that he would be on anyone's shortlist elsewhere in the country to strengthen public higher education," UNC System President Peter Hans said after a Nov. 16 UNC Board of Governors meeting. James Moeser, who served as University chancellor from 2000 to 2008, said there have been tensions between the Board of Trustees, the N.C. General Assembly and the chancellor — which could have contributed to Guskiewicz's consideration of a departure from the University.

MSU governance politics

Teresa Woodruff became MSU's interim president in August when former president Samuel Stanley Jr. resigned. Stanley resigned from the presidency in October 2022 and said in a Youtube video message to the MSU community that he had lost confidence in the university's BOT. MSU is conducting an external investigation into allegations that board chair Rema Vassar violated board bylaws and university policies.

UNC governance politics

Mimi Chapman, faculty chair from 2020 to June 2023, said UNC has also faced tensions within governing bodies.

Chapman said she had "very credible information" that Guskiewicz faced possible termination after the UNC BOT denied Hannah-Jones tenure in 2021, but he avoided the "attempt" through the support of faculty and many outside campus community members. Guskiewicz has gone far in the search process with MSU, which Chapman said requires "a lot of time and energy."

"You don't usually do that if you wouldn't really consider leaving," Chapman said.

Current Faculty Chair Beth Morocco said some UNC faculty worry that Guskiewicz's absence would be "destabilizing" for the University if he chooses to become president of MSU. "With the acknowledgment faculty doesn't always agree with his decisions, there is a deep concern of the detrimental effect it would have on the University."

Morocco also said faculty should be involved with any selection for interim and permanent chancellor.

What's next?

In a statement to The Daily Tar Heel, UNC Media Relations said that if necessary, an interim chancellor would be appointed by the UNC System president.

An advisory committee and the UNC BOT, in consultation with the UNC System president, are responsible for the chancellor search, according to the University's policy regarding chancellor searches.

The State News reported that after Guskiewicz became the sole candidate for the presidency, MSU faculty senate leaders sent a letter to their BOT on Nov. 17 pitching



DTH/KENNEDY COX

Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz sits in his South Building office during an interview on April 24.

a 90-minute Q&A session with Guskiewicz in the form of a Zoom webinar.

MSU Black Alumni and the MSU Black Faculty, Staff and Administrators Association also requested an opportunity for university stakeholders to interview Guskiewicz in light of many race-related controversies during his tenure as UNC chancellor, including Hannah-Jones's tenure denial and Guskiewicz's denial of involvement in a controversial settlement with the North Carolina chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans over the toppling of Silent Sam.

Guskiewicz has "refused" to speak with MSU faculty leaders on the basis of scheduling issues, according to The State News.

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Case could still go to trial, unclear when

Continued from Page 1

"This is not an end to the case," Nieman told The Daily Tar Heel. He said that Qi's move to hospitalization is only a "pause" in the trial process.

Nieman said the defense first hired psychiatrist Dr. George Corvin to evaluate Qi's mental health. The prosecution then had a state expert, Dr. Nicole Wolfe, perform a court-ordered evaluation. At the hearing, Nieman said the second evaluation was commonplace.

Those two separate evaluations found that Qi was unfit to stand trial. Grine noted that he likely has schizophrenia.

Nieman said the evaluations determined that Qi's mental health renders him incapable of understanding the nature of the proceedings against him and assisting his attorney in his own defense.

Qi will receive treatment with the goal of improving his mental health so he can proceed to trial, Neiman also said, but there is a chance Qi's doctors could conclude that Qi is incapable of restoration.

"There's really no definitive timeline," he said. "It's kind of in the doctor's hands at this point."

Qi was arrested and charged with first-degree murder and the possession of a firearm on educational property in August. He has been held without bond in the Orange County Detention Center. He last appeared in court in September.

The autopsy for Yan shows the professor was shot seven times in his office in Caudill Laboratories.

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University

The Daily Tar Heel

EQUITY

University navigates admissions after affirmative action ruling



DTH/KENNEDY COX

Elsa Landeros, a co-president of Mi Pueblo, poses for a portrait at the Carolina Latinx Center on Oct. 31. Mi Pueblo is a UNC organization that raises awareness about Latinx issues like the recent ruling against affirmative action.

Students applying into the class of 2028 are among first impacted

By Olivia Metelo

Senior Writer

university@dailytarheel.com

The prospective class of 2028 is the first group of students to apply for UNC after the U.S. Supreme Court June decision that ruled race-conscious university admissions programs unlawful.

Many prospective students have already applied — the Early Action deadline was Oct. 15. UNC’s Regular Decision application deadline is Jan. 15, and the University won’t begin to release any decisions until Jan. 31.

Earlier this fall, the UNC System provided guidance on how its schools should comply with the Supreme Court ruling in reviewing applications.

The System promotes race-blind admissions practices, avoiding using “proxies for race” and offers application review training in accordance with these changes, among other guidelines.

David Hinojosa, director of the Education Opportunities Project at the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said the System’s guidance is an “overreaction” to what the court’s ruling calls for. The Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law represented students of UNC and Harvard University in the lawsuits brought by Students for Fair Admissions.

Elsa Landeros is the co-president of Mi Pueblo, a UNC community organization that raises awareness about Latinx issues and culture, according to their website. Landeros expressed concern about the ruling against affirmative action.

“The efforts of affirmative action were to have a level playing field — but now it’s not level, and historically, it has never been,” Landeros said. “I’m scared to see what’s going to happen, but I don’t think it’s going to stop my determination to push forward and see our community grow.”

Christina Huang, student president of the Affirmative Action Coalition at UNC-Chapel Hill, also criticized the ruling.

“You’re taking away the core of Carolina,” Huang said, “which is that we are diverse and we have people from a lot of different backgrounds coming together onto one campus.”

She said the coalition is currently collaborating with other student organizations on campus to organize an event next semester to advocate for students’ views on the ruling. Huang said she hopes to

make change by making demands and calling out those in power, such as North Carolina state legislators and the Board of Trustees.

“We all talk about being a ‘flagship university’ and a ‘tradition of excellence,’” she said. “I want to see that. I want to see them take action. I want them to do what they can do.”

Recent faculty discussion

Kara Simmons, associate vice chancellor and senior counsel for the University, said at a Sept. 8 Faculty Council meeting that UNC would remove race as a factor during any stage of the admissions process, including using race as a “benefit” for an applicant profile and the use of admissions to achieve diversity goals.

“We will stay true to our mission at this university, and we’ll live out our values and continue to live our values in light of the Supreme Court decision,” Amy Hertel, executive vice provost for the University, said at the meeting.

A working group of representatives from multiple UNC departments was charged over the summer with implementing these changes, according to UNC Media Relations.

“The working group is developing materials to inform and support those who participate in graduate or professional admissions decisions,” Media Relations said in an email to The Daily Tar Heel. “And aims to provide general guidance regarding recruitment and pipeline programs, as well as scholarships and funding.”

Applying the ruling

Hinojosa said he thinks the UNC System is highly politicized and is taking a more conservative approach to interpreting the court’s ruling.

In response to the decision, the BOT published a non-discrimination resolution in July, which states that the University can only consider merit, experience and qualifications for applicants. Trustee Marty Kotis said he supports the BOT’s non-discrimination resolution.

“It’s not really a policy, it’s a protection,” Kotis said. “So the idea should be, for instance, if next year 100 percent of the best candidates that apply are women, then that’s who should be admitted. There should be no social engineering beyond that.”

The Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law has not been providing legal guidance on UNC’s new admissions policies. Hinojosa said his organization has its views on how the ruling should be applied, and that it differs from how the System is

currently offering guidance.

“If you read the UNC System guidance, they do acknowledge that students can still lift up their experiences,” he said. “However, then they have contradictory language, in their opinion, that questions how universities might be able to do that and suggest that they may be opening themselves up to liability if they allow students the opportunity to discuss such in their applications.”

Debbie Willmschen, a private writing consultant who helps students edit college essays, said she believes this year’s UNC application questions are worded vaguely enough to allow students to fully discuss their identities, while also complying with the law and the System’s guidance.

“They have a very generic question system that fits the law,” Willmschen said. “And I think it’s also skirting the Board of Governors, to be quite honest.”

Charles E. Jordan High School senior Octavia Brown, who lives in Durham, said she wrote about her identity as a Black student in both of her UNC Early Action supplemental essays.

“It’s a part of my identity,” she said. “And it’s molded me into the person I am now, and ignoring that doesn’t do me justice.”

Hinojosa also said he thinks the System’s guidance on considering race-neutral alternatives in admissions, such as socioeconomic status, is flawed.

“The System’s guidance seems to suggest that universities shouldn’t bother with race-neutral alternatives, because they may open themselves up to liability, but that is flatly wrong,” he said. “Even Justice Thomas and Justice Kavanaugh in their concurring opinions allude to the fact that race-neutral alternatives are permissible.”

Free tuition and mandatory fees program

Following the ruling, Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz announced UNC’s new free tuition and mandatory fees program for in-state families making under \$80,000 annually.

Sue Estroff, a professor of social medicine and a member of UNC’s Faculty Executive Committee, said the program will work around the ruling to address inequity in education.

“I thought it was a very canny, very thoughtful way to say, ‘Okay, fine, you’re not going to stop us. We’re going to find other ways to both frame and define what the inequities in access are really about,’ and money is a big part,” she said.

X: @dailytarheel

FINANCIAL AID

UNC to give free tuition to some in-state students

Those whose families make less than \$80,000 a year are eligible

By Natalie McCormick

Senior Writer

university@dailytarheel.com

In-state students currently applying to UNC will be considered for the first round of university-covered tuition program for the 2024-2025 academic year if their families make less than \$80,000 a year.

Beginning in fall 2024, eligible students will benefit from the program Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz announced in July in a campus-wide message responding to the Supreme Court’s Affirmative Action decision. Entering first-year students will be eligible for up to eight semesters of undergraduate study.

“We want to make sure students know financial constraints should not stand in the way of their dreams,” Guskiewicz wrote.

In the message, Guskiewicz explained that the inspiration for the program came from existing scholarships at the University — Carolina Covenant and Blue Sky Scholars specifically. He said the tuition initiative is one of multiple opportunities expanding and continuing to serve the North Carolina community.

For students taking 12 or more credit hours, in-state undergraduate tuition per semester for the 2023-2024 school year was \$3,509.50 with an added \$989.06 of student fees.

The Associate Provost and Director of the Office of Scholarship and Student Aid, Jackie Copeland, said in an email statement the new policy will cover the out-of-pocket costs for tuition and mandatory fees, meaning that incoming students will still have to pay for additional costs, such as housing and food.

In the statement, Copeland also said she is proud of the program and the message that the tuition commitment is sending to UNC families.

“This program was born out of the ideas of several people over a number of years because it is a natural extension of Carolina’s mission to provide an affordable, accessible, world-class education,” she said.

The money for this program comes from private donations of approximately \$500,000-\$600,000 per year. Because of the funding model, Copeland said in her statement that at this time, the new

scholarship will only be available to North Carolina residents.

According to the UNC Scholarships and Financial aid website, students will be considered for the program once they are accepted to the University, as long as they submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and College Scholarship Service Profile by the priority deadline, March 1.

There are some limitations to the program. It does not cover the cost of summer school, and if an enrolled student’s state residency changes, they will lose eligibility. Students will be required to update their documentation each year.

Sylvia Prevette, a UNC sophomore, is a Carolina Covenant scholar and said her scholarship has been more than just financial aid for her. It has also become a community, where the people around her have shared experiences.

“I think it’s awesome that we’re trying to help more kids who need that assistance,” Prevette said. “I feel like in an ideal world everyone would have to go to college and not have to leave with debt. I mean who wants debt?”

Prevette said she feels as though the University is here for everyone, not just for the students and families that are able to afford tuition. She said she loves that the University is taking new steps and that they exemplify the school’s values.

Perrin Jones, a member of the Board of Trustees, said while the program was not initiated by the board, they have been historically supportive of similar programs.

“The board would like to keep Carolina as affordable as possible for as many of our students as we can,” Jones said.

While the language of financial aid can be confusing, Copeland said she feels as though the program makes it easier to understand.

“I believe that saying to families of our state, ‘If you earn under \$80,000 and have typical assets, you can send your child to Carolina with a commitment to have at least tuition and mandatory fees covered with grants or scholarships’ really helps us ensure that finances aren’t a barrier to a world-class Carolina education,” she said.

X: @nataliemcc212



DTH DESIGN/GRACE DAVIDSON

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

UNC faculty and staff gain access to AI generative tool

Microsoft Copilot is available to aid with internet research

By Brooke Elliott

Staff Writer
university@dailytarheel.com

As of this month, UNC faculty and staff can access a digital artificial intelligence tool to summarize articles, generate coursework and accelerate their online research.

Information Technology Services made a version of Microsoft Copilot — formerly known as Bing Chat Enterprise — available to UNC employees on Nov. 8.

While ITS still advises University employees to use caution when sharing information with any chatbot or AI tool, the University's version of Microsoft Copilot is advertisement free and does not store or view users' chats.

"The absolute most important, main thing is that we're providing access to the faculty and staff in a way that gives them a partition — that is, the institutional partition — that has some protections beyond just using a commercially-available free tool," said Michael Barker, vice chancellor of ITS.

Unlike OpenAI's popular generative chatbot ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot can connect to apps used by the employee (such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint) and generate images based on text prompts.

Stan Ahalt, dean of the UNC School of Data Science and Society, said Microsoft Copilot is also more "grounded" than ChatGPT.

Answers from Microsoft Copilot come with cited sources from the internet, which Barker said

accompany a brief summary of the information it can find online to answer a user's question. This method of presenting information makes internet research quicker and makes results more concise, though some users have found that factual errors

phenomenon where it "perceives patterns or objects that are nonexistent or imperceptible to human observers, creating outputs that are nonsensical or altogether inaccurate," according to IBM. The chatbot is, in essence, making something up.

some of the more mundane things," Ahalt said. "I think that a number of people have been experimenting with it in the classroom and trying to understand its impact, and it certainly will impact almost every disciplinary area."

trained on large "dumps" from the internet, often without the consent of the people whose work is used, which can sometimes result in plagiarism, especially in the field of AI-generated artwork. A large language model (LLM) is a type of AI that can recognize and generate text, among other tasks.

On the other hand, she said the technology can be used to streamline certain tasks.

"LLMs can make the work of UNC employees more efficient, but Microsoft Copilot is still capable of producing false information and inaccurate results," Ahalt said.

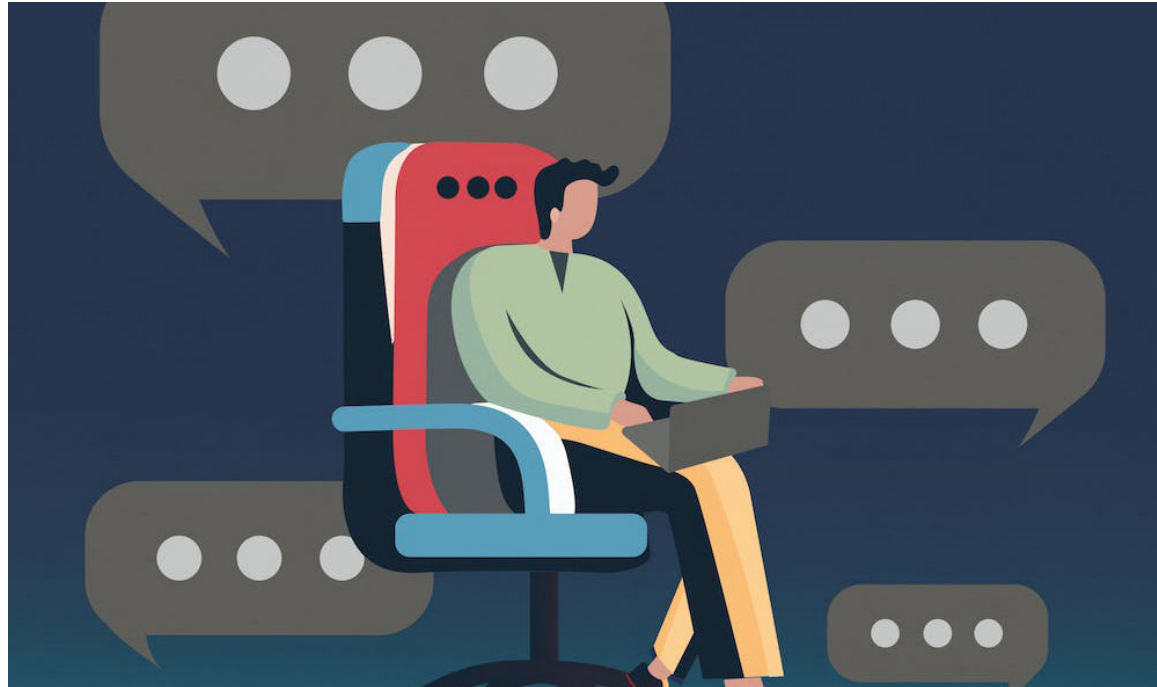
He added that users should never separate their search results from the context in which they plan to use them.

"We live in a world where information is abundant, and not all of it is useful, and some of it is downright awful," Ahalt said. "Thinking about that critically, all the time, is an important part of being a good citizen."

University Libraries established the Carolina AI Literacy initiative in June to prepare students and employees to use the technology responsibly.

Barker said employees who use the secure, institutionally-scaled version of Microsoft Copilot will learn its strengths and weaknesses, discovering through hands-on experience how to achieve good results using the technology.

"Engaging with it is the necessary first step to getting the answers to those additional questions about how best to use it," he said. "You've got to engage with it in order to understand it."



DTH DESIGN/HAILEY PATTERSON

appear in the summary component of some of these responses.

"The chat can produce hallucinations, can provide inaccuracies and can expose biases that are the content of what's on the web and what it's been trained on," Barker said. "These are all improving over time, but those are some of the weaknesses, at least at present."

A chatbot hallucination is a

Some UNC faculty members, like business professor Mark McNeilly and journalism professor Steven King, are already using generative AI in their coursework.

Ahalt said that many UNC graduates will be "called on" to use AI in the workplace.

"I expect that lots of people will end up wanting to use it for their day-to-day activities, particularly for

Senior Lily Friedman, who follows developments in machine learning, said she is worried about the future of online research in undergraduate programs.

"There are a lot of examples, already, of large language models getting things very incorrect and people having no idea," she said.

Friedman said that large language models like Microsoft Copilot are

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LEGACY

Eve Carson Scholarship to welcome 15th class

The award honors the 2008 UNC Student Body President's vision

By Daneen Kahn

Staff Writer

university@dailytarheel.com

Applications for the Eve Carson Scholarship are now open, commemorating the program's 15th class of scholars.

The award was designed to celebrate students in their junior year who have "exhibited passion and transformative growth" since their arrival at UNC, according to the scholarship's website. This year's class will accept five to six applicants.

The scholarship was established in 2008 to pay tribute to 2008 UNC Student Body President Eve Marie Carson, who was kidnapped and killed around two months before her graduation. In her election platform, Carson said she envisioned a scholarship that awarded UNC juniors for their leadership and service during their time at UNC.

The Eve Carson Scholarship and the Eve Marie Carson Carolina Way Scholarship were created in her honor, along with the annual Eve Carson Memorial 5K for Education

and the Eve Carson Memorial Garden. The Eve Carson Scholarship funds a summer experience and \$15,000 of the recipient's senior year tuition.

In an excerpt from her election platform, Carson said many students must choose between getting involved at the University and working to pay off college expenses.

2022-23 executive director of the Eve Carson Scholarship, Fleet Wilson, said he had heard the story of Carson's death because his cousin was attending the University in 2008.

"When you're a student, you know what is really causing an impact on campus, whereas if you're in a scholarship office, it might be something that might sound good on paper," Wilson said.

The scholarship's executive board is entirely student-run, so students oversee the application process to pick recipients.

UNC senior Emily Smither is the current executive director for the scholarship and said her role is to listen and reflect on the history of the aid program and how to move forward.

"It is the 15th anniversary of Eve's passing, but more importantly, it's the 15th year of celebrating Eve's legacy on campus, and it's also the start of 15 years moving forward," she said.

Class of 2022-23 Eve Carson



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EVE CARSON SCHOLARSHIP/MARY MOORE MCLEAN

The Eve Carson Scholarship, established in honor of 2008 UNC Student Body President Eve Carson pictured above, awards students for their leadership and service on campus. This is the scholarship's 15th year.

scholar Wid Alsadoon said the scholarship was helpful because, since most students receive major scholarships early on, students who make significant progress during their time at UNC often do not receive opportunities for financial assistance during their college experience.

Alsadoon said that as a Syrian refugee who attended a majority-

minority high school, she saw firsthand how lack of funding led to a significant decrease in opportunities. She said she wanted her own project to bring her passion for technology and humanitarian aid together.

The scholarship provided Alsadoon with the funds to travel to Istanbul during summer 2022.

There, she said she worked with

a nonprofit called Pink STREAM to share technology with a Syrian refugee community — providing a resource that they would not necessarily have funding or education to learn about otherwise.

Alsadoon said she definitely recommends that juniors who are mindful of their community and hope to give back to North Carolina or the UNC community apply for the scholarship.

Juniors who do not already have full merit-based scholarships, maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA and have taken at least 48 credit hours are eligible to apply, according to the scholarship's website.

Outside the Campus Y is a blue butterfly bench inscribed with the words, "In Memory of Eve Carson." Smither said that Carson is UNC's embodiment of the butterfly effect.

Carson's vision has spread across the University — a vision that, Smither said, will resonate across every corner and with every person on campus forever.

"As we think about where we are right now, 15 years later, our butterfly is just getting started with spreading her wings," she said.

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HANDS-ON LEARNING

Davis gains historic press

The 1884 Luigi Ghisi Albion press to be available in spring 2024

By Ava Wharton

Staff Writer

university@dailytarheel.com

As early as spring 2024, a newly installed historic printing press at Davis Library will be available for students to experience a hands-on learning opportunity.

The hand-operated device, currently blocked off by dividers, can be found on the library's first floor just past its digital printing and scanner stations. Manufactured in Milan, Italy and installed on campus on Nov. 6, the 1884 Luigi Ghisi Albion press is one of two presses obtained by UNC through a donation by the Peterson family.

The second donated machine, an 1847 R. Hoe Washington press, is located at the UNC Press office. Elizabeth Ott, the interim associate librarian for special collections and director of Wilson Library, said library staff were offered a choice between the two. The Albion press closely resembles the widely used book printing technology adopted to produce most books after 1450.

Library staff began communication with donors Chris and Eric Peterson in 2019, Ott said, after the pair inherited the equipment from their father's printing company, Huckleberry Press. She said the two brothers were initially unsure about what to do with the equipment but sought to "see their father's legacy extended."

Ott said she and other library staff were excited when the Petersons offered to donate the two presses to UNC. She compared the educational opportunity to spaces such as UNC's BeAM Makerspaces and Digital Media Lab — campus sites where students can learn through hands-on involvement.

"We thought this would be a great way for us to create another opportunity for students to learn about how books were printed in the past," she said.

Ott said both presses have a long history of use for library book printing. With training and staff supervision, she said students will be able to try the Albion during with their classes to receive an up-close look at the press's operation and to create their own printed writing.

Beth Grabowski, a distinguished professor of art, said students may be interested in exploring the letterpress's history or creating poetry with it.

Both presses are platen presses, which use a clamping process on two planes to print ink on paper. This style has been used in the West since Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press in the 15th century, Ott said, which introduced letterpress printing to Europe.

Ott said 19th century printing press innovation allowed for the creation of iron printing presses — such as the two donated to UNC — which have a "more petite" footprint and toggle mechanism that allows easier use than their earlier wooden counterparts.

"Presses like this really revolutionized and democratized printing in a lot of ways because lots of different kinds of people could use them," Ott said.

Grabowski, who works with the third and last printing press on campus — an 1889 Albion press that Hanes Art Center has housed for years — said the uses of presses can be limited.

"It's very hard for people not in the program to get art classes here, so it's nice that there's another opportunity for people to pursue learning about things like this," Grabowski said.

Anna-Katherine Grubb, a current English and political science double major at UNC, said she is familiar with UNC's experimental learning spaces but has not found a reason to utilize them regularly. However, she said she can imagine how the opportunity to print and share pieces of writing would have complemented her experience in a seminar-style creative nonfiction class she previously took.

"I think that could really inspire people who maybe wanted to get into publishing or even editing or any kind of writing career," she said. "I think it could be valuable."

Ott said she hopes the new installation will allow students to become interested in the history of book printing and encourage further exploration of UNC's library collection. She also said the library staff hopes to develop a mechanism for students to sign up to use the printing press with their instructors in the spring.

"The best part of my job is seeing students learn and get excited about the things that we have," she said.

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CAMPUS RECREATION

'There was an understanding facilities could be better'

Students voice concerns over conditions of gyms

By Kamryn Hailey

Staff Writer

university@dailytarheel.com

At the UNC Board of Trustees meeting earlier this month, UNC Student Body President Chris Everett talked about the poor state of on-campus recreational facilities. He said in an interview with The Daily Tar Heel that he doesn't think there's a good understanding of how bad the conditions are.

A survey conducted by UNC Campus Recreation this fall found that 86 percent of participants think recreational facilities are "too crowded." Everett said with over 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students, it's hard for on-campus gyms to accommodate everyone. He also said broken equipment and small spaces add to the problem.

"Generally speaking, the issue has been potentially from the institutional standpoint," he said. "I think, especially for some of the trustees, there was an understanding facilities could be better."

Graduate and Professional Student Government President Lauren Hawkinson attended the BOT meeting with Everett and said the first step in making improvements to University facilities is "paying attention."

"I'm very hopeful that they are now," she said. "We got the attention of some people who can start to make some changes."

UNC sophomore Isabel Marshall, who frequents the Student Recreation Center, said that going to either the SRC or Rams Head Recreation Center at the wrong time of day can double how long a student's visit has to be.

"It's really discouraging to go because it's just going to take so long," she said. "If you go from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on a weekday, there will be a 10-plus person line for the squat and bench presses."

She also said there are too many students for UNC to



DTH/ADRIAN TILLMAN

A student walks past the Student Recreation Center on June 26. The SRC is one of two recreation centers on UNC's campus.

maintain just those two facilities as the primary campus gyms.

Jason Halsey, director of campus recreation, said that the entity is ready to look for long-term solutions to their facility needs while also trying to balance this evaluation with short-term projects. They're currently working with Facilities Services on a project to increase the air circulation and airflow in the SRC, especially in the weight room area, he said.

"We want to be an accessible, inviting facility, and we know we're limited in what we can do on a large scale," he said. "We're trying to make some small-scale changes until the environment is right to either renovate or build a new facility."

Troy Blackburn, chair of the Department of Exercise and Sports Science, said maintaining on-campus facilities is supported by student fees.

The cost of labor and materials has increased, so the upkeep of those facilities is a challenge as the economy fluctuates, he said.

"I think ideally we get a robust plan for how we would financially support that expansion of the SRC and make sure that we have adequate funding for the continued routine maintenance of those spaces," he said.

Blackburn, a UNC graduate, said he's happy to see students advocating for changes that directly affect the student body.

He said that Everett and

Hawkinson have both advocated well for themselves and the student body when it comes to improving on-campus facilities. Anytime students speak their minds and speak the collective voice, advocacy goes a lot further than it can amongst faculty, he said.

He also said having adequate facilities where students can exercise and maintain cardiovascular health is critical to overall well-being and student success in the classroom.

Moving forward, Hawkinson said students will have to be patient because it will take time and financial sacrifices on their part.

"If this is something that is really important to the student body, then it's important that we let our voices be heard and let campus administrators, let the Board of Trustees, let the Board of Governors know," she said. "I think it's really important that we have a united advocacy for this change."

For Everett, he said that accessibility is a huge part of his UNC experience.

"That was a real reason as to why I ran. There were so many ways in which our University could have been better. There were a lot of student concerns and just general issues that needed insight and needed visibility," he said. "I want it to be a Carolina for everyone."

X: @KamrynHai

City & State

The Daily Tar Heel

NEW RESTAURANT

Snooze A.M. Eatery opens in Eastgate

Nationwide breakfast chain partners with three nonprofits

By Libby Wakefield
Staff Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

Snooze A.M. Eatery, a new breakfast restaurant in Eastgate Crossing in Chapel Hill, is now open.

Snooze is a nationwide breakfast chain restaurant that serves a variety of creative and “responsibly sourced” breakfast dishes, according to its website. The Chapel Hill location held its soft opening from Nov. 3 to 5 and its grand opening on Nov. 8.

The soft opening was held in collaboration with three nonprofit groups: PORCH, Best Buddies and the Snooze Compass Foundation. The Nov. 5 soft open day was held with PORCH, a hunger relief organization in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Each guest received one free entree and one beverage, and diners were encouraged to donate to PORCH rather than pay for a meal.



DTH/ALISON GRAU

Snooze employees Kelly Greenlaw, Meagan O'Mara, Brandon Marski and Jasmin Hobbs pose together outside of Snooze A.M. Eatery on Nov. 14.

Susan Romaine, the mayor pro tem of Carrboro and a founder of PORCH, said the restaurant was packed at the soft opening.

“It’s a really wonderful partnership between Snooze and PORCH, knowing the link between those who enjoy dining at Snooze and then providing that hunger relief for so many families

in our community who are really struggling to get food on their tables each month,” Romaine said.

She said the partnership has allowed PORCH to send out extra bags of food this month — which is especially important during holiday months.

Romaine said she thinks the Chapel Hill and Carrboro area

is always looking for more good breakfast restaurants and that Snooze will do well.

“It just felt like a real community celebration having everybody out and getting their first look at what I think will be a really fun, new breakfast place in town if you’re a breakfast lover,” Romaine said. “Snooze has pretty much everything you can possibly ask for in terms of all of the selections on the menu.”

This is the fourth location of Snooze in North Carolina, with the other three all located around Charlotte.

“Opening has been great. The area has been very receptive to us even before we opened our doors,” Meagan O'Mara, the general manager of Snooze’s Chapel Hill location, said.

She said it has been a pleasure to open a location here and that she hopes to build a strong relationship with the Chapel Hill community.

“We opened up with a great team,” O'Mara said. “I think we found a really great, unique and eclectic group of people that are very excited and very hard working.”

Jasmin Hobbs and Kelly Greenlaw,

both servers at Snooze, said their experiences at the restaurant have been positive so far.

“I kind of started training a little bit later, and they helped me get up to speed with everything, and they’ve been super helpful, and everyone’s been really good. It’s been really awesome,” Hobbs said.

Hobbs said she was attracted to the welcoming and friendly environment at Snooze — she had been to Snooze in California before and decided to apply when she saw a location was coming to Chapel Hill.

Greenlaw said she has been serving for 20 years and decided to apply because she enjoys working at breakfast restaurants.

O'Mara said she is excited to open up a new location in Chapel Hill and have opportunities to give back to the local community.

“With the team being very excited about everything, I think that’s just really brought a lot of that energy to the community and it’s just been very helpful,” O'Mara said.

X: @dthcitystate

REMEMBRANCE

Bench honors memory of Jim Huegerich

Former Chapel Hill Town employee leaves legacy of connection

By George Leggett
Staff Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

The Town of Chapel Hill recently installed a memorial bench dedicated to the late Jim Huegerich along the Bolin Creek Trail. Huegerich, a former director of the Chapel Hill Police Department Crisis Unit, died in February 2022 after a battle with leukemia.

Huegerich worked with the crisis unit for 37 years. After he left CHPD, he played a key part in establishing the Ombuds Office for the Town, acting as its director until he died.

The CHPD’s Crisis Unit is a 24-hour response team that provides on-site emergency response with officers to individuals in different crisis situations.

The Ombuds Office helps people navigate the challenges of living and working in Chapel Hill by providing them with advice, information and training.

Chris Blue, Chapel Hill’s town manager and the former chief of the Chapel Hill Police Department, said he enjoyed working closely with Huegerich from his time as a rookie officer well into his tenure as chief.

“I think he also [had] that kind of lightness that he tried to bring to very tough situations, which, when you’re the Town Ombuds, you often hear from people who are frustrated or struggling in some way,” he said. “And, as a police crisis counselor, you are undoubtedly seeing people at their worst and people who’ve experienced trauma.”

Steve Wright, the public art coordinator for the Town, said the Huegerich family raised funds with the assistance of Friends of Parks, Recreation & Greenways, the local community and their own family to create an artistic memorial bench.

“The idea for the project actually started with the family,” Wright said.



DTH/ABBEY MCKEE

A memorial bench honoring Jim Huegerich sits on Bolin Creek Trail on Nov. 20. He dedicated 37 years to developing the Chapel Hill Police Department Crisis Unit and played a pivotal role in establishing an ombuds office for the Town.

Jim Gallucci, the artist who designed the bench, said the funding was provided in August 2023 and the bench was finished in the summer.

The bench features Huegerich’s favorite flower — a red poppy — on both sides of the bench. It also has a “whisper function,” where people can whisper into one poppy and listen through the other.

“It’s comfortable to sit on, and even more than that, it’s about what Jim was about — people connected,” Gallucci said.

According to Blue, Huegerich was posthumously awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by N.C. Sen. Graig Meyer (D-Caswell, Orange, Person) at CHPD’s celebration of the crisis unit’s 50th anniversary event earlier this month.

“The purpose of the event was to celebrate its history and all of the good work and innovation that has come through it, but I will tell you that Jim Huegerich was really the star of that celebration,” Blue said.

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine was created in 1963 to honor

individuals with a proven record of service to the state of North Carolina or some other special achievement.

Jim Huegerich’s wife, Tricia Huegerich, was quoted in the Town’s press release for the memorial bench.

“Jim walked by this spot thousands of times over the years and even when he was sick,” she said in the press release. “He would be tickled.”

Blue said one of the most important things about Huegerich was his dedication to his family and friends. He also said that anyone who knew Huegerich would talk about his sense of humor.

“He was a lover of puns — the worse, the better,” he said. “No doubt that he had some of the worst you’ve ever heard. That was part of the fun because he was in on the joke, too. He knew they were terrible and he enjoyed telling a bad one more than good.”

X: @dthcitystate

ENVIRONMENT

‘Leave the leaves where they are’

By Sarah Clements
Staff Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

Chapel Hill and Carrboro are encouraging residents to leave their leaves where they fall this autumn.

The towns are partnering with the New Hope Audubon Society — a local nature conservation organization — to decrease the public safety risks associated with piling leaves in bike lanes and sidewalks while saving time and money and recycling nutrients in the local ecosystem. The “Leave Your Leaves” campaign promotes letting leaves remain where they fall, rather than piling them on the side of the road.

Barbara Driscoll, president of the New Hope Audubon Society, said she started the program in 2020 after petitioning the Town of Chapel Hill. The society works to protect local wildlife and their habitats across Chatham, Durham and Orange counties.

“I realized that we’re removing quite a bit of leaf material from our landscapes and sending it to other places to be compost,” Driscoll said. “And when we do that, we’re removing moths and butterflies that overwinter in the leaves, as well as other insects such as fireflies, so I wanted to promote educating people to keep the leaves in their yards.”

Pushing leaves to the side of the road can also be dangerous, Carrboro Mayor Damon Seils said.

“When you pile your leaves in the bike lane or you’re keeping pedestrians and cyclists from using the roadway, it creates a safety hazard,” he said. “We want to keep people safe, so it’s important for people to keep their leaves on their property.”

Seils said most neighborhoods in Carrboro are on a schedule of two leaf pickups per month.

Luke Bennett, a conservation coordinator at the North Carolina

Wildlife Federation, said not removing leaves from yards helps to create fertile soil, promote healthy trees, reduce flooding and support local wildlife.

“We really like to encourage folks to leave the leaves where they are,” Seils said. “It’s better for the environment, it’s better for wildlife in the area and it’s also cheaper and has a lesser environmental impact.”

Catherine Lazorko, the communication and engagement director for the Town of Carrboro, said both Chapel Hill and Carrboro are offering a pledge on their websites for residents to sign. Upon completing the pledge, community members get a free yard sign, she said.

“At this time of year we know people are kind of managing their leaves — they might be raking them and pulling them up for collection,” she said. “We just want to remind folks to be cognizant of the best place to put those leaves.”

Driscoll said, while leaving leaves alone completely is the best thing to do, the next best thing would be to blow leaves under trees or shrubs.

“A lot of people complain because they can’t grow grass under trees anyway, so just leave the leaves out to the drip line — which is as far as the limbs of the trees extend,” she said. “That actually is healthier for the trees and improves their life quality because they’re also dropping their leaves, and their leaves are what biodegrades and then provides nutrients back to the trees.”

Driscoll said that by leaving their leaves, people can do what they can to help the environment.

“It feels overwhelming, all the environmental things going on,” she said. “And I think it feels that way, especially for younger people with climate change and loss of biodiversity, but one thing we all control is what is happening in our yards.”

X: @dthcitystate

BRIEFS

Fast timeline rejected in senate maps case

On Monday, federal judge James Dever III rejected a motion for a speedy decision from the plaintiffs in a case alleging the new state senate maps were racially gerrymandered.

The lawsuit specifically concerns N.C. Senate District 2, which stretches from the Virginia border to Carteret County. The plaintiffs in the suit — Rodney D. Pierce and Moses Matthews, who are both Black voters in the newly drawn District 2 — argue that the districts in the northeastern part of the state were drawn to weaken the power of Black voters.

The plaintiffs moved for a preliminary injunction — a measure that would stop the new state senate maps from being used while the case is being argued and decided — on Nov. 22. They requested the injunction be granted by Dec. 1, before candidate filing for the 2024 elections begins.

Dever wrote that the plaintiff's timeline was unjustified and placed too much demand on the court.

The case will continue, but not on an expedited schedule.

— Ethan E. Horton

Exhibition open at Hanes Art Center

Philosophy, religion and history are intertwined in Xuewu Zheng's exhibition "One's Religion" at the Hanes Art Center, which will close on Nov. 30.

The exhibition, housed in the John and June Allcott Gallery, features five installations from Zheng, a former UNC visiting printmaking professor.

Zheng said he got the ideas for the installations, which use mediums like prints, acrylic and charcoal, during his meditation sessions at his studio in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Installations include "World," a series of four charcoal drawings of detailed and abstract, organic forms; "Meditation," eight hand-printed illustrations; "Fragment of Time," which uses acrylic copper paintings and "Century Text," which uses newspapers he collected from all over the world.

— Mila Mascenik

Hussman School to change class times

The Hussman School of Journalism and Media will change class start times to adhere with start times in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective fall semester 2024.

"The Provost is asking units across campus to use classroom space more efficiently by making courses available at standard start times, thus helping students meet graduation requirements," UNC Media Relations said in an email statement.

The schedule change will not affect class end times and will not change the days classes are offered, Media Relations said.

Chris Kirkman, a Hussman adjunct professor, said schedule changes would specifically affect adjunct professors because they are not full-time employees and often have other jobs.

Ashley White, a senior majoring in advertising and public relations, said she has had issues scheduling classes in the past because of overlapping Hussman School time blocks for classes of various length. It is unclear how the schedule changes will prevent this situation.

— Lucy Kraus

UTILITY

OWASA continues testing, developing new PFAS tech

The upgrade will take five years and cost around \$50 million

By Annika Duneja
Staff Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

In its quarterly report released in October, the Orange Water and Sewer Authority said it would soon develop treatment technology to upgrade its water treatment plant and reduce the prevalence of PFAS in local water.

The report said this upgrade would take five years to design and build and would cost around \$50 million. It did not expand on what exactly the upgrade or technology would include, but it said OWASA would continue testing for PFAS.

PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are a group of chemicals with many potential harmful effects found in at least 45 percent of tap water across the United States, according to a study by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Since 2018, OWASA has been testing for PFAS compounds in Chapel Hill and Carrboro's two primary sources of drinking water — Cane Creek Reservoir and University Lake.

Katie Hall, OWASA's public information officer, said of the 45 PFAS compounds they tested for, Cane Creek Reservoir was found to contain 11. After filtration, the drinking water still contained nine PFAS compounds.

Currently, OWASA is launching a pilot program to test different filtration systems to remove as much PFAS from the water as possible, Hall said.

"We have had a consultant use our water and run it through different technologies off site, but we want to implement that on site in a pilot program to then evaluate these technologies on site," she said. "And then we'll choose a technology or possibly even a combination of technologies here."

After new studies showed the negative health effects of PFAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency came out with a regulation proposal earlier this year for how much PFAS can be in drinking water.

Sammy Slade, a member of the Carrboro Town Council, said he believes the EPA regulations are not enough to protect people's health.

He said he thinks the towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro should create their own set of standards for how much PFAS can be in the water, and that it was unlikely that OWASA would set its own standards.

"The way it felt is that they don't want to be bothered and they just go with what everyone else is doing, irrespective of people and articles that point to it being problematic, and just kind of business as usual," he said. "I don't see any change."

Hall said OWASA has noticed the same issue across Orange County. To increase people's awareness, she said OWASA is working on a community communications plan to go out this winter, which will explain what OWASA is doing to treat the water and ensure clean drinking water, as well as what the community can do.

Earlier this year, the Town of Pittsboro sued several companies for contributing to high levels of PFAS contamination in their drinking water source, the Haw River.

To remove the PFAS compounds, Pittsboro implemented a granular activated carbon filtration system, or GAC, in late 2022.



DTH/HANNAH ZINN

OWASA is developing treatment technology to reduce the prevalence of PFAS, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, in local water. PFAS are found in at least 45 percent of tap water across the country.

This system successfully removes 95-99.9 percent of PFAS compounds in drinking water, Colby Sawyer, the town's public information officer, said.

However, Sawyer said he did not know what impact the PFAS that the town has already been exposed to will have on its population.

While the EPA has research on the effects of PFAS on human health, because there are so many types of PFAS, the long-term impact of certain chemicals is unclear.

"We don't know what this has done," Sawyer said. "And frankly, that's part of our lawsuit. We don't know. We know what it's capable of — we know what the EPA shows it is capable of."

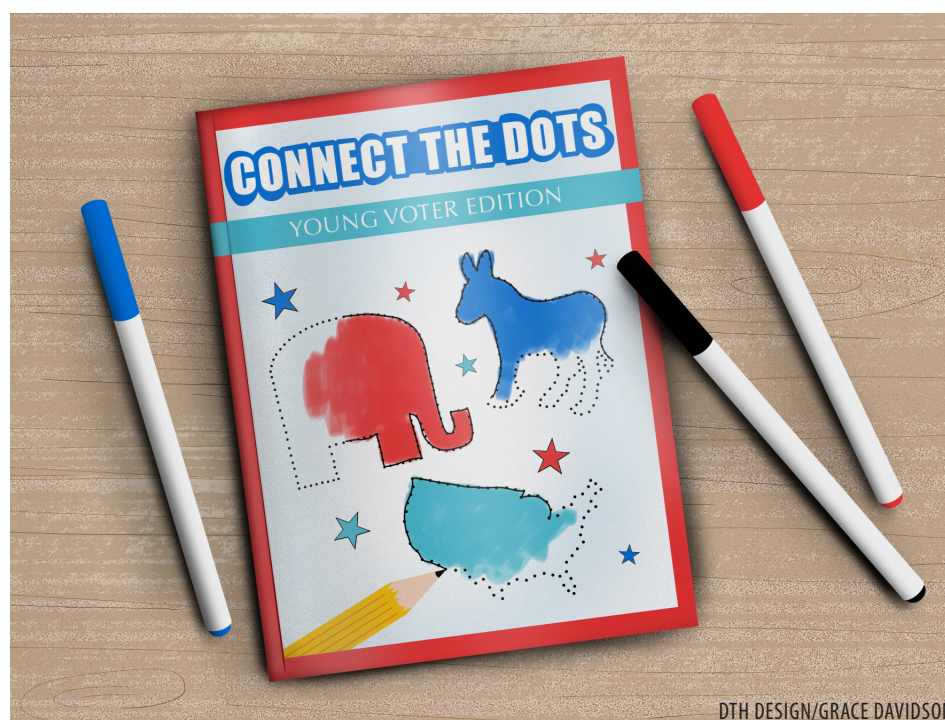
Though Pittsboro's GAC filter was effective in removing most PFAS compounds, the

implementation of the system cost about \$3.5 million of their \$7 million total utilities budget, Sawyer said.

He said this high cost makes it more difficult for small towns to ensure they have clean and safe drinking water.

"Small towns and small systems are not going to be able to achieve this advanced filtration without support from the state and federal government," he said. "Without funding, without grants, without settlements from these companies that are putting the stuff in the water, without financial support, there is no way these towns are going to be able to install or maintain these advanced filtration systems."

X: @dthcitystate



DTH DESIGN/GRACE DAVIDSON

Young voters lack state, local knowledge

A new Meredith Poll shows most North Carolinians lack state and local civic knowledge, especially young voters.

Only 35 percent knew the N.C. General Assembly is the state branch that approves political maps and only one-third of respondents could identify N.C. Lt. Governor Mark Robinson.

The poll also found young voters know significantly less than older voters about state and local politics.

"I think it reveals that there's not enough civic education in our schools about what's happening in the local at the local and state level for our kids," N.C. Sen. Graig Meyer (D-Caswell, Orange, Person) said.

—Ginny Dempster

S.B. 20 mandates new appointment requirements

Continued from Page 1

abortion procedure. The law also requires that medical professionals perform an ultrasound at least four hours before an abortion is performed.

Hales said the in-person consultation has created a strain on staff because it doubles the amount of appointments and reduces the number of patients.

"You wonder if the intent was to not only decrease the amount of procedures but also to burn out providers to the limit of no return," she said.

Molly Rivera, the communications director for Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, said that though Planned Parenthood staff is familiar with attacks on the services they provide,

it can be difficult to stay resilient.

Rivera said Planned Parenthood South Atlantic clinic staff have been working hard to help patients understand the additional in-person appointments and increased paperwork. The organization's teams of "patient navigators," who work with patients one-on-one, were added in preparation of the overturning of Roe v. Wade, and have been expanded over the last year, she said.

She said people are more familiar with the 12-week ban than the new appointment requirements.

"We hear from a lot of frustrated and, frankly, angry patients that have to dramatically reconfigure their life in order to make these appointments and make them on time before the 12-week cut off," she said.

Rivera also said some patients have said the in-person counseling requirement is too significant a barrier and that they may choose to travel out of state to avoid having to go multiple times in person.

Some clinics in North Carolina are attempting to accommodate patients from other states, which means longer wait times for patients who want to receive abortion care before 12 weeks of pregnancy, Hales said. She said this is not only a burden on patients but also providers.

"It's really like trial by fire. It's very much hit or miss. It's very much fake it 'til you make it and figure out the best way possible," she said.

She added that now, at the end of the year, her clinics have been

able to find good rhythms and a solid workflow after the state's policy changes.

Wallace said reproductive healthcare's restrictive environment is a stark contrast to other areas of medicine. She said a large part of the national community has begun to understand that abortion is necessary healthcare and she remains hopeful.

"There's so much work to be done, and we really need not just the entire medical community, but folks across the state to really stand up and advocate for that, because we have a long road ahead of us to regain these losses," she said.

X: @lucymarques_

ADOLESCENT HEALTH

High school e-cigarette use has declined, according to CDC survey

Orange Partnership, PAVE work to prevent youth substance usage

By Audrey Kashatus
Senior Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

Use of e-cigarettes declined from 14.1 to 10 percent among high school students from 2022 to 2023, according to this year's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Youth Tobacco Survey.

This 2023 decline comes about two years after N.C. Attorney General Josh Stein reached a \$40 million settlement in his lawsuit against JUUL, an e-cigarette company. JUUL began paying the settlement in 2021 and will continue until 2027, according to a press release on Stein's website.

The company was required in the settlement to make changes to its business practices to avoid appealing to younger people and fund programs to prevent e-cigarette addiction in North Carolina.

It is illegal to sell tobacco products to people under 21 years old.

Seth Noar, a distinguished professor in the Hussman School of Journalism and Media who specializes in health communication, said a reason for the recent decline could be because e-cigarette use rates in 2019 were the highest they had been in nearly two decades after the emergence of products like JUUL.

According to the National Youth Tobacco Survey, 27.5 percent of high school students used e-cigarettes in 2019.

The Orange Partnership for Alcohol and Drug Free Youth, which has been working to prevent youth substance use since 2008, collaborates with Orange County Schools, Gayane Chambless, the program director for the partnership, said.

Chambless said the partnership has historically encouraged peer education about vape-related harms in local middle and high schools. Peer education allows students to identify concerns about vaping and how the partnership plan to address it, she said.

According to Chambless, peer education was also beneficial in discovering the right needs for high school students.

"What we saw was the high schoolers' response being, 'It's not helpful,' because they were already addicted," she said.

She said high school students often need more resources to quit vaping, rather than prevention resources.

"Being able to hear what is needed by those in the community that you're serving is really important," she said.

Noar said he researches health communication, specifically messages about vaping and e-cigarette usage. He said the most effective campaigns among high school students are messages about the health impacts of vaping.

"What seems to work the best is really trying to help young people understand what it's like to be addicted, the consequences and the negative impact that addiction can have on your life," Noar said.

PAVe, Parents Against Vaping e-cigarettes, is an organization dedicated to helping parents recognize warning signs of children vaping, giving them resources on how to help



DTH DESIGN/CARRIE-ANNE ROGERS

their children quit and educating parents, according to Shana Bedi, the education and regional advocacy manager for PAVE.

Bedi said PAVE was started by parents who had no public health background, but who felt their children were being targeted by the e-cigarette industry in schools.

In addition to educating parents, she said PAVE also works with all adults who come into contact with children who are vaping — including teachers, superintendents, principals, counselors and school nurses.

Bedi said most young people who

start vaping either experience pressure from their peers or underlying mental health issues. She said it is important to address these root causes of e-cigarette use to prevent people from becoming addicted.

Chambless said the Orange Partnership received a Partnerships for Success grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that totals \$1.8 million over five years for Orange County.

She said the partnership has been researching what factors are causing mental health issues and increased substance use in high school

students. She said one reason is lack of social engagement, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grant will be used to address this issue and create more pro-social opportunities for students in schools, she said.

Though there has been a decline in high school students using e-cigarettes, Bedi said PAVE will not reach its goal until rates drop to zero percent.

"We don't want any kids vaping, we don't want the industry targeting our kids," she said.

X: @audreykashatus7

FOOD SECURITY

N.C. schools' reduced-price lunch copay eliminated

Orange County now weighs costs with offering healthy meals

By Tori Newby
Senior Writer
city@dailytarheel.com

The North Carolina state budget, which passed on Sept. 22, permanently eliminated the reduced-price lunch copay, meaning students who qualify for reduced-price school meals will now receive them for free. Orange County Schools child nutrition director Sara Pitts said this state funding is helpful but inflation has raised the costs of food and labor, making it difficult for OCS to profit from school meals.

"We have to be very, very, very conscientious about our purchases because everything is on a very tight budget," Pitts said.

Pitts said OCS is working to incorporate more fresh fruits, local foods and from-scratch cooking, but that those additions are dependent on cost. She also said OCS is working through recipes with the district's registered dietitian to see how they can cook more meals in house.

Marianne Weant, programs manager at the North Carolina Alliance for Health has five children in the Wake County Public School System who eat school meals every day.

"I would love to see school meals be more adequately funded so that the child nutrition workers can engage in more creativity and more scratch cooking," Weant said.

Pitts said OCS aims to tailor their food options to student preferences while meeting federal school nutrition guidelines. Along with those two important factors, she said they have to consider cost.

OCS students have the option of choosing a bento box, which is a combination of items in one container for students to grab-and-go. Pitts said this mirrors pre-packaged foods like Lunchables, allowing OCS to serve popular foods within a budget.

Pitts also said the OCS incorporates taste-testing when piloting new items.

"It's a great way to connect with the kids, to say, 'Okay, if you don't like it, is it a simple change of texture? Is it adding a different ingredient and herb, something to give it a different flavor?'" Pitts said. "It's a great way for them to give their input."

Lindsey Haynes-Maslow, UNC associate professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management, said another issue public schools have to consider are the federal school nutrition guidelines, which she said need to be updated.

The federal school nutrition standards from 2010 require grain-based foods to be "whole grain rich," meaning they must contain 50 percent whole grains, but Haynes-Maslow says this is not enough.

She said there are also workarounds to the fruit and vegetable guideline, which require students to take an eighth-cup serving of fruits or vegetables. For example, Lunchables — which are now being served in some North Carolina schools — have changed their ingredients to fit under school nutrition requirements, and the tomato sauce in their pizza product counts as the eighth-cup serving of a vegetable.

"If we only know a student is going to get one meal a day, why wouldn't we want to make that be the healthiest meal possible?" Haynes-Maslow said.

Erin Riney, executive director for the hunger relief organization PORCH, works on a program that provides snacks to students who face food insecurity in Chapel Hill and Carrboro in order to help them concentrate and get through the school day.

"I think they feel a little unseen for struggling with food insecurity because there is such affluence in our area," she said.

Weant said the permanent elimination of the reduced-price lunch copay is an important step but more funding should come from the state to expand access to free meals.

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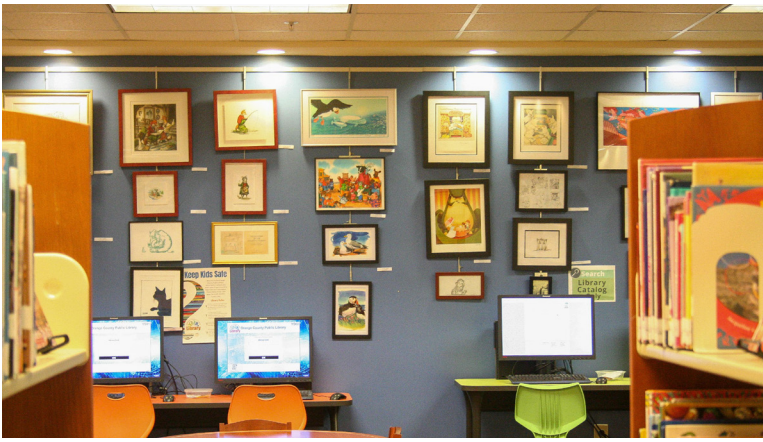


Lifestyle

The Daily Tar Heel

ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Exhibit displays children's book art



DTH/JAKE HOGAN

A gallery at the Orange County Public Library, The Cora Grace Collection of Picture Book Art, features more than 100 pieces of art from 56 illustrators.

The Cora Grace Collection will be open through December

By Margaret Hungate
Staff Writer
lifestyle@dailytarheel.com

Last year, Orange County resident and UNC alumnus William McLean started writing letters to some of the illustrators of children's books favored by his now 3-year-old daughter Cora Grace.

What started as a small idea turned into an exhibit containing almost 100 pieces of artwork from renowned illustrators, including Marc Brown, creator of the "Arthur" series; Robin Preiss Glasser, illustrator of the "Fancy Nancy" series; and Eric Carle, creator of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."

With a mix of donated and purchased pieces, the Cora Grace Collection of Picture Book Art opened at the Orange County Public Library in September and will remain open through December.

Cora Grace was born during the height of the pandemic, so her access to outside life was limited. Picture books and this collection gave McLean a chance to introduce

his daughter to the world and show her the importance of reading.

"Early on, we were, first and foremost, trying to show her that reading is something that we value," McLean said. "I think for kids, having a tangible connection to your favorite book is kind of exciting."

Both the McLeans and the Orange County Public Library were enthusiastic about displaying art for the community, and McLean said it was the right setting to host the collection.

"The show itself is kind of a celebration of libraries and what a special thing they are in the communities," he said.

The collection is also doing a small fundraiser to help the library increase programming and furnishings to be accessible and comfortable for neurodivergent children, McLean said.

While the exhibit focuses on illustrations from children's books, there is no age limit to who can enjoy it.

"The images from the books that we were read as kids stick with us, and those memories of being read to are our kind of core, or binding, memories with our parents," McLean said. "I feel like it's an art form that doesn't always get recognition as being a fine art."

Beth Hawkey, the Orange County Public Library youth services supervisor, said the library regularly receives all kinds of art — some tailored more to adults, some to kids and some in between.

"It just brings back so many memories of the importance of books in our lives as we grew up," Hawkey said.

From pencil drawings to watercolor to ink renderings and signed prints, the artwork spans generations and creates a connection with viewers that shows the importance of this form of art.

"It's just brought a lot of joy," Hawkey said. "And I think the kids seeing something that they've read, whether it's 'Ladybug Girl' or Jan Brett books, seeing that somebody else knows who they are too, it's like, 'Oh, this must be important that other people know about it,' and realize that some of these have been around for a very long time."

Renowned author and illustrator Ashley Wolff has two pieces of her personal work in the collection. Wolff, who notably illustrated "Baby Bear Sees Blue" and the "Miss Bindergarten" series, spent the last year painting a different bird every day.

Both of her paintings in the collection were done in gouache, or watercolor. One depicts seagulls and the other, puffins.

Wolff said she spent a period of time painting state birds, which led to the fruition of the California gulls painting — which depicts the Utah state bird. While these pieces aren't necessarily within a children's book, Wolff said she believes in the importance of children having access to art all of the time.

"The illustrations are building a parallel universe to the words rather than repeating the words," Wolff said.

For more information about the collection and the illustrations being exhibited, visit the collection's website.

X: @dthlifestyle

REVIEW



DTH DESIGN/CARRIE-ANNE ROGERS

Back in the arena: 'The Hunger Games' returns

The prequel has an unlikely protagonist: Coriolanus Snow

By Carly Breland
Staff Writer
lifestyle@dailytarheel.com

While you may prefer to forget the side braid and amateur archery phase of your adolescence, "The Hunger Games" universe is back on the big screen — and this time, audiences know the main character all too well.

"The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes" tells the story of a young Coriolanus Snow, better known in the original trilogy as President Snow, the enemy and persecutor of the heroic Katniss Everdeen.

Before he became an evil tyrant, however, Snow was an underdog himself.

Set 64 years before the start of Katniss' story, "The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes" was originally written and released by Suzanne Collins in 2020.

The prequel takes place amid the wreckage of the war between the Capitol and the districts. The story revolves around the 10th annual Hunger Games, revealing the precarious beginning stages of the twisted tradition.

As a student at the prestigious Capitol Academy, Snow is tasked with mentoring a tribute in the games, who is, of course, the girl from District 12, Lucy Gray Baird.

Not unlike Katniss, Lucy Gray immediately wins the affection of onlookers for her headstrong nature — but also, random bouts of folk singing.

Portrayed by Rachel Zegler, Lucy Gray is a character constructed to win the affection of audiences, both within Panem and beyond the fourth wall. However, her out-of-place Southern accent paired with a few too many singing scenes inch her toward a caricature, a too-sweet country girl forced to sacrifice herself.

Snow, on the other hand, is a fascinating protagonist. His cunning nature and unyielding ambition hint at his future as a wicked leader, while his questionable morals clash with his naivety and hidden good nature.

Determined to restore postwar glory to his family, Snow forges a fast — perhaps a bit too much so — bond with Lucy Gray before she enters the games.

Actor Tom Blyth embodies Snow's crooked charm, making it impossible to avoid empathizing with the franchise's most notorious antagonist. Blyth's Eminem-meets-Draco Malfoy look certainly doesn't hurt Snow's likability, either.

The budding relationship between Lucy Gray and Snow proves far more interesting than the action of the games.

However, the lack of sophistication in the early years of the games makes the dystopian terror alarmingly realistic, as remnants of the world we live in now are still visible in the disheveled Panem.

The humanizing backstory deepens Snow's character, leaving audiences guessing as to how he becomes the despicable President Snow years later. Beyond his early acts of betrayal and arrogance, there is little evidence of true evil.

If anything, you may leave the theater rooting for Snow in a strange way, far removed from Katniss and her story.

"The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes" is a gripping return to Panem, and the talented cast lights up a somewhat incomplete story about the terrible beginning of Collins' well-known dystopia. (Writer's note: The real star of the show is Jason Schwartzman as talk-show host Lucretius "Lucky" Flickerman, the role we never knew he needed.)

But despite the nostalgia of returning to Collins' creative hellscape, "The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes" falls short on its storytelling, ending the lengthy film with a rushed, incomplete ending.

Though the film takes place in the famous fictional Panem, it fails to bridge the gap between the prequel and the rest of the franchise, instead serving as its own twisted tale that just so happens to echo traits of "The Hunger Games."

X: @carly20

Q&A

The Achordants bring fun to a cappella

Lifestyle writer Charlie Bagwell sat down with senior Henry Farnham, the president of a cappella group the Achordants. This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

The Daily Tar Heel: Can you tell me a little about how the Achordants works?

Henry Farnham: We're an all-male a cappella group at UNC. Currently, we're 14 members, expecting to be a little bit bigger in the spring. Essentially we have two weekly rehearsals, and then we have a concert every semester that, usually, is in November in the fall, and in April in the spring. Basically, all of our rehearsal time that entire semester leads up to the concert. We do gigs here and there — we've done gigs for campus groups, several organizations, and then we also do gigs for alumni or gigs for people in the community.

DTH: How did you get involved with the Achordants?

HF: It took me a little while to join the Achordants. I joined as a junior — I'm a senior this year — I joined last fall. I actually knew the music director. He was one of the first people I met at UNC, on the second or third day of college. I knew him for two years, I knew that he was in the Achordants,

and then, one of the other guys I knew from the first couple days of college joined his sophomore year.

When junior year came around I was just like, "I'm gonna go for it. I'm gonna audition." And I did and immediately fell in love with the Achordants, fell in love with a cappella and now it's the biggest part of my life. I spend, maybe 80-90 percent of my time with Achordants people, doing Achordants things or hanging out with some of the members I'm closest with.

DTH: What's the Achordants' style? What sets you apart?

HF: Well, we like to think of ourselves as the most fun, maybe the least serious, in the best way possible. We really care about making good music, and focusing on the music, and presenting the best possible performance we can, but we also like to have fun while doing it.

Last year, one of our big pieces was a boy band medley, which is a compilation of six or seven classic boy band songs from NSYNC, Jonas Brothers, those types of songs. We also perform live skits during our concerts, so we have 12 songs and then interspersed skits that sort of relate to the theme of the concert, sometimes more than others.

One of the fun things we do is what's called the "boxer song," where

we take off our pants and sing in colorful boxers, a more romantic, sexy song. We're all singers, we care a lot about music, but we try to make it the most fun it can be, and try to have a good time as best we can during rehearsal and during the concerts.

DTH: Can you tell me a little bit about the history of the Achordants?

HF: We were started in 2001 as an all-male group, and we still are. Every Achordant since 2001 has had a number. It started with number one, obviously, and now we've made it up to number 140. Some of the alumni are still in the area and come to our concerts, and they'll come visit us during concert week and bring us snacks and help us with our songs, make sure we're sounding the best.

It's great, and we are all sort of attached to our numbers. It's part of our identity in the group. Everyone is given a nickname as well. At the first concert we received our baseball jersey with our number and name on the back — my number is 132, and my nickname is Squirrel King. Just a little inside joke, a little connection to the group.

The Achordants has one more performances this semester — the Loreleis' Winter Showcase on Dec. 3.

X: @dthlifestyle

'The artwork that I do is Native American'

Continued from Page 1

Carolina are a far cry from glyphs carved into boulders. The artistry is as diverse as the eight state-recognized tribes in North Carolina today.

During Native American Heritage Month in November, events across the state offered Native American artists an opportunity to share their work. The month highlights a fraction of the artistry and culture of Native American artists in the state.

"Native American Heritage Month in November really gives us an outlet and a means of telling different people about who we are, but we're not Native American just during November," Ethan Oxendine, a member of the Lumbee and Tuscarora tribes, said. "We're Native American every day."

Oxendine is a traditional flutist and dancer. He plays the courting flute, an instrument which is said to have been carved from a willow branch and its sound given to it by a songbird.

The courting flute has no sheet music or practice books, so Oxendine said he practices, consults other flute players and plays from the heart.

He started dancing during his senior year of high school. Attending culture classes and powwows allowed him to immerse himself in dancing, which he described as a means of prayer and healing.

Dancing represents history and heritage, he said. Traditional Native American dances were banned by the United States government in 1883. Though the code was repealed 50 years later, to Oxendine, learning and performing powwow dances is a process of storytelling and cultural reclamation.

"We're not just a part of the history books and the movies and TV — we're actual people," he said. "We're still living and breathing and we're still singing our songs and doing our dances and living this way of life every day."

Norma Jean Locklear-Richardson is a textile artist and a member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. She runs Skyworld Stitches with her daughter Stevie Lowry designing and sewing ribbon skirts and embroidered regalia.

Ribbon skirts are an artwork shared by many tribes across the United States.

Locklear-Richardson, who has

been making regalia for around 20 years, said that in the past 10 to 15 years, ribbon skirts have become more casual wear, allowing Native American women a means of displaying their culture in their everyday wardrobe and saving the regalia for special events.

She incorporates an individual's favorite colors, tribe colors and personal interests to create a personalized representation of their culture and identity. Detailed embroidery sits atop vibrant fabrics in between a rainbow of appliquéd satin and ric rac ribbons, each tailored to the wearer.

Locklear-Richardson taught Lowry to sew when she was 13 years old. Lowry danced in powwows, wearing regalia sewn by her mother, even before that. Now, as an adult, she makes her own.

"I like having different outlets that I can use — being able to dance and create the things that I wear while I'm dancing," Lowry said. "It really means more than anything."

Though artists like Oxendine and Locklear-Richardson celebrate art forms with deep roots in history and cultural identity, some deviate from those art forms through new mediums and intersecting identities.

Christopher Kennedy's drawings stray from expected Native American traditional art. He is a self-taught contemporary artist and a member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.

Though several of his past drawings highlight his Lumbee heritage, he tends to focus on more technical challenges and broad themes.

Kennedy's social media pages show the hours he spends on hyper-realistic colored pencil drawings — mostly hands — reach seemingly off the page.

"You talk with your mouth, you look with your eyes — but you touch and feel with your hands," he said. "I think it's just a bigger, larger universal theme about people when I think about hands."

Though he is drawn to themes beyond race, identity and gender, he said does not identify any less with his Native American heritage.

"Because I'm Native American, the artwork that I do is Native American," he said.

X: @ktrchurch

THEATER

PlayMakers brings an inclusive spin to Shakespeare



PHOTO COURTESY OF PLAYMAKERS REPERTORY COMPANY/HUTHPHOTO
"Much Ado About Nothing" will run through Dec. 3 at the Paul Green Theatre in the Joan H. Gillings Center for Dramatic Art.

Provides different interpretation to "Much Ado About Nothing"

By Madison Gagnon

Senior Writer
lifestyle@dailytarheel.com

A Shakespearean comedy comes to 1940s Appalachia in PlayMakers Repertory Company's rendition of "Much Ado About Nothing."

The play, which opened on Nov. 18, begins with the return of a group of victorious World War II soldiers to the fictional Messina, N.C. What follows is a show full of laughter, dancing and heartbreak.

The plot follows the tumultuous relationship between Beatrice and Benedick, who are constantly engaged in a battle of wits and bickering. However, their friends believe their hatred masks a secret romantic fondness and, throughout the play, they scheme to get them together.

This performance marks the return to stage from screen for Aneesh Sheth, who portrays Beatrice. Unlike film and television, she said that the audiences within the theater act as the additional character of the play because she feeds off of their energy while performing.

She said that "Much Ado" is her Playmakers' debut and that she was welcomed into the community with open arms, which allowed them to form relationships and further explore deeper moments within the play.

"The way that these actors have all transformed themselves into these roles is just — it's brilliant, it's really inspiring," Sheth said.

Vivienne Benesch, the producing artistic director at PlayMakers, said that there is no other Shakespeare play that brings "fabulous fun" energy to the table more than "Much Ado."

"It's one of my personal favorite Shakespeare plays because it is so filled with wit and heart and an expansive vision for the soul," Benesch said. "And part of that is not only sort of the rom-com, which it absolutely is, but it's also expansive in the way it holds space for lessons to be learned — for who we are to grow and change and be."

She said that when putting on a Shakespeare production, there are always three time zones: the time in which Shakespeare wrote the play, the time period the play is set in and the moment it is being performed in. Audiences can expect a different experience every time because of the various interpretations.

Lauren Van Hemert, a marketing consultant at Playmakers, said

that it's been 38 years since the company last performed "Much Ado About Nothing" and the current season's production has an exciting, contemporary spin.

Shakespeare's plays remain a wonderful investigation of gender, queerness and otherness, Benesch said, and in PlayMakers' production, the cast largely includes women, trans and non-binary performers.

Sheth said that she's always seen Shakespeare performed in an "old-school" way. Different from the original, PlayMakers' production depicts the domestic setting as a safe haven for characters that, because of the time period and setting, include Black soldiers coming home from war.

As a South Asian woman, she said this is the first time she and Sanjana Taskar, who plays Hero, get to exist as brown women in a Shakespeare play.

Sheth interpreted Beatrice's character to be someone who had the support system to be herself authentically. While there isn't language in the play that supports Beatrice as being trans, Sheth said that because she is trans, her interpretation of Beatrice becomes so.

"The most exciting thing is being able to play Beatrice as a trans woman as I am, but there isn't any narrative about it, there doesn't tend to be any conflict around that. She is just able to live her life authentically in this place, which is wonderful."

Benesch said that the play speaks to the contemporary world while letting the audience explore the theme of honor from different perspectives.

Jeff Aguiar, engagement and education director at Playmakers, said he loves the open feeling of being able to resonate with human beings going through the experiences of just "being" and how they create "so much ad" about what is just gossip.

"I hope that people will walk away with an experience that is witnessed and testifies to the strength and the vulnerability of the human heart," he said.

"Much Ado About Nothing" runs until Dec. 3 in the Paul Green Theatre.

X: @madisongagnon9

DECEMBER don't miss these arts and culture events

- | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 1 | Homes for the Holidays: A Hillsborough Gingerbread Tradition , Downtown Hillsborough
On display through Jan. 1 | 2 | Art-N-Soul Holiday Market , Mystic Farm and Distillery
12 - 4 p.m. | 3 | Winter Craft Market , North Carolina Botanical Garden
1 - 4 p.m. |
| 3 | Downtown Tree Lighting Ceremony , University Baptist Church
6 - 6:30 p.m. | 7 | UNC Holiday Carolina Blood Drive , Fetzer Hall
7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. | 9 | Chapel Hill Carrboro Holiday Parade , Downtown Chapel Hill
10 a.m. |
| 9 | Triangle Youth Ballet's 'The Nutcracker' , Carolina Theatre
2 p.m. and 7 p.m. | 10 | Hanukkah Festival , Levin JCC in Durham
2 - 5 p.m. | 10 | Chanukah Parade and Menorah Lighting , Lafayette Village, Raleigh
2 p.m. |
| 13 | Dorrance Dance, 'Nutcracker Suite' , Memorial Hall
7:30 p.m. | 21 | Solstice Lantern Walk , Hillsborough Farmers Market Pavilion
5 p.m. | 31 | New Year's Eve Contra , Carrboro Century Center
8 p.m. - 12 a.m. |

Check organizer websites for more information before attending.

Opinion

The Daily Tar Heel

COLUMN

The CLE requirement only increases student disinterest

By Mary Blake Nobles
Columnist

In August 2022, UNC introduced a new curriculum, IDEAs in Action, to the dismay of many members of the class of 2026. With the change to the general education curriculum, new required classes were tacked on, including First-Year Seminars and the fan favorite, College Thriving. Along with these changes came a new requirement: Campus Life Experience.

The CLE component of IDEAs in Action requires students to attend two CLE-qualified events per semester for a total of 16 events by the end of their senior year. Qualifying events must fulfill specific criteria that allow students to “experience the artistic, intellectual and political life of UNC’s campus and connect these experiences with their academic work,” per the program’s website.

Perhaps the University felt that events weren’t getting enough interest or attendance. That event planners were putting in hard work to schedule events and secure special guest lecturers only for rooms to be occupied by a meager crowd.

Their intentions seem pretty clear: requiring students to go to events will increase attendance and engagement in campus life. There’s just one problem with that — forcing students to go



DTH/OLIVIA PAUL

UNC communications professor Avi Santo discusses his new book in Gardner Hall on Monday. The talk counted as a Campus Life Experience credit.

to events won’t force interest. Instead, it replaces interest with a disgruntled effort to fulfill yet another graduation requirement.

The structure of these events makes it clear that CLE credit, not the actual content, is students’ main priority. At each event I’ve attended, a QR code is at the door of the reserved space. Half the students that show up scan the code to record their attendance and then immediately turn around and leave. Others attend the event

but leave early. Few stay the whole time and even fewer are likely there out of their own interest.

What’s worse is that events that require careful planning and attention go ignored if they don’t qualify for CLE credit. The Carolina Union Activities Board event that sounded fun at the time is suddenly a waste because it doesn’t qualify as a Campus Life Experience.

Rather than fostering an environment where students want to go to events, the

CLE requirement creates an environment where students have to go. This is a key difference that can jeopardize genuine student interest and engagement in campus life.

Not only is the requirement counterintuitive, it’s also an overbearing policy. College is a crucial time when students often navigate personal responsibility more than ever before. Policies like CLE are reminiscent of middle school. There are times

when the University lets students figure things out for themselves. Unnecessary requirements challenge this process; if a student is interested in an event and has time to attend, they will go. We don’t need the University to hold our hand.

It’s perfectly understandable that UNC wants to increase student engagement and event attendance. They’re just going about it the wrong way. There are other ways to promote engagement in campus activities that don’t also promote disinterest.

Increasing event advertising and eliminating compulsory policies is beneficial for both students and faculty; students have more flexibility to attend events when they’re actually interested and the University can have confidence that students are meaningfully engaging in campus life.

Students have plenty of responsibilities and requirements to fulfill and CLE should not be one of them. Campus events are meant to add balance to students’ rigorous schedules by providing fun or interesting outlets. Transforming this important part of student life into yet another task is not the solution.

X: @mbnobles_

OP-ED

A call for empathy, love and peace

Editor’s Note: This op-ed is part of a series of contributions related to the Israel-Gaza war. Letters and op-eds are sent in by community members and do not represent the beliefs of The Daily Tar Heel. Submit your own op-ed or letter to the editor to opinion@dailytarheel.com.

My heart is broken. Fear, pain and anger are circulating our world right now, and I can’t help but feel overwhelmed and scared. In our current moment, many people feel unsafe and silenced. My heart goes out to all people struggling to process the events in Israel and Palestine — to all people scared, frustrated and in pain. And I’m right there with you.

As many people know, Hamas launched an all-out assault on the people of Israel on Oct. 7. They executed this attack during a celebratory holiday, Simchat Torah, when Israeli forces were unprepared. Israel, declaring war, launched a brutal siege on Gaza, the territory that Hamas rules over. Thousands have been viciously murdered already.

Many Jewish people are mortified. Jewish brothers, sisters and siblings have been terrorized in Israel. Not only is the entire state of Israel shocked and scared, but many Jewish people throughout the world. To many, Israel is a permanent refuge for the Jewish nation; a guarantor of safety after the ravages of the Holocaust. Some believe there is no other way to assure security for the Jewish people. Masses of Jews around the world are not only terrified by the Hamas attacks, but by the reaction of many people. Around the world, many supporters of Palestine have begun to speak up about Palestinian liberation in reaction to the attacks. Some Jewish people have perceived these turn of events as endorsing massacres of Jewish people, drawing comparisons to a modern Holocaust. In the Jewish community, many people are terrified that their safety as a Jew is compromised. The Jewish nation is devastated by the murders of their fellow brothers, sisters and siblings.

Many Arabs and, more specifically, many Palestinians are equally furious, scared and in pain. Palestinians have watched their people in Gaza and the West Bank suffer through horrible

living conditions, terrible welfare and endured being silenced. These people have been hurting, with no let-up, for upwards of 75 years. They need this pain to end.

It seems as though many outward Palestine supporters have been silenced any time they advocate for their beliefs. On social media, Palestinians have had their artwork, writings and other posts taken down from Facebook and other social media sites with no explanation. I’ve seen that many Palestine supporters are hushed on college campuses. I feel as though the Palestinian people are left isolated, angry and in pain, and that they’re scared to speak up. The Palestinian nation has painfully endured 75 years of murders of their fellow brothers, sisters and siblings.

The Oct. 12 protest on UNC’s campus exemplified this polarizing and sensitive situation. What was supposed to be a peaceful protest advocating for Palestinian human rights turned into a screaming match, with fights about Hamas and some physical confrontation. Personally being at the protest, I felt deeply saddened watching the pro-Israel side yell over all of the pro-Palestinian speakers, disrupting the protest. It was unproductive and immature. Both sides showed how emotional, hurt and scared they are. There was pain in the voices of the protestors, on both sides.

Israel and Palestine supporters both are facing extreme anguish. This complex and polarizing issue causes high emotions on both sides, understandably making it hard to communicate and find common ground. I don’t blame anyone for being scared, angry and intolerable of the other side. I hope that this polarization can change. This conflict cuts so deep. It can be incredibly difficult to listen to opinions and feelings that may seem outlandish to you. However, if you could find it in your heart to use empathy for the other side — listen before you share your side — I believe the world will be one step closer to a better place. May love and peace be spread through everyone’s worlds.

— Rex Bourdelais, UNC sophomore

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What is the Editorial Board?

A group of student journalists who meet twice a week to discuss the latest news, seeking to comment on issues from an intersectional perspective. The Editorial Board is independent from The Daily Tar Heel’s newsroom.

Editorials are unsigned. They don’t reflect the opinion of any one person, but rather the consensus of the board as a whole.

Just as The Daily Tar Heel values truth and transparency, the board values integrity, accountability, creativity and fairness.



DTH CARTOON/HENRY KUHN

COLUMN

Why I talk to strangers, why you should too

By Spence Whitman
Columnist

I have these noise-canceling headphones. And I work out in them, which in turn has made them so incredibly sweaty and disgusting that I can't wear them outside of a trip to the gym. I used to wear them nonstop, for almost all hours of the day — between classes, in the dining hall, in the library, on the quad. But now, given the mistreatment of my beloved “Emotional Support Headphones,” I face capital punishment: listening to the world around me.

At first, it was just tiring. I would just walk down the street and listen to the gentle breeze rustling through the beautiful fall foliage and think to myself: This is so boring. I'm so bored. I would be sitting on the first floor of Davis Library, forced to listen to my own thoughts while doing my statistics class homework.

One benefit has stemmed from the situation. I started talking to strangers again, and it has been these interactions that have made me feel like a real member of the greater Chapel Hill community rather than just a student at UNC.

At my old high school, we weren't allowed to use our phones outside and inside most school buildings (much less listen to music full blast on headphones between classes). This rule made students interact with each other much more between classes: it was the norm to greet each other, even if we didn't know each other. Because of this, I used to hate the



DTH DESIGN/SHAMIL LUQMAN

fact that I couldn't go on my phone or listen to music. Now I miss it.

When I first arrived at UNC, I smiled and said hi to people between classes, on the way to Franklin Street, or walking up the stairs to my dorm. It didn't matter if I knew them or not. I would ask how their days were going. In line at the dining hall, I would tell them that I liked their shirt or that I recognized them from one of my classes. Sometimes it was an attempt to make friends, sometimes it wasn't,

and sometimes it just felt good to connect with people.

Soon after people started to look behind them rather than wave back at me, or not know what to say when I started a conversation with them, I thought that I was being super weird. At least, I assumed other people thought I was being weird. So, I followed the norm and put my headphones on.

Listening to music, there was no reason for me to talk to anyone. I could control my environment perfectly. So, I ended up only

interacting with whom I chose to. Instead of picking up conversation with my distant acquaintances, I would just smile at them politely and keep on walking. A brief acknowledgement of existence but not much more. But in only speaking with the same people repeatedly, I started to feel a disconnect from the rest of my surroundings. It was like I went with a group of friends to visit Chapel Hill, rather than living here. We would only talk with each other about how our classes were

going, what we thought about this new restaurant or a movie that just came out. That lasted for a while. Until I stopped wearing my headphones again. I tried to read on the way to class or take the time to reply to text messages, but I couldn't multitask, so walking and reading didn't work. Without my headphones to ease the barrier between me and the rest of the world, I didn't know what to do with myself.

I fought boredom by talking. At first, it was with the people that lived on my street. Walking past them on the way to class, I picked up the conversation. I asked their names and got to know them. Then it was the employees at the regular places I go to, like the grocery store or the gym I work out at. Now, walking home at night, I feel comforted knowing the people waving through their windows know my name as well. Instead of just walking into my workout and leaving, I look for my favorite employee to ask how her week has been.

Start a conversation with the person next to you in the lecture hall, even if it might be uncomfortable. Chat with the person in line behind you at the coffee shop — it's an opportunity to connect. It's a reminder that there are people outside of our immediate social circles. It makes the monotonous, boring parts of the day exciting. And that's just my Two Spence.

X: @dthopinion

QuickHits

We've arrived

It's time. Mariah Carey has finally defrosted and we can't wait for “All I Want for Christmas Is You” to take its rightful spot on top of the charts again.



The home stretch

We are in the transition weeks before finals. It's the home stretch before the last day of classes before we officially enter the exam grind that Thanksgiving briefly and blissfully distracted us from.



Loss to N.C. State

UNC football lost to N.C. State (again). We thought three times might be the charm, but UNC lost for the third year in a row. Sometimes it's just not a GDTBATH.



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 twelve board members, the opinion assistant editor and editor and the editor-in-chief.

OP-ED

The value of a liberal arts education in wake of H.B. 259

As a soon-to-be “triple Tar Heel” who has benefitted from education in STEM and the humanities from UNC, I am in a unique position to comment on House Bill 259, which limits funding of distinguished professorships within the UNC System to only STEM fields.

I am a medical student at the UNC School of Medicine who will graduate in May 2024. Certainly, my B.S. in biology gave me a firm foundation to understand pathophysiology and therapeutics to properly treat my patients. I can't speak highly enough of the world-class STEM professors who contributed to my education. But it is my second major and master's in English that helped me start to become the kind of doctor I aspire to be.

To study the humanities is, fundamentally, to enter others' perspectives through stories, poetry and art; to think critically about these perspectives, situating them within their social contexts; and to form one's own opinions about the themes these works of art represent. The same can be said of the physician's approach to a patient: We must listen for a patient's stories, piecing together the history they tell us with charts, labs and imaging. We must understand how the world in which they live impacts them and act on what we have learned to improve their health.

It is the humanities that taught me how to ask the right questions to realize that a patient with heart failure stopped taking his medications because he didn't understand their purpose. It is the humanities that make me pause to ask whether my

patient with diabetes can afford their insulin because knowing the diagnosis and treatment are not enough if I don't also consider their social context.

It is the humanities that help me sit with the daughter of a dying patient, ask her about her mother's life and values and help her consider hospice to support these values. It is even the humanities that I turn to for my own solace after these hard conversations. While the sciences make a competent physician, it is the humanities that make a compassionate caregiver.

Ceasing to fund distinguished professorships in the humanities detracts from the education of every student at Carolina. We must continue to reward and attract excellent scholars in the humanities because it is their work that grapples with what makes us human. We must value the work of humanities educators because their teachings underlie the success of STEM and humanities majors alike. To be clear, the humanities must not be relegated to the position of supplementing a STEM education.

They hold the power to stand on their own in creating thoughtful lifelong learners. A true liberal arts education ensures that every student who graduates from UNC — whether they become a researcher or a lawyer, a doctor or a poet — learns to think for themselves, question their surroundings and maybe even create something beautiful. All UNC students deserve this expansive education, and we must support those with the expertise to provide it.

— Emily S. Long, M.A., UNC School of Medicine, class of 2024

Wake up to breaking news, happening events and a bit of daily humor

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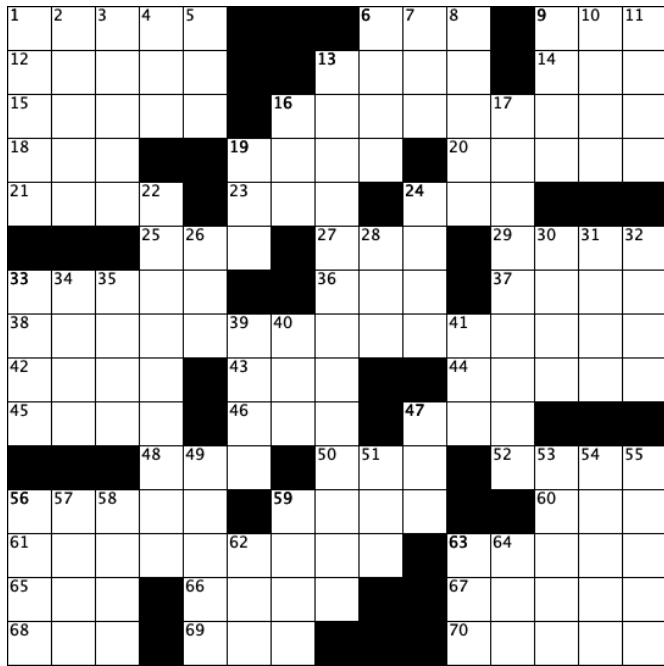
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This week's crossword was created by Liam Furlong. Liam is a UNC junior majoring in comparative literature and education. He is from Wilmington, Delaware.

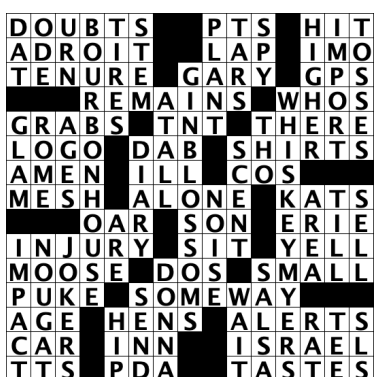
Title: "Three Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed"

Across

- 1 Trips into Canadian waters?
- 6 Petrol synonym
- 9 Bears' abode
- 12 Spiky but soothing plants
- 13 Spiral part of a pig
- 14 Harambe, for one
- 15 Re-do opportunities, in some video games
- 16 Like Americans celebrating Independence Day
- 18 "Understand what I mean?"
- 19 Boring, not cool
- 20 Liberty Bell feature
- 21 They justify the means, ideally
- 23 Phase of Taylor Swift's career
- 24 Cebu airport abbr.
- 25 I've finished this proof," abbr.
- 27 World's biggest carnival location
- 29 Run-down part of town
- 33 Horrible
- 36 Religion suffix
- 37 Untainted
- 38 Massive beds fit for the Emperor of San Francisco
- 42 Wedding cake level
- 43 "___ it in the bud"
- 44 Cutting sides of blades
- 45 S. Pellegrino logo
- 46 Emergency contact (abbr.)?
- 47 Morrison's "The Bluest ___"
- 48 Suffix for Japan and Taiwan
- 50 Be in the hole, financially
- 52 Skin irritation
- 56 Whatsoever
- 59 '0' shape
- 60 Word after Irish, China, and Java
- 61 Convinced not to do something
- 63 "_____ the town red"
- 65 American comedian Wong
- 66 Baking instruction

Down

- 67 Clear the whiteboard
- 68 "It's Raining ___" (hit song)
- 69 Lady of the coop
- 70 Actor Wilder's inheritance?
- 1 Answer to some test questions
- 2 Alf or ET
- 3 Had great affection for
- 4 Bruce of kung fu
- 5 *I'm a snake*
- 6 Fenced entry
- 7 Word before 'Jordans' and 'Buddies'
- 8 Pizza unit
- 9 Stats and quotes
- 10 Like a Homeric tale
- 11 Place for a hickey
- 13 Security modeling program, not for monkeying around on
- 16 Average, in golf
- 17 Constructor of spiral webs in gardens and forests
- 19 Guided, directed
- 22 Trash thieves on campus
- 24 Food _____ (post feast feeling)
- 26 Holiday classic starring Will Ferrell and James Caan
- 28 "It ___" ("Me here," quite poshly)
- 30 Item found in a chest?
- 31 Desire or impulse
- 32 Military dining hall
- 33 Performs in Kenan Theatre Company's "Exit, Pursued by a Bear"
- 34 "Give me a minute!"
- 35 Canine pest
- 39 Never happening again
- 40 Tear up
- 41 A minor, when poking a piano part?
- 47 Unagi Don ingredient at Spicy 9
- 49 Watered-down snow
- 51 Bundle of cash
- 53 Like Ms. Wong (65-across)
- 54 Taste or touch
- 55 Strongly dislikes
- 56 Counting Crows frontman Duritz
- 57 Bit of bathroom flooring
- 58 "T ___ tango"
- 59 Father of Thor, in Norse mythos
- 62 Ingested some IP3, say
- 63 Wooden pin
- 64 "___ you listening to me?"



Help Wanted

STUDIO APT UTILITIES INCLUDED: Beautiful walk out studio apt in wooded neighborhood available December, 30. Walking distance of UNC Hospital, medical library, dental school, School of Public Global Health and free bus lines. W/D & all utilities included, including high speed internet. Covered parking spot for your car. \$800 monthly. Please email cognacjac@aol.com

HOROSCOPES

If November 29th is your birthday...



Today's Birthday (11/29/23). Benefits follow action this year. Nurture your home with dedicated routines. Rest after a busy winter, before adjusting around springtime social changes. Love blossoms into romance and creativity this summer. Make household upgrades this autumn, before gatherings. Build strength, health and energy by having fun.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

Today is a 7 — Prioritize domestic projects. Changes bring temporary disruption. Overall, the improvement is worth the hassle. Savor a satisfying prize. Reward worker bees with something delicious.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Today is an 8 — Communicate, network and connect to advance. Catch a bonus with quick action and wits. Good luck sparks in conversation. Keep track and follow up.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Today is a 9 — Pour on the steam to generate profits. Keep up the good work and your influence grows. One good project sparks another. Grab a lucky break.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Today is a 9 — You've got the power and confidence to make things happen. Direct attention for a passion project. When luck drops windfall fruit, pick it up.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

Today is a 7 — Stay close to home. Savor sacred rituals and private routines. Avoid unnecessary errands. You're especially productive behind closed doors. Rest, plan and recharge.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Today is an 8 — Friends are your inspiration. Team efforts can surge ahead, with a push now. Share inspiration and encouragement. Invite participation and share the load.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

Today is a 9 — Get involved in a fun professional project. Fortune follows an optimistic attitude, words and action. Your positive results are contagious. Everyone wants what you're selling.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

Today is an 8 — Get out and find hidden beauty in your own backyard. Learn new perspectives on a familiar subject. Keep following a fascinating thread for amazing discoveries.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Today is an 8 — Manage shared accounts, ventures and initiatives. Feelings take the forefront and rationality hides behind. Discover a brilliant and unusual solution. Align for common cause.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

Today is an 8 — Rely on your partnership. Share the load with commitments, interests and passions. Ignore small potatoes. Provide stability, contribution and support. Luck infuses your collaboration.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

Today is a 9 — Balance a busy work schedule to reduce stress. Increase efficiency. Practice improves physical performance. Maintain regular routines for health and fitness. Recharge your batteries.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

Today is an 8 — Listen to your heart. Decline a public outing in favor of a private invitation. Follow a passionate connection. Your greatest strength is love.

SUDOKU

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4	9	2	7	8	6	3	1	5
7	1	6	5	3	2	4	8	9
6	3	4	9	2	8	1	5	7
2	5	9	6	7	1	8	4	3
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Sports

The Daily Tar Heel

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's cross country finishes sixth at nationals

Team-first mindset powered junior Parker Wolfe's top-10 finish

By Twumasi Duah-Mensah
Staff Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

EARLYSVILLE, Va. — Around the 7,000-meter mark of the NCAA Cross Country Championship, Parker Wolfe lost pace with the top pack of the men's 10k race.

Any hope of a podium finish for the UNC junior and ACC champion had all but slipped. But something pushed Wolfe to keep plugging away and eventually finish ninth.

"It's tough to want to stay in there, but I know that for the team aspect, I needed to stay where I was," he said.

Just as Wolfe had to scrap, the North Carolina men's cross country team had to fight on a day that did not go to plan. Wolfe's top-10 finish and UNC's sixth-place finish at the NCAA Championships on Nov. 18 were powered by a team-first mindset the Tar Heels have built.

Wolfe said he didn't realize until after the race how hard he had to start. He crossed the 1,000-meter mark in two minutes and 30 seconds. And that was on Panorama Farms, a course that junior Ethan Strand said is "constantly up and down" and "never flat."

When a race gets hard the way it did for Wolfe, he said it can be easy to think another Tar Heel will pick up the slack. That's the mentality Wolfe



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNC ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

UNC men's cross country team starting its race at the NCAA 2023 Cross Country Championship on Nov. 18 in Charlottesville, Va.

said the team has worked against to build trust.

"The biggest thing to overcome was running for each other rather than yourself," Wolfe said.

To run as a team is the culture Wolfe has helped build. He had experienced runners to look up to his first two years.

Now, he was the "older guy" his teammates looked up to —

only two of the seven runners on Saturday had run at the NCAA Championships before. (Graduate transfer Alex Phillip has run at the Division III Championship.)

Wolfe needed to become a leader. In that mission, he succeeded.

"Watching the way [Wolfe] invested in the other guys on this team and saying, 'OK, man, I've been at this level, but I believe you can get here,

too,'" UNC cross country director Chris Miltenberg said. "Man, that was so powerful, too. So powerful."

What stuck out to Wolfe about being a leader this season was the impact he could have when he trusted in his teammates. So on Saturday, when Wolfe lost the chance of a podium finish, the desire to keep the trust pushed Wolfe to pick a runner in front of him and stay with that

runner as hard as he could.

"It's a powerful thing to, you know, be able to trust each other like that," Wolfe said.

Wolfe has seen how, in previous years, larger gaps between UNC runners during races have made building a unified mindset harder. With transfers and younger runners stepping up, North Carolina, according to Wolfe, now has a stronger team mindset than any year before.

Even that, though, didn't stop UNC from spiraling as they did at the Nuttycombe Invitational in October, where they finished an underwhelming 10th place. That's when the Tar Heels regrouped and learned to lean on its team mindset.

"We decided instead of running as seven individuals, we were gonna run as a team," Phillip said in a GoHeels interview before the race.

Two weeks later, North Carolina won its first ACC Championship since 1985. And on Saturday, UNC snagged its highest finish at the NCAA Championships since 1985. Running as a team was the right decision — from the bottom up to Wolfe.

Minutes after finishing 17th, Phillip was greeted by assistant coach Ian Moini. Moini put his hand on Phillip's shoulder while telling him how positive the result he just helped secure was.

"When shit hits the fan like it did today, we kept running," Moini told Phillip.

X: @dmtwumasi

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Two keys to success for UNC's clash with No. 10 Tennessee

Team needs to keep up defense, stop fouling on Wednesday

By Noah Monroe
Senior Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

Following a Thanksgiving break trip to the Bahamas for the 2023 Battle 4 Atlantis tournament, the No. 17 North Carolina men's basketball team will make its return to the Dean E. Smith Center on Wednesday for its ACC/SEC Challenge matchup against No. 10 Tennessee.

After losses to current No. 1 Purdue and then-No. 1 Kansas at the Maui Invitational, the Volunteers will be hungry to get back in the win column against the Tar Heels.

Here are two keys for the Tar Heels if they hope to hand Tennessee yet another ranked loss.

Stay out of foul trouble

In its games against Villanova and Arkansas, North Carolina picked up 54 fouls — more than its first four games combined. It goes without saying that if UNC wants to have any sort of chance against Tennessee, they need their star players to be on the court as much as possible.

While UNC head coach Hubert Davis has extended his use of the bench significantly this season, players like fifth-

year center Armando Bacot and junior forward Harrison Ingram have been crucial to the success of North Carolina so far this season — Bacot as the longtime cornerstone, Ingram as the jack-of-all-trades transfer. Should the pair find themselves in foul trouble, it hampers the playmaking that the Tar Heels are able to have on the court; Ingram fouled out in regulation against Villanova, who went on to win by two points in overtime.

Additionally, sending Tennessee to the foul line will almost certainly result in two points for the Volunteers, who are shooting 77.7 percent from the free-throw line — the second-best clip in the SEC, behind only Alabama. Fifth-year guards Dalton Knecht and Santiago Vescovi have capitalized on their trips to the line, with the backcourt tandem each shooting better than 81 percent.

Contain Dalton Knecht

North Carolina was one of several schools to reach out to the coveted Northern Colorado transfer this past offseason.

During Knecht's time with the Bears, he showcased his ability to not only shoot the ball from three-point range but also attack the basket, averaging 20.2 points per game last year. Posing a rare combination of a 6-foot-6 frame with a guard's quickness, Knecht has the speed needed to blow past defenders as well as the ability to



COURTESY OF MAGGIE HOBSON/UNC ATHLETICS

Then-junior forward Armando Bacot (5) shoots the ball during the game against Tennessee on Nov. 21, 2021, in Uncasville, Conn.

finish at the rim, making several highlight-worthy dunks last year.

He hasn't slowed down at Tennessee, either, leading the Volunteers in scoring with 17.5 points per game. Knecht can fly high above the rim and finished an alley-oop off with flair on an inbound pass against Kansas.

Whoever on UNC is assigned to the Colorado native will need to keep a close watch on Knecht, even when he doesn't have the ball. Only one other Volunteer averages double figures — junior guard Jordan Gainey, who logs nearly 24 minutes a game, scoring 11.7 points.

In short, limiting Knecht's production should make the Tar Heels' night much easier.

X: @thnoahmonroe

Defense wavers in Carter-Finley Stadium

Continued from Page 1

no answers. No answers for what happened on defense. No answers to how eerily similar this season ended to last.

Gray said he didn't "know where this came from."

"I thought this is something we talked about all off-season, throughout the year — never get complacent when we're high," Gray said. "And then, after week six, things started kind of trending down hill for us."

N.C. State entered Saturday with one of the worst scoring offenses in the ACC and ranked 76th in the nation in that same category. However, UNC had no answer for Concepcion, who tallied seven receptions for 131 yards and two touchdowns, while also adding 55 rushing yards.

The Wolfpack targeted Concepcion out of the wildcat formation, letting him find the open holes in the North Carolina defense.

Gray said they weren't caught off guard by Concepcion.

"Coming into this game, we knew he was a great player," Gray said. "We knew he was fast, quick, we knew that they were gonna try to find creative ways to get him the ball. Unfortunately we just, you know, wasn't able to slow him down tonight."

Along with Concepcion's vision and speed, the Tar Heels hurt themselves with multiple missed tackles, many due to the slick surface. North Carolina had a multitude of miscues — on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball — as a result of players slipping. "The grass looked great,"

sophomore quarterback Drake Maye said. "A lot better than Clemson's, but, yeah, just slipping issues. I think one of the first times I took off I almost slipped and fell."

With UNC's goals slipping away from them throughout the season, they will look to earn the program's second nine-win season in a row since Brown's first stint with the Tar Heels.

However, despite that opportunity, both Maye and Gray share the same sentiment surrounding the end to this season: embarrassment.

"I definitely feel a little embarrassed," Gray said. "These are two games that, you know, coming into them we thought we could win, you know, find a way to win. Obviously that didn't happen. Definitely very frustrating, but just gotta take it in."

X: @mdmaynard74



DTH/SAMANTHA LEWIS

UNC redshirt first-year defensive lineman Beau Atkinson (12) prepares to tackle N.C. State graduate quarterback Brennan Armstrong (5) in Carter-Finley Stadium during the game against N.C. State on Saturday.



DTH FILE/DEREK PENG

UNC redshirt-senior defender Maycee Bell walks during the women's soccer match against USC at Dorrance Field on Aug. 27.

Tar Heel defense crumbles in quarterfinal loss to BYU

Continued from Page 1

Leading BYU 3-0 with just 30 minutes left, it seemed almost impossible that North Carolina wouldn't advance to the 2023 College Cup. But for the rest of the game, the Cougars pounced on every opportunity they were presented, slowly unraveling the UNC defense.

At the end of the NCAA tournament quarterfinals game in Provo, Utah, all that was remained for North Carolina was a feeling of disbelief as the scoreboard lit up the final score, 4-3 — a result that tied the biggest comeback in NCAA tournament history.

The theme for most of the latter half of the season was North Carolina's inability to score goals, only achieving a multi-goal game twice — once in October and once in November. But less than two minutes into the game against BYU, North Carolina had already found the back of the net.

Redshirt sophomore midfielder Ally Sentnor connected with redshirt senior defender Maycee Bell on a corner kick, who floated a header past the keeper to notch the fastest goal the Tar Heels had scored all season. Then, on top of this, Sentnor added two goals

of her own over the next 18 minutes to give UNC a three-goal advantage just 20 minutes into the game.

This was almost unheard of from the Tar Heels this season.

Three goals in the first half?

The last time they did that was against Gardner-Webb in their fifth game of the season in August. For North Carolina to have scored three goals in a half, let alone before the midpoint of the period in an NCAA tournament game, was almost unbelievable.

And with North Carolina still holding onto a three-goal lead going into the second half, all they needed to do was rely on their steadfast defense, which had only allowed multiple goals twice this season.

It seemed like a simple task.

Not so fast.

"This is a good team," head coach Anson Dorrance told ESPN at halftime. "We've seen a lot of their games, they're going to score goals and we have to figure out a way to limit them a bit because we know their personnel, they're talented so we gotta figure out a way to ride out the margin that the first half gave us."

After holding the BYU offense to just five shots in the first half, the Cougars ramped up the pressure while the Tar Heels took their foot off the gas. By the 80th minute, BYU had recorded 14 shots to North Carolina's three. Still though, the Tar Heels had only given up one goal and the game was still very much in hand.

If they could just hang on for 10 more minutes, North Carolina would advance to its second-straight College Cup.

But that never came. The 10 minutes that followed resulted in the state of disbelief that North Carolina found itself in after the final whistle.

The defense crumbled under a barrage of shots from BYU, and the Cougars scored three goals in nine minutes to complete a miracle comeback.

No national championship No. 23 in '23. No redemption story. Just disbelief.

UNC Athletic Communications declined to make head coach Anson Dorrance available to The Daily Tar Heel for an interview following the loss.

X: @themoahmonroe

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UNC to play top-ranked South Carolina

What to know ahead of Thursday's ACC/SEC Challenge

By Emma Moon

Senior Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

The last two times the UNC women's basketball team met South Carolina, it was do or die.

The Tar Heels' past two Sweet 16 appearances came in 2015 and 2022, and both ended in losses to the Gamecocks.

On Thursday, No. 24 North Carolina will look for revenge against top-ranked South Carolina in Carmichael Arena. For a UNC squad that's coming off two losses to then-No. 16 Kansas State and Florida Gulf Coast over Thanksgiving break, the border battle rematch can go one of two ways for the Tar Heels: a bounce-back upset victory, or a third consecutive loss.

Here are three things to know ahead of Thursday's ACC/SEC Challenge showdown.

South Carolina hasn't gone anywhere

After being ranked No. 6 in the AP preseason poll, South Carolina has quickly moved up to its familiar No. 1 spot — last year, the Gamecocks' ranking never dipped below No. 1, going undefeated before falling to Iowa in the 2023 Final Four.

The Gamecocks have won by an average margin of 51.6 points this season, even defeating a top-10 Notre Dame squad by 29.

Behind players like center Kamilla Cardoso, who averages 16.8 points and 11 rebounds, the Gamecocks already have an advantage. Add four other players who average more than 10 points per game, and their depth is unmatched. In comparison, only two Tar Heels — senior guard Deja Kelly and junior center Maria Gakdeng — are averaging double figures.

UNC's slow start offensively

On Saturday, North Carolina suffered its first loss of the season against No. 16 Kansas State in its first ranked matchup. The next

day, UNC fell to unranked Florida Gulf Coast by one point.

The two losses can be chalked up to inconsistent shooting.

With former McDonald's All-Americans coming off the bench, UNC has the talent to contend with South Carolina, but in each of the Tar Heels' closely contested games, poor shooting has been a problem. Against an unranked Davidson team, UNC shot about 65 percent from the free throw line, missing eight foul shots in the last quarter alone. Against Kansas State, the Tar Heels only made two of their 20 3-point attempts.

If the Tar Heels have any hope of beating a South Carolina team that averages over 100 points per game compared to the Tar Heels' average of 68.6, they will need consistent scoring at all three levels from more players than just Kelly and Gakdeng.

Electric Carmichael atmosphere

Tickets to Thursday night's game in Carmichael Arena are completely sold out. Due to the demand for the game, the same lottery ticketing policy used for men's basketball and football games for students were implemented for the first time to a women's basketball game.

The game will be televised nationally on ESPN at 7 p.m. On as big of a stage as it can get in November, all eyes will be on the Tar Heels as they look to pull off the upset.

X: @emmahmoon



DTH FILE/JEROME IBRAHIM

Then-junior Alyssa Ustby (1) shoots the ball at the women's basketball Sweet 16 in the Greensboro Coliseum on March 23, 2022.

VOLLEYBALL

Tar Heels shift momentum in fourth set to defeat Duke

Junior hitter Mabrey Shaffmaster's pep talk spurs team to victory

By Twumasi Duah-Mensah

Staff Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

After his team suffered a reverse sweep at home against then-No. 25 Florida State, UNC volleyball coach Mike Schall said he wanted one big home win for his team.

Fast forward to Friday, and that big home win seemed out of reach yet again. Down 2-1 against Duke on Senior Day, UNC fell behind 16-7 in the fourth set before the Tar Heels flipped the script.

UNC roared back to tie the match at two sets and then claimed the fifth set to snatch a rivalry win from the brink of defeat. After several games this season in which UNC was on the wrong end of a reverse sweep or momentum shift, the Tar Heels found the confidence to not only survive an opponent run, but turn the momentum in their favor.

For much of this season, the Tar Heels' struggles with opponent surges have been attributed to



DTH FILE/OLIVIA PAUL

UNC junior outside hitter Mabrey Shaffmaster (9) celebrates with her teammates after a successful play during the volleyball match against Duke on Oct. 25 at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

their youth — out of 16 players, 11 are first-years or sophomores. Oftentimes, junior outside hitter Mabrey Shaffmaster finds herself the oldest player on the court besides graduate setter Maria Miggins.

As a result, Shaffmaster said the Tar Heels have a problem believing in themselves sometimes.

Duke is not an opponent that lends much confidence, either.

Shaffmaster admitted that, against the Blue Devils' blocking game, finding a spot to hit the ball was a challenge.

As Duke went on a 9-1 run to build a 13-4 lead in the fourth set, Shaffmaster saw UNC lose belief.

"I think we just kind of thought, 'This is over, they're already up two sets, it doesn't matter,'" she said.

The match was eerily similar

to how the Tar Heels lost belief against Florida State earlier this month, a game in which Shaffmaster lamented how UNC let doubt take over — so during a timeout, she didn't mince words with her teammates.

She told them they had nothing to lose. To have fun in what could be their last set of the season. That they were the better team. Shaffmaster tried to take the pressure off her young team and convince them that they could turn it around.

"I knew for a fact that if we just came out and we just played our game, we were going to be fine," Shaffmaster said.

That pep talk flipped a switch. "We all look to [Shaffmaster] as a leader, so seeing her so fired up and having belief in us, I think it really just got the whole team on board," first-year outside hitter Sydney Nolan said.

From that timeout, the Tar Heels came alive. They communicated more. They threw more bodies on the floor. What had been a Duke blocking showcase became a UNC block party, with the first-year Nolan notching a career-high 11 block assists.

From 16-7 down, UNC stole the set 28-26 and stole the momentum.

Never again would UNC trail Duke as they took control of the fifth set. Shaffmaster told the Tar Heels not to allow any runs. Besides a brief 3-0 run at the end, Duke had no runs. UNC had become a different team.

The block game came in clutch again, as Nolan combined with graduate outside hitter Emani Foster to make the block that clinched match point.

Comeback complete. Finally, Schall's team had found the confidence necessary to secure a big home win.

UNC would have liked to show it could keep belief earlier than the last game of the season. Still, this victory may show the young Tar Heels what is possible when they stay confident.

"You gotta walk out there with some swag and just say, 'Oh well, F it, I'm just gonna go there and play my game and see what happens,'" Shaffmaster said.

X: @dmtwumasi

ANALYSIS

Football season ends in disappointment

Quarterback Drake Maye reflects on Saturday's performance

By Gwen Peace

Assistant Sports Editor
sports@dailytarheel.com

RALEIGH — Following UNC football's 39-20 loss to N.C. State in its final game of the regular season, there was one phrase that Drake Maye repeated over and over in the postgame press conference in slightly different variations: "It starts with me."

To be fair, the offensive meltdown that the Tar Heels — who led the ACC in total offense entering Saturday — displayed against the Wolfpack did start with the sophomore quarterback.

North Carolina only managed to make it 1 yard up the field on the first drive of the game. It didn't get better from there.

Maye appeared completely out of sorts throughout the first quarter, not making a single completion on just three attempts. Despite a slight improvement in the second half, he still only managed 254 total passing yards — his fourth-worst performance of the season — catapulting the team to its fourth loss of the season in what might have been his final game as a Tar Heel.

"I've got to do a better job, I'm the ultimate decision maker," Maye said. "Ball's in my hand, touches my hands every play, so

at times when I felt like we didn't answer, it just falls back on me."

Throughout the game, it seemed like Maye was unable to find any answers, repeatedly throwing the ball away and failing to connect with his typical targets. The entire offense appeared lost without their captain steering the ship.

Typical top-receiver junior Tez Walker notched just 29 yards on an 18 percent completion rate in his worst performance of the season. Sophomore running back Omarion Hampton, who entered the game tied for first place nationally in total rushing yards, was only able to put up 28 on the night, breaking his streak of six consecutive 100-yard performances.

"We got so far behind we couldn't run it," said head coach Mack Brown. "He didn't touch it much tonight."

At the end of the first half, UNC had less than half of N.C. State's total yardage.

"We were off in the first half," Brown said. "It was as bad as I've ever seen us."

Despite a slight rebound in the third quarter, recording two touchdowns, the Tar Heels were ultimately unable to overcome the deficit that they had fallen into at the beginning of the game. Falling in the rivalry game meant UNC finished the regular season with a worse record than last year.

On top of that, the game could be Maye's last in Carolina Blue.



DTH/SAMANTHA LEWIS

UNC sophomore quarterback Drake Maye (10) walks along the sidelines during the football game against N.C. State at Carter-Finley Stadium on Saturday. UNC lost 39-20.

The Huntersville, N.C. native said he hadn't yet decided if he would appear in UNC's bowl game, but it's likely that he will sit it out to prepare for the NFL draft.

It seems like the worst possible ending for Maye, especially after the dream 6-0 start to the season for the Tar Heels, who entered the year with high expectations due to the talented pool of recruits and the Heisman

hype surrounding their quarterback.

After the game had concluded, Maye could only describe the ending of the season as "embarrassing," something that senior linebacker Cedric Gray was quick to corroborate.

For Maye, who called UNC's home win against Duke two weeks prior a "fairytale ending," the game must have felt more like a nightmare.

To cap it off, in what might have

been his final pass as a Tar Heel, Maye threw an interception right into the gloves of N.C. State safety Devan Boykin to put what Maye dubbed the "dagger" into the game.

At the end of the day, Maye was right. North Carolina's weak performance did start with him — and it ended with him too.

X: @PeaceGwen

REPORT CARD

Grading the men's and women's basketball teams

By Shelby Swanson and Daniel Wei

Sports Editor & Assistant Sports Editor
sports@dailytarheel.com

The UNC men's and women's basketball teams both dropped in the AP poll after playing three games each over Thanksgiving break.

Led by senior guard RJ Davis and junior forward Harrison Ingram, the North Carolina men's team defeated Northern Iowa, lost in overtime to Villanova and then beat Arkansas. Senior guard Deja Kelly and junior forward Maria Gakdeng stood out for the women as the Tar Heels defeated Vermont, later falling to Kansas State and Florida Gulf Coast.

Here's a look at grades for each team's frontcourt, backcourt and benches over the holiday:

UNC women's guards: Kelly carried UNC with 18.7 points per game in Florida. Following North Carolina's loss to Kansas State, Kelly said she had to be better, but it's hard to imagine her putting even more weight on her shoulders.

Lexi Donarski, who started in the losses to FGCU and KSU, has been largely inconsistent. Despite her "shot club" ethos, she went 24 percent from the field over UNC's three Thanksgiving break games.

Grade: B

UNC women's forwards: Ustby fouled out against KSU and then picked up four fouls and was limited to 23 minutes in UNC's loss to FGCU. As for Gakdeng, she averaged just 16.5 minutes in UNC's first two games of the Gulf Coast Showcase.

Moving forward, UNC needs to help its posts out by aiding in help defense and giving them more touches. The reward? Dominant performances like Gakdeng's against FGCU, a game in which she recorded 22 points on perfect shooting from the field and free throw line.

Grade: B-plus

UNC women's bench: Despite the depth coach Courtney Banghart praised her team for in the offseason, UNC's bench simply hasn't lived up to the hype. In Florida, UNC's non-starters averaged fewer than 15 points per game, although their overall performance was admittedly hard to evaluate as UNC's lineups were constantly changing.

The biggest takeaway? Indya Nivar plays better coming off the bench — the Stanford transfer averaged eight points across the two

games in which she didn't start, compared with zero points as a starter against Vermont.

Grade: C

UNC men's guards: There wasn't much new to learn from Davis, who tied his career-high against Arkansas with 30 points, earning him ACC Player of the Week honors.

Preseason ACC Rookie of the Year Elliot Cadeau made his first start against Arkansas with graduate guard Cormac Ryan out with an injury. Judging by his baseline pass that set up Ryan's clutch corner three to force overtime against the Wildcats, along with his shooting efficiency and assist-to-turnover ratio, Cadeau should keep starting.

Ryan finally found his rhythm from beyond the arc, going 5-14 in two games and also showcasing an underrated one-dribble mid-range pullup off a curl, along with his slashing ability on some tough drives.

Grade: A

UNC men's forwards: Ingram earns an A-plus here — his dynamic scoring abilities were on full display. He also had two double-doubles.

But Ingram's grade is offset by Armando Bacot (C-plus), who shot 40 percent or lower in all three contests. After averaging nearly 23 points through the first three games of the season, Bacot scored just 27 total in the Bahamas.

Louisville transfer Jae'Lyn Withers contributed solid minutes, but was foul-prone. Villanova's Eric Dixon, who was guarded by Withers and Bacot, dropped 34 points with a combination of bully ball and outside shooting.

Grade: B

UNC men's bench: Sophomore guard Seth Trimble isn't a non-factor on offense anymore thanks to an improved jump shot. Meanwhile, graduate guard Paxson Wojcik hasn't quite found his stride from long range, going 2-8 on the year. But the Brown transfer, who was hailed as a sharpshooter, didn't hesitate in attacking the basket, finishing a tough contested layup and showcasing a floater package.

Jalen Washington's length helped him get three blocks over the break, but the sophomore forward saw limited action in the Bahamas.

Grade: A-minus

X: @danielhwei, @shelbyswanson

MEN'S SOCCER

UNC advances to NCAA quarterfinals

Tar Heels get redemption in penalty shootout win over Hofstra

By Cade Shoemaker

Staff Writer
sports@dailytarheel.com

Waiting to take his penalty kick, graduate forward Quenzi Huerman knew he had to change his approach in order to convert. The Frenchman had trained with Hofstra's goalkeeper, Wessel Speel, during a tryout this summer. Huerman knew Speel was prepared for his typical approach.

So instead of blasting it home per usual, UNC's leading goalscorer finished his penalty with a cheeky Panenka, a chip down the center of the goal.

"Mind games," Huerman said.

In UNC's NCAA tournament third-round matchup against Hofstra on Sunday, North Carolina won, 2-2 (5-3), in a penalty shootout.

In doing so, the Tar Heels rewrote a nightmare they endured just two weeks before, losing the ACC Championship to Clemson in penalty kicks. Following the loss, UNC made key changes in their penalty kick strategy on the offensive and defensive end, swapping out both goalkeepers and penalty kick takers.

In the ACC Championship, it was predetermined that alternate goalie Quinn Closson — instead of starting keeper Andrew Cordes — would be the goalkeeper in penalty kicks. This decision was made because, according to head coach Carlos Somoano, Closson is exceptionally good at saving penalties.

However, Closson was unable to get a glove on any of the five attempts the Tigers had. To avoid déjà vu Sunday night, Somoano and his staff decided to keep Cordes in the game.

"The difference is he's is playing and he is in games," Somoano said. "So it's a little bit easier to kind of get yourself into that competitive mode when you are doing that."

The decision paid off. On Hofstra's second penalty kick, Cordes dove to his right and beat the ball to its spot well before it arrived.

"We've trained penalties in this past week, since Clemson, a lot harder and a lot more intense," Cordes said. "Which I think has helped all of us, the takers and the keepers, to give us the extra edge to help save one."

On the flip side, North Carolina also adjusted its five penalty takers from the lineup it rolled out against the Tigers. Keeping three of the shooters from the ACC Championship, the Tar Heels looked to senior forward Ernest Bawa as the third taker. He took the place of



DTH/NATE SKVORETZ

UNC junior midfielder Andrew Czech (27) celebrates after the third round game of the NCAA men's Division I soccer tournament against Hofstra on Sunday.

junior defender Matt Edwards, who missed UNC's only penalty kick against Clemson. Junior midfielder Andrew Czech was the final addition to the lineup, shooting fifth.

With a lineup of Sam Williams, Huerman, Bawa, Martin Vician and Czech, the Tar Heels exuded confidence.

"They can practice one thing but when you get up there you have to go with your gut," Somoano said. "But it's hard. If you second-guess yourself you're done for, so you gotta be ready for that moment."

The Tar Heels were indeed ready. The team converted all five penalty kicks, with Speel unable to touch any shot.

Crediting the power of mind games, Huerman — who took UNC's second penalty — said he believed his chip shot made the Hofstra goalkeeper second-guess himself during the following penalty kicks.

"A Panenka is going to make the keeper rethink about his strategy because he dove a bit early, and maybe that helped my teammates afterward," Huerman said.

Whatever the case may be, UNC was able to find redemption for its shortcomings in the ACC Championship. Now one win away from the College Cup, the Tar Heels can refocus their attention — moving past the skepticism that's been looming over the team this past month.

In the words of Somoano, "Any looking back is putting yourself at a disadvantage."

"You don't get credit for past wins, and you don't get debits for losses when you're in the moment."

X: @cadeshoemaker23