

## Nonreligious church opens in Triangle

The Sunday Assembly appeals to people looking for community without religion.

By Kerry Lengyel  
Staff Writer

The Sunday Assembly, a godless congregation that celebrates life, will hold its first meeting in Chapel Hill on Sunday at the Hargraves Community Center.

Sunday Assembly was founded in London in January 2013 by two comedians, Pippa Evans and Sanderson Jones, and has since expanded to more than 60 Assemblies worldwide.

The Sunday Assembly has been dubbed the “atheist church” by various media sources, but the organization accepts people regardless of their beliefs.

“Some people might call us an atheist church, but that’s not what we are,” said Richard Fortuna, president of the Sunday Assembly location in Charlotte, N.C.. “We have Buddhists, we have people who are spiritual but not religious and we do have Christians as well.”

Atheism is on the rise in the United States, according to the Pew Research Center, which reported that 2.4 percent of American adults identified as atheists in 2012, compared to 1.6 percent in 2007.

While it only launched in September, the Sunday Assembly in Charlotte has had four services. This month marks its fifth.

Fortuna said the church has between 40 and 60 people attend each service.

After hearing about the Sunday Assembly on the news, Sara Howe and Nichelle Reed decided to organize their own congregation in Chapel Hill.

“As a nonreligious individual, I’ve often missed the sense of community that church provides,” Howe said. “I wanted one here to help build that community and safe space for those of us who do not feel comfortable in other churches for whatever reason.”

Howe said that there would be a new speaker and a host at each of their monthly meetings.

“Each meeting will have a different theme,” she said. “Our theme at the launch will be ‘Beginnings,’ and so our speaker will talk about an important beginning in his life.”

She said she’s expecting anywhere from 70 to 100 people for the first Assembly.

Cyndel Brunell, a student at UNC who attends the Summit Church in Durham, said she doesn’t understand the idea of a religion without a god.

“I kind of feel, just with my experience in church, that it’s missing a huge element that there’s not a savior,” she said. “I can understand the self-help point of view, but having a hope and savior that is above and beyond has so much more.”

Fortuna said reactions to the Sunday Assembly in Charlotte have been mostly positive, with most complaints being about the congregation not holding services enough.

“There’s been more of a negative reaction from the atheist population than the religious population,” he said.

There has been interest from people in both Winston-Salem and Asheville in starting their own Sunday Assemblies.

“Charlotte was the first location in the state,” Howe said. “We will be the second, and Asheville and Winston-Salem are currently in the process of planning.”

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### SUNDAY ASSEMBLY CHAPEL HILL

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Hargraves Community Center  
**Info:** sundayassemblychapelhill.weebly.com

## NOT LETTING THE ENDING CREDITS ROLL



DTH/CHRIS GRIFFIN

Paul Shareshian, owner of the Varsity Theatre, is hoping to raise \$50,000 by Feb. 15 with a Kickstarter fundraiser to upgrade its film projection system.

## Theater campaigns to stay open through digital changeover

By Parth Shah  
Staff Writer

Bobby Funk’s memories from the Varsity Theatre include much more than the iconic movie scenes that have flickered across the screen at the Chapel Hill institution.

“I actually went on my first date with my wife at the Varsity,” said Funk, the assistant director of the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership. “We saw ‘Inception’ and we sat in the front row because it was completely full.”

But the Varsity won’t play host to any more first dates if it fails to raise \$50,000 by Feb. 15 and upgrade its existing film projection system to the industry standard of digital projection.

The Varsity is an independent sub-run movie theater — for

*“We want to continue that on and make it something future generations can experience.”*

**Justin Simmons,**  
Pastor with Love Chapel Hill, which holds a Sunday service at the Varsity Theatre

discounted prices, it shows movies after they leave major theater chains.

The theater has historic roots in Chapel Hill. Built in 1927, it was originally the Carolina Theater before it became the Village Theater and then the Varsity.

Paul Shareshian, owner of the Varsity, said it’s been difficult to get new movies during the past year because the film industry is turning away from 35-millimeter film and sending movies via hard drive instead.

“The main reason that the indus-

try switched from 35-millimeter film to digital is because it costs them a tenth of the price to ship the film,” Shareshian said. “With a hard drive, you can use them over and over again. When you print 35-millimeter film, you can’t use it again. It’s basically garbage.”

Major movie theater franchises received subsidies to offset the costs of upgrading their projection systems to show digital movies. But many small independent theaters like the Varsity don’t bring in enough business to qualify for the discount, and

some have been forced to close their doors.

When Funk learned that the Varsity faced the possibility of going dark, he sprang into action.

Working with Shareshian, Funk launched an online Kickstarter campaign, titled “The Varsity Theatre — Go Digital or Go Dark.” The fundraiser went live in mid-December and has already raised more than \$39,000.

“It shows the amazing amount of community support the Varsity has and how much people care about having an independent small theater in our downtown,” Funk said.

UNC alumnus Alex Norton, who graduated in 2014, said the Varsity is a centerpiece of Franklin

SEE VARSITY, PAGE 2

## Alpine rises and shines with new look

Alpine Bagel aimed for a modern upgrade with new renovations.

By Mona Bazzaz  
Staff Writer

It’s the best thing since sliced bagels, according to one Alpine Bagel Cafe employee.

Alpine Bagel, an eatery in the Student Union, was renovated during winter break. The changes include a larger checkout area with a new counter, new coffee, tea and drink machines, a new frozen yogurt machine and larger signs in the windows. The renovations also relocated the desserts and chips.

Brandon Thomas, a spokesman for Carolina Dining Services, said in an email that the renovations were necessary to upgrade and

modernize Alpine’s appearance.

The idea for the renovations has been in the works for more than a year, Thomas said. The cafe has been in the same Union location since 2003, and the renovations were funded solely by Alpine.

“We were fortunate to be able to get the actual work accomplished over the winter break,” Thomas said. “The Union is such a busy place with so many events and happenings taking place there that coordinating any kind of construction project that wouldn’t be disruptive isn’t always easy.”

The project was completed in almost two weeks during the break.

Mario Neville, assistant manager at Alpine, said he is extremely pleased with the changes.


He said he didn’t know exactly how much the project cost.

SEE ALPINE, PAGE 2



DTH/LAUREN DALY

Alpine Bagel Cafe, a popular food stop in the Student Union, was renovated during winter break. The cafe sports a new sign, counter and food display.




# WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## #8 NORTH CAROLINA vs. GEORGIA TECH

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“ Everything I learned, I learned from the movies. ”

AUDREY HEPBURN



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From staff and wire reports

When you become a public, elected official, there are a few things you have to accept: 1. Your extramarital affairs will be revealed; 2. You will inevitably put your foot in your mouth during your term; and 3. News outlets will write about you. After all, you were elected by the public. But Frederick County, Maryland, councilman Kirby Delauter doesn't understand that last one. He threatened to sue a reporter for The Fredrick News-Post who mentioned Delauter in an article without his permission. In truly badass journalistic fashion, the newspaper then printed an editorial about the situation using Delauter's name 28 times. Oh, and the whole country is now talking about him. Without his permission. His plan worked perfectly, don't you think?

**NOTED.** A National Hockey League referee has given a new meaning to the phrase "sick move." During the Pittsburgh Penguins versus Tampa Bay Lightning game, play was stopped after one of the referees let his previous meal fly on the ice. He has gotten his 20 seconds of fame by vomitting on national television. Yep, that's a sick move.

**QUOTED.** "He is very lucky to be alive."  
— A surgeon in Bangladesh about a boy who had an eel removed from his throat. The 6.5-inch eel had been stuck in the boy's throat for five hours, blocking oxygen from entering his lungs. Uh yeah, we agree with the surgeon about the fact that the boy is lucky. The same can't be said for the eel.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

**PlayMakers: "Wrestling Jerusalem":** The play, which will be shown in six performances, tackles the debate surrounding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict by using a personal narrative. After each performance there will be a discussion between the play's sole writer and performer Aaron Davidman, panelists and the audience. Tickets for the event start at \$15.  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Center for Dramatic Art

**Computer Science 50th Anniversary Distinguished Alumni Speaker Series:** Matt Cutts, the head of Google's Webspam team and a UNC alumnus, will host a talk about his experience at Google, entitled "Lessons learned from the early days of Google." He will discuss stories from when Google was a small startup and share advice from his career. Cutts is the author of Google's family filter, SafeSearch. The

event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Register for the lecture using the form at: [bit.ly/1xQq6cX](http://bit.ly/1xQq6cX)  
**Time:** 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
**Location:** Nelson Mandela Auditorium, FedEx Global Education Center

**Overeaters Anonymous Meeting:** This 12-step program is designed for anyone who is suffering or dealing with an eating-related issue. Five meetings are held each week in Chapel Hill and Carrboro for anyone who is interested in participating. The event is free and open to the public. The group will meet at Binkley Baptist Church. For more information, visit [triangleoa.org](http://triangleoa.org).  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Location:** 1712 Willow Drive, Chapel Hill

**FRIDAY**  
**Teen Science: Open Minds Cafe:** This program, hosted on the second Friday of every

month, is designed for people aged 13 to 18 with an interest in science. The program involves talking with scientists, learning about current research and talking with other teenagers who are interested in science. The event is free and open to the public.  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
**Location:** Morehead Planetarium and Science Center

**UNC gymnastics takes on Auburn:** Show up to watch the gymnastics team open its season and compete against No. 12 Auburn in Chapel Hill. The event will be the first of the team's four meets at home this season. Admission is free.  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Location:** Carmichael Arena

To make a calendar submission, email [calendar@dailytarheel.com](mailto:calendar@dailytarheel.com). Please include the date of the event in the subject line, and attach a photo if you wish. Events will be published in the newspaper on either the day or the day before they take place.

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WISHING AT THE WELL



DTH/LAUREN DALY

Senior Keerthi Nandipati, a psychology major from Biscoe, takes a sip from the Old Well for good luck on the first day of classes. UNC legend holds that drinking from the Old Well on FDOC will lead to a 4.0 grade point average for the semester.

POLICE LOG

- Someone forced open a door of a house with a sledgehammer at the 100 block of Isley Street between noon and 12:39 p.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.
- The person caused \$150 in damage to the door and stole more than \$5,000 worth of property from the house, reports state.
- Someone discharged a pellet pistol and struck a vehicle at 214 Nunn Lane at 5:40 p.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.
- The person caused \$100 in damage to the vehicle, reports state.
- Someone threatened to hurt another person in an argument in a parking lot at 800 Pritchard Avenue at 7:48 p.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.
- Someone drove while impaired on Fordham Boulevard at 1:18 a.m. Monday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.
- Someone was arrested for felony possession of crack cocaine at the 100 block of BPW Club Road at 2:37 p.m. Tuesday, according to Carrboro police reports.
- The person also had an illegal registration plate cover, reports state.
- Someone was intoxicated and attempted to fake an injury in order to be transported to UNC Hospitals at the 200 block of Roberson Street at 9:45 p.m. Tuesday, according to Carrboro police reports.
- Someone damaged property at Swain Hall at 2:30 a.m. Tuesday, according to reports from the UNC Department of Public Safety.

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, Wednesday's page 6 story "Ackland Art Museum receives national grant" misspelled the name of Ackland Interim Director and Chief Curator Peter Nisbet.

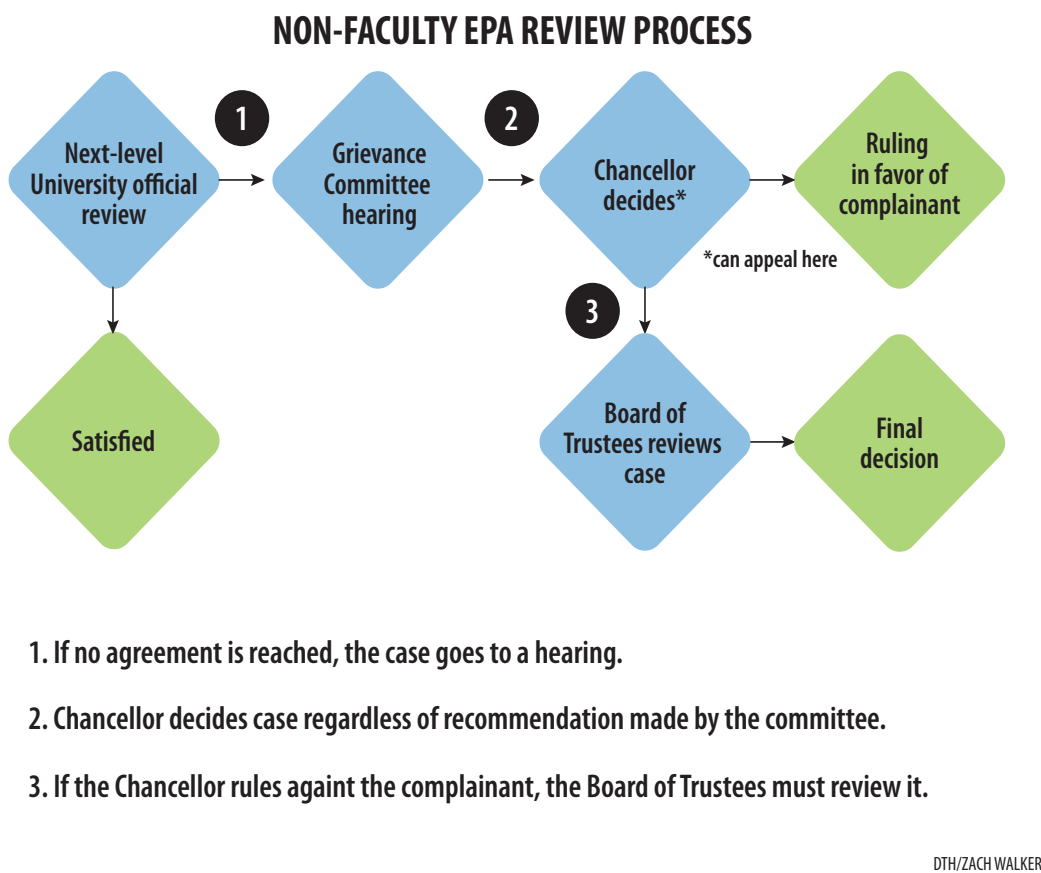
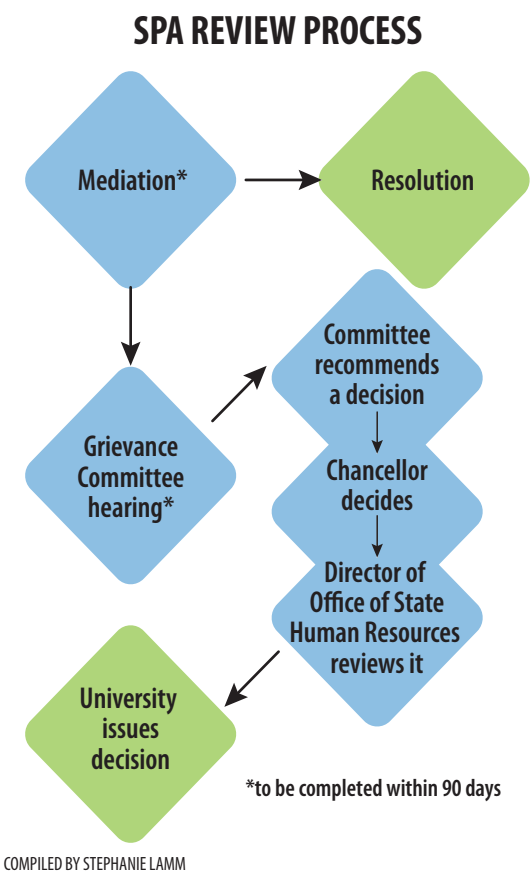
Due to a reporting error, Wednesday's page 3 graphic "At least 6 employees still face review" did not specify the employees to whom the EPA review process applied. It applies only to non-faculty. Faculty members follow a different review process.

The graphic to the right has been modified to reflect these changes. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for these errors.

- The Daily Tar Heel reports any inaccurate information published as soon as the error is discovered.
- Editorial corrections will be printed on this page. Errors committed on the Opinion Page have corrections printed on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.
- Contact Managing Editor Katie Reilly at [managing.editor@dailytarheel.com](mailto:managing.editor@dailytarheel.com) with issues about this policy.

At least six employees still face review and a lengthy appeals process

The review process for employees who are pursuant to the State Personnel Act (SPA) differs from the process for employees who are Exempt from the State Personnel Act (EPA).



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The course listing is available at [summer.unc.edu](http://summer.unc.edu)

VARSITY

FROM PAGE 1

Street. He remembers watching "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" at the theater.

"It came to the Varsity right after it was out of the bigger theaters, which was good timing because you always say you want to go see that movie when it's in theaters, but you don't always have time or want to pay \$15,"

Norton said.

"When it came to the Varsity, it was a lot more convenient, better pricing, and I got to drink wine while I was watching it, which was the perfect experience."

But the Varsity isn't just beloved by movie-goers. Justin Simmons is a pastor with Love Chapel Hill, a local church that has held a Sunday service at the Varsity since 2009.

He said the theater's multifaceted nature has made it a resource the community can't afford to lose.

"This is such a special place — people have been married there, there have been memorial services there," Simmons said. "We want to continue that on and make it something future generations can experience."

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ALPINE

FROM PAGE 1

"This is the best thing that's happened to us since cutting bagels," Neville said.

He said the food placement changes could result in shorter lines.

"Over time, we were just patching flaws up and we knew after some time we would just have to fix it," Neville said.

"We're going to try implementing a new system when it comes to ordering to speed the process up and get students in and out faster."

Thomas said he has heard from a large number of students who have already raved about Alpine's recent facelift.

"We have received a lot of positive word-of-mouth feedback about how great the place looks, how good the food is and how it was missed over the break," he said.

Neville said the system they had in place before had gotten old and wasn't working anymore. The renovation moves desserts toward the register, among other changes.

"Everything has been updated, and the flow is somewhat different even though the overall look is the same," Neville said.

"This is what we needed to get more people attracted to the cafe than what we already have."

Cody Vientos, a sophomore, purchases coffee from Alpine regularly and noticed the changes right away.

"I thought that there was a lot more room and the new layout was very spacious and inviting," Vientos said.

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# KIDZU GOES FULL ‘STEAM’ AHEAD



DTH/SAMANTHA TAYLOR  
After a few temporary spaces and lots of construction, Kidzu Children’s Museum will move to its new location at University Mall on Jan. 16.

## Museum to open permanent University Mall location

By Graves Ganzert  
Staff Writer

The echoes of children laughing and learning once heard in University Square will now live on in University Mall. After about a year of moving around to temporary locations, Kidzu Children’s Museum is looking to open its new Launch Pad Museum at University Mall between Jan. 16 and early February. The museum has offered creative hands-on learning opportunities to more than 150,000 children since 2006. From November 2011 to February 2014, Kidzu was located in University Square before moving to the mall due to the closure of the development and its growing size. Pam Wall, executive director for Kidzu, said the children’s museum has become a staple of child education in the community. “Kidzu inspires children and the adults in their lives to engage in creative play,” Wall said. One of the main programs offers exhib-

its revolving around STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) education. Currently, a smaller Kidzu satellite location remains open in University Mall and offers some pop-up programs for children while the company enters into the final stages of construction for its new main location. Wall said the new location will provide a much larger space, allowing the museum to allocate areas for specific learning activities. “The opening of the new Launch Pad museum will feature exciting new exhibits and the old favorite programs,” Wall said. Marcia Blackstock, a Kidzu volunteer, said the museum’s growth was encouraging. “It’s super important that kids reach this level of education at a young age,” she said. “I’m excited to see how we can find a niche in the community with this new larger space.” Despite moving around to two temporary locations in University Mall while construction ensued for the museum’s semi-permanent three-year location, Wall said the

museum received community support. “During some of this time period, we have received over 30,000 visitors and doubled our membership numbers,” she said. Wall said she expects to have more than 100,000 visitors in 2015 for the new Launch Pad location, but the museum is still in need of financial support. To help raise money, Wall said Kidzu has devised a dollar-for-dollar matching challenge grant with an anonymous donor. “Right now, we still need to raise more money,” she said. “We really need the public’s help for us to reach our goals and keep our doors open.” Chapel Hill resident Katherine Alvarez said she has two children involved in Kidzu and looks forward to the new museum space. “You don’t want to have little kids running around while the older kids are trying to concentrate on a science project,” she said. “This new space will be very helpful.”

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# New position created for social justice advocacy

The position is intended to increase social awareness in residence halls.

By Olivia Bane  
Staff Writer

This semester, social justice-minded students can bring their causes to their residence halls. The Department of Housing and Residential Education is launching a pilot Social Justice Advocate Program. Students interested in inclusion, diversity, religious differences, gender issues and LGBT issues are encouraged to apply. The pilot program will allow students to help plan events in their community and train community government members, acting as a “social justice voice” for their hall, according to an email from the housing department. “Adding a social justice advocate program to community government is a great idea,” said sophomore Carolina Valder. “It’s definitely important to have one person or group whose key purpose is to focus on inclusiveness to raise awareness about minority experience at UNC, different socioeconomic backgrounds, different gender-based needs, and dietary needs and religious considerations.” The housing department already works to educate students and staff in multicultural competency, such as its Multicultural Advisor program. “MAs are resident advisors who receive additional training on social justice issues and facilitation,” said Hazael Andrew, assistant director for the First Year Experience, in an email. “This newly created position will complement the MA program and work to educate residential students who are members of community government on social justice issues.” Since the advocate program is collaborating with the Residence Hall Association, participants will also become members of their community government. The proposal was unanimously supported by the community governors and executive board. “The purpose of hosting a pilot program first is to truly enable students to co-create what this experience will be in the future, and we value the contributions they will make to the evolving experience: content and application,” Krista Prince, coordinator for leadership development, said. Interested students can apply for advocacy positions until Jan. 14 at noon. “It has always been very important to our organization that no student — regardless of sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or limited mobility — feels like they are unable to get the most out of their on-campus experience,” said Taylor Bates, president of the Residence Hall Association, in an email. “We live in a wonderful community of very diverse Tar Heels, and we hope this new program will help us celebrate that key element of Carolina.”

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# NC primaries could be earlier in 2016

The primary in N.C. will be one week after the primary in S.C. for the 2016 election.

By Lindsey Brunson  
Senior Writer

North Carolina voters might need to prepare for 2016 presidential campaign ads and rallies much earlier than the state has experienced in the past. State lawmakers voted in 2013 to move up North Carolina’s presidential primary from May to a week after South Carolina’s primary — meaning North Carolina’s primary could be held as early as February 2016. “I don’t think too many months will pass before we start seeing some of these candidates start to come into North Carolina,” said Mitch Kokai, spokesman for the John Locke Foundation. The presidential hopefuls might not technically be campaigning at that time, he said, but they could attend small meetings and conventions to raise their profile in the state. “Candidates who are serious about making a go are going to have spend time winning over North Carolina in 2016,” Kokai said. “We’re going to be seeing more of the candidates.” Yet state Board of Elections spokesman Josh Lawson said it’s not a guarantee that North Carolina will have an earlier primary date. If South Carolina’s primary is moved to a later date, he said it is possible that North Carolina could still have a May primary. Because some uncertainty remains, Lawson said the state has not begun preparations for the campaigns, but South Carolina will be closely watched in the coming months. “We’re confident that people are going to have the right information when the time comes,” he said. Presidential primaries customarily start off in Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina. These states

tend to receive the most campaigning from presidential candidates. And now North Carolina could share some of that attention. Michael Bitzer, a professor of political science at Catawba College, said the move is an endeavor on North Carolina’s part to play a bigger part in the nomination process. “What some in the legislature would like to do is to bring more attention to North Carolina because, for the most part, when they hold their primaries late, the nomination process is pretty much done,” he said. But Charlie Cook, editor and publisher of the Cook Political Report, said the move might not yield the intended results. “It’s certainly capable of overstatement,” said Cook, referring to the importance of moving up the primary to the overall nomination process. “The top four priorities for anyone running for president are raising money, Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina, and then there’s an enormous gap before you get to any other state,” he said. Moving up the primary could possibly place North Carolina under the scrutiny of the national parties. Bitzer said the Republican National Convention and the Democratic National Convention try to keep states from moving up their primaries in order to keep the presidential election cycle from dragging on. On the line is the number of delegates the national parties allow states to send to the national conventions. “National parties will let South Carolina to be the first in the South, just by tradition,” he said. “The more likely is, if North Carolina moves theirs up, you may see other southern states try to do the same thing and that’s when the national parties might come in and say, ‘OK, you can do that but you’re going to get penalized.’”

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# Campus cable gets digital upgrade

UNC signed a new contract for digital channels with Campus Televideo.

By Mohammed Hedadji  
Staff Writer

Students living on campus now have access to 131 digital channels — including HBO, Cinemax and FOX Sports — in their dorm rooms. After years of poor clarity and nondigital service, Campus Televideo signed a new contract with UNC, providing residents and faculty with high definition and digital channels on all televisions across campus. This is exciting for residents, resident advisors and community government members, said Taylor Bates, president of the Resident Hall Association. “The new channels provide a legal way for us to organize watching events in residence halls, which is a huge positive,” Bates said. An increased opportunity to watch sports was very popular among students as well. Students can not only watch more of the games they love, but they can also watch a larger variety of sports. “In all things sports, except maybe Ultimate Frisbee, more is better,” said sophomore Mahfuz Nasiri, who lives on campus. While many students interviewed celebrated the improvements, students with outdated TVs won’t benefit. Nondigital televisions won’t support UNC’s new digital cable. “It certainly affects some students,



DTH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/MATT RENN  
UNC’s on-campus cable was upgraded to digital cable during winter break.

and I would love to see everyone with the opportunity to take advantage of this service,” Bates said. ResNet manager Christopher Williams recognized the issue but said digital cable was long past due. “We’re at a point where we’re just going to have to move forward. There will always be problems here and there, but the quality of service for students will just skyrocket,” he said. While some students saw this as an inconvenience, the update does not deem nondigital televisions useless. Students can purchase a cable box for their televisions to receive digital channels. “While students do have to spend the \$35 to receive digital cable, it is much better than spending the \$300 or \$400 for a new television,” Williams said. With new services, problems are likely to arise, but Williams said ResNet is ready to answer any questions and work with students to troubleshoot as effectively as possible. Students can call, live chat or submit a request for help on the website. In addition to the service improvements, Williams said UNC would save money with this new contract. UNC signed a five-year deal with Campus Televideo for a cheaper price than its previous cable contract. The money saved allows for new channels to be added by popular request, Williams said. Bates said he and his roommate were excited for the change. “We’ll definitely be watching more TV this semester,” he said.

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## inBRIEF

CITY BRIEFS  
New public alert system launched in Orange County

Chapel Hill is partnering with Orange County, the Town of Carrboro and the Orange Water and Sewer Authority to create a new alert system. The system is

intended to notify residents of emergencies and to offer public service announcements. Residents who register can choose to be alerted about crimes, fires, severe weather and other important updates. Residents who were registered with the previous system, Code Red, will need to register again to receive updates from the new system, OC Alerts. Landline phones listed in the Orange County 9-1-1 database will receive automatic alerts from the system. Chapel Hill officials are encouraging residents to register for the alerts at <http://bit.ly/160pdS8>. The alerts can be received via cell phone, landline phone, email, text message, fax and pager. Also, an app is available for iPhones and Androids that allows for two-way communication with emergency officials.

— staff reports



# Students wait for more context

## Some want additional student input on contextualized grading.

By Kristen Chung  
Senior Writer

When faculty and administrators announced the delay of contextualized transcripts, they gained time to perfect the format of the transcript — and make sure students understood the changes.

The Dec. 9 email announcing the delay was the first time freshman Dani Callahan had ever heard about contextualized grading.

“I had to look it up myself to find what it meant a couple weeks ago when the email was sent out, and I still don’t know what it means,” she said.

Contextualized grading allows students to compare their final grade in a class with that of their peers. It would change the format of

undergraduate transcripts by listing a student’s letter grade alongside the median grade in the section and percentile range from the median.

The contextualized transcript would also include an idea developed at UNC: the schedule point average, which averages the median grade point average for the set of classes the student took that semester.

“It adds key pieces of information that gives transcript readers a much better sense of what those grades mean,” said Andrew Perrin, a sociology professor supporting the change.

A 2009 report identified three problems with UNC grading — grade inflation, grade compression and systematic grading inequality.

In 1995, 27.8 percent of undergraduates received the Dean’s List distinction in the fall, while 40.1 percent were placed on the Dean’s List in fall 2008, according to the report

Proponents of contextualized grading say it will help identify grade dynamics and create more transparency.

Christopher Derickson, assistant provost and university registrar, said the delay stemmed from concerns about formatting and lack of research on how the change would affect students.

“We want to know how this is going to impact students,” he said. “We’ve been working on it for more than a year but did not have the additional testing that I wanted to have.”

Derickson said one of the biggest problems was making the transcripts clear to employers and graduate schools.

“I don’t want to say I believe it’s technologically ready,” he said. “I want to know 100 percent that it is ready to implement.”

In December, student government pushed to delay the implementation of contextualized transcript.

Student Body Vice President

*“I had to look it up myself to find what it meant...I still don’t know what it means.”*

Dani Callahan,  
freshman

Kyle Villemain said students should be educated about transcript changes before their implementation, especially because the original idea was pushed by students in 2010.

“Current students should weigh in and decide whether there are benefits to this rolling out or not,” he said.

Perrin said contextualized grading has been implemented at other universities but not to the scope for which it is planned at UNC.

“We are very much a leader in this area,” he said.

Derickson said upperclassmen had voiced concerns about seeing a mix of contextual and noncontextual information on their transcripts. He hopes to use the delay to talk to more students and perhaps give

them access to an unofficial contextualized transcript.

“I would like to have an extended period where we would have live testing for students,” he said. “And I would have samples go out to schools and employers.”

Connor Choka, a Hispanic linguistics major, said he understands the premise behind contextualized grading, but said he would like to know how contextualized grading will specifically work at UNC.

“I’d like one of the individuals in administration, maybe Chancellor Folt or the Dean of Students, to explain what it is and how it’s going to benefit us as students and as a University,” Choka said.

university@dailytarheel.com

## inBRIEF

### CAMPUS

#### UNC delays its response to accrediting agency

UNC has until Jan. 12 to respond to its accrediting agency’s request for more information about its response to the academic scandal.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges began its review of UNC after the release of Kenneth Wainstein’s report into academic misconduct.

In November, the association requested UNC clarify its compliance with 18 different standards, such as institutional integrity and qualified staff.

UNC received an extension from Jan. 7 to Jan. 12, said University spokesman Rick White in an email.

The University’s response to the association’s review is being led by Lynn Williford, assistant provost for institutional research and assessment.

— staff reports



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SUBSTITUTE TEACHER IN REGGIO SCHOOL (Durham, Chapel Hill). Our PlayHouse Preschool is seeking substitute teachers to work as needed, 5-15 hrs/wk. Teachers must have at least 2 years of experience working with young children and the ability to relate joyfully and sensitively to children ages 1-6. Please email your resume to [cdclark@ourplayhousepreschool.com](mailto:cdclark@ourplayhousepreschool.com).

CHILD CARE WANTED. Seeking a reliable caretaker for our sweet 3 year-old son. Schedule flexible but need 1-5 weekdays 2-5pm. You need a clean driving record and references. \$13/hr. Contact [hightechparent@icloud.com](mailto:hightechparent@icloud.com) or call 919-627-8279.

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CHILD CARE WANTED: Afterschool child care needed M-F, 2:30-5:30pm, starting January 12th in our Chapel Hill home. Looking for a reliable individual to care for our 2 children ages 14 and 11. Must have own transportation. Competitive rate. Please contact [nannyssearch27516@gmail.com](mailto:nannyssearch27516@gmail.com).

CHILD CARE WANTED Seeking UNC student to babysit our energetic, strong willed 3 year-old son in Carboro, Tu/Th from 2-5pm and some weekends. \$10-\$12/hr. Contact [lszipir@nc.rr.com](mailto:lszipir@nc.rr.com). 919-537-8101.

AFTERSCHOOL DRIVER NEEDED for 14 year-old in Durham. Hours. 3:15-5:15pm approximately 1-2 hrs/day, M-F. \$10/hr. +\$0.50/mile. Please email [djaggers@nc.rr.com](mailto:djaggers@nc.rr.com) or call 919-451-5338.

NANNY, HOUSEHOLD MANAGER NEEDED: Children 8, 10, 15, 16. Must be organized, energetic, warm and kind with references. Duties: Transporting children, errands, grocery shopping, light housework. We provide minivan. 15-20 hrs/wk, weekday afternoons. \$13/hr. Home 300 feet from UNC with parking. Resume with GPA to: [BB@TeleSage.com](mailto:BB@TeleSage.com) Subject "Nanny".

WE ARE LOOKING for afterschool child care for 2 fun little boys ages 6 and 8. Schedule flexible but will need 1-3 afternoons per week 4:30-6:30pm. You need: a car, clean driving record, references. Email if interested: [whitson@duke.edu](mailto:whitson@duke.edu), 919-419-1867.

CHILD CARE NEEDED for a sweet, loving 5 year-old girl Tu/Th 2-5pm. Dedicated hours for the academic year with options for Teacher Work Days. Seeking a responsible, reliable person to pick up child at school. Must have a dependable vehicle, clean driving record, references. \$12/hr. Contact: [yawninghamster@gmail.com](mailto:yawninghamster@gmail.com).

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2000 HONDA CIVIC, \$1,500.1 owner, 1.6L DOHC VTEC, 10,700 miles, Manual, blue exterior, interior gray. [humi38@hotmail.com](mailto:humi38@hotmail.com), 505-333-0965.

## HOROSCOPES

**If January 8th is Your Birthday...**

Practical efforts go well rewarded this year. Over winter, complete old projects and schedule inspiring goals for springtime launch. What you push goes farther then. Work together for bigger impact. After April, new collaborative opportunities could get romantic. October studies take a new path, and domestic changes require attention. Nurture your garden with love for an abundant harvest.

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 – Pour on energy at work today and tomorrow. New opportunities arise. Maintain objectivity. Give thanks. Put in a necessary correction. Review pros and cons of an idea before committing. Balance your interests. Don't overspend on toys.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**  
Today is an 8 – Practice your game today and tomorrow. Financial sands are shifting. Plan for a big work push in a few days, and rest. Stay focused, relaxed and calm and inspire others to the same. You can achieve your aim.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**  
Today is an 8 – You're in for a busy few days at home. Abundance is available, with more work coming in. Conflicting orders could confuse the situation. Combine two old ideas into a new one. Expect a change of direction.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**  
Today is a 7 – Your concentration is strong today and tomorrow. Postpone a shopping spree. Study, write and research. Use this opportunity to learn something new. Strike an optimistic chord. Joy joins the party. Increase productivity by dropping self-doubt. Notice emotional undercurrents.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
Today is an 8 – Dig into the books and find new ways to save money. Favor practicality over impulsiveness. Your morale and wallet get a boost over the next two days. Find what you need nearby. Revise the language to suit the audience.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
Today is a 7 – Look forward to two days in the spotlight. Enjoy the attention, and play along. There's more than expected, and it's positive. Check for a change in circumstances. Have a backup plan for delays and obstacles. Use your words.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
Today is a 7 – Finish a project privately today and tomorrow. Get organized to minimize racing back and forth. Put on some good music and get into work. Peace and quiet suit you more than bounce and fluster. Avoid sparks by not reacting.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
Today is an 8 – Group input helps today and tomorrow. You have more friends than you realized. You have everything you need to do the job. Use your experience wisely. Replenish your reserves. Complete negotiations. Stand up for what's right.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
Today is an 8 – Stick to your schedule to fit it all in. Keep enough cash on hand. Focus on career for the next few days. Act responsibly. Go farther to find what you need. Think quickly, move slowly. Make plans.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
Today is a 7 – Plan and confirm reservations, as far horizons beckon. Venture farther today and tomorrow. Winds blow you in a different direction. Try something new. Delays or obstacles have a silver lining. Discover wisdom and compassion, mixed with unexpected experiences.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
Today is an 8 – Focus on financial planning today and tomorrow. Take time for contemplation. Simple situations could appear to be complex. Tempers could spark, so don't rock the boat. Figure out numbers, and make a calculated purchase. Get more than expected.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
Today is an 8 – Collaboration flowers today and tomorrow. A hero comes to your rescue. Advance confidently. Don't touch your savings. Set priorities. You can have more than you thought. Replenish reserves. Inhale deeply as you exercise. Get outside with your team.

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diversions

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'HEELING' VOICES

Local 506 brought area artists together to benefit the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center on Wednesday

By Paige Hopkins  
Staff Writer

Wednesday night, hip-hop helped saved lives.

The Renaissance benefit concert at Local 506 featured various hip-hop artists. All proceeds from the event went towards the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Jennifer Bowman, special events coordinator at UNC Lineberger, said cuts in state funding have made events like the benefit concert increasingly important for the center.

"The other side of what I'm really hoping to get out of this concert is to really to increase the awareness of students on campus so that they're more aware of UNC Lineberger and the good work that we do here," she said.

"(Students) can help make a difference in the cancer outcomes for so many people."

Bowman said she enjoyed working with Joshua Rowsey and Brandon Wolfe, the two UNC alumni who planned the event.

"This is unique in the sense that there are two unique wonderful young alums who are really passionate about Lineberger, and they really want to make a difference. I'm just so touched that they've reached out to us," Bowman said.

While the concert drew a relatively intimate crowd, attendees were immediately greeted with sounds from the DJ booth before the night's performers took the stage. T-shirts and CDs were also available for sale from the various performers.

No9to5, a music group founded by UNC alumni, performed at the

concert. Rowsey is a member of the group. Rowsey said he hopes the concert shows that hip-hop music is more than just a source of entertainment but also a catalyst for change.

"I want them to see that hip-hop can be a positive form that can help more than just the artist," he said.

"I feel like hip-hop for a very long time has been recognized as a more selfish art form, where it's more about the person and how much wealth they've acquired. But I'm trying to get back to the roots of hip hop where we're trying to impact the community."

Rowsey was personally affected by cancer when his best friend died from the disease in early 2013. He came up with the idea for the concert when his friend was first diagnosed.

"The main reason why I wanted to do this was in memory of one of my best friends. It's something big in my heart that I've wanted to do for a while," Rowsey said.

Michael Thornburg, a senior political science major, was one of the performers. Thornburg, who goes by the stage name "Thornbro," is an emcee. He released his debut hip-hop album, *Plastic Lenses*, in November.

Thornburg said he hopes to use his music to spread positive vibes at the benefit concert.

"In a lot of my songs I put myself in a very vulnerable position, and I want people to take away that it's okay to be vulnerable," he said.

"It's okay to show some of your weaknesses because being able to do that is how you show your strength."

arts@dailytarheel.com



DTH/JUSTIN PRYOR



DTH/JUSTIN PRYOR


DTH/TYLER VAHAN, KAITLYN KELLY



DTH/JUSTIN PRYOR

A member of No9to5 performs at a Local 506 concert benefiting the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center on Wednesday.

games



SUDOKU

THE SACRED OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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Level: 1 2 3 4

	5		2		8		
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

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

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Plenty

6 Cologne scent

10 "Now it makes sense!"

14 2011 Cricket World Cup winner

15 Actress Gray of "Buck Rogers in the 25th Century"

16 Stores in rows

17 Film with the song "Maniac"

19 Formally proper

20 Philippine tongue

21 Gillette Mach3 predecessor

23 Uintah and Ouray Reservation residents

24 Film in which Garbo said, "I want to be alone"

29 Annoyances

31 Spanish demonstrative

32 Coast

33 Golfer nicknamed "The Big Easy"

35 Winter coat

37 Buck Rogers portrayer — Gerard

38 Private club ritual, and a hint to this puzzle's circles

43 Lines of praise

44 One on a penny

45 Scarfed down

46 Like a new candle

48 Showed the way

DOWN

1 Elate

2 Airing in the wee hours

3 Words of wisdom

4 Earthquake, perhaps

5 Satirist Mort

6 Thin, on the Thames

7 Coffee holder

8 [that's what it said]

9 Massage

10 "Whose Line Is It Anyway" technique

11 1777 battle site

12 Yalie

13 Street of nightmares

18 Husky, for one

22 Years

25 Embarrassed

26 It may follow eleven

27 Actor Estrada

28 Lovett of country

30 Spade and Hammer

34 Subway map dot: Abbr.

36 Cavity filler's org.

38 Fermented, as milk

39 Novelist Ferber

40 Pen pal?

41 Island dance

42 More nourishing

47 Medicinal syrup

49 Precise

51 Didn't come clean with

52 Clawed

53 Advances a base, in a way

55 Gets precisely

56 Appear in print

60 Piano on a piano?

61 Sore feeling

62 Socialize

64 With it

65 "The Simpsons" shopkeeper

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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69						70					71	



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Meredith Shutt  
Court of Culture

Senior English major from Fayetteville.  
Email: mshutt@live.unc.edu

# Kanye, Kendrick and self-love

My 2015 began with a text: “You hear that new Kanye?” West released “Only One,” a collaboration with Paul McCartney, on New Year’s Day. The song is an exhibit of Kanye’s poetic deftness and spiritual depth, a departure from *Black Skinhead*-esque machine-gun rap and a nod to the introspective, vocally dominant Kanye of *808s and Heartbreak*. Written from the perspective of Kanye’s late mother, Donda West, “Only One” is an honest expression of the coexisting happiness and sadness of lifelong grief.

“Only One” is Kanye as new father and grieving son, a man with gaping wounds and a great capacity for love. His wisdom stems from acknowledging worth despite fault: “No you’re not perfect, but you’re not your mistakes.” The lesson transmitted from Donda West through the vessel of her son is this: “You know I never left you/cause every road that leads to heaven’s right inside you.” Family and faith trump all.

My first reaction to “Only One” focused on the sonic similarities to and distinctions from *Yeezus*. Across all critical reviews, a word commonly used to describe *Yeezus* was “unsettling.” This year’s Ye, though, is focused instead on ubiquitous experience rather than visionary soundscapes.

The critical and popular reaction to “Only One” has been largely positive. This led me to wonder, then, why Kendrick Lamar’s “i,” a thematically similar song, was panned by some fans after its September 2014 release.

Despite critical adoration and Grammy nominations, “i” faced accusations of being soft and disingenuous. From its release, though, the track identified as a dominantly lyrical piece. The lyric video came before any live performances, opening with the bold-faced religious “I done been through a whole lot/trial, tribulation but I know God/Satan wanna put me in a bow tie/pray that the holy water don’t go dry.”

Lamar wrote the song for inmates and suicidal teens, leaving debate of the record’s “success” irrelevant. Kendrick ends “i” with an admission of his conflicted mentality and relentless pursuit of creative fulfillment: “Oh woes be me, it’s a jungle inside/Give myself again till the well runs dry.” Though the jungle metaphor is certainly common in hip-hop, I prefer the parallel to my favorite Toni Morrison passage: “The more they used themselves up to persuade whites of something Negroes believed could not be questioned, the deeper and more tangled the jungle grew inside.”

The greatness of this sentence, despite its convoluted syntax, is its simultaneous focus on the sins of oppressors and the necessary self-reclamation and advocacy of the oppressed.

“i” and “Only One” are both lyrically adroit and sonically retrospective through a sample of the Isley Brothers and Paul McCartney feature, respectively. The common theme, though, of radical self-love is what makes these pieces worthwhile. With their encouragement of self-acceptance through spirituality, the songs will long outlast “Gold Digger” and “Backseat Freestyle.”

## EDITORIAL CARTOON By Drew Sheneman, The Star-Ledger



## EDITORIAL

# Dropping the ball

## UNC shouldn’t try to hide from tough conversations.

If the University was hoping that waiting until New Year’s Eve to confirm the names of fired employees would limit the resurgence of conversation around the Weinstein report, they were likely correct — despite the best efforts of this publication and others.

Waiting until moments when few people are paying attention to the news cycle to release embarrassing information is a standard public relations method most commonly seen in the typical news cycle in the form of the “Friday news dump.”

New Year’s Eve is like the holy grail of Fridays in a certain sense — and especially for the University.

Most publications are both short-staffed and consumed with year-end reviews and trivialities on and around New Year’s Eve. This newspaper, the one that follows the trials and tribulations of the University most closely, is not in publication at all. Students are not on campus, and few others are chomping at the bit to engage with the multitude of problems they left behind on campus.

Perhaps taken on its own, the timing of the University’s release could be viewed without suspicion, but given the University’s Weinstein

strategy thus far of obfuscation, avoidance and expanded attention to public relations, a healthy amount of skepticism seems reasonable.

While the University’s apparent efforts to avoid more short-term conversation about the Weinstein report and its implications were probably successful, the long-term wisdom of this strategy of avoidance is questionable.

The big-picture problems that prompted the fraud documented by the Weinstein report are still with us.

Despite this lack of resolution, the University’s public relations strategy has failed to acknowledge any narratives that use a wider lens to discuss the place of big-time athletics at an academic institution.

This strategy delays the needed conversations around the various injustices inherent in the collegiate athletics system — problems that, without being fully reckoned with, are likely to plague the University for years to come as national consciousness around the issues of individual exploitation of athletes and the corruption of universities’ academic missions expands.

It would be a mistake to criticize the distraction politics displayed by the University administration without acknowledging the various and intense pressures its leaders face.

The university is under scrutiny from a local political climate hostile to its academic freedom and

decreased public support for education. And it is, as always, in need of financial support from alumni who must be kept happy.

Pursuing a critical conversation around athletics, a part of the university that holds a special place in the hearts of legions of community members, carries risks.

But the University’s aspirations to be a progressive, morally upright institution demand that such a conversation take place. Trying to run from it will not serve the University’s interests in the long term.

Yes, as the University’s public relations strategy suggests, the University’s too often unsung and greatest impacts are in its leadership in a variety of academic disciplines, and big-time athletics help to make that status possible.

But if the problems are allowed to fester, they threaten to do more harm to the University’s mission in the long term than an honest conversation would.

If the University truly wants to be the “University of the people” suggested by the advertisements that currently run during nationally televised basketball games, then it should not treat information about its dealings in anything less than honest terms.

It should engage its community in dialogues about what this institution must do next to address some of its most worrying flaws.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

“This is such a special place — people have been married there, there have been memorial services there.”

Justin Simmons, on The Varsity Theatre’s significance in Chapel Hill

## FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

“Forgotten are the majority of students who take demanding classes, are honest and work hard to earn their degrees.”

Redskinsfan2, on the bad publicity of UNC’s athletic-academic scandal

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Conclusions about rape were unjust

TO THE EDITOR:

Ms. Cooksey has a defined agenda which comes through loud and clear in her letter: “Males who are accused of rape should be convicted and punished! Guilty until proven innocent.”

Someone should remind Ms. Cooksey that this case is still in appeal, and some might deem it irresponsible journalism to report on one’s guilt before the case is over. But what the heck, if it promotes our agenda who cares who it hurts?

I have a wife and a daughter. Rape is wrong, and anyone convicted of rape should be punished severely.

However, not everyone accused of rape should be convicted of rape. And, for someone to be convicted and punished, there should be at least some form of real, tangible evidence beyond, “She said so,” or you young guys out there had better be very careful.

Anyone desiring to hear the other side of this in detail can do so by visiting coreymock.net.

I’ll stop there and spare the rest of you.

C.D. Mock  
Head wrestling coach

### Chapel Hill suffers from false liberalism

TO THE EDITOR:

As one of the many college students who grew up in Chapel Hill but now goes to school elsewhere, it is hard to see the town continue to make the same mistakes it always has surrounding members of its population under the age of 18.

The issues that irked me most while I was marauding as a young activist still haven’t been addressed.

Upon arrival, I immediately recognized the familiar failed youth initiative programs and the growing class of bewildered and closed-minded liberal parents becoming increasingly blind toward the true problem that persists in our schools: the achievement gap, rather than securing still more college opportunities presented for their own children.

Grant Holub-Moorman  
Chapel Hill

### Football team needs shift in attitude

TO THE EDITOR:

Please get rid of the cool football uniforms. And football players — please dance less and hit and tackle more.

That is all I have to say now.

Jimmy Medlin, ’85  
Charlotte

## SPEAK OUT

### WRITING GUIDELINES

- Please type. Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- Sign and date. No more than two people should sign letters.
- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

### SUBMISSION

- Drop off or mail to our office at 151 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514
- Email: opinion@dailytarheel.com

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