

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, Tuesday's page 8 story "School of the Arts may raise tuition" incorrectly spelled Matt Horvat's name. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Law school receives gift to support new lecture series

The Clearing House Association has given the Center for Banking and Finance at UNC School of Law a \$150,000 gift to support the center and create a New York City-based lecture series.

The series will feature nationally prominent banking and finance professionals.

The inaugural lecture, which will focus on preemption, will be given by attorney H. Rodgin Cohen, senior chairman and partner at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP on Thursday in New York City.

UNC alumni, The Clearing House board of advisers and leadership, banking regulators and prominent banking lawyers will come together for the lecture.

Cohen, who has served as advisor to many preeminent Wall Street firms, focuses on acquisitions, corporate governance, regulatory and security law matters for financial institutions and trade associations.

He was chairman of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP from 2000-09 and became its senior chairman in Jan. 2010.

Research finds immigration causes native out-migration

UNC sociology professor Kyle Crowder co-authored "Neighborhood Immigration and Native Out-Migration", a study exploring the tendency of native whites to leave areas with influxes of immigrants.

Matthew Hall of the University of Illinois-Chicago and Stewart E. Tolnay of the University of Washington also worked on the study, which appears in the February issue of the American Sociological Review.

The authors find that white residents seem to out-migrate in reaction to the changing racial composition of a neighborhood.

Meanwhile, decreasing homeownership rates and increasing housing costs seem to cause black residents to leave immigration-heavy neighborhoods.

But the study also found that large numbers of immigrants in areas surrounding a neighborhood make it less likely that native residents of that neighborhood will leave, possibly because it makes those areas unattractive for relocation. The authors used data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, a longitudinal survey of U.S. residents.

Crowder, who is also a fellow of the Carolina Population Center, researches racial and ethnic stratification, neighborhood dynamics, and other topics.

Students should apply for FAFSA by March 1 deadline

The priority deadline for financial aid application is March 1.

In order to be considered for need-based assistance for the next academic year, students must submit the 2011-12 Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

The forms can be accessed and completed at <http://FAFSA.gov> using UNC's code — 002974.

Undergraduate students must also submit the 2011-12 PROFILE Application from the College Board in order to be considered for University scholarships and grants at <http://profileonline.collegeboard.com> using the UNC code 5816.

If necessary, students should estimate income tax information to file FAFSA by the March 1 deadline. Students should check MyUNC at <http://my.unc.edu> for updates and information on their filed applications.

Applications filed after the priority deadline will be considered based on time and resource availability.

Students with questions can contact the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid at (919) 962-8396.

CITY BRIEFS

Final Chapel Hill curbside leaf pickup date is Feb. 21

The last leaf collection date in Chapel Hill is Monday, Feb. 21.

Loose leaves raked to the curb will be picked up only if they are free of debris and sticks.

Residents who miss the final collection can put extra leaves in a yard waste container, garbage can, or cardboard box.

Thirty-gallon brown paper yard waste bags weighing no more than 50 pounds can also be used. The town cannot pick up plastic bags of leaves.

Backyard composting is an alternative to leaf pickup. Information is available at the N.C. Botanical Garden, Agriculture Extension Agent or Orange Community Recycling.

-From staff and wire reports

Students rally against cuts

BY ISABELLA COCHRANE
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Students from across the state are gathering at the N.C. General Assembly today to lobby legislators for minimal cuts to the UNC-system's budget.

The UNC Association of Student Governments is hosting its annual Students Day at the Capital to ask legislators to maintain campus flexibility when it comes to budget cuts, keep tuition revenues on campuses and fully-fund need-based financial aid.

ASG President Atul Bhula said turnout is expected to be three times higher than last year, which was about 20 students.

The UNC system is facing up to 15 percent cuts in the coming year.

Wayne Kimball, student body president at N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University, said

he has arranged a bus to bring 46 students from his campus to the capital.

Kimball said he encouraged his fellow students to participate by making Facebook groups and holding student forums.

About 60 to 70 meetings are scheduled with legislators throughout the day.

Students from distant areas of the state stayed in a hotel Tuesday night and were able to discuss last-minute plans in persuading legislators to listen to their needs.

Deanna Santoro, the associate vice president of legislative public affairs for ASG, said she and Josh Cotton, the vice president of legislative public affairs, assigned students to certain legislators.

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JOSH COTTON, VP OF LEGISLATIVE PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ASG

so they can at least break the ice," Cotton said about students interacting with legislators.

Santoro said members of the committee have been planning the event for months.

"Every month since August, we've had workshops on techniques," Santoro said.

At previous association meetings, Santoro and Cotton led different workshops that taught members how to be effective when

LOBBY IN RALEIGH

Time: Meetings start at 9:30 a.m. The last meeting is scheduled for 4:30 p.m.

Location: Legislative Building, Raleigh

talking with legislators.

Cotton's training session taught general knowledge about the legislature, while Santoro gave presentations about the power of the personal story when lobbying.

"It's been a pretty long road," Cotton said.

"We've worked really hard on this."

UNC-CH Student Body President Hogan Medlin prepared for the day by sending an e-mail to legislators detailing student's priorities.

Contact State & National Editor at state@dailytarheel.com.



DTH/MARY KOENIG

Marion Jones, UNC alumna and former Olympian, speaks to UNC varsity athletes in Carmichael on Tuesday evening about the pressures of being an athlete and making good choices. Jones was stripped of her Olympic medals for using performance-enhancing substances.

A LESSON FROM THE PAST

Marion Jones shares life lessons with athletes

LAUREN RATCLIFFE
STAFF WRITER

When former women's basketball player Tonya Cooper Williams introduced Marion Jones to student athletes Tuesday, she didn't mention any of her accomplishments on the court or track.

Instead, she introduced Jones as the kid who couldn't help but dance when a Snoop Doggy Dogg song was played during her college years.

Jones ran track and field and played basketball at UNC before becoming an Olympic champion, only to fall from grace after admitting steroid use.

The athletic department brought Jones to campus as a part of a life skills seminar held each semester for student athletes.

John Blanchard, senior associate director of athletics, said the University selected her because she could offer insight into making good choices and accepting responsibility.

Jones said she jumped at the opportunity to speak to the "family," who are in the same position she was in about 15 years ago.

"Anytime you get to help your family make

better choices, you do it," she said.

Jones won a national championship her freshman year and brought home five Olympic medals in the 2000 games, but was stripped of those medals in 2008 after admitting steroid use.

"Within 10 months of graduating from the University of North Carolina I was ranked as the fastest female athlete in the world," Jones said. Her success grew, earning her money and fame.

"But I lost it all, and ironically almost 10 years after graduating from UNC I went from being the media darling of the world ... to becoming a convicted felon."

She said her time in prison deepened her understanding of three life lessons young people are often told: develop good relationships, seek advice before making important decisions and stand up for what is right.

"When you make decisions, it's on you," Jones said. "You are responsible for them."

Jones was placed in solitary confinement for 40 days during her six month sentence. She said imprisonment gave her time to examine the decisions she had made.

"Yeah, that'll make you confront a lot of things about yourself," she said.

Jones reminded students that their position as athletes puts a brighter spotlight on them.

"People are going to judge you harder because you came here and they expect great things from you," she said.

Jones said that she understands the daily pressures athletes face, putting her in a unique position to give advice.

"I am not a teacher or a parent who is looking at their kids or their students and telling them what is in a textbook," she said. "I have been through it."

Jones also described her years at UNC as some of the best and most challenging of her life.

She talked about her battles with injury and encouraged the athletes to work through setbacks and learn to define themselves by more than the sports they love.

"I made the mistake like so many of us athletes make. I let my life become defined more by the sport than who I really was on the inside."

Contact the University Editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

Imitation marijuana may be banned

NC House, Senate to vote Thursday

BY SNEHA RAO
STAFF WRITER

Imitation marijuana, which became popular on college campuses last year, could soon be banned in the state.

The bill banning synthetic marijuana was proposed in both the N.C. House and the Senate and is expected to be voted on Thursday.

Imitation marijuana, widely known as K-2 or spice, is a mixture of several plants and herbs sprayed with a chemical that imitates tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

Rep. Jimmy Dixon, R-Duplin, who is a co-sponsor of the bill, said

he expects the bill to pass.

Legislators were prompted to ban the substance because law enforcement agencies and media outlets have warned the public about the dangers of synthetic marijuana, Dixon said.

"My understanding is that there has been a growing awareness that these drugs were being used more frequently."

The bill states that anyone caught possessing, selling, transporting or delivering more than 35 grams of K-2 or similar drugs will be charged with a felony and could face between 70 to 84 months in jail. Violators will also have to pay a fine of \$50,000.

"... There has been a growing awareness that these drugs were being used more frequently."

REP. JIMMY DIXON, R-DUPLIN

If the bill is passed, the ban would go into effect April 1.

Nine states have passed laws against the substance and 21 other states have similar bills proposed.

Sen. Don Vaughan, D-Guilford, sponsored a bill that is similar to the one proposed by both the House and the Senate, but his bill specifically lists certain chemicals that when combined should be banned.

Ryan Butler, the legislative director for Vaughan, said the high that results from using K-2 is very similar to other illegal substances.

There was a lot of public concern about the possible effects of using K-2 after news reports about the side effects associated with the substance surfaced, he said.

"There are reports that state that the drug contains chemicals that are five times more powerful than marijuana."

Tim Johnson, a sophomore at N.C. State University, said he's tried spice before and the side-effects were strong.

"I felt like I had a heart attack," he said.

Contact the State & National Editor at state@dailytarheel.com.

NC is 8th in mercury output

State working to decrease levels

BY ESTES GOULD
STAFF WRITER

Mercury emissions in North Carolina are among the highest in the nation, according to a report. And the state's 25 coal-fired power plants are to blame.

But North Carolina is reducing its mercury output, and officials say the report is misleading.

Coal-fired power plants emitted 4,702 pounds of mercury in 2009, according to the report released by Environment North Carolina.

One Progress Energy-owned plant emitted 1,079 pounds alone, making it one of the nation's 25 highest-polluting power plants.

The information in the report came from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which requires companies to update the data every year. But the numbers do not show the complete picture, said Tom Mather, spokesman for the air quality division of the N.C. Department for Environment and Natural Resources.

Much of the mercury reported never enters the atmosphere or water system because power plants are increasingly using technology to remove it, he said.

The bigger plants owned by companies like Duke Energy and Progress Energy use scrubbers, devices that remove pollutants and store them in coal ash ponds or landfills.

Though they are designed to remove other pollutants, scrubbers reduce mercury pollution by 80 to 90 percent, said Scott Sutton, a spokesman for Progress Energy.

Companies began installing scrubbers after the state passed the Clean Smokestacks Act in 2002, requiring power plants to have pollution controls by 2018. Both Duke and Progress will retire their older plants without scrubbers before then.

"What they are doing right now, especially in the bigger companies, is pretty state-of-the-art," Mather said.

The law has been a definitive success, he said.

"What we've seen in North Carolina is that the mercury pollution numbers have gone down substantially," Mather said.

They've gone down to less than half what Environment North Carolina reported. In 2009, mercury air pollution from coal-fired plants totaled 1912.6 pounds, Mather said.

When the act is fully implemented in 2018, the state predicts several air pollutants, including mercury, will be reduced by 88 percent.

"Our predictions are right on target, and, if anything, the reduction has been more than we expected," he said.

But the EPA could make a new rule in March requiring even higher standards, modeled after the top-performing plants in the country, said Locky Stewart, federal field organizer with Environment North Carolina. Other plants would have to adopt the more advanced technology.

"The reason scrubbers aren't enough is that mercury is such a potent toxin that we don't want to take any risks," he said.

Mercury stored in coal ash ponds often leaks into the water system, causing mercury poisoning for fish and eventually humans, he said.

Erin Culbert, spokeswoman for Duke Energy, said water pollution is a viable concern.

Most of Duke Energy's coal ash ponds do not have a protective lining to prevent that from happening. They were built in the 1920s when that was not required. But now the company has to get a waste water permit every five years — and never has any problems, Culbert said.

"We don't have a mercury limit, per se, in our waste-water permit," she said. "We have to provide a lot of information as to how well that water is being protected."

The state has more high-hazard coal ash ponds than any other state in the country, according to a report by the EPA.

But Mather said air pollution prevention couldn't be any better at this time.

"It's an issue, but it's something that has been addressed at a pretty high level in North Carolina."

Contact the State & National Editor at state@dailytarheel.com.