

SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS

Gambill wants charge dropped

The University urged students to avoid speculation.

By Liz Crampton
Assistant University Editor

Students rallied Tuesday to demand an Honor Court charge against sophomore Landen Gambill, which she has called retaliation for publicizing her sexual assault, be dropped.

But the University urged caution in a statement addressing news of the Friday charge, which Gambill said claims she engaged in disruptive or intimidating behavior against the man she has accused of raping her.

“The University’s honor system has been the subject of internet commentary and media attention, and some of its student members have received threats to their personal safety,” the University’s release stated.

“Sexual assault evokes passionate responses and concerns. But it is important, particularly in a higher-education community, to avoid judgement based upon speculation.”

More than 200 people gathered at the Campus Y Tuesday to show support for Gambill and discuss ways to improve the environment for sexual assault victims on campus, fueling discussion that has circulated for months.

The central goal of the meeting was to gather support for dropping the Honor Court charge against Gambill.

“I expected there to be some sort of response from the University. The last thing I expected was not just to be revictimized and retraumatized by all of this but to be accused for speaking out solely on the basis that I was making this campus uncomfortable for rapists,” Gambill said at the meeting.

“It’s a big example of how this University sees survivors as a threat and sees the appearance of having a sexual

SEE GAMBILL, PAGE 13

‘Remember his love’



DTH/JASON WOLONICK

Katy Shannon touches David's high school football jersey on Saturday. “At first it was hard to go into his room, but I’m comfortable now,” she said.

David Shannon’s family looks to keep his name alive

By Katie Reilly
Assistant City Editor

When David Shannon was in sixth grade, he wrote an essay about losing a loved one.

“You never think of the bad times — only the good ones,” he wrote. “And then it becomes easier to think about them and that you won’t see them again. It really does help ease the pain.”

And since the UNC freshman died four months ago today after falling 40 feet from machinery at the Ready Mixed Concrete Plant in Carrboro, that’s what those who loved him have chosen to do.

His house in Charlotte is decorated with reminders of who he was and who he aspired to be: a business student, a UNC alumnus, the “best future husband” — which is the distinction he received in the class of 2012 superlatives at Myers Park High School.

In his last days, he voted in a presidential election for the first time, leaving an “I Voted” sticker on the wallet that now sits on a dresser in his bedroom.

He painted N.C. State’s Free

Expression Tunnel before the UNC-N.C. State football game, accidentally painting his brand new pair of shoes Carolina blue in the process.

“If there was something going on, he would be there,” his mother, Katy Shannon, said. “That’s the kind of school spirit he had.”

Honoring his memory

Carrboro Police Capt. Walter Horton said in an email that police have no new information to release since their Oct. 30 report.

But David Shannon’s parents aren’t waiting on the investigation for closure.

“I feel like there’s already that closure. If there’s any surprising thing that comes out that we’re not aware of now, that could change,” his father, Hugh Shannon, said. “It was an unfortunate, tragic accident.”

In the four months since David Shannon died, his parents have been inundated with cards, photos and stories from everyone from elementary school friends to those who met him during his two months at UNC, where

he was a pledge in the Chi Phi fraternity.

“I think David made more friends in his 18 years than I’ve made in 53,” Hugh Shannon said.

And those who knew David Shannon have come together on several occasions to raise money and serve others in his memory.

On Feb. 15, Emily Gibbons, a freshman at N.C. State University who had known David Shannon since she was 12, helped organize a cookout to raise money for the David Palmer Shannon Memorial Fund. More than 300 people attended, bringing in more than \$2,000.

“Whenever you saw him, he was smiling or laughing or making a joke,” Gibbons said. “Once you met him, you felt like you were his best friend. He’s very memorable.”

And Hugh Shannon hopes the memory of his son — a high school football player, an international DECA champion and a Bible study teacher — lives on.

“Remember his love for Christ and his love for people,” Hugh Shannon said.

The same religion that defined their

SEE SHANNON, PAGE 13

CVS Pharmacy opts to pursue a smaller facility

The public hearing was postponed so a new permit application can be drafted.

By Sam Fletcher
Staff Writer

A controversial proposal to build a CVS Pharmacy in Carrboro will undergo drastic changes after the pharmacy opted to withdraw its rezoning request and pursue a smaller facility.

More than 60 Carrboro residents and business owners filled the Carrboro Board of Aldermen meeting Tuesday night to voice their opinions on the proposal during a planned public hearing.

The public hearing was postponed so the developer can draft a new conditional use permit application for the project, said Jason Barron, a partner for Morningstar Law Group, the firm representing CVS.

“We would like to be able to amend the existing application and come back before you in April with something that applies to the existing



DTH/KEVIN HU

Carrboro aldermen postponed a public hearing on a proposed CVS Pharmacy so the pharmacy’s developer can draft a new conditional use permit application.

zoning and doesn’t need rezoning” Barron said.

Since the pharmacy’s new plans are smaller, the new conditional use permit would not require the site be rezoned — meaning that the aldermen would judge the application based solely on its compliance to regulations, and not what they consider the best interests of the town.

“The issue we are compelled by North Carolina law to consider is whether a drug store is appropriate land use,” said Carrboro Mayor Mark

SEE CVS PHARMACY, PAGE 13

Tax increase to fund library expansion

Penny tax may increase to keep current library hours.

By Caroline Hudson
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council is considering a penny tax increase to fund the Chapel Hill Public Library expansion, in light of widespread public outcry about a previous proposal to reduce the library’s hours.

Facing a budget shortfall for the library, the council proposed reducing hours earlier this month. It will consider the tax increase to keep the library fully functioning at its new location.

In an email to the town council, Town Manager Roger Stancil said the proposed increase would generate about \$728,000 to fund the library.

The \$16.23 million expansion began in fall 2011 and will add 35,500 square feet to the library’s 100 Library Drive location — more than doubling its size.

But the opening of the new library, scheduled for April, will represent a \$134,000 increase in the cost of building operations for the town — making it difficult to fund the hiring of additional staff.

According to the current plan, the newly renovated

LIBRARY PLANS

- **June 2011:** Town Council approved \$16.8 million for the library expansion.
- **Oct. 2011:** The library moved to its temporary location in University Mall.
- **Feb. 2013:** Council proposed the reduction in hours of operation for library.

library would operate 54 hours per week — a 14-hour reduction from its current operations in its temporary University Mall location.

Melissa Cain, executive director of the Chapel Hill Public Library Foundation, said the problem lies in having the same level of access and service with less money.

Cain said library usage is expected to increase by at least 20 percent in the renovated building.

“We don’t want to have our new library open in a compromised position,” she said.

Interim Library Director Mark Bayles said he thinks the solution to the library’s budget shortfall will come from conversations between the council and the community.

Bayles said the library serves

SEE TAX INCREASE, PAGE 13

Inside

DEGREE PATHWAYS

Officials say Gov. Pat McCrory’s new bill establishing three tracks for high school students won’t disrupt state higher education. **Page 3.**



MARY KARR SPEAKS

The memoirist and UNC distinguished writer-in-residence answers questions about her career, the craft of writing memoirs and the relationship between the reader and writer. She is doing a reading tonight at 7:30 p.m. **Page 3.**

The Daily Tar Heel

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The letter F is for Furry

From staff and wire reports

The list of things you might feel weird about your kids witness-
ing is pretty easy to pin down: drug use, BDSM, etc.
But one dad, staying with his young daughter and son at
a Dallas hotel, had to deal with a pretty unpredictable and
supremely uncomfortable scenario — the Furry Fiesta fandom conven-
tion, scheduled the same weekend the hotel hosted a gaggle of families.
We can only speculate about the kids’ questions (“Dad, what is Cookie
Monster doing?”), but we know the dad’s response, thanks to an anger-
fueled TripAdvisor review: “A Furry Rave included more lude and lascivi-
ous behavior ... How did I find out all of these details about this ‘rave’ and
what these furry conventions are about? GOOGLE!!!!!!” Noted, Dad.

NOTED. UNC’s arboretum whistler will
laugh after reading this Portland report.
Apparently, a Maine man’s whistling
proved to be too much for the super chill
city to handle, and he was promptly hand-
ed a citation. Now he’s only allowed to
whistle if he keeps moving. Amateur hour.
Our whistler’s been on the move for years.

QUOTED. “People will fall into three cat-
egories: They want to be him, sleep with
him or mother him.”
— Yeah! Ryan Lochte, America’s hot but
super dumb Olympian, has a new reality
show gig, and the E! president is pumped. A
confusing season awaits those of us drawn
to his body but appalled by everything else.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

Death penalty speaker series:
Bill Dillon, a Chapel Hill resident,
served 27 years in Florida for a
murder he did not commit. He
is now a recording artist and
public speaker. Moderated by
professor Frank Baumgartner.
Free and open to the public.
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: Genome Science
Building 200

Lotus concert: The instrumental
electronic band plays in Carr-
boro. With special guest Moon
Hooch. \$20.
Time: Doors open 7:30 p.m.,
show begins 8:30 p.m.
Location: Cat’s Cradle

UNC vs. St. John’s: The North
Carolina men’s baseball team
takes on the St. John’s Red Storm
at home.

Time: 3 p.m.
Location: Boshamer Stadium

Thiefs concert: Featuring Bir,
Strobino and Zaslow. \$8.
Time: Doors open 8:30 p.m.,
show begins 9 p.m.
Location: Local 506

Mary Karr lecture: Distin-
guished Writer-in-Residence
Mary Karr speaks. Free and open
to the public.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Genome Science
Building G100

**‘From Alexandria to Google’
lecture on libraries:** Professor
Ken Hillis speaks about “The
Mythic Quest for Universal
Libraries.” Free and open to the
public.
Time: 5 p.m. exhibition opening,
5:30 p.m. program
Location: Wilson Library

Writing memoir panel: Four
writers discuss the risk of the
memoir genre, answering ques-
tions about truth, exposure and
more. Featuring Mary Karr, Ran-
dall Kenan, Rosecrans Baldwin
and Marianne Gingher. Open to
the University community.
Time: 2 p.m.
Location: Greenlaw 223

THURSDAY

Current Swell concert: Featur-
ing Jordan & The Sphinx. \$8.
Time: Doors open 8:30 p.m.,
show begins 9 p.m.
Location: Local 506

*To make a calendar submission,
email 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.*

CORRECTIONS

- 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 Elise Young at managing.editor@dailytarheel.com with issues about this policy.

FEELING THE BURN



DTH/KATHLEEN DOYLE

Aileen Garrett teaches a class called Barre
Burn at Women’s Only Workout in Chapel
Hill. Garrett has been teaching this workout
method for 35 years. The class uses ballet, along with
pilates and weights, for body toning.

POLICE LOG

● Someone stole diesel
fuel from a gas station at
1213 Martin Luther King Jr.
Blvd. at 10:39 a.m. Sunday,
according to Chapel Hill
police reports.
The person stole \$44.16
worth of fuel and left a
driver’s license at the Wilco
gas station, reports state.

● Richard Bradley Davis,
28, was arrested at 115 S.
Merritt Mill Road at 3:40
p.m. Sunday and charged
with simple assault, assault
inflicting serious injury and
stalking, according to Chapel
Hill police reports.

● Hezekiah Kariem
Campbell, 18, was arrested
at 201 S. Estes Drive at 2:46
p.m. Monday and charged
with larceny and simple
assault, according to Chapel
Hill police reports.
Personal weapons were

used, reports state.
● Leonard Anthony Rone,
40, was arrested at 829
Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
at 5:45 a.m. Tuesday and
charged with assaulting a
female, according to Chapel
Hill police reports.

● Someone vandalized
property at Kildare’s Irish
Pub at 206 W. Franklin St.
between 3:30 a.m. and 2:43
p.m. Saturday, according to
Chapel Hill police reports.
The person spray painted
“ss” on the side of the
building, causing \$25 in
damage, reports state.

● Someone damaged
property at 110 Emily Road
between 10:30 p.m. Saturday
and 9:30 a.m. Sunday,
according to Chapel Hill
police reports.
The person vandalized
a fence, causing \$200 in
damage, reports state.

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CHAPEL RIDGE

CHAPEL VIEW

A READER’S FRIEND



DTH/ISABELLA BARTOLUCCI

Mary Karr, a memoirist and the Department of English’s writer-in-residence, will give a reading today.

Q&A with memoirist Mary Karr

Memoirist and poet Mary Karr is visiting UNC this week as the distinguished writer-in-residence for the Department of English and Comparative Literature.

Arts Editor Carson Blackwelder sat down with Karr and discussed her passion for writing, the intricacies of memoirs and her time at UNC.

Daily Tar Heel: Did you grow up knowing you wanted to be a writer, and what influenced that decision?

Mary Karr: From age 5, if you had asked me what I wanted to be, I would have said a poet.

When you get to a place like (UNC), you see very quickly whether or not there’s a conversation there or not.

There are people posing for each other, there’s infighting or there’s jealousy — but I saw very quickly there’s a great passion for reading and writing here, and it’s inspiring. I had heard this was a wonderful place — and it is.

DTH: Why do you feel it is important to share your life with others? What do you think they take away from it?

MK: I wouldn’t get paid if I didn’t write memoirs — and that’s very important to me.

I think everybody’s life, if you have the right window inside it and see the intensity of their heartbreak, you’ll see that people do suffer.

I don’t know if my life has any particular wisdom attached to it. I think I was a greedy bitch, and I wanted to make a buck.

DTH: Your first memoir “The Liars’ Club” deals with difficult parts of your life both vividly and humorously. How do you find a balance of these two approaches to writing?

MK: Everyone in my family was funny in various ways and with varying degrees of talent.

Comedy, for most anybody, in difficult times, can be a great survival mechanism.

But I also think on the page it relieves the reader. If you’re writing about sexual assault, which I wrote about, it’s hard for the reader.

You have to accurately represent what was painful and then almost reassure the reader that you’re OK — give them some levity.

DTH: Your most recent memoir, “Lit,” deals with your struggle with faith. In what ways was it difficult to write about that, and how has it shaped you as a writer?

ATTEND THE READING

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Genome Sciences Building Auditorium

Info: bit.ly/ZgCSf1



DTH ONLINE: Visit dailytarheel.com to read an extended Q&A with Mary Karr, full of more musings about her life and work as a memoirist.

MK: One of the greatest challenges I’ve faced as a writer was to write about faith when I’m writing for a mostly secular audience. I’m mostly writing for these intellectual readers, these godless bastards — like I was until I was 40 or so.

I didn’t want to convert anybody, and I had to write and rewrite that stuff because every time I wrote, it sounded like I was trying to convert people — and I wasn’t. I was trying to describe, from an inside way, what it’s like to try to believe in God when you never have.

DTH: What do you see as the intersection between the memoirist and the reader? What do both owe to or expect from each other?

MK: You’re the reader’s only friend. The reader is not an adversary or fool you are trying to trick.

I was trying to create an emotional experience within the reader so they could experience some of what I had experienced from the inside, not looking at it and gawking at it — not as a spectacle, but as something more intimate.

DTH: What do you hope UNC students take away from your time here this week?

MK: I hope it will make them passionate about literature, about reading and writing. That’s all.

I’ve been teaching now for 30 years, and the terrible thing — that I hope the people who pay me don’t know — is that I’d do this for free.

I wouldn’t write for free, that’s way too hard, but talking to students about their own writing and their own passions and stories is great.

So I’m here for me. I’m here to meet them and see what they’re going to give me.

Contact the desk editor at arts@dailytarheel.com.

UNC to get second shot at Red Storm

St. John’s ended UNC’s 2012 season when it won the Chapel Hill Regional.

By Brandon Moree
Sports Editor

Hosting a regional at the conclusion of a college baseball regular season is a great honor. It means that the NCAA selection committee considers a team’s total body of work to be in the top 16 in the country.

It also means that the path to Omaha and the College World Series starts from the comfort of home.

Last spring, the North Carolina baseball team was granted that honor for the sixth time in the last seven years. But for the first time in that stretch, the Tar Heels did not advance to the Super Regional after hosting the opening rounds.

The Red Storm from St. John’s advanced after beating the Tar Heels twice.

“They were just a good team,” junior third baseman Colin Moran said about the Red Storm squad that ended his sophomore campaign.

“They had good pitchers, and a lot of those pitchers showed a lot of resilience.”

St. John’s beat UNC 5-4 in the two teams’ first regional match up and 9-5 in the Sunday night game that eliminated the Tar Heels.

Today, the Red Storm is back in Chapel Hill for a grudge match, but this time the two teams are off to completely different starts.

North Carolina (6-0) is ranked No. 1 in the country. St. John’s (1-6) is limping through the early part of its spring road trip.

Like most baseball programs in the Northeast, the Red Storm won’t play a home game until mid-March. So St. John’s is in the middle of a 14-game stretch of road games — and the previous three were at No. 20 Georgia Tech.

Moran admitted that he hadn’t been keeping up with how the Red Storm had been playing so far this season. He’s only concerned with the way his squad has been playing. Through two weeks, the Tar Heels have played pretty well.



DTH FILE PHOTO

Colin Moran, seen here in the first Regional game with St. John’s in 2012, said he is treating the rematch like any other game.

ATTEND THE GAME

Time: 3 p.m.

Location: Boshamer Stadium

Info: Follow the action on Twitter, @DTHSports and @DiamondHeels

“It helps to get a few weeks under your belt,” Moran said. “We’re starting to get in to the groove — get in to the swing of things.”

The Tar Heels will hope to keep that momentum going through today’s rematch with the Red Storm. Though St. John’s isn’t off to the strongest start, the Red Storm is still the defending Big East champion. And it is still the team that crushed UNC’s postseason dreams a year ago. So the Tar Heels will approach it like any other match-up — at least as much as their memories will let them.

“They’re a good team, and they always have been. So we’re just going to treat it like any other game,” Moran said.

“But in the back of everybody’s mind they’re trying to forget the way last year ended.”

Contact the desk editor at sports@dailytarheel.com.

Degree pathways bill well-received

Vocational students may still be eligible for universities.

By Lucinda Shen
Staff Writer

State university and college leaders say a new law encouraging high school students to pursue vocational education will not undermine admissions to higher education institutions.

Gov. Pat McCrory fulfilled a campaign pledge last week by signing his first bill, which established three degree pathways for high school students statewide: college, career or both.

The law also aims to decrease the number of students who need to take general education courses at college, said Jo Anne Honeycutt, director of career and technical education for the State Board of Education.

Legislators who supported the law want to increase the popularity of technical programs, such as engineering and industrial technologies, to meet the workforce demands of state employers.

Students who complete the programs will receive industry-recognized credentials or their equivalents along with a high school diploma, beginning in 2014-15, Honeycutt said.

Students will be able to take career and technical education courses beginning in ninth grade. They can take college prep courses, such as Advanced Placement programs, at the same time, Honeycutt said. All students will be required to take

schools’ core classes, and no extra fees will be charged for the technical programs, she said.

Officials are still determining how to fully implement the law.

“The overall pace of education improvement must accelerate in North Carolina to compete globally for good jobs and provide a secure future for North Carolinians,” said Lew Ebert, president and CEO of the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, in a statement.

Randolph Community College has already offered dual-enrollment programs for more than 20 years, said Cathy Hefferin, spokeswoman for the college.

Hefferin said she hopes the law will increase the enrollment numbers for the program as McCrory and leading politicians place more of an emphasis on career and technical education.

Students in these programs are successful, Honeycutt said, adding that the unemployment rate of those students is about one-fourth the unemployment rate of all youths in the state.

Thomas Griffin, director of admissions at N.C. State University, said students in vocational programs will still be eligible for admission as long as they excel academically and complete the appropriate college prep courses.

“If their courses are strictly vocational, they wouldn’t be qualified to come,” he said. “Rigorous programs need college prep courses.”

Contact the desk editor at state@dailytarheel.com.

Federal tax reform may limit private donations to universities

University leaders were invited to the Capitol for a hearing on donations.

By Jacob Rosenberg
Staff Writer

The prospect of decreased benefits for private charitable donors has raised concerns among universities already strapped for cash.

The U.S. House of Representatives’ Ways and Means Committee invited multiple charitable institutions, including universities, to Capitol Hill recently for a hearing on potential changes to the charitable tax deduction.

Discussions are still in the early stages, said Bradley Ballou, director of federal government relations

for the UNC system. But he said the situation is being monitored closely.

“Bottom line, after the fiscal cliff deal, colleges and universities came out pretty well,” Ballou said.

The system aims to emerge from federal tax reform — as well as millions in potential cuts to research and financial aid because of sequestration — unscathed, Ballou said.

But some officials are concerned that decreased benefits would deter some private donors.

Private donations are increasingly necessary in a time of declining state and federal aid, said Mark Huddleston, president of the University of New Hampshire, during committee testimony.

Ballou and Huddleston said charitable donations provide money for a wide range of university priorities.

The UNC system uses gifts to the endowment for scholarships and research, the core mission of the system’s universities, Ballou said.

“For every dollar a typical donor receives in tax relief for his or her gift, the public gains approximately three dollars of benefit,” Huddleston said.

Federal scrutiny of the charitable tax deduction comes as UNC-CH plans a large fundraising campaign.

The campaign aims to exceed the Carolina First campaign, the largest fundraising effort in the University’s history, that raised \$2.38 billion during eight years.

The new campaign is in its early planning stages while the University searches for a new vice chancellor for university advancement.

The former vice chancellor, Matt Kupec, resigned last year after an audit revealed that he used UNC-CH

foundation funds for personal travel.

The University received \$287.4 million in gifts and \$331.4 million in commitments in fiscal year 2012, continuing an upward trend in gifts that began in 2011, according to the 2012 Development Annual Report.

Nationally, colleges and universities received \$31 billion in aid in 2012, a slight 0.2 percent inflation-adjusted increase from last year, according to a report from the Council for Aid to Education, a non-profit that researches private donations to higher education.

That total still ranks below a historical high of \$31.6 billion in 2008, as the economy continues to recover.

Potential tax changes could affect the timing of gifts, said Ann Kaplan, director of the survey.

Before the Tax Reform Act of 1986, which limited charitable

UNIVERSITY FUNDRAISING

\$31 billion

received by universities from gifts nationwide in 2012

\$287.4 million

in gifts received by the University in 2012

deduction benefits, was implemented in 1987, donations to charities increased sharply.

“Tax treatments of gifts certainly has a timing effect,” she said. “But over time, charitable giving does tend to return to its level.”

Contact the desk editor at state@dailytarheel.com.

Legislators propose reform to lottery

By Hayley Fowler
Staff Writer

State legislators are proposing to revamp the way money from the North Carolina Education Lottery is spent after statewide scrutiny of its advertising practices. Gov. Pat McCrory suggested in his State of the State address last week that lottery money should be allocated to fund more technology in schools.

"I'm recommending that we pursue legislation to reallocate a portion of money away from the bloated and

frankly annoying advertising and the large administration cost of the lottery commission, and we will use that money to directly help our students with technology," he said in the speech.

N.C. legislators have since acted on McCrory's suggestions and proposed a bill that would expand digital learning in the state's public schools. The bill currently sits in education committees in both chambers.

According to the bill, the State Board of Education would determine if school districts have improved

students' performance by 2016 and then allocate funds accordingly.

But Van Denton, spokesman for the North Carolina Education Lottery, said he fears reducing spending on advertisements would decrease the lottery's revenue.

"The success of our sales depends on a good advertising program," Denton said.

Denton said the decrease in revenue would take money away from funds for education.

The lottery is allowed to spend 1 percent of its total revenue on advertisements

and up to 8 percent on administrative costs, he said.

But he said the lottery only spends a total of 4 percent on both advertising and administrative costs.

Critics of the lottery claim it exploits poor people who overestimate the probability of winning and are duped by overly optimistic advertising.

Terry Stoops, director of education studies at the John Locke Foundation, said that though he does not support the lottery, the bill would grant more flexibility to local school districts and improve the way the money

is spent.

"I think it's a good idea for them to move money around according to their needs," he said.

Rob Schofield, director of research and policy development at N.C. Policy Watch, said both progressives and conservatives should agree on more money being allocated to technology in public schools.

But he said to be effective, legislators need to include similar proposals in the state's budget that do not solely concern lottery money.

"If it's an important prior-

LOTTERY FUNDS

\$2.6 billion

for education in last 6 years

1 percent

of revenue for advertising

8 percent

of revenue for administration

ity, we all have to contribute," Schofield said.

Contact the desk editor at state@dailytarheel.com.

Q&A with exonerated prisoner **Bill Dillon**

After spending 27 years in a Florida prison for a murder he didn't commit, Bill Dillon was exonerated by DNA evidence and cleared of all charges.

Now, he travels the country speaking out against the death penalty. He will speak at UNC today as part of the series "Innocence, Racial Justice and the End of the Death Penalty in N.C.," hosted by UNC's Center for Civil Rights.

Staff writer Emily Byrd sat down with Dillon to discuss his time in prison and life since his release.

Daily Tar Heel: In 2008, you were released from prison after being wrongly convicted. How did they break the news,



Bill Dillon spent 27 years in a Florida prison for murder. He will speak at the University today.

and what did that feel like?

Bill Dillon: It was incredible. They didn't actually tell me I was exonerated, they just told me they were releasing me. Being released was something beyond belief after all those years.

DTH: So if you weren't initially exonerated, were you left in a limbo state between

guilt and innocence from a legal standpoint?

BD: No, it started out initially that they were going to retry me. Then, 11 days later, they just dropped everything and said they weren't going to.

DTH: What was the most difficult part of readjusting after your release?

BD: Just life itself — technology, everything. It was amazing. It was a whole other level. You've got to remember, I went in there in 1981. It was cassette tapes and VCRs and no computers.

DTH: How did you start reacquainting yourself with

all of the new technology?

BD: I dove into it with a passion. I felt like it was supposed to be mine anyways. I'm pretty much a geek myself now — it's just taken me a few years — but I'm getting there, that's for sure.

DTH: So you spent 27 years in prison: Has your experience made you lose faith in the U.S. justice system?

BD: I was in prison for 27 and a half years, actually. But initially it didn't. I thought that my appeals would work and eventually they would find out that I wasn't the person that had committed the crime.

When I filed for DNA

motion, I figured there wouldn't be any response. I figured I was just washed away. But I had to make that last-ditch effort.

I'm a firm believer in law enforcement — I know there was many of them in (prison) that needed to be in the place they were in.

DTH: What are you hoping to do by sharing your story?

BD: I really am going to try to talk with people about the death penalty, because I received an apology from (Florida) Gov. Rick Scott, and the day before I was going to meet him, I thought about what I was going to say to him. And when I went to see

him and finally grabbed his hand I said, "Governor, you're the most powerful man I've ever spoke to in my life. And I just want to say this to you: I'm just glad they didn't give me the death penalty. Because if I had, I would have been executed long years ago."

My whole point that I'm trying to get across is about the death penalty and the reason why there shouldn't be the death penalty.

I didn't get the death penalty, but if I would have, I would've been deceased and no one would have known the real story.

Contact the desk editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

Accessibility director to step down after 30 years

Jim Kessler's last day at UNC will be April 1.

By Resita Cox
Staff Writer

March 1, 1970, marked Jim Kessler's first day working in disability services, and April

1, 2013, will mark his last. Kessler, director of the Department of Accessibility Resources and Service, is retiring after spending 30 years working at UNC, starting as a part-time worker with what was then known as the Department of Handicap Student Services.

He had spent years working in Raleigh and in

Kentucky in disability services before coming to UNC.

Kessler said the mission of the department is to make the University accessible so students can meet the demands of University life as independently as possible.

"I don't think it is a matter of working with disabled people — I think it is a matter of working with people,"

Kessler said.

He said the fun part of his job is the ability to meet up with students, teach them how to travel independently and then watch them go off by themselves with no assistance.

"I think it's the ability to work with people, and here at the University the greater part is working with the faculty and staff to make it so students can just be students," Kessler said.

He played a large role in the department's name change to the Department of Accessibility Resources and Service.

"If a student wants to identify themselves primarily as being disabled, that is a choice issue, and I don't think we should have an environment that is going to make that the primary identifier all of the time," Kessler said.

Tiffany Bailey, assistant director of the department, will serve as interim director until the search for a new director is complete.

"Whoever comes in next has big shoes to fill, because Jim is great about advocating for the students and forming relationships with folks," Bailey said.

Bailey has known Kessler for seven years and worked with him for two years.

"He is really well-known in our field — not even statewide but nationally," she said.



DTH/KAKI POPE

Jim Kessler, UNC's director of the Department of Accessibility Resources and Service, is retiring after 30 years at the University.

"I thought it would be an excellent opportunity for me to come here and learn from him."

Bailey said Kessler's legacy will live on after his retirement, yet his jokes and presence will be noticeably absent.

"He has great stories, and he has a really calming presence," Bailey said. "And I think those are the things that folks will miss the most. He is very open and friendly and can engage with anyone."

Kristen Rademacher, a specialist in UNC's Learning Center, said she has learned a lot of things she may have

never even considered from Kessler, who worked across the hall.

"Jim has been this constant steady figure over here forever," Rademacher said. "He is really knowledgeable about all kinds of disabilities, and I feel like I have learned a lot from him."

Kessler said he is looking forward to doing housework in his new free time.

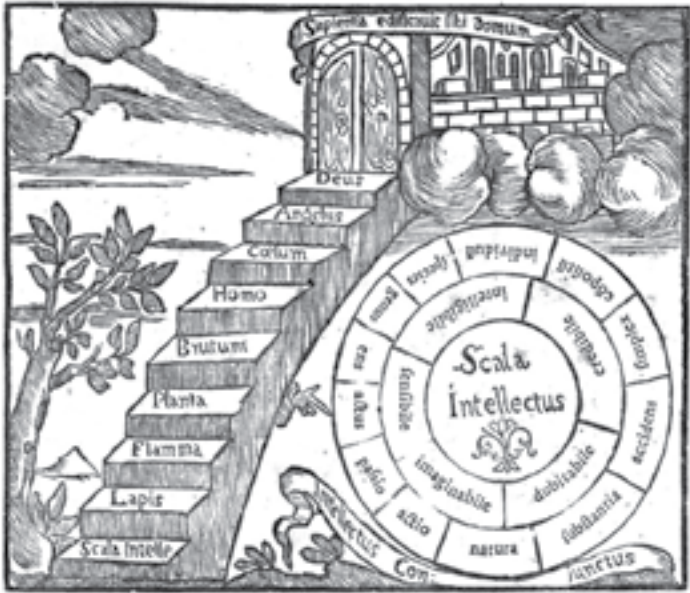
"I will start my retirement on Monday, April 1," Kessler said. "It is a Monday, and it is a great way to start the week."

Contact the desk editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

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On the wire: national and world news



» Hot air balloon crashes in Egypt, kills at least 18

CAIRO (MCT) — A hot air balloon exploded over the ancient city of Luxor on Tuesday, killing at least 18 people and adding fresh turmoil to Egypt's beleaguered tourism industry, which has been struggling since the overthrow of Hosni Mubarak two years ago.

Authorities said the balloon was drifting at about 1,000 feet when it caught fire and the basket plummeted into sugar cane fields outside a village shortly after dawn. Officials said the dead included nine passengers from Hong Kong, four from Japan, two from France, two from Britain and one from Belgium.

The pilot, one British tourist and one Egyptian survived, officials said.

Egyptian media reported that the pilot jumped from the basket immediately before it hit the ground near the Nile River. Balloon rides over Luxor's Valley of the Kings and pharaonic temples have been popular with tourists for years.

"Those proved responsible for the accident will receive

severe punishment," said Egyptian Tourism Minister Hisham Zazou.

The incident comes as the new Islamist-led government has been struggling to prop up Egypt's image as a tourist destination despite road and train accidents, kidnappings, deadly protests and political strife. Tourism is one of the nation's leading industries, but the number of visitors has fallen sharply.

Violent demonstrations in Port Said and other cities killed more than 50 people in January. Days later, tourists in Cairo were alarmed when thugs ransacked and looted the Intercontinental Hotel near Tahrir Square.

Some Republicans line up against Proposition 8

SAN FRANCISCO (MCT) — Dozens of Republican conservative political leaders have signed on to a legal brief in the U.S. Supreme Court opposing California's ban on same-sex marriage, including Hewlett-Packard CEO Meg Whitman, who supported Proposition 8 during her unsuccessful 2010 run for governor.

The American Foundation for Equal Rights, which is leading the legal fight against Proposition 8, on Tuesday revealed the growing list of conservatives who are supporting the brief.

Among the Republicans signing onto the brief are Ken Mehlman, former chairman of the Republican National Committee who revealed in 2010 he is gay; former California congresswoman Mary Bono Mack; Stephen Hadley, national security adviser during the Bush administration; Republican presidential candidate and former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman; former Massachusetts Gov. William Weld; and former New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, head of the EPA during the Bush administration.

The Republican backing may have some connection to Theodore Olson, one of the lead attorneys for same-sex couples and former U.S. solicitor general during the Bush administration. Olson, considered one of the most influential conservative lawyers in the country, has been an outspoken supporter of gay marriage rights since taking on the

Proposition 8 case in 2009.

Italian leader undecided on coalition partner

ROME (MCT) — The center-left leader who won the biggest share of votes in Italian general elections but failed to secure a parliamentary majority declined to say Tuesday whether he would turn to Silvio Berlusconi or Beppe Grillo to break the stalemate.

That choice will determine the political direction of the eurozone's third-largest economy, amid concern that it might row back on recent austerity measures, labor and pension reforms, thus undermining confidence in the entire currency bloc.

Pier Luigi Bersani's alliance won control of the lower house of parliament after edging out Berlusconi's conservatives. In the Senate, where the "majority bonus" is distributed on a regional, rather than national basis, it was 35 seats short of a majority.

Grillo's protest Five Star Movement could act as king-maker, after coming from nowhere to score about 25 percent. Its campaign was based



MCT/APA IMAGES

» Egyptians inspect the site where a hot-air balloon exploded over the ancient city of Luxor on Tuesday, killing at least 18 people and adding fresh turmoil to Egypt's tourism industry.

on pledges to clean up politics, endorsement of clean energy and rejections of the euro and high-speed rail projects.

Bersani refused to enter into what he called a "political farce" about possible alliances. What was needed, he said, was for his side to draft a reform agenda and then see

which forces were prepared to support it.

Bersani listed "legality" and "morality" as priorities, issues that are more likely to resonate with Grillo's supporters. But he also railed against "frankly wrong European policies" on austerity, which both Grillo and Berlusconi criticize.

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CAROLINA Sport CLUBS NEWS

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Water Polo

North Carolina Women's Club Water Polo demonstrated huge growth and astounding teamwork this past weekend with a successful season opener tournament at James Madison University.

The Tar Heels went 2-2, with physical, hard-fought wins over Carnegie Mellon University (7-6) and the University of Pittsburgh (5-4) and losses to Pennsylvania State University and the University of Pennsylvania.

This was the first time they beat the University of Pittsburgh in at least five years, and was a great win to cap off their first official tournament of the season.

Five starting players landed on the score sheet. Barbara Cole led the team with an impressive 6 goals.

Ashley Gremel had a stellar performance with 5 goals, captains Emily Chapin and Aubrey Germ each put up 2 goals, and key lefty Laura Seidel scored one.

A great defensive effort was displayed by players Sarah Lahidji, Sophia Potepalov, Hannah Davis, Sydney

Narayan, Gabby Schluter, Elle Brightbill, and Emily Wheeler as well as by goalie Rachel Gentry.

Gentry was a rock in the goal, making 41 saves and 5 steals over the course of the weekend, with a 71% save effort against Pitt.

Interim goalie Sydney Narayan chipped in with a spectacular 80% save percentage against Penn State in a quarter of play, making 4 saves on 5 shots.

Women's water polo looks forward to their next conference tournament at the University of Virginia on March 23-24.

Rugby

UNC started their 2013 ACRL campaign on Saturday with a 17-7 win over the Demon Deacons of Wake Forest.

Taking the field in a rare Chapel Hill snow shower the Tarheel forwards were the deciding factor in the victory.

UNC started the scoring with a classy try from a scrum deep in the wake forest half, turning pressure into points. Wake managed to strike



UNC's gymnastics team poses by the beams in new leotards.

back in a lapse of UNC's defense but the Tarheels managed to leave the first half up 12-7.

The conditions continued to plague the UNC backs, who left a number of scoring opportunities on the field.

Continued pressure and set piece steals from Man of Match Patrick Stokes on debut yielded only one try in the second half.

Patrick Stokes, Junior exchange from London, led the forward charge with some key tackles and counter rucks.

After a solid performance in conference play against Wake Forest, UNC lost 30-16 against the Cavaliers of the University of Virginia on Saturday.

Taking the field in poor conditions for the second week in a row, the Tar Heels were disciplined enough to dominate most of the first half.

Dylan Cunningham's long-streaking try and Murray Houston's 3 penalties and conversion gave the Tar Heels a 16-10 lead for most of the first half.

Minutes before the first half ended UVA managed to take the lead 17-16. The Tar Heels young lineup, seemed poised to take control once again through strong forward play, but the UVA would not have it.

UVA's opportunistic offense and stingy defense

prevented UNC from scoring in the second half to win the game and give UNC their first conference loss.

Jim Morrison was the man of the match against the Cavaliers, leading the forwards with experience and physical play. Morrison's will to win ignited a young Carolina line-up to play extremely well.

The Tarheels next game will be away at Clemson on take on the Tigers on March 8th. For more information about the UNC Rugby team visit www.uncrugby.com.

Gymnastics

The UNC Club Gymnastics team traveled to Knoxville this weekend to compete at the Orange & White Invite hosted by the University of Tennessee.

Teams from Tennessee, Cincinnati, Clemson, JMU, Kennesaw State, and Georgia Tech were all present, but the Tar Heels stole the show.

For the men, Ian Everitt placed 2nd on floor, 3rd on vault, and 6th on rings; Eric Luu got 3rd on floor and

4th on parallel bars; and Ryan Lynch placed 5th on floor.

For the women, Desiree LaFountain placed 6th on vault; Ashley Coleman was 6th on floor; Ashley Ross won 1st on bars; and Shannon Murphy got 6th on bars and 6th on beam and finished 5th place in the all-around competition. UNC received 2nd place as a team, less than one point behind Cincinnati.

The team looks forward to it's next meet at the University of Florida and Nationals in April.



Patrick Stokes catches a line-out for Alik Belokopytov in UNC's win against the Demon Deacons.



The UNC Ski and Snowboard Club Team competed at the 2013 USCSA Mid-Atlantic Regionals this weekend at Timberline, W. Va. Snowboard freestyle and women's alpine represented well as one of five teams from the Southeast, placing among racers and competitors such as Penn State, Rutgers, UVA, N.C. State and others.

Google operates 'unconventional' office

Google has kept an office in Chapel Hill since 2005.

By Graves Ganzert
Staff Writer

In a Southern Village office that occasionally doubles as a basketball court, employees of one of the largest technology companies in the world tweak software technology used by millions.

Since 2005 Google has operated a satellite office in Chapel Hill, where about a dozen employees correct and modify software for the search engine giant.

Google is famous for its unconventional offices.

In the Googleplex headquarters in California, which opened about nine years ago, a dinosaur skeleton sits outside the office, and the interior is decorated with

giant rubber balls and shade lamps.

On a smaller scale, the Chapel Hill office includes a full basketball court, a pool table and UNC basketball jerseys hanging from the ceiling.

Google moved into the office after buying Chapel Hill software startup Skia eight years ago. Since the purchase, the satellite office has been busy.

Mike Reed, a software engineer and manager of the office, said the location near Research Triangle helps broaden Google's influence.

"They have a bunch of offices outside of California," Reed said. "Many offices are located around a hub of education. We benefit from being close to college graduates and an airport."

The Chapel Hill office tests graphics for different aspects of the Google system.

"A lot of what we do is used by many facets of Google. So

far, a lot of the software we deal with is used on Google Chrome and Android," Reed said.

Joe Gregorio, a software engineer for Google, has worked in the Chapel Hill location for about five years.

Gregorio said he enjoys his work, which improves the graphics and response times for Google searches.

"I knew a lot of people working for Google, and they seemed happy, so I knew it was a good place to work," Gregorio said.

He said the office is a great place to work, and features like the basketball court make working for Google interesting.

"I have traveled around to many of the Google offices, and they are all unique and produce a great environment to work in," Gregorio said.

And Reed said he is always interested in seeing and being involved in Google's

new technologies — like the recently unveiled Google Glass.

Google Glass is a pair of glasses that works as a virtual assistant, including functions like a search engine and camera.

Reed said though the Chapel Hill office was not directly involved in making Google Glass, he thinks the product is interesting.

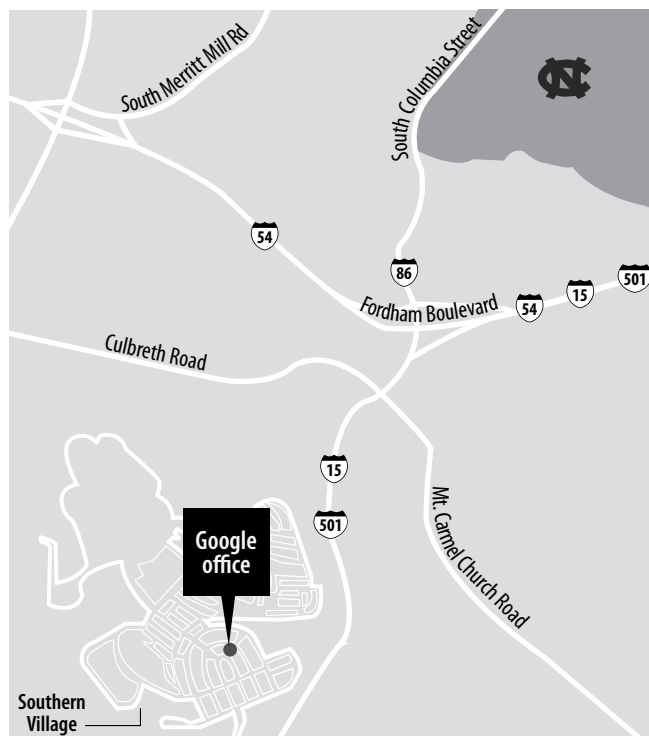
"I think that it is very exciting for Google — I can't wait to see how it goes," Reed said.

Mac Cramer, a sophomore economics major, said he thinks that both Google's presence in the area and the launch of Google Glass are good for Chapel Hill.

"I think that the market they attract for both business and consumption really appeals to the younger crowd," Mac said.

Contact the desk editor at
city@dailytarheel.com.

Location of Chapel Hill Google office



SOURCE: GOOGLE MAPS

DTH/MELISSA BORDEN

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Announcements

Announcements

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PITTSBORO: UNC student wanted to watch our toddler March 11-16, over Spring Break. 9am-noon. In our house, 10 miles south of UNC. \$10/hr. Experience, references required. 919-942-4527.

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SUMMER STAFF: Now interviewing for key positions at Southern Village Club in Chapel Hill. Camp director and assistant director, head lifeguards, lifeguards. Download application at www.southernvillageclub.com or email resume to manager@southernvillageclub.com.

Y SUMMER STAFF

The Chapel Hill Y is looking for check in, water slide and snack bar attendants for its outdoor pool in Meadowmont. Find the application online at www.chymca.org. Fill it out and send it in or email HR at nchan@chymca.org.

Summer Jobs

LIFEGUARDS, INSTRUCTORS

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HOROSCOPES



If February 27th is Your Birthday...

Confidence is yours, and money keeps coming in, even though it requires vigilance. Home is where your heart is; stay rooted until a romantic trip or study pushes you out of the house and into the world. Group actions get the biggest results.

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 -- Enter a two-day negotiations phase with a balanced approach. Having a reasonable and efficient plan helps. Get partnerships going where they were stuck by being unattached to the results.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a 6 -- The pace is picking up. Turn your attention toward completing assignments today and tomorrow. Focus on the details, and you'll be able to take on more work, if you so choose.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Today is a 6 -- You're beginning a generally lucky and cuddly phase. Don't wait a second longer to enjoy the game. Play full out, especially in matters of love. Seize the day.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Today is a 9 -- Take the lead, especially in your household. Some important decisions need to be made. Take one step at a time, and don't sweat the small stuff.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is an 8 -- Study all the angles today and tomorrow, and you'll discover how valuable you are. You're an information sponge now. Use your powers well. Don't pour your profits down a rat hole.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is an 8 -- It's not a good time to travel right now. Figure finances out. Make sure that you'll make enough to pay expenses. A magnetic female appears onstage.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 9 -- You're getting stronger and could have an impatient tendency. Your energy surges. Make sure you're protected. Reject a far-fetched scheme in favor of a practical solution.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is an 8 -- You're lucky in love. Rekindle a commitment and finish up old projects. Traveling isn't as easy now. Your dreams can inspire a shift for the better.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a 7 -- Better check with the family before making a date with friends. When you stop thinking about yourself, you can really hear what others are saying. Love thy neighbor.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is a 9 -- What you say has tremendous impact. You may want to think twice before you post it to the four winds. You'll be tested for the next couple of days. Sing a song of sixpence.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is a 7 -- You'd rather play than work, but you'll need to find the right balance. Relax to increase productivity. Saving is better than spending now.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a 7 -- Focus on your work, and solve problems as they arise with grace. Financial aspects are looking brighter after a long winter. Celebrate with friends later.

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Announcements

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SATURDAY YARD SALE! Vintage clothing, '30s European hats, mounted antlers, leather luggage, how to books, much more. 309 North Elliott Road, Chapel Hill. 8am-2pm March 2nd.

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GAMBILL

FROM PAGE 1

assault problem is worse than actually having a sexual assault problem,” she said. Student Attorney General Amanda Claire Grayson said the attorney general must find a reasonable basis that there is no longer a violation of the Honor Code for charges to be dropped in a case.

“A decision is made by an attorney general in consideration of the evidence that they have before them,” she said, though she said she could not comment on the specifics of this case.

Gambill said a com-

plaint was filed against her in January, citing that her intimidating behavior — going public with her case — adversely affected her ex-boyfriend’s pursuits within the University. But Gambill said she has never publicly named him.

“(This is) not a super typical charge, but it’s also not something that is often reported to the honor system,” Grayson said.

Frank LoMonte, executive director of the Student Press Law Center, said student judicial boards might not be well prepared to deal with claims like Gambill’s case, resulting in an inadequate

hearing process for the accused.

“Essentially this is a defamation claim and a student disciplinary board is just not well-equipped to be sitting in judgment of defamation claims,” LoMonte said.

“That’s the problem with putting legal cases through a disciplinary board that doesn’t necessarily have to follow all of the same legal or constitutional standards,” he added.

The University’s statement cited rights held by the accused party in an Honor Court proceeding, including the presumption of innocence, the presentation of evi-

dence and a fair and impartial hearing.

Gambill previously filed a sexual assault charge against her ex-boyfriend through interim proceedings in the Honor Court last spring.

She said he was found not guilty, but that the case was handled with negligence and insensitivity. Gambill never went to the police.

Since Gambill’s case, the jurisdiction for sexual assault cases has moved from the Honor Court to a student grievance committee to comply with a change in federal policy.

The University statement also stressed that this charge



DTH/CHRIS CONWAY

Landen Gambill shares her story at the Campus Y on Tuesday.

is not a retaliation.

“Further, no University administrator filed or encouraged the filing of charges in this case,” it stated.

Senior Writer Paula Seligson contributed reporting.

Contact the desk editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

SHANNON

FROM PAGE 1

son has remained an important presence in the lives of his parents, who still go to church every week.

“It’s a place that our family always went together. There are times when it gets just emotional,” Katy Shannon said. “If we didn’t go, I think that would be harder.”

And they say their faith has given them peace of mind.

“Knowing that David is perfect and whole and in heaven is where I take my greatest peace,” Katy Shannon said.

Learning from tragedy

The Shannons are working to make sure some good comes from the tragedy of their son’s death.

“David obviously was drinking that night, and I imagine part of what was going through his mind is, ‘I’m not driving, so it doesn’t matter how much I drink.’

This shows that drunk driving is not the only problem that alcohol can cause,” Hugh Shannon said.

Hugh Shannon recently met with Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Winston Crisp and Aaron Bachenheimer, director of UNC’s Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and Community Involvement, to discuss helping the UNC community by sharing his son’s story.

“We really appreciate Mr. Shannon reaching out to us and wanting to help,” Bachenheimer said. “We think that would be valuable.”

Hugh Shannon said he wants to emphasize drinking responsibly and taking care of friends when students go out.

“We don’t know all the circumstances of exactly how David died — whether he was alone or if anybody might have been with him,” Hugh Shannon said. “It appears he was alone, and if someone had been with him, maybe this could have been prevented.”

David Shannon would have turned 19 on Jan. 26 — the same day that his mother turned 50. It was a day they planned on spending together.

“We got through the birthday,” she said. “That was kind of a tough point because that’s something we shared for 18 years.”

Friends of her son sent her more than 150 birthday cards.

“These were not cards that kids just bought a stamp and mailed it,” she said. “They wrote nice things, just heartfelt encouragement to me.”

And at home, the Shannons blew up 19 balloons in colors representing different parts of David Shannon’s life — Carolina blue and white, Myers Park green and white, pink for the color he always wore and black for Buster, the family dog that still jumps up on his bed to sleep.

“We did that to celebrate his life,” Katy Shannon said.

Contact the desk editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

CVS PHARMACY

FROM PAGE 1

Chilton.

“The fact of whether it is CVS or Walgreens or Carrboro Family Pharmacy is not something we are empowered to consider.”

The original proposal would have placed a CVS in the bottom floor of a two-story, 24,590 square foot development at its location at the corner of Greensboro and Weaver streets.

The proposal required rezoning approval and a con-

ditional use permit from the town, and was met by opposition by both residents and some aldermen.

Last February, the site became the target of protesters, vandalism and guerrilla gardening.

Chilton and Alderman Sammy Slade said at the meeting that they felt that rezoning the site would not fit the location.

“I don’t think it is the best interests of our community to change the zoning on this block,” Chilton said.

Slade argued that altering

the zoning for the block might detract from the surrounding historical community.

And for Carrboro residents who attended the meeting, the withdrawal of the rezoning request felt like a small victory.

Carrboro resident Daniel Amoni said he’s glad the town will review a proposal for a smaller CVS.

“I think we will have a smaller scale project, which is positive,” he said.

Contact the desk editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

TAX INCREASE

FROM PAGE 1

about 1,200 people a day, and some of those visitors might have to wait in long lines if the hours are reduced.

He said library officials are planning to strategically reduce hours from the times when the library sees the least amount of visitors.

Like many Chapel Hill resi-

dents, Stuart West is against the proposal to reduce hours at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

The library regular said he thinks it’s “ridiculous” for the council to have spent millions on renovations to the facility and then reduce its hours.

“I think any solution would be a good solution,” he said.

Town Councilman Jim Ward said that while people might initially be against a tax

increase, he thinks residents will support the increase if it is presented correctly.

“I think if it is articulated as to why that decision is being made that the majority of taxpayers can understand,” he said.

Ward said he will consider the increase if it means preserving the library as a resource for the community.

“I’m prepared to find the money to keep the hours we’re currently open,” he said. “It’s a priority.”

Contact the desk editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

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Thursday, Feb 28
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MIGRATION & ETHNICITY
Screening: *Peasant Family Happiness*
by Jenny Chio

Friday, March 1
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Andy Thomason
Editor-in-Chief

Senior history major from Charlotte, N.C.

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A voice in times of deep despair

I expect to wake up to big news on some days. But in the past four months, I have woken up twice to heavier news than I've been prepared for: that acquaintances of mine — UNC students — had died.

David Shannon, who died in October, was a good friend to many of my friends.

Stedman Gage, who died Friday, was my roommate freshman year.

The shock that follows these moments triggers the dual role I occupy as a journalist — required to collect and publicize troubling details while also feeling an emotional toll. This toll is slight in comparison to the grief of friends and family, but it exists nonetheless.

And it complicates the duty of turning tragedy into news, which might on its face seem crass or manipulative, especially to those still afflicted by the wounds that come from losing a friend, brother, sister, son or daughter.

But I've found telling the stories of the dead and bereaved to be among the most important things a journalist can do for a community that is frightened or grieving.

This academic year, the student body has been presented with the disturbing task of mourning four of its own. Grief has touched much of the student body, including the staff of this newspaper.

In the case of each death, I was able to stay removed as I first sought to recover every detail and provide an honest portrayal of each person in the form of an obituary.

But the emotional weight has come nonetheless. It came for me on Sunday, writing the caption for a photo of Stedman. And it came the day David's death was reported, when I returned home from the paper to find my house packed full of his friends who were staying there with his brother Stephen.

The grief surrounding these deaths has also spread to those with no prior connection at all. I've watched writers become deeply affected by the stories of individuals they didn't know. I've witnessed the profound frustration of our city editor, who has been devoted to the pursuit of answers in the senseless — and still unsolved — killing of junior Faith Hedgepeth.

But does the product — countless stories and headlines about investigations, complete with disturbing details — capitalize on a base fascination with the morbid?

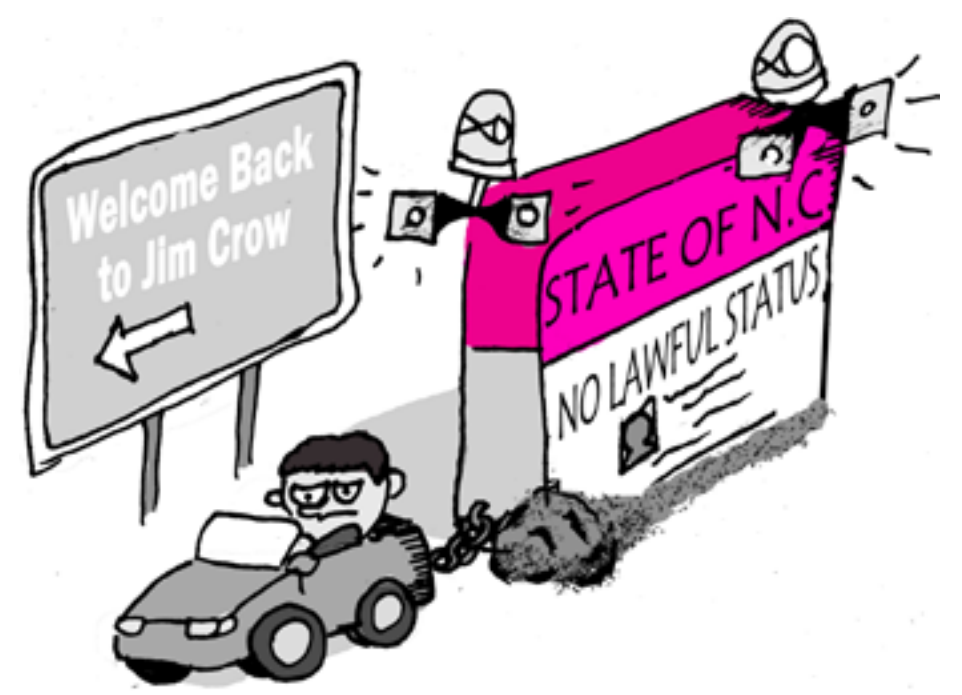
I don't think so.

I believe the devotion to covering these tragedies is carried out in the hopes that answers will help calm souls — that the outpouring of love from friends of senior Trevor Dolan will help sustain the memory of him, or that a photo of Stephen Shannon embracing a friend of his late brother's would remind those close to David of the love they knew in him.

To not get our hands dirty for fear of giving offense would be to imply that these deaths didn't matter, that they aren't worth examining in hopes of preventing future horrors.

A newspaper is effectively a community's voice in times good and bad. And at its best, it is simply a voice that speaks when no one knows what to say, and the silence hurts.

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Guile Contreras, gcontrer@live.unc.edu



EDITORIAL

Protect free speech

Everyone must feel free to speak out for change.

An individual's right to voice his or her grievances in the public sphere must be steadfastly protected and defended. The issue of the Honor Court charge facing sophomore Landen Gambill is, at its core, an issue of free speech.

It is important to set aside accusations for a moment and acknowledge the following: In this case, there is no way for a detached observer to know what is true and what is not.

Commentary, rumor and speculation have run rampant in recent days; many of the loudest and most self-assured opinions have been, by nature, flawed due to a lack of certainty about the facts.

It is the job of this editorial board to form opinions based on the facts of a story. But when an absence of facts makes such judgments impossible, we must instead consider the general principle of the issue.

The principle at work here is nothing less than the ability of an individual to speak freely about his or her experience, publicly and controversially, in the hope of righting wrongs.

This has been Gambill's stated goal. She has publicized her own dealings with the University's administration and honor system, she claims, to correct its institu-

tional faults. This effort first took the form of coverage in The Daily Tar Heel, and has since spread to national media.

Gambill was one of five to file a complaint accusing the University of violating several federal laws in its treatment of sexual assault on campus. The complaint was a thorough indictment of many top administrators.

Gambill now says the publicity her case has received has led to an Honor Court charge against her: engaging in intimidating behavior against the man she has accused of raping her.

Her account is a disturbing one, for several reasons. It raises questions about the ability of the student-run honor system to provide a semblance of justice in the realm of criminal behavior. And there is no doubt that the conversation around the story could have a chilling effect on the likelihood that victims of sexual assault will take their stories public.

More silence is the last thing we need in this debate.

It is imperative that any who feel wronged — including, importantly, the man accused by Gambill — know they have the option of speaking out on the issue. This is often the only way to effect change and seek truth from institutions like the honor system or even the University.

In part, this is why The Daily Tar Heel has pursued this story for months,

and why it chose to report on the contents of the federal complaint when it was controversial to do so.

All are free to use media as a means of expression. Any action that might intentionally or unintentionally curtail that ability — an Honor Court charge, for example — must be questioned and scrutinized.

Did the man in question have significant cause to justify a formal charge? It's impossible to know when opaque institutions control the information and the right to judge — a depressing reality all its own.

Restriction of information at the University has been constant in recent years, and the source of many black eyes. The Daily Tar Heel has sued twice in less than 20 years for access to public records.

The area of campus crime is no exception. Until recently, few might have realized the honor system has jurisdiction over non-academic violations; this responsibility carries with it concerns of legitimacy.

On a fundamental level, the process and its many closed doors only heighten the need for transparency and an emphasis on free speech.

In the absence of facts, we can demand no specific action. But the UNC community should be reminded of this foundational right, and the responsibility it has to make everyone feel they can exercise it without recourse.

EDITORIAL

A vicious cycle

Payday loans hurt those at their most vulnerable.

In 2001 the sun set on payday lending in North Carolina. The law that allowed payday lending expired and wasn't renewed by the N.C. General Assembly.

Sen. Jerry Tillman, R-Randolph, has proposed a bill that would bring deferred presentment services, or more colloquially, payday lending, back to North Carolina as early as this summer.

The passage of this bill would be detrimental to the personal finances of the residents of North Carolina and the wellbeing of the state as a whole.

Payday loans allow people to take out short-term, high-interest loans using their paycheck as collateral.

Proponents of payday lending claim it can be

used by people who have hit hard financial times and need a bridge loan until they receive their next pay check. But most payday loans aren't used for emergencies.

According to a Pew Study, only 16 percent of first-time payday loans are used by borrowers for unexpected emergency expenses, whereas 69 percent of these loans are used for recurring expenses.

The bill includes provisions intended to safeguard borrowers from overly predatory practices. These include limiting the loan to \$500 and the interest rate to 15 percent per pay period — not to be confused with 15 percent per year.

Payday loans can often deepen and expand the cycle of debt. Those who can't make ends meet take on a new liability simply to meet old liabilities.

Taking a payday loan indicates the borrower will

be 92 percent more likely to become seriously delinquent on a credit card bill, according to a Wharton Business School report.

In an attempt to halt this cycle, the bill would not allow a borrower to take out loans from multiple payday lenders. But this aspect of the law is largely unenforceable and relies on the honesty of a possibly desperate borrower.

Active members of the military and their family members will not be allowed to take out payday loans. Either the bill is discriminating against the military or strangely protecting only a small subset of the population.

Passage of this bill may make good business for payday lenders, but it would create a predatory trap for the poor. We, as students, could fall into that at-risk population, and the harms of this bill far outweigh potential good.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Knowing that David is perfect and whole and in heaven is where I take my greatest peace."

Katy Shannon, on her son David, who died in October

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

"I stand with the victims of sexual assault, but I also stand by the rights of the accused in a liberal society."

Ernest Thompson, on both sides of the sexual assault case

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Blame society, not Honor Court or UNC

TO THE EDITOR:

Here is why I am upset about the situation regarding Landen Gambill and the way our community has reacted to this story:

It is irresponsible to take the stance that UNC administrators don't represent their students with compassion and respect.

It's hard to believe that the Office of the Dean of Students, whose mission is solely to fairly represent and advocate for our students, would take such a harsh stance against individuals like Gambill.

The people who devote their lives to the continuation of this University deserve more than the lambasting they've experienced since the release of Gambill's story, and, in light of these events, I commend the people who work toward the solutions for such problems.

As UNC students, yes, of course we should defend and stand up for individuals who have been sexually abused. No one is disputing that. Especially not UNC administrators and staff.

So my plea to everyone who has shared their opinion on the matter: Think before you speak.

The individuals of the Honor Court, the Office of Student Conduct and the Office of the Dean of Students all work very hard to make UNC a better place for its students.

They are not the ones to blame in this situation. If anyone is itching to point fingers, point fingers at a broken society where sexual assault is an all-too-often occurrence.

If you want to make substantiated change, lash at the roots of injustice, not its branches.

Erin Bueno '15
Economics

Honor Court shouldn't silence victims' voices

TO THE EDITOR:

I recently heard the upsetting news about the University's Honor Court prosecuting a young woman, sophomore Landen Gambill, for creating an "intimidating" environment for her ex-boyfriend.

After speaking out about her experience, she was charged with the aforementioned violation of the Honor Code.

I find the use of the word "intimidating" especially interesting in this situation.

When we think about intimidation, the scenario of the schoolyard bully is the cultural archetype that comes to mind, but in a broader sense, we can understand intimidation as the use of coercive tactics to compel a person to do (or to deter a person from doing) something.

Of course, I don't think that UNC's administrators are truly concerned

with protecting Gambill's ex-boyfriend from feeling intimidated on campus.

That is a truly unfortunate side effect of their concern with a larger issue, that of protecting UNC's reputation, a reputation freshly tarnished on the national stage by the athletic-academic fiasco that steadily came to a boil and subsequently overflowed during the past two years.

Somewhere deep in my heart, a place almost completely devoid of any form of school spirit, I understand that this is a rough time for my alma mater, and I understand that it will be an unpleasant job for those who have to deal with the consequences.

Even if the identity of the abuser had been made known to the public, which it still is not, such action would likely have drawn national media attention (as is currently the case).

In a move almost too trite to believe (at least to anyone familiar with narratives surrounding sexual assault), the powerful, privileged party has attempted to silence and discredit the less powerful, less privileged party by any means possible.

In effect, the University is now guilty of its own charges. What's the process for reporting a violation of the Honor Code in this instance?

I'm appalled that rather than working to support Gambill's courageous voice (and by extension the voices of other sexual assault survivors at UNC), the Honor Court would rather act to have it silenced.

Peter Pendergrass '11
Oakland, California

Reach out to friends with eating disorders

TO THE EDITOR:

For years, I chose to believe I was the exception, not the rule. I rolled my eyes whenever my parents brought up the issue of weight, and I ignored my sister's glares as I looked up nutrition facts at the dinner table.

It took me weeks to admit it aloud — I was anorexic.

From an outsider's perspective, it was hard to believe that this was any revelation to me.

Chances are, I'd still be happily denying my eating disorder if it weren't for some amazing people who were brave enough to voice their concerns.

Hearing concerns from people other than my parents motivated me to finally seek help.

The same people have been my support system through the entire process.

Don't be afraid to approach a friend if you're concerned.

It won't be easy; it's going to be awkward for both of you, but it could be lifesaving.

Allison Bardill '16
Nutrition
Exercise and sport science

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 Street, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514
- E-mail: opinion@dailytarheel.com

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