

When tips don't add up



DTH/ALEX KORMANN

Alex Vasquez works as bartender at Four Corners Grille. Vasquez supports herself through this job and through being a server at Lime and Basil.

Servers, bartenders work with \$2.13 minimum wage

By Lauren Kent
Senior Writer

Senior Alex Vasquez cannot count the number of times she's been stiffed for a tip — or perhaps worse, the number of times a customer will leave only 20 cents for a bill that's \$9.80.

Vasquez supports herself in school through two different jobs: One as a bartender at Four Corners Grille and the other as a server at Lime and Basil, both located on Franklin Street. Tips make up the brunt of her paychecks.

"On a daily basis, you can leave with almost nothing," Vasquez said.

That's because her minimum wage as a tipped employee is \$2.13 per hour, while the federal minimum wage for most workers is \$7.25 per hour.

Tipping is ingrained into American culture, with tips functioning as an incentive for employees to provide better service.

"But you (as the server or bartender) can pretty much do whatever, and people come in already knowing how much they're going to tip," Vasquez said.

Adding up to \$7.25

All workers in North Carolina must make at least \$7.25 per hour, said Neal O'Brian, a spokesperson for the state labor department.

Employers of tipped workers must make up the difference if the combination of their tips and the \$2.13 per hour doesn't reach the minimum wage.

But no restaurants in Chapel Hill or Carrboro have had complaints in 2015 about failing to supplement income.

Restaurants don't have to ensure that tipped employees make \$7.25 every hour they work — their hourly wage just has to average out to at least \$7.25 for the entire pay period, allowing restaurants to pay them less in the long run.

Corinne Tabor, a former student who worked at Old Chicago during her time at UNC, said on average, she hardly reached \$7.25 — even on the best days.

Old Chicago would calculate her average tips over a two-week period before supplementing her income, allowing the weekends to outweigh the slow days, and ultimately resulting in less income.

"Serving for tips is hard in a college town,"

Tabor said. "None of your customers have money."

Restaurants also sometimes "pool" their servers or bartenders' tips, or combine a portion of each server's tips and divide them evenly among those who worked. In North Carolina, employees must retain at least 85 percent of all tips they receive.

State labor laws also allow restaurants to deduct employees' wages for inventory shortages. If a customer dines and dashes, or even forgets to pay for a drink at the bar, it usually comes out of the server's paycheck.

Vasquez said living off tips and covering the costs of unpaid bills makes budgeting difficult. Her income varies based on the weather, the season or even how well the basketball team is doing.

Lake Rosenberg, a server and bartender at Top of the Hill, said his income is so varied because of tips that he didn't actually know what he made per hour — just that it was very low.

"I don't think that people know that," he said. "I do appreciate the idea of somebody

SEE TIPPED WAGES, PAGE 5

Investigation launched for Raleigh police shooting

Community seeks answers and transparency during the process.

By Ana Irizarry
Staff Writer

A black man was shot four times by a white Raleigh police officer Feb. 29, according to a preliminary autopsy, bringing the Triangle into an ongoing national conversation about race and law enforcement.

"We stand here, both present and past elected leaders of the community, to ask for calm, prayer and patience. Any loss of life, regardless of circumstance, is heartbreaking and we offer our sincere condolences to all of those involved," said Raleigh Mayor Nancy McFarlane in her official statement.

D.C. Twiddy, a senior officer in the Raleigh Police Department, pursued Akiel Denkins in an effort to take Denkins into custody for drug charges. Twiddy and Denkins struggled until Twiddy fired multiple shots at Denkins, eventually shooting him out of fear, according to a report to the city manager outlining initial findings of the case.

But community members doubt the accuracy of the initial report, said Irving Joyner, an attorney for the North Carolina NAACP, in a community meeting at Bible Way Temple. Witnesses have claimed the scene was blocked off and cleaned up before the public was able to view the shooting site, he said.

"We don't get the information about what exactly the site looked like before it was sanitized," Joyner said. "That's a part of the concern that people have and a part of the anger that people have that they were blocked out while there was a cleaning up of the blood. There was a shuffling of leaves and other terrain around the shooting scene."

The Rev. William Barber, N.C. NAACP president, asked for truth and transparency in the investigation.

"Truth is the main antidote to unrest ... Truth. Not predetermined truth. Not truth that is marred by the statements about (Denkins') life that may have nothing to do with what actually happened on that day. Unbiased, transparent truthful investigation with the fact," Barber said in a news conference.

Uncovering the truth takes time, said Lorrin Freeman, Wake County district attorney.

"We are very lucky that the state crime lab is trying to expedite the analysis of that evidence, but this isn't 'CSI' — it takes time to analyze all of that," she said.

Freeman asked witnesses to report information to the State Bureau of Investigation, especially video evidence.

UNC political science professor Frank Baumgartner said video evidence is the difference between past and present police shootings.

"The officer in North Charleston that shot the individual, it seemed like a very similar situation, but it was captured on tape," Baumgartner said. "If that hadn't had been captured on tape, I don't think many people in the mainstream community — not in the white community — would have believed that it had been true."

And he said the situation is not confined to the Triangle. Unlike before the Trayvon Martin case, people recognize shootings like this happen and are more likely to believe allegations and give these cases attention.

"What we're seeing now is every police chief's worst nightmare — that it could happen anywhere," Baumgartner said. "Raleigh's not the best. Raleigh's not the worst. Raleigh's in the middle of the pack as far as I know ... Those things are happening, the difference is now we're finding out about them."

Raleigh Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown, an African American, could generate good community relations during the shooting investigation — but it's not a guarantee, he said.

"The initial words that came from the police chief are very similar to the words you hear every time: we will get to the bottom of this, I promise a full and complete investigation," Baumgartner said.

"What she didn't say and what is never said: check in six months from now or 18 months from now when the internal investigation will be complete and presumably things will have calmed down — and that's something people are very, very frustrated with."

state@dailytarheel.com

Orange County jail receives backlash

A petition is asking the board not to build the new county jail.

By Jane Little
Staff Writer

A petition to oppose the construction of a new jail in Orange County that would cost approximately \$30 million has garnered 106 signatures as of press time.

The new jail will be located at the intersection of I-40 and Old N.C. Highway 86, Orange County Commissioner Bernadette Pelissier said.

She said the jail will house 144 inmates, though it could be expanded to house more if necessary.

"We should be investing in our people and in our communities, that is, taking preventative measures to stop the cycle of incarceration before it begins," Leah Block, a first-year at N.C. State University, said.

Block said she heard about the petition from other anti-oppression activists in North Carolina.

"What we need is more love, more education and more community

COUNTY JAIL STATISTICS

\$30 million
approximate cost

12 percent
of Orange County population is black

54 percent
of the county's jail population is black

organizing," Block said. "We don't need more jails."

She said she believes the petition can make a difference.

"People power should never be underestimated," Block said. "This is our community, after all, and we have the ultimate say as to what happens in our community."

Orange County commissioners said they acknowledge the issues people have with the jail.

"I understand the concerns that people have, and we in Orange County have those concerns," Pelissier said. "We are doing the best we can to keep as many people as

SEE COUNTY JAIL, PAGE 5



DTH/EMMA TOBIN

Mimi Chapman, Rosa Perelmutter and Valérie Pruvost listen during the Faculty Executive Committee meeting on Monday.

Fire after Duke win worried committee

Faculty have taken formal steps in the past to stop the fires.

By Amy Nelson
Staff Writer

The bonfires following UNC's 76-72 win over Duke on Saturday were not a celebratory event for Faculty Chairperson Bruce Cairns,

who is the director of the N.C. Jaycee Burn Center.

Cairns told the Faculty Executive Committee on Monday that steps have been taken in the past to stop the unsupervised bonfires. In 2007, there was a resolution passed that said bonfires are not sanctioned and not supported by the University.

"We've done some analyses

SEE FIRE, PAGE 5

con GRADulations
FAIR
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The best of online inBRIEF



Extension blocks Dance Marathon from browser

By Zack Green
Staff Writer

A new Chrome extension developed by two UNC students will allow you to block any Dance Marathon related content from your browser. Owen Barrett and Janelle Harraway, both junior computer science majors, created the extension after meeting in a class this semester. The two sat next each other without ever speaking for most of the semester until Harraway broke the ice. "It was so random! One day as I was sitting down in class, I complained about

the Dance Marathoners in the Pit, and it turned out we both had problems with the organization," said Harraway. She says she is still scarred from being yelled at by the Dance Marathon bathroom monitors while participating as a dancer during her first year. "I had diarrhea from the undercooked food they served us, and the (bathroom) monitors wouldn't let me sit on the toilet. I had to stand," she said, seeming a bit shaken by the memory.

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Go to www.dailytarheel.com/blog/the-onyen

SEE ONLINE:

ONLINE POLL

The Daily Tar Heel asked respondents how far away graduation is for them. Results as of publication.

"A couple months that feel like a couple years."
— 37 percent

"A couple years that feel like a couple decades."
— 31 percent

"Literally an eternity away."
— 23 percent

"There is no light at the end of the tunnel."
— 9 percent

To vote in, head to dailytarheel.com.

CITY BRIEFS

Bicycle Coalition looking to recognize businesses

The Carrboro Bicycle Coalition is looking for businesses interested in being recognized as a bicycle friendly. Applications are open until Friday, March 18, and the qualifying businesses will be announced by Sunday, April 10. Apply online at bit.ly/1Tnr3D1.

— staff reports

Veterans advocate to speak in Chapel Hill

Extraordinary Ventures will host an event tonight featuring Lt. Col. Patrick Testerman, a writer and advocate for veterans and military members. Testerman's talk is called "Reversing America's Decline." The event will take place from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 200 S. Elliot Road. Admission is \$10.

— staff reports

SPORT BRIEF

The North Carolina men's basketball team moves up one spot to No. 7 in this week's AP Top 25 Poll.

— staff reports

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

ConGRADulations Fair: University Career Services will host a graduation fair exclusively for graduating students. There will be caps and gowns, diploma frames, class rings and graduation announcements. Rameses will be available for selfies.
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Great Hall, Student Union

UNC Baseball vs. Gardner-Webb: The Tar Heel baseball team will take on Gardner-Webb at home in Boshamer Stadium. Admission is free for UNC students, staff and faculty with a valid UNC One Card or hospital ID.
Time: 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Location: Boshamer Stadium

International Women's Day: The Carolina China Network will host a panel to discuss how urbanization and other factors have influenced women's rights and gender equality in China. Panelists will take questions

after speaking. This event is free to attend.
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: Carroll Hall, Room 111

WEDNESDAY

"From Swastika to Jim Crow" Film Screening: Multiple campus organizations will put on a screening of the one-hour documentary, "From Swastika to Jim Crow" at the UNC School of Law. Following the screening, there will be a discussion about the simultaneous persecution of Jewish people in Germany and African-Americans in the U.S.
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: Van Hecke-Wettach Hall

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.

POLICE LOG

• Someone communicated threats at Domino's Pizza at 412 E. Main St. at 2:13 a.m. Sunday, according to Carrboro police reports.

• Someone committed fraud on the 1000 block of Smith Level Road at 9:15 p.m. Sunday, according to Carrboro police reports.

• Someone committed larceny in a parking lot on the 200 block of N.C. Highway 54 at 10:16 p.m. Sunday, according to Carrboro police reports.

• Someone reported loud music on the 100 block of N.C. Highway 54 at 1:01 a.m. Monday, according to Carrboro police reports.

• Someone disturbed the peace at Quality Inn at 1740 Fordham Blvd. at 12:32 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports. The person was intoxicated in public and causing a disturbance.

• Someone was cited with

an alcohol violation at 422 W. Franklin St. at 1:45 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

• Someone snatched someone's purse on the 300 block of McMasters Street at 3:10 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports. The person stole \$30 worth of items, reports state.

• Someone vandalized in a parking lot on the 1100 block of N.C. Highway 54 at 2:44 p.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports. The person threw bricks at a car and keyed the hood, reports state.

• Someone vandalized in a parking lot on the 100 block of Eastwood Lake Road at 12:23 p.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports. The person used a brick to damage paint on a car, reports state.

• Someone trespassed in a parking lot at 751 Trinity Court at 2:02 p.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The Daily Tar Heel

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PAIGE LADISIC
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
EDITOR@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

MARY TYLER MARCH
MANAGING EDITOR
MANAGING.EDITOR@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

KELSEY WEEKMAN
ONLINE MANAGING EDITOR
ONLINE@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

BRADLEY SACKS
ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR
ENTERPRISE@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

SAMANTHA SABIN
DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS
SPECIAL.PROJECTS@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

DANNY NETT
COMMUNITY MANAGER
COMMUNITY.MANAGER@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

JANE WESTER
UNIVERSITY EDITOR
UNIVERSITY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

KERRY LENGUEL
CITY EDITOR
CITY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

HAYLEY FOWLER
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR
STATE@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

SARAH VASSELLO
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
ARTS@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

PAT JAMES
SPORTS EDITOR
SPORTS@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

JOSÉ VALLE
DESIGN & GRAPHICS EDITOR
DESIGN@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

KATIE WILLIAMS
PHOTO EDITOR
PHOTO@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

ALISON KRUG
COPY CHIEF
COPY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

GABRIELLA CIRELLI
VIDEO EDITOR
MULTIMEDIA@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

Mail and Office: 151 E. Rosemary St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Paige Ladisic, Editor-in-Chief, 962-4086
Advertising & Business, 962-1163
News, Features, Sports, 962-0245
Distribution, 962-4115
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‘He’s a giant, but he’s also a nice guy’

Fred Brooks founded UNC’s computer science department in the 1960s.

By Maggie Budd
Staff Writer

Fred Brooks retired in 2015 after 51 years at UNC — but he started teaching long before he got here. “I started regular teaching when I was in high school,” he said. “My senior year, one of the teachers came down with cancer mid-year and I got sworn in to teach geometry and trig because there wasn’t anyone else around to do it.” Brooks started UNC’s computer science department and has worked with its faculty, staff and students since the 1960s. “Fred founded the department in the mid 1960s, and it is probably very difficult to believe this, but at the time, the notion of forming a free-standing computer science department at a liberal arts university was unheard of,” said Kevin Jeffay, chairperson of the Department of Computer Science. “So for that reason we are actually the second oldest computer science department in the country. So it was actually a bit of an experiment, and obviously one that worked very well.” Aside from founding the computer science department at UNC, Brooks also received the 1999 A. M. Turing Award, one of the most prestigious awards in the field of computer science.

“It’s the equivalent of the Nobel Prize in computer science, so he’s internationally recognized as one of the brilliant computer scientists of our time,” Jeffay said. Despite his achievements, Jeffay said he is very humble. “He’s very modest and generous, always giving the credit to his students and to his collaborators,” he said. “He’s a wonderful colleague.” Gary Bishop, a professor in the department, said Brooks is more than just his accomplishments. “He’s a giant, but he’s also a nice guy,” Bishop said. Bishop said one thing that impressed him about Brooks was that he was never too busy to help students, colleagues or even strangers with whatever they needed. “Here’s Fred Brooks, this giant. I mean — made IBM, adviser to presidents, all this stuff. And this lady is looking for directions, so he walks with her out to the street and down the street to show her where she needs to go,” Bishop said. Of all the things Brooks did during his time at UNC, he said the relationships he’s made are his best memory. “It’s really been the people — my colleagues and my students,” he said. Brooks said deciding to come to UNC was a difficult decision because he already had a career with IBM. “I had gone to IBM because I thought it was a place where you could change the world. And it was, and we did. But I’m a servant of Jesus Christ, and one of the questions when this type of opportunity comes along is where do you want



DTH/ALEX KORMANN
Fred Brooks, a retired UNC professor, started UNC’s computer science department and has worked with it since the 1960s.

me? And it became clear that this is where he wanted me. So that’s the short answer to a long story,” he said. His career has been important to him, but Brooks said his experiences with his family have played a big role in his life. Brooks said he and his children

made many memories building a beach house together at Caswell Beach. “That (was) a great adventure,” he said. Although Brooks officially retired in 2015, Jeffay said he is still active in the department.

“He says ‘I didn’t retire. I just went off the payroll,’” Jeffay said. Bishop said he has been blessed to work with Brooks for so many years. “It’s been my honor to know him and to work with him,” Bishop said.

university@dailytarheel.com

HIV awareness surged after Charlie Sheen’s disclosure

Researchers analyzed search data and found a large increase.

By Nic Rardin
Staff Writer

Researchers from several different universities, including San Diego State University and UNC, came together to study what they call the “Charlie Sheen effect.” Internet searches about HIV surged after well-known actor Charlie Sheen came forward and told the world he has the virus. “The goal was to understand the kind of impact the Charlie Sheen disclosure had,” Seth Noar, co-author of the study and UNC journalism professor, said. Using the Bloomberg Terminal, an advanced computer system for data-tracking, Noar and his colleagues were able to identify a large increase in the number of online searches related to HIV following Sheen’s announcement, he said. “Like previous big announcements before it, these things garner major interest,” Noar said. Ron Strauss, executive vice provost and public health professor, pointed out the importance of having conversations about HIV in a time of dwindling emphasis. “So much around HIV is driven by silence and stigma,” Strauss said. Strauss said it can be shocking to see someone with so much privilege announcing his positive diagnosis. Though HIV is sometimes seen as a problem for developing nations and not as a threat to the U.S., Strauss said the American South has the fastest-growing rate of HIV infection in the country. “There are many people walking around

infected who don’t even realize it,” he said. Noar and his colleagues gathered information that could help increase the effectiveness of HIV awareness campaigns. This “Charlie Sheen effect” didn’t just include searches about Sheen but also included an overwhelming number of searches related to condoms, HIV testing and HIV treatment. The obvious increase in HIV awareness displays the power of celebrities and their ability to get people talking about a somewhat taboo subject. “If you can’t talk about it, it’s really hard to start changing things,” Strauss said. Noar said he believes we may see an increase in the number of people getting tested for HIV in the months following Sheen’s disclosure. According to his study in Journal of the American Medical Association Internal Medicine, there may be cause for the media to harness Sheen’s celebrity to promote prevention. “Mr. Sheen could use his celebrity to help people get tested for HIV, get treated and be more cognizant about safer sex. With the disclosure comes both opportunity and responsibility,” said Myron Cohen, a professor in the School of Medicine, in an email. Strauss said this kind of celebrity announcement could be used to change the way people talk about HIV and to reach a greater number of people. “Public health campaigns are a whole lot more than brochures and posters,” Strauss said. Strauss said Mr. Sheen’s disclosure has the ability to increase HIV awareness in America. “HIV thrives in silence,” Strauss said.

university@dailytarheel.com

AAUP files for private graduate assistants’ rights

The decision wouldn’t impact UNC’s graduate assistants.

By Hari Chittilla
Staff Writer

An upcoming decision from the National Labor Relations Board might grant graduate assistants the same rights as employees — if they attend a private university. The American Association of University Professors filed an amicus brief Feb. 29 arguing the board, which has authority over private employees, should overturn its 2004 Brown University decision. The Brown University case labeled graduate assistants as university students rather than employees because their stipends were not compensation but financial aid. “If somebody is an employee who is doing work for compensation, then that kind of worker’s compensation puts them in a category of being an employee under (the National Labor Relations Act),” said Risa Lieberwitz, general counsel for the AAUP. “Just like other workplaces, (employees) should be able to choose whether to associate with their fellow workers in a way that is forming a union.” According to the brief,

“You’re reducing their autonomy and this could potentially raise costs for them.”

Jeffrey Hirsch
UNC law professor and associate dean of academic affairs

graduate assistants engage in research from externally funded grants and perform services for the university in exchange for payment. Lieberwitz said the AAUP wants the National Labor Relations Board to revert back to a previous decision it made about a New York University case. “We think the NYU case is the better reasoned position and the more correct interpretation of what it means to be an employee under the National Labor Relations Act as a graduate assistant,” she said. Jeffrey Hirsch, law professor and associate dean of academic affairs at UNC, is also an advocate for labor rights for graduate students. “From the grad students’ perspective, lots of them are doing a lot of actual work for the University,” he said. Labor rights would provide graduate assistants with a voice they can use to discuss terms and conditions with their employer, Hirsch said. He said employers do not want to deal with unions — they do not want to bargain before setting wages or deter-

mining hours and workloads of their employees. “You’re reducing their autonomy and this could potentially raise costs for them,” he said. The decision will not affect UNC-system graduate assistants because under North Carolina law, public employees are prohibited from negotiating as a union with the state. Lieberwitz said the AAUP would be a proponent of labor rights for employees of the university system. “The AAUP’s position is that it would be a positive measure for the state to recognize rights to unionize and collectively bargain, including those rights specifically for faculty and graduate assistants,” she said. Lieberwitz said she is cautiously optimistic the board might overturn the Brown University decision. “The fact that the NLRB granted review for the case in Columbia University certainly indicates that the NLRB wants to reconsider the Brown University decision.”

state@dailytarheel.com

‘The least-appreciated, most-criticized championship team’

UNC looks to provide an answer to questions about toughness.

By Pat James
Sports Editor

Justin Jackson’s heard it all before. He’s heard the questions about the North Carolina men’s basketball team’s supposed lack of toughness. He watches SportsCenter and listens to analysts critique the Tar Heels for the same thing. And as he sat at the Smith Center podium on Monday, hearing another question about toughness and his team’s label as “a bunch of nice kids,” the subtle sophomore tilted his head back and laughed. “I’ve learned over this season and last season to not worry about what all of that is ...” the UNC wing said of the criticism. “We’re not trying to prove people wrong and that we’re a tough team, or that we’re tougher than that game. We’re just trying to do whatever we can to win. “And whether that’s being ‘tough’ or whether that’s just playing defense and winning the game, whatever we have to do to win, that’s what we’re going to do.” At times this season and in years past, a lack of toughness or intensity has doomed the Tar Heels in close games. And entering this week’s ACC Tournament as the No. 1 seed, those elements — however they might be defined — could be even more vital. “The quality of the kids we have is fantastic, but everybody seems to get more enthused when tournament time comes,” Coach Roy Williams said. “If we’re not going to have some

“If we’re not going to have some toughness and intensity now, it’s not going to do any good to play.”

Roy Williams
North Carolina men’s basketball coach

toughness and intensity now, it’s not going to do any good to go play.” In many ways, UNC exhibited a level of toughness it hasn’t shown all season in Saturday’s 76-72 win at Duke — the team’s first victory in Durham since 2012. Despite leading by double digits twice in the first half, North Carolina allowed the Blue Devils to tie the game at 49 with 11:56 left in the second half. The situation seemed similar to past losses — the lead slipping away and the opposing fans at their loudest. But this time, the Tar Heels ensured the game played out differently. North Carolina broke the tie with a quick 4-0 run, and despite a poor shooting performance, the team made its final eight free throws in the last 26 seconds to seize the ACC regular season championship for the first time in four years. “In practice, (Williams) stresses about being tough mentally and physically,” said sophomore guard Joel Berry. “I think in that game against Duke, that’s what we did. “At the end, we were mentally into it, we executed what we needed to do and we stuck with the plan.” For one game, the Tar Heels proved their toughness. But a strong showing in the ACC



DTH/KATIE WILLIAMS
Justin Jackson (44) drives past Brandon Ingram (14) during North Carolina’s 76-72 victory over Duke.

Tournament — which starts today at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. — could bring an end to the questions. “We’ve had a pretty good year so far — I mean, we won the ACC regular season,” Williams said. “I think it’s probably the least-appreciated, most-criticized championship

team I’ve ever had. “Everybody is like, ‘Well, y’all are not tough, and you blow this lead. Y’all can’t guard anybody, and y’all can’t shoot.’ And I agree. But we’ve figured out a way.”

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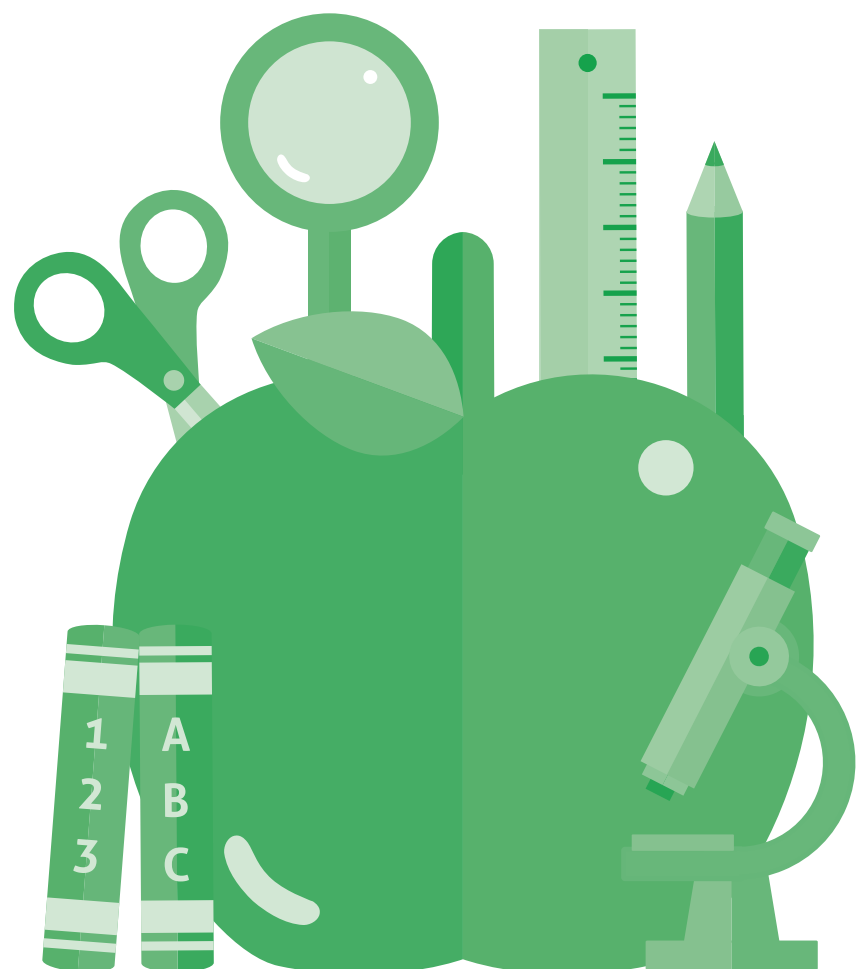
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TIPPED WAGES

FROM PAGE 1

rewarding somebody else for a job well done, but it's always nice to have a steady income and know how much money you'll make."

N.C. ranks 35th

Since 2007, the minimum wage for most employees in North Carolina has steadily increased. Meanwhile, the minimum wage for tipped employees was reduced by a dollar even though tipping conventions remain the same.

In seven states, including California, Minnesota and Washington, restaurants must pay tipped employees the full minimum wage, meaning tips are an extra source of income.

In 26 states, the minimum cash wage for tipped workers is higher than North Carolina's minimum wage.

In terms of the median hourly wage of waiters and waitresses, North Carolina ranks 35th among U.S. states. Servers in North Carolina can expect to make \$8.72 an hour with tips, compared to the national average of \$10.40, according to the most recent U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data from May 2014.

According to a 2015 report from Restaurant Opportunities Center United, a group that advocates eliminating the tipped minimum wage, about 21 percent of tipped restaurant workers nationwide live below the poverty line.

The report claims that the full-service restaurant industry is subsidized by the public in two ways: taxpayers fund public assistance programs for impoverished workers, and customers pay workers' wages directly through tips.

No tips, please

Evidence shows that tipped workers, 66 percent of whom are women, are much more likely to experience sexual

harassment as a result of feeling dependent on tips.

According to a joint report by the Restaurant Opportunities Centers United and Forward Together, the restaurant industry is responsible for more than a third of all sexual harassment claims. The report found that more sexual harassment claims were found in states with the lowest possible tipped wage of \$2.13.

Vasquez said when she works as a bartender, older men will sometimes make inappropriate comments to her or their waitress.

"They're in a position of power because they know I need tips," Vasquez said. "As ideal as it would be to report every single comment, that's not realistic."

Issues with tipping conventions, minimum wage laws and fairness have prompted many restaurants to do away with tipping entirely.

Seafood chain Joe's Crab Shack is one of the few American restaurants that have begun experimenting with tip-free dining.

"It's simple, really," said former CEO Ray Blanchette in a press release. "We believe that consistently great service should always be included in the menu price, so we are taking the responsibility for paying the service staff."

The restaurant chain is increasing menu prices to be able to pay staff the full minimum wage. But the price hikes will be less than the typical 20-percent tip.

All the Chapel Hill servers and bartenders interviewed, four in total, for this article said they would prefer a system without tipping or at least an increase in the tipped minimum wage.

"I'd rather there not be tipping," Rosenberg said. "Unfortunately, I don't make enough money to make that decision."

*@laurennlai
special.projects
@dailytarheel.com*

COUNTY JAIL

FROM PAGE 1

possible out of jail."

Pelissier said Orange County has one of the lowest incarceration rates in North Carolina, and the new jail will replace the older jail and better serve those who are incarcerated.

"Putting people in an older jail that is not meant to have the numbers it has — that to me is not social justice," she said.

Pelissier said she served on the Assessment of Jail Alternatives Work Group to look at other options to minimize the use of the jail. The work group also determined the size of the new jail.

Orange County Board of Commissioners recently decided to make the temporary work group a permanent fixture to reduce the number of incarcerated people in the county, Pelissier said.

She said the board of commissioners hired Caitlin Fenhagen to the position of criminal justice resource manager in November 2015.

Fenhagen said the position was created to identify and implement alternatives for those who face jail time. She said she oversees pretrial

release services and drug treatment coordination.

"Our office is collecting information and data and considering risk assessment tools that will help address the racial and economic disparities in pretrial detention and incarceration rates," Fenhagen said.

One of the concerns listed in the petition said many people who are incarcerated have mental illnesses and substance abuse problems.

To address this issue, Fenhagen said a position was created to work with those in jail who have mental illnesses and drug addictions.

"Our drug treatment coordinator oversees the county drug treatment court and advocates for participation in the therapeutic court — as opposed to a prison sentence — for individuals with significant substance abuse issues and criminal records," Fenhagen said.

Pelissier said the purpose of the new jail is to provide a more modern facility that has the resources to help incarcerated people stay out of jail in the future.

"Not building a new jail is not going to answer the problem," Pelissier said.

*@janelittle26
city@dailytarheel.com*

FIRE

FROM PAGE 1

of the injuries that occur and so forth," Cairns said. "I will try to work with the students again — we've done that in the past — to really highlight what might seem like a fairly innocuous activity. If you don't get hurt, it is. But if you do, it can be a devastating injury that lasts you a lifetime."

The tradition began at Duke, but permits were always used there, Cairns said. At UNC, the bonfires are unsupervised.

Cairns said there have been injuries from the bonfires following basketball game wins.

"One of misperception is that they all happen that night," Cairns said. "But in fact, those patients frequently take a couple of days to present. They may have an injury on their foot or their hand. Because the bonfire is dirty, it gets infected, and they come in with cellulitis several days later."

Other members of Faculty Executive Committee, including Joe Ferrell, expressed concern about the bonfires.

"Part of the problem here is that it takes place on public property," Ferrell said.

The committee is looking to take more action regarding the bonfires.

university@dailytarheel.com

News

Jazz initiative orchestrates music competition

By Megan Cross

Staff Writer

The 360° Jazz Initiative Ensemble is jazzing up the Kenan Music Building.

Tonight, it will premiere six pieces of music in a free concert featuring the skills of UNC Music Department faculty and a composition from sophomore Trevor McPherson.

The concert is part of the ensemble's annual Score Submission competition. It invites composers to submit their work — which, if selected, will be performed by the esteemed faculty musicians.

This year, the ensemble received 33 submissions, and McPherson's "Contra Mundum" made the cut.

"It's going to be extremely cool for me because I'll hear what I hear in my head," McPherson said.

Written this summer while dealing with family struggles, "Contra Mundum" — which means "against the world" in Latin — comes from an emotional place for McPherson.

Although music has been an important part of his life

for years, McPherson began training as a jazz pianist upon coming to UNC with music professor and ensemble member Stephen Anderson.

Anderson, a strong force behind the founding of the Initiative, said the mission of the group was musical progression and innovation.

"We're at an interesting point in the history of jazz where there's already now 100 years of jazz that has taken place," he said. "And we want to draw on that history of the past, but not just repeat it."

The Initiative hopes to expose the greater community to new and cutting edge works of music like another winning piece called "Poor Elephant" by New England Conservatory student Chris McCarthy, from Seattle.

The piece was inspired by a workshop McCarthy attended this past summer, as well as the music of the Pygmées Aka, a Central African tribe whose music relies mostly on percussion and voice.

"The particular chant that Poor Elephant is based on is the chant and dance that



DTH/KATIE STEPHENS

Sophomore Trevor McPherson's composition "Contra Mundum" will be performed by the 360° Jazz Initiative Ensemble.

the tribe does after they've killed an elephant, so I felt bad for the elephant, and that became the title," he said.

The concert tonight will also feature work from composers across the country and one piece from Venezuela.

But the concert tonight isn't the only way the ensemble highlights new compositional work — the group also produced a CD in June called "Distracted Society," which hit

No. 67 on the national radio charts.

But Anderson said the music that will be performed is worth listening to because it's not what's normally heard on the radio.

"People should come check this out because it's art music," he said. "It's a lot more harmonically rich than your top 40 hits."

arts@dailytarheel.com

Lab mix gives junior a mix of energy and stability

By Chloe Lackey

Staff Writer

Owning a dog as a college student can be a difficult undertaking, but Sarah Leck also knows the experience can be very meaningful.

The junior journalism major's journey with her dog, Gracie, began Christmas Eve.

"I have two dogs at home, and I've wanted a dog since I've been at school. She was a complete surprise from my boyfriend," she said.

Her boyfriend, senior Colin McDowell, said he knew Leck always wanted a dog, so he went to the Animal Protection Society of Durham and went through the adoption process.

"I looked for a dog that responded well and seemed energetic," he said.

He narrowed it to two dogs, and after interacting with them both in the shelter, he brought Gracie to her forever home.

Gracie is a Lab mix and estimated to be around 18 months old. While walking on campus with Leck, she's excited, alert and very friendly.

"It's easy to make friends on campus with her," she said.

During the interview, seven people asked to pet Gracie, to which Leck agreed.

Leck is a part-time student, so she said she is able to spend plenty of time with Gracie.

"It's a lot of work," she said.

"Having someone depend on you is hard, but it's good and really rewarding."

While it may be hard, she said having a dog gives her structure to her day.

"I have struggles with mental illness, and knowing that when I come home that there's someone depending on me that I have to take care of has been really validating," she said. "And she's helped me establish a better routine; I need to get up to feed her and help her."

Leck is the co-chairperson of Embody Carolina, which raises awareness for and reduces stigmas around eating disorders.

"We brought (Gracie) to an event, and she had on an Embody T-shirt," Leck said. "This girl walked up and said, 'Oh my god, she's in a T-shirt,' and she started crying."

Despite the responsibilities of owning Gracie, Leck said she brings her just as much joy.

"She's doofy, definitely. She's a weird dog," she said. "I think everyone thinks their dog is weird, but this dog is definitely weird."

Gracie loves her toys and even often throws them for herself. When Gracie plays with Leck's boyfriend, she will throw the toy for him to fetch.

Caitlin Rose, one of Leck's roommates, said Gracie is



DTH/ADDY LEE LIU

Junior journalism major Sarah Leck and her dog, Gracie, an 18-month-old Lab mix, play in Coker Arboretum on Monday.

very hyper.

"She has a ton of energy, which can be a little crazy at times, but she's so fun to be around," she said.

Leck said Gracie has made her happier.

"I was meant to have a dog in college and I was meant to have this dog," she said.

"She fits right in and I'm really lucky that I have her."

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Lots to do in Media Resources Center

By Erin Friederichs
Staff Writer

Students flock to the Undergraduate Library daily to study for midterms, hammer out essays or grab a quick nap between classes, but they might not be as familiar with the Media Resources Center downstairs.

Here in the basement, students can rent and learn how to use equipment and software, check out a vast array of movies or utilize the on-site audio lab for anything from rap recordings to podcasts for class.

“We’re truly pan-curriculum. It is across the spectrum,” said Winifred Metz, media librarian and head of the Media Resources Center. “Our collection, our equipment is open to everybody.”

Metz said the collection is built to reflect different needs from departments across campus. These departments include areas associated with multimedia, such as communications and film, but also departments like women’s studies and language studies.

“Pretty much all languages use film to provide contextual evidence. It’s a really cool way to approach culture studies, to get an ear for languages,” Metz said.

Greg Klaiber, the media lab manager, said he frequently teaches classes informing students how to make the most



DTH/NICHOLAS BAFIA

The Media Resources Center, located in the basement of the Undergraduate Library, is home to a media lab with video and sound editing software.

of the Media Resources Center.

“Teachers will contact me and say they would like to have their class use the media lab and use the equipment we check out,” Klaiber said. “I’ll set up an in-class session where I show them how to use the software and machines as well as go over using whatever gear is relevant to the project at hand.”

Klaiber said he’s worked

with everyone from teachers of English 105 classes to professors of environment and ecology and an English professor whose curriculum involves students deconstructing scenes from films.

In addition to teaching, Klaiber said he is also available for one-on-one support.

First-year Michelle Cummings said she has used

the center for her Public Policy 231 class, taught by Anna Krome-Lukens.

“She has us watch videos there for class. She will put the video on hold for us to watch for an assignment,” Cummings said.

Metz said the Media Resources Center doesn’t actively advertise to students but relies primarily on word-

of-mouth campaigns.

“We have had postcards in the past, and we’ve worked with specific units,” Metz said. “We have a presence at those (Carolina Testing and Orientation Program Sessions) fairs and (Residence Hall Association) orientation fairs, so we share information about our resources there.”

Metz said many students

use the Media Resources Center, but she would like to see even more visitors.

“We could bore you with statistics, but I think my pat answer would be, ‘Are you kidding me?’ We want more people to know,” Metz said.

“We see really good use, but there’s always room for more.”

university@dailytarheel.com

Orange County second in farm sales in NC

By John Foulkes
Staff Writer

From 1992 to 2012, food sales from farms in Orange County grew from \$40,000 to \$1,422,000.

On Feb. 29, Hillsborough hosted the 18th annual Orange County Agricultural Summit, revealing Orange County’s startling success in direct farm to consumer sales. County officials and farmers believe the growth stems from a change in consumer culture relating to food.

“There’s been a huge shift.

Now, consumers want to know the story about the food,” said Mike Ortosky, Orange County agricultural economic developer. “We want (our food) to be local, no pesticides and organic.”

Now, Orange County is the second largest county in agricultural sales in North Carolina, even though it does not have the most farms. Wake County, with 143 farms, made \$654,000 in farm to consumer sales, while Orange County made more than double that with only 120 farms.

Ortosky, who organized the

February summit, said he was happy with the large turnout and interest from participants. Those who have farmed their entire lives were able to talk to county newcomers who are just getting into the local farming business.

“This year, the title for the summit was ‘Growing Family Farms.’ We were trying to get as much info into the hands of farms and help them with their business and their farms. The best way to help a farm is to help them make money and provide as much tools and opportunities as

possible,” Ortosky said.

Others said the increase in the popularity of farms is because land in Orange County is cheaper and more rural than its neighbors.

“The thing about Orange County is that it has diversity in its landscape and has less developing pressures,” said Noah Ranells, a member of the board of Piedmont Grown, a regional farming organization headquartered in Hillsborough.

The availability of this cheap rural land close to progressive areas, such as Chapel Hill and

the Triangle, has helped the resurgence of locally bought foods. Food markets have grown in popularity, helping small farms sell their products.

“In Chapel Hill they’re interested in healthy eating, good foods and an interest in health,” said Ortosky. “College towns are always on the cutting edge.”

The Orange County government has also done a lot to encourage this trend.

“In Orange County there was an initiative by the county government that increased awareness of the

local agriculture. It’s great for folks who wanted to stay in farming,” said Carl Matyac, director of the Orange County Cooperative Extension.

Orange County was among the first in North Carolina to create an office of agricultural economic development, said Matyac, giving its small farms more resources and opportunities than other counties.

“People can have culture and still live in a rural area,” Ortosky said. “That’s what I feel special about.”

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Mike Chamberlain, pool manager:
chamby147@aol.com.

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HOROSCOPES

If March 8th is Your Birthday...

Steady focus expands your career to new levels this year. Build support for a two-year moneymaking phase after 9/9. Today's solar eclipse sparks personal transformation; the next benefits partnership (9/1). Lunar eclipses illuminate a turning point for shared financial priorities (3/23) and your self-image (9/16). Invent new possibilities.

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 5 -- Transitions mark a shift in direction, with this New Moon solar eclipse in Pisces. Begin a six-month peaceful phase. Complete previous projects and prepare for what's next. Create new plans. Slow for turns.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a 5 -- Strengthen your communications infrastructure. Begin a new phase in friendship, social networks and community, with tonight's New Moon solar eclipse in Pisces. A group endeavor takes a new tack. Resolve team differences with patience.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Today is a 7 -- Begin a new career phase. One door closes as a new one opens in a professional adventure, with this New Moon (total solar eclipse) in Pisces. Team up with a genius. Set goals together.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Today is a 6 -- Begin a new phase in your education, travels and exploration, with this New Moon solar eclipse in Pisces. First-person experience is most memorable ... go to the source. Pursue new directions. Take a stand.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is a 5 -- A turning point arises regarding family finances, with this Pisces New Moon solar eclipse. Change directions. Support each other's goals. Expect an emotional shift. Share concerns with someone you trust. Together you're more powerful.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is a 5 -- Begin a new phase in a partnership, with this New Moon solar eclipse in Pisces. Realign your collaboration to new priorities. One door closes as another opens. Talk about what you want to create.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 7 -- Tonight's transformational New Moon solar eclipse launches a new phase in service, work and health. With power comes responsibility. Listen to your heart. Nurture your body, mind and spirit. Care for yourself and others.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is a 5 -- One domestic phase closes as another begins for the next six months under this Pisces New Moon eclipse. Complete the past and invent new possibilities for your family. Adapt your home to suit.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is a 6 -- Complete old projects and launch new creative works with this New Moon eclipse. Begin a new communications phase, including research, broadcasting, writing, recording and publishing. Get contracts in writing. Work with someone you respect.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is a 7 -- Take care of business. A profitable six-month phase expands your income possibility in a new direction, with the New Moon solar eclipse in Pisces. Seize a lucrative opportunity. Create a new level of prosperity.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is an 8 -- Begin a new personal phase with tonight's Pisces New Moon solar eclipse. Take advantage of energy and confidence to step into leadership. Use your power for good. Make a change you've been wanting.

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Alice Wilder
Friends, Waffles, Work
Junior women's and gender studies major from Baton Rouge, La.
Email: alicewilliamswildergmail.com

A column for the guys

Galentine's Day is the best day of the year: the day women ditch their significant others and hang to celebrate their friendship. This Galentine's Day, I hosted a big brunch. But for the first time, I felt a little sad to be excluding a group of my friends: the boys.

In middle school, having guy friends was a status symbol. It meant you were "chill." You were a cool girl who could wasn't into superficial "girly" stuff. You didn't hang out with many girls, because they were "too much drama."

I felt that way for a long time. Then, in high school, I found feminism and realized that I love women so much. I love our strength, how we take care of each other, how we validate each other. I dove headfirst into my female friendships. This continued into college. By then, I had so many reasons not to trust men — so I didn't put my trust in them. Instead, I guarded my heart, sharing my heaviest weights only with my female friends.

And then, there was St. Anthony Hall. Spring of my first year, I pledged an all-gender literary arts fraternity and felt what it was like to fully trust and be trusted by men. I placed (and continue to place) my love and trust in the hands of the siblings of Delta Psi, no matter their gender.

But for guys outside the bonds of fraternity? I didn't share much for fear that they would think I was too much, because as a woman I feel the impulse to always be entertaining and pleasing to men. I feel pressure to look pretty around them, to not get messy with them. Because for so long men were, at best, people to be wary of, and at worst, people to sprint away from.

Let me be clear — I'm not making the "not all men" argument, which is often used to silence people who are speaking about the harm they have suffered under patriarchy.

I've heard many female friends talk about men who they're friends with, but don't actually do any work in the friendship. The women give all the advice, clean up all the messes and do all the emotional labor. By the spring of my first year, this is what I expected out of friendships with men. But since then, many of them have surprised me.

I want to encourage giving others a chance to surprise you. There are also men who have time and time again, come through for me.

Henry drove me to Waffle House at midnight when I was having a bad night. Langston texted me on my long walk home to make sure I got home safely. Sam tended to my beloved plants while I was out of town, Christian makes me feel loved every time I see him, Davis is honest and generous. There are so many guys in my life whose first instinct is to be kind.

It is such a relief to realize that you can be friends with men without trying to impress them or prove yourself to be a cool chill guy's girl. It is such a relief to know that though men can be threats, they can also be a source of comfort.

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Drew Sheneman, The Star-Ledger



EDITORIAL

UNC needs Duke

UNC's rivalry with Duke makes both schools better.

UNC needs Duke University like John Lennon needed Paul McCartney.

Although Duke will always be the school we love to hate, it is still important to remember, only a few days removed from the latest installment in college basketball's greatest rivalry, the positives beyond sports that are generated by that same enmity.

For every competitive encounter between both schools on the court, there

are just as many instances of collaboration that have proven beneficial — not just for each institution but also for the state as a whole.

Whether it be through scholarships, like the Robertson Scholarship, or academic programs, like the philosophy, politics and economics minor, or research grants, of which there are far too many examples to name, UNC and Duke clearly benefit from cooperating off the court.

When one compares UNC to its peer public institutions — places like the University of Virginia; University of California,

Los Angeles; University of California, Berkeley; and University of Michigan — it is evident that each provides a similar excellent caliber of education.

Yet, these universities lack the combination of competition and collaboration that is available to UNC's and Duke's faculty and students due to each school's relationship and close proximity to the other.

UNC students might still rue the missed chances from the first UNC-Duke game of the season, but it is perhaps most fitting when the series ends in parity.

Because, snark aside, we improve each other.

EDITORIAL

Most important meal

The best meal needs more options for all people.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It provides energy, can help people focus and can often be a way to relax before starting a busy day. It can make a strong case for the best meal.

Yet in campus dining halls, many vegans and people with dietary concerns are at a loss for quality options for breakfast.

This board understands it can be hard to provide

options for all people for breakfast, but it is still something that needs to be done. According to the Carolina Dining Services website, of the eight items offered in the Rams Head bakery, there aren't any options that are gluten-free — Lenoir is similar. Even the veggie sausage patties and many cereals are not vegan or gluten-free.

So, unless a vegan or a person with celiac disease wants to eat a hearty breakfast of veggie toppings (no omelet), potatoes and tofu every day, they would be better off just going hungry.

Also, the fewer animal

products served in the dining halls, the smaller UNC's ecological footprint becomes.

Generally, at other meals the dining halls do a good job at trying to make sure that all dietary concerns are addressed, so why ignore the greatest meal of all?

So please, CDS, we want all of our friends at the table on a Thursday morning so that we can discuss politics over coffee and a variety of vegan muffins — please make it where all people with any dietary concerns can eat a real, hot breakfast.

ADVICE COLUMN

You Asked for It

In which we survive spring break and dull your competitive edge.

Kelsey Weekman (*Ice Cube in "Ride Along"*) and Drew Goins (*Ice Cube in "Are We There Yet 2"*) are the writers of UNC's premier (only!) satirical advice column. Results may vary.

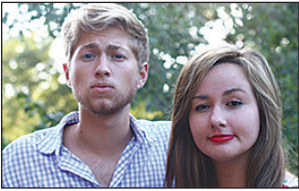
You: How do I survive my Spring Break road trip?

You Asked for It: Queue up some throwback jams like "Adventures in Odyssey" or "School House Rock" to make the time fly by.

Sing the UNC version of classic road trip songs, like "The Wheels on the P2P Go Lurch and Lurch," "99 Blue Cups" and "Shut Up and Drive" by Rihanna featuring the crossing guard lady.

Play road trip bingo. There are spaces for cows, boulders, trees, highway bandits and War Rigs. The free space is "misery."

Instead of the classic, "Are we there yet?" opt for something that will surely get a rise out of your road trip buddy, like, "What did



Drew Goins and Kelsey Weekman
Senior writer and online managing editor.
Submit your questions: bit.ly/dthyafi

we just run over?" or, "A fault line has opened a massive crevice in the earth, and only Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson can save us!"

You: I'm a former varsity athlete playing on a coed intramural team. How do I not show everyone up?

YAFI: Not sure how to convince your teammates you're not more Barry Bonds than Bad News Bears? Start where the big leaguers start: anabolic steroids. As they say, if you don't have an asterisk next to your home-run count, you're not trying.

If your teammates still aren't convinced, focus on the non-sport aspects and pack a fat lip of your favorite chewing tobacco! The dizziness from the tobacco buzz will distract you from just how bad the rest of your NARP-y team is.

Chomp on unshelled sunflower seeds. If you pull off the spitting technique, you'll look like a pro. If you don't, you'll choke and die and not have to play intramural softball anymore.

You can also try to pull the wool over your friends' eyes by providing condescending pointers to the rest of the team throughout the game. If the ninth batter in your lineup is striking out more than Tar Heels trying to find seating on Franklin Street at 6:25 p.m. before the Duke game, obnoxiously yell that they should, "lean into the next one," or, "crowd the plate," or, "hit the dad-gum ball," or we're transferring you to an inner tube water polo team."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I talk about dogs 90 percent of the time. I have two dogs at home, and I've wanted a dog since I've been at school."

Sarah Leck, on how she got her Lab mix, Gracie

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

"To whoever said this is a dangerous precedent: Bars are legally responsible for their patrons actions after they leave."

Anon, on He's Not Here's 21-day loss of ABC permits

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Consider running for Student Congress

TO THE EDITOR:

When students cast their ballots on Feb. 9 in the Spring General Election for student government, we set a record for voter turnout not seen in many years. The newly elected student body president and representatives of Student Congress will take office next month, but some positions remain unfilled.

I have asked Student Body President Houston Summers to call a special election to fill the seats that went uncontested in elections for Student Congress. Approximately a dozen seats remain vacant and will be filled in a second election on March 31 to ensure that the incoming congress is prepared to begin working for students from the day it convenes.

All students, graduate and professional as well as undergraduates, are encouraged to run for one of these seats if they are members of a district with a vacancy. You can visit congress.unc.edu to learn if this includes your district.

Serving in the legislative branch of our student government is a meaningful way to advocate for issues like diversity and inclusion, affordability, transparency, campus safety and so much more. Interested students are required to attend a candidates' meeting hosted by the Board of Elections on March 9 at noon or March 11 at 1:30 p.m. Both meetings will be in Union 3201.

Anyone with ideas for making Carolina a better place and a willingness to learn is qualified to run for Student Congress. The outgoing members are eager to assist those who are new to student government in making the transition as smooth as possible.

David Joyner
Speaker
Student Congress

The smoking age should be raised

TO THE EDITOR:

Last week the California House of Representatives passed legislation to raise its statutory tobacco purchase age to 21 years of age. The California Senate is expected to follow suit soon and send a bill to Gov. Jerry Brown to sign to make the higher age restriction state law. If the bill succeeds California will join Hawaii among states and municipalities like San Francisco, New York, Boston and Evanston, Ill., with progressive, science-based tobacco product purchase age restrictions.

Recognizing this legislative trend addresses a substantive public health need, on March 6 the New York Times published an opinion piece titled "Raise the Legal Age for Cigarette Sales to 21." In it the Times reiterated the analysis and provides

links to some reports used to justify these states' and municipalities's actions and the Times' editorial position.

Though UNC is home to a world-renowned school of public health and school of medicine, it is understandable that our "tobacco state" faculty, students and administrators would hesitate to challenge the tobacco status quo on campus. Indeed, UNC remains in violation of both the letter and the spirit of its own no smoking policy published in 2008 and amended in 2011. Indeed, some UNC leaders believe it is futile in the present legislative climate to amend and enforce the current policy. This is unacceptable, especially in the face of a national trend that views tobacco use and purchase age restrictions as a public good worth pursuing at a national level.

Prof. Vincent J. Kopp
School of Medicine

Bedford ought to be county commissioner

TO THE EDITOR:

Jamezetta Bedford's experience and in-depth knowledge makes her the top choice for Orange County commissioner.

If you care about social justice concerns, Jamezetta is a parent of an autistic adult and had to become an advocate to deal with the challenges faced by the disabled people. Those hardships are the same ones faced by the disadvantaged community: discrimination, lack of support and lack of services. Jamezetta doesn't just say she gets it; she lived it.

Her son works at a start-up right here in Chapel Hill. Again, Jamezetta's understanding of the impediments to new, student-run business isn't theoretical; it is based on actual family experience.

But family connections to real issues aren't enough. Jamezetta has the professional background to evaluate and find solutions to Orange County's problems. As the former chairperson of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education (with 12 years of total service to the board), her analysis of critical concerns facing schools is invaluable. As a CPA who works with local businesses, she is equipped to understand budget proposals and extricate the significant details. These distinctive abilities put Bedford in the position to marry personal and professional experience in order to find the funding and advance priorities for education, fiscal planning and economic development, social services and equity and sustainability. What more can anyone ask for?

Please put voting on your list of must-dos and vote for the candidate Indy Week described as having "a stunning knowledge of county issues and fiscal realities," Jamezetta Bedford.

Del Snow
Former Chairperson
Chapel Hill Planning Board

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

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