

## Four players to miss opener

UNC football players suspended in response to alleged hazing incident.

By Aaron Dodson  
Senior Writer

North Carolina football head coach Larry Fedora has suspended four players — defensive backs Brian Walker, Donnie Miles, Des Lawrence and M.J. Stewart — from the team's Saturday season opener against Liberty for "a violation of team policies."

Fedora issued the one-game suspensions Wednesday, one day after the University opened an investigation following a Yahoo News report stating redshirt freshman walk-on wide receiver Jackson Boyer was allegedly hazed and assaulted during the team's training camp in early August.

The four players will face no further discipline from the football program after the suspension, but Fedora said the investigation — which is being conducted by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs — remains ongoing. UNC director of athletics Bubba Cunningham confirmed.

"We're going to hold all of our guys accountable for everything they do — on the field and off the field," said Fedora after Wednesday's practice.

Fedora could not confirm the exact date of the incident, which occurred at the team's hotel during training camp and left Boyer with a concussion, according to the Yahoo report. The coach would also not go into specifics of the incident.

"I had enough information where I could make a decision," Fedora said.

Cole Boyer, a 2013 UNC graduate and the older brother of the walk-on wide receiver, provided the details on Twitter.

"He was assaulted dude. Beaten severely," Cole Boyer tweeted to a reporter before reaching out to UNC Chancellor Carol Folt.

"Will the internal hazing investigation about Jackson Boyer be concluded before the game Saturday?" Cole Boyer tweeted at Folt.

Fedora said he doesn't anticipate any more suspensions, but expressed disappointment in the four players who won't suit up Saturday.

"We have some very high expectations to be a football player here at the University of North Carolina," Fedora said.

"If you don't meet those expectations, then you will be disciplined."

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## Support grows for students with disabilities



DTH/CHRIS GRIFFIN

Brennan Ferguson is a junior in UNC-Greensboro's Beyond Academics. UNC-G is one of three N.C. universities to offer a similar program.

## UNC-G's four-year program now offers financial aid.

By Lauren Kent  
Staff Writer

Most families start saving for college years in advance.

But Tauron Ferguson of Mooresville didn't know college was going to be a possibility for her son, Brennan Ferguson, who was born with severe dyspraxia, a developmental disability that affects motor skills like writing and talking.

A few years after Brennan graduated high school, the Fergusons heard about UNC-Greensboro's Beyond Academics program, a four-year certificate program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Her son had the opportunity to get a postsecondary education, but he had no college savings.

On July 1, for the first time, Brennan Ferguson and the 53 other students in the program became eligible to apply for federal financial aid, including Pell Grants and

work-study funding.

"One of the most gut-wrenching things is to sit at the table with families and students who realize that (this program) is here, and it could help their sons and daughters grow and then to realize that they didn't save enough money," said Joan Johnson, executive director of Beyond Academics.

When Brennan Ferguson, now 26 and a junior at UNC-G, was originally accepted to the program, the Ferguson family paid for tuition, fees and disability support services out of pocket. For a Beyond Academics student with the maximum level of outside support, a year's tuition costs about \$25,000, though that number can vary by year.

Tauron Ferguson found out on Saturday that her son's full tuition, fees and support services would be paid for through federal aid.

"Certainly it relieves an enormous financial burden for us, but that's not all. It validates that (students with intellectual disabilities) are people too, and they deserve these

opportunities to create their niche in life."

The federal aid eligibility came when Beyond Academics received official recognition as a Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary program by the U.S. Department of Education.

Students attending recognized transition programs have been eligible for federal financial aid since Congress enacted the Higher Education Opportunity Act in 2008.

Beyond Academics wanted to apply for federal recognition in 2008 but was unable to do so because UNC-G's financial aid offerings were undergoing a series of revisions. The program applied for recognition in October 2013.

Students attending CTP programs still cannot apply for federal loans and are not eligible for tax-free college savings programs.

The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act, co-introduced to Congress in February

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## Oversight forces housing bid loss

A technicality caused the town to lose its bid for an affordable development.

By Caroline Hudson  
Senior Writer

Chapel Hill residents hoping for more affordable housing options will have to wait.

An application asking for tax credit funds for new affordable housing projects, submitted by Downtown Housing Improvement Co. in Raleigh, was thrown out by the N.C. Housing Finance Agency because of an oversight in the application.

DHIC, which is partnering with the town of Chapel Hill to build the complexes on Legion Road, failed to include a commitment letter.

The problem came as no big surprise to the leaders of the project, who have experience in development.

DHIC's president Gregg Warren expressed his regret in a press release about a week ago, calling the omission "an unfortunate setback."

"It is not unusual to take two or three years for such projects to move forward," Warren said. "It would not be the first development that was unsuccessful the first time it was submitted for funding."

The town allotted 8.5 acres of land in the Ephesus Fordham District for the project, which would include 84 housing units for working families in one complex and 60 units for senior citizens

in another.

Chapel Hill Town Council member Sally Greene said the town also expected setbacks, just not because of an oversight.

"It was never a sure deal," she said. "Obviously we had hoped that it would succeed the first time around."

Greene said the Council will have to discuss what the next step will be, but the town will likely want to apply again. DHIC has already made plans to apply for the project again in January 2015.

Delores Bailey, executive director of EmPowerment Inc., a Chapel Hill-based organization that connects people to affordable housing, said the project is important for the town, which has struggled to provide affordable housing for low-income residents in the face of rising costs.

"The process is so long, and it's really quite daunting," she said. "They have been really scrambling to get it together."

As many as 60 families were recently forced to move out of their homes after several complexes in the Chapel Hill area stopped accepting Section 8 vouchers, which are part of a program designed to help low-income families, the elderly and the disabled afford private housing.

Bailey said she is confident DHIC's project will continue.

"I know they'll pick right back up and start again," Bailey said. "It has to happen. It has to."

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## Remembering Peter Clinton's 'service and smile'

Peter Clinton, a Blue Ram employee, died at age 57 this week.

By Amanda Albright  
Senior Writer

Put Peter Clinton at a cash register and it was like he was a different person.

The shy Durham resident just wanted to make people's days better as they stopped by for a snack or meal, said his brother Jim Clinton.

Peter Clinton, 57, died this week. For 13 years, he worked at nearly every snack shop on campus, including the Blue Ram under the Campus Y.

"He was there to serve you and give you a smile. He changed when he was in that role," said Jim Clinton, who is also the director of UNC's One Card Office.

"He's gotten to know pockets of people, especially at the Law School and Dental School, and over at the Blue Ram (he met) all the administrative folks."

Peter Clinton lived part of his life with Crohn's disease, an autoimmune disorder that affects the intestines.

He died after contracting pneumonia.

A Houston native, Peter Clinton worked in a variety of



COURTESY OF JIM CLINTON

Peter Clinton worked for 13 years at UNC in various snack spots on campus. He died this week from pneumonia.

food service roles before moving to Durham and beginning to work at UNC's Pit Stop.

Once in North Carolina, he quickly became a UNC football and basketball fan. He enjoyed going to Durham Bulls games and the occasional concert.

And he also loved his job.

"He was really dedicated, and for someone who had Crohn's, he had every reason to be out of work," said Steven Graham, who works at Carolina Dining Services and hired Peter Clinton.

Instead, Peter Clinton came to work everyday an hour early with a bag of Bojangles, Graham said.

"That was the one thing I could count on," he said.

Peter Clinton had a sneaky sense of humor that he would sometimes share with customers by making a joke under his breath, said Julia Nichols, the student services manager for Academic Advising.

Nichols, like many Blue Ram

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