

CAMPUS BRIEFS  
UNC helps NC communities receive \$1.6 million grant

Two School of Government initiatives will make it easier for economically troubled N.C. communities to fund new projects and train public officials.

The projects will be funded by a \$1.625 million grant from the Local Government Federal Credit Union.

The Community Development Finance initiative aims to increase local governments' and developmental nonprofits' ability to encourage private investment through tax credit programs, self-financing bonds, special assessment districts and loan programs.

The remainder of the grant will go toward the new LGFCU Fellow Program, an initiative that will provide development and management training to public executives.

The grant supports the Innovate@Carolina Campaign, a \$125 million campaign to help implement University-created ideas for social improvement.

Community factors affect HIV prevention, study finds

Efforts to reduce African American HIV risk should look beyond the health care system, based on a new study led by Crystal Wiley Cené, an associate professor at the School of Medicine.

The study, which focused on rural African American communities, was published online by the Journal of General Internal Medicine.

The authors found that physicians should ask patients about the support and community resources available to them, because social environment influences individual health. Plus, physicians could tailor their recommendations based on available resources.

UNC researchers and partners in two rural counties in northeastern North Carolina collaborated to complete the qualitative study.

Daily Tar Heel's work wins state college media awards

The Daily Tar Heel won several state-wide awards from the North Carolina College Media Association.

The newspaper won best in show and first place in editorial writing. Individual staff members won first and second place in sports writing and first place in design. Writers also won second place in feature writing and third place in news writing.

CITY BRIEFS  
Ephesus Elementary serves first classroom breakfast

Students at Ephesus Elementary School ate breakfast in their classrooms for the first time Tuesday.

The school is experimenting with serving breakfast in classrooms rather than in the traditional cafeteria.

The program stemmed from research that shows eating breakfast can impact student achievement, improve student health and immunity, improve attendance and reduce the number of disciplinary incidents that occur in schools during the early morning.

During the next few months, the school will collect data to see if the pilot program is effective. The usual cafeteria options for paying for meals apply.

Local bookstore celebrates founder 20 years after death

Internationalist Books and Community Center will host a celebration today of its founder, Bob Sheldon, to commemorate his life 20 years after he was murdered.

The annual Bob Sheldon award, which goes to community members who are activists in areas Bob would support, will be presented to Kerry Bigelow and Clyde Clark, two suspended town workers who say they are working against discrimination and retaliation.

Sheldon was killed in his store, and no one has been charged with his murder.

Sheldon was known for being involved in anti-police brutality efforts, anti-Ku Klux Klan efforts and draft resistance. He was also an abortion nurse.

Sheldon's sisters will be speaking, their first time in Chapel Hill since his funeral.

ARTS BRIEFS  
To cut costs, ArtsCenter axes 2 executive positions

Carrboro's ArtsCenter, a non-profit devoted to arts education, announced Friday that it will eliminate two executive positions.

The executive director and youth performing arts conservatory director positions were cut in a move to help the organization cut costs.

Current executive director Ed Camp will remain in his position until Feb. 25.

-From staff and wire reports

# Student Congress needs new speaker

BY BROOKE HEFNER  
STAFF WRITER

With little more than a month remaining in its 92nd session, Student Congress is looking to fill the speaker position vacated Feb. 7 by Deanna Santoro.

Though speaker nominations and the internal election will not come until Tuesday, representatives said the decision will likely come down to Alex Mills, speaker pro tempore, and Zach De La Rosa, chairman of the rules and judiciary committee.

Before the session ends March 29, the new speaker will preside over the discussion of the annual budget and any nominations made by the student body president.

Mills said the Tuesday vote will

not be contentious because of the brevity of the new speaker's term.

"I don't expect there to be any factions or disagreements going on," Mills said. "We're very close to ending the session. There would be only two more cycles so it's not really as competitive."

But McKinney Brown, chairman of the student affairs committee, said the election could follow the trend of the recent campus-wide elections.

"Nothing really in student government seems to be calm anymore," he said.

Should Mills rise to the role of speaker, Student Congress members said the race to fill his role as speaker pro tempore would be more competitive, as the job would

represent a stepping stone to higher positions in the 93rd session, which begins in early April.

Santoro said the group is strong enough that many members could be successful. "There's a lot of people in Student Congress right now that could do a good job," she said.

Some Student Congress members said they are confident that Mills will fill the position for the remaining session and become the first graduate student in recent memory to lead the body.

"A lot want to give him a shot," said Chelsea Miller, chairwoman of the finance committee.

Others placed their confidence in De La Rosa. "(He) has done a great job overseeing the code. I'd like to



Rules and judiciary committee chairman **Zach De La Rosa** has been praised for overseeing the Student Code.



Speaker pro tempore **Alex Mills** would be the first graduate student in recent memory to be speaker.

see him getting the position," said Congress member Greg Steele.

Congress member Kristen Johnson said she is looking for candidates who can uphold the Student Code like Santoro, who stepped down to file a complaint against the Board of Elections for confirming the candidacy of student body secretary Ian Lee.

In the complaint, Santoro cited

a section of the Student Code that prohibits the student body secretary and other high-ranking members of student government from campaigning while serving in the role.

"Deanna stepped down because she wanted to have a voice," Johnson said.

Contact the University Editor at [university@dailytarheel.com](mailto:university@dailytarheel.com).



DTH/BEN BERRY

Chef Aaron Vandemark, owner of Panciuto in Hillsborough, prepares for the dinner shift on Thursday. Vandemark was recently nominated for Food & Wine magazine's regional Best New Chef awards. His menu changes daily, offering dishes cooked from local ingredients.

## THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS

### Local chef is semifinalist for national honors

BY LINDSAY POPE  
STAFF WRITER

While earning an economics degree from Emory University in Atlanta, local chef Aaron Vandemark balanced spreadsheets in the financial sector by day and filled wine glasses and ice bins by night.

"I'd run home after work and change into my nighttime clothes, take off the suit and go back to work at the restaurant," Vandemark said.

He fell in love with the restaurant atmosphere and after graduation attended Johnson & Wales University to try his hand in the food world.

Now he's being celebrated as one of the best chefs in the southeast.

Last week Vandemark, who opened Panciuto in Hillsborough, was announced as a semifinalist for the James Beard Foundation award for the Best Chefs in America. He is also a nominee in the southeast region for Food & Wine magazine's "People's Best New Chef."

"He is the soul of the restaurant," said

Lauren Vandemark, Aaron Vandemark's sister and front house manager. "As young as the restaurant is, I want someone to recognize his work."

In the summer of 2006, Aaron Vandemark opened his first restaurant in downtown Hillsborough, Panciuto, which features Italian cuisine made with Southern flavor.

And after years of 65-hour workweeks, he is finally getting some attention.

The James Beard awards have been compared to the Oscars of the food world, and Vandemark is one of 20 finalists for the title in the southeast region.

For the People's New Best Chefs contest, chefs from 10 regions of the country were evaluated by Food & Wine editors, chefs and other food insiders, said magazine spokesperson Rachel Chappa.

The chefs were required to have less than five years experience running their own kitchen and progressive, creative menus.

The chefs with the most votes by March 1 will advance to the national competition.

"(The awards are) great for PR, and it's very nice to be included in that group," Aaron Vandemark said.

But, he said, it would be difficult for him to win the contest because his client base is much smaller than his competitors located in larger cities, like Atlanta and Charlotte.

"I'm more concerned with the day-to-day business here and the product we're putting out," he said. "If the cards fall in our favor and lightning strikes and something really good happens, that's great."

And even with all of his recent success, Aaron Vandemark said he isn't sure of how his role in the restaurant business might change in the future.

"If I can still bring the passion to it that I do now, and I was still confident that what we were doing was original and still good and had that energy behind it, I would stay with it," he said.

"I know that I like this now," he said. "I also know that this won't keep me interested forever."

Contact the City Editor at [city@dailytarheel.com](mailto:city@dailytarheel.com).

## Ice hockey raises profile with tournament

BY ERIC PESALE  
STAFF WRITER

As UNC's club ice hockey team scored goals against opponents at Hillsborough's Triangle SportsPlex this weekend, they also scored assists for the county's local profile.

For the first time, the UNC club hosted the Atlantic Coast Collegiate Hockey League Championship Tournament, placing fourth out of seven teams. The competition was held Friday through Sunday.

UNC head coach Bud Johnston said around 250 to 300 tickets were sold for the event. Tickets cost \$25 for the weekend and \$5 per game.

"The idea is to draw as many fans as possible to let them know there is a hockey team out in Chapel Hill," he said.

Laurie Paolicelli, executive director of the Chapel Hill-Orange County Visitors Bureau, said her office assembled welcome packets for visiting teams and sent marketing materials to 2,000 of its stakeholders in the area.

"We'd like to see more events like this hockey tournament take place in Hillsborough because it's such a positive boon for Orange County tourism," she said.

UNC team captain Evan Bonertz said potential ACCHL players and

high school teams showed up to support teams at the tournament.

"We tried to encourage everyone to see Chapel Hill by giving them some coupons, flyers, gift bags and T-shirts," Bonertz said.

The team raised nearly \$1,000 from a raffle at the tournament and also took additional donations.

Johnston said because ice hockey is a club sport, events like the tournament are helpful in attracting potential UNC student recruits and outside donors.

He said the team's budget varies from \$35,000 to \$40,000 a year, but finding money to help finance it has been difficult. The team practices and hosts games at the SportsPlex, but Johnston said he hasn't found donors willing to donate a bus to shuttle students to and from games.

"The hardest thing is that we're 25 minutes from campus," he said.

UNC Sports Clubs Director Jason Halsey said the hockey team has one of the highest financial commitments of any club.

"As far as facility rental, no other club has the same financial commitment that they would," he said. "Other facility rentals are peanuts compared to what we pay in ice time."



DTH/BEN BERRY

A small crowd came to watch the Georgetown vs. N.C. State club ice hockey game at a tournament in Hillsborough on Saturday.

The ice rink costs \$270 an hour to rent, Johnston said. Games typically last two hours, and referee costs total more than \$300.

Johnston said the need to schedule weekend fundraisers may affect the club's schedule in the future.

"We're required to get 21 games in season, so trying to get to do fundraisers on weekends is very tough," he said. "We're going to try

to change the schedule next year."

Johnston said regular season attendance varies between 50 and 100 people per game, but attracting more fans is one of his goals.

"We need people to support us," he said. "That's the biggest thing, trying to get the word out."

Contact the City Editor at [city@dailytarheel.com](mailto:city@dailytarheel.com).

## Counties consider landfill problem

### Waste-to-energy may be solution

BY ESTES GOULD  
STAFF WRITER

As Orange County debates how to solve its landfill problem, other local governments look to convert waste to energy as a possible solution.

Mecklenburg County could soon have a facility that removes recyclables from its waste and converts the rest into electricity for local homes. The facility, ReVenture Park, is set to open in Charlotte in late 2013.

The Durham Solid Waste Management Department is hiring a contractor to look into options for the city's waste in the next 10 to 20 years, said Donald Long, director of Durham city's solid waste management.

When Orange County's landfill on Eubanks Road reaches capacity, set for 2012, the county could move its waste to the Durham transfer station, making a waste-to-energy project more feasible.

Waste-to-energy facilities require a large and steady stream of garbage to operate, said Tom McKittrick, president of Forsite Development Inc., the company proposing ReVenture Park. The Charlotte park requires 250,000 pounds of refuse-derived fuel yearly, or waste which has been processed for conversion to electricity.

Mecklenburg county produces 370,000 tons of garbage a year.

"It is far more sustainable and responsible than burying that in a landfill," McKittrick said.

When ReVenture Park is producing at capacity, it will be able to power 20,000 homes, he said.

Even if Orange County transfers its waste to the Durham transfer station, the city might not have enough for an expensive project like waste-to-energy conversion.

"The larger quantity of waste they burn, for the most part, the more effective they are," said Gayle Wilson, Orange County solid waste management director.

County waste management has applied to delay closing the landfill until 2016, citing high costs of using the transfer station. Wilson said they are still looking for a more permanent solution.

For a waste-to-energy plant to work in Durham, more waste would be a necessity.

"We'd have to look at the entire area, Wake County, Orange County," Long said.

Furthermore, "It's just as hard to locate a waste-to-energy facility as it is to locate a landfill," said Morton Barlaz, department head of water resources and environmental engineering at N.C. State University. "The not-in-my-backyard syndrome is a severe hindrance in doing anything with waste."

Some people worry the Charlotte project will degrade property values and pollute the area.

The National Sierra Club opposes waste-to-energy facilities because of environmental concerns, but the Central Piedmont Sierra Club does not oppose the ReVenture project, according to a presentation given to the Waste Management Advisory Board.

Although such facilities are common abroad, the U.S. has only 87 plants. But Barlaz said if the Charlotte facility succeeds, there might be potential for growth.

Contact the State & National Editor at [state@dailytarheel.com](mailto:state@dailytarheel.com).