

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

The Daily Tar Heel

www.dailytarheel.com

Join the best team in college journalism.

who we are

The Daily Tar Heel is UNC's independent student newspaper. Founded in 1893, it became a daily newspaper in 1929. The DTH covers University news and sports, as well as Orange County and North Carolina.

The Daily Tar Heel is a nonprofit organization. It stopped taking student fees in 1993 and is fully funded by its advertising revenue, thus making it both fiscally and editorially independent. The student journalists are solely responsible for all content under the direction of the student editor-in-chief. The paper circulates 18,000 free copies each publishing day during the regular academic year to 176 distribution locations throughout campus, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Durham and Hillsborough, making it the largest community newspaper in the area with an estimated readership of 38,000.

The editor-in-chief oversees the newsroom and is ultimately responsible for all content. He serves as the public face of the paper. The editor also hires the rest of the staff, which includes the managing editors for newsroom operations and online, the opinion editor and editors for each of the newsroom's 13 desks.

Arts: Focused on the University but also extending to arts-related coverage in the town and greater Triangle area.

City: Chapel Hill, Carrboro and some parts of Orange and Chatham counties.

Copy: Edits content, checks facts, writes headlines.

Design: Lays out the pages to present the news in attractive, engaging ways.

Diversions: Thursday entertainment section focused on local artists. Includes movie and album reviews, columns, calendars and local entertainment news.

Editorial board and columnists: Hired at the end of each semester. Writes unsigned board editorials and opinion columns.

Graphics: Creates graphics, illustrations and charts.

Investigative team: Oversees special, in-depth projects, especially focused on those that require the use of open records.

Multimedia: Brings together different forms of storytelling (photos, words, video, graphics, audio).

Online: Produces dailytarheel.com.

Photo: Takes and edits pictures.

Sports: UNC sports only.

State & National: News from the state and the nation that has a local impact, with an emphasis on the UNC system.

University: All campus news except sports.

MISSION

The Daily Tar Heel's mission is two-fold. First, it seeks to serve the state, local and University community by producing timely, balanced, informative coverage that is responsive to our readership and advances the news. Second, it provides future professional journalists the opportunity to learn and experiment with their craft and, ideally, a progressive model for the rapidly changing industry.

“Regardless of whether people want to get into journalism or are just looking for something to do on the side for fun, the DTH can be the place for all those interests to meet. You can put in as much as you want to get out; if you’re not serious about becoming a serious journalist there’s still a place for you at the DTH — and if you want to become the next editor of the New York Times, well, the DTH is the place to start and to rise in the ranks.”

SHANNAN BOWEN, WORKED AT THE DTH ALL FOUR YEARS, AND SERVED AS INVESTIGATIVE TEAM EDITOR BEFORE GRADUATING IN 2006. SHE IS A REPORTER AT THE WILMINGTON STAR-NEWS.

INTEREST MEETINGS

Come ask questions.

All meetings start at 5:30 p.m. in Union 3413.

Jan. 14

Jan. 20

Jan. 26.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MANAGING EDITOR
FOR NEWSROOM OPERATIONS

KELLEN MOORE

MKELLEN@EMAIL.UNC.EDU

Q: Do I need any previous experience on a newspaper?

A: No. The Daily Tar Heel is a teaching paper, and the editors are ready and willing to help new staff members learn new skills. We will teach you how to do anything on the paper that you want to learn how to do. If you worked for your high school paper or another campus paper you can include some of those clips with your application, but it is not necessary. All applicants will be asked to provide a sample of their work specific to the desks applied for, but it does not have to be a published clip.

Q: What positions are available?

A: New staff members can apply to any of the following desks: University, City, State & National, Arts, Sports, Diversions, Copy, Photo, Design, Graphics, Online, Multimedia. Editors, assistant editors, Opinion staffers and Investigative Team reporters are hired at the end the previous year.

Q: What is the time commitment?

A: Each desk is structured differently. In most cases, freshman staffers will work one day per week their first semester, and others will work two days per week. Joining the DTH is something you can do in addition to other activities on campus. You will be able to choose your own work days to fit the DTH in with your class schedule. If you work on the news desks (University, City, or State & National) you should come into the office first thing in the morning to get your assignment and begin working. You are expected to update your editors on your story throughout the day.

Q: Will I get the desk I want?

A: The application asks you to prioritize your top three desk choices. If you don't get your first choice, there's a process for switching desks after a semester. Hiring for Sports and Diversions will be very limited in Spring 2010.

Q: Where is the newsroom?

A: The DTH office is located in the back of the FPG Student Union in Suite 2409.

Q: Can I join other groups?

A: Yes. The DTH does not want to limit your opportunities, although your activities cannot violate the conflict of interest policy. As a general rule, you cannot be a member of Student Government, and you cannot hold a top leadership position in any group. If you have questions about groups you belong to, talk to the editor or a managing editor about your specific case.

The Daily Tar Heel

staff application
SPRING 2009

Fill out this application on a separate sheet of paper and return it to the DTH front office in Suite 2409 of the Student Union.

The DTH is organized by desks, and any questions you have would be best answered by the editor of the desk that interests you. If you have general questions, contact DTH Editor Andrew Dunn at andrewmdunn@gmail.com or newsroom adviser Erica Perel at perel@email.unc.edu.

Learn more about the newspaper and meet the editors at one of three interest meetings:

Jan. 14: Student Union Room 3413 at 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 20: Student Union Room 3413 at 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 26: Student Union Room 3413 at 5:30 p.m.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, JAN. 28.

Newly hired staff will be contacted on an ongoing basis throughout the hiring period. We will post a full list of new staff in the paper's front office by 8 p.m. SUNDAY, Jan. 13.

Mandatory orientation will be SATURDAY, Feb. 6 at 10 a.m.

Name:

E-mail:

Phone Number:

Local Address:

Class/Year:

Major(s):

For a description of each desk, please see the attached page. Which desk, in order of preference, would you like to work for? Please note any special interests you might like to cover.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

1. List any past journalism/writing/visual/digital experience, including jobs and classes taken. (This is NOT a requirement — all interested students should apply.)

2. List your extracurricular activities, including jobs and leadership positions, for this semester and the next. Students can be involved with other student groups as long as they follow the conflict of interest policy (see attached). If you need the policy clarified, please contact Editor Andrew Dunn.

3. What qualities, interests, skills, fields of expertise and viewpoints can you offer the DTH?

4. In what areas do you think the DTH can improve?

5. Attach at least one sample of your work. Relevant work samples aren't a requirement to work here, but can help determine your assignment.

If applying for the Diversions staff, submit a music review.

Other writing desks: Submit published work if you have it. If not, include any writing sample, such as an essay. For photo, graphics, design, online or other non-writing desks, submit a sample in your medium. You can include a CD or a Web site url. Write your name clearly on the CD, and attach it securely to your application. (You can put them both in an envelope with your name on it, or use a binder clip.)

For the multimedia desk, the sample could include work from any digital storytelling medium.