

FREE**ORANGE****SERVING THE TRIANGLE**

COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

**October 2026
Volume 43
#693****BASKETBALL ★ CYCLING ★ RUNNING ★ OUTDOORS**

Enjoy the Legion Pond property in Chapel Hill while you can. Use the nature trails or drop a line. Fishing is allowed but it's at your own risk. The town hasn't tested the water quality or fish health. Catch and release is recommended. No swimming. In the fall, the town will put a construction fence around the pond area and restrict parking for safety. The trails that connect to Ephesus Park will remain open. They'll remove the dam, pond and surrounding trees. An engineering study classified the dam as a high risk with a high probability of failure. They'll install an outlet pipe for stormwater. This work will cost millions and signal the start of transforming the top of the property along Legion Road into a future home for 150 affordable housing units, a constructed wetland and years later a new public park. This work could be completed in spring/summer 2027 and housing construction could start in 2028.

PHOTO BY SUSAN KELLY 9/26/26

Keep Batteries Out Of Trash

Keep lithium batteries and devices containing lithium batteries out of your trash and recycling carts.

Last month a Carrboro refuse truck caught fire after a lithium-ion battery was placed in the trash. Luckily, Durham Fire Department

Engine 13, C Shift, was directly behind the truck. When the driver pulled over and stopped, the crew was right there to quickly extinguish the fire.

They were fortunate that help was so close—but lithium-ion battery fires can happen without warning and pose a danger to collection crews, the public and waste facilities.

Lithium-ion batteries are commonly found in cell phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches, power tools, e-bikes, e-cigarettes, vaping devices and other rechargeable devices.

Never place lithium-ion batteries or devices containing them in your trash or recycling cart. Take them to a designated battery drop-off location.

Proper disposal helps prevent fires and allows valuable materials such as lithium, nickel and cobalt to be recovered and reused. Beginning Dec. 1, 2026, lithium-ion batteries will be banned from landfill disposal in North Carolina under G.S. 130A-309.10.

Find a safe drop-off location:

The Battery Network, Find a Retail Drop-off Location.

Orange County Solid Waste, Solid Waste Management Dept. on Millhouse Road, Chapel Hill.

NCAA HOOPS PREVIEW

Five ACC Clubs In Early Top 25

High Expectations for Duke, Va., Miami, Louisville, UNC

Chip Bremer

Preseason Top 25 lists are always littered with teams that exude potential to earn a national championship, but this year's list carries a bit of uncertainty for several teams due to the NCAA's new five-for-five age-based eligibility rules. This may or may not allow several fifth-year seniors the opportunity to play one more year depending on several pending lawsuits—some of which may not be determined until mid-December. Regardless of how it all turns out, another season of college hoops is right around the corner—and here are the top contenders:

1. Florida. The obvious choice for pre-

season #1, the Gators return four starters (five if you count Denzel Aberdein, who started at UF two years ago) from last season's 27-8 team that finished atop the SEC standings and earned a top seed in the NCAA tournament. Preseason POY candidate Thomas Haugh will lead the country's top frontcourt along with Alex Condon and Rueben Chinyelu, while point guard Boogie Fland continues his upward trajectory.

2. Duke. The Blue Devils made the most significant gains in the offseason, acquiring top transfer guard Jon Blackwell and interna-

NCAA HOOPS, Cont. on page 4

New Weather Station Could Help MTBers



Shaun King, executive director of TORC, explained, "The weather station we purchased will collect local rainfall and other weather data to help inform trail opening and closure decisions. Rainfall can vary considerably over short distances, so having measurements at the preserve should help us better understand conditions on the trails.

"If the project goes well and we discover that it helps create more objective and accurate benchmarks for opening and closing the trail systems—then we will explore deploying these weather stations at other trailheads." They cost about \$1,300 each. The weather station was expected to be online in mid October, King added. *J.B.*

TORC is involved in a number of trail projects across the Greater Triangle.

See CYCLING NEWS, page 5

ACC Hoops Coming Nov. 11

The next issue (Nov. 11) of CSN will highlight ACC Basketball, along with fall sports league wrapups and a look at Coastal Birding, plus road race results. Deadline is Nov. 4.

SE Ski Mini Guide follows in December.

Be sure to sign up for the monthly CSN newsletter at the paper's website website.

Park Service Shuffles Priorities, Cuts Repairs

National Park Service headquarters in Washington shifted nearly 1,500 projects, many already approved, to a new "low priority" list, the Associated Press reported in August. The projects span more than 275 sites and carry a combined cost estimate of more than \$400 million.

Park Service employees "were told to not expect anything on the low priority list to be contracted," one official told the AP, and officials said almost all of the work is expected to go undone. Tar Heel projects at Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Great Smoky Mountains NP were included.

PARK SERVICE, Cont. on page 7

Inside: Local Race Results E-Bike Buy Backs Coastal Fishing

Early Voting In Orange County

Early voting for the November election runs Oct. 15-31 in Orange County, with weekend sessions scheduled for two Saturdays (8-3) and Sundays (12-5) at six sites in Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Efland, Hillsborough.

Same day voter registration can be done during early voting hours.

For more details see chart on page 2.

Election Day voting hours are 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at your precinct polling place.



FALL BIKING Page 5

NC Road Races

October 16
Cannonball Running Festival 5K, Greensboro, 6:45 a.m., runsignup.com.

October 17
SAS Championship 5K, Prestonwood CC, Cary, 8 a.m., itsyourrace.com.
6th Deerfly Trail Race 11K /6K Carvers Creek SP Sandhills Area, Fayetteville, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
Graveyard Gallop 5K, Ocean Isle Beach, 4 p.m., runsignup.com.
22nd Miles for Mammosas 5K, Southport, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Monster Dash 5K trail, Carolina Beach SP, 11 a.m., runsignup.com.
Tunnel to Towers 5K, Forest Pines Elementary, Raleigh, 8:20 a.m., runsignup.com.
Zero Prostate Cancer Run 5K, Lake Raleigh, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.
Downtown Diamond Dash 5K, Home Trust Park, Asheville 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

October 18
Run for Nepal 5K, comp or rec div, WakeMedSP, Cary, 8 a.m., fsseries.com.
Feed Your Neighbors 5K, Wendell, 2:30 p.m., runsignup.com
Zombie’s Run 5K, Wilmington, 5:30 p.m., runsignup.com.

October 24
Run to the Polls (Durham Democrats) 5K, Third Fork Creek Trail, Durham. 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
Hawg Run 5K, Lexington, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.
Seaside Shuffle 5K Wrightsville Beach, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
Trick or Treat 5K at Wendell Falls, Raleigh, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
20th Cross Training 5K, Greenville, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

October 25
Triangle Trick or Trot 5K, WM Soccer Park, Cary, 9 a.m., itsyourrace.com.
Red Oak Race Fest 5K/Beer Mile, Whitsett, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

October 30
YCB Halloween Run/Walk 5K, Morrisville, 1 p.m., runsignup.com
8th Aggie Pride 5K, Greensboro, 9 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

October 31
14th Day of the Dead, downtown Raleigh, 9 a.m., event.racereach.com.
HBO T4 Heroes Race 4 Their Lives 5K on ATT, Apex, 9 a.m., itsyourrace.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Mercy Health 5K, Joyner Park, Wake Forest, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
42nd Seaboard Festival 5K, Hamlet, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Amberly Sugar Rush 5/3/1m, Cary, 9:15 a.m., runsignup.com.
Wicked Spooky 5K, Asheville, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

November 1
30th Cary Academy 5K, Cary, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.

November 7
Marine Corps League Semper 5K, Graham, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
Peanut Butter Jelly Jog 5K, Graham, 8a.m., runsignup.com.
8th Beaufort Bridge Run 5K, Beaufort, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
Millstone Creek Apple Cider, 5K/8K, Ramseur, 9 a.m., itsayourrace.com.
Veterans 5K Run for the Brave, Benson, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
AIDS 5K Walk/Run, William Peace Univ., Raleigh, 8:45 a.m., itsyourrace.com.

November 8
Eve Carson Memorial 5K for Education, Bynum Hall, UNC, Chapel Hill, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.
Jodi 5K, Forest Hills Park, Durham, 9a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
OBX Marathon 8K/5K, Manteo, 7:30 a.m., itsyourrace.com.

November 14
17th Durham Academy Turkey Trot 5K, Durham, 10 a.m., runsignup.com.
Farm City Week 5K Trail Day, The Land of Hawkins Loop, Hurdle Mills, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
Heister Cares 5K, Fuquay-Varina, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
30th Joint Operations Special Operations 10K, Fort Bragg, 8 a.m., itsyourrace.com.
Loaves and Fishes Run for Recovery 5K, Beaufort, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
8th Race for Ace! 5K trail, Fuquay-Varina, 10 a.m., agapekurebeach.org, *Live & Virtual.*

November 15
Kilometers for the Kids 5K, Old Well, UNC, 7:30 a.m., Chapel Hill, runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
2nd Solar Strides 5K, Bynum Circle, UNC, Chapel Hill, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

November 21
28th Apex Turkey Trot 5K rec or comp, Apex Community Center, 10 a.m., active.com.
18th Gobble Waddle 5K/10K, Smithfield, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
Rise Up! Run Over Cancer 5K, Rocky Mount Sports Complex, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

November 22
2nd NCFC ECNL 5K, WRAL Soccer Park, Raleigh, 6 p.m., runsignup.com.

November 25
Topsy Turkey Beer Mile, 1m novelty run, Kill Devil Hills, 11 a.m., runsignup.com.

November 26
Birds of a Feather Trail Trot 10K/5K/2m, Briar Chapel, Chapel Hill, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
Gallop & Gorge 8K, third race in Tour de Carrboro, downtown Carrboro, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

HRC Turkey Trot 5K, Farmers’ Market Pavilion, Hillsborough, 8:30 a.m. Free.
6th Trosa Turkey Trot 5K, 1820 James St., Durham, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
Thanksgiving 5K, Renaissance Center, Durham, 8:30 a.m., event.racereach.com.
Gobbler’s Run 5K, Wake Forest, 8 a.m., itsyourrace.com.
Greensboro Gobbler 5K, City Park, Greensboro, 8 a.m., raceroster.com.
IOS Turkey Trot 8K, Cary, 9 a.m., fsseries.com.
Leesville Community Turkey Trot 5K, Raleigh, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.
Raleigh Turkey Trot 8K,

Ridgewood SC, Raleigh, 8:30 a.m., itsyourrace.com.
Running of the Turkeys 5K, Greensboro, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Trophy Trot 10K, Dix Park, Raleigh, 9 a.m., racereach.com.

November 28
2nd Leftovers Trail Run 10K/5K, Briar Chapel, Chapel Hill, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
Vision of Hope 5K, Kenly, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
5th Run the Fort 5K, Fort Macon, Atlantic Beach 8 a.m. runsignup.com.
Turtle Trot 5K, Bald Head Island, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

NC Distance Races

October 17
6th Rootrock Trail Run HM /10K/5K, Briar Chapel, Chapel Hill, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.
Cannonball M/HM/10K, Greensboro, 6:45 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
5th Geyser Growl HM, Black Mountain, 8 a.m., raceroster.com.
11th Ironclad HM/5K, Kinston, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.
Tree Tops Trail Race, 8.5m, DuPont State Forest, Hendersonville, 9 a.m., raceroster.com.

October 18
Bull City Race HM/5K, downtown Durham, 7:30 a.m., bullcityracefest.com/register/
Cape Fear M/HM, Bald Head Island, 10 a.m., runsignup.com.

October 24
Inaugural Apex HM. *Closed Out.*
Emerald Isle M/HM/5K, Emerald Isle, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.

13th Ocean Isle Beach HM /10K/5K, 7 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Triple Lakes Trail Race, 40M/M/HM/5M, relays, BurMil Park, Greensboro, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

October 25
15th Eno River Run 11m/6m, Fews Ford Access, Eno River SP, Durham, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.
RDC M / HM / 10K / 5K, Streets at Southpoint Mall, Durham, 7:20 a.m., runrdc.com.

October 31
Eastbound HM/10K trail, Charlotte Whitewater Center, 7 a.m., whitewater.org/race-form/2026.

November 1
City of Oaks M/HM/10K/5K, Raleigh, 7 a.m., register.capstoneraces.com/

November 7
Franklin All Nighter 13.5 HR Run (1.8m laps), 110 Columbia St., downtown Chapel Hill, 5:14 p.m. runsignup.com.
30th Fort Bragg 10 Miler, Hedrick Stadium, Fort Bragg, 8 a.m., zippy-reg.comonline.
18th Mayberry HM/10K/5K, Mount Airy, 8 a.m. itsyourrace.com.

November 8
OBX /HM, Mateo, itsyourrace.com, 7 a.m.
Cape Fear River Run HM

/10K/Double, Fayetteville, 7 a.m. runsignup.com by 11/6.

November 13
A Shot in the Dark Night Trail Run HM/10K/5K, Charlotte Whitewater Center, 5:30 p.m., whitewater.org/race-forms
Friday, The 13th, 13K/6.5K, Winston-Salem, 6 p.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

November 14
Charlotte M/HM/5K, downtown Charlotte, 7:10 a.m., rtunsignup.com.
Goose Creek Trail Run & Hike, 50K/HM/10K, Washington, 9 a.m., runsignup.com.
Stars, Stripes and Strides, 15K/10K/5K, Bond Park, Cary, 9 a.m. mass start, runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Tryon HM/5K, Tryon, 8am, runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

November 15
Battleship HM/10K/5K, Wilmington, mass start 6:45 a.m., runsignup.com.

November 21
17th Chestnut Ridge Trail Race 8m/4m, Effland, 10 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
Greensboro HM/5K, Greensboro, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*
10th Holly Springs HM/10K/5K, Ting Park, Holly Springs, 7:20 a.m., runsignup.com.

Oakwood 24H/12H/6H/5K, Lakeside Retreats, Raleigh, ultrasignup.com, 8 a.m.

November 26
Skinny Turkey HM/10K/5K, N. Raleigh, 7:30 a.m., fs-series.com,
20th Lake Norman HM/10K/5K, Cornelius, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

November 27
Black Toenail Friday HM/7.5m, Cane Creek Mtn., Snow Camp, 11 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

Black Friday Relays Leftover Races, 5K run/20K/15K/10K relays, Salem Lake, Winston-Salem, 9 a.m., runsignup.com by 11/25.

November 28
Derby 50K run, Ellerbe, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.
Turkey Chase HM/10K/5K, Reedy Creek Shelter #2, Umstead SP, Cary, 8:45 a.m. mass start, runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

NC Bike Rides

October 17
BikeFest Rural Heritage Tour, 35/62/100m, downtown Hillsborough, bikereg.com.

October 23-24
17th Honor the Warriors, Charlotte & Mint Hill, bikereg.com.

October 31
The Middle Fork Fondo,

21-64m, Mills River, bikereg.com.

November 1
Salty Turtle Haunted Hundred, Surf City, 8:30 a.m., bikereg.com.

November 7
SBI Three Bridge Tour, Ocean Isle Beach, 9 a.m., bikereg.com.

N.C. Music Festivals

October
14-17, 15th Bluegrass Island Festival, Manteo.
17, Inaugural Fountain Fest, Fountain, 9 acts, organized by Music Maker Foundation, 2-6 p.m.
17, Salt & Smoke & Sound Festival, Blackwood Farm Park, Chapel Hill, day of music & food, noon-11 p.m.
24, Popsicle, 12 bands, Cat’s Cradle backyard & inside, Carrboro.
24, Smoky Mountain Bluegrass, Maggie Valley fundraiser for Haywood Co. Arts Council.
24, River Park Concert, 3 bands, Hillsborough, 12-8. Free.
30, All Onyx World, The Fruit, Durham, 8 p.m. Free.
31, Sleepy Fest, The Pinhook, Rubies, Durham, 2-9 p.m.

November
5-7, Monrabash, Prospect Hill.
14, BAD Music & Arts Festival, Wilmington.

Community News

Three teams, Darty Old Men, Dave’s (Still) Not Here, MRDMCR, shared first place in Triangle Dart League in early October with 5-1 records.
Tobacco Road men’s rugby club edged Charlotte 28-27 in Durham to open the fall league season. The next match is Oct. 17 against Onslow at home.
Street Walkin Cheetahs (9-2) moved into first place in Carrboro co-rec softball. Speakeasy Spirits (8-4) were second. Purple (8-4) won the fall Carrboro co-rec ultimate league. Orange and Columbia Blue (6-6) tied for second.

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

November 3, 2026 General Election

LOCATIONS

Orange Works at Hillsborough Commons (in lieu of BOE office) 113 Mayo St, Hillsborough
Drakeford Library Complex 205 S Greensboro St, Carrboro
Chapel Hill Library 100 Library Dr, Chapel Hill
Chapel of the Cross 304 E Franklin St, Chapel Hill
Seymour Senior Center 2551 Homestead Rd, Chapel Hill
Effland-Cheeks Community Ctr 117 Richmond Rd, Effland

PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO VOTE

Many forms of government-issued IDs are acceptable. For more information, please visit orangecountync.gov/PhotoID
Don't have a photo ID to vote? Get a FREE photo ID for voting purposes from the Orange County Board of Elections office
Mon-Fri, 8am - 5pm
200 S Cameron St, Hillsborough, NC

DAYS	DATES	TIMES
Thursday-Friday	October 15-16	8am - 7:30pm
Saturday	October 17	8am - 3pm
Sunday	October 18	12pm - 5pm
Monday-Friday	October 19-23	8am - 7:30pm
Saturday	October 24	8am - 3pm
Sunday	October 25	12pm - 5pm
Monday-Friday	October 26-30	8am - 7:30pm
Saturday	October 31	8am - 3pm

For more information, go to orangecountync.gov/Elect or call 919-245-2350

Upcoming CSN Issues:

November—ACC Hoops
December—SE Ski Mini-Guide

For ads, email joelcsn1@gmail.com
Deadline 7 days in advance

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OCASL Summer Soccer Leaders

Here are OCASL summer soccer league leaders:

Over 30, Tug Boat Depot (9-0-1) was the champion, scored the most goals (84) and allowed fewest (24).

Over 40, Federal 4.0 (9-1-0) was the winner, scored the most goals (60) and allowed the fewest (17).

Over 50, The Drewblers (8-1-1) won the division, scored the most goals (77) and allowed the fewest (45).

KSO Rec, Woodcroft SC (9-1-0) was the league winner, scored the most goals (77) and allowed the fewest (12).

Eno Ruggers Drop Opener

Cape Fear downed Eno River women’s rugby 57-19 in Durham in the opener of Eno’s 35th season.

Try scorer was Sadie J, with Aly on conversions. Hali was Back BOP and Eno Player of the Match. Beldner was forward BOP.

Pickleball Tournaments

Oct. 23-25—The Farm Pickleball Autumn Invitational, Chapel Hill. Deadline 10/18.

Oct. 30—Pioneer Pickleboo Tournament, McClenahan St. Park, Pittsboro.

Oct. 30-Nov. 1—4th Pickle for Pink, Duke Faculty Club, Durham. Deadline 10/28.

Nov. 7-8—2nd Pickleball Fall Brawl, Piney Wood Park, Durham. Deadline 10/30.

To register for these events go to app.pickleballn.com.

Pickleball Results

The 5th Dinking for Duchenne was moved from Durham to Raleigh. Here are the division winners:

MDoubles 2.5-3.0, age 24+, Rob Billoir / Tom Courage.

MDoubles 3.0-3.5, 13-39, Braden Wood / Jacob Burnette.

MDoubles 3.0-3.5, 40+, Robin Pineda / Jonathan Dagpin.

MDoubles 3.5-4.0, 13-39, Kemonte Jones / Jordan Stauffer.

MDoubles 3.5-4.0, 40+, Hari Subramony / David Passler.

WDoubles 2.5-3.0, 30+, June DeGuzman / Grace Pizon.

WDoubles 3.0-3.5, 13-39, Megan Zheng / Ami Wong.

WDoubles 3.0-3.5, 40-59, Rubie Bermundo / Joan Vistro.

WDoubles 3.0-3.5, 60+, Kimberly Carpenter / Laura Maness.

WDoubles 3.5-4.0, 25-44, Thao LaVoie / Naomi Van Horn.

WDoubles 3.5-4.0, 45+, Zofia Lelonek / Tiffany Puckett.

MXDoubles 3.0-3.5, 45-59, John Rodico / Charmeigre Pineda.

MXDoubles 3.0-3.5 , 60+, Pam McClure / Alan Coutine.

MXDoubles 3.5-4.0, 20-45, Alec Bergeron / Melody Liu.

MXDoubles 3.0-4.5, 30+ James Young / Jessie West.

Giants Win 50+ Baseball Playoff

The Giants held off the Gray Marlins 14-13 to earn the Central NC Men’s Baseball 50+ championship.

They split the first two playoff games at Durham Athletic Park, with GM winning the first 9-5 and Giants the second 15-13.

In the deciding game, Giants led 14-5 heading into the ninth but GM rallied and had

the winning run on base when the Giants shut the door. Gray Marlins (14-4), who led the league in the regular season, had won the championship three straight seasons.

Giants (14-6) were second, Senators (10-7-1) third, Yankees (9-7-1) fourth, Rockies (5-12) fifth and Team Ghost 0-16) sixth.

Charlotte Hornets Games On TV Here

The Charlotte Hornets home opener is Oct. 23 at 7 against Atlanta at the Spectrum Center, Charlotte. The team has a revamped roster amid mixed expectations. Hoops fans in the Triangle will be able to watch Hornet games on DAZN streaming service for \$19.99 /month after the regional sports network folded. The season opener is Oct. 21 at Brooklyn.

Gone are LaMelo Ball, Miles Bridges, Josh Green, Tre Mann. Arriving are Dennis Shroeder, Naz Reid, Grayson Allen, Royce O’Neale, Dorian Finley-Smith and draftees Christian Anderson, Hannes Steinbach. They join returnees Kon Knueppel, Coby White, Brandon Miller, Marissa Diabatte.

Charlotte won 44 games last season, up from 19 the previous year. Pre-season power rankings from Yahoo Sports had Charlotte taking a step back, 16th overall, this year. OKC, SAS, NYK were the top three. SAC was last.

\$10M Gift For Rec Building, Trails

Chapel Hill received a \$10M gift from the Bill and Peggy Britt Foundation Inc. of Chapel Hill for a recreation building at Cedar Falls and two greenway extensions. The grant will provide \$5.8M for planning, design, construction of a recreation building (classes, programs, community meetings) at Cedar Falls Park and \$4.2M for extension of Campus Recreation Trail connecting N.C. Botanical Garden to Barbee Chapel Rd., and extension of Pritchard Branch Trail from Cameron Ave. to Morgan Creek.

There’s no timeline for the projects as planning is just starting. Bill Britt was prominent in Amway Corp. and served as Carrboro Town Manager.

Earlier, the Britt Foundation awarded \$5M grants to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, William Peace University and Samaritan’s Purse.

Golf Major Part Of South Village At Chatham Park

Golf will be a big part of the 5,000-acre South Village development at Chatham Park, Pittsboro.

Southern Land Co., a Nashville developer, is working with golf course architect Tom Fazio of Hendersonville to design a 1,271-acre master planned golf community and private golf club.

The project will include an 18-hole golf course, a 9-hole short course and a state of the art learning and practice facility.

“Our goal is to create a course that is visually spectacular, fun to play and deeply connected to the natural character of the land.” Fazio said a press statement. His design firm did the 1999 upgrade at Finley GC at UNC.

The North Village community is under construction now, near the US64/15-501 intersection north of Pittsboro.

The land for the golf community (South Village) is south of Roberson Creek and is also some of Chatham Park’s most environmentally sensitive, with 324 acres of stream buffers and areas of significant steep slopes. That has generated a lot of concern and criticism from residents, as well as a lawsuit seeking more safeguards. A Chatham County Superior Court judge dismissed the lawsuit in September, but an appeal is still possible, the N&O reported.

Chapel Hill Soapbox Derby

Chapel Hill’s second Soapbox Derby had 24 entries, twice as many as 2025 at the Community Center, for the homemade gravity-powered motorless cars that raced down a sloped track at Homestead Park. Built for speed and creativity, the small vehicles are typically built by kids with adult help. Cars have no power or pedals.

Racers reached speeds of approximately 18 mph. They had two runs on the course for drivers to improve their times.

Brain Leatherland’s horse and buggy was awarded the most creative car.

“Old dependable” was the fastest car with a time of 18.03.

“Sweet dreams” was the second fastest, 26.56.

“Turf Tank,” the Town’s Parks Maintenance team car, was the top town department entry at 20.01.

In the future, the town plans to continue to use the soap box derby as a signature event that smaller programs can build toward. For example, they introduced the Pinewood Derby, which attracted 10 participants. Leading up to the event, they offered a car-building program and plan to introduce new workshops in the run up to the derby in the future.

The Blue Dragon won the Pinewood Bash and Dash with 28 points, plus the most creative award.

UNC Hockey Bounces Back

After losing four straight including a 9-0 decision to D-1 powerhouse Liberty, UNC hockey club bounced back with a 7-1 home win over Elon, backed by a hat trick from Andrew Pi, and split two on the road at Alabama. The Heels fell 7-1 to Alabama and the next night won 6-3 to improve their season record to 4-5. Six players scored against Alabama in the win as UNC had 39 shots.

Earlier, UNC lost 6-4 to Va, Tech, 5-3 and 5-2 to Kentucky in Hillsborough.

After games with Illinois and two at Stephen Russell Memorial in Morrisville, the Heels will meet N.C. State Oct. 23 in Morrisville before hosting four straight at home—State, Robert Morris (2), Wake Forest. Three road games follow Nov. 15-21 to close out the first portion of the season. Games resume Jan. 8 after exams and holiday break.

Tennis Courts Get New Lights

New lights were installed this month at the Anderson Park tennis courts off Highway 54 West, Carrboro.

As part of Carrboro Recreation, Parks and Cultural Resources’ Sustainable Infrastructure Lights Capital Improvement Project, this installation was part of a multi-year project to upgrade athletic facility lighting to modern LED technology, improving visibility and user safety, increasing system reliability and substantially reducing energy consumption.

The Anderson Park Tennis Courts were selected as the starting point because the facility was without lights. This addition allows for pickleball and tennis play outside of daylight hours at town’s largest park. Court reservations are available at carrboronc.gov.



PHOTO: TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

Community News

The 21st Annual West End Poetry Festival returns to Carrboro Oct. 15-17. All events are free and open to the public. The theme is “Kinship, Community and Belonging.”

For more information visit the West End Poetry website, carrboronc.gov/2781/West-End-Poetry-Festival. Events are held at Steel String Brewery, Drakeford Library Complex, Century Center.

Efland Ruritan Pro Rodeo runs Oct. 23-24 in Efland off US70 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are sold at the door.

Hillsborough Harvest Festival Nov. 7 at 1 p.m. at Burwell School, downtown Hillsborough, features music by Pickard Mountain Bluegrass and Sugartree String Society in a fundraiser for radio station WHUP and Burwell School. Get tickets in advance at etix.com or pay \$5 more at the door.

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tional forward Joaquim Boumtje Boumtje to go with the country's top recruiting class, which includes star guard Deron Rippey. Add that group to returnees Patrick Ngongba, Dame Sarr, Caleb Foster and Cayden Boozer, and you have one of the deepest teams in the nation.

3. Illinois. The international connection in Champaign continues to yield dividends as Estonian Providence transfer Stefan Vaaks joins returnees Andrej Stojakovic, David Mirkovic and Tomislav Ivisic from last year's 28-9 Final Four squad. Freshman combo guard Quentin Coleman should also have significant impact, potentially filling the Keaton Wagner role that made the Illini so formidable last season.

4. Texas. In his second season in Austin, Sean Miller has compiled a deep and talented roster that will make some serious noise. Led by Colorado transfer Isaiah Johnson, the Longhorns feature one of the country's best returning centers in Matas Vokietaitis, as well as high-energy transfers David Punch (TCU) and Elyjah Freeman (Auburn) and former #1 2027 prospect Marcus Spears, Jr. The injury to Saint Mary's transfer Mikey Lewis is a setback, but it will open more opportunities for the other star freshmen Austin Goosby and Bo Ogen.

5. UConn. Despite the loss of returning guard Solo Ball, the Huskies have enough firepower to once again sweep through the Big East and contend for a national title. Danny Hurley returns a starting backcourt of Silas Demary and sharpshooter Braylon Mullins but also adds some talented frontcourt transfers in Nik Khamenia (Duke) and Na'jai Hines (Seton Hall). Talented freshmen Colben Landrew and Junior County will also have an immediate impact.

6. Tennessee. No program did as much to build its backcourt scoring than the Volunteers. Terrence Hill Jr. (VCU), Dai Dai Ames (California), Tyler Lundblade (Belmont) and Juke Harris (Wake Forest) will create havoc for opposing defenses, while former McDonald's All-American Jalen Haralson (Notre Dame transfer) will help anchor the front line. The depth at center is concerning, but if Vanderbilt transfer Jalen Washington secures eligibility, the Vols should be a Final Four contender.

7. Michigan State. Tom Izzo has another one of those sneaky-good teams that seem to do so well when March comes around. Led by All-American point guard Jeremy Fears, the team features a unique group of skilled forwards in Coen Carr, Cam Ward, Jordan Scott and former Florida Atlantic transfer Kaleb Glenn who can do just about everything. The backcourt will be bolstered by a pair of talented freshmen in Jasiah Jarvis and Carlos Medlock Jr., and 7-2 Charlotte transfer Anton Bonke will provide the muscle down low.

8. Arizona. The Wildcats will lean heavily on multi-dimensional forward Ivan Kharченkov and skilled big man Motiejus Krivas, while its backcourt will feature a mix of underrated transfers in Derek Dixon (North Carolina) and JJ Mandaquit (Washington) and blue-chip freshmen in Caleb Holt and Cameron Holmes. If Clemson transfer RJ Godfrey can secure eligibility, he should slide right into the power forward spot next to Krivas, making the Wildcats even more dangerous.

9. Arkansas. Jon Calipari's ability to recruit at the highest level will be on full display after reeling in another top recruiting class, which features five-star freshmen Jor-

dan Smith, JaShawn Andrews, Abdou Toure and Miikka Muurinen, as well as transfers Jeremiah Wilkinson (Georgia) and Cooper Bowser (Furman). Throw in returning starter Billy Richmond on the perimeter, and Calipari has another Razorback squad that can compete for a Final Four berth.

10. Michigan. After losing their entire frontcourt to the NBA lottery, the Wolverines are reloading with another group of low-post transfers in Moustapha Thiam (Cincinnati), J.P. Estrella (Tennessee), and Jalen Reed (LSU). They likely won't match the output of their predecessors, but with Final Four Most Outstanding Player Elliot Cadeau returning, along with high-level scorer Trey McKenney, they won't need to. The injury to star freshman Brandon McCoy was devastating, but it opens the door for another freshman, 6-9 forward Quinn Costello, to really shine.

11. Virginia. The most experienced team on this list, the Cavaliers return four starters in forward Thijs de Ridder, center Johann Grunloh and guards Sam Lewis and Chance Mallory from a team that almost won the ACC championship. To plug the roster holes, Ryan Odom added international prospect Nolan Adekunle and sharp-shooting transfers Christian Harmon and Jurian Dixon. This team won't blow anyone away, but they will win a lot of games.

12. Louisville. Pat Kelsey had some major roster spots to fill, so he spent a ton of money in the transfer portal, reeling in the likes of Flory Bidunga (Kansas) Jackson Sheldstad (Oregon), Alvaro Folgueiras (Iowa), Karter Knox (Arkansas), De'Shayne Montgomery (Dayton), and Gabe Dynes (USC) to join returnee Adrian Wooley on the depth chart. He also added talented legacy freshman Obinna Ekezie Jr., who should shore up the frontcourt. UNC transfer Seth Trimble might also contribute if he secures eligibility, but the Cards will be solid regardless.

13. Houston. The Cougars lost some NBA-ready talent from last season, and Kelvin Sampson did his best to reload with high-impact transfers in double-double machine Delrecco Gillespie (Kent State), multifaceted scorer Corey Hadnot (Purdue-FW), and lead guard Dedan Thomas (LSU). Last year's role players like JoJo Tugler, Mercy Miller and Chase McCarty will need to step up and give star freshmen Arafan Diane and Ikenna Alozie time to develop.

14. Gonzaga. What's a top 25 without the Zags? Expectations are still high in Spokane with potential All-Americans Braden Huff and Davis Fogle returning and former McDonald's All-American Isiah Harwell transferring in from Houston. This team could get even better if fifth-year transfers Xaivian Lee (Florida) and Chauncey Wiggins (Florida State) are ruled eligible. Former Arizona State center Massamba Diop may not be what fans are hoping for, but Spanish big man Izan Almanza will likely pass him on the depth chart.

15. USC. It's impossible to leave out the Trojans when you add one of the country's top scorers in Rodney Rice (20.3 ppg) to the vast frontcourt riches at their disposal. Not only do they return one of the Big Ten's top big men in Jacob Cofie, but they also bring in 7-foot UConn transfer Eric Reibe and three of

Pre-Season Picks By The Media

The AP, ESPN, Yahoo Sports agree on pre-season picks for men's basketball number one (Florida), but not on where ACC clubs will finish.

Duke was second in all three; Miami 11 (AP), 17 (ESPN), 8 (Yahoo); Louisville 12 (ESPN), 17 (ESPN), 11 (Yahoo); Virginia 13 (AP, ESPN, 14 (Yahoo).

UNC was 24 (Yahoo).

ESPN had five ACC women's teams in the Preseason Top 25: Duke 7, Louisville 8, UNC 11, Notre Dame 21, NC State 22, Va. Tech 24.



Youngsters joined North Carolina men and women basketball players at Dribbling for Victory over Cancer, shown along Cameron Ave. above, to raise more than \$150,000 for pediatric cancer research last month in Chapel Hill. PHOTO BY MAGGIE HOBSON

the country's top freshman centers in Christian Collins, Adonis Ratliff and Darius Ratliff. That's not even including returning wing Alijah Arenas and Georgetown transfer KJ Lewis—both of whom averaged over 14 ppg a year ago.

16. Alabama. With Aiden Holloway's legal troubles now behind him, the Crimson Tide will be able to rely on the point guard to run the team with weapons like projected NBA draft pick Amari Allen, transfers Drew Fielder (Boise State) and Brandon Garrison (Kentucky), and a host of highly-ranked freshmen, including McDonald's All-American Jaxon Richardson. Forward London Jemison might be a surprise breakout candidate.

17. Miami. Now in his second year at the helm, Jai Lucas has the Hurricanes back among the country's elite programs. Transfers Acaden Lewis (Villanova) and Somto Cyril (Georgia) will shore up the point and center positions, respectively. Physical, high-scoring wing Shelton Henderson is primed for a breakout campaign. Freshman forward Caleb Gaskins and Robert Morris transfer DeSean Goode will solidify the frontline. And if fifth-year forward Malik Reneau becomes eligible after leading the Canes in scoring a season ago, this team could have Top 10 potential.

18. Kansas. Bill Self will be sweating it out through December since the Jayhawks' success may hinge on the eligibility of former starters Melvin Council Jr. and Tre White, both of whom are waiting to secure their five-for-five eligibility. In the meantime, he will rely heavily on freshman sensation Tyran Stokes, who is expected to be the #1 overall pick in the 2027 NBA Draft. Stokes can do just about everything, and he will elevate those around him, including transfers Leroy Blyden Jr. (Toledo) and Keanu Dawes (Utah) and fellow freshmen Taylon Kinney, Davion Atkins, and surprise sharpshooter Luke Barnett.

19. St. John's. Rick Pitino is another who will be waiting for court decisions to secure eligibility for key players. In his case, three potential starters: Quinn Ellis, Babacar Sane and Keyshawn Hall. Regardless the Red Storm still have electric guard Ian Jackson and center Ruben Prey returning, and Pitino is bringing in one of the most dynamic scorers in the portal in Baylor's Tounde Yessoufou. If the other three are eligible, St. John's could challenge UConn for Big East supremacy.

20. UCLA. With three returning starters in Trent Perry, Eric Dailey and Xavier Booker, UCLA already has a leg up on its Big Ten competitors. But when you add in transfers like point guard Jaylen Petty (Texas Tech), Filip Jovic (Auburn) and Sergej Maccura (Mississippi State), and then throw in one of the most talented international imports in forward Nikola Kusturica, Mick Cronin has the makings of something special.

21. Kentucky. Mark Pope has had some early struggles as the Wildcats head coach after taking the reins from John Calipari in 2024, but thanks to the transfer portal, he's managed to stitch together a competitive roster. Point guard Zoom Diallo (Washington) and wing Alex Wilkins (Furman) will elevate this team, while prized forward Milan Momcilovic (Iowa State) will provide the perimeter firepower fans in Lexington have been craving. With center Malachi Moreno returning, it won't matter who wins the power forward spot.

22. Vanderbilt. Perhaps the most welcomed sight in all of college hoops will be the return of All-American guard Tyler Tanner, who will lead the Commodores to another successful season. Bolstered by transfers Ace Glass (Washington State), Bangot Dak (Colorado), Berke Buyuktuncel (Nebraska), T.O. Barrett (Missouri) and Sebastian Williams-Adams (Auburn), along with freshman Gabe Nesmith and returnee Chandler Bing (or Mrs. Chanandler Bong, IYKYK), there's no reason to suspect a letdown in Nashville.

23. Texas Tech. Yet another team hoping for some positive five-for-five eligibility rulings, the Red Raiders are also waiting for the return of star big man JT Topin from injury. The rest of the roster should be set with the additions of transfers Cruz Davis (Hofstra) and Dra Gibbs-Lawhorn (UNLV) and top recruit Dakari Spear. But if Toppin comes back to form and Donovan Atwell, Darrion Williams and Jamichael Stillwell all secure eligibility, this team has Final Four potential.

24. Indiana. Another second year coach with significant promise, Darian DeVries has demonstrated mastery of the transfer portal by bringing in an entirely new roster with Marcus Buron (Notre Dame), Bryce Lindsay (Villanova), Aiden Sherrell (Alabama), Samet Yigitoglu (SMU), Jaeden Mustaf (Georgia Tech), and Darren Harris (Duke). And if you think that's impressive, wait until you see the recruits he's bringing in next year.

25. UNC. The Michael Malone era is now officially underway, and like several other new coaches, he's built his first roster from high-profile newcomers. Transfers Terrence Brown (Utah), Neo Avdalas (Virginia Tech) and Matt Able (NC State) will flesh out the backcourt, while European imports Sayon Keita and Alex Samodurov will pair nicely with returnee Jarin Stevenson to solidify the frontcourt. The brilliance of Brown, the savvy of Avdalas, and the physicality of Keita are what gives the Heels the final spot in this countdown.

The next five:

26. Missouri.

27. Iowa State.

28. BYU.

29. Nebraska.

30. Villanova.

UNC Pre-Season

Men

Oct. 18, Indiana, at Indianapolis, 5 p.m., BIG+. Oct. 27, Charlotte, Smith Center, Chapel Hill, 7:30 p.m. ACCNX.

Women

Oct. 18, Davidson, Carmichael Arena, Chapel Hill, 1 p.m. Oct. 24, at Maryland, 1 p.m., BIG+.

ACC Basketball

Wake Forest Coach Steve Forbes, a member of the college hoops rules committee, suggested schools play three August exhibitions annually or, even a Big Four-style salute to N.C. college basketball, to introduce players to fans. The suggestion could be voted on by the NCAA in January. Wake lost to Georgetown 94-77 in an Oct. 4 exhibition in Winston-Salem ... More than 150 former UNC players covering eight decades of Carolina basketball took part in Coach Michael Malone's first alumni weekend in September. The former players ranged from Dick Kopley, who was at UNC in the late 1950s, to one-and-done star Caleb Wilson. Malone, the first hire from outside of the "Carolina family" since Frank McGuire in 74 years, said it was important to honor the program's history while embracing a new era in Chapel Hill ... As the NCAA Tournaments (men & women) expand to 76 teams this season, the NIT shrinks from 32 to 24 ... UNC plays N.C. State in a nonconference game Dec. 15 in Greensboro. Each school gets \$1M and 10,000 tickets to sell. There's a \$4.00 facility fee for each ticket. The schools will play twice--this year and next. State is the home team this year. They do meet once in the ACC regular season ... 7/0 C Cameron Fens remains on the UNC roster but his eligibility for another year remains in limbo. He can practice with the team. Last season he played for South Dakota ... The 2026 Montross Day of Service (his birthday Sep. 23) was marked by Tar Heel players and teams doing community service-type projects on campus and in town, many involving youngsters ...

Community News

Pupalooza, a new dog-friendly event with dog contests, live music, vendors, will be held Saturday, Oct. 24, 3:30-6:30 p.m. at Durham Central Park.

Chapel Hill will impose a \$65 fee for Orange County residents living outside Chapel Hill to check out books at the library starting July 1. The action is in response to the county reducing and then eliminating financial support for the library here.

Durham Fringe Festival Oct. 30-Nov. 8 features 50 artists, musicians and 20 shows throughout downtown Durham. Check schedule at durhamfringefestival.org website.

Fordham Sidepath

Construction on the Fordham Boulevard Sidepath is about to begin.

The sidepath, a paved space designated for cyclists and pedestrians, will run alongside Fordham Boulevard (US 15-501) between Cleland Drive and Willow Drive near University Place. The project's scheduled finish date is late 2027. The project is funded primarily by DOT.

Hillsborough Stop

Cycle North Carolina's 27th edition of the Mountains to Coast Ride (about 700 riders from 38 states) spent the night Oct. 6 camping behind the Orange County Courthouse, Hillsborough. There were tents of all sizes and shapes. Riders arrived from Eden en route to Hatteras Island on the Carolina Coast. Riders do about 67 miles a day with rest stops every 15-20 miles. The ride began Oct. 4 in Mount Airy and ended Oct. 10.

Move-A City

More than 2,000 came out for Move-A-Bull City Open Streets, Bike Durham reported, and spent time walking or riding on downtown streets normally crowded with cars.

One highlight was On The Bench where benches for bus stops were built and decorated.

RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

Cycling News

ALAMANCE Parks was awarded a \$500,000 grant by the NC Parks & Rec Trust Fund for phase one of a new park, Alston Quarter, on 360 acres of undeveloped land south of Saxapahaw, at the confluence of Haw River and Cane Creek in southern Alamance. The land was acquired in June.

Phase one includes design and construction of Alamance's first dedicated mountain bike trail system (13m), with trailhead, hiking trails and visitor amenities. The trails will connect with Haw River State Trail and the Mountains to Sea Trail (MST).

The Alamance project was one of 25 grants awarded totaling \$9.807M. Another local project approved was \$362,500 for a skate park at Beth Schmidt Park, Elon. No Orange County projects were funded.

TORC's King said, "TORC has been approached by local advocates about mountain biking and land conservation opportunities near Saxapahaw. We have discussed with SORBA how those advocates could get organizational support. Those conversations are exploratory; I don't have a formal TORC role in the county's new park to report. Our immediate focus is strengthening stewardship of the Triangle trails we already support."

VOLUNTEERS are a key to everything TORC does.

At Little River in Rougemont, continued care of the existing trails and skills area continued. In a recent workday, eight volunteers reinforced jump transitions, cleared drainage berms and repaired erosion on the intermediate and advanced trails. Volunteer maintenance has continued this month. I don't have a confirmed new trail expansion or opening date to announce there, King said.

"We always welcome help. The best starting point is to join the TORC Meetup group and RSVP to an individual workday. Each listing provides the meeting place, time and preparation details. People should check their Meetup email and notification settings to receive announcements and reminders, and check the event page for weather changes." Most workdays are held monthly at area trails.

UPCOMING

Nov. 1, Harris Lake Bike Demo Day. We're planning a bike demo day at Harris Lake, New Hill. Sunday, Nov. 1, featuring opportunities to try electric mountain bikes as well as conventional mountain bikes. We're coordinating bike shop participation and will share the final schedule and details through TORC's communications channels.

Nov. 14, Roxboro Centennial Park. There is a lot happening here. TORC has been working closely with park staff on trail construction, and a newly completed trail is being evaluated for adaptive cycling with North Carolina Adapted Sports. We're planning a trail celebration day for Saturday, Nov. 14. The mileage has almost doubled recently and we expect more than 10 miles of trail. The Roxboro Rotary Park is just over the Person County line, convenient to Orange and Durham riders. and has hiking and ADA trails, disc golf, birding sites, in addition to MTB.

TORC also is hosting an Oct. 17 workday with Person County Friends of the Parks, 9-11 a.m., focused on pruning and light raking. Updates will be posted on our Meetup.com.

A Volunteer Appreciation Day for trail coordinators and volunteer stewards at Williamson Preserve on the Wake/Johnston line was celebrated Oct. 10 with 8 and 12-mile rides and food. It was a chance, King said, to thank the people who care for trails across the Triangle and connect with TORC and TLC leadership.

BIKER Frank, the Duke grad student, 27, injured in a June hit-and-run accident near Duke Forest on NC 751, Durham, went home after 102 days in hospital and rehab facility. He'll continue the recovery at home. A gofundme campaign continues. The driver was arrested.



Whether you get your oysters by the dozen, peck or bushel, be sure to recycle the oyster shells. In North Carolina, it's illegal to send oyster shells to the landfill or use them as mulch in landscaping. Take them to the Orange County county collection center on Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill. Stop at the scale building for disposal information. They are collected there and taken to the Carolina Coast for shore rebuilding. Questions? Call 919-968-2788. The gates at the center close at 3:45 p.m.

E-bikes Exchanged In Cal Buy-Back

More than a thousand e-bikes and e-motos were exchanged for gift cards at an Orange County, California Buy-Back program Sep. 13 at Angel Stadium, the Wall Street Journal reported. It was the first event of its kind (modeled after gun buy-backs) and organized by the DA's Office in reaction to a surge in e-bike accidents, injuries, fatalities.

They used \$110,000 worth of gift cards and ran out early in the day. Cards worth \$200-\$1,000 depending on the bike's classification were distributed. The cards were paid for with funds from seized criminal assets. The bikes from the buy-back program will be destroyed, organizers said.

E-bike injuries rose over 1,000 percent nationally between 2020 and 2024 (1,200 injuries), according to a study of hospital data by San Diego State University.

Orange County (CA) District Attorney Todd Spitzer, known as a tough prosecutor of e-bike violations, said, "What I can change is getting parents' attention to the serious consequences they could face." He has charged parents in cases involving fatalities and their children with child endangerment and involuntary manslaughter, according to news reports.

California puts e-bikes into three categories with pedal assistance up to 28 miles per hour. Electric motorcycles or "e-motos" which can go faster, require a driver's license.

New York City

At least 28 people who were riding e-bikes and standup scooters have died in crashes in New York City in 2026, the New York Times reported 10/1. NYC has a speed limit of 15 mph for e-bikes and e-scooters, and riders must be at least 16 years of age.

Meanwhile, 23 measures, including the proposed Priscilla's Law, were debated by the New York City Council at a hearing on e-bikes last month. Priscilla's Law, named after Priscilla Loke, an educator who was killed in 2023 on her way to work by a rider of a Citi e-bike. The proposed state bill would require all e-bikes and scooters in New York to be registered and display license plates and would crack down on illegal (high speed) e-bikes, according to news reports.

North Carolina

E-bike accidents, injuries and fatalities including two in Wilson last month also are



TODD LoFrese of Chapel Hill is the new president of the Carolina TarWheels. He's a former club and BikeFest official and succeeds Mark Olsen. He's also active in Be Loud Sophie Foundation events and fundraisers and rode with three friends 3,500 miles from San Francisco to Georgia to promote the foundation.

on the rise in North Carolina.

A new state law taking effect Dec. 1 will change how e-bikes are classified and regulated.

Section 19 of S.L. 2026-46 adopts a three-class system for e-bikes, matching classifications used by most other states. Under the law, an e-bike is defined as a two- or three-wheeled bicycle with pedals and an electric motor of no more than 750 watts, falling into one of three classes:

Class 1—assists only while pedaling, up to 20 mph

Class 2—assists whether pedaling or not, up to 20 mph

Class 3—assists only while pedaling, up to 28 mph

The law expands the definition of "electric assisted bicycles" to include Class 3 e-bikes, which were previously classified as mopeds. Under the new definition, e-bikes generally will be considered electric-assisted bicycles or motorcycles, but not mopeds, depending on their maximum powered speed or motor size.

The law also creates a new statute, G.S. 20-171.3, allowing e-bikes on any roadway, bicycle lane or sidewalk, subject to additional rules from local governments or the state Department of Natural and Cultural Resources on property it oversees like state parks. Riders or passengers under 18 on a Class 3 e-bike will be required to wear a helmet. Violating the helmet requirement on or after Dec. 1 will be an infraction under G.S. 20-176.

Community News

The N.C. State Fair (food, animals, exhibits) runs Oct. 15-25 at the West Raleigh Fairgrounds. Admission charged.

Michal Jordan donated \$10M to the UNC School of Social Work in honor of his mom.

Both N.C. U.S. Senators voted in favor of the Protect College Sports Act which passed 77-22 and is pending in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill, backed by most college sports execs as well as all TV networks, faces an uncertain outcome in the House.

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UNC SHAC 5K

Matthew Sutcliffe (18:07) of Carrboro and Jessica Palisca (18:55) of Chapel Hill were the winners at UNC SHAC 5K in Chapel Hill (117).

James Jushchuk (18:30) of Durham was second and Isaac Robinson (18:40) of Chapel Hill third. Kendall Obra (21:14) of Chapel Hill was second woman and Savannah Noll (21:44) of Concord, NH, third.

Chapel Hill age group winners included 20-29, Lydia Stute, 23:57, Carey Fairchild, Carrboro, 18:13; 30-39, Neil Sullivan, Carrboro, 25:53; 50-59, Patrick Smith, Pittsboro, 25:51; 60+, Elizabeth Bruno, 29:00, Dean Bruno, 27:42.

Triangle Hurricane Swim

Jenna Halenda (27:54) of Carrboro was third female at 14th Triangle Hurricane Swim one miler at Vista Point, Jordan Lake, Pittsboro (12 finishers, down from 83 last year). WTs were 23:53 and 27:49.

Michael Cotton (57:00) of Chapel Hill was first 20-24 in 2 Miler (49 finishers, up two from 2025). WTs were 42:53 and 46:10.

WTs for the 0.6 miler were 12:35 and 12:17 (35).

Baddour Second In Chapel Hill

Henry Baddour (19:09) of Chapel Hill was second male at the 17th Cleft Palate Gallop 5K in Chapel Hill. Christopher Berberich, Morrisville, 18:41, repeated as the first place winner and Luke Scochere, Carrboro, was third, 19:15.

Katherine Soule, Durham, was first woman, 20:39, with Erica Brecher, second, 21:07, and Haiden Levin, Chapel Hill, third. There were 185 finishers, up 8 from last year.

Local age group winners: David DeBrigard, 15&U, 24:58; Alexander Ellison, 20-29, 23:28; Ann Marie Kumfer, 30-39, 22:49; Patina Herring, Pittsboro, 40-49, 28:48, and Guenther Schuldt, 20:22; Kay Matlock, Carrboro, 60-69, 46:34.

Skiba First At Buckhorn Tri

Elizabeth Skiba (1:32:44) and Maddie Sparrow (1:34:07), both of Chapel Hill, were first and second women at the Battle for Buckhorn Sprint Tri in Sims. MWT was 1:06:17 (97 finishers, down from 120 in 2025).

Local award winners: Corrine Lombardo, Chapel Hill, third 20-24, 1:41:37; Tobias Fleckenstein, Chapel Hill, second 16-19, 1:30:48; Sydney Gray, Pittsboro, second 16-19, 1:43:07.

Salem Lake Trail Run

Sophie Worthy (2:30:14) of Carrboro was first 25-29 and Dan Wang (2:44:49) of Chapel Hill first 55-59 at Salem Lake Trail Run 30K in Winston-Salem. WTs were 1:55:03 and 2:20:21 (106).

Carolee Berry (1:33:47) of Chapel Hill was second 65-69 in the 7 Miler (192). WT was 43:23.

Wrightsville Beach Sprint Tri

Nicolai Tvermoes of Chapel Hill turned in the second best time (1:10:48) among 740 age groupers at YMCA Wrightsville Beach Sprint Tri. He was first 55-59. Edward Tvermoes was first 15&U, 1:17:40.

Other local award winners: Paul Zivich, Carrboro, second 30-34, 1:124:40; Lindsay Harper, Pittsboro, third 40-44, 1:30:28; Julie Horton, Chapel Hill, third 70-74, 2:22:35.

Strides For Stem 5K

Owen Anthroline (19:38) of Carrboro and Rebecca Hassler (20:40) of Durham were the leaders at Strides for Stem 5K in Chapel Hill. There were 43 finishers, up from 38 last year.

2 Top Ten Finishers at BR Relay

Two Chapel Hill teams were top ten finishers at the Blue Ridge Relay, 200 miles from Grayson State Park, VA, to Asheville. Some 192 teams competed in the relay. Team members were N/A.

UNC's Third Leg, 10 runners, open div, 22:54:23, was sixth and Callous, Bald Head, 11 runners, open, 24:17:34, eighth. First was GGRC of Austin, TX, 20:14:39. Bull City TC MMasters, Durham, was fourth, 22:28:42 and Carolina Girls Collective, Durham, 12, 24:54:22, tenth.

Other Chapel Hill teams and their finishes included 31, IM Josh 2, 12 runners, open div, 27:22:19; 39, Rub Club, 12, 28:08:53; 48, Tar Hills, mixed, 12, 28:48:46; 70, Hot Fudge Rundae, 12, open, 29:56:52; 88, Statisticians and Outliers, 12, open, 30:30:03; 94, Sour Patch Kids, 12, open, 30:57:26; 129, Sour Power, 12, masters mixed, 32:48:57.

Running News

Franklin Johnson of Chapel Hill was third male overall at BH4H Sun Run 5K in Durham (96). WT was 14:42.

Chapel Hill runners Shinae Yu was third 40-44, 1:45:21, and Keith Burnell, second 50-54, 1:00:16, in the Cary Greenways Tour 10K.

Oleg Kaluipaev of Chapel Hill was second 45-49, 23:29, at 12th Cupcake Run 5K in Raleigh (260 finishers, down from 340 in 2025). WT was 18:52.

Holden Gambill (21:15) of Chapel Hill was first male at First Pentecostal Church Color Blast 5K in Durham (35).

Sara Brown of Chapel Hill was third 50-54, 2:10:47, at Nat Greene's Revenge Sprint Tri in Greensboro (123). WT was 1:24:02.

Christopher Nelson (20:55) of Chapel Hill was third male overall at WUNC 50th Anniversary 5K in Durham (243). Cyndy Weeks of Carrboro was first 60-69, 25:30. WTs were 18:35 and 21:10.

Hannah Noah (24:39) of Chapel Hill was the women's winner at Race to Cure Sarcoma NC 5K in Cary (101 finishers).

Karen Grigg (31:34) of Chapel Hill was third 50-59 and Jacob Harris (25:57) of Mebane third 30-39 at I Am Too Sexy 5K in Durham (141). WTs were 17:50 and 31:34.

Mo Hazard of Chapel Hill was second 19&U, 30:48, at Liam Strong charity beach run 5K in Wrightsville Beach (67). WT was 18:21.

Hope Clinic 5K winners in Burlington (146) were Nick Lachapelle (19:07) and Emily Boger (20:10). Hometowns N/A.

WTs for Canes 5K in Raleigh were 16:18 and 17:11 (2,226 finishers). No hometowns.

Bright Futures Fun Run 5K in Durham WTs were 17:17 and 17:40 (110 finishers).

Race News

Carolina Godiva TC has a Winter Series offering seven monthly races including New Year's Day 8K in Hillsborough. First race is Run for Donuts Oct. 18 at Blackwood Park off NC 86 south of Hillsborough. Check the club's website for series details.

The Nov. 14 Charlotte M has a new course with two fewer hills. The races are produced by Charlotte Sports Foundation which also runs the Dick Vitale and Ally hoops invitationals.

The Sep. 20 Corolla Ten Miler/5K was canceled due to low registration.

The Oct. 10 Another Round 25K, Nags Head, was canceled The second Cane Creek Mountain Trail Run HM/10K (Oct. 11) in Snow Camp was postponed a second time until Nov. 7 due to weather issues.

Stead Tread 5K

Three Chapel Hill runners earned awards at Stead Tread 5K in Durham.

Julia Clough, was first 13-18, 25:04; Craig Heinly, first 50-69, 18:20; Pavelid Castaneda, first 70+, 30:53.

WTs were 16:39 and 19:36 (314 finishers, up from 168 in 2025).

Veale Second In 10 Miler

Simone Veale (1:03:26) and Tari Chace (1:05:52), both of Chapel Hill, were second and third women at 19th American Tobacco Trail Ten Miler in Apex (122 finishers, down from 229 last year). WTs were 58:33 and 58:04.

Megan MacKenzie, Hillsborough, was first 20-24, 1:09:23, and Heidi Hemming, Chapel Hill, second 50-54, 1:30:32.

Michael Ly (21:23) of Chapel Hill was second male in the 4 Miler (79 finishers, down from 89 in 2025). WTs were 20:25 and 22:15.

Matthew Holtry, Chapel Hill, second 40-49, 26:41; Sydney Hughes, Carrboro, first 20-24, 32:40; Judithe Andre, Chapel Hill, first 50-59, 37:59.

Harding First In 5K Trail Run

Naomi Harding (22:53) of Chapel Hill was the women's winner at inaugural Three Little Pigs 5K Trail Run in Pittsboro (114).

Phaedrus Leeds (20:06) of Durham was the men's winner, Sean Bartlow, Pittsboro, second, 20:59; Michael Cotton, Chapel Hill, third, 21:57. EJ Brunson, Chapel Hill, was first non-binary, 26:31.

Steele Repeats In Carrboro 10K

Matthew Jordan-Steele (34:17) of Durham repeated as Carrboro 10K winner in Carrboro.

Dalton Randall (24:56) of Durham was second and Yohei Hisada (25:27) of Chapel Hill third. Women's winner was Madeline Kunz (39:36) of Raleigh, with Natalie Bowman (42:54) of Chapel Hill second and Lucia Suarez-Vega (43:23) of Durham third.

There were 376 finishers, down from 405 last year, for the second race in le Tour de Carrboro.

Matt Straub (36:44) of Carrboro was first masters male, Evan Galloway, Chapel Hill, second, 39:03, Brian Tajlili, Apex, third, 39:45, Bergen Watterson, Chapel Hill, was first female master, Lisa Dunn, Carrboro, second, 48:14, Elizabeth Stockton, Chapel Hill, third, 48:27.

Alana Pavuk, Mebane, was first Athena, 57:08, Tonia Connaughton, Durham, second, 1:05:14, Stephanie Shaughnessy, New Fairfield, CT., third, 1:06:15.

First Clydesdale was David Peretin, Carrboro, 1:00:17, David Levinton, Durham, second, 1:00:29, Kendall Marshall, Chapel Hill, third, 1:06:25.

Age group award winners from Chapel Hill:

15-19, Emily Wood, first, 47:07, Clara Dwyer, Carrboro, second, 1:03:18; Landon Spohn, first, 58:58, Leo Moncada, second, 1:01:55.

20-24, Kaitlyn Szymanski, Hillsborough, first, 52:09, Mary Mann, second, 53:40, Lucia Norman, third, 54:37; Levi Crawford, second, 47:07, Jackson Trom, Carrboro, third, 47:14.

25-29, Andrew Zachman, first, 36:31, Jake Grdadolnik, Carrboro, second, 39:22, Jeff Niznik, third, 42:42.

30-34, Abigail Hart, Carrboro, first, 46:59, Mary Lacke, second, 48:52; Kevin Lacke, second, 37:50, Matthew Sutcliffe, Carrboro, third, 37:55.

35-39, Ren-Wen Huang, first, 47:29, Hayley Joyce, second, 49:25, Mariah Park, third, 52:00; Matthew Howe, second, 35:54, Jackson Cox, third, 41:25.

40-44, Leah Blasiak, first, 49:02, Megan Plenge, Carrboro, second, 49:47, Alexander Borst, Carrboro, third, 49:56; Dan Fielder, second, 44:20; Nadim Sobhani, Carrboro, third, 47:30.

45-49, Carri Reisdorf, first, 50:18, Claire Bosire, second, 51:06; Yik Lam, Carrboro, second, 47:04, Aaron Martin, Carrboro, third, 48:49.

50-54, Bree Scott, first, 56:04, Tracy Kasten, third, 57:33; Scott Alexander, third, 45:40.

55-59, Molly Berkoff, first, 50:47, Mary Mouw, third, 57:35; Blaine Schmidt, Carrboro, second, 46:41, Marc Caruiana, Carrboro, third, 48:03.

60-64, Kathy Matera, first, 53:34, Laura Van Sant, third, 54:31; Gerald Meyer, Carrboro, second, 47:40.

65-69, Maureen Rosen, first, 1:19:52; Camille Berry, second, 1:24:52; Haiping Wang, Pittsboro, second, 59:43, John Rees, third, 1:94:20.

70-74, Diane Knechtel, first, 1:10:02, Sheila Kerrigan, second 1:16:49, Gail Neily, third, 1:38:04; Yansung Lam, first, 50:50, Andrew Ghio, second, 1:15:52, David Morgan, Carrboro, third, 1:12:13.

75-79, Lynne O'Brien, Carrboro, first, 1:38:03; John Northern, first, 59:25, Roger Mitchell, Carrboro, third, 1:01:28.

EMMONS WINS 5K

Alexander Emmons (16:55) of Mebane took first in the Carrboro 5K (231 finishers, up 6 from 2025). Chapel Hill runners Tommy Zhu (18:56) and Colin Thomson (19:12) were second and third. Kayler DeBrew (20:03) of Greensboro was first woman, Clara Richards (20:06) of Charlotte second and Lizzie Rubadue (20:28) of Chapel Hill third.

Masters, Shan Guo, Carrboro, first male, 19:24, Richard O'Brien, Chapel Hill, second, 19:28, Neal de Jong, Carrboro, third, 20:07; Dana Lebo, Chapel Hill, first female, 25:58, Arzu Ozoguz, Chapel Hill, second, 26:28, Emily Bowles, Chapel Hill, third, 26:28.

Athena, Jasmine McKoy, Chapel Hill, first, 29:56, Sophia Bauers, Chapel Hill, second, 34:01, Sidney Candelonio, Sanford, third, 38:41.

Clydesdale, Patrick Meade, Carrboro, first, 24:53, Samuel Bulman, Youngsville, second, 31:37, Jonathan Curtis, Raleigh, third, 37:18.

Chapel Hill award winners:

15-19, Max Crawford, first, 22:41, Dylan McDonough, Carrboro, second, 27:56.

20-24, Ariana Khan, Carrboro, first, 29:39; Arul Nagaram, first, 31:31.

25-29, Cassidy Barnes, first, 340:4, Lily Benig, Carrboro, third, 33:10; Zachary Mack, first, 21:45, Owen Hansen, Carrboro, second, 24:51, River Price, third, 25:24.

30-34, Rachel Harrison, first, 26:21, Dina O'Connell, first, 34:03; David Wheaton, first, 20:56, Umit Celik, second, 21:37.

35-39, Anne Marie Kumfer, first, 28:37; Patrick Roedler, Carrboro, first, 19:58, Colin Guider, Carrboro, second, 20:08, Tyrel Souza, third, 28:15.

40-44, Jessica Frenkel, first, 29:38, Eileen Barnes, third, 32:03; Danny Nguyen, first, 23:30, James Baker, Carrboro, third, 31:58.

45-49, Sandra Jones, Carrboro, first, 26:44, Stacy Swinney, second, 30:37, Erika Cerwin, third, 30:39; Andrew Dan-ner, Carrboro, first, 24:39; David English, Carrboro, second, 25:25, Scott Gifford, third, 26:13.

50-54, April Barber, Carrboro, first, 30:24; Jeffrey Her-rick, Carrboro, first, 26:49, Heath Hendrickson, Hillsborough, third, 31:18.

55-59, Tricia Billy, first, 28:10, Becky Arnold, second, 33:42, Michelle Martin, third, 34:14; John Hendrickson,

first, 25:59, Robert McAllen, second, 27:27, Mark Smith, third, 27:46.

60-64, Sonia Thomas, first, 27:31, Karen Alexander, second, 29:11, Cherrie Tchir, third, 31:57; Kenneth Spores, Hillsborough, first, 21:47, Bernard Prabucki, Carrboro, second, 32:59, Joseph Pardington, third, 37:64.

65-69, Kari Wilkinson, Mebane, first, 30:15, Susan Hoerger, second, 30:31, Tonya Helms, third, 31:08; Michael Wilkinson, Bane, first, 25:11, Thomas Hoerger, second, 30:35, Ed Neely, third, 31:29.

70-74, Nancy Margolin, first, 32:14, Susan Wolf, second, 37:25, Kay Matlock, Carrboro, third, 42:45; Rich Will, Pittsboro, first, 26:19, Larry Moray, second, 29:27, Michael Mad-den, third, 32:59.

75-79, Jim Hotelling, second, 39:16, Ralph Karpinos, third, 41:35.

80+, Michael Brown, Carrboro, first, 37:41

Blivin Leads Hillsborough HM

Matt Lunceford Blivin (1:14:55) of Durham was the leader at 9th Historic Hillsborough Half Marathon in Hillsborough. Carter Shackles (1:24:31) of Raleigh was second and Richard Kesseli (1:26:47) of Hillsborough third.

Women’s leader was Kristin Stroupe (1:28:58) of Durham, with Natalia Canepari (1:31:61) of Chapel Hill, second, Merrie Mose-dale (1:32:50) of Raleigh third. There were 270 finishers, down from 353 last year, appar-ently due to no-shows and rain.

Jarith Montag (1:31:04) of Chapel Hill was first male master, John Ruemaker (1:31:57), Bahama, second, Thomas Soth (1:31:57) Chapel Hill, third. Cameron Bork (136:13), Graham, was first female master, Vicki Marlan (1:41:43), Chapel Hill, second, Laura Lamberson (1:43:53), Hillsborough, third.

Chapel Hill age group awards:

19&U, Evan Canon, Hillsborough, second, 1:46:56, Eli Dipert, Mebane, third, 1:50:05.

20-24, Leo Claffey, first, 1:30:24, Lochlan Dounald, second, 1:30:31.

25-29, Livia Donovan, Hillsborough, first, 1:40:01, Skyler Fox, third, 1:50:42; Andrew Christy, second, 1:30:11, Kyle Rudolph, Mebane, third, 1:39:26.

30-34, Josh Mayo, second, 1:45:27.

35-39, Heather Fillipo, second, 1:37:48; Eric Macintosh, Mebane, second, 1:32:28, Joshua Belin, third, 1:36:15.

40-44, Mark Stillman, first, 1:32:13, Joshua King, Hillborough, second, 1:35:57.

45-49, Melissa Kay, Hillsborough, first, 1:40:01, Lori Whitman, second, 1:45:33, Jes-sica Beardsley, third, 1:47:51.

50-54, Ryan Baugh, Hillsborough, second, 1:40:48, Eric Denny, third, 1:45:56.

55-59, Tami Pfeiffer, Hillsborough, second, 1:59:25; Blaine Schmidt, second, 1:52:01, Jef-frey Hopper, Hillsborough, third, 1:59:19.

60-64, Katrina Smith, Mebane, third, 2:37:01; Bruce Smith, Mebane, second, 1:59:14.

65-69, Craig Helms, first, 1:51:35, Jona-than Farber, second, 1:59:40, Alan Reed, Carrboro, third, 1:54:50.

75-79, Tom Carr, Hillsborough, third, 2:56:06.

EADES WINS 5K

Mark Eades (18:18) of Efland led the Historic Hillsborough 5K. Costen Irons, Chapel Hill, finished second, 18:24, and Caleb Wyninger, Hillsborough, third, 19:04.

Christy Horne (24:12) of Durham was first woman, Elizabeth Poindexter, Hillsborough, second, 24:54, Angela Hight, Rocky Mount, third, 26:00. There were 319 finishers, com-pared to 362 in 2025.

Masters leaders were Matthew Holtry, Chapel Hill, 21:41; Christopher McDougold, Durham, 21:44; Michael Misselwitz, Hillsbor-ough, 21:46; Amanda Clark, Cedar Grove, 26:42; Debbie Carina, Hillsborough, 26:45; Jessica Carlson, Hillsborough, 26:58.

Award winners from Hillsborough:

16-19, Abigail Bush, first, 27:49, Julianna DeMarchi, Chapel Hill, second, 29:54; Ryan Matthews, first, 19:58, Jason Bush, third, 22:34.

20-24, Mia Alto, Chapel Hill, third, 29:33; Dylan Matthews, Chapel Hill, first, 26:18,

Jonathan Collins, second, 38:38, Jacob Por-ter, third, 53:02.

25-29, Summer Stibel, Chapel Hill, first, 32:13, Hannah Lewis, Carrboro, third, 34:37; Alexander Matthewson, first, 22:59, Jalen Jackson, Chapel Hill, third, 34:24, Elias Prib-ernow, Mebane, third, 35:32.

30-34, Emily Carnosa, first, 27:11.

35-39, Shannon Baxter, second, 28:23, Rachel Haber, third, 30:49; Veton Saliu, first, 25:53, Jason Lansdale, third, 26:59.

40-44, Marie Gorlatova, first, 27:26, Jena Fowlkes, second, 26:29, Alfred Ruggles, first, 22:38, Michael Penny, JB Baxter, third, 23:58.

45-49, Shira Katsir, first, 28:11, Lauren Pangle, second, 28:46, Tracey McGrath, third, 30:13; Matt Weatherly, first, 22:40.

50-54, Erica Farmer, Hurdle Mills, first, 32:04; Philip Berger, first, 25:26, Kevin Ed-wards, second, 28:04.

55-59, Amy Orange, second, 33:09; Simon Ertz, Chapel Hill, first, 23:53, Neal Harris, second, 27:07, Joseph Wisnewski, Hurdle Mills, third, 31:04.

60-64, Donna Antie, first, 33:11; Scott Carbonara, first, 28:46.

65-69, David Cates, second, 30:27, Tim Smith, third, 30:37.

70-74, Teepa Snow, Efland, first, 45:42, Ans Bilhorn, Efland, second, 46:50, Joan Boone, Efland, third, 49:32; Richard Ashe, first, 36:35, Dennis Jurgensen, Chapel Hill, second, 1:01:02.

75-79, Katie Rankin, Carrboro, second, 49:55, Kathy Ward, third, 55:13.

80+, Nancy Anderson, first, 1:01:55; Nels Anderson, first, 1:09:09.

Tvermoes Second In Wake Tri

Nicolai Tvermoes (2:13:40) of Chapel Hill was first 55-59 and second male at Sandling Beach Tri Festival international dis-tance event (128) in Wake Forest. It was the last event in 2026 N.C. Tri Series.

Chapel Hill age group awards: Edward Tvermoes, first 15&U, 2:26:47; Tripp Zim-merman, first 40-44, 2:32:21; Timothy Schwantes, third 45-49, 2:28:55; Wade Bem-mels, second 50-54, 2:27:00; Phil Vander-woude, third 55-59, 2:40:11; Mara Faustino, second 16-19, 2:54:10; Madeleine Sparrow, third 20-24, 2:37:58; Alex Sandra Sowder, second 35-39, 3:07:37; Kristen Stolka, Carr-boro, third 45-49, 2:49:17; Aylvia Furst, Pitts-boro, first 60-64, 3:12:02. WT was 2:11:52.

Sprint age group (130) award winners from Chapel Hill: Amelia Kelley, first 20-24, 1:42:40; Jessica Barbee, first 30-34, 1:56:00; Amy Rodriguez, second 40-44, 1:53:08; Erin Watts, first 45-49, 1:43:48; Cindy Webster, first 60-64, 1:49:48.

Jack Berreth (1:34:34) of Carrboro was first male in the novice division (31).

Duncan Leads Chapel Hill Tri

Meredith Duncan (47:52) of Carrboro was first at the 10th annual She Tris women-only sprint triathlon in Chapel Hill (161 finishers). Distances were 250y swim, 9m bike, 2m run.

Stella Friedman (51:58) of Shelby was sec-ond and Elizabeth Skiba (53:09) of Chapel Hill third.

Local age group winners: 20-24, Abigail Klaitman, Mebane, 54:01; 25-29, Rachel Sharp, Carrboro, 1:07:10; 35-39, Courtney Mandeville, Hillsborough, 1:02:27; 80+, Linda Blotzer, Pittsboro, 1:43:39.

Community News

Chapel Hill’s Dia De Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration will have arts and music Sunday, Oct. 25, 12-4 at 140 W. Franklin downtown.

The Festifall Arts Market takes place Nov. 7, 12-5, in the city parking lot on East Rose-mary at Columbia, downtown Chapel Hill.

Durham Bulls MiLB attendance for 2026 totaled 453,064 and averaged 6,122/game, down about 400 a night from last season. The Bulls didn’t make the postseason.

Best Time To Go Fishing Soon, Old Sport, Soon

Capt. Gordon Churchill

F. Scott Fitzgerald said, “Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall.” He may as well have been talking about fishing.

When is the best time to go fishing?

There are people who will point to all kinds of secret signs. Some guys swear by lunar cycles. Others will tell you that when the cows sit in a certain pattern is best (Yeah, I made that one up once ... or twice). But the truth is, the absolute best time to be on the water is anytime you can during the fall.

Autumn. The combination of events that occur during this time of year makes fish do things that will not happen during any other timeframe. Let’s take a look at what’s going on and make some magic. As before in this series, we will define when fall occurs, and we’re saying September through November. Yes, it can get cool in August and get things going, and sometimes we do see fall-like weather into December, but that is not usual. Many years the season ends with a bang-up storm around Thanksgiving.

I have spent many a turkey day feasting and watching the wind blow away the good fishing I had been sitting on. That’s the nature of fishing. But I have also had amaz-ing action on Thanksgiving Day itself in the morning before festivities begin. The very reason the action is so great is because it can end just that quickly. The fish have to do what they need to do quickly.

Don’t Feed Bears

The NCWRC approved an emergency rule that prohibits both intentional and passive feeding of black bears in Buncombe County, in efforts to reduce repeated incidents involv-ing humans and bears.

The language is not intended to prohibit bird feeding nor is it intended to prohibit the use of legal bait for the purposes of regulated hunting, unless those actions pose a threat to human safety or result in property damage.

The rule will go to the Office of Admin-istrative Hearings for final approval, a required step for an emergency rule.

Statewide, over 40 percent of human-bear interactions reported to NCWRC occurred in Buncombe County.

PARK SERVICE, Cont. from page 1

Much of the work on the list is the basic upkeep and maintenance that parks depend on to keep operating, including roof repairs at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, com-puter upgrades at Katmai National Park, and toilet paper and garbage bags at Yellowstone. Meanwhile, White House priorities, includ-ing projects tied to President Donald Trump’s Freedom 250 initiative, were given a new, top-priority status. That list included the \$16 million botched effort to paint the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool blue.

“The canceled projects are working on things that are widely popular, across partisan lines. Who doesn’t want safer water and cleaner campgrounds?” a National Park Service ranger told the Center for Western Priorities. “So they’ll cancel projects like these that keep parks safe in order to save a few dollars, but then they turn around and spend millions in D.C. on gold-plated statues. That’s what’s more important to them, which is both appalling and un-American.”

The Park Service’s repair backlog has doubled over the last decade to more than \$24 billion, and the agency has lost at least a quar-ter of its permanent workforce under the cur-rent Trump administration. The Interior depart-ment told the AP that many entries on the low-priority list were “mis-prioritized and were corrected,” but it declined to say how many or which ones.

In September, as water temperatures fall through the 70-degree range, speckled trout will begin to gather in creeks off bigger water systems that lead toward the ocean. They have been doing their thing, scattered around in

FISHING, Continued on page 8

Outdoor Notes

LAKES CLOSING

OWASA lakes (University Lake and Cane Creek) in Chapel Hill close for the season Oct. 31. Until then UL is open Fri-Sun and CC Fri-Sat 6:30-6. Fees are charged. Lakes offer boat rentals including kayaks, fishing, picnicking.

Starting Oct. 29, Cane Creek is open Wed-nesday-only 7 to 11 a.m. for birding. Free. The reservoir is home to 200+ species.

Durham city lakes Michie and Little River remain closed.

BIRDS OF PREY

Friends of the Lower Haw SNA has two upcoming programs of interest.

Oct. 17, Birds of Prey guided hike on Great Trails State Day led by naturalist Jason Brown, 10 a.m., Bynum Mill Access, Pittsboro.

Nov. 11, Build and Test A Toy Boat made from recycled materials with State Parks edu-cator Sean Higgins, 10 a.m., Bynum Mill Ac-cess, Pittsboro. Programs are free and don’t require registration.

NATUREFEST

N.C. Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill, holds NatureFest for kids under 12 Saturday, Oct. 17, 1-4, with hands-on outdoor activities that highlight the wonders of nature in N.C.

CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH

Kings Highway Park, Hillsborough, was closed for a day earlier in the month for the installation of a new floating canoe and kayak launch to replace the one damaged during Tropical Storm Chantal in July 2025.

The park is an 18-acre natural area on Ben Johnson Road at the edge of the Hillsborough Extraterritorial Jurisdiction. It is owned and maintained by the town. Over the past few years, volunteers have built trails, bridges and a kiosk. KHP has almost 1 mile of nature trails.

LEAVE THE LEAVES

This fall, consider leaving your leaves where they fall. They can create fertile soil, support local wildlife and improve water qual-ity. You don’t need to post a sign. In your yard.

TROUT STOCKING

The NCWRC will wait until November to stock Delayed Harvest Trout Waters. Impacts from an unusually hot summer, coupled with the ongoing drought conditions and damage from Hurricane Helene, have caused lethally high-water temperatures flowing into the state’s mountain trout hatcheries, thus reduc-ing the number of available fish to stock.

“It’s been a brutal summer for these cold-water fish,” said NCWRC’s State Fish Produc-tion Supervisor David Deaton. “The water tem-peratures coming into our hatchery were at times, in the mid-to-high 70s. Trout cannot sur-vive that temperature. They get stressed, be-come susceptible to disease and many die.”

UPCOMING CSN ISSUES:

November—ACC Hoops

December—SE Ski Mini-Guide



To advertise contact joelcsn1@gmail.com
Ad deadline 7 days before publication

County Gets Two Bids For Millhouse Property

Orange County wants to sell about 45 acres on Millhouse Road in north Chapel Hill for a non-profit owned and operated field sports complex that would provide private and public use. Bids for the property, near Duke Forest, were due Sep. 18. There will be deed restrictions to guarantee continued field use.

“We received two proposals, both met the requirements. An internal review team is reviewing the proposals and will begin meeting in the next week or so to discuss,” Orange Co. P&R Director David Stancil told CSN Oct. 9. No details were provided.

Prior to the deadline, the leading candidate reportedly was the N.C. Football Club of Raleigh, a nonprofit and well-regarded youth soccer provider.

The property was purchased by the county for \$1,260,500 in 2004 as a future park site and considered likely to be paired with Chapel Hill fields to host weekend soccer tournaments and attract tourist spending. Its proximity to I-40 was considered a key asset. That idea never advanced. *J.B.*

Chapel Hill Biscuit Festival

The inaugural Chapel Hill Biscuit Festival will bring together the state’s finest chefs, bakers and local purveyors on Oct. 24-25.

There’s a hands-on children’s biscuit baking class for kids 8-12 (Saturday 10-12 noon, \$75) at the SECU Family House on Mason Farm Road near Finley Golf Course, Chapel Hill, and a curated chef tasting event (Sunday 2-6) at American Legion Post 6, 3700 NC54W with savory and sweet creations, local spirits and live music.

Proceeds benefit SECU Family House. Tickets to the tasty event are pricey, VIP \$100, general admission \$75. Must be 21+.

Community News

Carolina Hurricanes, the defending Stanley Cup winners, have five players in ESPN’s top 100. They were Aho 48, Slavin 62, Jarvis 74, Svechnikov 84, Ehlers 96.

ACC soccer championship semis are Nov. 12 and finals Nov. 15 for men and women at WakeMed SP, Cary. Women semis are Friday 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and finals 12 noon Sunday; men semis 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Friday and finals Sunday at 4. It’s the first time for both on the same day and location. Ticket books are \$40 for each division. Email tickets@theacc.org. No walk-up tickets.

Triangle school athletic revenue: Duke \$208.2M, UNC \$195.7M, N.C. State \$146.4M, for 2024, according to Dept. of Education data.

October Standings

Final Standings

Carrboro Fall Co-Rec Ultimate

Purple 8-4 16, Orange 6-6 12, Columbia Blue 6-6 12, Black 4-8 8.

High School Football

Results from week 8 for area schools: Chapel Hill 35, East Chapel Hill 7; S. Granville 42, Carrboro 6; Northwood 56, Jordan Matthews 22; Seaforth 49, Cedar Ridge 0; Orange 29, JF Webb 28.

Season records: Chapel Hill 2-5; East Chapel Hill 1-5; Carrboro 1-5; Northwood 3-4; Seaforth 5-1, Cedar Ridge 0-5; Orange 3-4.

FISHING, Continued from page 7

smaller schools, or even in solitary, during summer. They know that in order to make it in the ocean, they need a number advantage. There are sharks waiting for them. A bait ball gets ravaged by a school of false albacore.

Luckily for the trout, Atlantic silversides feel the same way. You may know them as glass minnows. Trout call them “snacks.” There will be clouds of them, and trout will eat them nonstop when situations arise. Find them and you’ve done what was needed.

Primarily this will occur in channels that feed toward inlets. My favorite spots to fish were always where a creek would be obstructed or contracted in a way that cut the minnows’ escape routes. This could be a narrowing, or a creek that’s shallower on one side, and the most popular spots often have jetties or sea walls.

Probably the most popular lure choice is a plastic-tail jig head. Seriously, just pick one. I will add that the 5-inch Zman

Jerk Shadz were favorites of mine due to their high durability. But the same curly tails you have left over from 1979 will still get bites for you. That’s assuming, of course, that they still wiggle and aren’t dried up from sitting in the garage.

Cast and twitch. Try different colors. If your buddy is getting them in a different color, try that.

Incoming tide is key. Often the fish will be snapping and

then, just like that, it’s over with the end of the rise. As we move into October the best ocean fishing of the year occurs. Spanish mackerel and bluefish schools can be seen that stretch to wherever. King mackerel fishing can be astounding at times. The peak is often around Columbus Day. Why? It just happens that way sometimes.

FISHING, Continued on page 9

Another View, Mine John Nieman

As I have previously written in this space, at the urging—actually, insistence—of Jeff, Stephanie, Burke and Larkin, I have made a real effort to follow UNC sports other than soccer. In that regard, I have, like most others, been fascinated by the Belichick UNC Football Saga.

Owing to an important family function Martha and I hosted on the Saturday of the Pitt football game, I was unable to watch the game. However, I watched the 15-minute highlight recap provided by ESPN and feel like I didn’t miss a thing. (I will forgo my usual commentary of the lack of actual action in football.)

It was clear to me that the defense for UNC has greatly improved since the resignation of Belichick’s son as defensive coordinator. I don’t know enough about football or the workings of UNC football to state that those two factors are related. I’m just saying.

What I observed in the week heading up to the game and then post game is that there is a real change in the attitude toward UNC and college football by Coach Belichick.

I sincerely believe that he came to UNC thinking that this was just going to be a walk in the park. That he would show the world what the so-called best NFL coach in history could do in the college game. That he would provide a platform for his son to have a job as head coach in the future. That he would allow a 20-something cheerleader to be his spokesperson and advisor and that would all be okay.

That plan clearly came crashing to the ground.

To his credit, Belichick could have gone in many directions after such failure. It appears that he has decided to show maturity and good judgment as opposed to his previous tactic. I think that is important.

Belichick and I are around the same age and so I can say that, at this stage of life, one can look to the past and have that be the focus, or one can look at the past and the future, knowing that the future will enhance and inform the past.

I am certain that Belichick does not want his legacy to be that he was lucky enough to be the coach of the greatest football quarterback in NFL history which he followed up by confirming to all those doubters that Brady was the reason for his success by being something of a joke as a college coach.

I hope that he realizes that he has been given a tremen-

dous opportunity by being named the coach of the University of North Carolina football team. Coaching at a university that has won national championships in numerous sports. Coaching at a university in the tradition of the likes of Dean Smith. An ACC Championship and a berth in the national college football playoffs would be a legacy-making accomplishment. I hope with all of my heart that he realizes this and manages to accomplish it. I understand that I may be overreacting to one away win, but that is how dreams are made.

And speaking of legacy, I will continue to rant in this space about the absence of any mention of the founders of Rainbow Soccer on the Rainbow Soccer website.

When I went back to play in the program in the 2010s, I made it a point to reach out and compliment the operators of the program on the incredible improvement to the facilities and organization of the program and they certainly deserve that credit.

But to completely ignore the contribution that Kip Ward and Vicki Brawley made to the sport of soccer in the Chapel Hill and Orange County communities is outrageous.

The founding of a program where sport is focused on fun and fulfillment as opposed to competition resulting in high school championships, professional players, happy participants and incredible memories. And more than a few lifetime partnerships, including mine and Martha’s.

Rainbow Soccer in the ‘70s and ‘80s was a unique experience for all. And it was all due to the vision of Kip Ward, the support and hard work of Vicky Brawley, and, quite frankly, the financial support of Vicky and her family. That neither Kip nor Vicky are mentioned anywhere is petty and completely the opposite of the spirit of Rainbow Soccer.

I, along with thousands of Rainbow alumni, are grateful for their recognition through their induction in the North Carolina Soccer Hall of Fame. That induction was solely based on their founding, institution and maintenance of Rainbow Soccer, and the fact that they are not recognized by the organization today is quite a shame.

And so I guess I’ll keep proclaiming my disappointment until justice prevails.

Fat Boy Index: 230.

Media Sportswatch Joel Bulkley

College basketball is under way.

Seeing UNC play against Southern Cal in a Greensboro exhibition, confirmed what former NC State coach and ESPN analyst Kevin Keatts said a couple of weeks ago after watching Carolina practice. “They have depth, speed, playmakers and rim protection.” It should be an exciting season.

But it was frustrating fans didn’t see the start of the game, Coach Malone’s first here, due to a lengthy volleyball overrun. We still don’t have the complete ACC or school TV hoops schedules from ESPN. They put out a list of ACC games and tip times but most don’t have a TV network (ACCN, ESPN, ESPNU etc.). ACCN did follow the first UNC game with a player roundtable and film saluting the 1993 NCAA championship team.

The first Carolina/Duke hoops game will be on ABC Feb. 13 at 5:30, the day before the Super Bowl. ABC, ESPN and Disney+ have the Super Bowl on Valentine’s Day.

Good stuff. The ACC continues to show from behind the scenes how the conference handles replay issues during football games. WRDC continues to carry live regional high school games. Canes star Seth Jarvis donates funds for a new dog therapy program at UNC Children’s Hospital. Specially trained dogs will work alongside medical personnel to support children and families. Check out Durham Dispatch for stories that you’ll not see in print in Durham.

Personnel notes. Former WRAL reporter Sarah Krueger is the managing editor at 9th Street Journal. Raleigh native Bam Alston joined the writing staff at SNL. The N&O lost three journalists in the latest McClasky layoffs and a GFM campaign raised more than \$10,000 from 114 donors, many of them current N&O staffers. Bob Sutton is directing the sports

coverage at North State Journal’s Chatham paper.

Weird stuff. To protest Duke, students need Duke’s permission and they have to make a reservation two weeks in advance. Are you kidding?

Peter Berg, the “Friday Night Lights” director, has a new feature about college football players who joined the Marines during World War II. It’s adapted from a book by Buzz Bissinger, who wrote the original “Friday Night Lights” source material. “The Mosquito Bowl” will start in theaters Oct. 30, but it’s available on Netflix effective Nov. 25.

Hurricane Games On TV

The Hurricane Hockey Network (HHN) will broadcast all but 12 Canes games this season. The exceptions are national TV games on ESPN and TNT. Canes games are available on Spectrum cable (channel 313), streamed on Prime Video for \$99.99 for season or \$19.99/month or Fubo where a free trial is available.

These new plans were needed when FanDuel, the latest regional sports network, folded last spring.

A handful of Saturday night games will be offered on local TV (WRAL, Fox 50) and other stations across the state. They are simulcasts of the HHN game coverage with Mike Maniscalco and Tripp Tracy. Hanna Yates and Shane Willis handle pre and post-game and intermission reports. The broadcasts are assisted by NHL Network highlights and player features.

The early regular season Canes TV broadcasts were OK, like dress rehearsals, and are improving as everyone gets acclimated. All Canes games are on 99.9FM radio.



Jennette’s Pier, Nag’s Head

PHOTO: OUTERBANKS.ORG

FISHING, Continued from page 8

Bluefish and Spanish mackerel fans will want to have small epoxy jigs like The Gunslinger ready to fire. False albacore will be around sporadically. Be prepared to run and gun. Use a bite leader for macks and blues, or the connection may be short lived.

Great action on red drum will happen all over. Until it starts to drop below 60 degrees, count on them to continue to react well to the same presentations that worked all summer. If you find them, they will give a good smack. Finding them will become the issue as the season progresses, they will get into tighter and tighter schools as it gets colder, making them progressively more difficult to find. The last time I got my father, Don Churchill, on the beach was for specks.

The end of October will see the big runs of false albacore make their appearance. We will see them chasing bait balls all along our coast, the epicenter being the Cape Lookout area. The unique shape of our coast here provides sheltered water that favors both the fish and anglers. East-West beaches give shelter from prevailing North winds, in turn, multiple inlets close together give plenty of feeding opportunities as glass minnows get swept out.

Make sure to get out at any opportunity with a mild north wind. Southwest blows kind of mess up the action. The days go by so fast. Speckled trout begin moving toward the inlets. Being out there early to find a school right behind the break in the surf is a special thing. This is the time to get it all to yourself because many won’t be out there until they hear about it on the internet. Locals who know, can clean up in October.

November will often give us the absolute best fishing of the year on all the inshore glamour species. One thing I always looked forward to was the specks in the surf. If the wind is light from the northwest, get your waders on and get an early start. Even Fitzgerald couldn’t complain about this kind of repeat of the past when it involves a beautiful sunrise and trout-thumping plugs.

Of course, the absolute nirvana of the false albacore run is November. There were many days when instead of chasing schools around, we would just set up along the beach and a conga line would just dance toward us. This literally could occur anywhere.

I remember one day casting from Bogue Inlet Pier in Emerald Isle with not a gull, a splash, or jumping fish in sight, and hooking 18-pounders on every cast on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. The next day, we had a storm and it was all over. When the weather was right, my buddies and I would pier fish on Thanksgiving morning for specks using a tandem rig of a Gotcha Plug and DOA shrimp. Get a limit early enough to get the turkey and potatoes going. Fishing in fall can indeed be great.

The bittersweet thing is that it is like a green light at the end of a dock, you don’t want to miss the chance. Spring is the promise of things to come. Summer is the fulfillment of that promise. Fall signifies the end. While winter holds different promises, it’s really just a way to get through to start over and beat on against the tide.

Reprinted from Coastal Review.org

Editor’s Note: Churchill is a lifetime angler and longtime guide on the Carolina Coast. He lives in Carteret County.

UNC Schedule

Here’s the men’s basketball schedule minus the TV networks:

- Nov. 2: Season Opener vs. Western Carolina (7 p.m.)
- Nov. 6: vs. Wofford (7 p.m.)
- Nov. 10: vs. Wyoming (7 p.m.)
- Nov. 13: vs. Georgia (7 p.m.)
- Nov. 20: vs. Marshall (9 p.m.)
- Nov. 23: vs. Monmouth (8 p.m.)
- Nov. 27: Dick Vitale Invitational vs. West Virginia in Charlotte, N.C. (7 p.m.)
- December 1: ACC-SEC Challenge vs. Arkansas (7:30 p.m.)
- Dec. 6: vs. Butler (3 p.m.)
- Dec. 12: at Georgetown (12 p.m.)
- Dec. 15: Tobacco Road Classic vs. NC State in Greensboro (7 p.m.)
- Dec. 19: CBS Sports Classic vs. Kentucky in New York, N.Y. (2:30 p.m.)
- Dec. 21: vs. The Citadel (8 p.m.)
- Dec. 30: vs. Cal (4 p.m.)
- January 2, 2027: at Boston College (4 p.m.)
- Jan. 5: at Louisville (9 p.m.)
- Jan. 9: vs. NC State (12 p.m.)
- Jan. 13: at Florida State (7 p.m.)
- Jan. 16: vs. Stanford (2:15 p.m.)
- Jan. 19: vs. Virginia (9 p.m.)
- Jan. 23: at Syracuse (12 p.m.)
- Jan. 26: vs. SMU (7 p.m.)
- Jan. 30: Nashville (Tenn.) Hoops Showdown vs. Illinois in Bridgestone Arena (6 or 6:30 p.m.)
- February 2: at Notre Dame
- Feb. 6: vs. Georgia Tech (2:15 p.m.)
- Feb. 8: vs. Louisville (7 p.m.)
- Feb. 13: at Duke (5:30 p.m.)
- Feb. 20: at Wake Forest (7 p.m.)
- Feb. 22: vs. Miami (7 p.m.)
- Feb. 27: at Virginia Tech (7 p.m.)
- March 2: at Pitt (9 p.m.)
- March 6: vs. Duke (6 or 6:30 p.m.)
- March 9-13: ACC Tournament in Greensboro

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