

# NEWS

## NEWS from the OUTSIDE WORLD

### U.S. searches for Soviet weapons

The United States has spent as much as \$5 billion since 1991 to help secure the former Soviet Union's vast nuclear, chemical and biological arsenal, but U.S. officials say they still can't account for all the weapons.

Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the U.S. should be very concerned that some of these Soviet weapons of mass destruction may have slipped into the wrong hands, according to Sen. Dick Lugar, R-Ind.

"That is the worst-case scenario," said Lugar. "That is the one thing we must make certain did not happen."

Since the political, economic and social chaos that surrounded the dissolution of the Soviet Union, roughly half the Soviet nuclear warheads have been destroyed.

The secure disposal of the materials which the weapons use for nuclear explosions - plutonium and highly enriched uranium - is still difficult, and the progress of securing the chemical and biological stockpiles has proceeded far more slowly than the destruction program, according to Lugar.

### Suspects found in church shooting

Twelve suspected Islamic militants were detained for questioning Oct. 30 in a weekend shooting at a Christian church in Pakistan that killed 16 people, according to authorities.

Arif Ikram, police superintendent in Behawalpur, a town in south-central Pakistan, said the 12 were detained during several raids in different areas of Punjab province. He said none of them had yet been charged.

He said the men belonged to at least three different Islamic militant groups, though he would not identify them or the men. Authorities expressed confidence they were on the right track.

### U.S. Airways loses more revenue

U.S. Airways, the sixth-largest airline carrier in the United States, reported a third-quarter net loss of \$766 million Oct. 30. The company was battered by the lingering economic slump, labor costs and the sharp decline in travel after the Sept. 11 attacks.

U.S. Airways said the loss amounted to \$11.42 per share, compared with a loss of \$30 million, or 45 cents per share, in the third quarter.

Before unusual items, U.S. Airways reported a loss for the latest quarter of \$433 million, or \$6.45 per share. Wall Street analysts polled by research firm Thomson Financial/First Call had expected the airline to post a quarterly loss of 57 cents to \$5.75 per share, with a consensus forecast of \$3.94.

The carrier said quarterly operating revenues fell 16.5 percent, to \$1.99 billion from \$2.38 billion a year earlier. U.S. Airways said it had taken an additional charge of \$309 million related to the attacks.



The fire began around 3:30 p.m. near the Biltmore Estate. It did very little damage.

## Fire extinguished near Biltmore

Rae Stephens  
Staff Reporter

A fire burned 35 acres of a Biltmore Estate corn field around 3:30 p.m. Oct. 26.

No one was injured or evacuated, and no buildings were affected, according to Elizabeth Sims, marketing and communications director for the Biltmore Estate.

"The emergency responders were wonderful. They were quick to respond and quickly got it under control," said Kathleen Mosher, public relations supervisor for the Biltmore Estate. "None of our structures were ever in any danger. It was in an area that guests don't have access to so there were never any safety issues."

Neither the firefighters nor the combine was entirely certain what caused the fire. The fire began in a dead corn field where workers were taking down the dried stalks.

A combine, a large piece of farm equipment most often used to harvest crops, was near the source



A firefighter battles the fire, which is currently under investigation.

of the fire.

"We're not sure, but the combine was the only thing out there that could have ignited it," said Asheville Fire Department Division Chief Gary Cornett.

According to Mosher, the 8,000 acre Biltmore Estate has never had a fire in the main house, and very rarely has brush fires like this one. Despite this fire, representatives of the Estate considered themselves fortunate.

"Luckily, they were just taking down dead stalks when the fire began, and no real damage was done," said Mosher.

When the firefighters arrived, the fire had already spread to 10 acres of the corn field. Another 25 acres burned before the firefighters could get it under control, according to Cornett.

"We had a lot of strong, shifting winds, so the fire was very hard to control," Cornett said. "It would turn in several different directions."

Biltmore Estate representatives believe it was the combine that lit the blaze, and no investigation will take place further into the matter. "I don't know what caused the fire and I don't think anybody else does," said Mosher. "But, it's over."

## Bill

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four years, unless Congress decides to renew the law," according to the Times.

The administration had wanted to make the authority permanent, according to the *New York Times*. Senator Patrick Leahy, a Democrat from Vermont and head of the Judiciary Committee argued in favor of the new bill. The Senate made sure the bill restricted as little speech as possible, according to Leahy.

"We took the time to look at it and we took the time to read it and we took the time to remove those parts that were unconstitutional and those parts that would have actually hurt the rights of all Americans," said Leahy.

Many civil liberties advocates opposed the bill, according to the Times.

Advocates argued that the new law "jeopardizes fundamental rights and would require vigilant oversight to keep authorities in line," said the Times.

Bush talked about the implications of the new bill, which increases the power of the government in surveillance of possible terrorists.

"Current statutes deal more severely with drug-traffickers than with terrorists," said President Bush. "That changes today."

## Highsmith — continued from page 1

long as they are within the Asheville Pizza Company's delivery zone," said Frazier.

The new building will be over two and a half times the size of the current building. It will be three stories tall and have a total gross area of 73,920 square feet, according to Williams.

"So, you're going to have the plaza level, where you are now, and the bridge level that is going to be even with Loop Rd./University Heights and there's going to be a mezzanine level above that. It's going to fill up the courtyard area in front of the pre-existing building and Mills Hall parallel to the Loop Rd.," said Williams.

The new building will have many things that are not in the current Highsmith Center. Some of these things will include space for four fast

food restaurants in the new food court, a larger bookstore, a convenience store like one you would find at a gas station. There will be office space for many organiza-

tions on campus, including those that are currently located in Highsmith and some additions. The Blue Banner will have an office space in this new building as well as a darkroom, according to Frazier.

The residents of Founders Hall will experience the most problems during the construction. These students will have to walk around the construction site to get anywhere on campus, however, the residents of Mills Hall need not worry too much, the stairs directly in front of this building will still be accessible, according to Williams.



Students take a break from studying to play pool.

## Budget — continued from page 1

The University is expected to know more about where specific cuts will be made by Nov. 8.

"I think that it's bad for me, and the people that I work with," said Evan Schafer a junior multimedia arts and sciences major at UNCA. "The video lab that we work with already has dated equipment, and it makes doing projects very difficult. It's no good when they take away the money that we so badly need."

Approximately 65 percent of UNCA's annual budget is allocated for academics, according to McDevitt.

"I think that it's silly that we have to give up a million dollars, said David Childers, an undeclared sophomore at UNCA. "For a campus like Duke, NC State, or Chapel Hill that kind of cut wouldn't hurt them as badly. But for us, that's five percent of our budget."

Chancellor Mullen is working closely with faculty, students, staff and the Board of Trustees to best identify how to manage this budget.

"First, we have to maintain the integrity of our academic enterprise. In particular, we must preserve the

ability for professors to teach effectively," said Mullen. "Second, we need to continue to set the students as our highest priority. We will insure that they receive a first-rate liberal arts experience."

"Third, we need to manage this situation in a way that recognizes and respects all the members of the UNCA family."

The school will also try and identify monies from other sources such as bonds, to offset the impact of this one-time reversion of state funding, according to McDevitt.

"It doesn't mean that people will lose their jobs," said McDevitt. "It means a computer that you have been waiting to get for three years may take a fourth year. Or that blackboard that has to be replaced may not arrive until next year."

"I think that it is unfortunate that the state is cutting our budget. It seems that education always seems to get cut first," said Adrienne Stork, a junior environmental studies and French major. "We really need this money because it is our future. These are the students who will be running our country."

"We should not let our fears hold us back from

## pursuing our hopes."

— John F. Kennedy

As we begin to pursue our hopes again,  
let's remember to support the merchants in our region who are a vital thread in the fabric of our communities.