

**HALIFAX**

FROM PAGE 1  
UNC's help.

**Past and present problems**

Early in October, the town hosted Harvest Days, an annual three-day festival on the fields of the old county poorhouse, which was converted to a 4-H center in the 1980s. On one side of the field, food vendors selling pigskins and Polish sausage gave way to bleachers and a rodeo pen. And in the distance, on top of a hill, a camp of Confederate and World War II soldiers prepared to reenact battles.

"On a good year, we've had thousands of people come out to this, but you can't do anything about the weather," said Joe Long, director of the 4-H Rural Life Center, nodding to the thick clouds overhead.

Stepping on hay that had been thrown over deep ruts in the muddy earth left by pickups and trailers, he headed for a row of antique tractors parked near a sawmill.

Long explained how revolutionary the tractors were for an agricultural economy and the workings of an old gas-powered sawmill while three men cut boards from pine-tree trunks.

"My grandfather had a mill just exactly like this, but it was powered by a big steam engine," he said. "We say history's a long time ago, but it's not that far back."

Though the town is happy to showcase its history, Long said Halifax's future is the local focus.

"Probably the biggest problem we have here is education," he said. "A lot of your good students that go off to college, they stay off."

**The educational divide**

Shawn Guy, a junior information science major at UNC, is one of only 39 students enrolled in the University from Halifax County.

His decision to attend UNC was influenced by two outreach programs offered by the University. Through Project Uplift, he was able to spend two days touring the campus with minority students from all over the state.

Then, during the summer, he participated in Upward Bound, a program that allowed him to stay on campus and take classes for six weeks.

He said that he enjoyed growing up there, but that having three educational systems divided students and caused a lot of confusion and problems.

"Wealthier people in Halifax County usually go to private schools in Halifax County or they go to the Roanoke Rapids school district.

"The Roanoke Rapids district is predominantly white, and most people expect it to have corporate sponsors. They have better materials to start people toward a career ... and probably more opportunities because those resources are available."

Guy said most of the county's minority students are educated in the other two school districts, which aren't funded as well as the Roanoke Rapids district.

Teacher turnover is also a problem. Guy said that his high school had to hire on average 25 new teachers a year to replace the ones that left.

"A lot of the teachers I found there that were great teachers came from the Teach for America program, but usually they only stay there for their two years," Guy said.

He said he thinks the county should offer teachers more incentives to stay in the area. Once education in the county improves, more jobs will become available.

**HALLOWEEN**

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community.

Now in its 33rd year, New York City's Greenwich Village Halloween Parade is attended by more than two million people.

Jeanne Fleming, artistic and producing director for this year's parade, said the small village activity steadily grew into today's giant puppet- and costume-filled parade.

She added that the parade works extensively with area college students who want to run public events or sign up as volunteers.

Alexandra Palmer, a sophomore at New York University who attended the parade last year, said that while some of the actions at the parade might not always be family-appropriate, the event is a visually stimulating experience.

"A lot of people from Greenwich Village come out," she said. "It really is a village thing that we all look forward to."

For these reasons Fleming said she considers Halloween the true national holiday.

"It's a holiday of the heart," she said. "You don't have to go home to your family to be with your new family."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stndesk@unc.edu](mailto:stndesk@unc.edu).



DTH/JOE COLLEVECCIO

Henry Clay, a provost guard in the army of Northern Virginia, stirs beans during a reenactment during Halifax's Harvest Days festival.

attracting college graduates to the county.

"I plan to move away," he said, laughing. "I plan to move to an area where there are more opportunities for me in my field."

The county has lost 5,000 manufacturing jobs in the last 10 years as industry has moved overseas. Recently, farmers have stopped planting peanuts, once a major crop in the area, because cheaper shipments from China have depressed prices so much they are no longer profitable.

**Building a brighter future**

In an old barn near a restored farmhouse, J. Rives Manning Jr. walked among old cotton plants and drying tobacco displays. Manning, a Halifax County commissioner, stopped in front of a black-and-white picture of the Davie house and crossed his arms.

"We have educated a lot of people that have gone on to bigger and better things," he said. "Too often we can't get them to come back. That's why we need the industry."

"I think we're on the threshold of taking off," Manning said. "We're going to see the growth in eastern North Carolina that we saw in the Piedmont."

Cannon fire from the Confederate camp punctuated his words, but he didn't flinch as the concussions echoed across the field.

"We have good transportation," Manning said. "We have railroads. We have adequate water. We have adequate sewage. We have a natural gas line. I feel like we have an awful lot going for us. And we have good leaders that can make it happen."

He said the county is building even more infrastructure in an attempt to attract more industry; the problem is finding enough money to complete the projects.

The county is severely hampered by the state's requirement that it supply a portion of its residents' Medicaid payments, he said. North Carolina is the only state that makes counties pay a portion of Medicaid. For Halifax,

that amounts to about \$5 million a year.

"What could \$5 million do for a small county?" he said. "A lot. Somehow or another, we need to get Medicaid funded."

Manning said he thinks the state should pass a half-percent sales tax increase that will go strictly to funding Medicaid.

"That is one place that the state can help Halifax County, and every other small county in North Carolina," he said. "Help us convince Sen. Tony Rand and the other senators to relieve the counties of the Medicaid burden."

Manning also said the county lacks private and industrial investment.

"We need money; we need UNC alumni's money to help restore that home," he said, pointing to the photograph of the Davie house. "They have to remember that he was a father of the University. This is not a tree that can die on the Chapel Hill campus. This is a living house."

Manning said the county is open to any suggestions as to what it can do to fuel growth.

Anita Brown-Graham, a professor in the UNC School of Government, co-authored a paper in September 2002 that evaluated the economic competitiveness of Halifax County and three other economically stifled counties.

"The issues that prevailed (in 2002) continue," Brown-Graham said. "Ultimately, that's what it takes, an infusion of private investment in these counties."

"The real stressor for us is North Carolina is recognizing the stubbornness of poverty in these communities," she said.

The October festival celebrated Halifax County's wealth of history, talent and potential. Long said he thinks reviving Halifax's economy will not be much different than organizing the festival.

"What it takes is teamwork," he said. "Everyone working together, just like this festival. Everyone working together to get on one page."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stndesk@unc.edu](mailto:stndesk@unc.edu).

**PAGEANT**

FROM PAGE 1

Floyd, a journalism major from Dallas, N.C., and a Carolina Week reporter, has competed in pageants since 10th grade. She's been crowned Miss Gastonia 2005 and Miss Charlotte 2006.

But not all of this weekend's contestants have a crown collection at home.

According to pageant rules, the only requirements to enter are that contestants must never have been married or given birth, need to be residents or full-time N.C. college students and are between the ages of 18 and 26.

This weekend was Nunley's first pageant.

"I wanted to become Miss North Carolina so that I could be a role model for young girls in North Carolina and hopefully get a chance to be a role model for girls nationally," she said.

"Usually in mainstream media you see one kind of generic type of beauty, and I just wanted to change that," she said.

Competing does not come cheap. Each contestant raised about \$1,000 for entry fees and paid for outfits, makeup, accessories and professional photos. Some hired coaches and fitness trainers.

"It's real expensive, but when you look at it, the experience you get from it, it's worthwhile," Nunley said.

Money was not the only cost. For months Nunley went to the gym three times a week and attended aerobics classes twice a week.

Floyd wore ankle weights to class and cut back on her Facebook.com and instant messenger time to prepare for the pageant, she said.

In the dressing room after the competition, she munched on a Peppermint Pattie and complained that her 5-inch heels cut off circulation to her toes.

All of this in pursuit of a state title and package of goodies, including free cosmetic dentistry, casting opportunities and a full scholarship to High Point University. And then there's the ultimate prize: A chance to win the 2007 Miss USA pageant.

Contestants were judged in three categories — swimsuit, evening gown and personal interview. A panel of five judges chose the winner.

"You are looking for the total package," said judge Gervase Peterson, a former "Survivor" star who now spends some of his time judging pageants in Louisiana, Minnesota and North Carolina.

"If you don't look good in your bathing suit then that is harder to work with," he said. "That's what pageants are about — your looks."

But Floyd took a different stance during her 90-second on-stage interview.

"Your inner beauty is what actually makes you beautiful on the outside, so that's what's real important to me."

Contact the Features Editor at [features@unc.edu](mailto:features@unc.edu).



DTH/SIMON WESCHLE

Board of Elections chairman Jim Brewer (center) confers with Student Attorney General Candace Debnam at a Supreme Court hearing Sunday.

**SUPREME COURT**

FROM PAGE 1

the district three violation because the breach was found prior to the end of the campaign, unlike the district six problem, which wasn't discovered until after votes were cast.

"Since there was no way to sanction the violation before the end of the election, there's no way to know how votes would have been affected," she said.

Jim Brewer, chairman of the elections board, said the board couldn't certify one seat in the district six election but not the other, per McLamb's request.

He cited the 2005 case in which The Daily Tar Heel filed a complaint against the elections board. In that case, the court ruled that each district's election stands on its own as a complete unit.

"A re-election can only be held if the results of a previous election are voided," Brewer said — not just the results for one of the two seats.

In the second case, the elections board argued that Congress' Facebook Protection Act is illegal on three counts.

Elections board member Kris Gould argued the board's first point, stating that the passage of the bill represented an interpretive act — and that interpreting the Code is a power reserved for bodies such as the elections board, not Congress.

"What they said is that Facebook

is not a Web page," Gould said. "They do not have that power."

The second point of the elections board's case was presented by Debnam, who argued that Congress should have appealed the board's decision rather than passing legislation to circumvent it.

"Congress knew what they should have done and chose not to do it," she said.

Brewer argued that the bill undermines the board's authority and ability to hold fair elections.

Gould, Debnam and Brewer played audio clips from Congress meetings to support their points that members were aware that they were committing an interpretive act and knowingly decided not to address the board's decision through the proper channels.

Congress Speaker Luke LaFare defended the board's actions.

"Was this interpretive in nature? No — bills are not interpretive, they are interpreted," he said. "An incorrect appeal? No — Congress conducted oversight, and from that oversight wrote the bill."

"Congress recognized that the interpretation of the board was correct and recognized the only way to change that was to write a bill."

The Court said it would release its written opinion on the McLamb case at noon today and issue a verdict in the Congress case in the coming days.

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

**games**

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**Sudoku**

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		2				7
6	9				8	3
8	4					
	7			3		6
	6	5	9			
2	3	8	4	5		
			7			
6	1				3	4

To Play: Complete the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 to 9. Just use logic to solve. No number is repeated in any column, row or box.

Solution to Friday's

7	4	8	1	9	5	6	2	3
6	2	9	7	4	3	1	5	8
1	3	5	6	2	8	4	7	9
3	7	6	8	1	2	9	4	5
9	8	1	3	5	4	7	6	2
2	5	4	9	6	7	8	3	1
8	6	2	4	3	9	5	1	7
4	9	3	5	7	1	2	8	6
5	1	7	2	8	6	3	9	4

Puzzles provided by [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

**THE Daily Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**ACROSS**

1 Existed once

4 Cable market news org.

8 Los \_\_, NM

14 Clay, nowadays

15 Ethereal

16 FDR center

17 Practical joke

18 Distinct mus. tones

19 Actor Coleman

20 Dundee denial

22 Golden oldie

24 Bailey or Buck

26 Asian holiday

27 Carbon compounds

30 2000 British film, "Billy \_\_"

32 Egyptian god of pleasure

34 Melville's "Typee" sequel

35 Lumberman's tool

36 Trigger's lunch

38 Cpl. aspirant

39 Protectors of Gotham City

42 Spanish uncle

43 Vegas machine

44 Singers John and Bonnie

46 Money \_\_ everything!

48 Ulna site

49 Main or Maple

50 Medley meals

52 Extinct bird

**DOWN**

1 Tail wiggle

2 Carte precoder

3 Three Bats

4 Lawyers' burdens

5 Hoops event

6 Leaflike plant part

7 Three Bats

8 Piles on

9 Period of tenancy

10 Unpigmented

11 Three Bats

**ACROSS**

12 The lonliest number

13 Salty sauce

21 Turn up

23 Mr. T's outfit

24 MPH part

25 Snob

28 Islands in the Norwegian Sea

29 Part of SSA

31 Choreographer Sharp

33 Mixes

37 Disseminator

40 Sally Field movie, "\_\_ Rae"

**DOWN**

41 Even more calamitous

42 Shakespearian contraction

45 Ave. crossers

47 A dozen

51 Marketing figure

53 Mr. Addams on TV

56 For fear that

58 Himalayan gazelle

59 Keyboard key

61 Largest part of the U.K.

63 Auto pioneer's initials

64 Tiny colony critter

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**Senior steps**

Senior class officers assess their platform progress at the midpoint of their terms. See pg. 3 for story.

**Radio stars**

Smith Middle School students launch a radio show with music and news. See pg. 4 for story.

**Tenure tracks**

Study shows a gap between the number of men and women in professorships. See pg. 6 for story.

**Mixed music**

A student-led project seeks to compile a CD of local music acts. See pg. 7 for story.

**Pressed power**

A report states that press freedom in the U.S. has decreased. See pg. 7 for story.

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