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# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Gulf war would cause oil prices to triple

WASHINGTON — The price of oil could easily "explode" to \$100 per barrel if war broke out in the Persian Gulf, a panel of experts told a Senate committee Wednesday.

"There's no limit," said John Lichtblau of the Petroleum Industry Research Foundation. "It depends on how much pain there is."

"The day the war starts prices will explode," said Lichtblau, one of several experts on the oil industry to appear before a Senate Governmental Affairs Committee hearing.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., presiding over the hearing, echoed growing concern in Congress about what will happen at the pump if war breaks out.

Oil prices hovering in the \$33 per barrel range could easily triple, said Professor Fariborz Ghadar of George Washington University's business school. "I would not be surprised if oil prices reached \$100 per barrel," Ghadar said.

The response of prices at the pump to rising crude oil prices varies, but some industry experts use a ratio of 12 cents more per gallon for every \$5 increase in the price of crude.

At \$100 per barrel, under that formula, gasoline could rise to nearly \$3 per gallon.

## Egyptian leader says crisis may 'explode'

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and a British military commander on Wednesday warned that war against Iraq might be imminent, and President Bush said he was fed up with Saddam Hussein's harsh treatment of American hostages.

But Iraq's ambassador to the United States, Mohammed al-Mashat, said he sought to avoid bloodshed and repeated Iraq's offer to negotiate — if other Middle East conflicts were included on the agenda. The United States has rejected any such linkage.

Mubarak warned that the Persian Gulf crisis has become so dangerous it "could explode at any time." And he urged "our brothers in Iraq" to realize the danger their Aug. 2 invasion of oil-rich Kuwait has caused.

## Bush focuses on Gulf while elections near

WASHINGTON — President Bush's escalation of threats against Iraq may be aimed at Saddam Hussein, but the message also is bound to play well to Republican audiences.

With just a week to go to midterm elections, growing talk of war in the Persian Gulf is providing a diversion for the White House after weeks of pounding on taxes and the budget.

"I think Americans should be focused on what's going on in the gulf, and in many ways it's too bad we had that dip in attention during those two or three weeks," said White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, only partly in jest.

Bush asserted today that he was keeping his Persian Gulf policy totally separate from the political process.

"I don't think even the most cynical would ever suggest that a president would play politics with the lives of American kids halfway around the world," Bush said.

— From Associated Press reports

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DTH/Kathy Michel

### Devil's advocate

Classics professor Kenneth Reckford dresses as a (handsome) devil to demonstrate Dante's Inferno in Murphy Hall Wednesday afternoon.

## Appointment spurs officer to file grievance

By JENNIFER PILLA  
Assistant University Editor

Sgt. Marcus Perry was renamed crime prevention officer in the University police department Wednesday, but the controversy that has surrounded the appointment may continue if Officer Keith Edwards files a grievance.

By JENNIFER DUNLAP  
Staff Writer

A 45 percent decrease in business at the Carolina Court, located on the bottom floor of Lenoir Dining Hall, is resulting in a loss of profits and has lead to a reduction in operating hours, said Chris Derby, senior Food Service director.

Carolina Dining Service is now

An outside panel, appointed by the University, unanimously recommended Perry for the job after interviewing him and Edwards Oct. 25.

Edwards, who applied for the position when it was reopened, said she would file a grievance with the department next week. She is filing because she

closing the food court at 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The new operational hours became effective Oct. 29.

When the court was open from 2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., it only served an average of 35 people per hour, Derby said. "Just 35 people an hour is not enough people to support Carolina Court being open (during those hours)."

believed an unfair selection process led to Perry being chosen over her for the position, and because she was more qualified, she said.

The news media received notification about the appointment before John DeVito, interim director of the public safety department, told Edwards that

James Cansler, chairman of the Food Service Advisory Committee, said food services at UNC traditionally lost money. "The food service has not made money here since probably 1965."

According to the Carolina Dining Services' financial overview operating statement, the court suffered a \$171,312 decrease in sales from 1988-89 to 1989-90. However, total sales increased by

\$690,925 during the same time.

"Overall, I think Marriott is not where they would like to be, but they're in a tolerable position as far as the gain-loss column," Cansler said.

Derby said renovations to the main floor of Lenoir could be a contributing factor to the drop in customers. The new availability of pizza, yogurt and hamburgers in the main dining room may

keep more customers from eating at Carolina Court, he said.

The main floor always has been more popular, he said. "I think it's because traditionally, customers have preferred to eat upstairs."

The advisory committee will discuss options to redirect more business

See COURT, page 9



DTH/Ed Moorhouse

### Wee party

Children from the Head Start program, decked out in standard Halloween garb, play a game in the Black

Cultural Center Wednesday. The party was sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. See story, page 5.

## Gantt favors gay rights, organization's fliers say

By LAURA WILLIAMS  
Senior Writer

As the N.C. Senatorial race heats up, campaign material is becoming more prominent on campus, including fliers that claim Harvey Gantt has a "secret campaign" for gay rights, and receives support from "militant homosexuals."

An organization that says it wants to inform voters about Harvey Gantt's involvement with certain groups has begun posting fliers on campus.

North Carolina Students for Truth, a network of students supported by the Mid-American Conservative Political Action Committee, posted fliers showing an advertisement for a Dump Helms dance. The advertisement was found in The Washington Blade, a publication

that targets a homosexual readership in the Nation's capital. The dance was a fund raiser for the Gantt Senatorial campaign.

The flier states the magazine is the same one U.S. Congressman Barney Frank, D-N.J., used to meet Steve Gobie, a male prostitute.

Patrick Rothwell, co-chairman of Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association, said anti-gay fliers on campus were not new.

Two years ago, the UNC College Republicans placed posters on campus stating "God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. Defund the CGLA," Rothwell said. In 1988, Keith

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## Loft lawsuits may be futile

By BURKE KOONCE  
Staff Writer

Students who are considering filing lawsuits against Sturdi-Boy Products, Inc., whose metal lofts failed to meet University housing standards, may be wasting their time and money, UNC Student Legal Services attorney David Crescenzo said Wednesday.

Crescenzo said the Dekalb, Ill., company had not filed for bankruptcy but was having difficulty making payments to UNC students who had asked for loft refunds.

Filing a lawsuit may expedite payment by giving certain students priority over others, but a bankrupt company is obligated first to reimburse its secured creditors, such as suppliers and government agencies, Crescenzo said.

"They (the company) still may be able to scramble and pay kids, but Uncle

Sam will always get his first," he said.

In an Oct. 5 letter sent to students who ordered lofts, Sturdi-Boy President David Clanton said the company was "fighting to stay out of bankruptcy" and was unable to refund any money at that time.

Since receiving the letter, several students have contacted Student Legal Services for advice, Crescenzo said. Although no one has filed a lawsuit against Sturdi-Boy, Student Legal Services has contacted the company several times to warn the firm of possible legal action by students, he said.

Wayne Kuncl, housing director, said students had ordered the lofts in response to a Sturdi-Boy advertisement in a 1990 summer edition of The Daily Tar Heel that was mailed to members of the in-

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*Living with a saint is more grueling than being one. — Robert Neville*