

## High hopes:

Seahawk teams ranked in preseason polls/See page 13

uncw  
Archives  
WRG  
500  
2002-03

v.54  
Aug-May

## "Blood Work":

Clint Eastwood's new movie gets good marks/See page 10



# the Seahawk

Serving UNC Wilmington since 1948

August 22, 2002

VOLUME LIV NUMBER 1

## Court ruling upholds UNC book program

MEREDITH NICHOLSON

THE DAILY TARBEL

A judge in the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond upheld a ruling Monday stating that UNC's summer reading program does not violate the separation of church and state.

The action came just days after a federal district court judge refused to order an injunction blocking Monday's discussion sections, which were held as originally scheduled.

Judge N. Carlton Tilley said Thursday that he did not see a correlation between indoctrination and asking students to read a book about Islam.

The Virginia-based Family Policy Network filed a case last month opposing the UNC program that asks incoming students to read "Approaching the Qur'an: The Early Revelations," translated and introduced by Michael Sells. The book consists of 35 suras, or short passages from the chief holy book of Islam, and Sells' analysis of them.

Tilley said the assignment is not mandatory because the papers are not graded and the students meet in small groups where attendance is not taken. Tilley also said students who chose not to participate did not suffer any consequences. The program could not be construed as mandatory if there were no repercussions for failing to attend, he said.

SEE RULING, PAGE 2

## Structures, standards continue to rise Requirements for incoming freshman at all-time high

JAMES FLINT

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Academic standards continue to rise at UNCW, while the number of freshman decreased by 400. The class of 2006 consists of 1,600 freshmen. The average SAT score for new freshman is 1129, and the mean GPA is 3.65. UNCW is more competitive this year, accepting 1,600 of the 7,600 freshman applicants.

UNCW administration is encouraging freshmen to become involved with campus life. "All research that is out there indicates that involvement leads to a higher GPA, a higher graduation rate and a higher rating of the

personal experience. Freshmen need to find ways to expand their horizons, take an array of classes, gain insight into different cultures and live a healthy lifestyle," Dean of Students Terry Curran said.

The addition of UNCW's first doctoral program, a Ph.D. in marine biology, gives freshmen and other students a new goal to strive for. A more immediate goal for freshmen are the new post-baccalaureate certificates in environmental studies, Bachelor of Science and Statistics, Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration and International Affairs and a minor in choral music and economics for non-business majors.

## Education building, dorm now under construction

JAMES FLINT

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Four major construction projects are underway on campus.

Expansion is possible due to the \$108 million UNCW received in November of 2000 from the higher education facilities bond.

The money will be used to build new structures and to renovate existing ones like the Sarah Graham Kenan Auditorium that will receive

new paint, curtains and seats.

Construction for Watson

School of Education, a new residence hall and more parking has already started.

The Watson School of Education is an 82,000 square foot building.

The new dormitory is a 62,500 square foot building



File Photo

The education building currently under construction should look like this artist's rendering when finished. Other buildings under construction include a residence hall.

located near the International House. It will house 263 students.

"(The new structures) allow us to invest in the community around us through public service, commitment to ideals of environment, technology and community."

Dean of Students Terry Curran

Plans for the Student Union expansion, the Cameron Business College Arts and Science Technical Center, a general classroom

building and an arts building are nearly complete.

Construction for the Union expansion begins in February of 2003 and should last for 2 years.

"The new structures are all part of the plan that Dr. Leutze put us on. They allow us to continue to invest in the community around us through public service, commitment to ideals of environment, technology and community," Dean of Students Terry Curran said.

SEE RULING, PAGE 2

Visit Us

www.theseahawk.org

OP/ED  
5

Classifieds  
12

UNCW Life  
7  
RANDALL LIBRARY UNCW

Sports  
13

Contact Us  
Office: 962-3229  
Ads: 962-3789