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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Clinton Wins New Support For NAFTA As Vote Nears

WASHINGTON — Seizing the momentum on the eve of a House showdown, President Clinton won a rush of converts Tuesday for the North American Free Trade Agreement. Opponents accused the White House of doling out billions to line up support.

An Associated Press survey showed that more than 200 House members were supporting the pact or were likely to do so — a gain of roughly two dozen since the weekend. In contrast, opponents' numbers were dwindling, and stood at roughly 200.

"Tomorrow, the Congress has simply got to vote for hope over fear, for the future over the past," Clinton told the nation's governors, summoned to the White House to provide evidence of widespread support for the treaty.

Senate Shows No Empathy For Abortion Protesters

WASHINGTON — The Senate moved Tuesday toward arming the Justice Department with new powers to stop abortion clinic blockades and go after violent protesters. Senators rejected complaints that they were stepping on peaceful demonstrators' First Amendment rights.

In a test vote on the bill, the Senate turned back a bid by anti-abortion lawmakers to drastically soften the proposed penalties for anyone who repeatedly staged nonviolent blockades.

Instead, the chamber passed, 56-40, a compromise making the penalties less harsh, but keeping the offense a felony. Later, the vote was even stronger when the Senate beat what the bill's supporters called a "killer" amendment relating to violence against anti-abortion protesters.

Israel, PLO May Not Meet Pact's December Deadline

JERUSALEM — A handover of authority in occupied lands appears increasingly unlikely by the Dec. 13 deadline set down in the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organization peace accord, Israeli and Palestinian officials said Tuesday.

A holdup in the Palestinian autonomy plan would delay the start of Israeli troop withdrawals from the territories, seriously undercutting the accord at a time when public support seems to be eroding because of mounting bloodshed.

Two Palestinians died and two Israelis were wounded in the occupied lands Tuesday. And Jewish settlers in the West Bank town of Hebron overturned market stalls, smashed cars and broke windshields to retaliate for a hatchet attack on an Israeli man Monday.

China's Communist Party Issues Plans for Reform

BEIJING — The Communist Party on Tuesday issued its long-awaited outline for new market reforms designed to push senior leader Deng Xiaoping's economic revolution into the next century.

The 25-page document was short on key details, however, including how the measures would be implemented, and it left in doubt the effectiveness of the proposed new changes. Market reforms have dismantled rural communes and allowed families to farm their own plots.

With Chinese economic growth — now 13 percent a year — far outstripping the world average, the reforms have replaced Communist Party ideology as the underpinning of the party's legitimacy.

Judge Rejects Proposed City Charter Amendment

CINCINNATI — A judge blocked a voter-approved city charter amendment that would have removed anti-discrimination protection for homosexuals.

"Now the gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens won't have to spend any time on the outside looking in," said Alphonse Gerhardtstein, a lawyer for those who sued to stop the amendment.

U.S. District Judge S. Arthur Spiegel ruled Tuesday that the amendment infringed on homosexuals' rights to petition the city for legislation. His ruling prevents the amendment from taking effect until further court action.

But supporters of the amendment also argued that democracy was on their side.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: 40-percent chance of rain; high mid-70s.

THURSDAY: Partly cloudy; high mid-60s.

Local Gas Station Owner Found Dead

BY KRISTEN LANEY
STAFF WRITER

The owner of McFarling's Exxon, Clarence "Peanut" McFarling, 66, of Carrboro, was found dead Monday evening from hanging.

McFarling's son, Rod McFarling, found his father at 7:45 p.m. in Clarence McFarling's deceased mother's vacant home on Legion Road, according to Eddie Durham, manager of McFarling's Exxon at 126 W. Franklin St.

Dr. Thomas Clark, associate chief medical examiner at UNC Hospitals, has ruled the death a suicide.

A time of death was not given, and Clark said he did not know whether Clarence McFarling had any alcohol or drugs in his system.

Jane Cousins, Chapel Hill police spokeswoman, said, "There was no foul play."

Durham said Clarence McFarling left the service station at about 2:30 Monday afternoon.

After he was gone from the station for more than an hour, Durham and Rod McFarling became concerned and started to look for him, Durham said.

"It was unusual for him to be gone for two hours," he said. "He was a good ol' hard-working retail man. His life was the business."

Durham said he was totally shocked by McFarling's death.

"It's something that I never would have thought to happen, not from him," Durham said.

Judy Huntsman, an employee of Sutton's Drug Store at 159 E. Franklin St.,

knew McFarling and his family her entire life. She described him as a hard worker who cared for his business.

"He was a real nice man," Huntsman said. "It's sad, and I don't understand it."

She also said she was concerned because McFarling was the second downtown-business owner to commit suicide in the last two weeks.

Small World Travel Agency owner Paul Fisher was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head Nov. 8 after he had been missing for four days.

Wallace Womble, a funeral director at Walker's Funeral Home and a friend of McFarling's, said, "I talked with him at 1:30 or 2 yesterday, and he seemed just as normal then as he could."

Womble also said he was shocked.

"He was just a wonderful person to

know," Womble said. "He loved people, and he'd do anything for anyone he could."

Clarence McFarling had been in business for about 40 years and had worked at the Franklin Street location since 1974.

McFarling lived in Chapel Hill for his entire life and attended the local schools through 10th grade.

McFarling is survived by his wife Inez, his son Rod, two sisters, one brother and two grandchildren.

Flowers will be accepted, and memorials can be made in McFarling's name to the Carrboro Methodist Church.

The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at Carrboro Methodist Church.

Viewings will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at Walker's Funeral Home at 120 W. Franklin St.

Students To Start Center For Kids

BY RACHAEL LANDAU
STAFF WRITER

The Student Bicentennial Planning Committee is planning to turn an old day-care building in Chapel Hill into a community center to promote the University's 200th-birthday theme of community.

Renovations on the center, located on South Estes Drive at the largest public housing development in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area, is expected to be complete next spring.

The project is part of a program to create a Carolina Community Foundation, which will sponsor a different community project each year.

Kevin Moran, chairman of the Student Bicentennial Planning Committee, said organizers wanted the community-center project to start a tradition of the University contributing to the community.

"I am really excited because we are working on a Kevin Moran says students will help with the center's upkeep. Bicentennial official working on a Kevin Moran says students will help with the center's upkeep. Bicentennial official working on a Kevin Moran says students will help with the center's upkeep. Bicentennial official working on a Kevin Moran says students will help with the center's upkeep."

The community-center project will be co-sponsored by several campus organizations including the Campus Y, Sangam — the South Asian student organization — and the Residence Hall Association. The CCF will be an endowment fund controlled by a board of directors made up of students, staff, faculty, administrators, alumni and town residents.

The CCF originally was proposed as a senior class gift, but the idea was not chosen for this year's gift and was turned over to the Student Bicentennial Committee.

Senior Class President Joe Andrews, who is working with Moran on the community project, said the main focus of the CCF was to get programs such as the community center started and then let other groups take them over.

Andrews said he hoped UNC faculty, staff, administrators and alumni as well as town residents would be involved in the community-center project.

"The key to it all is to build community within the campus by building community outside," Andrews said. "The program will establish a common ground by working on a common goal. I want to see this theme maintained for as long as the University stands and be built upon and strengthened over the years," he said.

Chapel Hill Mayor Ken Brown said the center also was an excellent effort to help people living in South Estes.

"If we help people in that area, it helps the community and everyone," he said.

Mimi Courtney, co-chairwoman of the Campus Y's Ridgefield Action Project, said the group had been working with the children in this area before the Student Bicentennial Committee started planning its community-center project. RAP suggested the site for the community center to the Bicentennial committee.

Courtney said she was glad to see other

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MEN'S BASKETBALL TIPS OFF TONIGHT

Senior Forward Sullivan Opts for Redshirt Season

BY JOHN C. MANUEL
SPORTS SATURDAY EDITOR

The class of 1994 keeps getting smaller, while the class of '95 adds a member.

At a Tuesday Smith Center press conference, UNC head basketball coach Dean Smith announced that forward Pat Sullivan, thought to be a contender for a starting spot with the defending national champions, would sit out the season.

The announcement came on the eve of UNC's season opener. The Tar Heels host Western Kentucky tonight at the Smith Center at 7:30 in the first round of the preseason NIT tournament.

Smith just slipped in the announcement while discussing his starting lineup.

"An interesting sideline I think is that Pat Sullivan will not play," Smith said. "He is getting his degree in speech communications — he now wants to coach and teach — which means he's got to go back to school for a fifth year. He is going to be held out — at least we think so — for the entire year."

"We'll miss his ability ... but I'm sure at this time next year we'll be glad we have him as a senior. I'm sure Donald will be happy to have another senior with him next year."

Smith announced that senior Kevin Salvadori would start at power forward against Western Kentucky.

Sullivan might not be the only Tar Heel to redshirt in 1993-94. "We have talked to one other young man, but he's in the process of making his decision about what he

wants to do regarding his year of eligibility," Smith said.

Sullivan, a 6-foot-8, 216-pound senior from Bogota, N.J., averaged 6.4 points and 3.4 rebounds per game last season. He was expected to compete for the starting job at power forward and get playing time at small forward this year.

"We talked about it as a freshman," Smith said. "It's just recently we talked about him coaching and teaching."

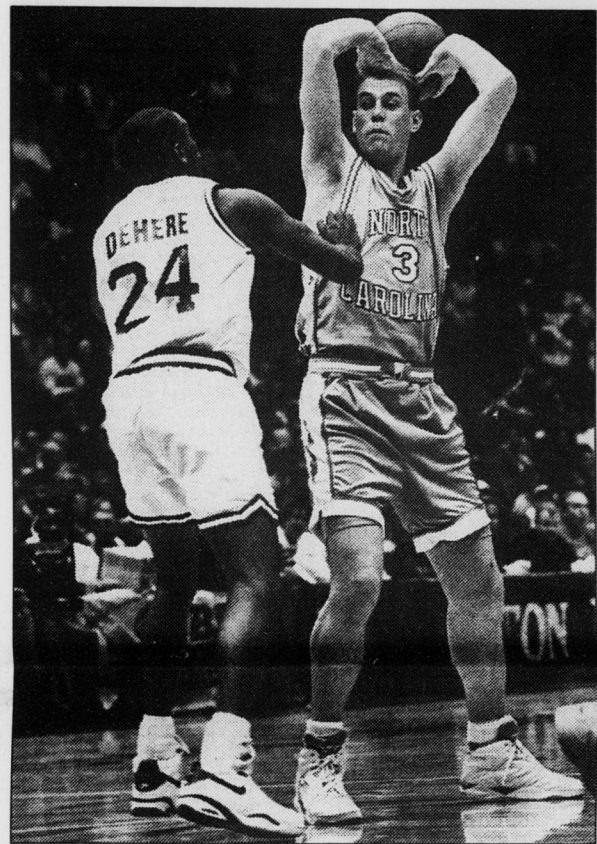
"And after the Blue-White game (Nov. 6), when I saw him play so very well, I really started thinking it would be a shame to have him only play for 12 minutes a game, 15 minutes a game, 20 minutes a game. That entered my mind, and couple that with the fact that he's going to be getting his fifth-year degree really helped me address him."

The loss of Sullivan might be addition by subtraction for the Tar Heels. While Smith acknowledged the loss of savvy, experience and leadership the team will feel this year without Sullivan, it should allow for more playing time for players like Jerry Stackhouse and Dante Calabria.

"It could hurt us this year," Smith said, "but it could give the others more breathing room. They won't feel like Pat's coming in for them all the time."

"We've looked at the situation and Jerry Stackhouse played very well in the pre-season — not that Stackhouse would beat Sullivan out — but we were bunched there at the forward spot, and now if Brian's hurt

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Pat Sullivan, expected to compete for a starting position this season, instead will sit out a year and return to the UNC lineup for the 1994-95 campaign.

Public Housing Residents Come Together for Change

BY ANUBHA ANAND
STAFF WRITER

Cathy Gomez still has a roach problem. They are not swarming in the kitchen cabinets like they were last month, but a few still scurry across the blue-and-pink wallpaper border in her living room.

The town finally sprayed Gomez's public housing apartment after she and other Airport Gardens residents produced a video documenting the substandard conditions in the town's 12 public housing neighborhoods.

The tape shows Gomez lifting a picture frame from her sons' bedroom wall and gasping to find a horde of roaches on the other side.

"My son, Shawn, still won't sleep in his bed," she said. Nine-year-old Keisha and 6-year-old Maurice share a room in Gomez's two-bedroom apartment.

Before the videotape, the town's procedure for handling pest control was to give residents fly-paper roach traps, Gomez said. Clegg's Termite and Pest Control, which has a contract with the town, sprayed Gomez's apartment last week.

"They sprayed it, but the roaches are coming back," she said. "They need to spray the whole building, and they need to come back and give it three treatments like



Children who live in a Chapel Hill public housing neighborhood take advantage of the playground at Estes Drive Community Center. Residents say poor public housing conditions are compromising their children's future.

it says in (Department of Housing and Urban Development) guidelines."

The apartments at Airport Gardens, which is across from the Chapel Hill Police

Department on Airport Road, are connected, so the roaches won't disappear

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Dealers Destroy Children's Hope

BY ANUBHA ANAND
STAFF WRITER

April Brown has a big job for a fourth-grader — while her mother is working hard to become a nurse and get out of public housing, she helps take care of her five younger sisters and brothers.

When her mother, Felicia, attended a Residents' Council meeting last week, April, 9, kept 7-year-old Keisha and 2-year-old Rachel occupied with markers and paper. Eight-month-old Samuel rode around on her hip. Toni, 5, and Jasmine, 6, pestered her for one more chocolate-chip cookie.

Felicia Brown and her children moved to Oakwood, a public housing neighborhood, two years ago because the place where she was living had no heat. But Brown said she was about to buy a home for her family and move

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Police Might Charge Weekend Assault Suspects With Hate Crimes

BY BILL BLOCKER
STAFF WRITER

The Chapel Hill Police Department is determining whether to charge an assailant in this weekend's assault on four New Yorkers with a "hate crime" under North Carolina's ethnic-intimidation statute.

The assault by about 15 to 20 teenagers against four band members from Staten Island, N.Y., occurred at 1:45 a.m. Sunday near University Square on West Franklin Street.

According to police, the incident began when the victims, three white men and one

black man, were walking east down West Franklin Street, and a group of teenagers began walking behind them making racial comments.

When the two groups reached University Square, more teenagers joined the group and continued making taunting remarks, police reports state.

The only specific comment the victims could recall included the term "Oreo."

Jane Cousins, Chapel Hill police spokeswoman, said that the department was looking into the possibility of upgrading the charges.

Dimetrius George Mullins, 17, of 205

Broad St. in Carrboro, was arrested at 12:30 p.m. Monday and charged with three counts of simple assault, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

"Our attorney, Terrie Gale, is looking into the possibility of designating the assault as a hate crime," she said.

Cousins said police still were investigating how many assailants were involved during the weekend assault. "There is still a possibility of more arrests."

Gale said the department had not made any final determination on the charge. "No decision has been made as to which of the charges will be filed," she said.

Orange-Chatham County Assistant District Attorney James Woodall said most people charged with hate crimes were tried in federal court.

"There's a North Carolina statute that concerns crimes that are racially motivated," he said.

Woodall said he was not sure whether it was a true hate-crime statute. "(But) that's the closest thing to a hate-crime statute under state law," he said.

The police department will have to decide whether the attack falls under the statute.

"I don't believe we've prosecuted any-

body here under that statute," Woodall said.

Woodall said state law concerning the ethnic-intimidation statute had not been appealed or interpreted by the state Supreme Court.

N.C. General Statute 14-401.14, titled Ethnic Intimidation, states, "If a person shall, because of race, color, religion, nationality or country of origin, assault another person or damage or deface the property of another person or threaten to do any such act, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment up to two years or a fine or both."

Education is a state-controlled manufactory of echoes.

Norman Douglas