

The Daily Tar Heel

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Tuesday, November 17, 1998
Volume 106, Issue 119

News/Features/Arts/Sports 962-0245
Business/Advertising 962-1163
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
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State Signs \$206 Billion Tobacco Pact

North Carolina is expected to receive about \$5 billion from the accord with four major tobacco companies.

By CALE DOTY
Staff Writer

RALEIGH — In an historic move designed to benefit both health care advocates and tobacco growers, state Attorney General Mike Easley added his signature Monday to a \$206 billion settlement between four major tobacco companies and state governments across the country.

Flanked by health care advocates and state agricultural Commissioner Jim Graham, Easley signed the settlement into effect at the attorney general's office in Raleigh. The accord could possibly raise the price of cigarettes 35 cents a pack.

"It is not so important that this is the largest financial recovery in history," Easley said. "It is important that the farmers, who have played by the rules, have hurt no one and done nothing wrong get peace and stability, and that our children are protected."

The settlement targets tobacco advertising and includes public health provisions and payments to the government by the four signatory tobacco companies. Restrictions will be placed on outdoor advertising as well as youth-targeted campaigns. All stipulations of the agreement will take effect 30 days after the courts approve the proposal. The money from the settlement will also be used for subsidies for tobacco growers.

Graham said the agreement was a step in the right direction. "It is absolutely essential we provide stability for the

growers," he said.

The settlement comes after almost three years of negotiations between tobacco companies and the states.

Easley stressed the provisions in the settlement beneficial to tobacco growers. While he was not explicit on how funds were to be used, Easley said he felt confident that growers would gain an estimated \$5 billion from the tobacco companies as a result of the agreement. "There is no part in the agreement right now that regulates money for anything," Easley said. "We are going to do something for the growers."

While tobacco industry and government leaders have advocated the agreement, anti-tobacco activists said it was a smoke screen for tobacco companies to conduct business as usual.

"This settlement provides immunity for tobacco companies," said John Banzhaf, executive director of Action on Smoking and Health.

"It is important that the farmers ... get peace and stability and that our children are protected."

MIKE EASLEY
N.C. Attorney General

"It only banks on tobacco subsidiaries, not the companies. States cannot sue Phillip Morris according to the agreement."

Banzhaf said he had concerns about what the settlement omits.

"What Easley signed doesn't address the problem of teen smoking, and it doesn't talk about the federal drug administration's jurisdiction."

Members of the tobacco industry were cautious to talk about the settlement. Bruce Flye, president of the Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, said he was pleased with the agreement but was waiting for the specifics to be discussed. "I'm eager to see what the provisions for the growers really are."

The State & National Editors can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.



Junior Amy Clodfelter from Lexington buys cigarettes from Mark Thomas at Ken's Quickee Mart. Thomas said he thought the 35-cent increase in cigarette prices would not make a difference in the number of packs sold.

Smokers: Price Hike Won't Stop Puffing

Local store owners say a 35-cent-per-pack price increase will not have much affect on cigarette sales.

By NICOLE WHITE
Staff Writer

A possible 35-cent increase in the price of a pack of cigarettes won't stand between smokers and their fix or vendors and their profits, locals said.

N.C. Attorney General Mike Easley signed a \$206 billion settlement between several states and four major tobacco companies Monday. The settlement would provide stability for growers an could result in a 35-cent increase per pack, he said.

But local store owners said the possible increase wasn't likely to affect sales.

"What I've found historically with the price of cigarettes, or with any vice — cigarettes or beer — (a price increase) doesn't have any affect," said Larry Trollinger, Ken's Quickee Mart owner. "People gripe, fuss and complain for about a week, then they get used to it."

Trollinger said that when he started selling cigarettes in the early 1970s, cigarettes were 29 cents a pack or \$1.99 a carton. Although prices have increased

over the years, sales have not dropped significantly, he said.

Sutton's Drug Store owner John Woodard said addiction would keep his customers buying regardless of increases.

"The sad truth is the majority of the smoking public will keep smoking," he said. "They'll find a way to do without something else before they do without their cigarettes."

Smokers on campus generally griped about the price increase to a product that is already too costly.

Ron Wiley, a University carpentry shop supervisor, disliked the possible increase but said 35 cents wasn't enough to warrant a cutback from his customary three packs a day.

"If they added on \$1 a pack, then maybe I'd quit," he said, taking a smoke break with several of his co-workers outside the Circus Room.

Other smokers were hardly fazed by the increase. Kathy Treharne, a junior journalism and mass communication major from Shelby, said that although friends usually gave her cigarettes, an increase wouldn't stand between her and her Lucky Strikes.

"That's nothing," she said. "I won't change brands. The 35 cents is worth it for the quality."

"The sad truth is the majority of the smoking public will keep smoking."

JOHN WOODARD
Owner of Sutton's Drug Store

not enough to convince them to switch to a cheaper brand of cigarettes. Barbara Patterson, a bindery clerk in Davis Library, called the possible increase "awful," but said she would stay true to her Salem Ultra Lights.

"I tried a cheaper brand before, and it gave me a headache," she said.

However, not everyone opposes the price increase. Jonathan Baugh, a third-year graduate student in physics and former smoker, said an increase in price could be beneficial.

"I think the price increase is OK because it might get some people to quit, especially younger smokers," he said.

"If it discourages younger kids from picking it up when they're 16, maybe it's better."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

6 Majors Available On Web

Students can now check their major progress in 15 academic programs via the University's home page.

By CAROL ADAMSON
Staff Writer

Six new majors were added Monday to UNC's electronic audit program, which allows students to find out what courses they need for graduation via the World Wide Web.

Bobbi Owen, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the move to computerized aid for advising was a cooperative effort between all the undergraduate departments and the Office of the Registrar.

"We've been working a few years trying to computerize the worksheets which track the requirements for graduation for all the student majors in the College of Arts and Sciences," Owen said.

The Internet advising tool will help students understand simple technical questions concerning their requirements.

However, inquiry might not be possible on the Web for requirements including double majors and majors like international studies, where required classes are decided through student-adviser conferencing.

"The system works best for single majors," Owen said. "Furthermore, some majors requirements are determined by students working closely with an adviser."

"Those would also be difficult to implement on the computer."

Owen said the nine majors put on UNC's Web page last May paved the way for majors with more complex requirements.

"As we've gotten more familiar with how this system works, we've added increasingly more majors."

Lacey Hawthorne, senior adviser to the student body president, said the advising tool had been implemented by an advising steering team who had worked to reform the advising process.

Owen said the 15 majors available,

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Appointed Police Chief To Take Oath

Capt. Carolyn Hutchison will become Carrboro's first female police chief when she is sworn in today.

By ALYSON PEERY
Staff Writer

Carolyn Hutchison, interim police chief of Carrboro who will be sworn in as police chief today, didn't become a police officer because of a love of the law, but because of her love for community service. "My vision of police work was service-oriented and that's why I wanted to do it," she said.

Hutchison has served as police captain in Carrboro since 1991 and has been a member of the department since 1984.

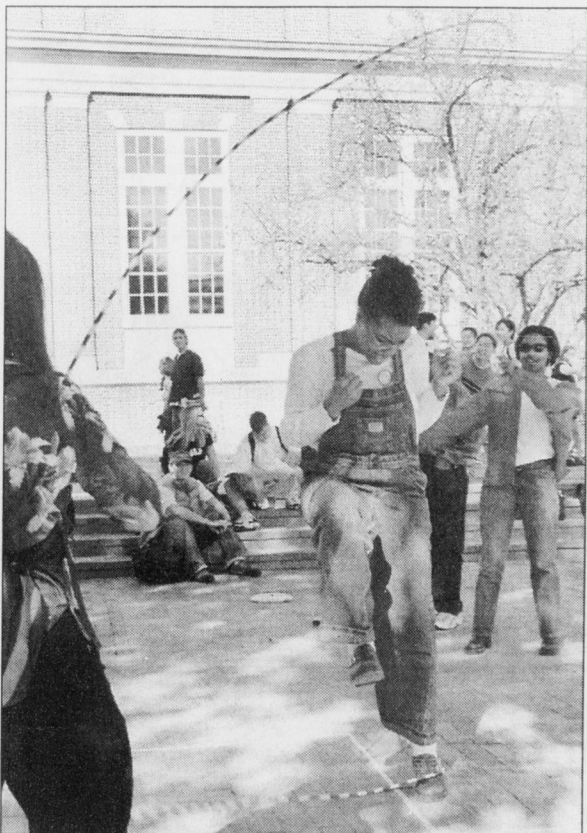
She said she would face the increasing challenges of drugs and violence in Carrboro and planned to use community policing techniques, like the use of



Police Capt. Carolyn Hutchison said she would continue to use a community policing model in Carrboro.

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JUMPING FOR JOY



Kimberly Davis, a senior from Greensboro, jumps rope in the Pit as part of Senior Recess. The event was one of a slew of activities planned for Senior Week.

Black Enrollment Hits Record High

By KATHLEEN HUNTER
Staff Writer

Black students are setting records with their enrollment, according to a report by the UNC Board of Governors.

The report, issued Friday, stated that enrollment of black students at historically white universities had reached an all-time high when it hit 10.2 percent this year, up from 5.8 percent in 1997.

Gary Barnes, vice president of program assessment and public service for the UNC General Administration, said he was excited to see the progress made toward increasing diversity.

"We have long supported an increase in minority presence on all of our campuses," he said. "I am pleased to see the increase at all the universities."

Barnes cited outreach programs aimed at minority students — including the distribution of information to high school seniors — as primary causes of rising enrollment. He also said efforts to prevent first-year students from dropping out proved successful.

"There have been a lot of efforts to improve first-year student retention," he said. "I think these efforts help black students ... (they) are more likely to be first-generation college students."

Administrators on some historically-white campuses said they were pleased to see diversity grow. The number of black students at UNC-Chapel Hill in 1998 reached 9.9 percent.

Making It Gray

Black students have enrolled in historically white universities in record numbers this year, and officials are hailing the efforts of administrators for diversifying the face of UNC-system schools.

School	1990	1998
Appalachian State	4.4	2.9
East Carolina	8.8	12.1
N.C. State	8.7	9.8
School of the Arts	8.6	7.4
UNC-Asheville	3.9	3.4
UNC-Chapel Hill	8.6	9.9
UNC-Charlotte	11.1	16.7
UNC-Greensboro	10.7	15.4
UNC-Pembroke	11.1	15.6
UNC-Wilmington	6.4	5.5
Western Carolina	3.7	4.7
Overall:		10.2

"I am delighted with the figures," said Provost Richard Richardson.

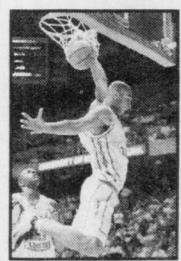
He said UNC-CH was also working hard to increase minority representation among its faculty.

Archie Ervin, director of on-campus recruiting in the Office of Minority Affairs at UNC-CH, touted Project Uplift, an annual session designed to provide minority students with information about UNC-CH, as a key to attracting minority students. He said the

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INSIDE Tuesday

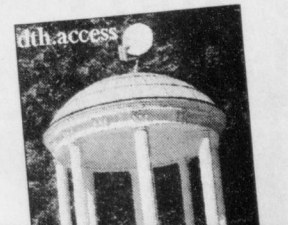
Throw Down



The North Carolina men's basketball team upped its record to 2-0 on the season with a 65-44 Preseason NIT Tournament victory against Florida International at the Smith Center. See Page 5.

Get Connected

With the continued growth of the Internet, there is always more to learn about the medium. See insert.



Today's Weather

Mostly sunny;
Low 70s.
Wednesday: Mostly
sunny; Low 60s.

What maintains one vice would bring up two children.

Benjamin Franklin