

**NADER**  
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industry. Enloe said she was not sure what specific issues would be addressed during Nader's speech. "This is an opportunity for him to speak about his views of social justice and economic responsibility."

Stuber said Nader would speak about waste from the Shearon-Harris Nuclear Power Plant, urban sprawl, conserving the land, the World Trade Organization and the International Monetary Fund.

Chimi Boyd, interim associate director of the Campus Y, said the group brought Nader to campus because he promoted its mission.

"We thought that he is an advocate for the rights of consumers and a watchdog and that he expresses our mission, which is the pursuit of social justice through the cultivation of pluralism," he said.

"We felt like he needed to be heard and that people needed to know ways to get involved in finding ways to promote social justice in society."

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Top Stories From the State, Nation and World  
**IN THE NEWS**

**S.C. Legislation Honors Confederates, King**

COLUMBIA, S.C. - Gov. Jim Hodges signed a bill Monday that officially institutes a Martin Luther King Jr. holiday for state workers in South Carolina, but the NAACP criticized the measure because it also creates a Confederate Memorial Day.

South Carolina became the last state in the nation to fully recognize the King holiday as a day off for all state workers. Before Monday, state employees could

choose to take the day off, or one of three Confederate-related holidays.

Until recently, some states had the holiday but did not name it for King, preferring to call it Civil Rights Day, for example.

Hodges said the compromise that also made the Confederate holiday, May 10, a day off for all state workers, was necessary for the bill to pass the Legislature, which is embroiled in debate over whether to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse dome.

"In my judgment, passing a King holiday is a very important step for South Carolina, and that if I did not sign it, chances are that we might not get one next year," Hodges said. "In fact, we might not get one five years from now."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is urging people to boycott South Carolina until the Confederate flag comes down from the Statehouse. James Gallman, president of the NAACP's state chapter, asked Hodges to veto the King holiday bill.

"Frankly, if I remember my history, we celebrate Memorial Day on the last Monday in May," Gallman said. "I

don't see why there should be another Memorial Day."

State Sen. Robert Ford, a black Democrat who sponsored the bill, said King wanted the races to come together and would have supported both holidays.

The new law eliminates South Carolina's Election Day holiday and the floating holiday for state offices.

The Legislature approved the bill last month after a bitter fight in the Republican-controlled House. The bill failed on its first try and was approved only after lawmakers attached amendments that protected Confederate monuments and proclaimed the Confederate flag is not a racist symbol.

**Microsoft Stock Makes Rebound After Dive**

NEW YORK - Microsoft stock rose on Monday as Wall Street painted the government's bid to split the software maker into two companies as both unrealistic and maybe even beneficial for investors.

In trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market, Microsoft rose to \$73.43 per share, a gain of \$3.68 from the stock's close Friday afternoon, before the Justice Department asked a federal judge to break up the company as punishment for monopolistic practices.

Under the plan, also recommended by 17 states that filed antitrust complaints against Microsoft, one of the companies created by the breakup would produce Windows, the computer operating system whose dominance

was used to smother competition.

The other new company would make popular software applications such as Microsoft Office and run Microsoft's Internet operations including the MSN online service and network of Web sites.

Many legal and industry experts criticized the plan as too severe, unworkable, and unlikely to pass muster when challenged by Microsoft in appeals court.

Either way, the appeals process and final resolution of the case is expected to take at least two years and Microsoft may represent an attractive investment as one or two companies, Wall Street analysts said.

Meanwhile, Microsoft on Sunday launched a media campaign including TV commercials featuring chief executive Steve Ballmer and full-page ads in many major newspapers, detailing its position and warning of the impact a breakup would have.

The software giant has until May 10 to respond to the government's proposal to split the company into two rivals. Microsoft said it will respond to the deadline but made it clear it needs a major extension to prepare for a related hearing scheduled just two weeks later.

**White House Refuses To Reveal Documents**

WASHINGTON - The White House is raising the possibility it may invoke executive privilege to keep Congress from seeing some documents in the controversy over missing e-mail messages that are under subpoena, doc-

uments disclosed Monday.

Meanwhile, investigators are poring over memos suggesting presidential aides could have begun retrieving the missing messages more than a year ago to see if they should have been turned over to investigations ranging from Whitewater to impeachment.

The White House sent the House Government Reform Committee, which is investigating the controversy, a one-page list of documents it is not turning over under subpoena because they are considered covered by executive privilege and attorney-client confidentiality.

Among the documents on the list, which was obtained by The Associated Press, are handwritten notes by White House lawyers involving discussions they had with computer experts about the e-mail messages.

The list says the notes "reflect mental impressions" of the lawyers for the White House Office of Administration, which oversaw the e-mail system at the center of the controversy.

The list is the first step in the executive privilege process.

In past investigations, the White House has sometimes relented and turned over documents and in other cases they invoked the privileges to shield memos.

Meanwhile, the AP obtained an internal memo showing that presidential aides prepared to notify Congress as early as February 1999 about a glitch in their e-mail system and to begin retrieving thousands of unarchived messages that might be relevant to investigators.

- Associated Press

**MAJORS**  
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tising or finance, but those fields involved two different professional schools.

He opted for a third choice - communication studies, the fifth most popular major on campus.

"I knew it would offer management skills I could use in the business world and expose my creative side for advertising," he said.

In May, Jennings will follow his interest in finance to New York to work in listed equity trading sales at ING Bank. He credits his decision to his choice of major.

"Communications let me explore all my assets," he said.

Assistant communications Professor Michael Waltman recommends paths like Jennings' for all students. Waltman said he suggested students work backward from their potential careers to their courses of study.

"When I advise students, I really encourage them not to think of what the degree itself is going to do for them," Waltman said. "I tell them to think about what they want to be doing after graduation and structure their experience here to get them to that place."

Marcia Harris, director of UNC Career Services, said many liberal arts majors were even less focused in their course of study than Jennings and Waltman suggested.

"For the most part, students in the liberal arts study fields that interest them and are not so focused on their career direction as an undergraduate," Harris said.

"You can do so many different things. Majors don't necessarily relate to a career path."

Junior Joanna Clarke-Sayer stumbled into her history major, which is the 10th most popular on campus. She's also majoring in French and plans to apply to law school next year.

"I wound up choosing history because I really enjoyed my classes and took a lot of them," Clarke-Sayer said. "My roommate did the same thing, then we found out we had enough credits to be de facto majors."

In contrast, students in professional schools like business, pharmacy or journalism go into directly related fields 90 to 100 percent of the time, Harris said.

Although their degrees aren't professional, biology majors also tend to stay within the field, said biology faculty member Jean DeSaix.

She said many majors entered health professions, including medicine, dentistry and veterinary care. Some head out to work on environmental issues.

And then there are the exceptions. "One became a plumber," DeSaix said.

Although it's rare, she said some students chose biology without intending to be a biologist in any sense.

"Some always know they're going to go into something unrelated," she said.

"But biology is what interests them. It's what they choose to study and get their degree in."

1999 graduate Julie Muñoz also has taken a convoluted path from her biology degree to her career. She said that like many freshmen, she picked biology because it interested her and filled her premedical requirements.

But she knew by the end of her freshman year that medicine wasn't for her. As a sophomore, she applied and was accepted to a master's in education program that she entered after graduating last May.

She'll receive her master's degree to teach high-school science in June, then she'll head off to teach English as a second language in Japan for two years.

Her plans baffled her biology classmates, she said.

"When I told someone I was going into teaching, they would either look at me funny or give me a 'You're such a martyr' speech," Muñoz said.

She said that unlike those classmates, she chose a broad range of courses with a teaching career in mind. Not only did she survey multiple areas of biology, but she also took geology, astronomy and humanities courses.

"I didn't narrow myself down and didn't bog myself down with the notion I was a biology major," she said.

"I got a great liberal arts education here."

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**INSTITUTIONS**  
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Wake Tech are in this program.

But Bob Raines, co-op director at Wake Tech, said the lure of higher average starting salaries for community college graduates also attracted students.

He said many of the students were four-year college graduates returning to get a technical degree. Raines explained that these college graduates were attending community colleges because they were not successful in finding a well-paying job with their major. He said, "The combination (of their degree and a community college education) puts them in a good-paying job."

Considering the potential starting salary of a graduate with a technical degree, the cost of attending a two-year vocational school is low. For only \$568 per academic year, a North Carolinian can attend Wake Tech. After a two-year program, Raines said graduates averaged a salary of \$39,000 in their first year as a computer networker, \$38,000 as a computer programmer or \$35,000 as an automation/robotics technician.

In comparison, a UNC-Chapel Hill graduate, after paying an in-state tuition of \$2,314 per academic year, received a median salary of \$28,347 in the first year of employment, according to a UNC General Administration survey conducted last summer.

At smaller, four-year liberal arts schools in the UNC system, the median starting salary was even lower: \$26,363 at East Carolina University, \$25,014 at UNC-Wilmington, \$24,462 at Appalachian State University and \$23,078 at UNC-Asheville.

This salary trend continues at UNC schools with more of a technical emphasis similar to that found at community colleges, as students at those institutions also are graduating with more competitive starting salaries.

UNC-Charlotte, N.C. Agricultural & Technical, N.C. State and Winston-Salem State universities all had median starting salaries of more than \$30,000. N.C. State's median starting salary is

\$31,029, but in-state tuition of \$2,414 is still much higher than at community colleges, keeping many students away.

Jeremy Murdock, a technician at Buehler Motors in Cary, said he considered applying to N.C. State but went to Wake Tech because it was cheaper. With a recent promotion, Murdock said he now made almost \$35,000 a year and was happy with his decision.

Despite cases such as Murdock's and other students that have benefited from technical degrees, most experts said the value of a four-year liberal arts would likely accrue more over time.

Newlin said a UNC-CH degree would amount to more over a lifetime than a community college degree. High starting salaries reflect hot careers, Newlin said. "Take away this special comparison, and look at (salary) over time," he said. "A (B.A. graduate) makes more over the course of a lifetime."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site, median salary increased with the level of education attained. Data from 1998 shows that a full-time, year-round worker over 25 makes \$26,416 with a high school degree; \$33,430 with a two-year degree; \$42,695 with a B.A. degree; \$51,085 with a master's degree and \$73,057 with a professional degree. These national trends show that lifetime earnings increase with higher levels of education, including graduate school, Newlin said. "I think you could assume the national trends would hold in North Carolina."

But for some students, graduate school might have lost appeal in recent years. Marcia Harris, director of UNC-CH Career Services, said the decision to attend graduate school depended on the career field a student was pursuing.

A computer science major, for example, could make more than \$50,000 after graduation, she said, adding that if the student went to graduate school, he or she could then earn a starting salary between \$60,000 and \$70,000. This difference in pay between an undergraduate and graduate degree was not great enough to offset the costs of additional education and lost income, she said.

On the other hand, Harris said stu-

dents wanting to be lawyers or doctors did not have the luxury of bypassing graduate school, as these jobs required professional degrees. Undergraduates who major in fields such as history, psychology or English and attend graduate school in their field are often not sure what they want to do, Harris said.

Scott Dillin, a senior English and Asian Studies double major at UNC-CH, said he was planning to attend law school because he had been unsuccessful in his job search. "After interviewing, I felt like I would be trapped in a 'Dilbert' comic strip, with the cubicles and all," he said. The salary (offered) definitely helped push me over the edge (to not accept the job)."

Not all English and other liberal arts majors are interested in or can afford to go to graduate school, leaving them without a job. "Education never limits. It's always nice to have additional degrees, but you can't make the assumption that in every field, a graduate degree is that valuable," Harris said.

Just as the decision to attend graduate school begins as an undergraduate, a student starts weighing options for college in high school. The majority of high-school students still apply to four-year schools, despite the rising starting salaries of community college graduates.

But guidance counselors said they informed high school seniors of every college option. "We try and let (the students) see the whole range (of colleges) and weigh the pros and cons," said Jim Craig, career development coordinator at South Mecklenberg High School.

Jeff Reilly, a guidance counselor at Chapel Hill High School, said he advised students to research their options and discussed how community colleges were better for some students.

"I personally wouldn't argue with you (that community college salaries are more competitive today), especially in the computer industry," Reilly said. "Nothing against Carolina, but certain students have an interest (in technical fields) and can earn a great deal."

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