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Rainfall Causes Localized Floods

Seven inches of rain in 12 hours caused flooding in low-lying areas, such as Eastgate Shopping Center.

WORTH CIVILS AND KATE HARTIG
City/State & National Editor and Staff Writer

Heavy rains from a stalled weather system dumped more than seven inches of rain on Chapel Hill Sunday night and Monday morning, causing serious flooding in some parts of town.

From Camelot Village apartment complex to Eastgate Shopping Center, both off Estes Drive, residents and businesses along Bolin and Booker creeks have experienced extensive water damage caused by the flooding. A section of Piney Mountain Road even collapsed when Booker Creek overflowed.

Scott Sharpe, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Raleigh, said upper air wind patterns caused the weather system to stall, causing an "ungodly amount of rainfall."

Urbanization also contributed to the flooding, Sharpe said. "More asphalt means quicker runoff, causing a more localized, more dramatic affect," he said of the flooding.

At Camelot Village, the flooding forced the swift-water rescue team of the Southern Orange Rescue Squad to pull people from their apartments.

Robert Bosworth, deputy chief of operations for the Chapel Hill Fire Department, said that once the water reached above knee-level, the team was called in to rescue 12 to 18 residents by boat. He said the main threat from the flooding was unhealthy exposure to contaminants, such as sewer infiltration.

But the rescues were not the biggest problem with the flooding, Bosworth

said. "What made this so bad was the water coming to areas that weren't affected in the past - not in 1995 (from a tropical depression), nor either of the Hurricanes (Fran or Floyd)."

One such affected area was Eastgate Shopping Center, located on East Franklin Street, where flooding caused extensive damage to many of the businesses, worse than Hurricane Fran some owners and shopkeepers said.

Spencer Pope, manager of the Loop Restaurant, 507 Eastgate Shopping Center, said the restaurant had three and one-half feet of standing water in the restaurant early Monday morning. During Hurricane Fran, only six-inches of standing water was in the restaurant.

"We lost 80 percent of the restaurant," Pope said. "There was standing water from the entry all the way to the back."

He said they probably have two or more weeks of work left before they might re-open for business.

"There is a creek that runs right under this place," Pope said. "It's like we are just sitting in a bowl of water. I couldn't believe it when I came up."

Play it Again Sports also suffered similar water damage. Like the Loop, they had three and one-half feet of standing water, compared to only eight inches during Hurricane Fran.

"This has never happened before during just a regular rain storm," owner Dean Mathias said. "I figured we were okay as far as flooding goes, except for hurricanes."

The water in Mathias' store reached up to the computers on a four-foot tall counter in the middle of the store and damaged a majority of the merchandise, he said. "We lost close to \$10,000 just in treadmills," Mathias said. "It wasn't all lost though."



DTH/EMILY SCHNUR

An overflowing creek caused a section of Piney Mountain Road, top, east of Airport Road, to collapse late Sunday night from the weekend's storms. Treadmills and exercise machines at Eastgate Shopping Center's Play it Again Sports, right, were damaged due to the torrential rain.

Making problems even worse, many of the stores at Eastgate did not have flood insurance, Pope said.

"Flood insurance is expensive," he said. "It costs like \$30,000 a year. I can say that most stores around here had a policy on their desk, or in the works, but most hadn't acted on it because it wasn't hurricane season just yet."

As shop owners continue to evaluate the damage and residents begin returning to their homes, Sharpe said the rain

would likely continue. He said it showed no signs of letting up any time soon, potentially causing more flooding in areas where the ground was already saturated.

"The upper air patterns are not changing," he said. "I can't say there will be a dry period for the next five to 10 days."

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AIDS Meet Draws UNC Delegates

UNC officials traveled to South Africa to take part in an international conference focusing on the AIDS virus.

JENNIFER BROWN
Staff Writer

Professors, administrators and alumni from the University presented and listened to recent AIDS and HIV findings during an international conference designed to exchange research in the race to find a cure.

The thirteenth annual International AIDS Conference, which drew more than 10,000 attendees was held July 9-14 in the South African city of Durban. Those in attendance included university professors, students, Durban citizens and former president of South Africa Nelson Mandela.

Lawal Garba, a post-doctoral fellow working with microbiology Professor Jeffrey Frelinger, attended the conference to present findings discovered through research compiled on HIV at the University. He said being in Africa left him with a sense of goodness.

"The atmosphere was great and the people were friendly," Garba said.

Durban is located in sub-Saharan Africa, where 70 percent of the world's HIV-infected population calls home. The area has the highest HIV record in the world, Garba said.

"That makes it really special because it's like taking the conference to the place it really matters the most," Garba said.

See AIDS, Page 4

Plans for Scholars Program to Continue into Fall

COURTNEY MABEUS
University Editor

Faculty and administrators from both Duke and UNC said this week they continue to forge ahead in designing the Robertson Scholars Program and expect the search for the program's director to end by September.

The program, scheduled to start in the fall of 2001, was announced in June, following a \$28 million donation from UNC alumnus and New York investment manager Julian H. Robertson Jr.

The money will help foster ties between both historically rival universities by setting up a joint program in which 15 students from each university

follow a course of study split between the two institutions.

Darryl Gless, interim co-chairperson of the program and a professor of English, said the search, which began nearly two weeks ago, has been advertised nationally and has already received replies from many interested candidates.

"Quite a number are coming in already; the deadline is open," he said. "Basically, setting up leadership is what we are doing."

Gless said it was too early to name any possible candidates being considered for the role.

Potential candidates will be reviewed by a committee consisting of faculty and administrators from both institutions.

"What we're aiming for is a scholarship that awards merit. That is not confined to elitist groups."

DARRYL GLESS
Professor of English

When the time for a decision comes, Gless said students will be involved in the final decision.

Plans are underway to involve students from both Duke and UNC in the formation of an advisory committee designed to lend administrators preliminary

advice on the program. Administrators are currently soliciting student names from Student Body President Brad Matthews.

Gless said getting students together was half the battle, as he hopes to have the group meet before the start of fall semester.

"We hope to have the group meet by August 2 if we have enough people," he said.

Still, administrators must work on advertising a program that has been touted by officials from both schools as a hefty recruiting device. Gless said potential incoming students for the fall of 2001 could expect to start seeing materials by this fall.

"We expect that to attract a lot of attention," Gless said.

For now, cooperation in laying the foundation for the program between Duke and UNC has been great.

"Right from the beginning everybody on both teams was excited by the idea," he said.

Faculty and administrators from both schools are also getting ready for the program by preparing seminars and planning retreats for participants.

In addition, administrators are planning for a bus system which will transport not only scholars but other students and faculty between both schools. Gless

See ROBERTSON, Page 4



Interim Chancellor Bill McCoy will finish up 45 years of exemplary service to the University on August 15.

McCoy Caps Off Stellar UNC Career When Moeser Steps In

TOMMY JOHNSTONE
Staff Writer

As a student at the University 45 years ago, Interim Chancellor William McCoy worked in Wilson Library for \$.50 an hour shelving books.

When McCoy took the reins of the University in spring 1999, he was faced with a string of problems and decisions that carried a lot more weight than his former job.

On August 15, McCoy will officially retire from the University to make way for Chancellor-elect James Moeser.

When late Chancellor Michael Hooker took a leave of absence from the University to undergo cancer treatment, UNC President Molly Broad made the call to McCoy requesting that he come out of retirement to serve as acting chancellor. McCoy had been an active alumnus and had worked with the UNC General Administration, but he did not expect the call from Broad.

"I will forever be grateful to McCoy for shifting his personal priorities to the University," Broad

said. "I believe he performed extraordinarily well in a difficult time for the University."

McCoy accepted the position because he knew that the University was in a time of need.

"I have the same feeling that many of us here do, which is a very special feeling about this place, and I wanted to do everything I could to help," McCoy said.

Immediately upon his arrival in South Building, a short stroll from his workplace as a student, he was met with a \$9.8 million budget shortfall and a long line of demanding students protesting UNC's connection with Nike, which had been accused of cruel labor practices. McCoy received no grace period to help ease into his new position.

"I knew from my experience in the business world that any large organization was going to have its problems," McCoy said. "But, I had confidence in the administration, faculty and students that they would pull together in the face of adversity and reach a solution."

See MCCOY, Page 4

INSIDE Thursday

A Real Loser?



Jason Biggs and Mena Suvari star with Greg Kinnear in the new

teen movie "Loser." If you want to see if this comedy-slash-romance flick is another "American Pie," check out our complete review. See Page 5.

Summer Lovin'

This is the last issue of the Summer DTH. We hope that you have enjoyed reading our paper as much as we have enjoyed putting it together. Kudos goes out to all our staff and a very patient Staceman.

The DTH will return to print with the Welcome Back issue on August 19. The DTH business office will close at 5 p.m. July 28 and will not reopen until Friday August 18 at 8:30 a.m.

"Love: the delusion that one woman differs from another."

H.L. Mencken