RELIGION

strengthens her faith. "One thing I love about wearing a scarf is that people know I'm Muslim right away, and it's an awesome opportunity to talk to others about my religion," she said.

Maroof said the main crux of her religion is a belief in one God, and her

Thursday, April 12, 2001

nent to God motivates her

She said one such way she honors God is by not eating pork or drinking alcohol. "It's not just a bunch of rules to make life difficult," she said. "For Muslims, prevention is the cure." ims, prevention is the cure.

A Different Perspective

This week is Passover, and for freshman Liz Kistin, that means thoughts of her family in New Mexico and memo-ries of holidays they shared together. Kistin, whose family practices reform

Judaism, said her parents never forced her nor her siblings to go to services at synagogue but placed more emphasis on the cultural aspect of their religion. "It was always a choice for us," Kistin

said. "They wanted us to find that pride and ownership in it for ourselves."

Living on the UNC campus, Kistin has found that people around here have limited interaction with Jews.

But she is used to that because the lewish population in New Mexico was min-

imal as well. Kistin said she has found a lack of information about Judaism in the South But she said she never finds herself on the defensive because people ask open-ended questions. "You do a lot more explaining,

which isn't a problem," she said.

Coming to UNC, Kistin said she was Coming to UNC, Kistin said she was afraid that people were going to be less accepting, but she said the reality has disproved her expectations.

"There's so many people that value religion that they're not going to impede your right to practice religion."

On campus, Kistin participates in a group called Tzedek Leadership Initiative, a social justice program run

Initiative, a social justice program run through N.C. Hillel. The group meets once a month to create service projects for both its members and the larger

campus. Kistin says part of what the pro-gram does is tie Judaism to social justice. "It's the perfect kind of way to feel connected with the Jewish population because what I gain from my religion has less to do with sitting in services than it has to do with action," Kistin said.

One action Kistin hopes to take next winter is a free trip to Israel with a group called Birthright Israel.

During difficult times, Kistin has found consolation through her religion.
"There's something very refreshing about being able to say the Mourner's

Kaddish, and it brings amazing comfort." Kistin said the most direct way her religion affects her daily life is through per spective. "The fact that I was raised Jewish affects how I see things on campus."

A Personal Relationship

Being God's servant is a "24/7 gig" for junior Gary Mitchell.

Mitchell said part of his Christian faith is a call to be flexible and open to take opportunities that God sends his way, such as sharing his faith or encouraging someone.

aging someone.

"There are people all over this campus who are hurting, and they need to know that someone cares and to have friends to show them that God loves them," Mitchell said. "Being friendly

and showing love to people is key."
Besides serving God in this way,
Gary spends time throughout the week
in activities of faith. He plays guitar and
leads worship for Fellowship of
Christian Athletes on Monday nights and plays the drums for Campus Crusade for Christ on Thursday nights. He also sets aside time every day for praying and reading his Bible.
As a religious studies major, Mitchell

learns about a variety of religious faiths, and he says it can sometimes be difficult to reconcile views with others who are adamant about their faith.

"There are some questions that I still don't have answers to, but the Bible says we live by faith and not by sight," he said. "I believe that God is just and He knows what He's doing." Mitchell said students often get the

wrong idea about his Christian faith.
"Most people think that Christianity is

BUSH

From Page 1

about following a bunch of rules, being a goody-goody or condemning other people, but the essence of Christianity is about grace and love," Mitchell said. "People need to understand that no mat-ter who we are or what we've done, God

ter who we are or what we've done, God still loves us. He wants us to accept the free gift of forgiveness that He has given us by His Son, Jesus Christ."

Mitchell said his parents encouraged the Christian faith but never shoved it down his throat. "A person of any religious faith faces a time when they have to decide if they believe what they believe because their parents taught it to them or because their parents taught it to them or because they've experienced it, and they can say it's theirs," he said. "But I've always known that Jesus loves me."

A Cultural Experience

For senior Nikheel Purohit, religion and culture come "packaged together." Purohit said a Hindu temple serves not only as a place of worship but also as a cultural center. He recalls that on religious holidays, his family would engage in a cultural activity, such as Indian dances or skits.

Raised in what he described as a very religious family, Purohit said Pooja - a ritual done while praying – was a daily experience. And while Purohit does not engage in Pooja every day here on campus, he has found other ways to be involved in the Hindu faith and culture.

"I don't do much on a daily basis, but I think I rely on my religion through hardships such as social problems, a demics and other things that trouble

me," he said.

At these times, Purohit said he can go to the Hindu temple in Raleigh to pray and that usually makes him feel better. "Temple provides a place to sit and think and react," he said. He added that he might go to temple on holidays, his birthday and before exams.

At UNC, Purohit embraces his culture through Sangam, an association of South Asian students. He serves as co-chairman for Aaj Ka Dhamaka, a cultural competition held annually to raise money for

the UNC Mahatma Gandhi Fellowship. Purohit spent nearly 20 hours per week during the fall semester working closely with two other students to plan the November show. "It really helped

me with managing my time and trying to get other people to work," he said. Purohit said his parents constantly reminded him he was different and worried that he would lose his culture. "I was constantly being reminded 'remem-ber you're Hindu' and 'remember you're Indian."

Although Purohit said his parents' actions made him feel more comfortable with people of the same religion and cul-ture, he said he has gained much through interaction with students of other faiths.

Referring to the orange Marty shirts that pepper campus, he said, "I didn't realize how passionate other people were about their own religion."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

CONGRESS

Tackling issues unrelated to the CAA, Congress approved the bylaws and undergraduate members of next year's Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor. Sophomore Jennifer Daum, one of the new members of SAC, said she is excited about the tunity to serve on the comm

opportunity to serve on the commuee.
"I think it's very important that the chancellor has a personal relationship with the students so he knows that his decisions really affect them."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

STUDENT HEALTH From Page 1

Committee members agree that changes in SHS will benefit students. "The reason being that the reallocation of hours will create more appointment slots," said former Student Body President Brad Matthews, who served on the com-

mittee of employees and students.

And Wirag said the changes will be a more effective use of student fees. "It's going to provide them better usage of the student monies for the program."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu

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Parking 2001

The Department of Public Safety is offering parking pre-registration for all eligible students for the 2001/2002 academic year now through May 24th, 2001. Visit the Department of Public Safety's website to pre-register and find out more information about student parking for next Fall:



www.dps.unc.edu

The pre-registration process is a lottery; all those who preregister between April 2nd and May 24th, 2001 have an equal chance of receiving a permit. So, pre-register online, and put yourself in the driver's seat when it comes to parking next year.

For more info, call the Department of Public Safety:

at (919) 962-3951

The UNC-CH Department of Public Safety

along without 4 percent salary increases," Bush said. "Isn't it reasonable to ask the government to live with that much?"

Bush said his budget would increase funding for N.C. education programs to \$947 million, while funding for Head Start and Medicare would see similar hikes.

"We're going to spend a 100 billion additional dollars next year," he said. "And we can still have meaningful tax cuts."

Bush outlined the major parts of his tax-cut proposal, including eliminating the estate and marriage taxes and reducing income rates across the board.

He said there were two primary reasons for the tax cut - to boost the economy and to help families

"(The economy) is slowing down a

little bit," he said. "One way to jumpstart it is to give people their own money back so they can spend it.'

He added that it was necessary to balance the tax cuts by cutting some government programs.

One program on the block would provide N.C. State University with funding to research feasible alternatives to hog lagoons, which store waste. Bush justified the choice to cut such programs by asking the crowd who could best manage the money. "Who do we trust with money," he asked. "Do we trust the government or the people?" The crowd roared out "people," as Bush grinned.

Members of the audience were a very yogal part of Bush's speech, breaking into

vocal part of Bush's speech, breaking into chants of "U.S.A." Bush was interrupted

several times by audience members screaming out "We love you, Dubya."

Bush played along with the mood, cracking several jokes to the crowd's delight. But they briefly booed Bush when the president mistakenly started to say "Greenville, South ..." before catch-

ing himself.

Bush quickly recovered, turning to a theme from his inaugural address - public service. "The government can't make people love people," he said. "We ought to trust the people of America to pro-vide the compassion needed to fulfill the hopes of everyone who's lucky enough to be an American citizen.

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

For the Record

In the April 10 article "Committee Set to Convene, Name Housekeeping to Convene, Name Housekeeping Head," it was incorrectly stated that former Housekeeping Services Director Michael O'Brien resigned in

O'Brien actually resigned in February

In the caption for the photo accompanying the April 11 article "New Club Brings 'Class' to Greensboro," the band

in the photo was incorrectly identified

as Wilmington-based Velvet.
The actual band performing was Winston-Salem-based Suitcase. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the errors.

The Daily Tar Heel Thursday, April 12, 2001

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PO. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515
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history of piracy.

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NEED EXTRA MONEY? NEED FLEXIBLE HOURS?

WANT TO GET PAID TO BE OUT AND ABOUT or DOING YOUR OWN SCHOOL WORK?

Join our team as an escort for a research study being conducted at UNC-CH. This is controlled diet study where subjects will be staying in the hospital for approximately 10 weeks and will not be able to leave without an escort.

Duties as an escort will involve outings on and off campus. Activities involved include, but are not limited to, going for walks, going to parks, visiting the student recreation center, etc The study will absorb all costs of activities for the participants and the escorts.

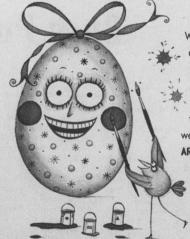
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