

FRANKLIN STREET
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Humphreys, executive director of the Downtown Commission.
Lucy's, located at 114 Henderson St., opens today and will feature fresh seafood, Humphreys said.
"That will be a really nice addition," he said. "There's really not a seafood restaurant in downtown Chapel Hill."
Another new restaurant, Sukura, a Japanese steakhouse, will open very soon, Humphreys said.
It appears as if Franklin Street is vibrant, with shops opening all around. But several restaurants have been strangely vacant for quite awhile.
The Wicked Burrito, at 214 W. Franklin St., was a popular Mexican restaurant that closed nearly two years ago.
It was owned by the Lone Star Steak

House Corp., but about two years ago, the company changed ownership.
When the new management restructured, they closed 26 of their restaurants, including the Wicked Burrito.
Humphreys said perhaps the company is waiting for the right opportunity to reopen or build something else where the Wicked Burrito used to be.
"If they sold it, they would lose that opportunity," he said. "It's kind of like a lost-opportunity cost."
Downtown property is so expensive that only large corporations can afford to let property sit, Humphreys said.
"We'd love to have them do something, but we do respect their ownership rights to do what they want with their building," he said.
The building that used to be a Hardee's restaurant, which sits across from the Wicked Burrito, has also been vacant for about two years, but was

recently purchased by Prestige Associates Inc. of Chapel Hill on May 17.
Antoine Puech, president of Prestige Associates, said they would like to redevelop the site, which would involve knocking down the current building and putting up a new one.
Puech said he is not sure when they will start building because plans still have to be drawn and passed by the Chapel Hill Town Council.
While their plans are in the works, Prestige Associates will lease the site to another business yet to be determined.
His company will lease the site out in the next 30 to 60 days, and in several years they will redevelop it, Puech said.
"There are a host of potential tenants, from car rental companies to restaurants to tanning salons."
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AUTONOMY
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today." He said the proposal essentially echoed the board's own wishes.
"We're not here to react, to disagree or to be controversial," he told board members. "We concur wholeheartedly. As a board, we've had an abundance of discussion regarding flexibility for our campuses."
The board voted to recommend to the legislature a set of suggestions drafted by Broad, which board member John Sanders said corresponded closely to the legislative proposal.
"I think we're seeking the same objective," Sanders said. "I thought it was a constructive meeting that gave firm support to the president."
Association of Student Governments President Andrew Payne, the student representative on the board, said he saw the proposal as a benefit for students.
"Allowing the campuses more flexibility will streamline administrative functions and save some money," Payne said. "I think what's important is that the Board of Governors made a stance today particularly when it comes to tuition." He said one significant difference between the proposal and the suggestions Broad and the board rec-

ommend is in the individual campuses' ability to raise tuition. In the Senate's proposal, tuition increases become a function of the individual boards of trustees, whereas the board recommends allowing individual tuition increases only in emergency situations.
"The senate language sort of reversed the board's tuition policy," Payne said. "What the BOG said is that our policy is important - campuses need to identify an emergency before raising tuition without going through the board."
But Payne said he is confident the board's recommendations will be incorporated into the legislation.
"I believe that the president is going to work with the leadership and I think we're going to see all of those changes come into play," he said.
Other board members also praised the proposal. "It's going to take some of the red tape out," Ruffin said. "It's going to streamline it and even more so it's going to save the state money."
But attempts to streamline the process of initiating the proposed changes were not universally regarded as necessarily beneficial.
"We just don't think we've had enough time to study this adequately enough to make a decision today," said BOG board member Frank Grainger, who read a minority opinion from the Personnel and Tenure committee expressing fears that the board has not had sufficient time to consider the proposal's personnel aspects.
But in general, BOG members and legislators alike expressed support for the proposal.
"Any time we can cut out obstacles that prevent students from having wonderful opportunities to learn and develop, then that's great for our state," Garrou said. "It's exciting to think that we may be getting to the point."
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REZONING
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with the town. "The town and University have had their disagreements, but generally we've been able to work together," she said.
But Shelton said the bill will enable the University to go forward with the Master Plan without the level of Town Council approval needed in the past. "It is a positive step for the University," Shelton said. "It facilitates our planning process."
"It gives University greater independence from the approval process, but I want to stress that the University will still work closely with the town."
Shelton said whether the bill becomes a law or not, it should not affect the basic good relationship that both the University and town want to have.
Moeser said in the statement that if the General Assembly passes the bill, the provision would ensure discussions between the town and the University would be between equals.
Town and University officials met May 24 to discuss ways to minimize the adverse impact of the Master Plan on the town. Moeser said these conversations between town and University officials are helping to keep good relations.
"Obviously, there are some serious issues," he said. "There has been personal animosity, but it has been very civilly handled on both sides."
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TUITION
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"I feel good about it," Plyler said. "Under the circumstances, I think we've done an excellent job."
Young joined several other student leaders at Monday's meeting to voice their concerns on the education cuts.
He said it is frustrating that such an influential decision is being made when

most students are not around.
"Only a handful of students were able to get out there and lobby," he said. "That's to be expected because it's the summer."
Association of Student Governments President Andrew Payne had similar sentiments.
"Students have already left for summer and they're going to come back to this tuition increase," he said. "That raises concerns. It puts students and families

in a difficult situation."
But budget debates are far from being over. The full Senate is expected to approve the budget today.
The budget will then be sent to the House for debate, which could be a long process.
"The House is more divided than the Senate is," said Rep. Ruth Easterling, D-Mecklenburg. "There's just no way to say what will happen."
"This is not the worst budget, but we're having a more difficult time."
Matt Viser can be reached at viser@email.unc.edu.

"Allowing the campuses more flexibility will streamline administrative functions and save some money."
ANDREW PAYNE
ASG President

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