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Point of View

UNC Young Democrats host U.S. Rep. David Price.
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A Call to Arms?

Enlistment numbers even out as reservists' morale remains high.
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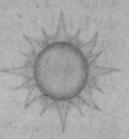
Close to Home

A local production's plot eerily mirrors recent attacks.
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Weather

Today: Sunny; H 81, L 59
Wednesday: Sunny; H 81, L 62
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Volume 109, Issue 75

Tuesday, September 18, 2001

Islamic Council to Decide Bin Laden's Fate

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A grand Islamic council in Afghanistan should decide the fate of Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect in last week's terrorist attacks against the United States, the Taliban's supreme leader said Monday.

The announcement by Mullah Mohammed Omar came after a Pakistani delegation met with him and delivered a blunt message to Afghanistan's radical Taliban rulers: Hand over bin Laden or be hit by

a punishing retaliatory strike from a U.S.-led international coalition.

The Islamic council Omar spoke about was scheduled to convene in Kabul, the capital, on Tuesday. The Pakistani delegation, which came to Kabul after meeting with Omar in the southern Afghan city of Kandahar, stayed Monday night in hopes of influencing its ruling — and possibly heading off a U.S. strike.

It wasn't clear if even a positive response from the Taliban could avert war, or if the Taliban could be persuaded to dismantle bin Laden's terror network even if they hand him over to the United States. Bin Laden's al-Qaida group is said to operate training camps in several

Afghan provinces including eastern Nangarhar, Kunar, Paktia and Kandahar.

The meeting in Kandahar took place amid growing tensions Monday along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, which Pakistan virtually closed by halting the movement of all goods except for food and by keeping throngs of frightened Afghan refugees from entering Pakistan.

The neighboring nations each beefed up their military presences along the 1,500-mile border. And the Taliban closed its airspace to all international flights, forcing the 110 flights a day that normally fly over Afghanistan to take alternative paths.

The likelihood of a U.S. strike is transforming the alliances that have held sway in this region since the mid-1990s,

driving a wedge between Pakistan and its Taliban allies and cementing ties between Pakistan and its erstwhile Cold War partner, America.

Pakistan has promised "full cooperation" with Washington in the event of a U.S. assault on Afghanistan — an event considered likely because of the safe haven the Taliban has given bin Laden since 1996. There was hope Pakistan could use its clout with the Taliban — forged over eight years of close military, economic and diplomatic ties — to persuade it to reverse its decision, stated repeatedly in the days since the terror attacks, never to hand over bin Laden.

That hope received a tenuous boost by Omar's announcement, read

Monday night over the Taliban-run Radio Shariat, that the Islamic council, or ulema, would decide the issue.

Omar's statement said that the Pakistani delegation insisted "we should try to prevent a U.S. attack." However, it gave no indication whether Omar will be making any recommendation to the ulema.

According to the Radio Shariat broadcast, the gathering of the Islamic council will involve 20 of the country's pre-eminent clerics.

The Pakistani delegation was led by Lt.-Gen. Mahmood Ahmed, chief of the Interservices Intelligence, the Pakistani

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Life Begins Again in New York

Stocks fell on Wall Street as trading resumed and strict security measures remained in place across Manhattan.

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Six days after the apocalypse came to Lower Manhattan, much of the neighborhood opened for business Monday, even as thick smoke drifted from the pile of rubble where the World Trade Center once stood.

It was far from business as usual: Wall Street's foot soldiers were greeted by police checking identification.

National guardsmen in camouflage stood silently on some street corners, gripping semi-automatic rifles.

The missing haunted the streets: Homemade posters with smiling faces stared from telephone poles and restaurant windows.

Blocks away, the rescuers continued the desperate work of sifting through the wreckage of the trade center, hoping to find survivors among the 4,957 missing souls. Around 300 of the missing are firefighters.

After a two-minute silence — and a trading-floor chorus of "God Bless America" — a group representing New York's rescue workers rang the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange. The market plummeted in early trading and then stabilized.

The selling, in record volume on the New York Stock Exchange, gave the Dow Jones industrials their biggest one-day point drop, 684.81, and left them below 9,000 for the first time in more than 2 1/2 years.

"To buy stocks you need some kind of clarity and confidence, and right now you've got neither," said Bill Barker, investment consultant at Dain Rauscher in Dallas.

Analysts were not sure how long the selling would last or how intense it might become. Following last week's attacks, investors have more reason to worry about shrinking profits, not to mention national security.

Monday's selling could have been worse, something that was apparent in the number of stocks that fell versus those that rose. The ratio of decliners to advancers was close to 6 to 1, typical of the Wall Street's recent selloffs; in the Oct. 19, 1987 crash, the ratio was 50 to 1.

"We're going to stick our thumb in the eye of the murderers," said Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill at the NYSE building Monday where an American flag was draped over the entrance.

"Tuesday was such a nightmare, people covered in ash, people crying, people not knowing what was going on," said Shannon Jeffries, 32, on her way to work Monday at JPMorgan Chase. "I haven't been back to work since, and I'm not sure what to expect."

Harvey Grossman, a state Insurance Department employee, emerged from a subway station in Lower Manhattan and had to show two forms of identification to walk on the streets.

"Then I went through a second checkpoint, which is OK with me," he said. "They can stop me a half a dozen times if they want to. It's for my safety."

The confirmed death toll from Tuesday's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center towers hit 190. On Sunday, rescuers reached a train platform 80 feet below the center's remains but found no survivors.

Monday was a day for reopenings. Besides the markets and City Hall, other government buildings and courthouses opened their doors.

"The life of the city goes on, and I encourage people to go about their lives," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said Sunday.

Officials Caution Donors of Scams

By CHRIS BLOW
Staff Writer

Local officials are warning residents who are interested in contributing to relief efforts for the victims of Tuesday's terrorist attacks to be wary of con artists.

At least one e-mail scam has been reported, and officials say con artists might look to prey on the compassion of people who want to help victims and their families.

In the wake of Tuesday's tragedies, organizations such as the American Red Cross have launched relief efforts nationwide asking for blood and monetary donations.

But Art Englehardt, a member of the Chapel Hill Police Department's community services division, said he wants residents to be wary of potential scams in Chapel Hill. "We are a very giving community," he said. "And this is something people should know about before it happens."

Con artists can take advantage of residents shocked by the crisis in a variety of ways, Englehardt said. These tactics primarily include e-mails, telephone calls or door-to-door ventures, all based

on emotional appeals, he said.

CNN reported Friday that a mass e-mail was circulating in New York illegitimately using the Red Cross name to solicit money. According to CNN, the e-mail misleads readers by pretending to link to the charity's Web site.

Englehardt said people might be more susceptible to con artists' scams in the aftermath of the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings because people are much less critical of where their money is going right now.

Beverly Baskin, president of the Better Business Bureau of Eastern North Carolina, said she has received no calls about such scams since Sept. 11's incidents. But Baskin said she is certain some N.C. residents will fall victim to scams. "I'm worried about people who just want to give out of true generosity but end up giving to an unscrupulous individual," she said.

Baskin said people should look out for appeals that are long on emotion and short on information.

N.C. Attorney General Roy Cooper said he has not heard of any scams

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Matthew Miller (left) and David Adamson (right) set up flats around the flagpole in Polk Place for the memorial, which will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday.

UNC to Hold Arts Memorial

An eight-foot-tall wall — much like the Vietnam Memorial — and 500 hollow wax doves will decorate the quad Wednesday.

By CHARLES DILLARD
Staff Writer

UNC's arts community has banded together to help students, faculty and other members of the University community express reactions to last week's terrorists attacks with a series of events scheduled for Wednesday.

The arts community is holding a tribute at the flagpole on Polk Place throughout the day. Several speakers and performers from various arts-related campus groups will take place in front of a giant canvas that will display the public's feelings toward the attacks.

The memorial encompasses nearly every UNC-related arts organization or department, including PlayMakers Repertory Company, the Ackland Art Museum, Lab! Theatre and the Carolina Union Activities Board. The idea behind the memorial took shape Thursday, as Arts Carolina Director Amy Brannock led a meeting with the University arts community.

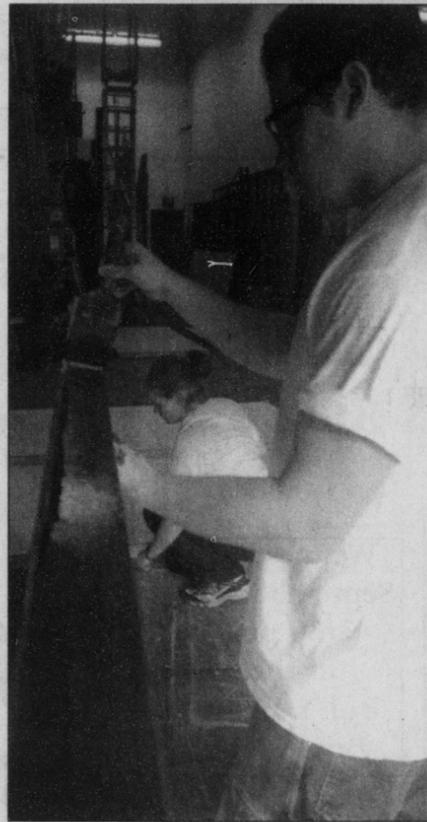
"In my adult life I've been able to witness the arts console incredible pain," she said Thursday. "It seemed a natural thing to come together."

The memorial is the result of the arts community's cohesion, Brannock said. The memorial's centerpiece, an eight-foot-tall wall constructed by scene builders from PlayMakers, was built to evoke the image of the Vietnam Memorial. Second-year art student Amie Robinson donated roughly 500 hollow wax doves into which people are invited to place letters, hopes and prayers. Members of the public will be able to add their handprints to the wall in silver or gray paint and can also bring candles, flowers and other tokens to place at the wall.

Art Professor Beth Grabowski, one of the event's coordinators, said the wall was constructed not only to make an artistic statement but also to offer the public art's healing abilities. "Whether it's poetry, hearing a song, seeing a dance, I think art is very therapeutic, and that is what people need," she said.

To enhance the remembrance of the victims, a bell will be rung at each of the times when the four planes crashed. The ringing of bells will be followed by various performances. An open mic will also be at the wall after 10:30 a.m. to provide members of the community a chance to express themselves.

Events surrounding the memorial will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue on Polk Place until 4 p.m.



Shane Baker and Bet Lawrence paint flats this weekend in preparation for the memorial event.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Local Arabs, Muslims Gain Student Support

By SARAH GENNETT
Staff Writer

Students concerned about campus tensions after last week's terrorist attacks met Sunday to collaborate on plans combatting negative attitudes targeted at the Muslim and Arab communities.

Senior Kristin Rawls, president of the International Justice Mission, organized the meeting in the Campus Y lobby to increase awareness about actions and threats against Arabs and Muslims in the past week.

The Ali-Iman, an Islamic school in Raleigh, closed last Tuesday and Wednesday after threats were called in.

Rawls said she was disturbed and ashamed of the way people have been reacting to last week's violent events. "We owe it to (the Muslim community) to promise our support as well as an assurance of safety," she said.

With visions of a more united University atmosphere, those who gathered at Sunday's meeting decided to form the Peace and Reconciliation Network. The group will work to eradicate negative feelings toward Arabs and Muslims in the community.

Members of a number of student groups on campus attended the meeting,

representing such organizations as the International Justice Mission, Campus Y, the Muslim Student Association, the UNC Arab Club and Students United for a Responsible Global Environment.

The network proposed a number of plans to combat ignorance on campus and in the community, including the organization of a professor- and student-led information forum. The forum would be presented at other universities to try and educate people about the difference between the Islamic faith and terrorism.

Another idea was a T-shirt and button campaign with slogans showing opposition to any resentment directed toward Arabs and Muslims in connection with Tuesday's attacks.

Rawls said the group might also organize a letter-writing campaign advocating anti-hate crimes legislation. She said the members plan to write letters to President Bush objecting to the use of bombs in response to the terrorist attacks.

As a way for the community to gather and support each other, Rawls said the group proposed to organize a solidarity march composed of students and community members.

Raj Panjabi, co-president of the Campus Y, said people need to watch where they place blame for the attacks. "People want someone to blame, and, while this is natural, we all need to realize

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You have learnt something. That always feels at first as if you had lost something.

George Bernard Shaw