

The Daily Tar Heel

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Road Block

Disabled students find it hard to get around construction. See Page 3



Cashing in on Fear

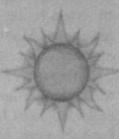
N.C. officials are skeptical of online pharmacies filling Cipro prescriptions. See Page 6

Sticky Fingers

Dexter Reid's interception was crucial in UNC's win. See Page 7

Weather

Today: Sunny; H 73, L 35
Wednesday: Sunny; H 63, L 31
Thursday: Sunny; H 64, L 42



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Volume 109, Issue 95

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Anthrax Scares at Capitol, ABC

U.S. jets continued airstrikes against the Afghan capital of Kabul, focusing on destroying suspected weapon storage sites.

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The 7-month-old child of an ABC News employee has the skin form of anthrax, officials said Monday.

The boy was responding to antibiotics and is expected to recover, ABC News President David Westin said at a news conference.

America Attacks

"The prognosis is excellent," he said. It is the second case of anthrax involving a major news organization in New York. Authorities are also investigating a letter that infected an NBC employee with the same form of anthrax last week.

The latest infection followed earlier instances in Washington, D.C., Florida, New York and Nevada in which at least 12 people were exposed to spores of the potentially deadly bacteria.

Earlier Monday, the bioterrorism scare rattling the nation reached the halls of Congress when a letter sent to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle tested positive for anthrax.

The piece of mail in Daschle's office, which contained a powdery substance, was dispatched to an Army medical research facility

at Fort Detrick, Md., for further examination, said Capitol Police Lt. Dan Nichols.

The Fort Detrick findings could be available as early as Tuesday, officials said. Nichols and others warned that the initial tests were not necessarily accurate.

Bush told reporters "there may be some possible link" between the spate of anthrax incidents across the country and Osama bin Laden, who administration officials say was behind the Sept. 11 airline hijack attacks.

"I wouldn't put it past him, but we don't have any hard evidence," Bush said.

Daschle was in the Capitol and was not exposed to the letter, which was opened in his other office a block away in the Hart Senate Office Building.

Officials would not identify the person who

opened the letter, though Nichols referred to the aide as a female. Aides who might have been exposed to the letter were tested with nasal swabs and being treated with the antibiotic Cipro as a precaution, said Dr. John Eisold, attending physician in the Capitol.

"They are innocent people caught up in a matter for which they have nothing to do," a somber-looking Daschle, D-S.D., told reporters at a news conference outside the Capitol. "I am very, very disappointed and angered."

Nichols said a criminal investigation led by the FBI was under way.

The Daschle letter — and similar scares in other congressional offices — prompted a halt to all mail deliveries in the Capitol and raised

See ATTACK, Page 4

UNC Officials To Unveil Nike All-Sports Deal

Department of Athletics officials previously have said stricter labor code stipulations might be included in the new contract.

By KAREY WUTKOWSKI
Assistant University Editor

UNC officials will announce the University's new all-sports agreement with the Nike Corp. this afternoon, finalizing what likely will be one of the largest contracts of its kind.

Chancellor James Moeser and Director of Athletics Dick Baddour will offer details about the multi-million dollar contract and the process leading up to it.

The new contract extends the University's 10-year relationship with Nike and renews the current five-year all-sports agreement, with some changes. The current contract, which expires at the end of the school year, provides all 28 UNC varsity sports with Nike uniforms, practice gear, shoes and some equipment.

Baddour originally had hoped to finish up with the recontracting process last spring, but he said last month that talks of labor standards contributed to the process's delay.

The current contract does not include stipulations on factory worker conditions because the University had not yet adopted a labor code when the contract was drafted in 1997.

Baddour has said the inclusion of labor standards was a large priority in the recontracting process for both UNC and Nike.

See NIKE, Page 4

Powder Likely Not Anthrax

N.C. laboratory officials say preliminary tests show it is unlikely that a local man's mail contained anthrax.

By CHRIS BLOW
Staff Writer

An N.C. laboratory official said Monday that preliminary tests indicate that the white powder found inside of an envelope addressed to a Chapel Hill man is not likely to be anthrax.

Chapel Hill police officials sent the material to the state public health laboratory after a Chapel Hill resident received an envelope containing a white powder Friday night.

The resident feared the substance was a contaminant and called 911. Police arrived at the scene and dispatched the regional Hazardous Material Incident Response Team, Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said Sunday.

Officials, who still are not releasing information about the location or the identity of the resident, secured the residence as a crime scene late Friday.

Lou Turner, director of the N.C. laboratory, said preliminary test results indicate that the substance received in Chapel Hill is probably not anthrax.

According to a press release from the Centers for Disease Control, anthrax is an illness caused by the anthrax bacteria that is noncommunicable and is treatable with antibiotics.

The CDC stated that the disease can be contracted through direct skin contact, inhalation or ingestion of the anthrax bacteria.

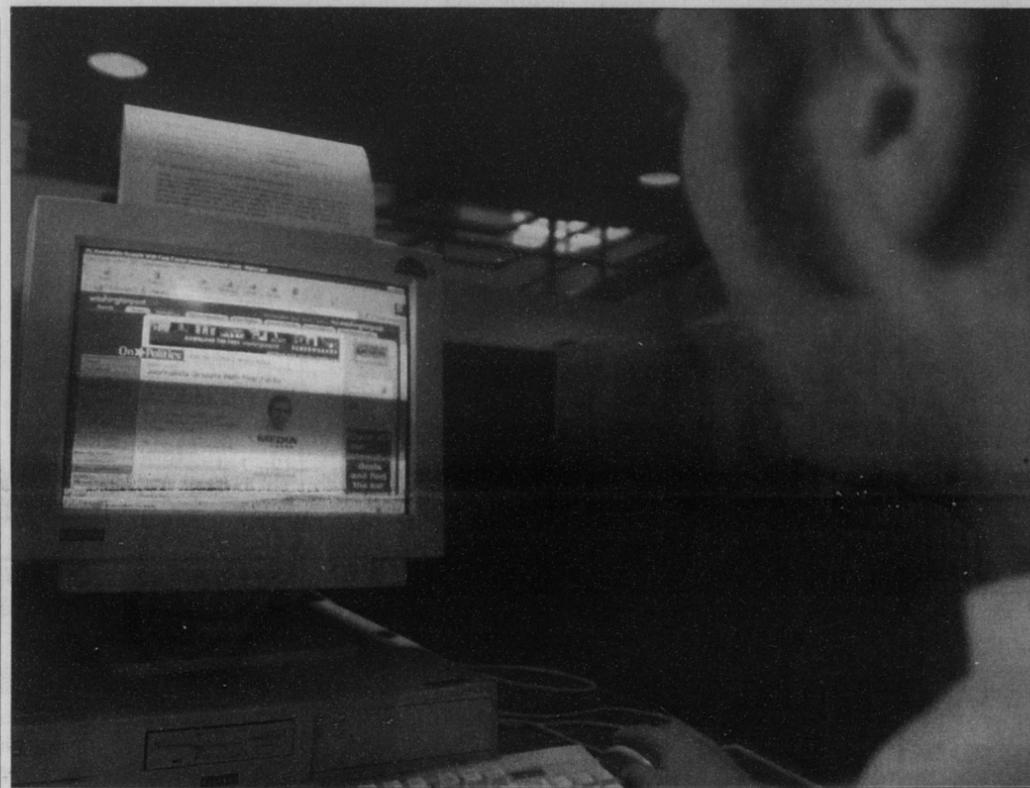
Turner confirmed that the substance received in Chapel Hill has been under extreme scrutiny because of the recent anthrax scares nationwide. "We run it through a battery of five to six tests including microscopic observation where we just look at the colonies under a microscope," she said.

Turner said laboratory officials also are exposing the substance to a stimulus that typically would promote growth in anthrax bacteria, a move she said has not shown any alarming results. "We're not seeing any growth in the colonies so far," Turner said. "If it was (anthrax), we probably would have seen growth by now, but we can't say yea or nay."

Cousins, who said police have no new information on the case, said a letter found with the suspicious powder is an important part of the investigation. She had no further information to give regarding the letter.

The incident comes days after a similar incident in Durham where prelimi-

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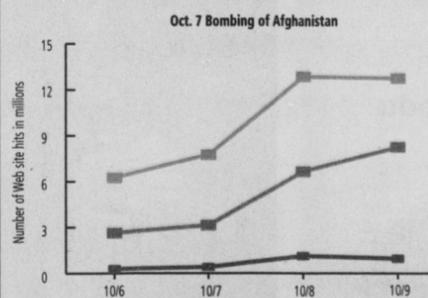
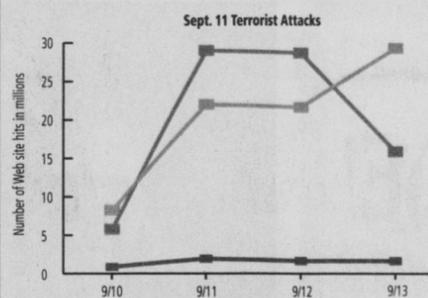
Jack Kimball, a freshman journalism and international studies major, surfs The Washington Post's Web site for the latest information on the nation's situation. Kimball says the Internet is the easiest way to keep up with breaking news.

Internet Changes Awareness of War

Breaking News at Your Fingertips

Web sites of major news outlets have seen an increase in the number of Internet users visiting their sites on the days of recent news events.

■ The New York Times ■ The Washington Post ■ The Associated Press



SOURCE: HTTP://WWW.NYTIMES.COM, HTTP://WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM, HTTP://WWW.APOG

The Internet has given new access to information, both true and false, after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

By CLEVE WOOTSON
Staff Writer

Many Americans are looking to computer screens rather than televisions for up-to-the-second information about the Sept. 11 attacks and their aftermath.

As the United States prepares for its first war of the 21st century, Americans have come face-to-face with the positive and negative effects of having a vast amount of information available almost instantaneously.

Internet users have been able to get information and first-person accounts of the attacks via the Internet — and Internet experts say Americans have been taking advantage of the opportunity.

"Afterward, most users could pretty easily find information they think is useful," said Lee Rainie, director of the Pew Internet and Life Project. "After the attacks, there were tremendous amounts of surfing."

Dick Meyer, editing director of cbs.com, said the site received 10 times its normal traffic in the hours after the attacks, and technicians had to bring in additional servers.

But the increased amount of information also means the U.S. government

has less direct power over what information its citizens receive.

For example, information shared by U.S. officials with British Prime Minister Tony Blair was posted on the British government's Web site even though it had not been directly shared with the American people, said Deb Aikat, UNC professor of journalism and mass communication.

Some have expressed concern that although the Internet gives people a forum to express their opinions, the plethora of information provided on the Internet can be misleading.

Paul Jones, UNC clinical professor of journalism and mass communication, said the Internet allows a group to express its views to a mass audience. "There is a growing number of people who do not want war, and they're using the net to get their point across," Jones said.

But Lee McKnight, professor of international communications at Tufts University, said rumors and falsehoods spread faster because of the Internet. "There are all kinds of crazy rumors out there, and rumors can propagate faster on the Internet, but those rumors can also be shot down faster on the Internet."

Numerous e-mails have circulated on the Web containing possibly false information, including possible terrorist attacks.

But Rainie said the nature of the Internet allows false information to be dispelled quickly. "We do know of the self-policing mechanism of the Internet,"

See INTERNET, Page 4

Berryhill Hall Formaldehyde May Be Unsafe

Berryhill Hall will close from March to May next year to fix problems with exhaust fans and duct work on the fifth and sixth floors.

By ADDIE SLUDER
Staff Writer

Chancellor James Moeser has called for an emergency renovation of a UNC classroom building to fix possibly unsafe levels of formaldehyde.

Berryhill Hall, part of the School of Medicine, will be renovated in March because of a ventilation problem that has caused an excess concentration of formaldehyde.

Formaldehyde is a colorless, strong-smelling gas that is used in the building's anatomy labs as a preservative.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency's Web site, inhalation of formaldehyde can result in eye, nose and throat irritation and respiratory symptoms.

Formaldehyde inhalation also can trigger attacks in people who suffer from asthma.

While formaldehyde can severely affect some, many do not show any reactions to the gas.

"Even in short-term exposure, the material is seen as an irritant to the eyes and nose," said Peter Reinhardt, director of the Department of Environmental Health and Safety.

Renovation of Berryhill was scheduled to take place in 2004 as part of the \$499 million allocated to the University by the \$3.1 billion bond package passed last year.

But officials said investigation of the ventilation warranting immediate attention.

"We had reports that ventilation in the upper floors was less than it should be in Berryhill," said Bob Marriott, assistant dean for the School of Medicine.

According to information received at last Thursday's Board

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Dangerous Levels

Exposure to high levels of formaldehyde can lead to an array of health dangers, with asthma sufferers at high risk.

INHALATION:

Can cause irritation in the nose and throat. Could lead to coughing, headaches, nausea and difficulty breathing.

SKIN:

Can cause irritation and redness.

■ EYES: Effects do not immediately arise but can include blurred or loss of vision, redness, pain and acute burning.



SOURCE: HTTP://WWW.INCHEM.ORG
DTH/COBI EDELSON

For the very first time the young are seeing history being made before it is censored by their elders.

Margaret Mead