

# The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

## Coming Home

Students recount dealing with Sept. 11 while abroad.  
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## Meet the Candidates

Candidates for the 2002-03 DTH editor are introduced.  
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## Keep it Comin'

Baseball sweeps three-game weekend series.  
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## Weather

Today: Light Rain; H 53, L 45  
Tuesday: Cloudy; H 67, L 59  
Wednesday: Cloudy; H 76, L 38



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## Med School Nabs Guest Speaker

Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher reduced his speaker fee and will speak at the school's graduation.

By ESHANTHI RANASINGHE  
Staff Writer

For the first time ever, UNC's School of Medicine has secured a professional from outside of the school to speak at its graduation ceremonies on May 17.

Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher was overwhelmingly voted by fourth-year graduate students to be this year's guest speaker.

"There was a big call from the student body saying that we wanted a public event," said Eric Ball, head of the graduation committee for the medical school. "We e-mailed everybody and asked who they wanted to speak at graduation - David Satcher was by far the most popular."

A former Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar and Macy Fellow, Satcher is the recipient of 18 honorary degrees and numerous distinguished honors. In 1998 he became the surgeon general under President Clinton, a post he held until February.

Committee members said his work as surgeon general during times of great national concern over bioterrorism, as well as his work to diminish disparities in available health care, made Satcher a popular choice among students.

"He's an outstanding leader in medicine and health care," said Patrick Link, a member of the graduation committee. "Being an African-American, he's an outstanding minority role model."

In previous years, guest speakers have been members of the school's faculty. But due to renovations, this year's ceremony was moved from Memorial Hall to the Smith Center, making it possible for the graduation committee to book a speaker from outside of the school.

"Because of the larger venue, we were able to make the event public and bring in an outside speaker," Ball said.

But committee members encountered a problem with their new plan - because the school never had a speaker from outside its doors, there was also no speaker allowance set aside for the ceremonies.

The lack of funding presented the committee with an obstacle to overcome in time for graduation, especially with Satcher's regular speaking price set at \$20,000, committee members said.

But Satcher said he was willing to be flexible with his asking price, and when members of the graduation committee informed him that they had no money set aside for the speaker, he brought his price down to \$5,000, Ball said.

To raise the money, the committee went to several student organizations

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## Officials Defend Need for Overhead Receipts

By LUCAS FENSKE  
Assistant State & National Editor

RALEIGH - UNC-system officials petitioned members of the N.C. Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on Wednesday to protect overhead receipts from a revenue-starved state budget.

N.C. officials are projecting a budget shortfall for the 2002-03 fiscal year that might exceed \$1 billion, forcing legislators to consider budget cuts in most areas of the state budget. Some legislators argue that overhead receipts are a significant source of potential revenue.

Overhead receipts, also called facilities and administrative funds, are part of federally funded research grants that cover indirect costs of the project such as electricity or administrative fees.

Universities nationwide also use overhead receipts to fund miscellaneous projects on campus. Overhead receipts at UNC-Chapel Hill, which total about \$75 million, fund everything from

employee salaries to faculty training to building construction.

UNC-system schools received \$110.4 million in overhead receipts during the 2000-01 fiscal year. About 80 percent of the revenue is used to cover personnel costs, supplies and utilities.

UNC-CH Chancellor James Moeser said overhead receipts are key to the University's continued growth. "We're re-investing those revenue sources and growing a great research university," he said.

Moeser said the University is relying on projected revenue from overhead receipts to serve as collateral for issuing bonds and to fund future construction projects. "A reliable stream (of overhead receipts) helps us achieve a highly favorable bond rating, which enables the University to lower construction budgets by reducing the cost of borrowing money," he said. "A substantial threat to our (overhead receipt) revenue stream could jeopardize our bond rating and escalate costs."

Moeser added that some campus buildings already under construction

rely heavily on overhead receipts. The Bioinformatics Building is funded with \$27 million in overhead receipts and only \$2 million from state bonds.

Jeff Davies, UNC-system vice president for finance, said overhead receipts are crucial to funding construction and cannot easily be seized. "(Overhead receipts) cover a portion of building projects," Davies said. "It's difficult to build 30 or 40 percent of a building."

He also said overhead receipts supplement state funding for items like utilities. "Overhead receipts have been used to make up that gap," Davies said.

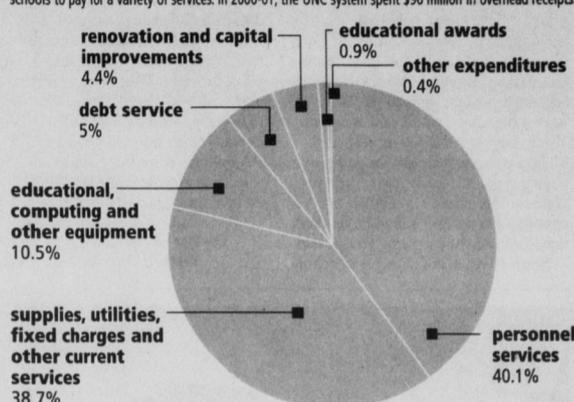
But some legislators repeatedly said UNC-system officials should not rely on retaining 100 percent of overhead receipts.

Rep. Robert Grady, R-Onslow, hinted that the N.C. General Assembly might seize some of the receipts to cover part of the budget shortfall. "In 1991, the legislature retained 50 percent of the receipts," Grady said. "I would urge you to stop and

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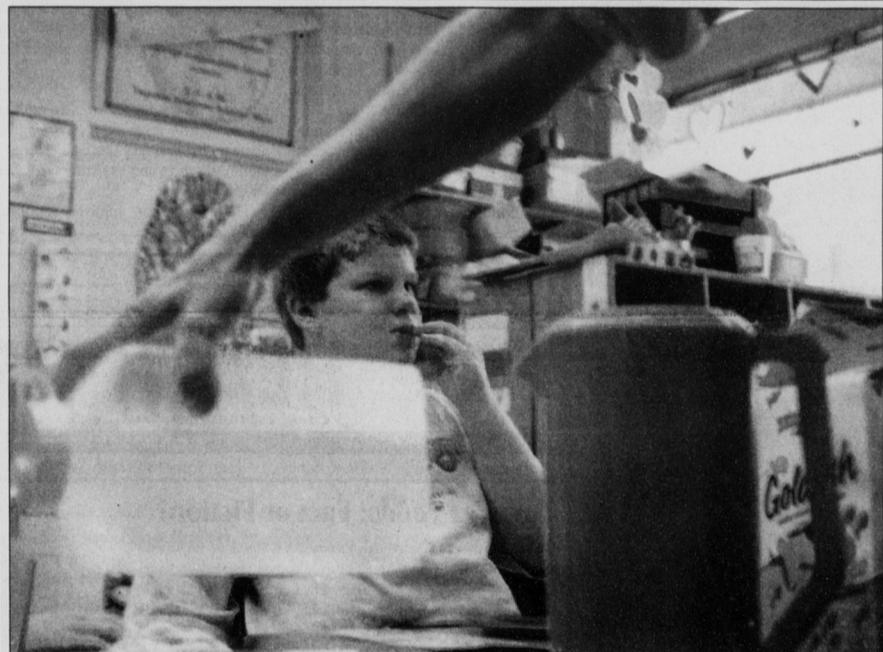
## Slicing the Overhead Receipt Pie

Overhead receipts, which are funds from research grants that cover expenses, are used by UNC-system schools to pay for a variety of services. In 2000-01, the UNC system spent \$96 million in overhead receipts.



SOURCE: UNC-SYSTEM GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

DTH/COBI EDELSON



Eric Mihalyi repeats, "More goldfish please," during snack time in his class at Frank Porter Graham Elementary School. Eric has been taught to ask for things politely, even during snack time.

## Autistic Children Learn Life Skills

By JON DOUGHERTY  
Assistant City Editor

Eric Mihalyi is upset. He wants cookies and is not interested in waiting his turn to receive them. The 9-year-old shows his frustration by chanting nonsensically and rocking in his chair.

When autism instructor Kathy Yasui-Der's requests for Eric to wait are disregarded, Yasui-Der sends him to a timeout. Even snack time has an educational purpose in Yasui-Der's classroom at Frank Porter Graham Elementary School.

The goal of the exercise is to force the students to articulate their wishes, an ability that autistic children often lack.

Every morning, Yasui-Der and her two assistants, Alyssa Calvert and Kate Kalleberg, teach the school's Upper Primary Autistic Class, which is composed of third- through fifth-grade children. The school also offers a Lower Primary Autistic Class for younger children.

"Our final goal with these kids is to

teach them to be as independent as possible," Yasui-Der said. "We place the major emphasis on life skills - many of these kids cannot dress themselves in the morning." Yasui-Der, who has more than 10 years of experience working with autistic children, said most can overcome at least part of their autism with sufficient training.

The disease's origins are shrouded in mystery. Usually it is difficult to predict which children will be struck with autism.

The condition affects a person's ability to relate to the world as most of us know it. In severe instances, autism can leave the individual nearly incapable of communicating with others and almost blind to the functioning of the world.

Autism is four times more likely to occur in boys than in girls. At any given time, the majority of children in autistic treatment programs are male - a statistic that holds true for Yasui-Der's class, which consists of five boys and no girls.

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## Local School Leaders Address Learning Disabilities Statistics

By KATHLEEN WIRTH  
Senior Writer

In theory, the numbers say it all.

According to the National Center for Learning Disabilities, 35 percent of children with learning disabilities drop out of school.

Sixty percent of adults with severe literacy problems are found to have untreated learning disabilities.

But in a school system with an aver-

age SAT score of 1,175 and 81 percent of its graduates going on to four-year colleges and universities, it might be hard to believe that these statistics could apply.

Even The Wall Street Journal took note of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools in 1999, when it honored Chapel Hill High School as one of the top 10 high schools in the nation.

But some educators say the statistics and accolades given to Chapel Hill-

Carrboro schools, while impressive, do not always tell the whole story.

"Chapel Hill seems to focus on the cream," said Jane Byron, director of learning disabilities at UNC. "If you're an average Joe, then you're kind of overlooked."

The awards tend to leave out about 1,380 special-needs students with diagnosed disabilities like attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity, autism and dyslexia.

And a survey on Exceptional Education, presented to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education last September, sparked extensive discussion among some board members.

"There are some things we do very well," said former school board member Roger Waldon after the survey's presentation. "But a document like this tells us what we are not doing well."

But Byron said the survey results merely put into writing what teachers

have known for years. "All the survey did was to get it out in the open - teachers have been struggling with this for a very long time," she said.

One statistic Byron and board members pointed to is the tenuous relationship between resource teachers, or teachers specifically trained to teach exceptional children, and regular teachers.

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## Southpoint Well Received by Triangle

The area's new mall, located in Durham, is 1.3 million square feet and features the state's first Nordstrom.

By JENNIFER SAMUELS  
Assistant State & National Editor

DURHAM - The thousands of Triangle shoppers aren't exactly dropping, but they are pushing themselves to the limit exploring the Streets at Southpoint since its March 8 opening.

A week after its opening, heavy crowds still lined the mall's corridors. Some shoppers stopped at a Time Warner Cable booth to watch Texas Tech

University beat Mississippi State University in the semifinals of the NCAA Tournament, while others stopped to listen to musician Bruce Stevenson.

More than 300,000 shoppers visited the mall within three days of its opening, far surpassing the expectations of many retailers and critics who feared recession might hinder the project.

The 1.3 million-square-foot mall features more than 150 stores and restaurants, including 24 retailers unique to the area, such as the state's first location of upscale department store Nordstrom. The parking lot has 6,400 spaces.

Many shoppers said they are overwhelmed by the variety of stores at Southpoint.

"I'm in amazement," said Amy

Kapsch, a senior at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh. "(There are) so many stores for so many different types of people in one place."

Kapsch, who was shopping at American Eagle Outfitters, said she expected her time at the mall to top four hours by the time she left. She said that though the mall itself is overwhelming, she thinks it is a good addition to the Triangle.

"Yeah, I definitely think (it's good)," she said. "There's not really a great mall in the area."

Tara Uthe of Raleigh, who was shopping at Banana Republic, said Southpoint mall is a welcome change from other area malls, such as Crabtree Valley Mall in Raleigh. "(Southpoint is) nice, from what I've seen," she said. "It's

nice to have different stores."

But not all shoppers praised the mall as innovative.

While standing in line at Frank & Stein's, Raleigh resident Donovan Gill said that despite the mall's unique design, he does not think the stores are anything unusual. "It's pretty neat, but it has all the same stores as other malls, except for Nordstrom," he said.

Some mall employees said the crowds prevent them from experiencing the mall themselves.

Rufus McLaurin, an employee at Buckle, a clothing store geared toward young adults, said he has not had much time to explore the mall because he has

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Shoppers crowd the new Streets at Southpoint mall Sunday. More than 300,000 people visited the mall in its first three days.

Money is always there, but the pockets change.

Gertrude Stein