



Top Stories From the State, Nation and World
IN THE NEWS

Sharon: Israeli Troops Will Leave Nearly All Of West Bank in Week

JERUSALEM - Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Monday that troops will be out of all West Bank cities except Ramallah and Bethlehem within a week. "Altogether, we are on our way out," Sharon said in an interview with CNN. Israel, he said, has no intention to stay in "cities of terror."

In the interview, Sharon also spoke of his desire for peace but reiterated his view that Yasser Arafat is not a partner in peace and that Secretary of State Colin Powell, who is in the region, should not have met with the Palestinian leader Sunday.

The United States has called on

Israel to withdraw immediately from the West Bank to end a massive military campaign that began March 29 with the aim of crushing the Palestinian militias behind deadly attacks on Israelis. Israel consistently has said it cannot leave until the job is done but previously hadn't indicated when that might be.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat angrily rejected Sharon's statements. Erekat told CNN, "When he says he will pull out from built-up areas, it means he is turning our towns into big prisons," denying Palestinians the right to move freely around the West Bank and even preventing people from reaching hospitals.

The announcement came the same day as U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell embraced the idea of an international conference aimed at stopping Middle East violence and restarting Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations.

Exploding Rockets Kill At Least 4 U.S. Soldiers; Incident Accidental

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan - At least four U.S. soldiers were killed Monday and a fifth was injured when rockets they were trying to destroy accidentally blew up. The casualty toll could rise because some soldiers were missing after the noontime explosion, U.S. officials said.

The accident, coming at a time of increased combat activity, highlights the dangers troops face even when not

under hostile fire, Pentagon officials said.

The blast occurred at a demolition range next to the compound that once housed former Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar, according to local government spokesman Yusuf Pashtun.

An Afghan guard, who gave his name only as Ramatullah, said U.S. troops had been collecting confiscated weapons and ammunition and storing them at the compound for disposal. He said he heard a series of six explosions about noon Monday.

Bush Pushes Congress To Make Last Year's Tax Cut Permanent

WASHINGTON - Using Monday's tax filing deadline as a backdrop, President Bush and his Republican congressional allies sought to build support for legislation making permanent the 10-year, \$1.35 trillion tax cut enacted last year.

Because of an arcane Senate budget rule, the entire package of cuts will expire, or "sunset," at the end of 2010. That could trigger tax chaos in 2011 - and would be seen as a big tax increase - when old income tax rates would go back into effect and the supposedly repealed estate tax would be resurrected full force.

The tax deadline also brought a new tax simplification proposal from Bush's Treasury Department aimed at removing confusion over the definition of a

child for tax purposes and a House hearing on the performance of the Internal Revenue Service.

House leaders plan to bring the bill that would make the cuts permanent to a vote Thursday.

Pope, U.S. Cardinals Plan Meeting to Discuss Recent Sexual Scandals

ROME - Pope John Paul II has summoned American cardinals to the Vatican for an extraordinary meeting to talk about sex abuse scandals in the U.S. church.

The talks will take place early next week, a senior Vatican official said Monday. The official said the cardinals would meet with some Vatican officials as well as the pope.

A source close to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said the meeting has been scheduled for April 23-24. The source spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Vatican official said only the eight American cardinals in charge of an archdiocese will be involved in next week's talks. They are Cardinal William Keeler of Baltimore, Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston, Cardinal Francis George of Chicago, Cardinal Adam Maida of Detroit, Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles, Cardinal Edward Egan of New York, Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua of Philadelphia and Cardinal Theodore McCarrick of Washington, D.C.

-The Associated Press

Officials Downplay Visa Policy's Effects

By Brook Corwin
Staff Writer

University officials say a new policy imposing stricter regulations on students with foreign citizenship will not deter international students from applying to or attending UNC.

The new policy, announced last week by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, stipulates that foreign students must obtain a student visa before they can begin their coursework in the United States.

In the past, foreign students could start school with only a tourist or business visa, as long as they already had applied for a student visa.

Once they enrolled at a U.S. university, they could obtain a visa.

But University officials maintain that because the admissions process for international students follows the same timeline as the normal admissions process, these students will have plenty of time to file for a student visa under the new regulations before they come to Chapel Hill.

"I don't expect that the law is going to affect us at all," said Jean Hughes, associate director of the International Center.

"So far, we do not see fewer students applying."

Hughes said UNC graduate school departments also have pushed back their admissions deadlines to give applicants more time to work on obtaining a student visa.

She said each department was advised to send acceptance letters by April 1.

Jane Gabin, senior assistant director of undergraduate admissions, said acceptance letters for undergraduate international students were sent out at the beginning of April, in accordance with a timeline that gives each student the entire summer to apply for a student visa.

Gabin said her office typically receives about 500 applications a year for 50 open spots, a number she said has

not decreased this year.

Hughes said the overall wait to obtain a student visa can vary from a few days to a few months depending on the nationality of the applicant because each consul sets its own visa policy.

But Gabin, who works as the director of international admissions, said many international students apply for early decision in the fall, giving them additional time to make student visa requests.

"Many of these students come from international prep schools," Gabin said. "They have guidance counselors encouraging them to get their applications out early."

The new regulations were prompted by growing concerns from federal officials that potential terrorists could enter the country on tourist visas - which are easier to obtain than most other types of visas - and extend their stay by applying for a student visa.

In addition to providing assistance to students contending with the new visa policy, Gabin said the International Center has taken extra measures to ensure that international students at UNC do not feel threatened while at school.

She said she has already spoken at length with one Middle Eastern applicant who was concerned about her safety while attending school in the United States.

Gabin said the student decided to attend UNC after learning of the support available through the International Center, which she said offers a summer orientation session to make international students feel welcome and can also help those students apply for student visas.

"The international center is already helping them file their visa requests," Gabin said.

"The whole international team at UNC is working very hard to make sure these students are taken care of."

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

High Court Denies Appeal in Charlotte Busing Case

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE - The fight over one of the nation's longest-running school busing programs ended Monday when the U.S. Supreme Court turned away a appeal to keep Charlotte's schools

under federal oversight.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system became in 1970 the first major urban district in the nation to use court-ordered busing to achieve racial balance. The high court upheld the plan in 1971.

The high court's refusal to hear the

dispute this time marked the official end of the program that bused inner-city students to mostly white suburban schools and suburban students to the inner city.

A lower court ruled in September that the 109,000-student school system no longer practices discrimination and can go forward with a new student-assignment plan that does not use race as a factor.

Though they greeted the end of the saga with pleasure, Charlotte school officials said they are still working to give all students an equitable education. "This is the final chapter in pupil assignment, not the end of the work we need to do in our schools," said school board Chairman Arthur Griffin, who is black and attended segregated schools in Charlotte.

Charlotte's plan was the result of a lawsuit by black parents who claimed the school district had not done enough

to comply with the Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling that desegregated public schools.

White parents sued to end busing in 1997, arguing that it harmed white students and failed to help most black students. U.S. District Judge Robert Potter agreed, ruling that the school system had achieved the goals of racial balance.

The Supreme Court did not comment in turning away the appeal from black parents, who argued that vestiges of segregation remained.

In their appeal, the black parents argued that the schools have become re-segregated, with black students concentrated in a few schools. The district built schools in largely white neighborhoods - making it hard to integrate them - and ignored the condition of schools in black neighborhoods, the appeal said.

Attention First-Year Undergraduates!

Check your e-mail!

Share your thoughts concerning the Carolina experience so we can improve student life both in and outside the classroom. All it takes is 20-25 minutes to complete the CSEQ (College Student Experience Questionnaire), a web survey hosted by Indiana University.

Completion will enter you in a drawing for gift certificates to Circuit City. One \$500 and five \$100 certificates to be awarded. Do it now! Your input is important to us.

Division of Student Affairs
UNIC-Chapel Hill

CLOSING BUSINESS SALE!

Emma
Contemporary Fashions

Beginning April 15th

All store credit and gift certificates must be redeemed by April 30th!

25-75% OFF

15th 171 E. Franklin St., Chapel Hill

Campus Calendar

Today

10 a.m. - **Campus Y** is holding a Relay for Life 50-cent Bake Sale in the Pit until 2 p.m. Cake, brownies and cookies will be 50 cents.

5 p.m. - Have you stretched your dollar as far as it will go? Worried about saving for the future? Do you want to see your money grow? Come to the **Alpha Epsilon Omega Christian Sisterhood's Money Management Seminar** in 309 Gardner Hall.

5 p.m. - **Masala's** last general body meeting of the semester will be co-sponsored by the Arab Club and will include a discussion about current issues in the Middle East, as well as a video. It will be held in Union 218.

5:30 p.m. - Noted author and ethics expert **Rushworth M. Kidder** will speak today as part of Integrity Week at the **Kenan-Flagler Business School**. Kidder brings more than 30 years of insight to his discussions of corporate and global ethics. The lecture, which will be held in the Maurice J. Koury Auditorium, is free and open to the public.

8 p.m. - **Campaign to End the Death Penalty** will host speaker **David Kaczynski**, brother of "Unabomber" Ted Kaczynski, in the Union Auditorium. Admission is free.

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

Carolina Union Activities Board

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 16
MI and Fred Hampton Jr. Dare 2 Struggle* Dare 2 Win: Get Free Hip Hop & Power workshop Gardner 08, 6-45
Tom Deluca - Hypnotist Memorial Hall, 8pm FREE

Thursday, April 18
Robert Zubrin with Space Talk "The Case for Mars" Morehead Planetarium Star Theatre, 7pm
CUAB 2002-2003 Interest Meeting 200 Student Union, 8pm
Road Trip, FREE w/UNC One Card OCUQ, 9pm
Rain date - Friday, April 19, 9pm

April 18-21 8pm; 26-28 2pm and 8pm
Is it a Human Being or a Girl: A Performance Swain Hall Studio Six \$5 admission fee/Union Box Office 962-1449

Friday, April 19
Soul Talent Showcase Doors open at 7:30pm Great Hall, FREE
Reception & Open Mic following in West Lounge
7:30pm: Mulbolland Drive, FREE w/UNC One Card
10:30pm: Hedwig and the Angry Inch, FREE w/UNC One Card Union Auditorium

Saturday, April 20
8pm: Hedwig and the Angry Inch, FREE w/UNC One Card
10pm: Mulbolland Drive, FREE w/UNC One Card Union Auditorium

Sunday, April 21
Concert: Carla Bozulich with Nels Cline Singers Gerrard Hall, 8pm, FREE

Tuesday, April 23
Student Film Showcase Union Auditorium, 7pm

Wednesday, April 24
Woman Make Music: Isa Kremer: The People's Diva Toy Lounge, 7pm

Thursday, April 25
Photojournalism Student Exhibit Reception Union Art Gallery, 6-8pm
PCI, FREE w/UNC One Card OCUQ, 9pm
Rain date - Friday, April 26, 9pm

Friday, April 26
8pm: Monsters Inc., FREE w/UNC One Card
10pm: The Others, FREE w/UNC One Card Union Auditorium

Saturday, April 27
8pm: The Others, FREE w/UNC One Card
10pm: Monsters, Inc., FREE w/UNC One Card Union Auditorium

Friday, May 1
Jump Arts Great American Road Tour Featuring avant-garde jazz! Gold Sparkle Band, the Transcendentalists, dance, spoken word and performance art! Sight & Sound Constructions featuring OKkyung Leon Cello. Hill Hall Auditorium, 8pm
Tickets on Sale Union Box Office 962-1449 \$2 students \$5 general public

visit: www.unc.edu/cuab ~ call: 962-1157 ~ stop by: Union 200

Hypnotist TOM DELUCA

Tuesday, April 16
8 pm
Memorial Hall
FREE

presented by Carolina Union Activities Board
Pop Culture Committee

Life Takes Guts

Wednesday, April 17
10am - 4pm in the Pit

Guest Speakers and Student Groups Performing

Guest Speakers

Chris Klug
Olympic Snowboarder

Anson Dorrance
Women's Soccer Coach

Sylvia Hatchell
Women's Basketball Coach

Free Food Door Prizes

Sponsored by
Carolina Donor Services
A.P.P.L.E.S.
Kenan-Flagler Business School

Life Takes Guts