

BUDGET
From Page 1

leaders have created for the UNC system and compared those plans to the one passed by the Senate last month. The House plan calls for a 3 percent reduction to the UNC system's budget - a total of \$52 million. The Senate plan called for a 2.4 percent reduction. The House budget - as well as the Senate's - includes the 8 percent in-state

and 12 percent out-of-state tuition increase approved by the UNC-system Board of Governors in March. The House budget proposal contains \$5 million for need-based financial aid, which was not included in the Senate budget. But some of these figures could change in the next few days as members of the subcommittee begin proposing amendments to revise the budget plan.

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

SUMMER READING
From Page 1

sense of community between students and faculty," he stated. "This opt-out program does precisely the opposite." Glover said FPN was approached by dozens of students who wanted to be named in the lawsuit. "The common thread among all the students who contacted us was fear: fear of being ostracized by other students, by faculty," he said. Glover said that he hopes the students are able to remain anonymous but that they are all willing to forgo the anonymity if they have to because they believe what they are doing is right and just. He said FPN has received numerous messages of hate mail, including some that border on threats. He said this reinforces the belief that students who object

to the summer reading requirement will be ostracized. Glover said the book itself is extremely biased and presents a one-sided view of Islam. He said the University's failure to portray both sides is a "sin of omission." In the past, Chancellor James Moeser has compared the selections of the Quran presented in the book to the Bible's books of Psalms and Proverbs. But Glover said that the book is biased because the author is a renowned Islamist and that the nature of the book would be more comparable to a book on the New Testament by the evangelical Rev. Jerry Falwell. Glover also said there would be "10 times the noise" if the University was requiring incoming students to take a class about Christianity.

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SALES TAX
From Page 1

for the sales tax increase but said the bill did not pass because the state passed its own half-cent increase last year. The majority of Republican representatives - and a few Democrats - did not think a one-cent increase in sales tax over one year would be fair to state residents. This development has left many counties and towns, aside from Chapel Hill, in a bind because they had planned for the reimbursements or the sales tax increase in their budget proposals. "The counties had every right to expect the reimbursements because they were in the state budget," said Todd McGee, the director of communications for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. McGee says the only way to make up for the loss is for counties to cut back. Those counties that projected the revenue in their budgets will have to delay capital projects, such as building new schools or limit contributions to certain funds, such as the affordable housing fund. Insko said there will be a compromise package proposed to the House in which the state sales tax will be rolled over, as previously planned, to the counties in January.

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UNDERGRAD
From Page 1

opening. Scheduled events include an address by Chancellor James Moeser and a performance by the Clef Hangers. Guided tours of the Undergrad will be given after the ceremony and are open to students and the public, McGinnis said. The Undergrad closed Dec. 19, 2000, to undergo its first major renovation since it opened in the fall of 1968. The entire inside of the building was gutted, leaving "literally nothing but the bare concrete structure," Alford said. The renovation project was approved prior to Hurricane Floyd in 1999, but its funds were channeled to hurricane relief. The project was then added to the state bond referendum that was passed in November of 2000, Alford said. Several campus construction projects began in December after the bond passed, but the Undergrad will be the first of them completed if it opens as scheduled. In addition to state funds, Alford said University officials raised about \$2 million that they used for various upgrades to the interior and additional equipment.

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Former UNC Nurse Arrested

By JAN RYBNICEK
Staff Writer

A former UNC Hospitals nurse was arrested on Friday for allegedly fleeing rape charges in Pennsylvania. William Gary Sullivan, 43, of Durham is being held on \$25,000 bail for charges saying he is a fugitive from another state. Sullivan is also facing local charges of statutory rape and taking indecent liberties with a child. These charges are said to be in connection with events that occurred March 14, 2001. Sullivan was freed on bond for these charges. The rape charges Sullivan faces from Pennsylvania allegedly stem from an incident that occurred Oct. 31, 2000. Tom Hughes, managing editor for institutional relations at UNC Hospitals, said Sullivan was an employee at the hospital for 11 years. Sullivan was employed in the respiratory intensive care unit until May 2000 and was then

transferred to the post-anesthetic care unit. His employment at UNC Hospitals was terminated May 25, 2001 for reasons undisclosed because of a state personnel privacy law. In the event that a hospital employee is charged with a crime, hospital administrators determine - on a case-by-case basis - whether the crime affects the the employee's work and warrants any action such as dismissal or paid leave. UNC Hospitals devotes \$90,000 of its budget to run mandatory background checks and substance abuse screens on every incoming employee. Hughes said that like all other employees, Sullivan also received a background check. This check not only sought to find whether Sullivan had a criminal record in North Carolina but also whether he had a criminal record in several other states. "The background checks did not find any prior criminal record, and so there-

fore Sullivan was cleared for employment," Hughes said. The hospital does not have any means for determining whether an employee has been charged with a crime outside of North Carolina after the background checks have been completed. In order to do this, the hospital would have to run the expensive background checks on every employee on a consistent bases. This option is not economically feasible, Hughes said. Hughes said UNC Hospitals officials have no plans as of yet to contact the patients who Sullivan might have come into contact with. However, the hospital will work with patients who have questions concerning the situation. "If a patient has any concerns or questions then we intend to investigate those concerns completely," said Hughes. The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Emergency Declared for 73 Counties

The Associated Press

RALEIGH - The federal government declared 73 North Carolina counties agricultural disaster areas Tuesday, a little more than a week after Gov. Mike Easley became the first Southern governor to seek aid. The emergency designation gives farmers eligibility for emergency farm loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. "The drought has had a devastating impact on our agriculture industry, and I am pleased that Washington acted quickly to give farmers the assistance that they so desperately need," Easley said. The governor made the aid request July 12, saying drought losses were estimated at \$170 million. Easley said last week during a tour of a drought-stricken farm near Knightdale that the state won't have enough water to meet its needs unless lots of rain falls before Labor Day. "The severity of the drought in North Carolina has caused intense economic

injury for the farmers of North Carolina," said U.S. Rep. Richard Burr, R-N.C. "This assistance will provide much-needed relief for those suffering from this natural disaster." At least 50 municipalities already have implemented mandatory water conservation measures. Easley said he is willing to force water restrictions on communities that refuse the conservation request he has made but later said he doesn't think that will be necessary. In becoming the first Southern governor to ask for federal drought aid, Easley urged a 20 percent reduction in water use in the driest of the state's 100 counties. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for the loan from the Farm Service Agency to cover part of their actual losses. U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said 58 counties were named primary disaster areas, including seven western counties that suffered freezing temperatures in May. Fifteen other

counties were named as eligible for assistance because they bordered the primary counties. "This assistance will provide much-needed relief for North Carolina farmers who have suffered from losses due to these natural disasters," Veneman said. Other programs available to assist farmers include the Emergency Conservation Program, Federal Crop Insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. **For the Record** The July 18 article "BOG Approves Tuition Rate Reduction" incorrectly stated that tuition for out-of-state students will decrease to from \$1,300 to \$100. Tuition will increase only by the \$100 amount. The June 27 graphic with the story "Union Construction: 13 Months Overdue" incorrectly showed that there will be parking spaces in front of the new Student Union. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the errors.

CARRBORO
From Page 1

Zaffron said. "All I could think of was 'This stinks. It's total B.S.'" While most of the board was ready to nail the budget down and pleaded the process was reaching its conclusion, Tuesday night's meeting saw some debate before a vote was con-

ducted. Alderman Jacquelyn Gist said in a written statement that she could not in good conscience vote for a budget with funds appropriated for the purchase of land on N.C. 86 for a future site of a public works facility. "I spoke with (Chapel Hill Mayor) Kevin (Foy) about the possibility of co-location of our public works facilities," Gist said. "He was under the impression that Carrboro was

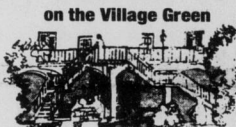
uninterested in co-location." Gist requested that a committee of staff and elected officials from both towns be formed to explore the possibility of cooperation. While several members expressed interest in the idea, no action was taken on the issue at Tuesday night's meeting. The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

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
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