A Solemn Day for New York, UNC and the Nation

mericans across the country spent Wednesday reflecting on the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the year that has come to pass. Despite the distance, emotions on campus and in New York City were much the same - grief and despair mixed with hope for the future.

Early Morning – Bagpipe processionals that will converge at the World Trade Center site start in the five bor-

6 a.m. – Flags at Battery Park City are lowered to half staff.

7:15 a.m.-9 a.m. - Candle-lighting services commence in all five boroughs across the city.

8:46 a.m. – A citywide moment of silence is held, although it's only as quiet as New York City can be. The subway still roars underground, and buses shuttle by. The murmur of visitors' voices mixes with the wind stirring the air. The silence is followed by a reading of victims' names at Ground Zero.

10 a.m. - Bush speaks from the Pentagon. Hundreds stop in the streets to watch the televisions in Times Square while others continue with their daily

11:29 a.m. – As tens of thousands sit listening, the last victim's name is read. The speakers finish with "May God bless the victims. We love you all. May God bless America.

noon - As students begin to approach Polk Place, their trivial conversations about homework and exams stop. Quietly they wait for Chancellor James Moeser to come out on the steps of South Building - just as he did one year ago and deliver a message meant for reflection, consolation and inspiration.

Senior Mike Randall is one of many students to approach Polk Place for the convocation. He says he isn't sure what message he is waiting to hear; he just feels a need to be there. "I can't imagine being in New York that day," he said. "It must have been ..." he says, trailing off in disbelief. " ... crazy."

12:04 p.m. - The smooth bugled

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Time:

Thursday, September 12, 2002

tune of "The Star-Spangled Banner" comes like a desolate sigh from the steps of South Building. As the tune solemnly goes on, an unusually cool breath of wind rustles the leaves of the tall oak trees, sending chills down the necks of

the 6,000-some students gathered.

12:24 p.m. – Clutching one another's hands, students bow their heads for a moment of silence. For the first time in two years the South Building bell rings - six times - one for each of the alumni who died. "That's when I lost it," said junior Jennifer Duke, still wiping away tears. "It could have been any of us. .. That's scary.'

Even when the crowd begins to let go, freshman Mathilde Sabourin and four friends don't. They continue to hold one another — first hands then with arms wrapped around each other in a semi-ciras if tomorrow they won't be able to.

"It really helps to have other people," says Sabourin, a freshman. "I really pay more attention to my friends now. The

little things, the fights, they don't matter."
12:43 p.m. - Moeser lays the first pebble. And more than 3,000 people are

to follow, forming a circle around the flagpole in the middle of Polk Place.

They are just stones - ones you kick on your way to class, ones you'd find in a vacant gravel pit. But today they are nuggets of comfort to members of the University community who are lining up in hoards to pay their own tribute to the

UNC alumni who died.

12:45 p.m. — With Polk
Place still quiet, the Bell Tower
rings loudly across campus,
drawing students away from the commemoration and back to their daily lives.

Class is about to start, homework is due, and exams are looming. It seems that life is going on as usual.

1:09 p.m. – Sophomore Delia Darney stands in line, waiting to place a stone in Arts Carolina's commemorative art project. She hears that students skipped their classes to participate in the convocation. "Good," she says. "I hope

a lot of people did."

2:25 p.m. – N.Y. resident James
Babbin, who, with two friends, decided to read all the biographies of the people who died (whose names are in The New York Times' "Portraits 9/11/01") finishes reading the portrait of Laura Marchese-Giglio. Babbin ends each portrait by saying out loud, "And this is the portrait of ...



Many members of the campus community placed pebbles in a spiral Wednesday to represent eternal life. For the full story, go to www.dailytarheel.com.

2:41 p.m. – On the third floor of Saunders Hall, history Professor Michael Hunt tries to get his students to think about another day of infamy for United States. So that his students can draw parallels between the events of Sept. 11 and the attacks on Pearl Harbor, Hunt plays a taped recording of President Roosevelt's address to Congress on Dec. 8, 1941.

The former president's voice booms across the classroom as students listen attentively. Hunt stands in the back of the room, his head down in contemplation.

2:43 p.m. – A converted school bus,

painted red and with the letters "FDNY," departs with a cadre of singing firefighters. Hours earlier, police had considered towing the bus be it was illegally parked just a block away from the World Trade Center.

2:56 p.m. – Ground Zero visitors finish the 12th 4-by-16 sheet of paper full of signatures and start working on the 13th. The papers started in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and at first only went the firefighters and police officers. Now, thousands have signed. Eventually they all will go to the

The Daily Car Heel

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3:05 p.m. - New York City peddlers try even harder to push 9/11 trinkets on people by lowering prices dramatically. One man starts handing out

free flags.
4:50 p.m. – Bush's motor cade passes by several hundred onlookers on Liberty Street.

5 p.m. – Bush arrives at Ground Zero.

7:56 p.m. – Stephanie Edwards, a senior from Wilmington, stands alone steps away from the Pit, waiting for the candlelight vigil to begin.

"I woke up and just wanted to be with my family," she says. Her schedule has been nearly identical to a year ago

watching television reports almost incessantly when she can. She also made a point to stop by the noontime

convocation. "I've just been reflecting."
9:11 p.m. – Twenty students gather in the courtyard of Parker Residence Hall to light candles, listen to a poem about unity after the attacks and share

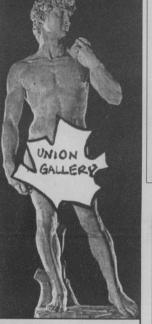
their experiences and feelings.

Junior Tiffany Hall says she can't believe it's been a whole year since she heard about the attacks and feared for her brother, who was in his Manhattan office at the time. He was unhurt, but the scare was enough to make her focus on what is important. Hall says that for her, today's events are less about patriotism and more about family.

9:56 p.m. - As students silently drift away one by one from the candlelight vigil, one group remains assembled in the back corner of the Pit.

"These were some powerful messages," men's basketball coach Matt Doherty tells a group of basketball players after the vigil. Doherty says the vigil gave the players a way to reflect and be part of the campus community. "There is a lot more going on in this world than basketball," says Doherty, a New York native who lost two friends in the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Whatever we had going on – study hall, workouts, practice – it all came second to this," he says. "The players – and all students – needed an opportunity to



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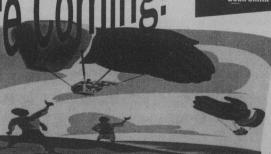
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