

TUESDAY IN DTH



Locals to speak out

Residents of downtown Chapel Hill's Northside neighborhood fear that developers might soon erode the area's historic character. Community activists will hold a candidates forum Tuesday to address the issue.

WORLD BRIEFS

Palestinian leader Abbas resigns in frustration

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Palestinians' next prime minister must be free of the restraints on fighting terrorist groups that forced Mahmoud Abbas to quit in frustration, President Bush's foreign policy advisers said Sunday.

Otherwise, they said, progress toward completing the U.S.-backed plan to an independent Palestinian state by 2005 will remain stymied.

Abbas, who ended his stormy tenure Saturday, criticized his Palestinian detractors for undermining him.

He took on Israel for failing, in his opinion, to meet its obligations under the peace plan, known as the road map. He also said the United States had not forced Israel to comply.

Abbas had become the Palestinian Authority's first prime minister in late spring, nominated by longtime leader Yasser Arafat and confirmed by the Legislative Council.

Henri moves across Florida, downgraded to depression

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — Most of Florida was spared heavy rain forecasters had believed Tropical Storm Henri would bring Saturday, as the system weakened into a tropical depression and moved quickly across the peninsula.

Rainfall totals in most areas affected by Henri fell considerably short of the 6 to 12 inches forecasters said were coming to large portions of the state.

Florida's Gulf Coast had only scattered reports of streets being covered with a few inches of water.

Henri was responsible for at least two injuries Friday. A Lee County man, whose name and condition were not released, was struck by lightning.

A Pinellas Park man, identified by Tampa police as Edgardo Pulido, 55, lost control of his hydroplaning pickup on rain-slicked Interstate 275 in Tampa and crashed into a concrete wall. Pulido was in critical condition at Tampa General Hospital, officials said.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Campus groups to hold Progressive Fair today

Several campus student groups will be holding a Progressive Fair today from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in Polk Place.

Amnesty International, the Campaign to End the Cycle of Violence, Students United for a Responsible Global Environment, the Campaign to End the Death Penalty, Student Environmental Action Coalition and other progressive groups will be handing out information and answering questions for new students interested getting involved with any of the groups.

CITY BRIEFS

Shooting suspect turns self in to Carrboro police

Demetris Parnel Adams, 19, previously wanted on charges of attempted first-degree murder and going armed to the terror of the public, surrendered himself to authorities at 1:15 p.m. Wednesday with the aid of an attorney, said Lt. Jim Phillips of the Carrboro Police Department.

Rick Harvey, 18, also wanted on the same charges, is still at large.

Police issued warrants for the arrest of Adams and Harvey after a man was shot and seriously injured at Arbor Meadows Apartments on Aug. 19.

CALENDAR

Today

5:30 p.m. — Earn transcript recognition for service through the new Public Service Scholars Program of the Carolina Center for Public Service. An information session will be held in Union 226.

Compiled by staff and wire reports.

16 Congress seats remain vacant

BY NIKKI WERKING
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

With 16 seats open on Student Congress, the governmental body once again is facing its yearly problem of mass vacancies.

A special election will be held Sept. 30 to fill the open seats.

Although almost all seats were filled in last year's Congress, no more than 31 of the body's 37 seats were filled at one time in the three years prior to that. This year's vacancies are somewhat more

numerous than usual.

Speaker Will Dupont attributed the large number of vacancies in part to the recent resignations of five Student Congress members.

Representatives Chris Boudreau, Tripp Costas, Justin Johnson, Moses Kim and Amanda Lee resigned at the end of the spring semester or by the start of this semester for various reasons, mostly dealing with time constraints.

Kim, a graduate student representative, said he resigned because

his class schedule this semester conflicts with Congress' general body meetings.

Dupont said the open seats inhibit Congress' ability to help students. "It's bad and really does a disservice to students to not have representation in Congress," he said.

Of the 16 openings, six are in undergraduate student districts and 10 are graduate student seats.

In the undergraduate districts, there are two vacant seats in Districts 7 and 11 and one seat in

Districts 8 and 9.

In the graduate student districts, three seats are open in District 14, and two seats are available in Districts 16 and 18. There also is one vacant seat in Districts 12 and 13.

Students interested in running for Student Congress are required to attend an informational meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in 313 Dey Hall.

Melissa Anderson, who will be chairwoman of the Board of Elections pending approval by

Student Congress at its first meeting Tuesday night, said the purpose of the meeting is to inform students of the rules and procedures that apply to student elections and campaigns.

For more information on which areas each district represents, visit the Student Congress Web site at <http://www.unc.edu/student/orgs/congress>.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.



Annie Nashold, director of children's education at Duke Gardens, speaks about therapeutic horticulture, a discipline that she says enhances quality of life by bringing people and plants together.

Therapy's green thumb

Local group treats ailments through horticulture

BY ALISON ROSS
STAFF WRITER

The weather outside was cool and crisp Saturday morning when more than 40 people from all walks of life filed inside the North Carolina Botanical Garden's Totten Center.

Adorned with flower-patterned quilts, the center's brightly colored walls contrasted sharply against the blue-gray overcast sky.

"What a morning, huh?" said Nancy Easterling, Botanical Garden horticultural therapist, as she greeted a woman entering the center.

"I know. It's hard not to be working in the garden on a day like this," responded the woman.

A love of gardening is what drew people to the "Serving Your Community Through Therapeutic Horticulture" workshop Saturday.

For about an hour, participants listened to information on the purpose and background of therapeutic horticulture, a discipline that brings people and

plants together to enhance the former's quality of life.

"We believe that gardening and access to nature is life-affirming," Easterling, who organized the workshop, told the crowd.

"We hope you leave with some excitement, some interest and some ideas of how you might support programs in your community,"

Halfway through the morning, the group broke into smaller sections to do a model exercise as an example of an activity that falls under the heading of therapeutic gardening. In this example, people learned how to make seed tapes, in which rows of seeds are adhered to thin, biodegradable paper and stuck in the ground.

To simulate the experiences of those who benefit from therapeutic horticulture — a group including children with special needs, the elderly and people with disabilities — some participants wore gloves to restrict hand movement, goggles to

impair visibility or earplugs to limit hearing.

As the model activity wrapped up, Dr. Sandra Powers, a psychologist with a private practice in Chapel Hill, explained her motivation for attending the workshop.

"I was interested to know what kinds of things are being done using gardening therapeutically," Powers said.

"If I'm trying to help an older patient, someone who enjoys gardening, to find a facility if they can no longer live on their own, I'd want to find them a place that offered these kinds of programs."

Charles House is one such place: an adult day center that already has a flourishing therapeutic horticulture program. It and 10 other organizations, among them Ronald McDonald House and the Sunnybrook Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, had representatives at the workshop to explain their

SEE HORTICULTURE, PAGE 4

Lost City Video to shut its doors

BY RYAN C. TUCK
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Lost City Video will close its doors at the end of September, leaving a void in a West Rosemary Street business district that has long been notorious for its unique retail offering.

The video store shares the intersection of Mitchell Lane and Rosemary Street with Skylight Exchange, a store that sells used books, videos and sandwiches, and Henry's Bistro, a late-night cafe and bar.

Since its founding in 1997, Lost City looked to provide a place for film fanatics to find a wide range of unique videos but primarily wished to sell vinyl to DJs, clubs and other establishments, said Erik Ose, owner of Lost City and a UNC graduate. "There is a real need for stores like ours in Chapel Hill because there are so many film fans who feel like they're not being satisfied by the selection in Blockbuster," he said.

Ose said his store, which achieved recognition in Source magazine, tried to meet this demand by offering rental selections of cult, horror, anime, sci-fi, black cinema, martial arts and classic 1970s pornography videos, which Ose believes are not available anywhere else.

Lost City is closing because of a decline in walk-in traffic and people's interest in video rental, but also because the building is being torn down at the end of the month.

Lost City and the buildings to its right and left will be moved or torn

down to make way for Rosemary Village, a multistory mixed-use project.

Although small retail locations such as Lost City find it difficult to compete with corporate video stores such as Blockbuster, Ose said that in recent years, he has found more success with his business online, which will become his focus when the store closes its doors.

"The Internet has been a double-edged sword for us in that it has cut down on walk-in traffic but also gives us the ability to sell to the entire planet," Ose said.

Robert Humphreys, executive director of the Chapel Hill Downtown Commission, said that he is sad to see Lost City close but that the area has a lot of potential.

"It's an area that is ripe for redevelopment," he said.

Don Jose's and Mama Dip's opened their businesses there but were so successful that they moved to larger locations.

Humphreys said the low-cost location promotes success for small businesses. "Rents are a little lower in this location, which allows businesses with narrow focus to survive," he said.

Despite the turbulent times, Ose said, closing the doors will not be easy. "I'm sad to see that place go, but it's been a lot of fun, and I've learned a lot from all of the characters who have come through the doors over the years."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

UNC innovations assist companies

Kick-start 22 businesses since 1995

BY MARY BETH BARDIN
STAFF WRITER

Micell Technologies started as an experiment in a UNC laboratory. In 1995, two chemistry graduate students and their professor discovered how to make detergent using micelles, better known as scrubbing bubbles.

Shortly thereafter, the ingenious discovery made it out of the lab and into the hands of dry cleaners, supported by UNC's dedication to commercializing its innovations.

Most recent surveys rank UNC third in the country for promoting start-up companies, with University research generating 12 corporations in 2002, said Mark Crowell, assistant vice chancellor for research and economic development.

Since 1995, UNC students and faculty have helped establish 22 spinoff companies, creating more than 12,500 jobs nationwide.

These companies mark the beginning of UNC's new focus on promoting technology and economic development.

Research and inventions from the University's labs formed the basis for many of these firms.

"We want to see our ideas move into an environment where they can affect (business and innovation). It's part of our mission of research and public service," said Tony Waldrop, vice chancellor for research and economic development.

Because start-up companies often don't have the funds to purchase licenses to UNC technology, the University can choose to take ownership in the company instead.

"When an invention has commercial potential, there are two options," Crowell said. "We can either find an existing company and license the invention to them or build a new company."

Many of UNC's start-up companies have profited from the University's support, said company officials.

The technology of Micell has spread across the nation in

SEE COMPANIES, PAGE 4

Senior puts global twist into post-graduation plans

Desire to go abroad presents dilemma

BY MICHELLE JARBOE
FEATURES EDITOR

Though it's months away, graduation constantly looms on the horizon for senior Sean Michnowicz.

Sporting a backward cap and an easy grin, Michnowicz casually explained his intentions to work in counterterrorism overseas.

His long-term interest in Southeast Asian studies has motivated him to search for experience and exposure outside the United States, if he can only find the job that will bring such aims within his grasp.

"It's not a particularly good time to look for a job," he said. "It will

TURNING POINTS



A biweekly series focusing on the job market and the challenges faced before and after graduation.

make me think twice about what I expect to follow college."

Michnowicz, a peace, war and defense major from East Haddam, Conn., transferred to UNC from the University of Hawaii after his freshman year.

Frustrated with teachers' strikes and the curriculum of his Chinese language concentration in Hawaii, he initially chose to enter the business program at UNC.

But his passion for Southeast Asian film and culture eventually

dictated his educational choices, and Michnowicz chose to combine an international security and defense concentration with various language classes, including Hindi, Arabic, Bengali and Tamil.

He plans to take these languages out of the classroom if he can find a job that will allow him to travel.

"I'm not going to limit myself to national security," he said. "Something that helps me to communicate with different cultures would be great."

Graduate school and the job market are exerting opposite pulls on Michnowicz, who has qualms about both potential paths.

Although he favors his prospects for graduate school, he is anxious

SEE MICHNOWICZ, PAGE 4



DTH/BRIAN CASSELLA

Senior peace, war and defense major Sean Michnowicz is choosing between graduate school and looking for a job overseas.