

BOT approves building design

BY JONATHAN M. CARL
STAFF WRITER

The UNC Board of Trustees unanimously approved the design of the Global Education Center along with five other action proposals Wednesday.

The proposals were approved in the wake of a recommendation from the board's Buildings and Grounds Committee.

By approving the proposal for the education center, both the committee and the full board accepted the building design as specified by design team Leers Weinzapfel Associates.

The building, which will be located on the corner of McCauley and Pittsboro streets, aims to coalesce many of the international factions at the University and dedicate itself to academic, social and research pursuits in foreign affairs.

The design, a split-level edifice separated by an atrium, will sit atop a 129-space parking deck.

Anna Wu, UNC's director of facilities planning, cited the building's adeptness to its surrounding area and glass-sided north end as the its strong points.

"We think the (center) will create a good flow from Miller (Hall) to Tate-Turner-Kuralt (Building)," Wu said.

Despite the committee's unanimous approval, BOT members raised several concerns about the building's design.

The concerns included the building's modern design in con-

trast with the historic campus buildings, the ability to maintain the cleanliness of the windows and offices on the north end and the material used to construct the education center.

Trustee Rusty Carter said he was concerned about the proposed modern architecture in the middle of campus, creating a contrast to the University's historic setting.

The \$29 million budget for the project will come from a combination of resources, including North Carolina's Higher Education Bond Bill, private gifts and parking and energy services receipts.

Other approved proposals were renovations to the Ambulatory Care Center, the second phase of a residence hall proposal to accommodate 1,000 students in apartment-style housing, an addition to Cobb Residence Hall, an addition to the Faculty-Staff Recreation Association and the purchase of property on Mason Farm Road.

Of all six action proposals, only the recreation association proposal was up for final approval. The other proposals will return to the board throughout various stages of their development.

The BOT also discussed the proposed Information Technology Services and Genetic Medicine buildings, although no votes were cast.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Cursive achieves unscripted success

BY PHILIP MCFEE

ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Uttering the word "Cursive" in an independent record store will start a riot.

In 2003, following the release of its jabberwocky of an album *The Ugly Organ*, the Omaha quintet raked in praise from mainstream and underground critics alike.

In fact, the word "Omaha" might suffice for a mob incentive.

Cursive hails from Nebraska's musical hot spot — a city quickly becoming a new indie rock Mecca, thanks to Saddle Creek Records and the efforts of starry eyed Bright Eyes crooner Connor Oberst.

On its most recent album, Cursive optioned cellist Gretta Cohn, adding new melodic depth to the buzzed-about release.

The Ugly Organ, a follow-up to 2000's *Domestica*, bears the same labels its predecessor did: "meta-rock," "postmodern" and more.

"Well, I think people are starting to accommodate for the quirk of the band," said bassist Ted Stevens. "There's definitely a standard influence in music, and there's a rock formula ... people

IF YOU GO

Date: Thursday, Sept. 25
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are always going to (respond) with clever verbiage for types of clever music."

To further confound the formula, Cursive is touring with hardcore starlets The Blood Brothers, the band behind the March release, *Burn Piano Island, Burn*.

With his tour mates, "it seemed like there was a budding friendship," Stevens said. "(It's) music that's kind of bold and really spaz-oriented. We like the energy."

Chapel Hill is a frequent stop on Cursive's roadshow. "We totally connect with Chapel Hill; we always have. It was one of our first cities where we felt like we really (got) a great response from the audience," Stevens said.

Cursive's ever-growing fan base has been salivating for a new release, more so given the explosion of Saddle Creek popularity.



COURTESY OF CURSIVE

Omaha-based indie band Cursive, still rolling off the success of *The Ugly Organ*, will stop in Carrboro on its tour with the Blood Brothers.

After *Domestica*'s splitsville story and *The Ugly Organ*'s vaudeville escapades, followers want a new saga.

The tour set won't disappoint. "We're doing a couple of songs we haven't done before. We're reworking an old song ... we have a

cover we pull out once in a while," Stevens said.

The band may have a song on its latest album called "Art is Hard," but playing live is no chore.

Contact the A&E Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Experts: Defense costs not No. 1 factor in deficit

BY SHELLEY MAYO

STAFF WRITER

The country's more than \$400 billion budget deficit is a result of the cyclical tendencies of the economy, not defense spending on military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, some experts say.

Domestic and discretionary spending played a larger role in the budget crisis than costs related to the war on terror and the Iraqi situation, said Stephen Slivinski, an economist at the Goldwater Institute, a public policy research organization based in Arizona.

"If the U.S. were to leave Iraq today, the budget would be balanced only two years earlier than the intended 2010-11 date established by the Office of Budget Management," said John Skorbjurg, an economist at the Heartland Institute in Chicago.

Defense spending affected the economic downturn by 20 percent to 25 percent, he said.

Positive changes to one of many economic variables eventually could improve the economy, said Bernard Wasow, an economist for the Century Foundation.

Until then, people will have to wait two years before the investment incentives contained in Bush's tax cuts take effect, Skorbjurg said.

U.S. citizens faced an August unemployment rate of 6.1 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported, and there is a slow infusion of revenue into the market.

But the state of the stock market, the leading indicator of U.S. economic trends, indicates some growth, Slivinski said. There is more good news, namely that this deficit does not indicate a path toward a downturn on the same

scale as the Great Depression of the 1930s, Wasow said.

"Deficits get bigger and then start declining in years," he said.

"We have now passed the bottom of the hill and are on the way up, but not at the same altitude or at the top as we have been in past fiscal years."

But the downturn might have an impact on President Bush's reelection campaign in 2004 unless he is able to do two things, Skorbjurg said.

Bush has to prevent the national budget deficit from becoming any bigger, he said, and the president has to show voters that he can increase future revenues.

Skorbjurg added that the only path Bush can take in getting a handle on the budget crisis is not to implement any new government programs. "He should let the programs increase with the rate of inflation while the growth of the economy brings in money."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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Sponsored by
Josephine Moreno, Ph.D. Graduate Diversity Coordinator
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Harold Woodard Associate Dean
Office of Student Academic Counseling
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

CORRECTION

A page 6 article in Wednesday's paper incorrectly said a photo of UNC-system President Emeritus Bill Friday with John F. Kennedy was taken in 1960. It was taken in 1961.

To report corrections, contact Managing Editor Daniel Thigpen at dthigpen@email.unc.edu.

Habitat for Humanity

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Applications for international trips available in the New Student Union Lobby. For more information visit our website at habitat.unc.edu

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There are only spots for the first 16 teams to sign up, so register this week in the Pit or at the CAA Office (New Union 3508F) by 5pm on Thursday, September 25.

Best of all, in addition to the opportunity to play in the hallowed Smith Center, the winners will receive **2 tickets per player** to the home Men's Basketball game vs. **Duke** and will be presented in front of thousands of screaming fans at **Late Night With Roy** on October 17.

Proceeds will benefit UNC Dance Marathon. Sign up today!