

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Plaintiffs get 1st look at APS files

### CRAMER INSPECTS PERSONNEL, FINANCIAL, MEMBER REPORTS

BY SARAH RABIL  
AND DAN SCHWIND  
STAFF WRITERS

Almost 12 months after his last visit, Elliot Cramer returned to the Orange County Animal Shelter on Monday to meet with officials of the Animal Protection Society of Orange County.

The meeting was the result of a Nov. 21 Orange County Superior Court ruling that required that APS grant Cramer and fellow plaintiff Judith Reitman access to APS' files. Cramer and Reitman requested access to the files in their joint lawsuit against the society.

"We had a very satisfactory meeting with them," Cramer said. "I think

we had a congenial and useful discussion."

In particular, Cramer said, the pair was seeking access to accounting records, financial reports, personnel files and membership lists from the last several years.

Cramer said he is very satisfied with his newly granted privilege, though the court order prevents him from revealing the contents of the personnel and financial records.

"We certainly found information that supports the concerns we have raised over the last year," he said.

Monday marked the first time Cramer was allowed in the shelter since APS officials accused him of trespassing on their property.

"The last time I walked through these doors was January," Cramer said. "But I feel no animosity toward APS. ... I still am willing to renew my membership and do what I can."

The suit began earlier this year when Cramer and Reitman tried to run for positions on the APS board of directors but were denied when board members changed the group's bylaws so only board members could vote in elections.

APS countered, saying that it made the change legally according to its bylaws.

Cramer and Reitman said APS officials violated these bylaws again when it denied their requests to renew their APS memberships.

Cramer said the board's actions were an effort to prevent the two from running for high positions in the group.

Both originally decided to run for the posts to launch reforms within the group, which they said was not managing the shelter properly.

Cramer and Reitman then filed the lawsuit challenging the legality of the change in the bylaws and demanding access to the files they got access to Monday.

The decision came after several months of delays and changes in hearing dates.

The release of the records is one

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Elliot Cramer speaks with Ron Merritt, attorney for the Orange County Animal Shelter, after a court order allowed Cramer to view documents in the facility for the first time since January.

DTH/BETH FLOYD

### WORLD AIDS DAY 2003



Emily Pimentel, 2, takes a candle from Beatriz Bravo during the World AIDS Day candlelight vigil held Monday night at the Civic Center Plaza in Durham. The candle lighting came after a march along Main Street, a prayer and testimonials from those living with HIV.

## AIDS EVENT ELICITS CALLS FOR URGENCY

BY KATHRYN ROEBUCK  
STAFF WRITER

DURHAM — State officials, students and Durham community members marched Monday evening from the Durham Arts Council to the Civic Center Plaza in remembrance of AIDS victims.

They celebrated the evening with speakers, musical performances and a candlelight vigil.

Eight local organizations marched to the civic center for the World AIDS Day program titled "Break The Silence," including two Girl Scout troops and other organizations from the Durham School of the Arts and N.C. Central University.

Vivianne Valdes-Hurtado of the Northern Outreach Clinic in Durham opened the program by urging community members to re-establish their sense of urgency about HIV and AIDS.

"The era of urgency of HIV and AIDS is gone," she said. "News of the disease is disappearing from mainstream communication. This complacency is killing the cause."

Valdes-Hurtado said recent statistics prove that this false sense of security is crippling the progress of AIDS activists and causing an increase in AIDS and HIV cases in the United States.

"The South has more cases of HIV than anywhere else in the United States," she said.



"African Americans are now 11 times more likely than their Caucasian counterparts to acquire the disease."

Valdes-Hurtado said community members can become more involved in AIDS outreach by learning more, helping those with the disease and being politically active.

"Next year, let's reflect on what we did this year to make a difference," she said. "Let everyone know that HIV is a priority, and if you're doing all that you can, don't stop."

N.C. Sen. Wib Gulley, D-Durham, who presented the proclamation for World AIDS Day in the absence of Durham Mayor William Bell, said political leaders want to help continue education on AIDS

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## Program offers dual approach to AIDS treatment

BY CAROLINE KORNEGAY  
STAFF WRITER

As the campus community takes part in events for World AIDS Week, employees at UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Medicine will start training seminars for a project meant to advance treatment for HIV patients and prevent new infections.

Last month, UNC-CH's Center for Infectious Diseases at the School of Medicine received \$1.8 million in federal grant money for a project that will offer counseling along with medical treatment for HIV patients in North Carolina.

The study is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

"Having a behavioral approach in a clinical setting gives us a dual approach (for treatment)," said Dr. Byrd Quinlivan, professor of medicine.

The program is slated to begin this spring and is waiting for a name.

Outpatients at the UNC-CH center's clinic will have their doctors or nurse practitioners help them decide when and how it would be best to disclose to

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## New lawsuit looms over redistricting

### GOP to contest newly approved maps

BY KAVITA PILLAI  
STAFF WRITER

Despite reaching an agreement last week, state legislators are gearing up for another long legal battle over the N.C. General Assembly's redistricting maps.

Several Republicans are expected to file suit to finalize a debate about district lines that has lasted more than two years.

"I am saddened to report that (the) adoption of the unconstitutional redistricting map is certain to lead to further litigation," said N.C. Republican Party Chairman Ferrell Blount said in a statement last week.

Some Republicans have expressed concern about the legality of the maps, claiming that they violate the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The act aims to protect minority voters by ensuring that they have fair and equal representation in state districts.

The state Democratic Party, however, does not think the new maps are unconstitutional, said Marc Siegel, the party's communications director.

"These maps were drawn under the federal and state guidelines to



N.C. Sen. Hugh Webster expressed concern over the use of taxpayer money to fund litigation.

make them constitutional," he said.

State Attorney General Roy Cooper already has filed two motions on behalf of House Co-speakers Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, and Richard Morgan, R-Moore, as well as Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare.

The motions are pre-emptive actions before any lawsuits are filed, said Lisa Kimbrough, Morgan's communications director.

"We filed in court today a complaint for declaratory judgment in Wake County," Kimbrough said. "We want the court to enter a judgment that the lines we just passed are constitutional."

The motions were filed against Rep. Leo Daughtry, R-Johnston; Sen. Patrick Ballantine, R-New Hanover; former Reps. Art Pope

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## N.C. sees growth in holiday travel

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN  
STAFF WRITER

This year's Thanksgiving weekend saw increased travel but fewer fatal accidents in North Carolina, transportation officials said.

There was a 3 percent to 4 percent increase in travelers this year in the state, said Tom Crosby, vice president of communications for AAA Carolinas.

Frank Pierce, a line sergeant with the N.C. Highway Patrol, said there were 16 fatalities statewide during the holiday reporting period, which was in effect between 6 p.m. Wednesday and midnight Sunday. That's one less fatality this year than during the 2002 Thanksgiving weekend, he added.

"There was a decrease in fatalities, so we consider (our efforts) a success," he said.

Pierce said the 16 deadly accidents included cars passing illegally, overturning and hitting embankments, ditches or trees.

Another case involved a tree falling on a car, killing two people. Pierce said that some of the accidents involved failure to use a seat

*"(Fatalities) occurred everywhere from interstates to private paths."*

FRANK PIERCE, N.C. HIGHWAY PATROL

belt and alcohol use and that only a few of them involved more than one vehicle.

"There was no pattern with fatalities," he said. "They occurred everywhere from interstates to private paths."

Traffic was heaviest Wednesday and Sunday, Pierce said, since those were the days on which most people arrived at or departed from their holiday destinations.

The Highway Patrol prepared for the influx of holiday travelers by having every available trooper on the road to take emergency calls

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### INSIDE

#### SAFE CROSSING

A new task force will examine a dangerous intersection near Chapel Hill High School **PAGE 2**



### SPORTS

#### TOUGH COMPETITION

With several injured players, the Tar Heels face an uncertain fate against Illinois on Tuesday **PAGE 4**

### WEATHER

**TODAY** Sunny, H 52, L 27  
**WEDNESDAY** Partly cloudy, H 45, L 26  
**THURSDAY** Partly cloudy, H 48, L 34

