

**CITY BRIEFS**

**UNC student charged with assaulting her boyfriend**

A UNC student was arrested by Chapel Hill police and charged with assault at her home Tuesday during a domestic dispute call, reports state.

Melissa Lucianna Demase, 21, of 713 Church St., was arrested on charges of one misdemeanor count of simple assault, reports state.

According to reports, Demase bit her boyfriend's cheek and scratched his back with her fingernails.

Police reports state the victim had minor injuries, which were visible on his face and back. Demase didn't have any weapons when she attacked the victim and used only her hands and feet, reports state.

According to reports, no bond was posted and the suspect was cleared by arrest. The trial date is set for Feb. 23 at the Orange County District Court in Hillsborough.

**NATIONAL BRIEFS**

**Safety standards at nuclear facilities to be rewritten**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Bush administration is moving to replace safety requirements at federal nuclear facilities with standards written by contractors — after Congress directed the government to start fining the contractors for violations.

Long-established government minimum standards at the more than two dozen nuclear weapons plants and research labs around the nation would become unenforceable guidelines under the Energy Department proposal.

U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., an author of the 2002 legislation ordering the fines, accused the administration this week of distorting Congress' intent with a plan that "will likely decrease worker protection."

John Conway, chairman of an advisory board overseeing safety at the Energy Department, said that the proposal would weaken safety standards that cover more than 100,000 workers at the different facilities.

"The way it's written, I don't like it at all," said Conway, head of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

Energy Department officials said they have not made a final decision on the proposal and emphasized that the government would retain the authority to approve or reject the contractor-written safety requirements.

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**Suicide bomb in Afghan capital kills British soldier**

KABUL, Afghanistan — A suicide car bomber blew himself up in a taxi next to British peacekeepers patrolling the Afghan capital Wednesday, killing one soldier and wounding four.

The attack came as U.S. defense officials revealed plans for a new offensive in response to an escalating insurgency.

The blast was the second suicide assault on foreign troops in as many days. Rebels' use of roadside explosives and car bombs in the recent wave of attacks has led to new comparisons with the insurgency in Iraq.

The British soldier died after a yellow and white taxi carrying 200 pounds of explosives blew up near his open-topped Land Rover at about 11 a.m. in the eastern outskirts of Kabul, said Nayamatullah Jalili, intelligence chief at the Interior Ministry. He said an Afghan was also killed — apparently the assailant.

"The preliminary investigation suggests it was a suicide attack," Jalili said.

Four other British soldiers were wounded, two of them seriously, Col. Mike Griffiths, commander of the 300-strong British contingent in the NATO-led peacekeeping force, said at a news conference in its fortified headquarters. He declined to identify any of the British soldiers or their unit.

**CALENDAR**

**Today**

7 p.m. — The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender-Straight Alliance will host a forum for all candidates for student body president. The forum will result in a candidate endorsement.

The event will be held in 305 Day Hall.

**Tuesday**

8 p.m. — The Daily Tar Heel will host a forum for student body president candidates in 209 Manning Hall.

The forum will be open to the public. For more information, contact Elyse Ashburn at eashburn@email.unc.edu.

From staff and wire reports.

# Kay: Iraq claims 'almost all wrong'

## Inspector's words spark WMD debate

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Former weapons inspector David Kay said Wednesday "we were almost all wrong" about Saddam Hussein's weapons programs, as Congress pressed a high-stakes struggle to pinpoint why that happened and who was responsible.

Republicans say the nation's intelligence agencies were the problem. Democrats point to the White House, questioning possible pressure put on intelligence analysts and noting Vice President Dick Cheney's

continued assertions that weapons of mass destruction existed.

Asked at a Senate Committee on Armed Services hearing if an independent investigation was warranted, Kay replied that he believed an outside inquiry would give Congress and the public more confidence.

Kay said he spent six months looking for the former Iraqi president's banned weapons and has concluded, based on a "sufficiently intense" effort, that they were not there. Kay said inspectors found no

stockpiles — large or small. "We were almost all wrong, and I certainly include myself here," he said. "My view was that the best evidence I had seen was that Iraq indeed had weapons of mass destruction."

Kay blamed a lack of human intelligence inside Iraq and inadequate money for U.S. intelligence agencies. He also said he believes analysts have been asked to read too much into limited data.

He said the U.S. intelligence community had become addicted to information coming from United Nations weapons inspectors during the 1990s, leaving them in trouble when those inspectors had to leave.

Since he resigned Friday as the top weapons hunter in Iraq, Kay's public statements have sparked widespread questioning in Washington about the reliability of U.S. intelligence data and the Bush administration's main justification for war: to remove an imminent threat posed by Hussein and his supposed weapons.

President Bush has defended vigorously his decision to go to war and expressed confidence in the intelligence agencies. But Tuesday, Bush shied away from previous assertions that weapons would eventually be found. "There is no doubt in my mind that Saddam

Hussein was a gathering threat to America and others," Bush said. The White House on Wednesday dismissed the notion of an independent investigation into intelligence failures.

Many congressional Republicans maintain the world is better off without Hussein, whether or not banned weapons are found, but some are beginning to doubt the reliability of U.S. intelligence gathering.

Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., a member of the intelligence committee, said "there's no question" that information was inaccurate.

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## SERENDIPITY, BABY!



DTH/JOHN DUDLEY

Veteran ESPN college basketball commentator Dick Vitale signs items for UNC students in Student Stores on Wednesday afternoon. Vitale was in Chapel Hill to broadcast the UNC-N.C. State basketball game in the Smith Center on Wednesday night, but visit-

ed campus earlier in the day to promote his new book, "Living a Dream: Reflections of 25 Years Sitting in the Best Seat in the House." The book, which Vitale has promoted at other college campuses recently, includes a foreword by Duke men's basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski.

## GPSF candidate aims for visibility

BY TORRYE JONES

STAFF WRITER

Graduate and professional students feel they are being overlooked in major issues at UNC, especially in light of the recent tuition increase passed last week by the

**STUDENT ELECTIONS 04**

Board of Trustees.

But Jennifer Bushman, the sole candidate for Graduate and Professional Student Federation president, hopes to change that.

"With the tuition hike, people realize there are times and issues when you need a more unified voice to let your needs and concerns be heard," said Bushman, also the GPSF vice president for external affairs.

Current GPSF President Dan Herman said that with a large-

*"Not all graduate and professional students know about the organization."*

DAN HERMAN, GPSF PRESIDENT

scale issue, graduate and professional students should know where to go to have their voices heard.

But he feels the organization is underutilized. "Not all graduates and professional students know about the organization," he said. "The basis of every student organization is the advocacy of the whole."

Although advocating the needs of these students is a large part of

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## SBP hopefuls log on for support

### Web sites aid campaign strategies

BY RAND ROBINS

STAFF WRITER

As the student body president race gears up, this year's race distinguishes itself from past student government contests as candidates increasingly rely on the Internet to spread their campaign messages.

Candidates gradually have warmed to using Web sites over the years, but this year all eight candidates for the top student office will employ individual Web pages to share their plans for UNC.

Several candidates said they view the interactive potential of the Web as a complement to more traditional campaign strategies, while others plan to rely heavily on their sites to convey their platform messages.

"I realize it's not a required thing for a campaign, but it seems like

essentially it is," said candidate Ashley Castevens. "I'm not much of a Web person. ... What really counts is the platform."

While Castevens said that nothing makes up for human contact, candidate John Walker said he hopes his page will allow students to put a name to a face.

Each candidate has a personal view on how to integrate the Web into more traditional campaign strategies, such as Pit-sitting and "dorm storming" — going door-to-door in residence halls.

"Right now you have to have a good mix (of strategies) or if you rely too heavily on one you're going to go under," candidate Matt Liles said.

Laura Thomas, another of the eight candidates, said the biggest part of her campaign is face-to-face interaction with students.

"I think (the Web) is complementary to going door-to-door,"

Thomas said. "The best way to show who you are is to meet somebody in person."

Candidate Faudlin Pierre said his campaign has had trouble setting up a Web site, but it will be running in the next few days.

Pierre said Web sites are more of an extensive way for people to judge the candidates for themselves, but he said it takes more than a Web site to win a campaign.

The candidates emphasized the race as issue-based, and the opportunity to post platforms online provides each campaign with the means to get their respective messages to the student body affordably and efficiently.

"It used to be that everything the candidate had to say came out on sheets of paper," candidate Matthew Compton said. "Now what you need most is a sheet of paper that has a Web site address on it."

As a result of the Carolina

SEE WEB, PAGE 11

# Basketball ticket scalping on the rise

## University police step up vigilance

BY JAMIE MCGEE

STAFF WRITER

Interest in UNC basketball is on the rise and so is ticket scalping, University police officials say.

"We have had more (ticket scalping) this year than in the past," said Maj. Jeff McCracken of the UNC Department of Public Safety. "There is a renewed interest in basketball, causing more citations with scalpers. We haven't experienced this many in years."

University police issued eight ticket-scalping citations Saturday before UNC's game against the University of Virginia, and McCracken said counterfeit tickets were sold during the Jan. 17 game against the University of Connecticut.

He said police were spurred to intensify regulation after complaints from fans about scalpers.

"There are people on the sidewalks that stop the flow of traffic," he said. "People complain of being

accosted by ticket-sellers as soon as they get off the transit buses."

McCracken defined scalping — a misdemeanor offense — as selling tickets for more than three dollars more than their face value.

Clint Gwaltney, assistant athletic director for the Smith Center and ticket operations, said he has not noticed a change in scalping rates.

"I'm not out on the streets before the game, but I know it still goes on," he said. "I don't think a lot of scalping is through student tickets."

Last semester, Student Congress approved a policy to ensure that only UNC students use student tickets. Now, students must present a valid UNC ONE Card upon entering the stadium.

Sherrell McMillan, president of the Carolina Athletic Association, said this policy is deterring scalping because it keeps people from using student tickets bought on the street.

"It is real problematic for someone scalping a ticket to have to

have a ONE Card," McMillan said.

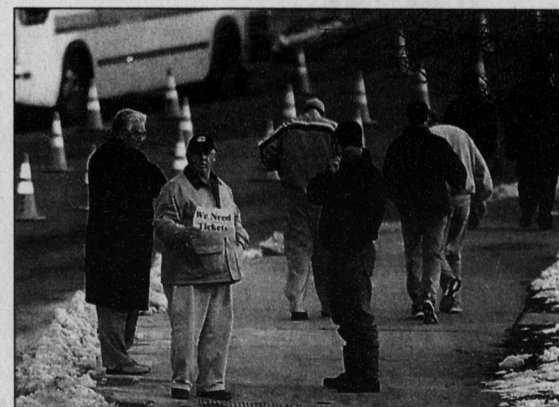
"We've definitely seen a decrease for scalping. On (online auction site) eBay especially, we don't see any tickets up like we used to. There are one or two (scalpers) at the Smith Center, but the message is getting out there."

It hasn't deterred everyone. Last night on eBay, an auction for two upper-level tickets for the Feb. 5 game against Duke University eclipsed the \$400 mark.

While McMillan acknowledged scalping is an inevitable problem, he said it is less prevalent at UNC because many fans have season tickets and few student tickets are available.

"(Scalping) happens everywhere, and it is going to continue happening everywhere, but it is not a major problem here," he said. "A lot of fans who go have season tickets and have been going their whole life."

"Students know how hard it is to get tickets. There is a limited number so they are going to keep the ones they have and take full advantage."



DTH/ANDREW SYNOWIEZ

UNC basketball fans look to purchase tickets outside the Smith Center before Wednesday night's game against rival N.C. State University.

McMillan said scalping student tickets hurts the CAA's fight for more student seats.

"If it is known that tickets are being scalped, it sends a message that we don't want the seats we

have," he said. "Scalping only deters us from the long-term goal of getting more student seats."

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