

STATE & NATION

Bush nominates Chertoff for homeland security chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Bush nominated federal judge Michael Chertoff as the new homeland security chief Tuesday, completing the second-term Cabinet with a former prosecutor who recently called for a new look at the tough terrorist detainee laws that he helped craft after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Chertoff, who took his seat on the 3rd U.S. Court of Appeals less than two years ago, is expected to win Senate approval easily. He has won confirmation three times during his career, as U.S. attorney in New Jersey, assistant attorney general and appellate judge.

Chertoff would replace Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, who helped build the new department after the terror attacks by combining 22 existing federal agencies. Ridge plans to step down from his post Feb. 1.

Chertoff was the president's second pick for the job. Bush's first choice, former New York City police commissioner Bernard Kerik, withdrew last month, citing immigration problems regarding a nanny.

His resume includes a stint as a Supreme Court clerk and as the Senate Republicans' chief counsel for the Clinton-era Whitewater investigation. He helped develop the USA Patriot Act, which greatly expanded the government's surveillance and detention powers.

His role in crafting that law, a measure that has become a flashpoint for critics who say it has eroded civil liberties, is expected to bring sharp questioning in Senate confirmation hearings.

The administration also announced Tuesday that White House homeland security adviser Fran Townsend would continue to serve in the same position in Bush's second term. Townsend had been mentioned as a possible candidate for the new post of director of national intelligence director, which has yet to be filled.

UNC-Asheville exceeds cap for nonresident students

UNC-Asheville exceeded the university system's 18 percent out-of-state enrollment cap for two consecutive years, and the system's governing body could revoke more than \$97,000 of its annual budget.

The Board of Governors' enrollment policy states that any system school that overshoots out-of-state enrollment for two consecutive years can have its budget reduced.

The reduction is calculated according to the number of out-of-state students enrolled in excess of the 18 percent limitation.

UNC-A enrolled 13 nonresident students over the 18 percent cap and could be asked to reduce its 2004-05 fiscal budget by \$97,570.

The BOG's budget and finance committee will vote Thursday on the measure.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Court sets date in lawsuit filed against University

The Alliance Defense Fund, which filed a lawsuit against UNC on behalf of the Alpha Iota Omega Fraternity, now has a date for its case.

A hearing is set for 2 p.m. on Feb. 16 in Courtroom 3 of the L. Richardson Preyer Building on 324 West Market St. in Greensboro.

The Christian fraternity gained national attention in the fall after members refused to sign a nondiscrimination policy and was denied official recognition as a UNC student organization.

Two laptops stolen from campus spots during break

A CCI laptop was reported stolen from a vehicle parked near Manly Residence Hall on Sunday, according to University police reports.

The laptop was valued at \$1,500, reports state.

An IBM laptop valued at \$1,500 and a Cobra radar detector valued at \$25 were reported stolen Jan. 3. The owner said he thought the electronics were stolen while he was parked on the fourth level of Craige deck Jan. 2, police reports state.

CITY BRIEFS

Town Council swears in Oliver as new town clerk

Sabrina Oliver was sworn in at Monday's Chapel Hill Town Council meeting as the new town clerk.

Oliver replaces Joyce Smith, who retired in December after more than 20 years with the town.

Oliver has spent the last 12 years as the town clerk and zoning and subdivision coordinator for the town of Elon.

A graduate of Elon University, Oliver is a native of Burlington.

— From staff and wire reports.

Downloading program starts today

Students can pick among 4 suppliers

BY STEPHANIE NEWTON

STAFF WRITER

Professors who already have to compete with students' laptops and CD players now must battle the newest wave of campus distractions: the iPod nation.

Starting today, Ruckus Network, Napster, Rhapsody and Cdigix — four music downloading providers

— will help students put their holiday gifts to good use. The providers will begin unlimited, live service for students who live in UNC housing.

Ruckus Network's service alone provides 2.5 million minutes of indie and top-label music as well as a variety of films for legal downloading.

"We're really excited with the level of contact we've had with students

and the University," said Josh Weiner, spokesman for Ruckus Network.

Typically, music downloading services have made dramatic price cuts when partnering with colleges across the country.

Matt Graves, spokesman for Rhapsody, said the service usually charges \$9.95 a month per customer, but college partnerships can reduce that cost to \$2 or \$3.

"We're really committed to the college market," Graves said.

Today, students living in campus housing will receive an e-mail from the UNC-system Office of the President notifying them that the services will be up and running, said Tom Warner, director of coordinated technology management for the system.

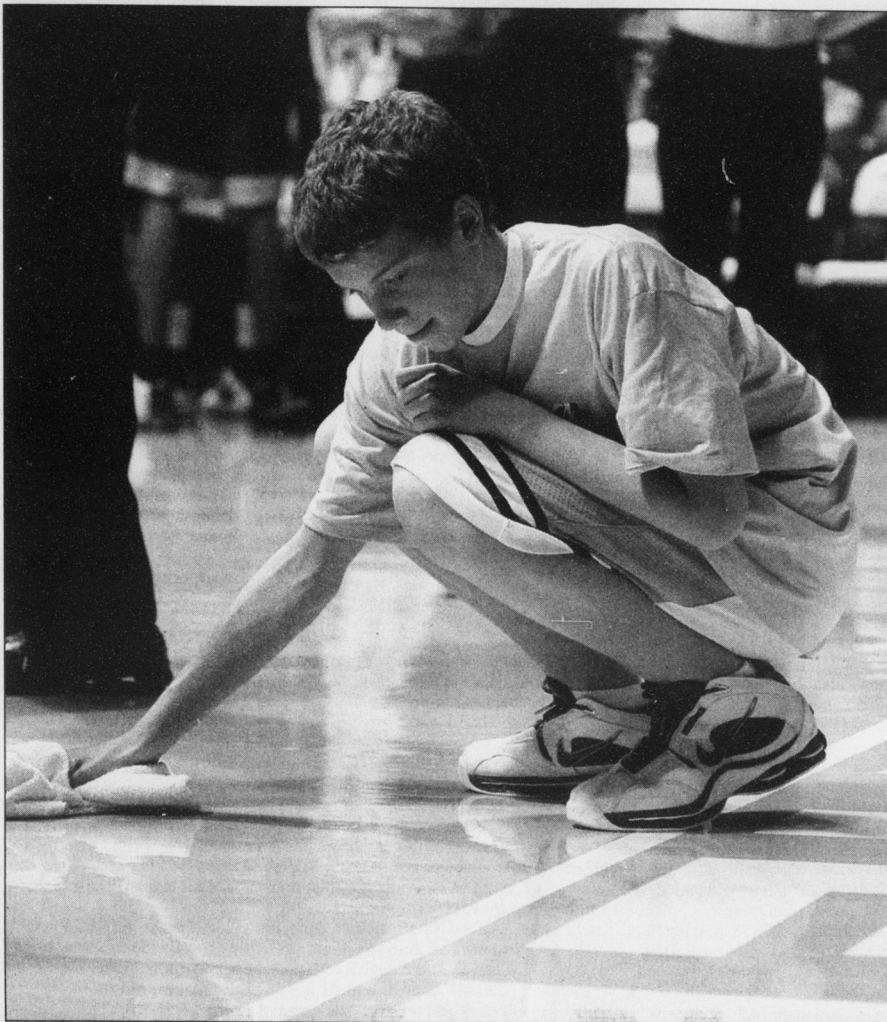
The trial period, covered by the Office of the President, extends until April 30. Students will have the ability to look at all four online services and then make a decision

as to which program they would like to use for the semester.

The only setback is a one- to 24-hour waiting period needed for the service provider to fully process each student's account, Warner said.

In the e-mail, students will receive login information for the specific Web sites, where they then will select the University as their home base for system operation.

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DTH/BRANDON SMITH

A Smith Center ball kid wipes the floor during the men's basketball game against Loyola in December. Ball kids sit on the court and wipe off any sweat or blood that falls near the baskets, which helps prevent the players from slipping.

Ball kids make clean sweep

BY ADAM RODMAN

STAFF WRITER

They're closer to 4-11 than 6-5 and their shoe sizes don't break double digits, but the UNC ball kids are as much a part of the varsity basketball team as the players.

Two ball kids — a title recently changed from "ball boys" as the number of girls in the program grew — sit at both sides of the court during games and take turns wiping off any sweat or blood that falls near the baskets.

They also give towels and water to referees — and they have one of the best seats in the house. A chance to be a ball kid at UNC's game against Duke on March 6 even went up for bid on eBay.

"It's a little bit of a thrill," said Willie Scroggs, senior associate athletic director for operations and facilities. "Being able to be that close to the

action is a thrill."

The job isn't as janitorial as its description would suggest.

"It's not bad," said 14-year-old John Hall, the son of basketball coach John Hall. "There's not that much sweat on the ground. We're pretty much wiping the floor."

The importance of the ball kids can't be underestimated, said Eric Hoots, the senior manager of the basketball team, who organizes the ball kids.

"A lot of people don't realize how important the ball kids are during the course of the game," he said. "Players could get hurt, or they could slip on a wet spot on the floor and give up a few points, so I always want to make sure they understand that they aren't there to be wide-eyed and just watch the game."

Ball kids range in age from 10 to

15, Scroggs said. Despite their youth, they take their jobs seriously.

"They do have a big responsibility," Scroggs said. "A lot of them do a really good job. They take it seriously, and they enjoy it."

Ball kids were originally selected from the children of coaches and basketball office employees, but recently they have included local residents. Parents call or children send letters, and Hoots assigns them to games.

"Some of the kids who have done it for a long time, I have worked two games because of their continued interest in the program, and most importantly, they know what they're doing," he said.

Their tool on the court is antiseptic, and they also get a T-shirt to wear

SEE BALL KIDS, PAGE 9

Developers woo Carrboro leaders

Aldermen look at downtown plans

BY MEGHAN DAVIS

STAFF WRITER

Some of Carrboro's most popular offerings might be housed in a radically different setting in a few years.

Main Street Properties LLC presented a plan to restructure 300 E. Main St., home to The Arts Center and Cat's Cradle, to the Board of Aldermen on Tuesday for informal feedback.

The presentation was the last in a series the developers have offered to various town groups, said project manager Laura Van Sant.

"Basically, we've got this huge project going on, and we've talked to everyone we can think of to talk to for feedback on it, including a couple of public forums and some of the town planning boards," she said.

"The only group left is the Board of Aldermen, who are the ones who will ultimately approve the project."

Van Sant said the group will generate a formal proposal to submit to the town in the spring.

Requesting informal input from

the aldermen is an unusual step in the proposal process for new construction, said town Planning Director Roy Williford.

"It's not in the procedural manual or anything of that nature for a conditional use permit," he said.

But Mayor Mike Nelson said the aldermen appreciated the consideration of the developers.

"It's so rare that we have this kind of courtesy review," he said. "It allows us to see what people are thinking."

Plans include several new buildings that will feature new space for retail, offices and residences.

Current plans are for The Arts Center and Cat's Cradle to stay open during construction. Both will be moved to larger locations.

Jim Spencer, the main architect for the project, said he plans to use a variety of building types and scales to create a unique space.

"I hope it will be mixed-use in the truest sense," he said.

The core of the design is a central outdoor space that promotes pedestrian traffic, said landscape architect Dan Jewell.

"We want this to be an extension

SEE ARTSCENTER, PAGE 9

Town takes next step with lots

BY JAKE POTTER

STAFF WRITER

About 75 people convened Tuesday afternoon at the Chapel Hill Town Hall to hear from a downtown project committee seeking to solicit a developer for its multimillion dollar initiative.

The Chapel Hill Town Council's Committee on Lots 2 and 5 presented plans to developers for mixed-use developments, which will be constructed along Franklin and Rosemary streets, during a pre-proposal conference.

Developments are scheduled to be constructed on lot 2, behind Spanky's restaurant, and on lot 5, across from University Square.

The development of a new parking deck on Rosemary Street where the RBC Centura bank now sits, a transit transfer center at lot 2 and a three-story addition to the Wallace parking deck also are planned.

A nearly full council chamber received the two-hour presentation. Committee members later led a tour of lots 2 and 5.

"I'm convinced this town is ready to do this deal. As a developer, that's very important," said project consultant John Stainback of Stainback Public/Private Real Estate LLC.

During the conference, committee members noted the town's nomination as No. 1 Best Place



DTH/BRANDON SMITH

Mayor Pro Tem Edith Wiggins (right) expresses her concerns Tuesday afternoon regarding new construction developments on lots 2 and 5.

to Live by MSN House & Home's America's Places to Live in 2003, as well as the community's storied downtown district.

"I think (the committee) has positioned themselves well," Scott Radway, a planning and land development consultant in Chapel Hill, said after the presentation. "It's going in the right direction. They have prepared developers well."

But Mayor Kevin Foy stressed

that the town would review developers' interest with great caution.

"Chapel Hill has a reputation as being a demanding community," Foy told attendees. "I think you'll see that as you look at the guidelines we've developed."

Foy also said the committee thinks that the community has thrown its support behind the project.

SEE PREPROPOSAL, PAGE 9

University aids victims of tsunami

Various outreach efforts aim to ease storm's impact

BY LINDSAY MICHEL

ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

When sophomore Andrew Chen studied abroad in Singapore and Thailand this summer, he noticed that the widespread poverty seemed almost unavoidable.

After he heard news of the tsunamis that hit Southeast Asia late last month, he said, he couldn't imagine that the places he visited could be any worse off. "Even if we get them back to the point of where they were before the tsunamis, it wouldn't be enough," Chen said.

According to the Office of the University Registrar, 58 Southeast Asian students attend classes at UNC — 21 of whom are from Thailand.

Chen isn't one of them, but he said he felt the need to take initiative and take the first steps in mobilizing relief efforts on campus. His efforts have been mirrored by other members of the UNC community.

"I knew if we could get a firm grip on getting things going on campus then things would fall into place," he said. "It's getting organized pretty fast, and things are coming together really well."

Chen, a member of the Southeast Asia Interest Association, has worked with other campus groups to coordinate events such as a candlelight vigil, a ribbon campaign, mixers and concerts that will be held this month — all in hopes of raising money to go to various relief organizations.

"We're trying to get as many organizations involved as we can," he said, adding that individual involvement is not enough.

The University maintains a study-abroad program in Southeast Asia for high-achieving students. Twenty-five students who have just finished their freshman year take classes while touring the region.

Bob Miles, director of the study-abroad program, said that as of now, no programs have been affected by the disaster. UNC has yet to make a decision about the status of this summer's Southeast Asia trip.

But Chen said he hopes students focus their attention on immediate relief instead of worrying about their own plans. "We need to have more than just an educational bond between our university and their universities. We can really help them out now."

Lalith Perera, a computing consultant with UNC's Information Technology Services, was born in Panadura, an inland village in Sri Lanka. He recently used contacts in his native country to establish the Carolina Sri Lanka Relief Fund.

"Basically, it's just a grassroots organization," he said. "We can help out in a small way."

Perera said that \$1,200 to \$1,500 will fund the construction of a four-person house. He said he believes funding the construction of 10 houses would be a great accomplishment for a community the size of Chapel Hill.

A friend of Perera's recently left his home in Cary to act as a liaison for the fund in Sri Lanka. Initial funds will provide immediate needs, such as food, clothing and medical supplies.

"Most people don't have anything but what they were wearing (when the tsunamis hit)."

UNC Hospitals and the UNC School of Medicine

SEE TSUNAMI RELIEF, PAGE 9