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Lottery's fate a perilous one

POLITICKING, ECONOMIC WOE
SURROUND DEBATE OVER BILL

BY JAMES EDWARD DILLARD
STAFF WRITER

While money continues to flow out of North Carolina, the General Assembly is stuck.

Stuck balancing a budget. Stuck clinging to morals. Stuck debating a lottery.

The debate is nothing new — every legislature since 1983 has voted down a lottery bill.

When he was elected governor in 2000, Democrat Mike Easley pushed an education lottery as a

main part of his platform.

But what makes this year unique is that the bill was passed first by the House instead of the Senate. Since 1983, the Senate has voted in favor of an education lottery three times, only to have the House vote it down.

This year, under the pressure of a \$1.3 billion budget deficit and estimates of lost revenue as high as \$300 million, the House gave in.

"Educating kids in other states is worse than gambling," said Rep.

Bill Owens, D-Pasquotank, on April 20.

Backed for the first time by House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, the lottery bill narrowly overcame opposition.

Success was found with a delicate balance: Fifty percent of proceeds would go to school construction, 25 percent will go to need-based scholarships, and 25 percent would be used to create a new fund for impoverished schools.

Political pressures

But as the process continues, success could be short-lived.

Vague language has caused sen-

ators to fret over the prospect of video poker, a type of gambling the Senate has banned several times, said Amy Fulk, spokeswoman for Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare.

"The Senate has made a concentrated effort to make video poker machines illegal," said Sen. Minority Leader Phil Berger, R-Rockingham, on April 20. "Some people refer to it as the crack cocaine of gambling."

Though the bill will almost definitely be revised — a special committee appointed by Basnight has been reviewing the legislation for the past two weeks — some fear those revisions will upset the bal-

ance found in the House.

"If you change a comma, you won't pass the bill in the House again," Fulk said.

In the meantime, the money continues to flow. Every state that borders North Carolina has a lottery, and most estimates show the state's residents spend about \$300 million annually on those games.

An Elon University poll conducted in February showed that 37 percent of those surveyed had bought a lottery ticket from surrounding states during the past year.

The South Carolina lottery, which has brought in \$2.7 billion

SEE LOTTERY, PAGE 16

Mixon leaves UNC booth

Will do radio for Carolina Panthers

BY BRIAN MACPHERSON
SENIOR WRITER

North Carolina basketball fans might have a tough time recognizing the team taking the floor at the Smith Center next season.

But if they're listening from home, they might also have a tough time recognizing one of the voices bringing them the action.

The Carolina Panthers announced Wednesday that they have hired longtime North Carolina color commentator Mick Mixon to become the team's radio play-by-play announcer for the upcoming season.

"We are very pleased to add Mick Mixon to our broadcast team," Henry Thomas, the Panthers' director of broadcasting, said in a news release. "While highly regarded for his radio broadcasting work to date, Mick is also a talented writer, radio producer and public speaker whose strong familiarity with the Carolinas should serve him well in his new role."

That role will include community speaking, sales and various sponsor and fan events. He also will host weekly team shows such as "Panther Talk" and participate in Panthers Television Network programming.

In the end, Mixon said, it was the enthusiasm and passion exuded by the employees he met that convinced him to make the move.

SEE MIXON, PAGE 16

Star recruit must shine

UNC will rely on freshmen in '06

BY DANIEL MALLOY
SPORTS EDITOR

Tyler Hansbrough will have to grow up quickly, because North Carolina can't afford to wait.

Not with the top seven scorers gone from the team. Not with zero returning frontcourt players who averaged more than three minutes a game.

No, Hansbrough needs to be good — now.

Heading into next season, UNC returns only three players who

WE GOT NEXT

A look at UNC's incoming freshmen

a 6-foot-8 power forward, is the centerpiece of the recruiting class that will have to pick up the slack.

So that begs the question: Is Hansbrough North Carolina's savior?

"He is the star," said Dave Telep, national recruiting director for Scout.com. "He'll carry the workload. He's the best rebounder they have in the program."

Hansbrough is arguably the most recognizable name on the UNC roster, even though he has yet to play a game in powder blue.

But thanks to the explosion of recruiting news on the Internet and the increase in young talent in college and in the NBA, North Carolina fans know about him.

They saw Hansbrough in the McDonald's High School All-American game scoring 15 points and pulling down eight boards.

They read about his USA Junior National Select Team record-setting 31 points at the Nike Hoop Summit.

But despite Hansbrough's gaudy numbers, his most impressive quality is his tenacity.

"There isn't as intense or passionate a player in the country," Telep said. "He's a horse."

Hansbrough flirted with the idea of skipping college altogether to pursue an NBA career, but he was not projected as a high pick and said he would rather take a chance at college glory first.

"I'm not going to Carolina just to go to the NBA," said Hansbrough, who watched the national championship game in the Smith Center with 9,500 UNC fans. "I'm going to Carolina to do what they did last year."

The hype is there, for sure. But

SEE RECRUITS, PAGE 16

ROAD RULES



DTH/GILLIAN BOLSOVER

A bicyclist rides through a pedestrian crosswalk on South Road after police officer Kurt Insko tells him to stop Thursday. Though bicyclists on sidewalks are considered pedestrians and must follow pedestrian rules, those on the road are considered motorized vehicles

and must follow standard traffic rules. The Department of Public Safety, which also manages ticketing, event parking and permits for various lots, regulates road rules on campus. During February, the department issued 53 speeding and pedestrian-related violations, according to its Web site.

Accuracy findings imitate industry foibles

Earlier this semester, I told readers about The Daily Tar Heel's effort to get a true sense of how often this newsroom makes mistakes.

Now, some of the results are in. And it appears that a student paper shares many of the same woes experienced in the professional newspaper industry.

According to our sources, about 58 percent of the stories that run in our pages contain at least one error, and we make mistakes ranging from writing the wrong titles for sources to



MICHELLE JARBOE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

running inaccurate headlines, and everything in between.

Despite using spell check, we make spelling errors all the time, although we've gotten much better this year. Our mistakes, from

factual gaffes to more subjective fumbblings, impact our relationships with sources, and thereby our credibility with readers.

But we're not that badly off. And we're aiming to improve.

During the course of the semester, students, including myself, in a class with journalism Professor Philip Meyer have worked to hammer down the specific areas the DTH needs to target.

We sent out surveys to 400 unique sources who appeared in articles published last semester,

and we received feedback from more than 60 percent of them.

We rated editorials, searching for a problem, a direction and a solution. We trolled the archives on our Web site, searching for mistakes from obvious misspellings to confusing hyphenations.

And we focused on what the paper can do to improve accuracy and gain a stronger hold on readers at a time when the newspaper market seems to be dwindling.

Yes, 58 percent is a lot of stories containing mistakes and

inaccuracies. But it isn't far off from the error rates many professional papers participating in similar studies have seen.

Most of the study results are meant to be used by future DTH editors, who I hope strive to improve upon this year's record.

But we've used some of them to look at how we measure up to professional papers, 22 of which were surveyed by Meyer for his recent book, "The Vanishing Newspaper: Saving Journalism

SEE ACCURACY, PAGE 16

BUILDING UNC'S 1ST TO GO GREEN

BY SHARI FELD
STAFF WRITER

A dedication ceremony for the new \$20 million School of Nursing addition this morning will mark a continuing step in environmentally responsible initiatives.

Chancellor James Moeser and Mary Tonges, UNC Hospitals' senior vice president and chief nursing officer, are among the speakers at the ceremony to take place at 11 a.m. today on the Carrington Hall lawn.

The addition — which nearly doubles the size of the nursing school — is the first building in the UNC system to be completed following green energy guidelines, pending certification.

Designers planned the expansion according to specifications by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System, a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

The design significantly reduces or eliminates the building's negative impact on the environment and its occupants.

"I think that it will demonstrate that green building is smart and achievable," said Cindy

"I think it's really going to increase our capacity to educate students. We were cramped for so long."

AMANDA DINDINO, ASSOCIATE PR DIRECTOR

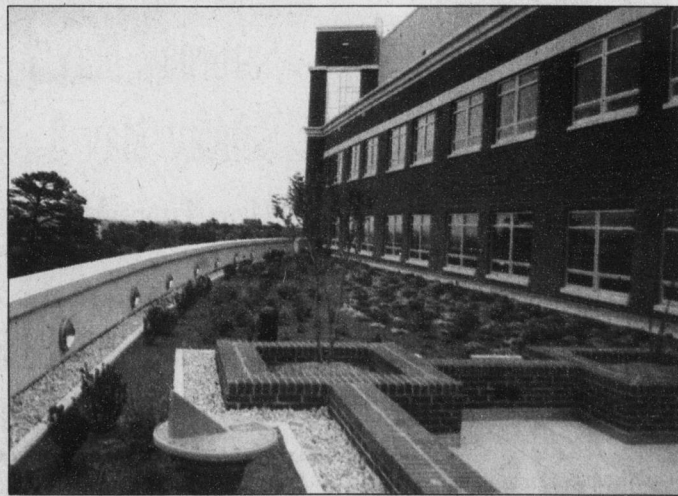
Pollock Shea, sustainability coordinator for UNC and the only staff member on campus to be a LEED-accredited professional.

Before the building is officially certified, members of the U.S. Green Building Council must approve the certification. Officials said they expect certification by this fall.

"For the broader UNC system, the building demonstrates the appeal of applying green building principles to a project because the building will have lower life-cycle costs, and it will be a more appealing place to work and study, helping to draw staff and students," Shea said.

The addition's environmental mission

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DTH/PERRY MYRICK

A \$20-million addition to the School of Nursing is the first building in the UNC system to be completed on green energy guidelines. Officials said the building will be certified by this fall.

ONLINE

Entering summer, town still can't solve budget Roundtable on homelessness set for Saturday Find these and more stories at www.dthonline.com.

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WEATHER

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