

**STATE AND NATION**  
Consulting firm to be used in UNC-system president search

The UNC Presidential Search Committee decided at its meeting Monday that it will use a search firm to help further the quest for the next UNC-system president. The three firms chosen as candidates for the position of search firm are Heidrick and Struggles based in Atlanta, Baker-Parker Inc. based in Atlanta and Academic Search Consultation Service based in Washington, D.C. Interviews will be held tentatively on either June 22 or June 29.

**State investigators team up to fight child pornography**

Attorney General Roy Cooper announced Monday that the State Bureau of Investigation carried out 50 search warrants in the past week to combat child pornography. So far arrests have been made in 10 of the searches and evidence is pending in other cases. The N.C. Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force led by the SBI is spearheading the operation that has included searches in Raleigh, Cary, Winston-Salem and Greensboro. The operation began in October 2004 and culminated with the past week's searches.

**CAMPUS BRIEFS**  
Researcher earns Fulbright grant to study Irish tumors

Robert Millikan, associate professor of epidemiology in the School of Public Health, was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to conduct research on melanoma tumors in Ireland. He will be a guest lecturer at University College Dublin in Ireland and will also conduct research at the institution. His research will focus on comparing tumors in Ireland to those in North Carolina to determine if differences in sunlight exposure and sun sensitivity have an effect on tumors.

**CITY BRIEFS**  
Kleinschmidt admitted into program for public leaders

A town leader was recently accepted into a program for state and municipal officials at Harvard University. Chapel Hill Town Council member Mark Kleinschmidt was admitted into the 2005 Program for Senior Executives for State and Local Government. The program help train government officials who gather from around the nation and abroad to manage the responsibility facing them today. The three-week program puts participants in classrooms and small group settings to work on developing and evaluating policy. Kleinschmidt's application to the program was supported by Mayor Kevin Foy. Kleinschmidt has been a member of the town council since December 2001.

**Carrboro officials to adopt budget; forego tax increase**

Carrboro residents are unlikely to see any property tax increases for next fiscal year. The Carrboro Board of Alderman is slated to adopt a budget for fiscal year 2005-06 Tuesday. The most expensive item in the \$16.3 million budget involves extending city infrastructure to the newly annexed areas in the northern sector of the town, which will cost the town more than \$250,000 next fiscal year.

**SPORTS BRIEFS**  
Marlins pick up Tar Heel in 23rd round of 2005 MLB Draft

North Carolina catcher/infielder Justin Webb was selected by the Florida Marlins in the 23rd round of the 2005 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft on June 8. Webb, who was chosen with the 696th overall selection, played catcher for most of the 2005 season but also saw time at first base, third base and in the outfield. While at UNC, he played every position except pitcher and center field. Named the Tar Heels' most improved player, Webb batted .280 with career-best totals of nine home runs and 41 RBI this past season. Entering 2005, Webb had just two career homers and 32 career RBI. He also added eight doubles and one triple, while posting a .453 slugging percentage. In ACC play, Webb tallied six home runs and 31 RBI. He was also outstanding defensively, recording a .979 fielding percentage in a team-high 515 chances. Webb was the second Tar Heel drafted, as junior outfielder Mike Daniel was selected by the Washington Nationals in the seventh round Tuesday, June 7.

-from staff and wire reports

# County weighs option of special tax

Could be on the ballot in November

BY CHRIS CARMICHAEL  
STAFF WRITER

While Orange County commissioners appear to be moving toward putting a special district tax on a ballot, it remains unclear just what the level of support would be for such a tax. "I am completely opposed to it because it won't solve the problem," said Orange County school board member Elizabeth Brown. Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools are projected to receive an additional \$13 million from the special district tax during the

2005-06 fiscal year. Accounting for this, each city school student receives \$1,227 more than an Orange County student. "The problem is that the Chapel Hill special district tax dictates the amount per pupil that Orange County Schools gets," Brown said. Brown said the additional funds put a cap on the amount county schools can receive. When city schools ask for less money from the county, Orange County schools will inevitably lose out, Brown

said, because N.C. law requires the county to allocate funding equally on a per pupil basis. While a county district tax could generate the additional funding, Brown said she believes it would put the county in an unfair position. "We are not even-steven," Brown said. "We have a lower property tax base, thousands of acres that are in conservation — (Orange Water and Sewage Authority) alone is 600 acres taken off the tax base." Speaking in populists' terms, she said this creates a scenario in which wealthier Chapel Hill resi-

**Effects of a special tax on local districts**

County Commissioners are considering a special district tax for county schools to address the funding inequities between the two districts.

2005-2006 SPECIAL TAX	Chapel Hill / Carrboro	Orange County
projected proceeds from special tax	\$13,000,000	\$0
total enrollment (number of students)	10,863	7,013
total recommended budget	\$29,525,634	\$19,061,334
authorized special district tax range	0 - 35 cents	0 - 10 cents
amount of per pupil funding	\$3,945	\$2,718

SOURCE: CHAPEL HILL / CARRBORO AND ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOLS DTH/JENNIFER ALLIET

*"We need to figure out how we can think outside of the box to continue our program."* TINA SIRAGUSA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The mural that covers the south side of El Centro Latino was completed in May and was designed and painted by Hispanic youths from throughout Orange County. The center currently faces a \$30,000 budget shortfall, endangering some of the community center's programs.

## STRUGGLING TO STAY AFLOAT

EL CENTRO LATINO COULD FACE CUTS IN PROGRAMMING

BY GINNY HOYLE  
STAFF WRITER

When Latino immigrants move to the area and do not speak English, they can feel isolated in an unfamiliar culture. El Centro Latino, located on 101 Lloyd St. in Carrboro, provides security for these disconnected citizens. El Centro helped a Latina woman who did not know where to turn when her husband left her and her children abandoned in a church parking lot. El Centro helped a Latina woman figure out how to get back across the border on a trip to Mexico with her child because her child was documented and she was not. El Centro helped many Latinos search for jobs in the community. That was just on Tuesday. The need for El Centro extends beyond the language barrier, said Dora Diaz, a Peruvian native, who works at the front desk. "Many of them want a friendship and a chance to tell their story," Diaz said. "They need to feel close to their culture. "When I say 'Buenos dias,' their eyes light

up because I know Spanish — it's like a piece of home." This place of solace and education for the local Latino community might suffer cutbacks if it does not receive \$30,000 to get through the fiscal year. But things are looking up. An anonymous donor from the Triangle Community Foundation already gave \$10,000, said executive director Tina Siragusa. Community and local government leaders will meet Friday for an action meeting to establish funding sources for El Centro. "The town governments are part of the planning because they see the wider scope of the service," Siragusa said. "We need to figure out how we can think outside of the box to continue our program." El Centro offers a variety of programs to local Spanish speakers such as classes for driver's license education, English as a Second Language, computers and financial literacy. Among the first programs to be cut if funding is not found would be

ESL and computer courses. Siragusa said rent is part of the financial problem, and center officials are considering a move. She said they would do everything possible to stay in Carrboro and, despite financial strains, are looking into making some kind of expansion. "Most of our clients walk to us," said Siragusa. "Even though our funding is going down, our door is opening more and more." El Centro is planning some fund-raising events in July, and for the time being, space is going to dictate what services they can offer. "People have come from all directions and all walks of life because everyone realizes how absolutely vital a center is to the community," Siragusa said. "We are a bridge and a clearinghouse to other agencies and other corners of the community, and I believe that the center will be raised up by the community." For more information on El Centro Latino, call 932-4652.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

## Officials work to trim tax hike

Commissioners seek staff input

BY CHRIS CARMICHAEL  
STAFF WRITER

The Orange County Board of Commissioners heard advice Tuesday from county staff on how it might go about trimming what amounts to the largest tax increase in years. Staff demonstrated how, penny by penny, the recommended 9-cent tax increase could be cut, but County Manager John Link warned commissioners not to strike too deep. While he says the tax could feasibly be trimmed down by 6.5 cents, he has recommended the cut remain at about 2 cents. "The consideration of cuts to 3 cents or beyond will seriously erode" budget priorities such as capital funding for both county and city schools, critical-needs reserve, the county employee pay plans and school funding, Link's report stated.

**Outcome of possible county budget cuts**

Commissioners are looking at possible cuts in the proposed 10-cent property tax increase. The current property tax is 86.8 cents per \$100 of assessed property value.

proposed property tax scenario	85.6 cents	83.8 cents	80.3 cents
equivalent to a reduction of	1 cent	3 cents	6.5 cents
total budget cuts for county and schools	\$1,187,580	\$3,562,740	\$7,719,270
reduce schools recurring capital	\$593,790	\$631,290	\$1,472,296
reduce county recurring capital	\$593,790	\$631,290	\$1,162,650
total reduction in school funding	\$0	\$411,148	\$1,161,940

Commissioner Barry Jacobs said he aims to cut the tax by one-third, while at the same time increasing school funding. "I think the obvious place to look is capital," Jacobs said. Recurring capital funds for the schools and county represent the first penny on the list to be cut. These funds were recently reinstated into the budget and totalled over

\$1 million that would have been earmarked for ongoing maintenance. A 3-cent cut would trim employee compensation by about \$500,000. The manager's recommendation calls for \$1.5 million in employee benefits, including a 2.5 percent raise in both cost of living and in-range salaries, as well as

SEE COUNTY BUDGET, PAGE 5

## Officials host candidate for University registrar

Poehls emphasizes supporting role

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

Alice Poehls is trying to follow the old adage, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." The University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign registrar finds herself on the opposite end of the basketball court as a candidate for the same position at UNC. Poehls met 30 members of the campus community Tuesday at the first of four open forums for University registrar candidates. During the forum Poehls detailed her experience and the skills she would bring to UNC. She said she sees the role of registrar as an aid to coordinating the functions of a university. "My job is not to be an authority; my job is to support faculty, staff and students in anyway I can," she said. The registrar search committee considered both the position's

roles and the personal skills of applicants, said committee chairwoman Carol Tresolini, associate provost for academic initiatives. "Essentially we are looking at leadership and vision ... (and) understanding the complexities of a large public university," she said. The University registrar oversees course scheduling, classroom assignments and registration — just a few of the myriad responsibilities of the position. The next registrar also will be involved heavily in the upcoming revision of the College of Arts and Science's curriculum and will play a key role technological upgrades to the registrar's office. These responsibilities make the position crucial to many different campus units, Tresolini said. "Clearly the registrar's office is

SEE REGISTRAR, PAGE 5

## Council looks to wrap up business

Members review work of last year

BY MICHAEL TODD  
STAFF WRITER

Hindsight is 20/20. As the fiscal year comes to a close, Chapel Hill Town Council members are re-evaluating 12 busy legislative months. Since July, town officials have renamed Airport Road, faced University expansion and waded through a mire of debt brought on by costly development projects. Most council members agree that naming the thoroughfare after Martin Luther King Jr. has been a great success. "I think renaming Airport Road was one of our greatest accomplishments," said council member Cam Hill. "But we could have just done it. We got more complaints about the way we did it than the renaming." Town officials appointed a special committee comprising about 20 members to discuss the change which was finalized May 8. Council member Mark Kleinschmidt said the deliberations were excessive, but he thinks the final product is an invaluable asset to the town. "It helped the whole community understand race," he said. "We are not a society that has been totally cured of our racist past."

Mayor Pro Tem Edith Wiggins said the process helped the change to be a success. "I am very happy with the process," she said. "(The committee) involved a diverse group of citizens that carefully listened to the public's concerns." Council members were slated to discuss several other major projects at their Wednesday meeting, one of the last meetings of the fiscal year. Among those were some proposed zoning changes to Office/Institutional-4, a special zoning standard created in 2001 to address on-campus development. Possible changes to the zoning district might determine the role the town council has in future University development. "The town felt like it needed help in the development process," Hill said.

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 5