

ACCIDENT

FROM PAGE 1
happened," he said. "At this point we don't have any reason to believe that there was anything unsafe."
Heather Crews, public information officer at the N.C. Department of Labor, said construction worker deaths make up a large number of workplace fatalities in the state.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act passed by Congress in 1970 ensures that workers are provided a place of employment free from safety and health hazards.

The University and its contractors are working in cooperation with these laws, labor department officials say.

Ed Short, UNC's deputy manager of facilities management, said the University is being proactive to ensure that these incidents do not occur again.

In response to the deaths, facilities management officials are hosting a safety stand down Monday, where all contractors, subcontractors and vendors will stop work from 11 a.m. to noon and participate in safety meetings.

The meetings are intended to raise awareness of safety and to make sure that everyone is following contract guidelines, Runberg said.

"We are constantly striving to have the employees of these companies work safely."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

ROBERTS

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Ward said the White House got what it wanted with Roberts — an easily confirmable nominee.

"He's a slam dunk, a home run," he said. Roberts was nominated and will be confirmed because he is well-qualified, affable and non-controversial, he added.

Thomas Hansford, professor of political science at the University of South Carolina, said the five Democratic nays in Thursday's vote showed that there would be opposition to any nominee.

Moderate Republicans such as Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., would be concerned only if the next nominee is more conservative than Roberts, he said.

Of the eight Democrats on the judiciary committee, the five to cast opposing votes said Roberts' reservations against expressing his views led them to feel uncomfortable in approving him.

"Roberts did a better job of ducking questions gracefully than the others," Hansford said, referring to previous nominees.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said during Thursday's proceedings that she had several reservations about Roberts, and the confirmation hearings left her with no clearer idea of the nominee's views.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said Roberts did not shed enough light on his views to warrant a vote of support.

"No one is entitled to become chief justice of the United States," he said. "Nominees must earn their confirmation by providing us with full knowledge of their values and convictions that'll bring to decisions that may profoundly affect our progress as a nation toward the ideal of equality."

Roberts' lack of an extensive paper trail and expressed opinions also could be a problem for the president, Hansford said, because the president will not be completely sure where Roberts stands on some issues.

"(Roberts is) more confirmable, but less predictable," he said.

Choper and Hansford said Democrats felt strong pressure from advocacy groups to reject the nomination.

Ward said senators spent more time grandstanding than investigating during Roberts' confirmation hearings.

"The senators missed an opportunity in the process," he said. "They had the chance to really question him on his views."

The only question now, Ward said, is how many approving votes Roberts will receive Monday.

Ward said the next nominee will be held up to greater scrutiny because the vacancy for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's seat is considered a potential swing vote.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

RITA

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to speed the city's evacuation.

Despite scenes of seemingly endless traffic jams with Rita's landfall still almost two days away, officials said the scale of the exodus meant an early start was important.

"If the demand is great, you need to provide sufficient time for the infrastructure to handle it," said Andrew Ballard, a research engineer for the Texas Transportation Institute. "... And that's why the watchword has been: evacuate early."

Ballard said the fact that so many people were leaving Houston — a city 50 miles from the Gulf of Mexico — indicates that residents are taking

the storm very seriously.

"That's a good thing, and it's a result of getting the word out early, and it's a result of people believing the message," he said. "That is to some degree a result of the recent Katrina experience being fresh in the minds of the community."

Katrina was all too fresh in the minds of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which spent Thursday racing to reinforce the levees around New Orleans.

Even though the threat of a direct hit from Rita seems to have passed for the Big Easy, there are concerns that substantial rainfall

from the hurricane could once again breach the city's weakened levees. A mandatory evacuation was in effect for the city.

Though Rita was downgraded to a Category 4 hurricane Thursday afternoon, Smith said the distinction would matter little to those in the storm's path.

"It's still a very intense and strong hurricane," he said. "There is not a lot of difference between a Category 4 and a Category 5 as far as the damage it'll produce."

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CHANGES

FROM PAGE 1
talking about issues of diversity," Rimbach said.

Comments often can be unintentionally offensive, he said.

In his State of the University address last week, Chancellor James Moeser spoke about gay and lesbian diversity on campus, but he did not mention bisexual and transgender individuals.

Some took issue with the omission. "He's kind of mainstreaming what it means to be queer," Rimbach said. "I think he left out a lot."

To spark change, UNC officials could include gender identity in the nondiscrimination policy, he said.

"I don't think anything has changed since the hate crime last year," he said, adding that while Moeser's presence at last year's vigil spurred healthy debate, dialogue has seemingly ceased.

"On the surface it's very accepting," said Jessica Stewart, GLBTSAs

secretary. "But I think if you go deeper ... there a lot of people who don't get a lot of information."

An interim team has been named to lead the LGBTQ Office, and Winston Crisp, senior associate dean of students, said he hopes a committee can begin hunting for a permanent replacement this semester.

"We want to go beyond just a place for people to come to, to more of an outreach," said Crisp, who would like to expand programming.

A review of the 2002 LGBTQ climate evaluation report already has begun, officials said.

Beyond possibilities of gender-neutral bathrooms and policy modifications, Rimbach said creating an accepting campus will be a long process.

"It's one thing to make policy changes, ... but it's another thing to change the overall social and political climate."

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RESOLUTION

FROM PAGE 1
Robertson and Morehead scholars, which have been threatened after several years of tuition increases.

As tuition rates increase, many scholarship foundations found they could provide for fewer and fewer students.

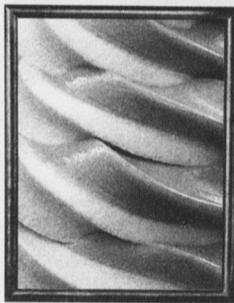
In-state tuition for all students with a free ride will counteract the recent trend.

Lucido said the provision will enable the University to devote attention and resources to two important areas: student aid and nonresident students.

"One, it expands our scholarship resources, and two, it allows us to invest in more out-of-state students."

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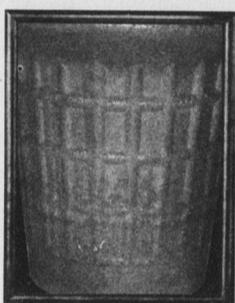
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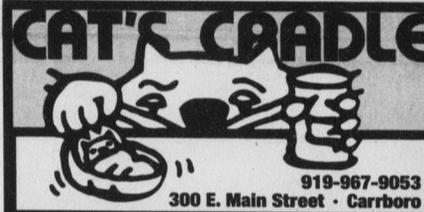
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24 SA HURRICANE RELIEF BENEFIT: Cool John Ferguson, Mel Melton, Abe Reid/Spikedrivers, Memphis, SpencerAcuff, stewartfoot, Nathan Asher	18 TU JOHN VANDERSLUICE, PORTASTATIC (\$10)
25 SU 1-5PM: CARRBORO MUSIC FESTIVAL (Free Show)	19 WE ATMOSPHERE** (\$18/\$20)
25 SU 9PM: SUFJAN STEVENS w/Liz James (sold out)	20 TH KATE TAYLOR** (\$20: seated show)
26 MO H2O w/Death by Stereo	21 FR AMBULANCE LTD w/The National** (\$10/\$12)
27 TU Bring Back The Bayou Benefit Concert (Blue Rodeo show has been cancelled)	22 SA THE ROSEBUDS (CD Release Party) & HOTEL LIGHTS
28 WE MINUS THE BEAR w/These Arms Are Snakes & Criteria** (\$10)	23 SU THE BRAVERY w/VHS or Beta** (\$15)
29 TH VIRGINIA COALITION w/Karin** (\$10)	24 MO FLICKER
30 FR WALKMEN w/Mazarin & Rockwell** (\$12/\$14)	26 WE GHOSTFACE w/Swollen Members** (\$15/\$17)
OCTOBER	27 TH COUNTRY KINGS
1 SA KINGSBURY MANX, Mowing Lawns, Cities	28 FR WXYC 80's Dance
2 SU JAGUARES** (\$22/\$25)	29 SA JUNIOR BROWN** (\$15)
3 MO ELECTRIC 6 w/The Waggles & Crosstide** (\$10)	30 SU Shalini, Parklife, Belgilde
5 WE U.S.E. w/Kandy Whales** (\$8)	NOVEMBER
6 TH GANG OF FOUR** (\$18/\$20)	1 TU PROJECT/OBJECT** (\$14)
7 FR LITTLE BROTHER w/The Away Team, LEGACY, Darien Brockington, Joe Scudda, Chaudron** (\$14/\$16)	2 WE MATSYAHU** (\$15)
8 SA EDDIE FROM OHIO (cancelled)	• Presented by N.C. Hillcl
9 SU KINGS OF LEON w/The Like** (\$20)	3 TH DEL MCCOURRY BAND** (\$18/\$20)
10 MO METRIC w/Most Serene Republic & The Lovely Feathers** (\$8)	4 FR CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD (\$10)
11 TU THE UNSEEN, Career Soldiers, A Global Threat, Crimson Sprotre** (\$10)	5 SA CHATHAM COUNTY LINE** (\$8/\$10)
12 WE THE FRAMES & JOSH RITTER** (\$12)	7 MO MELISSA FERRICK** (\$12/\$14)
13 TH Jeff Rink, Work clothes, Kerblöki, L In Japanese (Benefit for Alex Zaffron for Mayor of Carrboro)	9 WE DIOS MALOS w/Swords
14 FR YERBA BUENA** (\$14/\$16)	10 TH SAGE FRANCIS** (\$15)
15 SA DEVENDRA BANHART w/Bunny Brains** (\$15)	11 FR SUPER FURRY ANIMALS w/Caribou**
16 SU NEW PORNOGRAPHERS w/Immaculate Machine & Destroyer** (\$15)	12 SA STEEP CANYON RANGERS
	13 SU BROADCAST w/Gravenhurst** (\$12)
	14 MO Playstation DualPlay Presents LCD SOUNDSYSTEM**
	16 WE BADFISH - A Tribute to Sublime**
	17 TH CONVERGE
	18 & 19 FR/SA: DRIVE BY TRUCKERS**
	20 SU HOT ROD CIRCUIT, PIEBALD**
	21 MO TED LEO, TRISTEZA** (\$10/\$12)
	22 TU FAT WRECK CHORDS TOUR: AGAINST ME, Epoxies, Smoke Or Fire, Soviets** (\$12)
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