

# Wirag wraps up healthy role

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Administrators announced last week their intention to reorganize all campus health services into one house.

For almost seven years Bob Wirag has worked to ensure that house is in pristine order.

Wirag, who announced last week his intention to step down June 30 as director of Student Health Service, hopes his legacy will be the improvement of both the service and the building that houses it.

Several years ago a report told health administrators that the James Taylor Building was in need of more than \$2 million of renovations, Wirag said.

As an auxiliary service, student health operates on student fees and profits from clinical appointments.

Through thrifty spending and budget cuts, health administrators were able to secure enough funds to provide a new roof and a heating and air conditioning system.

"Those are major changes to the facility that we've been able to do ... so not only will I be leaving behind an incredible staff for my successor," Wirag said.

He made public his decision last week but said he has been contem-



Student Health Service director Robert Wirag said he wants to be remembered for improving UNC facilities.

plating stepping down for months.

Mary Covington, medical director for Student Health Service, said Wirag made changes to the program that made it financially solvent.

"I think that he has raised the bar for Student Health Service," she said. "But I think the care — the quality of care — improved as a whole."

Wirag said he sees himself going out at the height of his career at UNC.

During the summer he received the American College Health Association's Hitchcock Award — the highest honor from the group.

"I knew some of the people over the years who had received the award, and they were my heroes," he said. "And I never saw myself in that position."

He said he intends to go into private consulting, although he didn't rule out returning to the world of college health.

"That's something I would cer-

tainly consider," he said. "At least for the time being my energies are going to be focused on the transition."

One of Wirag's last major tasks as director will be overseeing the reorganization of Student Health Service, Counseling and Psychological Service and the Center for Healthy Student Behaviors.

Beginning Jan. 1, the three areas of student wellness will be under the umbrella organization Campus Health Services.

Wirag said he is a proponent of the upcoming changes, which are aimed at providing more cohesive service for students.

"That as far as I am concerned is a real plus for this campus," he said.

University administrators say they will conduct a national search to find Wirag's replacement. They have targeted July 1 as a start date.

Wirag said he is confident he is leaving student health in a position so that the next leader can continue on a successful path.

"I feel that I have reached a point with this program where it is ready now to turn it over to someone who can carry the program to whatever that next level is."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Students with a meal plan can donate their extra meals to hunger relief in Kenya and Tanzania from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., today through Friday, in front of Lenoir Dining Hall. Those without a meal plan can purchase an all-you-can-eat meal for \$3. The event is sponsored by Students Working in the Environment 4 Active Transformation.

The faculty athletics committee will meet from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. today in South Building 105.

The final performance of Marc Blitzstein's opera "The Cradle Will Rock" will take place at 5 p.m. today in Playmakers Theatre. Tickets are \$5 general admission.

The Lab! Theatre company will have the final performance of its variety show, "Two Straws, One Drink," at 5 p.m. today in Elizabeth Kenan Price Theatre. Admission is free.

A Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools committee will continue the naming process for high school No. 3, currently under construction

at the intersection of Smith Level and Rock Haven roads, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at the Lincoln Center Boardroom.

The committee will review feedback submitted by the community and will reduce the pool to three possibilities. Those recommendations will be given to the Board of Education at its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at Ephesus Elementary School.

The Campus Y is sponsoring an earthquake relief benefit dinner from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. today in Carmichael Ballroom. Plates are \$5 each and will benefit those affected by October's earthquake in India and Pakistan.

Francis Bok, a former slave, will speak about modern slavery at 7 p.m. in Carroll 111. Bok, a native of Sudan, was forced into slavery at the age of 7 and remained a slave for 10 years. He now works with the American Anti-Slavery Group to spread awareness about modern-day slavery. The event is sponsored by the Campus Y.

The General Alumni

Association student membership program will hold a holiday concert from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in Alumni Hall.

The Cane Creek Cloggers are having tryouts from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. today at the Street Scene Teen Center on Franklin Street. Would-be cloggers must attend three of the four tryouts to make the team. The last tryout will be Dec. 13. Contact [bigstomp@email.unc.edu](mailto:bigstomp@email.unc.edu) or go to [www.canecreekcloggers.com](http://www.canecreekcloggers.com) for more information.

Randee Haven-O'Donnell, a new member of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, will be sworn in at 7:30 p.m. today at Carrboro Town Hall. The town's new mayor, Mark Chilton, also will be sworn in. Incumbents Jacquelyn Gist and John Herrera, who retained their seats in this fall's election, will be re-sworn.

To make a calendar submission, visit [www.dailytarheel.com](http://www.dailytarheel.com) for a list of submission policies and contacts. Events must be sent in by noon the preceding publication date.

# ArtsCenter bears Garcia exhibit

BY WILLIAM FONVIELLE  
STAFF WRITER

Santa has been good to the Deadheads this season.

One only has to walk to Carrboro's ArtsCenter to see art of the late Grateful Dead frontman Jerry Garcia. The free exhibit is presented by Temple Ball Gallery and will run through Dec. 30.

Although Garcia is best known for his music, his side career in art has childhood roots when he recovered from bouts of asthma. After studying at the California School of Fine Arts, he continued to draw and paint throughout his career, creating nearly 500 works in the last 10 years of his life.

The exhibit spans from the mid-1980s until Garcia's death in 1995 and features styles ranging from oils to line drawings to digital works.

Especially striking in the exhibit is the free form the art appears to take.

"One of the most fascinating

things about Jerry Garcia's art is it's seeped in improvisation," said Rick Ramirez, curator of the exhibit. "Improv played a huge role."

It was Ramirez, an avowed Grateful Dead fan, who conceived of the exhibit. After releasing a new book titled "Jerry Garcia: The Collected Artwork," the Garcia estate approached Ramirez about a possible book release party.

Ramirez went to the ArtsCenter with the idea of a longer exhibit.

"With a lot of musicians, we don't think of them in another artistic medium," said Tess Mangum Ocaña, concerts and facility director at the ArtsCenter. "I hope people come to the exhibit because it's free and on the bus line, and not everything good in the world costs money."

This is the second time Ramirez has presented Garcia's art, as his Temple Ball gallery, formerly located in Carrboro, hosted Garcia's national touring exhibit in 2004.

While most of the art on display

are prints, Ramirez did score one coup, an original watercolor by Garcia called "Clockworks." Ramirez said the owner lives in California and agreed to loan his \$60,000 work to the exhibit on the good faith that it would be safely returned.

Describing the artworks as impressionistic above other styles, Ramirez said he believes that they provide a window into the personality of this famous musician.

"You see a playful side, a serious side and also some dark corners," said Ramirez. "Most art reflects the person, and this is no different."

December is also home to two other Grateful Dead events at the ArtsCenter. On Friday, a concert featuring Cosmic Charlie, a Dead tribute band, will take place. Also, on Dec. 18, two concert films from the Grateful Dead and the Jerry Garcia Band will be shown.

Contact the A&E Editor at [artsdesk@unc.edu](mailto:artsdesk@unc.edu).

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Any incorrect information printed on the front page will result in a correction printed on the front page. Any incorrect information printed on any other page will be corrected at the top left of page 3. Errors committed on the Editorial Page have corrections printed on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.

Please contact Managing Editor Joseph Schwartz, at [joseph\\_schwartz@unc.edu](mailto:joseph_schwartz@unc.edu), with issues about this policy or to report corrections.

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### POLICE LOG

Three Fort Bragg soldiers were involved in a hit-and-run accident late Saturday night, according to University police reports.

A 2001 white Nissan Sentra owned by Benjamin Clifton Ambrose was found unattended on South Columbia Street. A witness told police the driver crossed the solid yellow line and continued to drive onto the brick sidewalk, reports state.

According to reports two alcoholic beverage cans were found inside the vehicle near the gas pedal under the driver's seat. Three cell phones inside of the vehicle also were placed into evidence, reports state.

Upon further investigation the driver and two passengers were identified. Ambrose was charged with careless and reckless driving and failure to stop at the scene of an accident, according to reports.

Total damage to the vehicle is estimated at \$8,000 and total damage to UNC landscaping is an estimated \$5,000, reports state.

A 16-year-old Japan Express employee was cited at 12:07 a.m. Sunday at 700 Bolinwood Drive, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, Chapel Hill police reports state.

Onysym Silivra, of 116 Woodshire Lane, was issued a citation after a marijuana pipe was found in his sweatshirt, according to reports.

He is scheduled to appear in District Criminal Court in Hillsborough on Jan. 9, reports state.

An army man from Fort Bragg was arrested for impaired driving at 4:05 a.m. Sunday at the intersection of East Rosemary and Henderson streets, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

Robert Cantrell, 30, of Pittsboro, was arrested on charges of driving while impaired and speeding, reports state.

According to reports, Cantrell's blood alcohol content was .19.

He was released on written promise and is scheduled to appear in District Criminal Court in Chapel Hill on Jan. 10, reports state.

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