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THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2006

RED, WHITE & UNC BLUE



DTH/COURTNEY POTTER

Claire Wilson, 9 (left), Tory Amerson, 8, and Corey Pahel-Short, 8, dance to the live band as they eagerly await the fireworks show at Kenan Stadium on Tuesday night. Though the fireworks began at 9:30, families arrived as early as 6:45 to enjoy the pre-fireworks activities, which included face-painting, funnel cakes and live music.

THOUSANDS GATHER TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS AT KENAN STADIUM

BY TOM HARTWELL
STAFF WRITER

They come and they eat hot dogs, pizza, fried dough and popcorn. They take their kids or their parents. They listen to the music, and some of them dance.

But there's no question about what really brings them to Kenan Stadium on

July 4.

"We come for the fireworks," said C.J. Chavis, who in cooler months is a student at Chapel Hill High School.

"And, also, for the girls."

Chavis and his friends were among the roughly 25,000 people to congregate at Kenan on Tuesday evening to watch

the town's annual fireworks display. By the time the first rockets were fired, the crowd had filled out the southern half of the stadium, including the upper deck.

Leslie Rael and Patty Graziano, who came from Cary, said that it was their first time at the Chapel Hill celebration and that they were having a fine time.

"We were just here thinking, 'We've got to do this more often,'" said Rael, who wore a shirt printed with American flags.

In the past, Rael said, she and Graziano have gone to the Independence

SEE FOURTH, PAGE 6

JOY, ANGER IN BUSH'S VISIT

BY STEPHEN MOORE
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

FORT BRAGG — Surrounded by a sea of military personnel, the American flag flapping in the breeze behind him, President Bush looked the part of commander in chief on Independence Day.

Visiting Fort Bragg for the third time during his presidency, Bush spoke to the troops, talking about the importance of their work and noting its connection to the day.

"On this day when we give thanks for our freedom, we also give thanks for the people

who defend it," he said. "Because of your courage, every day is Independence Day in America."

But with the war in Iraq three years old now — and with the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks looming in a few months — Bush's visit marked an opportunity for his fans and his detractors to think more closely about what the day meant to them.

Lou Plummer, a 41-year-old resident of Fayetteville and a former National Guard

SEE BUSH, PAGE 6



DTH/ALICIA TOWLER

President Bush works the crowd during his visit to Fort Bragg on Tuesday. A large crowd of supporters, as well as protesters, saw the July 4 event.

David Noel's NBA future



David Noel
Four-year player on the men's basketball team. Won a national championship his junior year and was named a second-team all-ACC player his senior year.

What Happened Noel was picked in the second round of the NBA Draft by the Milwaukee Bucks last week.

The Bucks later announced that Noel, the 39th overall pick, signed to a multiyear contract. Terms weren't disclosed.

"We really feel like we got the best athlete in the draft," Bucks general manager Larry Harris said. "He has a huge upside."

What's Next Noel, who played power forward and even center during his four years at UNC, likely will need to move back to small forward against the NBA's bigger, stronger players.

Given that, the Bucks couldn't be a better team for Noel to go to. They have only one wing player, Bobby Simmons, on their roster — meaning that Noel, a defensive stopper, should get to play.

— From staff and wire reports

Keg bill is a start, locals say

But students aren't as sure as elders

BY GRAY CALDWELL
CITY EDITOR

Chapel Hill residents are unsure of how effective requiring permits to purchase kegs will be at preventing underage drinking and drunk driving.

But if a bill recently passed by the judiciary committee of the N.C. Senate is enacted, anyone attempting to buy a keg of beer will be required to obtain a permit beforehand.

Chapel Hill Town Council member Jim Ward said the council supported legislation on the bill last year and continues to support the idea.

"I am aware that other municipalities ... have done this that have felt like it has been a clear tool in reducing the negative impacts of underage drinking — primarily drinking and driving," Ward said.

The hope is that requiring a permit would serve as a deterrent for underage drinkers and legal drinkers who purchase

SEE KEGS, PAGE 6

UNC-system schools still struggle with faculty benefits

BY SPENCER PERKINS
STAFF WRITER

Richard Superfine launches bananas and splashes liquid nitrogen during class.

Professors such as Superfine, whose physics courses are known nationally, are abundant at UNC. Many are front-runners in their fields.

But many of them leave Carolina for other schools — and though tuition increases have helped offset cuts in faculty salaries, a deficiency of benefits might be the real problem, UNC administrators and faculty say.

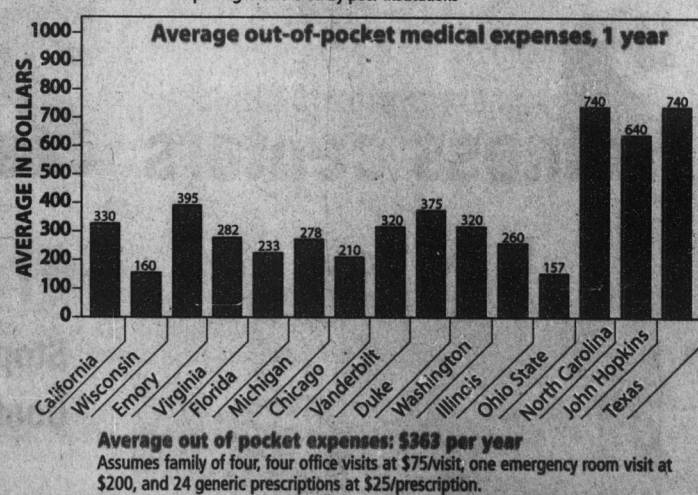
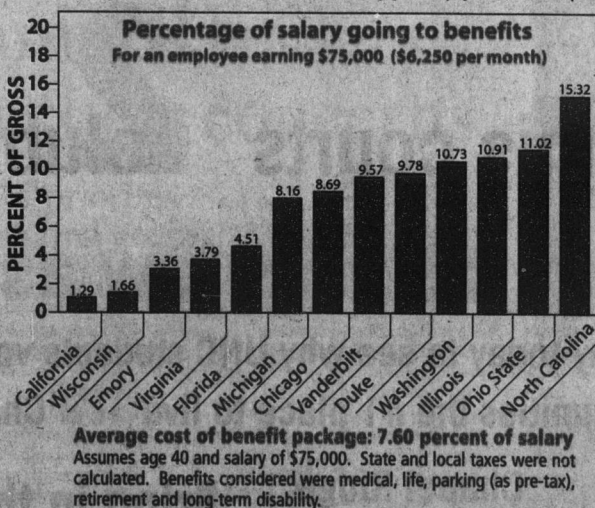
"Faculty at UNC are keenly aware of the poor level of benefits they receive," said Executive Associate Provost Steve Allred. "It is a problem for us both in recruitment and retention."

Brad Wilson, former chairman of the UNC-system Board of Governors — which lobbies the N.C. General Assembly and helps determine salaries for professors across the system — echoed those sentiments.

SEE BENEFITS, PAGE 6

UNC-system professors get less bang for their buck on benefits

More of their salary goes to pay for a benefits package that often falls short of the packages offered by peer institutions



Source:

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ON THE BLOG The latest inside dish on The Daily Tar Heel's summer edition

BREAKING NEWS If big news happens during the week, we're on it

ANGRY? HAPPY? See what students have to say about the new ticket policy

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DTH REVIEWS

Johnny Cash's new LP shows the man could sing a tune; "The Devil Wears Prada" is a competent film that rises above chick-flick status.



photos | page 4

A WELCOME HOME

More than 150 troops returned home from overseas Monday. A DTH photographer was there to chronicle the emotional event.

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BOYS OF SUMMER

More than two dozen Tar Heel baseball players have headed out to collegiate summer leagues, though Jay Cox is not among them.

weather



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