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Continental Tire workers irked by deal

Company partners with UNC after job cuts

BY ELIZABETH DEORNELLAS
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

A local steel workers union lost more than a 1,000 jobs when the Continental Tire plant in Charlotte underwent mass layoffs.

A recent sponsorship deal between UNC athletics and Continental Tire added insult to the union's injuries, said Mark Cieslikowski, president of United Steelworkers of America Local Union 850.

He said fewer people in Charlotte will root for the Tar Heels now that the Continental Tire name is attached to

UNC athletics.

The three-year contract, announced on Sept. 6, gives the automotive safety system and tire manufacturer the title sponsorship of one Carolina football game and one Carolina basketball game this season.

The company also will sponsor a "coaches corner" on game day radio broadcasts and on the TV shows of John Bunting and Roy Williams.

Continental Tire has a documented history of sponsoring the Atlantic Coast Conference, said Rick Steinbacher, associate director of athletics for marketing at

UNC.

"They're a solid, steady North Carolina company."

The company will pay more than \$500,000 for three years of sponsorship rights, said Art Chansky, associate general manager of Tar Heel Sports Marketing.

"They want to brand Continental with Carolina."

In addition to the sponsorship deals, the company plans to use the Kenan-Flagler Business School as a recruiting base, said Travis Roffler, director of marketing for Continental Tire.

"It made sense for both of us, so we got together."

Roffler said the recent layoffs at the

Charlotte plant have nothing to do with the company's marketing efforts.

"The other has to do with competitive manufacturing; it has to do with the sales and marketing of our products."

Continental Tire started downsizing in the Charlotte plant in March when company officials decided it was no longer competitive in the global market.

Alan Hippe, president and CEO of Continental Tire North America Inc., released a March statement explaining the shift.

"Due to skyrocketing costs for energy, raw materials and health care, CTNA cannot continue to operate the Charlotte plant with our current manufacturing cost structure."

In August, former U.S. Sen. John Edwards sent a letter to Hippe, criticizing CTNA for its alleged violations of U.S. labor laws and demanding that the company show more respect to its workers.

"I understand that Continental's decisions will force hundreds of retirees in North Carolina who are not yet Medicare-eligible to either use three-fourths or more of their pension income to pay for health care insurance or drop their health care coverage altogether and become dependent on taxpayer-funded health care," he stated.

Cieslikowski said the company's retirees typically make \$900 a month in pen-

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Texas' Lovett set for stage

Event kicks off year's arts series

BY MORGAN ELLIS
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

Memorial Hall came back to life last year with a performer who left his heart in San Francisco. This time around the season will get started with a trip to Texas.

Lyle Lovett officially will open the 2006-07 Carolina Performing Arts Series tonight at 8 p.m. with a sold-out celebration dubbed "A Night in Texas."



Singer Lyle Lovett is set to perform before a sold-out Memorial Hall.

The crooner is slated to bring his unique brand of country music to a crowd decked out in Texas formal attire.

A Texas native, Lovett infuses country music with a variety of influences that include folk and pop in a singer-songwriter tradition.

His style, music historians say, is indicative of his home state's musical past.

"There's always been a tradition in Texas popular music of blending," said Jocelyn Neal, a music professor at UNC who teaches a country music history course.

That blending also makes it difficult to precisely tag the type of music Lovett has produced, setting him apart from country music of the past decade.

"I think he's a great point of contrast to the commercial consistency of country music in the 1990s," she said.

"The labels simply don't capture what he's doing as a musician."

But the diversity of Lovett's music is exactly what the Performing Arts Series strives for, as evidenced by its upcoming season and its wide array of individual artists.

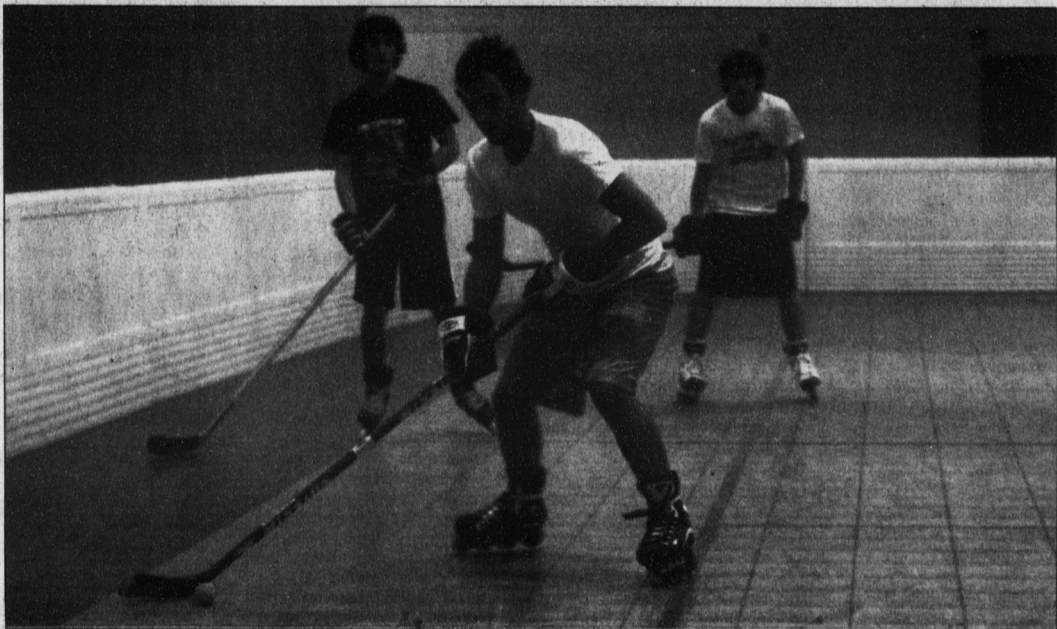
"I think part of my challenge that the chancellor gave when we began the series was to present a series that is very diverse," said Emil Kang, executive director for the arts.

After Tony Bennett, a premiere vocalist of the 20th century, opened the 2005-06 series, Kang felt Lovett would represent a much different point in the musical spectrum.

"We wanted this year to extend

SEE LOVETT, PAGE 4

STICKING WITH IT



DTH/MAGGIE SARTIN

UNC club roller hockey team members (from left) sophomore Curtis Labban, senior Brooks Henderson and sophomore Tony Drier play a pickup game at the Rams Head Recreation Center on

Thursday. The club, which consists of an A team and a B team but is hoping to expand, regularly practices at its home rink, the Carolina Sportsplex, and competes in weekend tournaments about once a month.



DTH/MAGGIE SARTIN

Left: Freshman Vishal Parikh scores a goal in Thursday night's pickup roller hockey game at the rink in Rams Head Recreation Center. Above: Henderson (left) and junior and club president Ryan Gaus take a break to let other players into the game. The club offers the pickup games every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. They are usually played 3-on-3 or 4-on-4 with a ball instead of a puck. The games, which are open to anyone who signs up, give students who are not as competitive a chance to play.

Leaders give Horton warm farewell



DTH/ANNA DORN

Mayor Kevin Foy (left) greets former Chapel Hill Town Manager Cal Horton on Thursday at a Carolina Inn banquet held in Horton's honor.

BY KAYLA CARRICK
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

"This is an extraordinary evening for me and my family and to see all my friends out here — I intend to have a ball."

That's just what Cal Horton did, shaking hands with friends, family and co-workers Thursday at a banquet in his honor at the Carolina Inn.

Horton retired Sept. 1 after a 16-year run as Chapel Hill town manager.

Chapel Hill police Chief Gregg Jarvis said Horton was the epitome of a good town manager.

"When people ask what a town manager does, we can point to Cal," he said. "When he asks how

you're doing, he really cares."

Jarvis said Horton raised his children to be good citizens who chose careers in public service.

Horton's son, Alex, said his father thought nobody would show up at the dinner but about 300 people did.

"You affect the lives of more than the people you see in the workplace, good leaders understand this," Alex Horton said.

Alex, a principal, said he hopes his leadership compares to his father's.

"If I can be half the manager my father is," he said, before tearing up.

SEE HORTON, PAGE 4

Faculty ready to start work

Templeton eager for first meeting

BY WHITNEY KISLING
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

The Faculty Council will meet today for the first time under new leadership.

Joe Templeton, newly minted chairman of the faculty, said faculty introductions will be the most important part of the meeting.

"I view it as a welcome meeting," he said.

The council — an elected group of more than 70 faculty members who meet monthly — discusses faculty, student and curriculum issues.

Members will meet at 3 p.m. in the Sonja Haynes Stone Center multipurpose room. They will discuss enrollment growth and student retention rates and also to be introduced to each other.

Templeton, who took over the position July 1 after law professor Judith Wegner stepped down, said he will use the time to listen to faculty concerns and proposals.

"What I would like to be able to do is understand what's important to faculty," he said. "And then I would like to be able to work with faculty to

SEE FACULTY, PAGE 4

Joe Templeton



Positions:

- > chairman of the faculty, since 2006
- > director of development in the chemistry department, since 2000
- > chemistry professor, since 1986

Goals:

- > Build faculty morale
- > Support graduate student needs
- > Encourage undergraduate involvement in council meetings
- > Increase enrollment growth rates
- > Work with the council to set this year's budget priorities

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A RESEARCH COUP UNC lands 15th in grants to universities from the National Institutes of Health

SOLO SHOW PlayMakers' production of "I Am My Own Wife" is a four-star one-man show

views | page 7

GOING GREEK

Some think that Greek life is the only way to go in college; others say it does more to detract. Read an in-depth look at both sides.

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GRILLIN' OUT

While some UNC fans do tailgate, many say that parking limitations and alcohol rules prevent many from participating in classic pre-game partying.



this day in history

SEPT. 15, 1967 ...

UNC stages its first "blue power uprising," a torch-carrying parade from Morrison Residence Hall to the Carolina Theater to celebrate the start of classes and football.

weather

Partly cloudy
H 82, L 60

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