

The Daily Tar Heel

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Medical Air eases officials' itineraries

BY SHARI FELD
SENIOR WRITER

For Chancellor James Moeser, time is a valuable commodity.

While the 425 freshmen who hail from Mecklenburg County probably drove to Charlotte for their first trip home, Moeser knows a faster route — via a plane service called Medical Air Operations.

Of the 20 airplane trips he has taken since April, Moeser has hopped onto a University-owned plane six times — including three visits to Charlotte, 127 miles away. The six trips cost the University \$2,514.72, according to Medical Air billing records.

"I can go to Charlotte and back and have as much as a half a day in the office if I take the University plane," Moeser said. "It's a matter of time management."

While Moeser also uses commercial flights and the N.C. Department of Commerce's airplanes out of Raleigh-Durham International Airport, Medical Air Operations is the service closest to campus.

Its fleet of six twin-engine aircraft planes are based out of University-owned Horace Williams Airport on Estes Drive Extension.

But that convenience is in jeopardy because the airport eventually will close, making way for UNC's proposed 1,000-acre satellite research campus, Carolina North.

Medical Air, provided by Area Health Education Centers, transports health science faculty, medical residents, health science students and UNC officials to all areas of the state for educational activities.

"It's a nice complement to commercial flights," said Matt Kupec, vice chancellor for University advancement.

During the 2005-06 fiscal year, Medical Air flew 4,144 passengers to more than 83 locations.

"It allows you to get into cities a little quicker," Kupec said. "That allows you to go and have more appointments and do things on behalf of Carolina."

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Downtown project a go

BY JESSICA SCHONBERG
CITY EDITOR

Downtown Chapel Hill's skyline is officially growing up.

The town council voted Monday to draft an agreement with Ram Development Co. to construct an eight-story mixed-used development on what is now parking lot 5, located across from University Square.

INSIDE
Council also discusses the wastewater treatment plant.
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When the concept first hit the town's to-do list three years ago, the plan also included a proposal to develop parking lot 2 and the Wallace Deck, but those aspects since have been eliminated.

The town now has until Feb. 12 to finalize the agreement, before Ram begins the permit application process in March.

"I think this is a fair and reasonable deal," Mayor Pro Tem Bill Strom said.

"I support it and I think that it's going to contribute to a different environment downtown, one that really significantly moves us toward our vision of a more vibrant downtown."

According to the proposal, Ram will construct a building with 137 condominiums and 28,540 square feet of commercial space. Twenty-one of the condos will be affordable housing.

The proposal also includes plans for a public plaza and an underground parking garage.

Once the development is complete, the town will purchase 161 of the parking spots for about \$7.25 million.

Council member Jim Ward cast the only opposing vote, saying the proposal had changed too much since its inception for him to support the final product.

"This does not resemble what Ram came to us a year ago or two years ago that we embraced so whole-heartedly," he said.

"I was shocked at how wonderful your

approach was, how generous it was to the town ... but there are so many pieces that are not the same that I don't have faith in that project."

The proposal drew both strong support and criticism from the public at a forum Nov. 20.

Common concerns focused on the cost of the project, the height of the building and the financial risk assumed by the town.

The town will continue to own the land the development is built on, but will lease the property to Ram for \$1 per year.

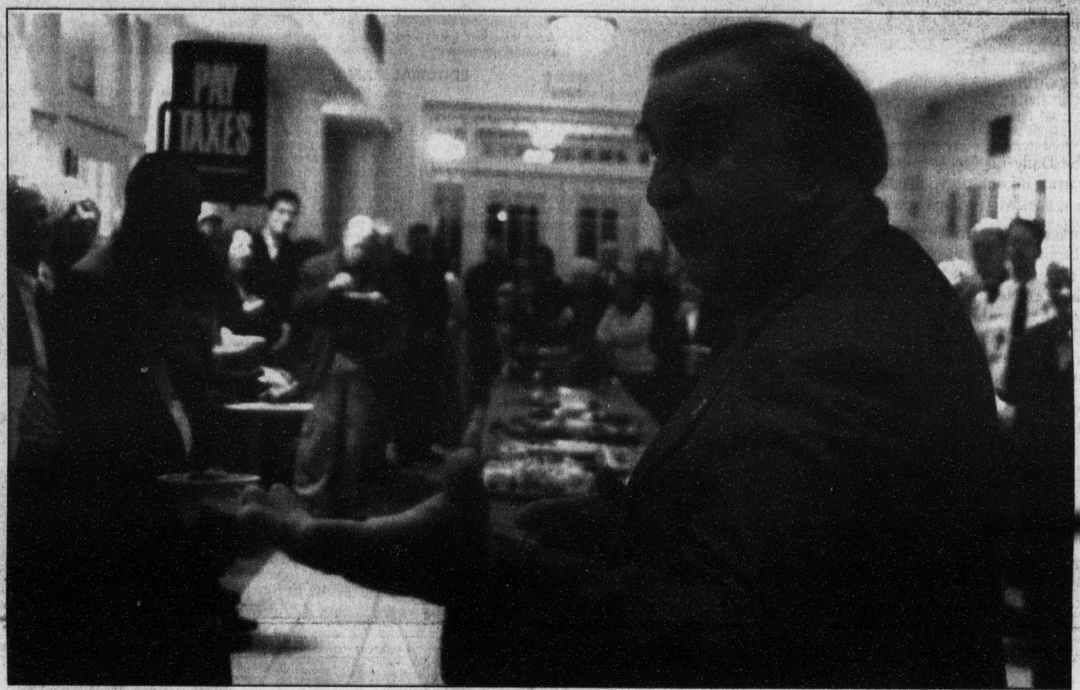
Before voting to draft an agreement, the council amended the resolution to include provisions that Ram be encouraged to make the building more energy-efficient.

The council also asked that Ram incorporate concerns expressed by members at the meeting Monday. Among those concerns were suggestions by Laurin Easthom to set start and finish

SEE PROJECT, PAGE 6



Plane N215CH, one of the six planes in the Medical Air Operations fleet, lands at the Horace Williams Airport after a trip to Winston-Salem.



Retiring Orange County Board of Commissioners Vice Chairman Steve Halkiotis talks at a reception Monday at the John M. Link Government Services Center in Hillsborough. New Commissioner Mike Nelson and new County Manager Laura Blackmon were introduced at the event.

Team unity helps Tar Heels to title

BY NICKI JHABVALA
STAFF WRITER

Anyone who has played for him, coached against him, written about him or is merely an acquaintance of him will tell you that North Carolina women's soccer coach Anson Dorrance is an artist — one so skilled at his craft that most have tried emulating him.

And after he coached a team loaded with underclassmen to the program's 18th NCAA National Championship on Sunday, that trend should continue.

"He's a master motivator," Texas A&M coach G. Guerrieri said. "You give him a little bit of ammunition to motivate his team, then he's gonna use that."

Angela Kelly, a former UNC player and current Tennessee coach, said she uses the lessons learned from Dorrance with her own team. "He's a large part of my coaching philosophy," she said.

Tim Crothers has written an entire book — "The Man Watching" — about the program and Dorrance espousing his leadership style. "Nobody can find a silver lining better than Anson Dorrance, and we can all learn from that," Crothers said.

But if you ask Dorrance, he'll say his skill of motivating his players is one that cannot be studied and scrutinized, simply because motivation cannot be calculated.

"People think you turn motivation on and off like a light switch," he said. "Motivation comes from all different things and not when you expect it."

Whether senior or freshman, each player headed into the sea-



Members of the national champion UNC women's soccer team hoist their trophy after the deciding game vs. Notre Dame on Sunday.

son on the same page. As senior Heather O'Reilly said after the team's NCAA Tournament championship win, the freshmen are only freshmen by title. Once they step on the field together, they are just like the other Tar Heels.

"I think this team — from the beginning we knew it was special," senior forward Heather O'Reilly said. "Everybody got along so well, and everybody worked so hard for each other. I wouldn't rather win with another group of girls."

The nine new faces to the UNC squad faced the task of making

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 6

LEAVING A LEGACY

Halkiotis retires after serving county 20 years

BY EMILY GALLIMORE
STAFF WRITER

For most people, a retirement party is a special occasion.

But for retiring Orange County Commissioner Steve Halkiotis, every day is a reason to celebrate.

INSIDE
Commissioners elect Moses Carey as the board chairman.
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"When Steve Halkiotis wakes up every morning and his feet touch the floor, it's a holiday," he said.

Residents, friends and co-workers joined Halkiotis on Monday night at a reception honoring him for 20 years of service to Orange County.

Newly elected County Commissioner Mike Nelson and newly appointed County Manager Laura Blackmon also were recognized in the lobby of the John M. Link Government Services Center.

Halkiotis told Nelson and Blackmon they had the gift of spending the next four years where he had spent the last 20.

Halkiotis decided not to run in November's election. "I knew it was time. I couldn't have done another forum."

But constituents at the reception said they appreciated Halkiotis' willingness to listen for as long as he did.

"He's a very outgoing, friendly person," Chapel Hill resident Ruthe Meisel said. "That's what I like about him. You can get through to him very easily."

Meisel praised Halkiotis for pushing to build the Chapel Hill Senior Center.

Halkiotis said the best part of his stint as

commissioner was showing people that government can help.

"He's listened to everybody," said Warren Shankle, a friend of Halkiotis for 25 years.

Former County Manager John Link echoed Shankle's sentiments, saying Halkiotis consistently was willing to lend an ear.

"He always approached problems and opportunities and the business of Orange County from the citizens' perspective," he said.

Halkiotis said he plans to spend time with his family and to renovate a store on U.S. 70 that has been in his family for about 80 years.

He invited people to come and visit him at the store if they needed advice about county government.

The outgoing commissioner's daughter, Christon Halkiotis, said her father's main

SEE LEGACY, PAGE 6

Local film festivals search for student interest

BY BEN PITTARD
SENIOR WRITER

Chapel Hill's filmmaking community is growing each year, as is the interested student community.

The founders of the new Carrboro Film Festival, one of the many film festivals that has cropped up in the Triangle, have been wondering how to get students involved.

Jackie Helvey, a Carrboro Film Festival committee member, said additional student involvement in the event's first year would have

made it more of a success.

"It seems to me that students are the perfect candidates to submit to something like this," she said.

"I was honestly surprised I didn't get more student entries."

Committee Chairman Nic Beery also questioned the lack of student involvement.

"If you have a passion for something, and you love it, why would you not support it?" Beery asked.

"I just think there comes a time in life when you have to stop looking at the bottom dollar and start looking at the community."

The festival, which celebrated its first run Nov. 19, now joins the ranks of other local film festival such as Flicker Chapel Hill and

the Hi Mom! Film Festival.

These festivals, though their roots lie in Chapel Hill, have moved toward Carrboro, away from campus and student involvement.

Nicole Triche, director of Flicker Chapel Hill, said the change in venue hasn't changed the loyalty of the festival.

"We consider ourselves a Chapel Hill film festival," she said. "We call ourselves Flicker Chapel Hill."

The Hi Mom! Film Festival, which was started by students nine years ago, similarly has moved away from campus life, with most screenings taking place at the Carrboro Arts Center.

Beery said he feels that students must rely on their own curiosity

to take advantage of the wealth of resources at their disposal.

"The University does a good job keeping you entertained and keeping you on campus, and for most college kids it takes a few years to search for what's out there," he said.

"The resources are here, but it's up to students to search out and find them."

Triche also said students are cloistered by campus society from the resources surrounding them.

"I feel like being on campus you get kind of insular, and there are all these things going on around you and you just have to find them."

More campus support would be a

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PROMOTING DIVERSITY Groups come together for a minority-issues forum

PHYSICAL NEED Anxious seniors in need of gym classes can find relief

COLLABORATIVE PROCESS Student groups search for ways to work together

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SAFE AND MERRY

Chapel Hill police and fire officials are encouraging people to stay safe when decorating for the holidays or leaving town for vacation.



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MOVING FORWARD

New dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Jean Folkerts, has had a smooth transition into her role, faculty members say.

this day in history

DEC. 5, 1938 ...

President Franklin D. Roosevelt speaks at a ceremony held in Woollen Gymnasium where he receives an honorary LL.D. degree (doctor of laws).

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