

## National and World News

### FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

#### Thompson skips N.H., heads south

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — With his Republican rivals jockeying for victory in New Hampshire, former Sen. Fred Thompson started a multiday bus tour Tuesday through this early voting state considered critical to his campaign.

"I don't know of any better place to stand my ground and test my case than in South Carolina," Thompson told a couple hundred of supporters.

He later told reporters he needs to do well in South Carolina, which votes Jan. 19.

#### Sexist comments at Clinton event

SALEM, N.H. (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign stop was interrupted Monday when two men stood in the crowd and began screaming, "Iron my shirt!" during one of her final appearances before the New Hampshire primary.

Clinton, a former first lady running to become the nation's first female president, laughed at the seemingly sexist protest that suggested a woman's place is doing the laundry and not running the country. The two men were removed from the hall.

#### Musharraf will let British proceed with investigation of Bhutto's death

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — President Pervez Musharraf told British forensic experts Tuesday they would have a free hand in investigating the circumstances surrounding the assassination of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, a government official said.

The promise appeared to be a softening of the government's position on the probe. Last week, Musharraf told reporters the investigators would not be allowed to go on a "wild goose chase" and investigate claims the government was behind Bhutto's killing in a Dec. 27 shooting and

bombing attack.

Bhutto's killing plunged Pakistan, a key U.S. ally in the war on terror, even deeper into political crisis at a time when it is battling militants linked to al-Qaida and the Taliban movement.

The government blamed the attack on Islamic militants and initially said Bhutto was killed when the force of the blast slammed her head into a lever on the sunroof of her car. The opposition blamed elements of the ruling party and said she was killed by gunfire.

#### French president planning wedding

PARIS (AP) — French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Tuesday his relationship with model-turned-singer Carla Bruni is "serious," and he suggested that wedding plans are in the works.

The Journal du Dimanche newspaper reported this weekend that a wedding is expected for early February, prompting Sarkozy to joke, "It isn't the (news-paper) that will set the date."

Sarkozy's romance with Bruni reportedly started shortly after the French leader and his second wife, Cecilia Sarkozy, divorced three months ago.

#### Opposition stays defiant in Kenya

ELDORET, Kenya (AP) — Kenya's opposition leader rejected a presidential invitation for talks, calling the offer "public relations gimmickry" that would undermine international attempts to end an election standoff that has killed more than 500 people.

President Mwai Kibaki named a Cabinet dominated by his allies, undeterred by accusations he stole the vote.

Diplomatic efforts intensified to end the political violence, which has deteriorated into clashes between other tribes and Kibaki's Kikuyu, long dominant in Kenya's politics and economy.

## STI discussion group to address misconceptions

BY DANIELLE KUCERA  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A student request is being met this semester through a new support group aimed at students with chronic sexually transmitted infections.

Living with H, a group that Sara Stahlman, health educator for Campus Health Services, created this semester upon student request, is geared toward young adults infected with the four chronic sexually transmitted infections — HPV, HIV, herpes and hepatitis.

Stahlman said the group's focus will be on these four "H" STIs because they are not treatable and thus affect the lives of those infected with them differently than people who can look forward to treatment.

"We think that they deal with different issues than people who have one that can be treated and then it's gone," she said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a relatively high percentage of people infected with STIs are in their 20s.

For HPV, about 50 percent of those infected are between the ages of 20 and 24.

Stahlman was approached by a student with herpes at the beginning of last semester who expressed a need for an on-campus psychological support system for those with STIs.

"I've been living with herpes for

seven years now and realized in my own personal life and in dealing with partner disclosure that there is a need for support around that situation," said the graduate student, who asked that her name not be used.

She said that the clinical support doctors offer is only one side of having an STI and that opening conversation with those with the same experiences is imperative.

The group will offer informational guest speakers and focus on emphasizing self-acceptance and group support, Stahlman said.

"I think a lot of times people who have these particular viruses have some misconceptions of their own," she said.

An STI is different from a sexually transmitted disease because an STD is the result of damage caused by an STI.

Stahlman said several students have already contacted her with interest in the group.

If students need support outside of UNC, the N.C. Division of Public Health funds clinical care — primary, medical and dental — for those with HIV, said John Peebles, assistant branch head for the HIV/STD prevention and care branch of the N.C. Division of Public Health.

"We also provide the STD drugs that local health departments use free of charge, excluding drugs for HIV," he said.

Students can get tested for STIs at Campus Health Services.

Stahlman said she hopes this group will clear misconceptions held by those who consider people with STIs sexually promiscuous.

"It's not like you tell an alcoholic, 'You got what's coming, good luck to you,'" she said. "By having conversations about this, we're only setting ourselves up for a better understanding of sex and sexuality."

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### CONDEMNED

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said the house's historical significance should be reconsidered.

Chapel Hill has four nationally recognized historic districts where many of the buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Although the Graham house is within both national and local historic district boundaries, it is not listed as a historic building.

"Whoever looked at these houses didn't see it as a noteworthy historical cause," Dollar said.

If a house is within a local historic district, Chapel Hill rules require homeowners to get approval before making any exterior changes. But homeowners are not required to keep their homes in good condition or up to certain standards.

"There is nothing in Chapel Hill that prohibits letting the house fall down," Kapp said.

And repairs to the Graham house would be expensive, as Smith estimates the restoration would cost more than \$600,000. Once restored, though, the house could be worth in excess of \$2 million.

"I'm definitely a supporter of saving that house," he said.

"It has the caliber to be preserved, and it has interesting architecture."

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## Study examines possible Hillsborough train stop

BY CATARINA SARAIVA  
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

The N.C. Railroad Company is conducting a study outlining the implications of creating a passenger train stop in Hillsborough, something for which both residents and town officials have called.

The study will analyze the cost feasibility of using NCR's existing tracks from Goldsboro to Greensboro for increased passenger service, said Kat Christian, public affairs director for the company.

Hillsborough had a train station in the early 1960s, and a resident group, led by Art Mines, has drafted a petition to bring the stop back, said Craig Benedict, Orange County planning director.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners echoed resident support at a meeting in October.

"We need to do this," said

Commissioner Mike Nelson at the meeting.

Hillsborough Mayor Tom Stevens said the town has received resolutions of support for a rail stop from the towns of Carrboro and Chapel Hill, as well as from the chambers of commerce and area tourist boards.

"There's just been overwhelming support, and it makes absolute sense," he said.

The study started in October and is scheduled to be finished in June. Engineers from HNTB, a national engineering firm, will create a "sophisticated computer model that duplicates the tracks on a screen, and it shows how the trains would operate if there were four trains added in the morning for rush hour, a midday train and four trains added in the evening," Christian said.

The railroad that passes through Hillsborough is mainly used for freight, but Amtrak trains run through the town four times a day.

NCR, a private company owned by the state, has a long-term agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway to serve state freight customers.

NCR's 317-mile rail corri-

dor, which runs from Morehead City through Hillsborough and the Triad to Charlotte, is mostly a single-rail line. It carries about 70 freight trains and eight Amtrak trains per day, Christian said.

The company's agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway guarantees that passenger trains will not interfere with freight train traffic.

"Really the information that comes out of this study will be a planning tool," Benedict said.

"Planning ideas need to be considered at this time in order to prompt and/or warrant a train station in the future."

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### CITY SCHOOLS

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tom tier of achievement level, we'd be throwing all our resources in it," Laws said.

One resident, Serena Bethea, said that the problems in school began "the day they took God out of school."

Betha, who is black, described the church as the backbone of the black community and said that it is paramount the two communities be brought together once again.

After the meeting officially ended, Hatley invited audience members to stay and hear about a new program his church plans to implement Feb. 1.

Barbee's Chapel Harvest Word Community Resource and Enrichment Centers will work towards combining the resources of the faith community and public community in order to help those students in academic crises.

Hatley said the program will

*"The two words that need to come to the fore are institutional racism and white privilege."*

NANCIE MCDERMOTT, PARENT

only be open to those students who display an immediate need of the program's intervention.

Hatley said one important aspect of the program is that it will focus on all aspects of a child, not just the child's academic performance.

"No one can convince me that black kids can't learn. But yes, the children come with a lot of issues," Hatley said.

"We have got to be able to deal with the whole person, not just tests."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

### Concerns the NAACP mentioned on its report card titled 'Black Children Left Behind'

1. Eliminating the achievement gap between African-American students and white students.

2. Decreasing suspension and drop-out rates of African-American students.

3. Eliminating the use of the courts as venues for disciplining African-American students.

4. Diminishing the segregation of Advanced Placement classes.

5. Providing adequate and appropriate professional development for teachers to address the needs of African-American children.

6. Recruiting, hiring, supporting, retaining and promoting teachers and administrators of color, particularly African Americans.

7. Diminishing the early ability grouping of students and track-

ing them throughout their school careers, especially for African-American students.

8. Giving close scrutiny and examination of the curriculum to ensure that the curriculum is aligned with the advancement of the mission of public education — "to serve the public good."

9. Publicizing and institutionalizing programs that work and make them available for all children.

10. Establishing a strong partnership between the school system and community, especially the African-American community.

11. Diminishing practices and attitudes of staff that use parents' unavailability or challenges to avoid equally educating children of color, especially African-American children.

### REGISTRATION

FROM PAGE 3

ated the priority registration proposal, said the goal is to allow just 5 percent to 10 percent of the student population to register early.

"There has to be a trade-off where you don't give priority registration to everybody, but you set the standard such that there is a small group that receives it," he said.

Student leaders said they protested the new system because it doesn't have enough supporting evidence.

"Our position on it sort of evolved over time, and we eventually opposed it," said Student Body Vice President Mike Tarrant, who spoke at the council meeting.

In an informational e-mail to the student body last month, the executive branch of student government took a stance against the proposed system, stating that it didn't support an "egalitarian culture" at UNC.

Before the new system was passed, the University already was abiding by a priority registration — just unofficially.

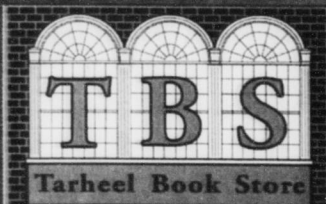
"We don't have a flat registration system; we give priority," Reznick said, noting that deans could recommend students for early registration through memos and unofficial requests.

"Once you start giving some people a place in the line ahead of others, you create some issues."

While officials will continue to evaluate the new system each semester, it will be officially reviewed after four years.

"This is an experiment," Reznick said. "It was designed to be very open and adjustable and adjusted."

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