

National and World News

FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Thompson will rebuild military

AIKEN, S.C. (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Fred Thompson emphasized his plans for national security Monday as he continued campaigning in South Carolina, a state he has said is critical for his White House bid.

The former Tennessee senator and actor said the U.S. must rebuild its military. He will sit down with congressional leaders, but if that doesn't work Thompson said he'll simply go over their heads.

Edwards opposes coal-fired plants

PAWLEYS ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards on Monday said a proposed coal-fired power plant shouldn't be built in northeastern South Carolina, continuing his call for a ban on those facilities.

"My view is that needs to stop," Edwards said of the \$1 billion, 600-megawatt plant set to be built along the Pee Dee River in this early voting state. Santee Cooper officials are awaiting a final permit from state environmental regulators.

Threatening radio message from Iranian ships may have been a hoax

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — A threatening radio message at the end of a video showing Iranian patrol boats swarming near U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf may have come from a prankster rather than from the Iranian vessels, the Navy Times newspaper has reported.

A video and audio of the Jan. 6 incident in the Strait of Hormuz featured a man in accented English saying "I am coming to you. ... You will explode after ... minutes."

Cmdr. Lydia Robertson, spokeswoman for the Fifth Fleet in Bahrain, said the Navy was still trying to determine the source of the

transmission but believed it was related to the Iranian actions.

The Navy Times quoted several veteran sailors as speculating the transmission could have come from a radio heckler, widely known among mariners by the ethnically insulting term "the Filipino Monkey."

The newspaper, which serves the Navy community, said U.S. sailors in the Persian Gulf have heard the prankster — possibly more than one person — transmitting "insults and jabbering vile epithets" on unencrypted frequencies.

More cocaine is getting into U.S.

MIAMI (AP) — U.S.-directed seizures and disruptions of cocaine shipments from Latin America dropped sharply in 2007 from the year before, reflecting in part a successful shift in tactics by drug traffickers to avoid detection at sea, senior American officials disclosed Monday in releasing new figures.

Drug cartels are finding new ways of eluding detection at sea, such as shipping drugs in semi-submersible vessels, and are flying drug routes from sites in western Venezuela that are harder to stop, officials said.

Bush seeks Saudi favor with arms

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — President Bush delivered a sophisticated weapons sale for Saudi Arabia on Monday, trying to bolster defenses against threats from U.S. adversary Iran and muster support in this oil-rich kingdom for a long-stalled Mideast peace agreement.

Saudi Arabia holds the world's largest oil reserves and surging fuel costs are putting a major strain on the troubled U.S. economy. But White House officials said it was unclear if Bush raised the subject with the king. The issue has come up in earlier stops on Bush's eight-day trip.

Beer prices impacted by worldwide hops shortage

BY HEATHER CALDWELL
STAFF WRITER

You might have noticed a hop in the price of your favorite beer on Franklin Street.

A worldwide hops shortage and malting barley price increases have forced one of Chapel Hill's renowned breweries to raise its prices.

During the past year, hops prices increased an eye-popping 300 percent, from \$5 per pound to \$20.

Combined with a 30 percent price increase for malting barley, Carolina Brewery had to up the cost of a pint by 25 cents to break even.

"Increasing the price is the last thing we wanted to do," said Jon Connolly, director of brewery operations at Carolina Brewery.

But the shortage and price hikes have not affected the Brewery's sales or recipes, Connolly said. And Carolina Brewery continues to brew its flagship India Pale Ale, the most highly hopped beer that they serve.

"I think the hop and malt crisis is highly known, and people understand, just like if there was a gas or milk shortage," Connolly said.

Beer is made from just four ingredients: barley, water, hops and yeast. In 2007 significant price increases for two of the ingredients had an impact on the brewing industry.

John Withey, brewmaster at Top of the Hill restaurant, said that although ingredient prices have increased slightly, the restaurant has not raised its beer prices because it buys supplies years in advance.

"We had contracted forward for these raw materials, which a lot of people have neglected to do in this country, and they've been caught," Withey said.

The hops crop was directly affected by bad weather in Europe, extreme heat in the Pacific Northwest and a drought in Australia, leading to a lower yield than past harvests.

The barley price increase is more modest, but it still can affect the price of your beer.

One of the causes of the price increase is a trend among Midwestern American farmers to replace barley with more profitable biofuels such as ethanol, said Carl Griffey, professor of crop and soil environmental science at Virginia Tech.

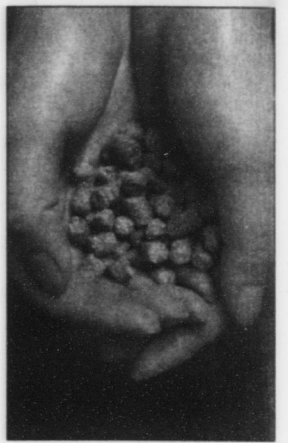
Adding to problems with harvests, the methods breweries use to contract for ingredients have also affected hops and barley supplies.

Beer ingredients used to be purchased on a forward contract, said Stephen Kenny, a research scientist at Washington State University.

Under this system, breweries would tell suppliers how much of a certain ingredient, such as hops, they would need for future years, allowing the supply and price to be set ahead of time.

Recently, instead of paying a set price for a number of years, brewers took advantage of lower prices.

Now farmers are taking steps to combat the shortages and cash in on the situation.



DTH/MELANIE HAYWOOD

Carolina Brewery raised its beer prices after a shortage of hops, an ingredient in beer, caused hops prices to increase drastically.

"In response to higher prices, more growers are planting hops, but that won't really be able to help the situation until 2008 or 2009," Kenny said.

Although the crisis seems alarming, local brewers said they are optimistic about future harvests.

"The crop outlook for 2008 is not the best," Connolly said. "We think prices may go down for 2009."

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu.

SETTLEMENT

FROM PAGE 1

The UNC Department of Athletics stated in a press release that the money is meant to reimburse Jennings for her attorney fees over the near decade-long debacle of the suit, not to indicate guilt.

But Dan Konicek, Jennings' lawyer, said the agreement terms were ones Jennings had been advocating for years. He said the reason they held out so long was because the University didn't want to pay.

"The way the case had progressed for the nine years was a complete denial of the facts," Konicek said. "Melissa is very happy."

And Dorrance said that while he had wanted to clear his name on trial, he is happy that the case is over.

"Since August 1998, I have looked forward to clearing my name in court. That is still true today," he stated in a press release.

Dorrance's apology included an acknowledgement that he had participated in "inappropriate and unacceptable" conversations about sexual activities and an acknowledgement that they offended Jennings.

The athletics department will pay the settlement from its 2007-08 operating budget, which does not draw from state or tuition money.

The suit also named three assistant coaches, a trainer, University officials including Baddour, the deceased Chancellor Michael Hooker and the University itself.

Accusations included that Dorrance had "bombarded players with crude questions and comments

about their sexual activities."

The veracity of those claims is not established in the settlement.

"So many of the comments that were attributed to me were simply not true," Dorrance said in a 2004 statement. "I apologized before for making some inappropriate comments, but none of them reached the levels that were claimed."

A trial had been scheduled for April 7 in U.S. District Court.

Still, Konicek counted the cash figure, the external policy review and the written apology as a win.

"Melissa took on a University and frankly made them change something," he said. "That just doesn't happen every day."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

DUKE TICKETS

FROM PAGE 1

Elisia Smith, assistant manager of registration and student services, said seniors who were left off the list did not have any graduation information listed on Student Central.

"They didn't have any date for graduation in the system," Smith said, noting that students can update the information themselves.

Graduation status also can be determined by degree applications.

Journalism majors were required to submit their applications to the journalism school in October, but Sharon Jones, director of student services and assessment in the school, said the applications don't have to be sent to the Office of the

University Registrar until February.

Students have been lining up at Jones' office because the e-mail was sent to students telling them to present proof of graduation status.

Ticket office officials also have seen many students trying to confirm their senior status, said Clint Gwaltney, associate athletic director for Smith Center and ticket operations. He said juniors with senior status also have come to the office to get off the list of graduating seniors so that they can attend the game next year.

The ticket lottery process works differently for the Feb. 6 Duke basketball game. Graduating students are enrolled in a separate lottery so they get priority.

The same process for determining

senior status was used in last year's distribution.

"We had a lot of positive feedback," Gwaltney said. "We're trying to do that again this year."

Carolina Athletic Association President Colby Almond said that last year, some students had similar problems. "This happens every year," he said.

Although senior Molly Malloy, a journalism major, said she was angry about the extra steps she has to take to get a Duke ticket, she hopes the added work will increase her chances of getting the coveted tickets.

"If it weeds people out, that's great," Malloy said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

THE TIME HAS COME



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- Application available at: <http://leadership.unc.edu/opportunities/programs/fellowsapp.doc>
- Applications Due: Friday, January 18th, 2008

WXYC


unc student radio

NEW DJ HIRING

Station Open House @ 6:30pm in the station Room 3420 of the Union

INTEREST MEETING: For anyone who wants to be a DJ Union Cabaret @ 7:30pm

For more info, our contact info is:
www.wxyc.org | 919-962-8989 | aim: wxycrequests



ELECTIONS

FROM PAGE 1

decides. Those consequences can range from a simple warning to the suspension of the use of campaign materials, which would be detrimental to most candidates' campaign efforts.

Capriglione said the board will investigate charges of wrongdoing after informing the candidate of a potential violation. Punishments are determined when the elections

board members meet.

Carson, who had some campaign infractions during last year's election — one of which included a \$25 fine — had an important piece of advice for this year's candidates about following rules.

"I'd say to everyone running, keep Mitchell Capriglione on speed dial."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

MICHIGAN

FROM PAGE 1

months we've had a steady stream of the presidential candidates on the Republican side."

And the fact that all major Republican candidates are still on the ballot shows that the state is important to long-term GOP election strategy, Nowling added.

Hillary Clinton is the only Democratic frontrunner still on the ballot in Michigan.

The four states that were granted early contests by the Democratic National Committee — Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada — wrote a pledge asking candidates not to compete in states that set early primaries in defiance of the national party rules. The DNC was not involved in the pledge.

Dominick Quinney, assistant communications director for the Michigan Democratic Party, said that the lack of Democratic frontrunners on the ballot is disappointing but

that the party set an early primary in order to improve the system.

"That was a way of reforming Iowa and New Hampshire's monopoly over the primary election date."

Michigan is the first large industrial state to hold a primary in the 2008 election cycle, a fact that could force candidates to narrow their focus on the issues.

"They're going to have to focus on economics and jobs — that is the only issue in Michigan right now," Nowling said.

The N.C. primary, set for May 6, will focus more on choosing nominees for the U.S. Senate and the N.C. gubernatorial race.

But Brent Woodcox, communications director for the N.C. GOP, said even the presidential race could be important come May.

"North Carolina does have a fair amount of delegates to award," he said. "It could be a big race still."

Contact the State & National Editor at statedesk@unc.edu.

CONCERT

FROM PAGE 1

try-folk musician Mary Chapin Carpenter was scheduled to perform to a sold-out crowd in Memorial Hall on Feb. 15 as the last segment of CPA's 2007-08 "American Roots" concert series.

But in December, Carpenter unexpectedly — and without explanation — canceled her entire tour, leaving CPA with a canceled sold-out show for the second time this season. Aretha Franklin, CPA's original season-opening performer, also nixed her show and was replaced by soul singer Al Green.

After Carpenter's exit from the series, a staff member at CPA heard of a tour being put together featuring four country and folk musicians and the organization was able to book the "Three Girls and their Buddy" tour.

"We think that it's our responsibility, having offered a performance, that there's a replacement

performance that people are going to be excited and happy about," said Kara Larson, director of marketing for CPA.

"Most of the feedback we got when we announced that there was a replacement was a mixture of disappointment because they wanted to see Mary Chapin Carpenter, but there was also a lot of enthusiasm about the number and quality of artists in this concert."

After the standing ovation and an encore performance, any feelings of disappointment were absent as the curtains closed on Monday's show.

"That was everything from Appalachian gospel to blues," said Gene Shelton, a Chapel Hill resident who originally purchased tickets for Mary Chapin Carpenter and attended "Three Girls and their Buddy."

"How can you beat that?"

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.