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Castro will not seek re-election

Brother Raul likely to take over in Cuba

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

When Cuban leader Fidel Castro announced very early Tuesday morning that he would not seek re-election in next Sunday's contest, he ignited a flurry of discussion about how much the island nation and its global relations will change.

The general consensus: not much if his brother wins the election. Raul Castro has been acting as a figurehead since Fidel Castro became ill in July 2006 and is almost unequivocally expected to win.

"If his brother Raul is elected, there will be more immediate continuity than immediate change," said Louis Pérez, director of UNC's Institute for the Study of the Americas and a leading expert on Cuba who regularly travels to Havana.

But that could change as Raul Castro develops as a leader and Cubans begin looking to him to direct the government, Pérez said.

"I think there comes a point where he's going to be his own person. ... Nobody talks about Fidel Castro anymore. They



Fidel Castro's announcement marks a possible turning point in Cuban governance and U.S. relations.

recognize it's time to move on." Some say Fidel Castro's decision doesn't change the fact that he has a strong influence over his brother's decisions.

"He's still there, and he's still the revolutionary hero and is exercising some constraints," said Susan Kaufman Purcell,

director of the Center for Hemispheric Studies at the University of Miami.

Once Raul Castro is able to exert control over daily activity in Cuba, he'll be able to command the same degree of respect as his brother, Pérez said.

That is crucial for the new leadership because many Cubans have more loyalty to Fidel Castro than to the government he has represented for more than 50 years.

"Because the government and Fidel Castro have been so closely tied for the past 50-odd years, I don't know how much people differentiate between the two," said

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REMATCH: UNC vs. N.C. STATE



DTH FILE/LAUREN COWART

The North Carolina men's basketball team plays N.C. State at 7 p.m. today in Raleigh. At the January matchup, the Tar Heels won 93-62. For a lowdown of game predictions and a story on Tyler Hansbrough's player of the year chances, see pg. 9.

EMBRACING THE VEIL

UNC holds lecture as Turkey lifts scarf ban

BY GREG SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Nadiah Song, a Singaporean exchange student, was first asked by her parents to wear a hijab when she was 14.

"Singapore has a secular system of schools, so I would wear a hijab out of school when I was with friends," Song said. "After I graduated, it became full-time."

Although Song was warned by family and friends about possible prejudice in the U.S., she said she has never felt discriminated against.

Muslims on American college campuses have worn headscarves for years, but Turkish Muslim women were only recently allowed to don headscarves in universities across the country.

UNC geography professor Banu Gokariksel, who is from Turkey, will be presenting a lecture about the issue at noon today in Toy Lounge in Dey Hall.

A ban on wearing headscarves on Turkish college campuses was lifted Feb. 9 when Parliament passed two constitutional amendments to allow them as religious expressions. The ban, part of an attempt to secularize the country, was instituted in 1983 after a military takeover.

The repeal follows the 2007 electoral victory of an Islamic political party, the Justice and Development Party, and is just one of many changes as Turkey works to modernize and gain membership in the European Union.

"We are a Muslim country, but we are globalizing and modernizing," said Serkan Yuksel, president of UNC's Turkish Student Association.

The repeal has been criticized by both traditional secularists in Turkey and institutions such as the European Court of Human Rights. They supported the ban and worry about rising Islamic extremism.

"(The repeal) is something new and modern in every way," Gokariksel said.

"It may not be secular modernity, but it is modernity because it improves women's access to jobs and education and things they want to do," she said.

Turkey's secular government also banned its civil servants, teachers, law-



DTH/NICOLAS GULLETT

Singaporean exchange student Nadiah Song, a sophomore, has worn a hijab since she was 14 years old. Turkish women only recently were permitted to do so on college campuses. A UNC geography professor will hold a lecture about the issue today.

SEE HEADSCARVES, PAGE 4

Biology ethics remark sparks speech debate

BY LAURA MARCINEK
STAFF WRITER

The controversy surrounding the expression of opinion in the classroom is not new.

In fact, its absence would be surprising, said Ed Neal, director of faculty development at the UNC Center for Teaching and Learning.

"That would be a sign that we're not risking enough," Neal said.

Last week comments that biology professor Albert Harris made in class — that he thinks it is moral for older mothers to abort fetuses with Down syndrome — caused some concern among students.

Neal, who didn't attend the lecture, said he does not think Harris meant to force his views on any student but probably could

have included more time for discussion.

"The fact that there was no opportunity for dialogue is part of the problem," Neal said. "It was an error in teaching technique rather than an error in ethical judgement."

The Center for Teaching and Learning offers seminars and publications that specifically address the discussion of moral and ethical issues in the classroom. Faculty, who can suggest topics for the seminars, are not required to use these resources.

"We try to fill people's needs without putting too many restrictions on them."

He said teaching a college course can be challenging given class sizes — at least 10 percent of UNC's classes have more than 50 students — and the time constraints that

SEE DISCUSSION, PAGE 4

Animals stay anonymous

BY SARAH FRIER
STAFF WRITER

Freshman Mariea Umerah was biking back from class when she saw a moose and turtle playing Frisbee in Polk Place. "It really made me smile hard," she said.

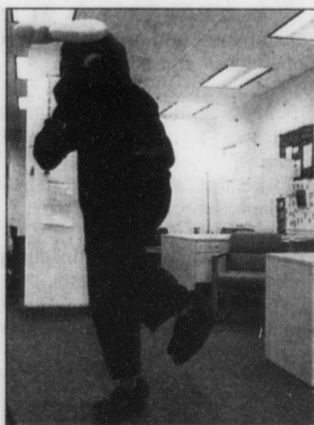
Last week students masquerading as a moose, turtle, rabbit and squirrel roamed the campus just to make students smile, sponsored by the Carolina Union Activities Board.

The random acts of animal tomfoolery were part of Carolina Comedy Week.

But CUAB officials have been secretive about the program, refusing to comment on specifics because they didn't want to ruin the mystery.

"The first rule about animal costumes is that you don't talk about animal costumes," Mallory Cash, coordinator of the Carolina Comedy Festival, said in an e-mail.

SEE ANIMALS, PAGE 4



COURTESY OF CAROLINA UNION ACTIVITIES BOARD
An unidentified Carolina Union Activities Board member wears a moose costume during Carolina Comedy Week.

Show airs, focused on area homeless

Part of nationwide marathon broadcast

ELIZABETH JENSEN
STAFF WRITER

Audrey Layden wants to make homelessness personal on WCOM radio today. Layden organized the local programming for Chapel Hill's first Homelessness Marathon broadcast.

"Putting faces on the homeless is critical," Layden said.

She first became involved with the homeless when she recruited volunteers for the Inter-Faith Council for Social Services 20 years ago.

She wants to see people become "a little less judgmental, a little more open" as a result of the broadcast.

Local leaders, volunteers and shelter guests will talk beginning at 7 p.m. about different aspects of the issue and take questions from listeners for the first three hours. Then WCOM will switch to national programming from the Homelessness Marathon, now in its 11th year.

Laurie Tucker, IFC's director of residential services, will be on air for one hour with

SEE RADIO, PAGE 4

Catch the broadcast

- On the radio at 103.5 FM
- Online at www.communityradio.org

7 p.m. to 8 p.m.: Laurie Tucker, housing director for the Inter-Faith Council shelter, and Abdul and Elaine, two current shelter guests, will lead with a discussion on who make up the homeless population in our community.

8 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Chapel Hill Town Council member and chairwoman of Orange County's 10-year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness executive team Sally Greene will talk with Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton.

9 p.m. to 10 p.m.: Inter-faith Council Director Chris Moran will host a call-in show.

10 p.m. to 7 a.m.: WCOM will link to the national broadcast of the Homelessness Marathon. This broadcast will include segments on homelessness and crime, the working poor, homeless veterans and generational homelessness.

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HISTORIC CARRBORO Submissions are being accepted to designate historic sites.

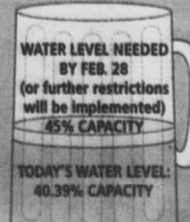
ACC CHAMPIONSHIP The women's swim team prepares for the Atlanta contest.

JUVENILE JUSTICE The state looks into its rules of who is eligible for adult trial.

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CHRISSETTE MICHELE SINGS
The Grammy-nominated R & B songstress performed to more than 750 people Tuesday night in Memorial Hall, playing piano and interacting with the crowd.

water watch



CONSERVATION TIP

When washing your clothes, only run full loads, and consider wearing clothes longer than you normally would to cut down on loads.

this day in history

FEB. 20, 1965 ...
A UNC freshman runs 26 miles to collect a \$45.50 bet. He wore shorts and track shoes during his about 4.5-hour run in 30-degree weather.

weather

Sunny
H 61, L 29

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