

CAMPUS BRIEFS
UNC scholarship created, expected for 2009-10 year

A new scholarship at UNC will provide need-based financial aid to students from N.C. counties Lee, Duplin or Pender.

Oliver Alphin, from Durham and Surf City, created the scholarship in honor of Reevis and Barbara Gilliam Alphin, his brother and sister-in-law.

The Lewis S. and Barbara Gilliam Alphin Scholarship Fund, given as part of the Carolina First Campaign, probably will be available for the 2009-10 academic year.

This is the second scholarship that Oliver Alphin has created. The last one, the Oliver W. and Billie Collins Alphin Scholarship Fund, was part of the 1997 Bicentennial Campaign for Carolina, and it provides financial assistance to students from Duplin or Cabarrus counties.

Carolina for Kibera group gets honorarium of \$25,000

This year, Carolina for Kibera, the recipient of this year's senior gift from the senior class, also will receive the Reflections of Hope Award for 2008 from the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum. The award goes to a person or organization that helps bring needy people together.

The \$25,000 honorarium will be given in an April 19 ceremony. The donation will help to build the last wing of CFK's Tabitha Medical Clinic in Kibera. The clinic helps more than 20,000 patients annually.

The senior marshals voted unanimously to give their senior gift to CFK. The class of 2007 gave a donation to UNC's Carolina Covenant last year for the senior gift.

CFK began at the University in 2001 and is based out of the Center for Global Initiatives.

Kibera is a slum on the outskirts of Nairobi. Only the size of Central Park, it is home to more than 700,000 people. It is a location of great political unrest and violence among its diverse inhabitants.

Global warming factors into algae growth, study finds

UNC Institute of Marine Sciences professor Hans Paerl has explored the connection between global warming and algae growth, in a paper in today's issue of Science.

The cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae, cover lakes and reservoirs and can grow up to three feet thick.

Digestive, neurological, skin and liver diseases all have been linked to the algae. Municipal water systems spend millions of dollars a year to treat this algae.

Although nutrient runoff always has contributed to the algae's growth, Paerl realized the importance temperature plays.

The warm temperature is more nurturing to the algae, which does not die during drought periods either.

He co-authored the study with Jef Huisman from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

CITY BRIEFS
Mayor Kevin Foy sends NCAA opponents beer, barbecue

Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy is sending his counterpart in Lawrence, Kan., barbecue and locally brewed beer in anticipation of Saturday's NCAA tournament game between the Tar Heels and the Jayhawks.

"I hope that some good ol' Carolina barbecue and beer might help the Mayor get through the game because it won't be easy against our Tar Heels," Foy said in a press release.

Lawrence Mayor Michael Dever will receive Rams Head IPA from Top of the Hill Brewery and barbecue from Allen and Son Barbecue.

Foy also sent beer and barbecue to Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson after he sent Foy bourbon before the men and women's basketball teams both faced the University of Louisville last weekend.

"I wanted to show ... our appreciation to Mayor Abramson for his generous offer to help 'soothe our sunken spirits,'" Foy said. "I hope the good people of Louisville ... have had time to recover, and some good old Carolina BBQ and beer might help."

STATE BRIEFS
UNC-Wilmington issues alert about the ban of a professor

UNC-W issued an alert today informing the campus community that if they see former professor Arnold Murdock on campus they should call the campus police.

David Donaldson, chief of UNC-W campus police, told the Wilmington Star News that while Murdock does not pose a threat to the campus, he could not discuss the reason for the ban because it's a personnel matter.

— From staff and wire reports

'Perfect storm' hits Webmail Leader key to CPA's success

Worker hits power switch by accident

BY KATY DOLL
 ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

At 10:20 a.m. Thursday the Emergency Power Off switch in Phillips Hall was hit in what officials are calling a freak coincidence.

The power loss resulted in about two hours without Webmail and temporary problems with other network services, as the outage tripped the network.

The power outage shut off several systems hosted on the network, and some systems were unprotected, said John Streek, assistant vice chancellor for telecommunications and networking.

"It's just like rebooting your laptop," he said. "It takes it time to come back up."

Across campus, there are multiple EPOs and hubs so that, if one is pressed, the others should pick up the slack. But this didn't happen, Streek said.

Normally these EPO switches have a protective covering preventing people from pressing them, but because of construction that covering was not on.

And this button had to be both pushed down and then twisted to be activated, said Judd Knott, assistant vice chancellor for infrastructure and operations, which an ITS worker accidentally did.

"It was kind of a freak coincidence that he overrode the switch," Knott said.

There was another EPO in the

room that had a cover, but the construction changed the regular setup of the room.

"This is kind of like the perfect storm. He had to move his arm in just the right angle," Knott said.

The EPO switch at fault Thursday is located in Phillips Hall, one of Information Technology Services' main control hubs.

The control center of ITS recently moved many systems to ITS Manning, but the Phillips Hall location continues to house equipment.

"In machine rooms and computer rooms, they have those (switches). ... They are there mainly for safety," Streek said, adding that these will always be in ITS control rooms. "If you punch that, it kills all the power and everybody runs out."

Many components working together were in different opera-

When power returned, they all had to return to a known state, which means some had to be physically cycled through to return to normal function.

The IMAP server that hosts e-mail was affected by the outage. It allowed mail to be sent and stored, but no one could access mailboxes.

"I'm addicted to always having my e-mail come up right when it's sent," sophomore Laura Hernandez said, adding that she definitely noticed the shutdown.

"E-mail is the main form of communication on campus — it's kind of necessary to be working," she said.

BY PHILLIP CROOK
 STAFF WRITER

When Tom Allin, the Carolina Union president-elect, found himself caught in a rainstorm this week without the cover of an umbrella, Emil Kang, UNC's executive director for the arts, offered Allin his own umbrella in passing the junior on campus.

Surpassing Kang's sincerity, dedication and enthusiasm, it is his passion for relating to students, much like that offering of shelter in a storm, Allin said, that reveals why Carolina Performing Arts' success has come so quickly in the past three years and with such force.

"What's so exciting about Emil is that he is a person who understands the value of dreams and aspirations and works hard to make them a possibility," Allin said. "That is incredible and inspiring."

Whether to a visiting performer, employee, student or audience member, Kang is the kind of man to whom everyone can relate, Allin said.

But Kang himself tells a more humble version of the reasons leading to CPA's accomplishments since 2005. An advocate of the word "we," Kang said the series' success is the product of his staff's hard work and the right ingredients coming together at the right time.

"The collection of the audiences, performers and a beautiful space in Memorial Hall speaks to the importance of our campus and the pent-up demand for the arts," Kang said. "I don't think any one person is responsible for that."

Rising from Chancellor James Moeser's desire to develop a distinct, world-class artistic culture in Chapel Hill, Kang is the first executive director hired to oversee the previously uncoordinated arts outlets across campus and the community.

In the first few weeks after taking his job, Kang faced the challenge of planning and implementing a performance program in fewer than nine months. He finished just in time for the grand reopening of Memorial Hall.

Since Kang's first program in 2005, CPA has hosted 96 visiting artists and performance groups from 27 countries. Thirty-seven performances have sold out the hall, with such familiar highlights as cellist Yo-Yo Ma and singers Tony Bennett and Lyle Lovett.

Kang's goals for evolving the series' program into the future are

"We get a lot of customers who aren't really customers. They're just coming in to see the cats." **BETTY SCHUMACHER**, MANAGER OF THE BOOKSHOP



Alexandra Premont, 12, of Durham, pets Elmo the cat as her sister looks on Wednesday at The Bookshop. Elmo is one of two resident cats in the shop, which is located on West Franklin Street. The felines have attracted a following and even have a fan club of ninth-graders.

CATS BEHIND THE STACKS

Bookshop's Elmo and Red are local favorites

BY ABBEY CALDWELL
 STAFF WRITER

Resting in the window of The Bookshop on West Franklin Street are worn spines and weathered pages.

And a cat.

Two-year-old Red and 5-year-old Elmo are the adopted cats whose permanent home is in the used bookstore.

Although they're an unconventional addition, The Bookshop manager Betty Schumacher said customers always react positively to the cats' presence in the store.

"We get a lot of customers who aren't really customers," she said. "They're just coming in to see the cats."

Leigh Brown, a Saxapahaw resident and self-proclaimed cat person, said Elmo and Red

give The Bookshop a friendly atmosphere.

"I've noticed since the cats have been here, they open up possibilities for people to communicate with one another," she said. "They add a little bit of levity and playfulness."

And a group of East Chapel Hill High School freshmen started a fan club for Elmo and Red in August.

Kaori Sueyoshi, one of the fan club's founding members, said she fell in love with the cats the first time she walked into The Bookshop. "They're incredibly friendly and open," she said. "Most cats run away, but they just come up to you and say hi."

She said unlike her own two cats, Elmo and Red are pleasant and active.

Schumacher said Elmo and Red are gen-

erally low-maintenance tenants.

"They don't mind being woken up or picked up," she said. "They're really nice companions."

Gray and white Elmo rested on a pillow down the aisle where customer Elizabeth Snoeyink browsed Wednesday afternoon.

"My husband is allergic to cats, so it's a way for me to be around them," she said. "It makes it seem more homey."

Sueyoshi said the cats are willing to be around people anywhere in the store.

"We go to the back, and they're usually in the kids section on a little bench," she said. "Sometimes The Bookshop owners lend us toys to have us play with them."

Sueyoshi said she and the fan club were inspired to stop at Paint the Earth, a pottery painting shop on West Franklin Street, one



SEE CAT CLUB, PAGE 9



Emil Kang has built a reputation for UNC's arts scene this year.

SEE KANG, PAGE 9

Panel debates public records

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK
 ASSISTANT STATE AND NATIONAL EDITOR

RALEIGH — As accusations fly regarding the deletion of government e-mails, the review panel appointed by Gov. Mike Easley held a public hearing Thursday to discuss a more pragmatic and transparent approach to electronic government records.

The panel heard recommendations and concerns from representatives of the media and government agencies about the oversight of electronic public records.

Most government correspondence, electronic or not, is classified as public record under the N.C. Public Records Law, which guarantees the public and the media access to those documents upon request.

"It's beyond question that e-mails are public records," Mark Prak, a counsel for the N.C. Press Association, said at the hearing.

"Our public records law is about allowing people to observe our government."

The review panel was formed as accusations began to surface that Easley told executive agencies to delete e-mail correspondence between their offices and his.

The governor has repeatedly denied that he ordered any deletions, claiming that his requests

"E-mails are public records. Our public records law is about allowing people to observe our government."

MARK PRAK, COUNSEL FOR N.C. PRESS ASSOCIATION

were misinterpreted.

Comprised of press, government and legal representatives, including UNC professors Ferrel Guillory and David Lawrence, the panel was formed last month to assess North Carolina policy on e-mail and other forms of electronic public records.

Panel members Thursday expressed concern about the cost of retaining more extensive electronic records, specifically the financial expense and the time investment it would require from state employees.

The brunt of those costs would fall on the agency that receives the records request, said Staci Meyer, chief deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources. People requesting records only have to pay the photocopying costs.

If the records are old enough to have been archived, then the responsibility falls to cultural resources, which is responsible for government archives, Meyer said.

"Copy costs are insignificant compared to the costs of actually finding the information," she said.

Panel members and presenters shared concerns about overzealous retention but also expressed worry about granting discretion to state employees, who may be ill-equipped to make the proper decision.

While state employees appreciate the government's faith in them, they don't want to get caught between public wishes and political interests, said Dana Cope, executive director of the State Employees Association of North Carolina.

"It's always a dangerous situation that the employee is not asking for," Cope said.

The next panel meeting is scheduled for April 18. The panel will explore its current retention practices and the costs of the proposed changes.

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

Doctor stops seeing patients after lawsuit

Professor faces abuse allegations

BY ANDREW DUNN
 SENIOR WRITER

A UNC pediatrics doctor has stopped seeing patients after being accused of abusing seven child patients between 1967 and 1984.

Dr. Melvin D. Levine, 68, was sued for an alleged pattern of sexual and physical abuse against boys as young as 5 throughout the 17-year span.

Children's Hospital Boston — where Levine worked in that time period — also is named in the suit for failing to properly supervise Levine, according to the lawsuit filed in Suffolk County, Mass.

Levine, who has been a UNC professor of pediatrics since 1987, denied the claims but volunteered this week to stop seeing patients until the lawsuit is resolved, UNC Hospitals spokesman Tom Hughes said.

Levine retired in 2006 but continues to see a few patients per month as an adjunct professor.

"Dr. Mel Levine has provided



UNC professor **Dr. Melvin Levine** is facing allegations of abusing child patients.

pediatric care to more than 15,000 children over 40 years and categorically denies that he has ever been abusive in any way toward any patient," Levine's lawyer, Edward Mahoney, said in a prepared statement.

"Dr. Levine is distressed about the distorted or misrepresented memories from decades past and questions the motivations."

UNC officials also said they know of no complaints.

"No complaints have been levied against Dr. Levine in relation to his work at UNC," said Karen McCall, vice president of public affairs and marketing for the UNC School of Medicine and UNC Health Care.

Although referred to as John Doe No. 5 in the lawsuit, the plain-

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