

UNIVERSITY BRIEFS
Basketball museum will be open for expanded hours

The UNC Basketball Museum will be open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., beginning on July 12, 2008.

Starting the week of July 7, the museum will be open each Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday mornings, except for University holidays. Admission remains free.

The museum, located on the first floor of the Ernie Williamson Athletics Center adjacent to the Smith Center, has attracted nearly 25,000 visitors since it opened in January.

Elevator shaft gets smoky, but no damage in small fire

A small fire ignited in the elevator shaft of Wilson Hall on Tuesday afternoon. Firefighters who responded to the scene said the elevator had overheated, causing it to smoke.

No injuries or serious damage were reported.

Search for life brings UNC science to the red planet

Materials called perfluoropolyethers (PFPEs) will help the European ExoMars rover analyze Martian soil and rock for traces of biological compounds such as amino acids.

PFPEs were developed by Joseph DeSimone and Jason Rolland, two researchers from UNC.

The mission is scheduled to take place in 2013 and is one of several to follow NASA's current Phoenix mission.

CITY BRIEFS

School board eyes site for new elementary school.

At a June 5 meeting, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools' Board of Education discussed building the district's 11th elementary school on the site of the former Orange County Training Services School and Northside Elementary School, where the existing structure has fallen into disrepair.

"We'll probably have to tear down the (existing) building, it is so full of mold and asbestos," said board Chair Pam Hemminger.

The board said one goal of the new school is to reduce class size, and the location must allow for future expansion and growth.

"There is a lot of cultural history," Hemminger said of the Northside site.

OWASA installation to close Old Mason Farm Road

Old Mason Farm Road will close to through traffic for about three weeks starting Monday to install an Orange Water and Sewer Authority sanitary sewer main and a reclaimed water pipe in the roadway.

Facilities with driveways on the road will still be accessible through alternate routes such as Finley Golf Course Road and Fordham Boulevard.

Judge to hear arguments in Carson autopsy dispute

A judge will hold a hearing Wednesday at 2 p.m. to discuss the withheld autopsy reports of former Student Body President Eve Carson.

Orange County Superior Judge Allen Baddour has said he needs more time to decide whether to unseal the documents.

District Attorney Jim Woodall said he has kept the records sealed until interviews concerning the case are completed, while attorneys for The (Raleigh) News & Observer claim the reports are public record.

STATE BRIEFS

State Board of Education OKs K-12 curriculum changes

The State Board of Education approved replacing the state's fourth-, seventh- and 10th-grade writing tests with a new assessment system that would be administered by individual districts at a Thursday meeting of the board.

Vanessa Jeter, spokeswoman for the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, said the changes to the tests will allow for a more authentic evaluation of writing skills.

"The idea is that students would learn subject matter in a more comprehensive fashion," she said.

The testing changes are part of a larger curriculum shift to emphasize more depth of knowledge, as opposed to breadth.

"There is a desire to really identify the most important knowledge base and make sure that we do a really superb job of helping students delve into that versus a sort of shotgun approach where you hit a wide variety of topics but not very deeply," Jeter said.

-From staff and wire reports

Hospital eyes bed increase

Proposal would add a 321-bed tower

BY ANDREW RYAN COSGROVE
STAFF WRITER

UNC Hospitals is hoping to expand yet again as its capacity needs continue to be an issue.

A proposal has been sent to the N.C. General Assembly to add a 321-bed tower in front of N.C. Memorial Hospital, where the old helipad was located.

"We currently have 727 beds and it is my understanding that we are at or near capacity every day," Tom Hughes, spokesman for UNC Health Care said.

This increase in patient health

care needs is not a new trend for UNC Hospitals.

"This capacity problem has been building for a long time and we have had plans to build this tower for some time," Hughes said.

Throughout the past several years, UNC has continued to see an increase in demand for patient space. Don Dalton, spokesman for the N.C. Hospital Association, said the tower is a response to that demand.

Several factors have contributed to the rise in demand for health care in the state.

"I think that the rise in health

care need ties to the population growth in North Carolina and especially this area," Hughes said.

"I think age is also a factor because this area is a popular retirement spot for people," he said.

UNC Hospitals also sees a wide range of patients from all over the state and country, he added.

Overall, patients don't appear to be staying at UNC Hospitals for extended time periods.

"The average length of stay for a patient is about six days," Hughes said.

But short stays are not necessarily typical in hospitals statewide as more patients seek treatment.

"Right now I think many are

approaching capacity," Dalton said. He went on to say that hospital admissions had increased even while the length of stay had not been reduced.

But as new technology has continued to evolve, hospitals have expanding options for patient care, even if they cannot expand their space.

"Technology has allowed us to move some care to outpatient and home care settings, which have helped hospitals cope with the higher utilization of health care," Dalton said.

The state has also responded to the growing needs of state hospi-

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State's big race off and running

Candidates take different routes

BY DEVIN ROONEY
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

The race for N.C. governor is still young, and already it's neck and neck between Republican Pat McCrory and Democrat Bev Perdue.

McCrory, who is currently the mayor of Charlotte, recently made a series of public appearances, including a speech to rally supporters Saturday at the state Republican Party convention in Greensboro.

Bev Perdue, currently the lieutenant governor, has been keeping a lower profile, spending much of her time with the in-session

N.C. General Assembly.

Perdue will speak at the state Democratic Party convention June 20-22 in New Bern.

Jack Hawke, a general consultant for the McCrory campaign, said the first step they took after the primary was to build party consensus after the competitive primary race.

"The first thing you do coming out of the primary — no matter which party — is unify your base," Hawke said.

"We were able to do that fairly rapidly."

He added that he thinks McCrory's speech at the convention won over voters.

"Pat did such an outstanding job in his speech to the convention that he walked out with solid support," he said.

David Kochman, Perdue's deputy campaign manager, said rebuilding bridges isn't the campaign's focus.

"She's very happy with the support she got in the primary," Kochman said.

He said the Perdue campaign is still doing "a lot of fundraising, a lot of meetings and phone calls with community leaders and activists."

Hawke said McCrory also is spending the bulk of his campaign time on fundraising.

"Quite a bit of Pat's time has been on the phone, making those kind of finance and other contacts," he said.

Kochman said the Perdue campaign is still developing a public events strategy.

"We're still putting a lot of that together," he said.

"As we move toward the end of

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"We had a tremendous interest right off the bat from the antique tractor and farm equipment clubs." BRIAN LONG, N.C. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE SPOKESMAN



While a handful of children braved the metal seats of the rides at the "Got to be N.C." Festival in Raleigh last weekend, the near 100-degree temperatures kept the midway empty for most of the weekend and left parents and siblings huddled under umbrellas for shade.

TRACTORS AND GRITS

N.C. festival attracts limited numbers in heat

BY COURTNEY ROLLER
STAFF WRITER

Tractors, food and heat were the defining parts of the first "Got to be N.C. Agriculture Festival."

The state fairgrounds in Raleigh opened up June 5-8 for a food expo, an antique tractor show and other events, rides and competitions, including a draft horse race, tractor pull, pig races and a barbecue cook-off.

Brian Long, spokesman for the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which hosted the festival, said the event germinated from their "Got to be N.C." marketing campaign to raise consumer awareness of N.C. agriculture.

"We started talking about doing some sort of a festival focused on N.C. foods and food products," Long said. "It seemed logical to tie that in with antique tractors and farm equipment."

Though the heat had an impact on the number of fair-goers, the antique tractor clubs from across the state made their presence known with over 800 pieces of farm equipment on display, Long said.

"We had a tremendous interest right off the bat from the antique tractor and farm equipment clubs," he said.

Dick Lorey, president of one of the antique tractor clubs from Huntersville, was willing to face the heat for a good cause.

"As a project for the club, each year we restore an antique tractor. We take it to all the shows in the area and sell tickets on it," Lorey said.

After restoration expenses are accounted for, he explained, the rest of the proceeds are donated to Holy Angels, a nonprofit corporation that provides programs and services for mentally and physically disabled people.

This year's project was a 1948 Ford 8N.

DTH ONLINE:

Check out a photo slideshow of the weekend's fair at dailytarheel.com.



It's just like new," Lorey said.

Lorey was joined by eight of the 43 members of his club on Saturday under a tent which provided little refuge from the sun and temperatures teetering upward of 90 degrees.

"It's almost unbearable out here," Lorey said, motioning to fellow club members with bags of ice on their heads and fans waving.

The smell of sunscreen was almost completely masked by the aroma of food samples provided by more than 70 N.C. companies and growers in the indoor Expo Center.

"I think given the fact that they were located in an air-conditioned building during the festival," Long said, "they were quite pleased with the traffic that they got through their booth."

Though not lucky enough for her exhibit

SEE FAIR, PAGE 5

Housekeepers seek overtime

C-TOPS alters work schedule

BY SARAH SMITH
STAFF WRITER

This summer, housekeeping employees working in residence halls will not receive overtime pay for mandatory Saturday work.

As the UNC Department of Housing and Residential Education faced the costs of hosting C-TOPS sessions and other summer camps, it began to assess cost issues, said Dick Mann, vice chancellor of finance and administration.

"I am sure that there are employees who are unhappy, but Housing is trying to hold down costs," Mann said.

The department approached Director of Housekeeping Services Bill Burston to negotiate a cost-effective solution for its revenue shortfall.

The result of this exchange is a new policy, announced in January, in which housekeeping employees maintain a 40-hour work week from Tuesday to Saturday but are not paid overtime for their weekend work.

By implementing a policy of no overtime pay, the department and housekeeping administrators are able to save money while maintain-



UNC Housekeeping staff workers Odessa Davis, James Holman and Josephine Glover clean Rams Village Apartments on Monday afternoon.

ing a schedule suitable for C-TOPS and other summer camps.

While grounds and maintenance workers are also under the Facility Services umbrella, only housekeepers are subject to this new policy.

In addition to the lack of overtime pay for Saturday work, housekeepers have also complained that temporary workers, who have been hired in past summers to help with the workload, were not hired for this summer.

"We have always had temps

and overtime — it takes all this to get the work done — and now we don't have any temps or overtime, but they expect us to do the same amount of work," said James Holman, a housekeeping employee who works in Ram Village Apartments.

As some housekeeping employees find it difficult to arrange and pay for child care and transportation on Saturdays, many end up

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Town approves pilot election fund program

Comes after five-year fight for realization

BY SARAH RIAZATI
STAFF WRITER

The Chapel Hill Town Council approved a pilot public campaign-financing program, in the works for five years, at its meeting June 9. The program will begin with the fall 2009 municipal elections.

Chapel Hill is the first N.C. municipality to enact this type of program. The General Assembly authorized the town to do so in 2007.

Using the fund is voluntary for candidates, but for taxpayers, contributing to the fund is not.

"This involves taxpayers' money," council member Matt Czajkowski said. "It comes at a time when taxes have increased 11 percent."

Council member Ed Harrison said the program would cost each Chapel Hill resident about \$1.88 during its four-year span.

Many citizens raised concerns that the system masks an incumbent protection act. To use the fund, a candidate for Town Council must demonstrate public support by raising \$750 from 75 different contributors, and a mayoral candidate must raise \$1,500 from 150

"This is to ensure that in the long term, our politics in Chapel Hill are not polluted by money."

KEVIN FOY, MAYOR

different contributors.

"A candidate who is a moderate, a genuine independent, a Republican or a newcomer will have a much more difficult time getting the 75 financial contributions needed to qualify for matching public funds," Terri Tyson, a Chapel Hill resident, said in a letter to the council.

Mayor Kevin Foy said that in 1995, the council made a then-controversial decision to limit individual contributions to \$250 and to require full disclosure of contribution sources. Now, he said, the council is taking similar action.

"This is to ensure that in the long term, our politics in Chapel Hill are not polluted by money," he said.

The council recognized other benefits of the program, including the restrictions on campaign spending, the lowering of cam-

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