

UNIVERSITY BRIEFS

**Banjo music exhibit comes to Chapel Hill from Africa**

West African musician Cheick Hamala Diabaté and singer/fiddler James Leva will play music inspired by African banjo, and will display a 1740 version of the instrument.

The free public program will be today from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History.

CITY BRIEFS

**Carson documents scheduled to be released this week**

Several documents relating to the March killing of Eve Carson are set to be released this week.

Search warrants and other documents could be made public Friday during a hearing originally set in April for Judge Allen Baddour to consider unsealing the records and autopsy report.

The autopsy is expected to be released June 30, when interviews with witnesses are to be completed.

District Attorney Jim Woodall had requested the documents remain sealed until all interviews were completed in an attempt to test the validity of eyewitness accounts.

**Chapel Hill bomb threat turns out to be a false alarm**

The Chapel Hill Police Department closed down many blocks downtown for several hours June 24, beginning promptly after a 6:30 p.m. call notifying officials about a suspicious package.

The package, found in the intersection of Rosemary and Henderson streets, turned out to be innocuous.

Police closed Rosemary Street between North Columbia and Hillsborough streets, as well as Henderson Street between Franklin and Rosemary streets.

The Durham County Sheriff's Department bomb squad investigated the package.

The police currently are investigating suspects.

**Man plummets from Top of the Hill balcony to sidewalk**

A man plunged at about 4:30 p.m. June 24 from Top of the Hill restaurant on East Franklin Street.

Police said that a citizen called to report it and that the man was alive when he was transported to UNC Hospitals.

"The only thing we know is that a guy either fell or jumped off Top of the Hill," Sgt. Donnie Rhodes said.

Passerby and UNC junior Tyler Woodard said he was startled by the event.

"He was on the edge right there rocking," he said.

The (Raleigh) News & Observer reported June 25 that Top of the Hill manager Scott Maitland said the man jumped after pacing the restaurant for about an hour.

Maitland reported that the man was drinking only water.

The N&O reported that the man fell onto an awning above the former Sunglass Hut, spun and landed on his head on the Franklin Street sidewalk.

STATE BRIEFS

**N.C. schools might face \$50 million budget shortfall**

State education officials have announced that they might have to withhold \$50 million from school districts to cover rising diesel fuel costs and ensure that teachers get their full bonus checks this year.

The state Department of Public Instruction reimburses school districts for most fuel costs and also dispenses the annual bonus checks for teachers, which are based on student performance on state tests.

In a message sent out June 22 to school districts across the state, Associate State Superintendent Phillip Price stated that the proposed state budget leaves a major funding shortfall for fuel and bonus checks.

Wake County might lose \$4.7 million. Durham and Johnston counties could each lose \$1.1 million. The Chapel Hill-Carrboro school system could lose \$395,000.

**New sentence ordered for N.C. capital punishment case**

An N.C. death row inmate now faces resentencing, as ordered by a federal court in Richmond, Va.

Dentist William Robert Gray Jr. was given a death sentence for murdering his estranged wife in 1992.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said June 24 that Gray's lawyer should have used a defense establishing his mental illness. The court said not doing so most likely impacted Gray's sentencing.

The court said the defense attorney ignored several warning signs about Gray's mental state and did not properly explore the possibility of using insanity as a defense.

-From staff and wire reports

**Dean to lead business school**

Brings 10 years of experience to job

BY KATIE ANDERSON  
STAFF WRITER

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Bernadette Gray-Little announced Friday in a letter to students that Jim Dean, senior associate dean for academic affairs, will be succeeding Steve Jones as dean of the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the beginning of August, pending approval of the Board of Trustees in July.

Dean will be coming into the position with more than ten years of experience at the business school.

"I've really seen the school from three different perspectives," Dean

said, referring to his time as senior associate dean for academic affairs, associate dean of executive development and associate dean of the Master of Business Administration program.

"I know most of the people in this school and I know what the challenges are," he said.

Currently, the biggest challenge, Dean said, is raising enough money to support the programs that would enable the business school to compete with top schools around the world, many of which have significant sources of private funding.

Dean is also looking for new



Jim Dean has been named head of the Kenan-Flagler Business School.

technology and teaching methods to improve the school's programs.

"Simulation technology has come a long way," Dean said, "and that's a powerful tool for business education."

Dean cited the increasing ability to transmit information electronically and the growing use of social networking sites. He described how these new technologies have

prompted a re-examination of teaching strategies to enhance the effectiveness within the business school.

"What is presented in the classroom and what is presented online?" Dean said. "Are there enhanced ways for the students to learn from each other as well as from the professors through social networking?"

Dean and the current dean, Steve Jones, both talked about their hopes for the expansion of the active learning program in the business school.

The program, started four years ago in the school's MBA program, provides the opportunity for stu-

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**Nation hurt by fiscal slump**

N.C. saved by its versatile economy

BY DEVIN ROONEY  
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

The impact of the recent economic downturn is outlined in the newest report on the fiscal health of the nation made biannually by the National Governors Association and the National Association of State Budget Officers.

The Fiscal Survey of States was released last week and details budget challenges and fiscal growth for each state and examines regional and nationwide trends.

Across the country, many states are falling on hard times, according to the report.

"Fiscal 2008 marked a turning point for state finances, with a significant increase in states seeing fiscal difficulties, in stark contrast to the preceding several years," the report states.

Scott Pattison, executive director of the National Association of State Budget Officers, said the concerns for the states mirror the difficulties of the average American.

"Economic concerns the budget officers have, as recorded in this data, are just like the American consumer. They've got the same concerns and worries," Pattison said.

But Raymond Scheppach, executive director of the National Governors Association, said that despite the gloomy outlook at the national level, there are huge disparities between the states' fiscal situations.

And the news for North Carolina is relatively positive, in part because the state has a relatively diversified economy with substantial agricultural sectors.

The report projects a 10 percent growth in expenditures for the state. Expenditure growths are correlated with economic growth.

The national average for expenditure growth this fiscal year is 5.1 percent, and the historical national average is 6.7 percent.

Scheppach said that in hard times, state leaders are prone to cut funding for higher education quickly.

"They really do freeze that," he said.

That tendency is evident here in North Carolina, where the N.C. General Assembly has proposed funding cuts for the UNC system.

The N.C. Senate's budget proposal includes \$11 million in funding cuts for the 17-campus system.

But Scheppach said the worst is yet to come for the states.

"Biggest impact on states is a year after recession or two years," Scheppach said.

"We saw this in 2001 — the downturn ended in 2001, but the impact was still felt for the next two years."

He went on to predict that the

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DTH/RACHEL RODEMANN

Dave McCracken, president of the Neuse River Foundation, dons a sign and gas mask in protest of hog lagoons in eastern North Carolina. Several group leaders gathered in front of the state administration building to express their discontent with current hog waste legislation.

**WASTING AWAY**

BY RACHEL RODEMANN  
SENIOR WRITER

Leaders and supporters of several grassroots organizations presented Gov. Mike Easley with a gallon jug of hog waste Thursday as a culmination to a 51-hour Hog Vigil on the lawn in front of the N.C. legislative building.

The vigil, held in protest of the disposal of hog waste in eastern North Carolina lagoons, began June 17 when several dozen people from organizations including the Neuse River Foundation, the N.C. Environmental Justice League, the New River Foundation and the Waterkeeper Alliance gathered on the lawn.

The vigil ended when protesters marched first to the governor's mansion and next to his office in the state administration building, sporting protest signs and air masks, to deliver a gallon jug of hog waste.

"We hope he takes the lid off. He'll smell what these people smell every time they leave their houses," said Larry Baldwin, Lower Neuse Riverkeeper for the Neuse River Foundation, after delivering the jug to Easley's door.

The protest permit issued to the Hog Vigil expressly prohibited the substance on

the Halifax lawn, so the group instead delivered it to the governor's office in a sealed container. The city of Raleigh called the substance "toxic waste" in 2007, the group's press release states.

Vigil organizers said in a press release that they were frustrated with Easley in particular because in 1999 he made campaign promises that he would phase-out and completely eliminate hog waste lagoons by 2004.

As of this year, North Carolina is the second-largest hog producing state in the nation and has more than 3,000 operational hog waste lagoons.

Angie Whitener, director of policy development and communications at the N.C. Hog Council, said the hog industry is responsible for more than 46,000 salaries and grosses more than \$9 billion a year.

"More than the entire RTP area," she said.

In North Carolina, hog waste is dumped into large open-air lakes called lagoons. The material in the lagoons is later sprayed over farmland as fertilizer.

Vigil groups said one of the problems with these waste lagoons is that weather conditions

such as high temperatures and shifting winds bring the smell of the waste to the neighboring communities, where it lingers.

On June 18, there was a fresh-air birthday party for children of Eastern North Carolina.

Neuse River Foundation representatives said the opportunity to have such a party was a first for many children in attendance because nearby hog lagoons cause poor air quality in their hometowns.

Group representatives also say there is a risk of the lagoons overflowing with heavy rains and contaminating outside bodies of water.

Studies by the Environmental Defense Fund show that hog waste contamination can cause health risks for humans if it enters water supplies and poses environmental threats if it enters lakes or rivers.

But Whitener said the lagoons are the most effective method and that they are similar to the system used for human waste disposal.

"There is nothing out there that is as efficient as lagoons," she said.

She also said there are several pilot pro-

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**Senate opponents trade jabs**

BY HARRISON JOBE  
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C., and N.C. Sen. Kay Hagan, D-Guilford, participated in a Senatorial forum hosted by the N.C. Bar Association in New Bern. This marks the first time that the two U.S. Senate candidates have debated each other.

"I am running because Washington is broken," Hagan said in her introduction.

Hagan also called for better health care, more affordable college and new energy policy plans.

Dole cited her accomplishments in the U.S. Senate, including her role in establishing the state's immigration enforcement plan and avoiding military base closures.

"My campaign will focus on my record of results for North Carolinians," Dole said.

Dole also promised a positive campaign.

"People are tired of politics as usual — the same defaming type of politics that Kay Hagan clearly engaged in," said Hogan Gaidley, a spokesman for Dole's campaign.

Increased bipartisan cooperation was a central topic in the debate, echoing the presidential race.

"Folks, the way we've been able to accomplish so much for North



Incumbent Elizabeth Dole brings 40 years of experience in Washington to the table.



Challenger Kay Hagan says she will focus on health care and work for a new energy plan.

Carolinians is by working across the aisle," Dole said.

Hagan's campaign was critical of Dole's claims of working in a bipartisan manner.

"When you vote with President Bush 92 percent of the time, it's hard to make the case that you do," said Colleen Flanagan, a spokeswoman for Hagan's campaign.

Dole asked Hagan to join her in calling for outside organizations to refrain from running ads on their behalf.

Gidley said that the National Republican Senatorial Committee, which Dole formerly chaired, and the Republican National Committee and the N.C. GOP have all agreed not to run ads in the N.C. Senatorial campaign.

Hagan's campaign has not responded to Dole's request.

"The NRSC was responsible for some of the most despicable ads against President Gerald Ford in Tennessee," Flanagan said. "I

think it's rich that she would ask to eschew third-party ads now."

The candidates exchanged sharp barbs in their closing remarks.

"When it comes to Sen. Dole and her 40 years of experience in Washington, experience just means a way of doing business," Hagan said. "It's a way of doing business that puts special interests and their lobbyists before working families."

Dole criticized Hagan for increasing taxes and easing access to driver's licenses for illegal immigrants. She also questioned Hagan's energy plan.

"My opponent claims she has a quote energy plan unquote, but the only octane is in the rhetoric."

Both spokesmen said they have received multiple requests for debates. Hagan has accepted an October debate on UNC-TV, Dole has not yet responded.

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

**Innovation Center plans are progressing**

BY ANDREW RYAN COSGROVE  
STAFF WRITER

Design plans for the Innovation Center, the first building scheduled to be completed at Carolina North, continue to progress despite the incomplete studies on the larger project's impact on Chapel Hill.

"There has not been a formal design proposal because we are continuing to revise and refine the design structure," said Jack Evans, executive director for Carolina North.

Evans will take the design to the UNC Board of Trustees in July and is hoping to start construction after getting approval by October.

"Right now, though, it has been sent and reviewed by the planning board and will be reviewed by all local advising boards," he said.

Currently, there are two research components being finished concurrently with the design plans for the Innovation Center.

The first, a fiscal analysis, will show what impacts Carolina North will have on the town's economy.

The other is a transit study that will look at the flow of traffic around the project and the utilization of public transportation available.

Neither are finished, but the

*"We have thought carefully about how the Innovation Center is going to be an integrated part."*

JACK EVANS, CAROLINA NORTH DIRECTOR consultant of the fiscal impact study will be making a preliminary report today, Evans said.

Some members of the Chapel Hill Town Council say they are uneasy about approving plans for the center before the fiscal impact and transit study have been completed.

"It does make it much more challenging to contextualize the Innovation Center in a larger plan when the details of the larger plan have not been cemented," council member Mark Kleinschmidt said.

"We don't want to cast off any of our stated interests, nor would the University, in order just to move this single project," he said.

"But I don't think this building is

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