

**LUXURY GOODS**

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 what they want.  
 Maitland expressed concern for newer businesses, because people aren't out wandering around looking to treat themselves to something.  
 To respond to the problems in the economy, Minata Jewelers is buying conservatively and offering the best prices that they are able to offer, Kornberg said.  
 All local businesses, not only those that sell luxury items, are affected and are responding in similar ways, she said.  
 But other high-end merchants said they have not made any changes in the way they conduct their business.

"We always hope for business that's better than the day before," said Pam Patterson of Fine Feathers, a boutique in University Square, adding that the store has not seen big effects from the economic climate.  
 Patterson also said it is most important to establish and maintain relationships with customers.  
 "Those kinds of relationships stick with you through time," she said.  
 Although business continues to go well for the time being, merchants are concerned that there might be a decline in the fall season, Black said. Some effects have yet to be seen, he said.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

**NICKS**

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 Those were bold statements when UNC had its full complement of players, and doubly so now, after injuries to starting quarterback T.J. Yates and to Tate. But Nicks doesn't back off his preseason claims.  
 "We're definitely looking at it the same way," Nicks said. "(Injuries are) just a part of football. Guys go down, guys gotta step up. A football team is not made up of one or two players on the team, it's 40 or more."  
 In fact, while Tate has garnered the highlight reels, Nicks has been racking up his own stats.  
 Nicks holds the UNC career record with eight games of more than 100 receiving yards.

Statistically speaking, he is the best wide receiver in the ACC, with almost 200 more yards than his closest competition.  
 His quarterback certainly seems to know that. In the past three games, Cameron Sexton has thrown to Nicks 23 times for 17 completions. With all his other receivers, Sexton is 21-45.  
 "Cam, he relies on me to make big plays on third down," Nicks said. "So I just got to make plays."  
 Sexton and injured starter Yates both speak about Nicks with the same borderline reverence.  
 "The only thing that's going to stop him is maybe quadruple coverage," Sexton said Monday, after Nicks reeled in nine of his throws the prior weekend against Notre Dame. "I mean, I really feel like that he can find a way to get open."  
 The reason? Nicks loves contact. While not the biggest receiver, Nicks doesn't hesitate to get down and maybe a little dirty with defenders — when he put the Tar Heels on

his back with three straight catches against Notre Dame, twice Nicks pushed off the cornerback to create some space.  
 "I just wanted to march us downfield. ... I was just so antsy about it, you know?" Nicks said, seeming to relish even the memory of competition. "I just really wasn't thinking about it that much, I just wanted to keep making plays."  
 Once he gets the ball, Nicks has another and more lethal weapon to keep defenders at bay: a nasty stiff-arm. His arms are so long that some smaller cornerbacks can't even reach his shoulder.  
 "The stiff-arm has always kind of stuck with me since high school," Nicks said. "It's just natural. It's like second nature to me."  
 The result is that Nicks rarely hits the ground after first contact, if at all. Most cornerbacks — and plenty of safeties — just aren't big or strong enough to bring him down.  
 And don't think Nicks doesn't know it. On the field, he doesn't

shimmy or juke as Tate does. In fact, Nicks doesn't change his route at all. If someone's in his way, Nicks goes over or through him.  
 "I can show you five catches in practice that he'll catch a 15-yard catch and he'll run 60, 70 yards to get to the end zone," Davis said.  
 "And there's no mystery to why he plays the way he does, he works hard."  
 Case in point — against Connecticut, Sexton threw to Nicks despite a perfectly positioned cornerback ready to make an interception. Instead of the turnover, Nicks reached over and snagged the ball out of the defender's grasp, and then ran upfield — as if the cornerback wasn't even there.  
 While Nicks might be athletic enough to make defenders appear invisible, he can rest assured that he'll be the biggest blip on their radars from now on.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

**TRAINERS**

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 Stephanie Knott, spokeswoman for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, said there is someone at each of the district's high schools with the responsibility of an athletic trainer.  
 Chapel Hill High School and East Chapel Hill High School have certified athletic trainers on campus, Knott said.  
 But Chapel Hill High's athletic trainer, Ben Reed, doubles as a teacher at the school during the day. Officials at East Chapel Hill High could not be reached for comment.  
 Carrboro High School has a third-level first responder who responds when emergency services are needed but does not work full-time, Knott said.  
 Donna Williams, director of student services for the Orange County Schools superintendent office, said both Orange High School and Cedar Ridge High School have an athletic trainer, but they are not nationally certified.  
 Guskiewicz, however, said that an athletic trainer who is not certified is not qualified for the position.  
 "In my opinion, it's an inappro-

priate title that they are claiming to hold and very misleading when they don't have the proper credentials," he said.  
 While many faculty members see good intentions with hiring trainers who are not full-time teachers, they argue that a teacher who doubles as an athletic trainer is more practical.  
 "They don't have anything to do during the day," said Jim King, a teacher and athletic trainer at Orange High. "They'd be twiddling their thumbs."  
 King teaches sports medicine and physical education at Orange High. He says interaction with the students and the instruction of the material is a good sharpener for his trainer skills.  
 "At the high school level, I don't know if we're going to see them be able to afford something like that," he said.  
 Nationwide, the starting pay for the job is \$35,000 to \$40,000 a year, Guskiewicz said. If the Athletic Association adopts the recommendations, board members will push for the legislation to allow for some state funding to pay for salaries, Guskiewicz said.  
 But if schools are unable to

appropriate funds for a full-time athletic trainer, seven high-contact sports may have to be removed from the schools' roster.  
 "It may come to that," Guskiewicz said. "They may be forced to discontinue those high-risk sports."  
 April Ross, athletic director at Carrboro High, says the problem is not that trainers are part-time.  
 "We've had a certified trainer in the past," she said. "Our current person is doing a fantastic job however our situation is that it's part-time."  
 The school system is investigating Fraley's case. When Fraley called emergency services, he complained of dehydration.  
 However, Hayes doesn't think Reed's dual responsibilities affected his ability to help Fraley.  
 "As far as I'm concerned, Mr. Reed did everything he could that day."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

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