

# National and World News

## Obama appoints health secretary

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) — Former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, a veteran of Capitol Hill and the Clinton administration's failed health care reform effort, will be President-elect Barack Obama's pick for secretary of health and human services, an anonymous Democratic official knowledgeable about the decision confirmed Wednesday.

Daschle has advocated creating a national board to oversee health care, similar to how the Federal Reserve regulates finance.

## Iraqi public is skeptical of security agreement, parliament debating

BAGHDAD (MCT) — Iraqi and American leaders say that a new security pact will have all U.S. forces and military contractors out of Iraq by 2012, but the Iraqi public is skeptical.

They see too many signs of a long-term American commitment to believe that the U.S. will withdraw on the timetable in the so-called status of forces agreement. Iraqi leaders, however, say that the agreement will end the U.S. occupation of their country that began in March 2003.

The agreement is now before

Iraq's 275-member parliament, which cut off debate on the pact Wednesday during a hectic session. The Sadrist want an immediate withdrawal of American forces or an agreement to put the withdrawal negotiations before the United Nations.

Other parties want to amend the pact, although Iraqi law prohibits that. The Iraqi Cabinet approved the agreement Sunday, and that made the agreement a final treaty between two states. Parliament can approve or reject it, but lawmakers can't modify it.

## Recount begins for Minn. Senate

MINNESOTA (MCT) — The contentious fight for a U.S. Senate seat between incumbent Republican Norm Coleman and Democratic challenger Al Franken inched into the recount phase Wednesday as election workers across Minnesota started retabulating more than 2.9 million ballots — one by one.

The recount is under way at more than 100 sites. It is required under state law because the margin between Coleman and Franken was less than 0.5 percent. Coleman's 215-vote lead heading into the recount translates to 0.008 percent.

## Stevens concedes U.S. Senate race

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (MCT) — Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, conceded the election for U.S. Senate to Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich on Wednesday, ending his 40 years as the dominant force in Alaska politics as the longest-serving Republican senator.

A week before the election, a Washington, D.C., jury convicted the Stevens of seven felonies for lying on his financial disclosure forms about more than \$250,000 in gifts.

Begich, 46, claimed victory Tuesday after the latest count of absentee and questioned ballots widened his lead to 3,724 votes.

## Palin receives new ethics complaint

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (MCT) — As former Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin settles back into her job as the Alaskan governor, a new ethics complaint filed Tuesday says she's already improperly mixing her official duties and broader political ambitions.

The charge is that Palin broke state ethics rules by holding national television interviews about her run for vice president from the governor's office. The charge cited the Nov. 10 interview with Fox News Channel, which occurred after she was out of the race.

# Few attend Carolina North forum

## Officials explain development plans

BY ANDREW HARTNETT  
STAFF WRITER

Only a few dozen people attended Wednesday's public education session on Carolina North, to the disappointment of some attendees.

During the meeting, UNC officials presented the school's formal submission to the town for plans on Carolina North, including a proposed development agreement.

Carolina North is the University's proposed satellite research campus. Chapel Hill resident Will Raymond said he was disappointed with the turnout for the meeting, which was planned to give the public an opportunity to express concerns about development plans.

Raymond strongly encouraged all who were present to involve as many of their neighbors and friends as they could in future discussion.

He called on all Chapel Hill residents to "wake up, and show up."

In the event intended to draw in public interest, Carolina North Executive Director Jack Evans presented detailed development plans for the 250-acre research campus.

Evans said the plans satisfy a series of criteria the school developed related to water management, energy, transportation and parking

and building types.

Several groups provided input for the plans, including the Horace Williams citizens committee, the leadership advisory committee, the design team of Ayers/Saint/Gross and University planners.

David Owens of the UNC School of Government helped the town craft a development review process, and during the meeting, he justified the vagueness of the proposed development plan.

"We like to start with a more general plan in the earlier stage, which may be frustrating because there isn't a complete plan now," he said. "Starting with more preliminary plans with built-in stages will help to create a more deliberate and defined proposal."

The first phase of development includes the Innovation Center, which will serve as a business incubator linking UNC to the private sector for their research mission, and the new law school buildings.

These buildings will be developed on the southeastern portion of the Carolina North property, the region deemed most supportive of growth by Biohabitats Inc., a firm hired by UNC to do an ecological survey.

Evans said one of the land in the current phase of development planning lies in Chapel Hill.

*"Starting with more preliminary plans with built-in stages will help to create a more deliberate and defined proposal."*

DAVID OWENS, GOVERNMENT SCHOOL

According to development guidelines distributed at the meeting, the process will continue with monthly public meetings and regular council meetings. The Town Council will vote on final zoning plans and map amendments in late June.

Meeting attendees asked the group how their comments would be compiled and how they would affect discussions about Carolina North's future.

Comments and questions will be responded to on the town's Web site and in a handout.

Evans said he believes the plan already has benefited in many ways from previous public discussion.

He reiterated that since the school is now in serious talks with the town to move forward, the time for resident input is now.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

## DECORATIONS

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will continue to provide a seasonal event in Wilson Library on Dec. 11 that will include the telling of winter-themed folktales.

Davis Library has also displayed a Christmas tree in their front lobby in past years.

And while this is the first year libraries on campus will not display Christmas trees, some officials think this new policy will continue.

"This is the correct decision for our libraries at this point," Pantich said. "We know that other libraries at public institutions elsewhere have made the same decision."

Student Stores, however, will continue to decorate its facilities for the holidays.

"We don't really think of ourselves as having a Christmas display," said John Jones, director of

## Student Stores

Jones said that the current display in the windows facing South Road — which features a sleigh, presents and fake snow — is meant to represent the winter season.

"Everything we do is to highlight merchandise," Jones said. "Student Stores lives and dies depending on customer purchases, so we try to offend no one."

Student Stores also does displays for Black History Month, seasonal sports, back-to-school and other special events.

Similar concerns also have affected the annual Star of Bethlehem show at the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center.

The show premiered in 1949 and it is the longest-running planetarium show in the world.

"The important thing for people to understand is that this show does not focus on religion, it focuses on science," said Karen Kornegay, mar-

## "Student Stores lives and dies depending on customer purchases, so we try to offend no one."

ketting manager of the Planetarium and Science Center.

Kornegay said that while the show might have started out as something more focused on the story of Christ's birth, it has changed to focus on the science of the star.

"We are a state government agency, and we respect the difference in beliefs of our employees and patrons," Kornegay said.

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## SYSTEM SAFETY

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psychological services.

Funding for security technology is next in importance, Herron said. Campuses systemwide are working on developing ways to assess and subdue threats.

UNC-Greensboro police Chief James Herring said his school is investing in counseling services and installing PA systems in classrooms and dorms, but he is worried that the tight budget will affect the quality of their operations.

"Right now we're sort of in limbo," Herring said.

"Will public safety be exempt from budget cuts? I just don't know."

The UNC-system schools will not receive equal safety funding, said Jeff McCracken, director of public safety at UNC-Chapel Hill.

UNC-CH will likely receive less than its neighboring universities.

"Different schools have requested different things and will receive different amounts," McCracken said, explaining that they didn't ask for any additional funds for the next fiscal year.

He said they didn't ask for more money because they were already up to par on safety standards.

"Do I think safety's the number one expenditure because there's a problem with safety? No," he said.

"Do I think it's number one because it should always be a concern on the back of our minds? Yes," Herron said recent events have put safety in the spotlight, but it has always been a top priority and will remain so.

"I'll be honest with you. I think safety should be the number one issue on the budget. For now and for the future."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

## STATE

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student body and the senators so involved in the issue.

"I think this is the most engaged I've seen the student body on any of the issues we've dealt with," he said.

Sarah Lindh, a senator who supported the resolution, said she thought it was well-researched and well-written.

"I think this was a perfect example of the legislative process in action," she said.

Atkins, however, said she felt misrepresented by the senators.

"I was disappointed that they were elected," she said.

"They voted against the students."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

## PHILLIPS

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are really the only new additions."

He wakes up at 6 a.m. every morning to pick up a newspaper and grab one for a worker at the Agora, and then keeps busy taking informal classes and attending local events and lectures for the rest of the day.

Mcabee said Phillips does something every night.

"He actually makes me feel bad about being a student," she said.

Phillips loves concerts — one of his first steps this semester was picking up a music department event calendar. He took two weeks off in September to go on a classical music cruise.

"I don't read a note and I don't play

## but I love the sound," he said.

He spends the rest of his time visiting museums, reading library books and sampling restaurants.

Living at Granville with hundreds of college students has been pleasant, he said.

"I have my room and I don't have to do any cleaning," he said. "I don't have to go to the grocery store or buy dishes and wash them."

Phillips flies back to Honolulu Dec. 12 and has mixed feelings about his departure.

"It's been a very enjoyable semester," he said. "I could probably live here for the rest of my life but my trousers are getting a little tight."

Contact the Features Editor at [features@unc.edu](mailto:features@unc.edu).

## Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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Adv. Tix on Sale **TWILIGHT** (1145 220 455) 730  
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**MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)** (1150 210 430) 715  
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**W (PG-13)** (200 PM 445 PM) 725 PM

**The Lumina** 620 Market St. Chapel Hill 932-9000

Take 15/501 South towards Pittsboro Exit Market St. / Southern Village

**QUANTUM OF SOLACE REG.** 12:30-2:45 5:00-7:15 9:40-12:00  
**MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA REG.** 12:45-2:50 4:55-7:00 9:10-11:20  
**ROLE MODELS R** 12:04-1:17 2:09-3:25  
**HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3 R** 12:30-2:45 5:00-7:15 9:30-11:40  
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