

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error in Wednesday's pg. 3 article, "Health schools a low priority," Phyllis Horns' title was incorrect. She is the interim vice chancellor for health sciences at East Carolina University.

Due to a reporting error, Wednesday's pg. 12 article, "Police station ups security," misspelled Concord police Chief Merl Hamilton's name.

The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the errors.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Congress approves money for student organizations

The Carolina Athletic Association was allotted \$1,500 from Student Congress to help pay for its Old Well watch, which will guard the iconic UNC symbol on the night before Saturday's football game against N.C. State.

At Tuesday's meeting, Student Congress approved funding requests by five student organizations while putting a sixth request on hold.

The UNC Red Cross Club also received money to buy CPR-training mannequins that comply with new Orange County standards.

A request for \$800 by Students for Students International for the creation of a new professional Web site was tabled by Congress after legislators decided more research needed to be conducted on the issue.

Some Congress members were especially concerned with the possibility of setting a precedent of easily granting money that would be applied toward Web site development when University services are available for that purpose.

CITY BRIEFS

Town to receive awards, plant trees for Arbor Day

To celebrate Arbor Day, Chapel Hill will hold a tree-planting ceremony at 1:15 p.m., Friday outside of the Town Operations Center at 6850 Millhouse Road.

Chapel Hill Town Council Members Jim Ward and Ed Harrison will receive the award and read the Arbor Day Proclamation. Students from Morris Grove Elementary School also will participate in the Arbor Day celebration.

Equipment operator named town's firefighter of the year

Fire Equipment Operator Chris Bradley has been selected Chapel Hill's Firefighter of the Year.

Bradley was chosen by a joint committee of the Chapel Hill Firefighter's Association and the CHFD Administration. He was selected because of his service to other members of the department as a mentor, his volunteer work at the Chapel Hill Museum and his role in developing a fire safety puppet show for children's education.

Low-income households can apply for home repair grant

Orange County was recently awarded \$400,000 by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency's Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation Program.

The program provides funds to assist with the rehabilitation of moderately deteriorated homes that are owned and occupied by lower-income households.

Interested persons should contact the Orange County Housing and Community Development Department at 245-2490 for an appointment. Applications will be accepted through Dec. 31, 2008.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Zeller likely out for season with fractures in left wrist

The North Carolina men's basketball team's "suit crew" just got a new member.

UNC Athletics announced Wednesday that freshman forward Tyler Zeller broke his left wrist in the No. 1 Tar Heels' 77-58 win against Kentucky and that Zeller most likely will miss the rest of the season.

"I hate this for Tyler," coach Roy Williams said. "He's such a great kid and he's going to be a terrific player for us. It's another big blow for our team, but it's more adversity that we have to overcome together."

The injury occurred with 1:26 remaining in the game Tuesday when the Washington, Ind.-native was fouled by a UK defender while attempting a dunk.

Zeller had surgery to repair fractured left radius and ulna Wednesday at UNC Hospitals. The release stated that the surgery was deemed a success and that Zeller is expected to make a full recovery.

Zeller started the first two games for UNC and scored 18 points against Pennsylvania and had two points and two steals against UK.

If Zeller does not return to uniform this year, he would be able to declare for a medical redshirt and retain a year of eligibility.

—From staff and wire reports

Waste station pushes deadline

Delayed siting could leave few options

BY EVAN ROSE

Time is running short for Orange County Board of Commissioners to site a new waste transfer station.

Original plans, which included selecting a site Tuesday, projected that the station would be ready in May 2011, the same time the county landfill is expected to reach capacity.

But commissioners put off a final call for at least a month.

If there's no station before the landfill is full, the county could face a waste management crisis.

Gayle Wilson, the county's solid waste management director, said the county could have to use a makeshift transfer station like an open lot for a few weeks. Garbage

could also be shipped to a number of out-of-county landfills.

Or the county could be forced to tell residents, "You're on your own," Wilson said.

A transfer station would be used as a daily collection point for the county's garbage before it is shipped to an out-of-county landfill.

The county won't decide on a contingency plan for at least a year.

The rush to site and build a station is also a limiting factor on how much more time the board can take investigating other options, specifically waste to energy technology.

"That conversation would take months or years," Commissioner Mike Nelson said.

Commissioners are currently on their second effort to locate a transfer station. Plans to build one on Eubanks Road were scrapped in November 2007 after residents protested.

"Part of why we have a time crunch is because we decided to start over," Chairman Barry Jacobs said.

"While it may seem that we're hurrying, in fact we have gambled that we could still have a transfer station sited and constructed before we close the landfill."

Building a waste transfer station is a complex process. Property has to be acquired first, which consultants estimate will take at least two months.

"Anything short of a willing seller and there's no way in heck you could make a two month deadline," Nelson said.

Construction alone will take more than a year.

Developers also have to design the station, and get construction permission from the county and the N.C. Department of Transportation, a process that can also take months.

Jacobs said Tuesday that the board could select a site on Dec. 11, revise part of the selection process or start from scratch. Three new commissioners join the board Dec. 1.

At its meeting Tuesday, the board asked Wilson if the county could buy some time by making more room in the landfill.

"Frankly," he said, "I don't see how that's possible."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

NCSU leaders vote on penalty

Protestors: not harsh enough

BY OLIVIA BOWLER

ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

RALEIGH — A group of about 50 black students protested as the N.C. State University Student Senate passed a resolution Wednesday calling for community service, diversity education and counseling for the students who wrote racist threats to President-elect Barack Obama on campus.

The protestors said the resolution was not harsh enough. They support suspension or expulsion for the students — consequences that were recommended in the original resolution last week.

"I don't feel like the slap on the hand of making them do community service will change their lives in any way," said junior Genesis Atkins, who carried a laminated poster with the names of more than 600 students who supported harsher punishment.

The resolution — which passed 48-to-1 with three abstentions — was hotly discussed.

Maritza Adonis, the single naysayer, said that while the slurs did not personally offend her, she was voting to represent the students.

"Students elected me here to represent them. That's why I voted no," she said. "I'm embarrassed to be a Wolfpack senator."

Adonis said she felt that many senators were pressured to vote a certain way, and that they did not stand for the voice of the students. She said she talked to students on campus, who mentioned feeling unsafe as a result of the racist comments on the free expression tunnel.

"It's hard to be standing for the right thing," she said.

Some senators called on the students crowded in the back of the room to offer their opinions, which overwhelmingly supported harsher punishment.

Atkins said the majority of the 600 signatures on the petition for stronger consequences were from white students.

Many black students have become nonchalant because they don't think their opinions have weight, she said.

"They don't feel like their voices are heard. And tonight they weren't," she said.

Senate President Pro Tem Kelli Rogers said that prior to the meeting, the resolution went through an extensive discussion process with students and faculty to ensure all opinions were heard.

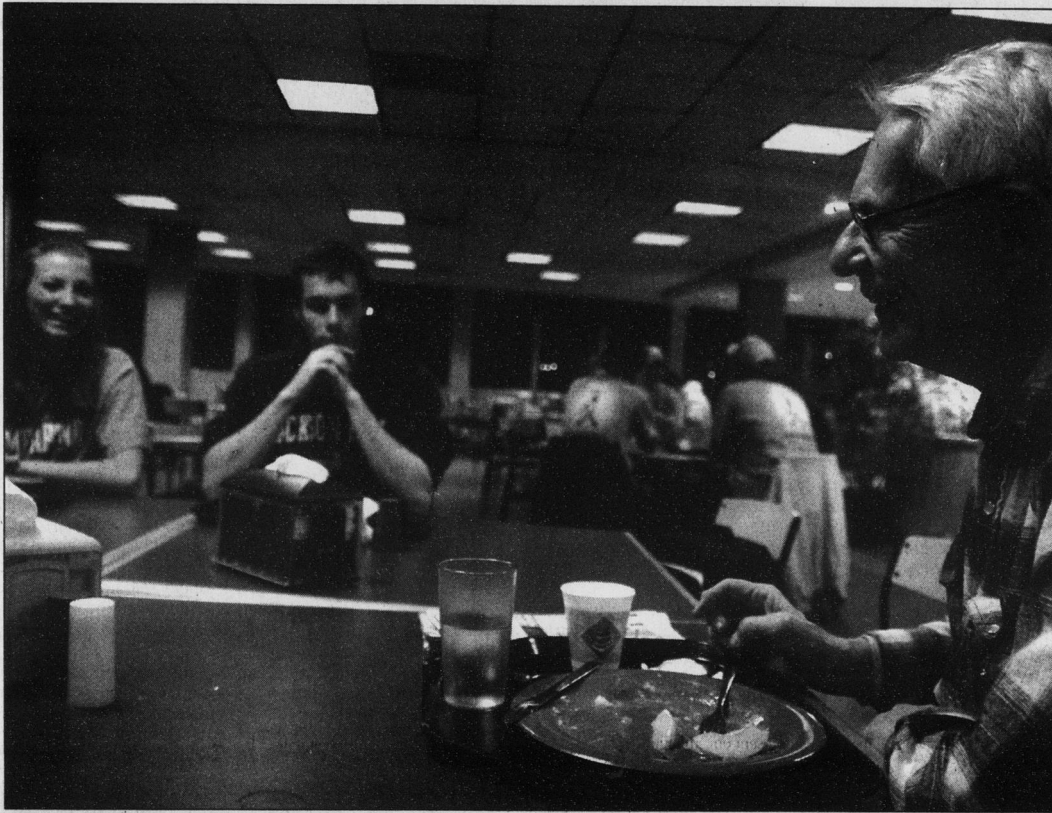
However, Adonis said university officials are scared to heed demands for harsher punishment because the university is afraid of being sued.

"I challenge the administration to get up, stop being scared and do the fighting," she said.

Greg Doucette, student senate president, said that despite some senators' condemnation of their colleagues, he was glad to see the

SEE STATE, PAGE 15

"I talk to students during meal time, and I pass them and they'll say hi to me. But I recognize that they have their thing and I have mine." JAKE PHILLIPS, 74-YEAR-OLD GRANVILLE RESIDENT



DTH/JESSE DEARING

Jake Phillips, 74, (right) talks with Brienne Poole (from left) and Vaughn Creamer on Tuesday at The Agora in Granville Towers, where Phillips is living for the fall semester. "I don't want to just sit on a rocking chair, that's a fast route to the grave," Phillips said.

BACK TO SCHOOL

74-year-old lives a college student's life

BY EMILY KENNARD

STAFF WRITER

Before he moved into Granville Towers, Jake Phillips prepared himself for mingling with the college crowd.

"I sat down and had a chat with myself" the 74-year-old said. "I said 'Look, you're like Grandpa. You're welcome at some times, but when they go out drinking, they don't want Grandpa there.'"

Phillips has spent this semester at UNC taking classes, attending cultural events and listening to guest speakers.

After teaching political science for more than 30 years, Phillips retired to Honolulu in his fifties, divorced and with no children.

But the lack of cultural events in Honolulu drew him to Chapel Hill, where he earned his master's degree in 1965.

"I just wanted access to what goes on around here," he said.

He decided to live in Granville instead of an apartment because of its proximity to campus and the Agora dining hall, he said. He doesn't have a roommate.

Students who saw Phillips were curious at first.

"I'm guessing they thought, 'Who's this parent that won't let their kid go?'" he said.

He was uneasy with new technologies in the dorm, such as telephone wires and e-mail services, and had to endure puzzled looks from students.

But Phillips adjusted to college life, learning how to e-mail with assistance from librarians, installing his telephone with help from his resident assistants and making friends with fellow Granville residents.

"I talk to students during meal time and I pass them and they'll say hi to me," he said. "But I recognize that they have their thing and I have mine."

Sarah McCabe, his resident adviser, said she spends meal times with students in the Agora.

"At first, people questioned if he was a resident, but once he speaks to them, they are fascinated by him," she said.

Phillips has spent a large chunk of his life on college campuses. He earned his political science degree from the University of Pennsylvania, then earned master's degrees from UNC and the University of Minnesota.

He said UNC hasn't changed much since he was a student.

"It's preserved some of the old era, which I like. It's taught me that you can hold onto the old style," he said. "Starbucks and Subway

SEE PHILLIPS, PAGE 15

N.C. makes safety a budget priority

BY ROSS MALONEY

STAFF WRITER

The UNC-system Board of Governors made campus safety the No. 1 fiscal priority in the 2009-11 budget it approved Friday.

What it did not specify is how each university must spend the money they receive.

"I'm not going to go in and tell the campuses they have to do stuff a certain way," said Brent Herron, UNC-system's new associate vice president of safety and emergency operation.

The board requested more than \$14 million to fund safety improvements. The money will fund new technology, mental health programs and increased law enforcement personnel.

"Our first priority was campus safety, and I think we made great strides in that last year, but we've got a ways to go," said UNC-system President Erskine Bowles at the board's meeting Friday.

The legislature will decide next year how much to allot in the budget for campus safety.

Herron said he will work with each school to decide how much

"Different schools have requested different things and will receive different amounts."

JEFF MCCrackEN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AT UNC-CHAPEL HILL

money they need to ensure security. Herron has visited the majority of UNC-system campuses since taking office in September.

"My impression is that most are doing a very good job of addressing security needs," Herron said. "Our area to improve on, however, is overall education ... making people more aware of their surroundings and their resources they can utilize."

Herron said most important to him is identifying threats early enough to prevent problems and to do this mostly through better assessments and a system that directs students in need toward

SEE SYSTEM SAFETY, PAGE 15

Libraries forgo holiday displays

Ends more than 30-year tradition

BY MARY COLE ALLEN

STAFF WRITER

Santa won't be dropping off any presents in Wilson or Davis libraries this year.

After library patrons and employees voiced opposition to holiday decorations, the libraries have banned their traditional Christmas tree displays.

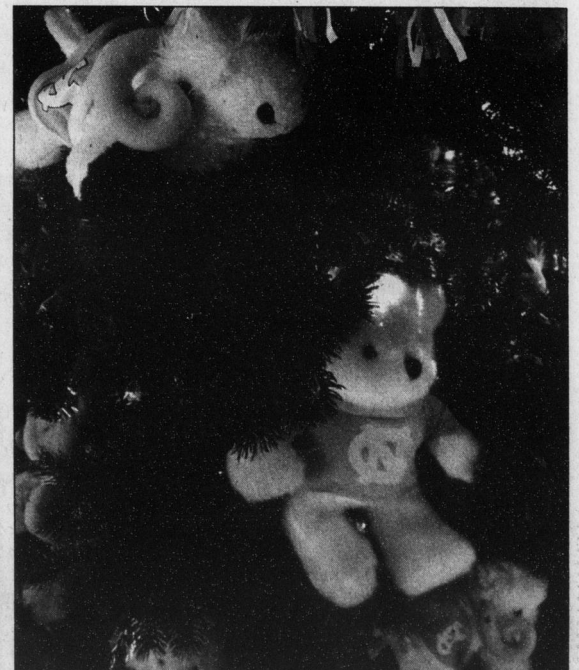
Sarah Michalak, University librarian, issued a statement Nov. 12 prohibiting the display of Christmas trees in public areas to cultivate a welcoming atmosphere for all library patrons and employees.

"We've had a number of discussions and open forums in response to complaints about the Christmas tree display, and I think one thing that is clear is the diversity of feelings and opinions about it," said Judy Panitch, director of library communications.

The decision ends a more than 30-year tradition in Wilson Library.

But the Friends of the Library

SEE DECORATIONS, PAGE 15



DTH/BRITANNY PETERSON

This tree decorated with Carolina toys is on display in Student Stores, which unlike the libraries, is not removing Christmas trees in displays.