# County honors 40 years of rescue service

**Bv Sofía Morales** Staff Writer

Danny Willner grew up with a strong interest in science, though not specifically in medicine.

But when a chance to get involved in patient care emerged in 2006, Willner jumped at the opportunity and joined the South Orange Rescue Squad.

Five years later, Willner is the operations captain of the technical rescue team and is on the path to becoming a doctor at UNC.

"The squad provides college students with the opportunity to have leadership positions that really matter," Willner said.

The group is a volunteer organization with about 80 members that provides emergency, general and technical rescue services to Orange County.

Now, with 40 years of service under its belt, the county is giving back to the squad by declaring June 4 South Orange Rescue Squad Day.

"They have worked tirelessly for years and have served the county with their volunteer effort," Commissioner Earl McKee said. "The least we can do is honor and acknowledge all the work that they've done."

To celebrate, Caroline Williams, a member of the group's membership committee, said the squad will hold an open house on Saturday with a rappel demonstration, ambulance tours and free Maple View ice cream.

HOME OF THE PERFECT PINT



COURTESY OF DANNY WILLNER

Danny Willner is a cadet in the South Orange Rescue Squad, a volunteer organization. Willner is working at the University to become a doctor.

#### **SQUAD OPEN HOUSE**

Time: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., June 4 Location: Carrboro Station 2, 202 Roberson St., Carrboro

Info: southorangerescue.org

"We're hoping a lot of people will come celebrate with us," she said. Before becoming cadets, volunteers attend a semester-long EMS class at a community college and get CPR certified, Willner said.

"In the class, you get the basic rudimentary skills," he said. "But it is really when you ride in the

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ambulance that you learn how to interact with the patients."

But being in the squad is not all about patient interaction. Willner said volunteers often find themselves in high-stress situations.

"At that moment, you just freak out for a second and you kind of wonder 'How am I going to deal with this?" he said.

"Then, you kind of go on autopilot and you just go to work. You don't really think about the steps because you know what you have to do to stabilize the patient."

> Contact the City Editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

## On the wire: national and world news



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### 'Double dip' in housing prices jeopardizes market recovery

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — An index of home prices in the nation's largest American cities plunged to new depths in March, pushing past a low set during the worst of the Great Recession.

The ominous new drop for the Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller index of 20 cities, a key measure that is closely watched by economists, casts further doubt about the future of the housing market's recovery. The index pushed below its previous bottom — hit in April 2009 — confirming a much-feared 'double dip" in home prices.

"Home prices continue on their downward spiral with no relief in sight," said David Blitzer, chairman of the S&P index committee.

#### **Supreme Court dismisses** lawsuit by terrorism witness

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) - The Supreme Court on Tuesday unanimously threw out a lawsuit against former Attorney General John Ashcroft that had accused him of misusing his power to arrest suspects as "material witnesses" in terrorism cases.

The decision continues the court's trend of shielding top Bush administration officials from lawsuits over their conduct in the "war on terror-

By an 8-0 vote, the court said Ashcroft's use of the law was reasonable and did not clearly violate the Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches and seizures.

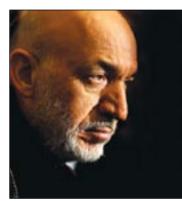
The decision tosses out a lawsuit by Abdullah al-Kidd, a former University of Idaho football player who was arrested at Dulles Airport and held for two weeks, ostensibly so he could serve as a witness in a pending case. He was never called to testify. Critics had said Ashcroft had misused this authority as a means of seizing people even when the government had no reason to believe they had committed a crime.

#### >>> Karzai continues feud with **NATO after civilian deaths**

KABUL, Afghanistan (MCT) President Hamid Karzai demanded Tuesday that the NATO force refrain from airstrikes on residential compounds, marking a sharp escalation in his long-running feud with Western commanders over the issue of civilian casualties.

The intensifying dispute came as Western military officials announced the death of a service member in a roadside bombing in eastern Afghanistan. Before the latest death, the website icasualties. org had counted the deaths of 54 NATO troops in May, making this the deadliest month yet in 2011.

Karzai's announcement followed a weekend airstrike in Helmand province that Afghan officials said killed 14 civilians.



MCT/OLIVIER DOULIERY

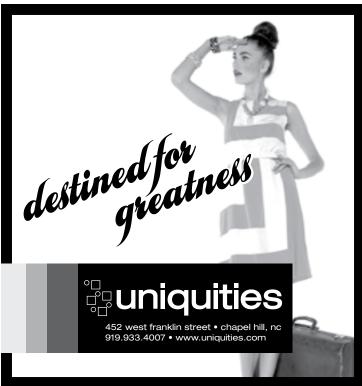
>>> Hamid Karzai, president of Afghanistan, demanded that a NATO force refrain from airstrikes on residential compounds.

#### Source of E. coli outbreak in Europe unclear after 16 die

LONDON (MCT) - Cases of E. coli-related illness are springing up around Europe, particularly in northern Germany, causing 16 deaths so far and infecting more than 1,000 people, according to the Guardian newspaper.

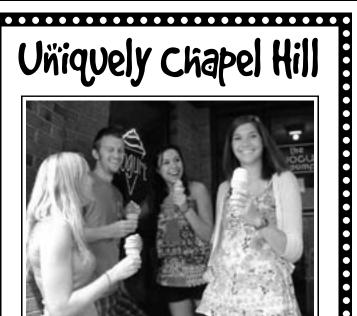
Cucumbers imported into Germany from Spain had initially been blamed for the outbreak.

Spanish fruits and vegetables have been banned in several European countries as experts try to locate the source of the bacteria.











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