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The Daily Tar Heel

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DTH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/ALLISON RUSSELL AND BROOKELYN RILEY

Future of bus ads will be discussed by towns, UNC

By Gayatri Surendranathan
Senior Writer

The debate concerning which bus ads, if any, will be allowed on Chapel Hill Transit buses has been largely confined to the chambers of the Chapel Hill Town Council.

But the voices of UNC and Carrboro, which represent 70 percent of contributions to the Chapel Hill Transit system, will be added to the discussion tonight.

On Dec. 3, the Town Council will decide the future of the Chapel Hill Transit bus ad program, which was called into question in October upon the discovery that the town had been following the wrong ad policy.

An ad advocating for an end to U.S. military aid to Israel first sparked the discussion about the town's ability to restrict political and religious ads.

The Town Council froze the bus ad program at its Oct. 24 meeting after realizing the ad went against the official policy adopted in June 2011 banning such ads.

Before the Chapel Hill Town Council makes a final decision, members want to hear from their transit partners, UNC and Carrboro, which share the costs of the Chapel Hill Transit system.

UNC annually contributes $7.08 million, or about 59 percent of total contributions to the system, while Chapel Hill pays $3.7 million, or about 31 percent.

"It's important that everyone is included and respected in this conversation," said Chapel Hill Town Council member Penny Rich. "It's the town's policy, but we want to get everyone's opinions."

But opinions on the future of the ad policy have varied, and reaching a consensus could be difficult.

Rich said she supported returning to the original policy from last June, banning political and religious ads.

"We did put a policy in place, it wasn't adhered to, and I want to go back to it," Rich said.

BUS ADS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

- **Aug. 13:** The Church of Reconciliation's bus ad calling for an end to U.S. aid to Israel first appeared on Chapel Hill Transit buses.
- **Sept. 12:** More than 110 people attended a Town Council meeting to discuss the ad.
- **Oct. 24:** The Town Council voted to freeze the bus ad policy after discovering it was using the wrong policy.
- **Nov. 13:** The Carrboro Board of Aldermen voted in favor of free speech on CHT buses.

But on Nov. 13, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen voted unanimously in favor of free speech on Chapel Hill Transit buses.

Alderman Lydia Lavelle said the board's decision stemmed from its belief that the bus system is a public

SEE **TRANSIT,** PAGE 7

NC selects insurance market

The state will run a joint state and federal health insurance exchange.

By Eric Garcia
Staff Writer

North Carolinians will participate in a new health insurance market starting in 2014, but much remains unclear about the extent of the changes — and how the market will be affected by politics.

As part of the 2010 Affordable Care Act, each state had to submit applications by Nov. 15 for federal funding to set up either a state-run or joint state and federal-run health insurance exchange. Another option for states was to have the federal government run the exchange.

According to HealthCare.gov, an exchange will allow small businesses and individuals to compare health care plans and determine eligibility for tax credits to lower the cost. The exchange system aims to cover more than 30 million uninsured Americans.

On Nov. 15, Gov. Bev Perdue announced her intention to set up a joint state-federal exchange.

"She chose the state-federal partnership because she wants the state to control the exchange — not the federal government," said Chris Mackey, spokeswoman for Perdue.

The announcement made some Republican leaders uncomfortable. They argued that the decision about which type of exchange to employ should be left to Governor-elect Pat McCrory and the newly elected state legislature.

And it appears that will actually be the case.

"While Gov. Perdue made an initial decision, the final authority rests with Pat McCrory and the 2013 General Assembly," said Jordan Shaw, communications director for N.C. House of Representatives Speaker Thom Tillis, R-Mecklenburg, in an email.

SEE **HEALTH EXCHANGE,** PAGE 7

North Carolina heads to No. 1 Indiana

UNC drew the nation's top team in the ACC/Big Ten challenge.

By Brandon Moree
Sports Editor

NORTH CAROLINA AT INDIANA

Time: 9:30 p.m.
Location: Assembly Hall in Bloomington, Ind.
Where to watch: ESPN

North Carolina men's basketball coach Roy Williams learned a lot about his team on their trip to Hawaii last week.

He learned that the Tar Heels (5-1) don't have the inside-outside balance he wants them to have.

He also learned they just weren't tough enough.

"We'd set a screen and they'd run through it," Williams said about his team's play in Maui.

"They'd set a screen and we'd stop and start calling for momma."

That toughness and offensive balance will be tested tonight when UNC travels to No. 1 Indiana.

Not only are the Hoosiers (6-0) the top-ranked team in the country, they have the preseason national player of the year Cody Zeller controlling the paint.

Zeller, younger brother of former UNC standout Tyler Zeller, is averaging 15 points and eight rebounds so far in his sophomore campaign.

"He's been the star ... just look at the numbers," Williams said. "Those other guys are good players but he's the guy that makes everybody else change their defense and you have to be concerned about him.

"He gave them a legitimate inside scorer that can foul out the other players. I just think he's a great player."

Williams is familiar with the Indiana star — he was heavily recruited by the UNC staff.

But Williams made it very clear that the Tar Heels can't afford to spend all their energy focussing on Zeller. Each of the other four starters are also averaging double-digit points.

In order to hang with the Hoosiers, No. 14 UNC will need to see more of the success from behind the 3-point arc that it had against Mississippi State and Chaminade, in addition to a more consistent inside presence.

But a dominant inside game is a tough goal to reach against Indiana, especially with a young corps of Tar Heel post players.

SEE **INDIANA,** PAGE 7

DTH FILE/CHRIS CONWAY

The Tar Heels will have to face the top-ranked Hoosiers without P.J. Hairston, due to an injury.

Usage of AP and IB tests reviewed

UNC administrators are questioning how effective college-level courses are.

By Jackson Knapp
Staff Writer

For many prospective UNC students, college starts before they step on campus as freshmen.

College-level courses — such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses — are emphasized in many high schools as a way to gain a competitive edge in college admission.

But due to a UNC study released a few weeks ago, University admissions officers are re-evaluating the importance of these classes.

The study determined to what extent college-level courses in high school led to better performance in students' first year at UNC — and the results might surprise students who like to stretch themselves thin.

The study found that students who took up to five college-level courses in high school on average had a significantly higher freshman GPA than those who didn't take any, said Stephen Farmer, vice provost for enrollment and undergraduate admissions, who helped conduct the study.

But the incremental gains in freshman GPAs are smaller — or nonexistent

SEE **GPA,** PAGE 7

Inside

TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE
Bryan Tucker, a UNC graduate and "Saturday Night Live" writer, will deliver the journalism school's Jeff MacNelly lecture tonight. **Page 3.**

MAMMOTH MONDAY
UNC Student Stores provided its own take on "Black Friday" and "Cyber Monday" on Monday with 30 percent discounts on all clothes and gifts. Festivities also featured a visit from Rameses and door-buster deals. **Page 3.**

This day in history
NOV. 27, 1942
Jimi Hendrix — lauded as the greatest electric guitarist in the history of popular music — was born in Seattle, Wash., as Johnny Allen Hendrix.

Today's weather
Snow is officially acceptable.
H **56,** L **34**

Wednesday's weather
Fine, OK, it's still fall.
H **54,** L **28**

Take chances, make mistakes, get messy.
MISS FRIZZLE, "THE MAGIC SCHOOL BUS"

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

Gamelan Nyai Saraswati: The Javanese gamelan ensemble from the UNC music department presents its fall concert. It will play the traditional music of the Indonesian island of Java.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Hill Hall

The Chucho Valdes Quintet: Jazz pianist Chucho Valdes brings his revolutionary blend of styles to Memorial Hall along with The Afro-Cuban Messengers. Tickets are $10 for students and up to $49 for the general public.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Memorial Hall

WEDNESDAY

Posthuman comedy: The Department of English and Comparative Literature continues its Critical Speaker Series with speaker Mark McGurl of Stanford University.
Time: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Location: Donovan Lounge, Greenlaw Hall second floor

'It's A Wonderful Life': PlayMakers Repertory Company presents the classic story as a live radio play through Dec. 16.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Paul Green Theatre

To make a calendar submission, email calendar@dailytarheel.com. Please include the date of the event in the subject line, and attach a photo if you wish. Events will be published in the newspaper on either the day or the day before they take place.

The Daily Tar Heel

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- The Daily Tar Heel reports any inaccurate information published as soon as the error is discovered.
- Editorial corrections will be printed on this page. Errors committed on the Opinion Page have corrections printed on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.
- Contact Managing Editor Elise Young at managing.editor@dailytarheel.com with issues about this policy.

DAILY DOSE

Gender-neutral toys

From staff and wire reports

Sweden is taking strides to make shopping for toys a little less sexist.

Just in time for the holiday shopping season, the nation's Toys R Us equivalent Top Toy has changed its advertisements to feature girls with toy guns and boys with dolls.

This comes after the company was reprimanded for featuring girls playing princess and boys dressed as superheroes in a 2008 ad.

Surely this move will revolutionize the holidays because children will accept getting a toy they don't want and credit gender neutrality.

NOTED. Germany is just now getting around to frowning upon bestiality again.

A law that some people are actually upset about is circulating that would prevent sex with and pimping of animals.

QUOTED. "If you watch 'Two and a Half Men,' please stop watching 'Two and a Half Men.'"

— Angus T. Jones, the half-man on the program, whose religious views turned him against the show that made him sort of famous.

POLICE LOG

● Someone passed counterfeit money at Walgreens at 108 E. Franklin St. between 6 a.m. Thursday and 7:45 a.m. Friday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

● Someone vandalized property at 500 Church St. between 10:30 p.m. Thursday and 9 a.m. Friday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person shot windows with paintballs. Damage to the windows was valued at $100, reports state.

● Someone shoplifted from 1801 E. Franklin St. at 12:35 p.m. Friday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person stole three leather jackets valued at $1,995, reports state.

● Someone discharged a firearm at 133 W. Franklin St. at about 2:26 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person fired the weapon from a vehicle after a fight, reports state.

● Someone was trespassed at 102 N.C. Highway 54 at 6:03 p.m. on Thursday, according to Carrboro police reports.

The person was in a parking lot asking for money and was given a warning, reports said.

● Someone reported a dispute at 110 Dillard St. at 9:32 p.m. Thursday, according to Carrboro police reports.

Someone was asked to leave the residence after an argument, reports state.

● Someone was assaulted at 306 Estes Drive at 10 p.m. Thursday, according to Carrboro police reports.

The person was bitten in the forehead and her eyeglasses were broken. The victim needed medical attention for the wounds, reports state.

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Frampton sentenced to house arrest

The University professor was convicted of drug smuggling in Argentina.

By Zach Freshwater
Staff Writer

Paul Frampton was arrested Jan. 23 in an Argentinian airport when authorities found cocaine in his bag. He was sentenced Nov. 19 to house arrest.

After more than nine months in a high-security Argentine prison and one month of house arrest, UNC physics professor Paul Frampton was sentenced Nov. 19 to four years and eight months of house arrest for drug smuggling charges.

Frampton was arrested at a Buenos Aires, Argentina, airport Jan. 23 for attempting to smuggle 2 kilograms of cocaine out of the country in a bag he checked.

In an earlier statement, Frampton said someone he trusted gave him the bag and he didn't know it contained drugs.

According to his website — helppaulframpton.org — Frampton's supporters believe his almost five-year sentence will likely translate to two years and four months of actual time served. The website suggests he could be released by May 2014.

Frampton had already been released from the Villa Devoto prison and placed on house arrest late last month because prison conditions aggravated his respiratory condition.

A statement from the University said it has not received official confirmation about Frampton's conviction.

"If the reports about a conviction are true, we are saddened by the prospect that Dr. Frampton would not be able to return to Chapel Hill for several years," the statement said.

In March, the University froze Frampton's salary and forced him to take a leave of absence.

Frampton filed a formal University grievance in response to his pay suspension and forced leave, which he claimed violated his tenure.

And in August, about 80 UNC faculty members and international academics signed a letter objecting to the University's suspension of Frampton's pay.

Pat Eberlein, a mathematics professor, said he was saddened by Frampton's conviction and wishes him the best for the future.

"I still believe that he is innocent of drug smuggling and had no knowledge that he was carrying drugs in his suitcase," Eberlein said.

Contact the desk editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

FRAMPTON IN ARGENTINA

UNC professor Paul Frampton was sentenced Nov. 19 to almost five years of house arrest in Argentina.

- **Jan. 23:** Frampton was arrested at a Buenos Aires, Argentina, airport and sent to Villa Devoto prison.
- **Feb. 17:** Bruce Carney informs Frampton his salary will be frozen and that he will be placed on personal leave.
- **Oct. 31:** Authorities release Frampton from Villa Devoto prison and place him on house arrest following health concerns.

SANTA MAKES A PIT STOP

DTH/GITANJALI WOLF

Silvia Izquierdo (left), 4, and her sister Anna Izquierdo (right), 6, visit Santa with their mother at University Mall on Monday. "Seeing children smile and laugh makes me happy," Santa said. "Kids usually ask where my reindeer are. I tell them they're at the Pole training and exercising for Christmas Eve," he said.

Mammoth Monday attracts students

Revenue from the Student Stores sale Monday funded scholarships.

By Randy Short
Staff Writer

The crowds at UNC Student Stores on Monday did not quite match the chaos seen at retailers across the country on "Black Friday."

But Student Stores did attempt to capitalize on the holiday frenzy with its third annual Mammoth Monday sale. All clothes and gifts were discounted for 30 percent off.

"It's the first school day after Thanksgiving — kind of like 'Black Friday' and 'Cyber Monday' all rolled up into one big day," said John Gorsuch, director of Student Stores.

Gorsuch said the sale comes at an opportune time given a currently quiet schedule for University athletics. Athletic events drive a majority of the business for the store.

This year's third annual sale featured new promotions, including a visit from Rameses, surprise performances by a cappella groups and door-buster deals.

The first 50 people who arrived received $10 gift cards. There were 39 patrons lined up before the store opened, Gorsuch said.

In anticipation of a busier day, the store staffed twice as many students.

"It's been game-day busy, but instead of parents it's been mostly students," store employee Amy Kalinowski said.

The store increased its advertising to attract more customers.

Several shoppers who said they normally wouldn't buy from the store were attracted to its lower prices.

"The prices (today) are pretty good," senior Shelby Lake said.

"Usually they're a little bit higher than I can afford, so it's nice to have them brought down to something a little more doable."

All of the store's revenue goes toward funding scholarships and fellowships, which added incentive for some to cross items off the holiday shopping list, said Anselmo Lastra, a computer science professor.

"The profits go to the scholarship program, so it's a good deal," he said.

Contact the desk editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

Transit tax effects delayed

Although the tax was passed this month, it will take time to implement the upgrades.

By Danielle Herman
Staff Writer

Orange County passed a transit tax earlier this month — but fulfilling all of the plan's components will likely be a patchwork effort.

The county is moving to upgrade its transit system — with a light rail, improved bus services and an Amtrak station — but first it needs money, other than the tax's revenue.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners will vote on three resolutions to fund the upgrade locally on Dec. 11. But the plan also depends on state and federal funds, which have yet to be secured.

A half-cent sales tax increase, which was passed by referendum on Nov. 6, will go into effect in April.

"Now that the referendum has passed, Orange County will be proceeding on passing three resolutions and begin implementing local funding sources," said Craig Benedict, county planning director.

The local funding sources also include a $7 county vehicle registration fee, and a $3 increase in the regional vehicle registration fee.

The transit plan includes expanded bus services, the construction of an Amtrak station in Hillsborough and a 17.3 mile light rail connecting UNC Hospitals and East Durham. Durham County passed a similar sales tax increase in 2011.

Deborah Craig-Ray, Durham County assistant manager, said the county will also levy the new tax increase and vehicle registration fees.

Durham and Orange counties are also seeking state and federal funding.

Benedict said Triangle Transit applied to the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts and Small Starts program, which is the government's main way of supporting locally planned transit initiatives.

But the application process is lengthy and will take at least four years, Benedict said. If federal funding is not approved, the counties will not receive funding from the state either.

Fifty percent of light rail funding is expected to come from the federal program. The state and local governments would provide the rest of the funding.

But service improvements will happen regardless of whether the counties receive federal funding, Benedict said.

Bonnie Hauser, president of the rural advocacy group Orange County Voice, said she is against the plan because it puts too much emphasis on the light rail.

"It overemphasizes light rail as a silver bullet for transit," she said.

And Hauser does not think the state will agree to fund the plan.

"It's hard to imagine that this project is going to get into the top priorities of funding in the state," she said.

Contact the desk editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSIT TAX

34,650
Hours of additional bus service expected to be added in the first five years of the plan

$1.4 billion
Total cost for constructing the 17.3 mile light rail

$5 million
Funds expected to be generated in Orange County annually by the half-cent sales tax increase

inBRIEF

ARTS BRIEFS

Student tickets for Common's last day of classes lecture are on sale

Tickets to see the Dec. 5 lecture by hip-hop artist Common went on sale Monday for UNC students. Student tickets cost $10 and are available at the Memorial Hall box office or at memorialhall.unc.edu.

Students can purchase one ticket per UNC OneCard, and they may use two OneCards. General public tickets go on sale Dec. 3 for $20.

CITY BRIEFS

Town to begin construction on South Columbia Street widening

Work will begin today on a street widening project at South Columbia Street between Purefoy Road and Manning Drive.

The $4.6 million project will create a center turn lane. The project is expected to be completed by July 2014.

Sunday night fire on Long Leaf Drive displaces Chapel Hill family

The Chapel Hill Fire Department responded to a structure fire at 411 Long Leaf Drive at 7:20 p.m. Sunday.

The fire was likely caused by a chimney fire in an aging fireplace. No injuries were reported.

Five fire companies and two emergency services crews responded to the fire, which caused about $60,000 in damage.

— From staff and wire reports

Q&A with SNL's **Bryan Tucker**

Bryan Tucker, a UNC alumnus and writer for "Saturday Night Live," will give a lecture tonight discussing the presidential election in a comedic light.

Staff writer Sierra Wingate-Bey spoke with Tucker about his time at SNL, memorable sketches and his path to success.

Bryan Tucker is a writer for the popular television show "Saturday Night Live." He is also an alumnus of the University.

Daily Tar Heel: How did you end up at SNL?

Bryan Tucker: It was kind of a long road. I started at Carolina doing Student Television and performing around campus with a sketch improv group.

In 1999, I got a job writing for "The Chris Rock Show" on HBO, and that was my first job. That helped me get an agent and some credibility.

That job led to other jobs like "MADtv" and "Chappelle's Show." I got a job at SNL in 2005, and I've been there ever since.

DTH: Was there a major turning point in your career?

BT: A big turning point was where I could quit being a waiter, and that happened after I had been in New York for about a year and a half and was doing stand up. Feeling like you can make a living off of it is a huge relief.

Getting on "Chappelle's Show" was a really big break for me because so many people knew and liked that show.

But all of those are little steps that eventually add up to a whole career. It's very rare that you get one big step that opens everything up.

DTH: What do you enjoy most about writing for SNL?

BT: I really like the live element of it. There's nothing much like it. It's just really cool that we're writing, rewriting up until the show goes on.

Also the history of it is really cool to be a part of. Being here, I've gotten to meet a lot of comedy idols. I've written sketches for Steve Martin, for Jim Carrey. I've gotten to meet Barack Obama.

Working with a new celebrity every week adds an unpredictable element.

DTH: Which celebrity host has surprised you the most?

BT: They're always surprising — they come in on Monday and we write all their stuff on Tuesday, so you don't really get to know them very well.

People in sports like LeBron James or Eli Manning, you're just never sure what they're going to be capable of doing. We had Bruno Mars on this year, and he was a pleasant surprise.

SEE THE LECTURE

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Top of the Hill's Back Bar

Live stream: http://bit.ly/UOZz7L

DTH: What are some memorable sketches you've written for SNL?

BT: Probably what people remember is the "What Up With That" sketch with Kenan Thompson, which was written by me, Kenan and Rob Klein.

Last year I wrote a sketch where Jesus Christ talks to Tim Tebow, which got kind of noted and acclaimed. I'm one of two or three writers who usually write a lot of the political things.

DTH: Did you ever expect to reach this level of success?

BT: Not really. It's not that I didn't expect it, I just didn't know anybody who did something like that, so I didn't think that I would do something like that.

I thought I might just be a journalist, but I always wanted to be a TV comedy writer. I just didn't have a model to model myself after.

I had hoped for it and I wanted it, I just didn't know how to put myself on a track to get it.

Contact the desk editor at arts@dailytarheel.com.

Five vie for open Chapel Hill Town Council seat

By Corinne Jurney
Staff Writer

As Penny Rich prepares to leave the Chapel Hill Town Council, five Chapel Hill residents have stepped forward in the hopes of filling her seat.

When Rich departs next month to join the Orange County Board of Commissioners, the council will have two female and five male members. Rich said she hopes a woman will take her place.

"Women see the world through a different perspective," Rich said. "It is not a prerequisite to be a woman, but if the right woman comes along, it would be good to put her in there."

Three women and two men have announced intentions to apply for the open seat, and the council will appoint someone in January.

Maria Palmer

Maria Palmer, a former pastor, school principal and active community member, thinks her experience in the community would give her an advantage on the council.

Palmer is no stranger to leadership. She was a co-chair of the transportation theme planning group for Chapel Hill 2020, the town's comprehensive vision for the future.

Palmer said in an email that she likes the direction the town is taking.

"I think we have everything we need to succeed in making Chapel Hill a model in every front," she said.

Gary Kahn

Gary Kahn, a Southern Village resident, has taken interest in Chapel Hill government since moving here from New York City two years ago.

He said he has been an outspoken citizen for the past year, attending meetings and advising council members on decisions.

He said he publicly opposed the proposal to raise property taxes to fund public transportation initiatives.

Kahn believes his familiarity with urban ideals will give the council a new perspective.

"Chapel Hill is headed toward becoming a town-city, and I think that because I'm from a city like New York City that faces many big city issues, with my help, Chapel Hill could avoid some of those issues," Kahn said.

Amy Ryan

Longtime resident and planning board member Amy Ryan said her involvement in planning the Chapel Hill 2020 initiative has led her to seek the open council seat.

Ryan said she wants to be a part of the implementation process for the goals laid out by Chapel Hill 2020.

She said she would also like to see the council use more data.

"We don't often have the data we need to make well-informed decisions like fiscal impacts," Ryan said.

Ryan said she feels confident in her ability to jump into the council in the middle of the term.

"I've been in town a long time and am familiar with how it works," she said. "I'm not concerned that I couldn't get up to speed."

Jon DeHart

Jon DeHart, a branch manager at a Wells Fargo bank, said his management experience would be an asset to the council. He serves on the town's transportation board.

"Being on the transportation board has made me familiar with how we are going to develop a light rail system to better serve our population," DeHart said.

DeHart is also active in his church and the YMCA, and because of two unsuccessful bids for the council in 2009 and 2011, he said he knows many of the council members.

Sally Greene

Former council member Sally Greene served on the council between 2003 and 2011, where she worked on an inclusionary zoning ordinance to secure affordable housing in new developments.

Greene said she wants to do more with affordable housing and homelessness.

Contact the desk editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

LITTLE BOOKWORM

DTH/MOLLY COGBURN

Six-year-old Nora Decker of Chapel Hill reads a picture book from the shelves of the Chapel Hill Public Library. She enjoys nature books and "learning about nature," she said, as well as looking at the pictures of animals.

Israeli leader to quit politics

JERUSALEM (MCT) — Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak, one of the nation's most influential and divisive leaders, said Monday he would not run for a Knesset seat in the upcoming election, ending a political and military career that spanned more than three decades.

The surprise announcement comes in the wake of Israel's eight-day clash with the Islamist militant group Hamas in the Gaza Strip, but was prompted by domestic politics and Israel's scheduled January elections.

Though Barak's sagging popularity enjoyed a bump from the recent Gaza conflict, opinion polls predicted his Independence Party might barely win enough votes to secure him re-election.

His retirement saves him the potential embarrassment of such a defeat and ends speculation about his next political step.

Even as Barak announced his retirement from political life, he seemed to leave the door open a crack for a return. In keeping with his reputation as a political strategist and survivor, the 70-year-old leader seemed to dodge a question during a news conference about whether he would consider remaining in his Defense Ministry post if requested by the next prime minister, who has the power to appoint a handful of nonelected Cabinet members.

"I believe that it is important to make way for fresh faces," said Barak, who in addition to his cumulative seven years as defense minister, also served as prime minister from 1999 into 2001 and as foreign minister.

One of Israel's most-decorated soldiers, Barak joined politics in the 1990s after serving in one of Israel's elite commando units and then as the army's chief of staff. As chairman of the left-leaning Labor Party, he defeated Benjamin Netanyahu for the prime minister's seat in 1999.

But during his tenure as prime minister, Barak presided over two watershed events in 2000: Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and then the failed Camp David peace talks.

Seen as being too dovish, Barak's government collapsed and he was replaced by military hero Ariel Sharon in 2001.

After a stint in the private sector, Barak returned to politics in 2007 and tried to reposition himself as a centrist. But he ended up alienating the left and the right.

"Today is Likud's independence day," said Public Diplomacy Minister Yuli Edelstein. "Barak will go down in the history of Israel's governments as the worst defense minster the Jewish settlements have ever had."

For Netanyahu, Barak's departure — which is not expected to take place until February when the next government is formed — means the prime minister will lose an ally on the question of confronting Iran. Barak was one of the few defense officials who appeared to support Netanyahu's threats to attack Iran's purported nuclear facilities.

Fiscal cliff talks continue

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) — Congress returned in a lame-duck session with no signs of quick compromise to prevent a tax hike for most Americans early next year.

Talks between the White House and Republican leaders in the House continued behind closed doors. Current tax rates expire on Dec. 31.

Emboldened by his re-election, President Obama took his case for raising taxes on the wealthiest Americans to the public on Monday. He warned that the threat of higher taxes on middle-class Americans could dampen the Christmas shopping season.

"The president has called on Congress to take action and stop holding the middle class and our economy hostage over a disagreement on tax cuts for households with incomes over $250,000 per year," the White House said in a statement.

The White House got a boost from billionaire investor Warren Buffett, who said the wealthy — himself included — should pay more. Noting the nation's growing income disparity, Buffett dismissed the Republican argument that tax hikes would hamper investments.

"In recent years, my gang has been leaving the middle class in the dust," Buffett said. "So let's forget about the rich and ultrarich going on strike and stuffing their ample funds under their mattresses if — gasp — capital gains rates and ordinary income rates are increased."

Key Republicans, including House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner, have signaled they are willing to put new tax revenues on the table, creating the outlines of a possible deal. Several Republican lawmakers used the Sunday talk shows to distance themselves from their party's anti-tax pledge, publicly breaking with conservative stalwart Grover Norquist, although they insisted any agreement must include spending cuts.

A so-called grand bargain of tax hikes and spending cuts has eluded Washington in the past, but both political parties are wary of rattling the financial markets and sparking a crisis in consumer spending. Wall Street has signaled a bold deficit-reduction plan is needed to prevent a credit downgrade.

No talks between the president and congressional leaders have been scheduled. The parties had agreed to meet this week to put the framework of a two-part deal on the table.

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On the wire: national and world news

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White House issues new warning on 'fiscal cliff'

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) — On the heels of record sales during the Black Friday weekend, the White House warned that automatic federal tax increases set for next year could hurt the rest of the holiday shopping season and would likely crimp consumer spending by about $200 billion in 2013.

The report released Monday projects that if Congress fails to act and middle-income taxes rise, consumer spending growth could be sliced by 1.7 percentage points and economic growth overall would probably be cut by 1.4 percentage points in 2013. Those are not small numbers given that consumer spending drives about two-thirds of U.S. economic activity and that the American economy has been growing by just a little more than 2 percent since the recovery began in mid-2009.

The report from the White House Council of Economic Advisors looked only at the impending income tax hikes for taxpayers, including a higher alternative minimum tax. These tax increases are part of the so-called fiscal cliff — a combination of mandated fiscal spending cuts and higher taxes that are slated to kick in next year and that on the whole would hit the economy by more than $500 billion and likely send the country back into recession into 2013.

The report is broadly consistent with forecasts by the Congressional Budget Office and leading private economists, and it comes after retailers amassed a record $59.1 billion in sales from Thanksgiving day through Sunday, up from $52.4 billion a year earlier, according to estimates from the National Retail Federation.

The encouraging start of the holiday shopping season reflects the recent strengthening of consumer confidence, which is at a five-year high. Consumers lately have been feeling better as housing prices have begun to rise and job growth has picked up slightly.

But the White House report warned that "the hard-earned rise in consumer confidence will be at risk if the middle-class tax cuts are not soon extended with a minimum of political drama."

New policy is urged on Plan B for teens

LOS ANGELES (MCT) — Doctors should give underage teenagers prescriptions for emergency contraceptives such as Plan B before they start having sex instead of waiting until a young patient's "plan A" goes awry, the American Academy of Pediatrics says in a new policy statement. It says doctors should also counsel teens on the options for emergency birth control as part of an overall strategy to reduce teen pregnancy.

The academy is issuing the new position paper, published online Monday by the journal Pediatrics, as physicians and other health experts struggle to reduce the nation's high birthrate among adolescents.

Teen pregnancies in the U.S. have declined during the last 20 years, but the incidence is still the highest in the developed world, according to data released this year by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The birthrate among Americans ages 15 to 19 dropped 44 percent between 1991 and 2010 to 34.3 births per 1,000 women, the CDC reported. But that's still about five times the teen birthrate in France and two times the rate in Canada, according to United Nations data.

Rates of sexual assault are highest among teens and young adults, according to the Justice Department's Office on Violence Against Women. And all in all, nearly 80 percent of teen pregnancies in the U.S. are unintended, occurring after unprotected sex or "underprotected" sex — when the contraceptive method of choice fails.

Catalan separatists keep pursuing independence

BARCELONA (MCT) — Separatists in the large north-eastern Spanish region of Catalonia on Monday pledged to continue pursuing their plans for independence despite an election setback suffered by the separatist regional government.

MCT/OLIVIER DOULIERY

A police officer rides his bike Monday in front of the White House during preparation of a review stand for the presidential inauguration. The inauguration will take place on Jan. 21, 2013.

Regional Prime Minister Artur Mas' Catalan nationalist party, CiU, remained far short of the absolute majority it had sought in Sunday's elections, even losing 12 seats in the regional parliament.

But an even more radical separatist party, the far-left ERC, more than doubled its number of mandates, becoming the second-largest faction in the parliament.

The ERC would join CiU in establishing a "clear and concise" timetable for a referendum on independence, ERC leader Oriol Junqueras said.

Nearly two-thirds of Catalan legislators backed the referendum, Junqueras said.

Mas said on Sunday that he would pursue the planned referendum despite his party's weak showing in the elections.

The government in Madrid opposes the plan and has pledged to block it through the Constitutional Court. Mas' weak election result will force him to seek alliances with other parties.

SEC chief Mary Schapiro to step down next month

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) —Mary Schapiro said Monday she will step down as chairwoman of the Securities and Exchange Commission next month.

Schapiro, who has headed the Wall Street watchdog since 2009, had been widely expected to depart the commission after the presidential election. She announced that her last day would be Dec. 14.

Her five-year term does not expire until January 2014, but it's rare for chairs to serve more than four years. The SEC noted that Schapiro has served longer than 24 of the previous 28 chairs.

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Announcements

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CHILD CARE 3 DAYS/WK. UNC professor's family seeks babysitter, tutor: M/W/F 3-6pm starting January 2013 thru end of Spring semester. Duties: afterschool pick up, assist with homework. Ideal applicant: experience with children (camp counselor big plus), science, math or technology concentration or passion, sports enthusiast, Must have: accident free driving record, good references, non-smoking, non-allergic, pet lover. Please send resume to fail.lisa@gmail.com to arrange an interview.

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Revise your routine. Consider what's most important, and set up practices for that. Health is a treasure. Add daily fun. Social life buzzes this year; relationships are your jewels. Romantic sparks heat the winter. Keep finances organized, as work intensifies next summer. Balance with play.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)
Today is a 7 -- Don't stop yet ... you're so close! Keep playing the game, and beat the odds. Watch your language, but say exactly what you think. Gather strength from love.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
Today is a 9 -- Love grows stronger in spite of restrictions. Be thoughtful of others. An unstable financial situation could lead to a financial revelation. Make sure you get your two-cents' worth.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
Today is a 6 -- Consider another location. Stand back to let your mate express her/himself. Finances are tight. And two plus two is still four. Don't despair, there's always tomorrow.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
Today is a 7 -- Your friends are there to help you dig for the treasure. Don't fight, or sweat, over the small stuff. Listen to an older person. Follow your schedule.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
Today is a 8 -- The road to great communication is paved with good intentions. Play by the rules and prosper, but don't spend what you haven't got. Rely on your community for what you need.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today is a 8 -- You're tougher than you look. Be willing to play with others. The more you learn, the better you'll understand the strategy. Meditate on it. Make another improvement at home.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Today is a 7 -- Your discipline and sense of balance come in handy now and are admired. Don't sell yourself short. Keep checking the quality. A female joins you.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Today is a 9 -- You're breaking the glass ceiling, or at least pushing it open. Concentrate on the moment at hand, even if the progress seems slow. The depth of love given to you is revealed. Team members come to agreement.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Today is a 8 -- Listen first, carefully, before jumping to conclusions, & avoid unnecessary upsets. Follow the schedule, prioritizing the projects that you love. Don't forget to chop wood & carry water.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Today is a 8 -- Love is still in the air. Take a deep breath, and let it all soak in. Acknowledge another person's wisdom. Don't let the circumstances distract you from your plan or your promises.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Today is a 9 -- For nearly four weeks, your ideas move forward rapidly. Another provides the right contacts. Be patient and understanding toward their ideas, it's not worth the fight.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Today is a 8 -- Ignore rumors. Love empowers you and opens up new opportunities among the reigning confusion reigns. Keep yourself to high standards. Voice your feelings.

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A MELLOW MURAL

DTH/KATIE WILLIAMS

Local muralist Michael Brown makes progress on his mural at Franklin Street's Mellow Mushroom, which will open in early 2013. Brown has done most of the area's murals, but he said he never thought he would be asked to do one in a 1970s style. He said people seemed to really like it so far.

GPA

FROM PAGE 1

— for students who have taken more than five, according to the study.

"The question we wanted to ask was whether there was a point at which more college-level courses in high school maybe didn't offer the incremental increase that we always assumed they offered," Farmer said.

"You can't assume that somebody who takes 15 Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or college-level courses in high school is necessarily going to do better in his or her first year at Carolina as someone who takes five or less," he said.

Farmer worked closely with Jen Kretchmar, senior assistant director of undergraduate admissions, and Christopher Wiesen, research assistant at UNC's Howard W. Odum Institute for Social Science, to conduct the study.

Farmer added that there are more questions to ask and aspects of admissions criteria to examine, but he does believe the research holds weight.

"We don't want to discourage people from challenging themselves, because we think it's important that people challenge themselves," he said. "We just don't want students to feel forced to dwell on criteria that are less meaningful than we thought they were."

Jordan Lee, a senior at East Chapel Hill High School, has taken three AP courses and found them rewarding.

"I feel like (the classes) give me a sense of looking up and a sense of how hard it's actually going to be in college," he said.

But Lee added that some students are taking too many tough courses.

"The more you take, the better you look (for colleges). Some people take too many. I just take the ones I like, and I'm happy with them."

Farmer said high school students who enroll in many college-level courses might not be as prepared as they think.

"A concern that we've heard occasionally here is that in high school, (students) race so hard to what they think is the finish line that they don't really have much strength for the real learning that starts after," Farmer said.

"It's one thing to ask people to exert themselves when we think the exertion is meaningful, and it's another just to ask someone to jump through an empty hoop."

Contact the desk editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

STUDENTS' GPA

3.07
GPA: 0 college-level courses

3.26
GPA: 5 college-level courses

3.25
GPA: 10 college-level courses

TRANSIT

FROM PAGE 1

forum.

"I hope the town thoughtfully weighs the strong sentiments of our board," Lavelle said. "It's ultimately the council's decision, but they need our input and UNC's."

UNC will be represented at tonight's meeting by Carolyn Elfland, associate vice chancellor for campus services. Elfland could not be reached for comment Monday.

UNC students — who contribute to the system through student fees — have mixed feelings on the issue.

"I don't think you should ban all political ads outright, but I definitely think that nothing discriminatory should be allowed," said junior Elizabeth Whitfield.

"There's a fine line between discriminatory and controversial."

Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt said he looks forward to tonight's discussion.

"Carrboro didn't wait to hear from the partners — they went ahead and passed a resolution, which is interesting," Kleinschmidt said.

"It's important that all of the partners have slept on what the transit system is set up to do, and what an ad policy is set up to do."

Contact the desk editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

The Lumina 620 Market St. Chapel Hill 932-9000
Take 15/501 South towards Pittsboro Exit Market St. / Southern Village
RISE OF THE GUARDIANS PG ...12:35-2:50-4:50-7:10-9:25
LIFE OF PI PG ...1:20-4:20-7:20-9:45
BREAKING DAWN Part 2 PG-13 ...1:15-4:15-7:15-9:45
SKYFALL PG-13 ...1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00
WRECK-IT RALPH PG ...12:30-2:45-5:00-7:15-9:30
All shows $6.50 for college students with ID
Bargain Matinees $6.50 | DOLBY DIGITAL | STADIUM SEATING

HEALTH EXCHANGE

FROM PAGE 1

Mackey said Perdue made the announcement in mid-November to receive federal grants.

In previous years N.C. has applied for more than $12 million in federal money to begin establishing the exchange.

Jonathan Oberlander, a UNC professor of social medicine, said the state's main rationale for having a joint program is convenience.

"It leaves some of the logistical issues to the federal government," he said.

But Oberlander said McCrory will face political pressures from members of his own party, who might want to boycott the exchange or leave its operation solely to the U.S. government.

And uncertainty remains about how the exchange will work and affect other programs like student health insurance plans. The UNC system opened up a bidding process for a new student plan late last month.

Oberlander said a wide range of people needs to sign up with the exchange to broaden the risk pool and lower costs. Otherwise, premiums will rise.

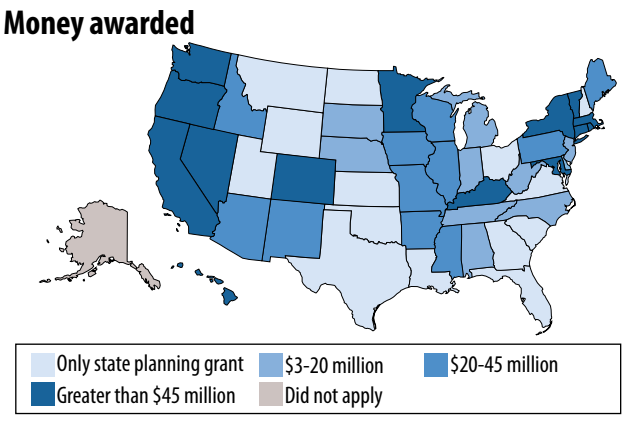
"If only sick people show up, it cannot work," he said. "Younger and healthier people have to sign up or else it just won't work financially."

Contact the desk editor at state@dailytarheel.com.

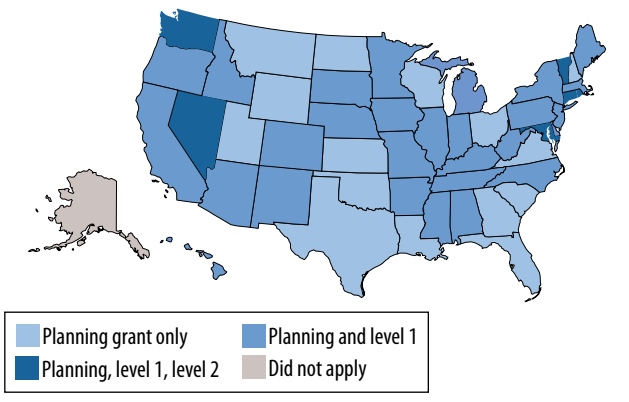
State health insurance exchanges

Most states recently applied for grants to help implement a health insurance exchange per the Affordable Care Act. Some states are further along and have applied for additional grants.

Money awarded



Levels of grants awarded



SOURCE: WWW.HEALTHCARE.GOV

DTH/CASSIE SCHUTZER

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGES

Per the Affordable Care Act, each state must select a state, federal or joint state-federal health insurance exchange according to these procedures:

- States had to apply for federal grants to help implement the exchanges by Nov. 15.
- States have until Feb. 15 to apply to have a jointly operated or federal-run exchange.
- The exchanges, which are designed to spread risk and lower health insurance premiums, will be fully operational starting in 2014.

INDIANA

FROM PAGE 1

"I do want us to have more balance with inside scoring," Williams said. "But we don't have the experience to score inside right now with Brice (Johnson) and Joel (James), particularly, and even Desmond (Hubert)."

Those young forwards and freshman point guard Marcus Paige will have to perform in one of the most difficult environments in college basketball. They will have to do so without P.J. Hairston, who will miss the game with a knee injury.

But, inexperienced as they may be, senior Dexter Strickland thinks the Tar Heels can handle it.

"Those guys have no clue what type of atmosphere it's going to be (tonight)," Strickland said. "I think we're ready for it. As a team we have focused on just going out there and execute what coach wants.

"I don't think anybody is going out there trying to do too much. Everybody knows their role and is just ready to play."

Contact the desk editor at sports@dailytarheel.com.

games

SUDOKU

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Level: 1 2 3 4

TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

		7		9			3	
		8	5	4			9	
	9					4		1
			6	2	7			
		1				8		
			8	5	1			
2		9					7	
	7			6	5	1		
	4			8		5		

Solution to Monday's puzzle

6	7	4	8	9	5	2	3	1
9	5	1	3	2	6	7	4	8
2	8	3	1	4	7	9	6	5
1	2	5	4	6	9	8	7	3
3	6	9	7	1	8	5	2	4
8	4	7	5	3	2	6	1	9
4	9	6	2	8	3	1	5	7
7	1	2	9	5	4	3	8	6
5	3	8	6	7	1	4	9	2

No. 14 versus No. 1

UNC men's basketball faces top-ranked Indiana tonight in Bloomington. See pg. 1 for story.

Frampton sentencing

UNC professor Paul Frampton was sentenced to more than four years house arrest. See pg. 3 for story.

Returning to his roots

SNL writer and UNC alumnus Bryan Tucker visits Chapel Hill today. See page 3 for Q&A.

Moving forward

Transit partners will meet today in hopes of reaching a decision on bus ad policy. See pg. 1 for story.

DEC 1/2
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Carolina Ballet
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

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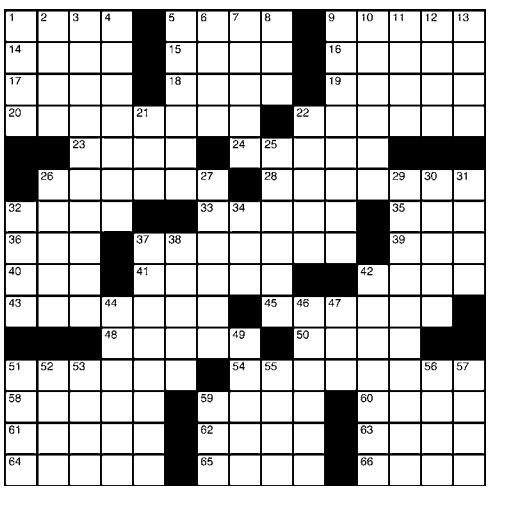
ACROSS
1 Pennsylvania city of about 100,000
5 Fabled blue ox
9 Tribe also called the Wyandot
14 TV warrior princess
15 LAX postings
16 Prefix with meter
17 Señorita's love
18 Modernists, for short
19 News anchor Connie
20 Motor City's state
22 Striped zoo creatures
23 Man, in Milan
24 Chili spice
26 Star footballer
28 Emergency levee component
32 Scottish hillside
33 To the point
35 Where Mandela was pres.
36 Tonsillitis-treating MD
37 London's province
39 Medit. land
40 "C'est la __"
41 iPod button
42 Down Under greeting
43 Insistent words of affirmation
45 Deal with a bare spot, perhaps
48 Selfless sort
50 French cathedral city
51 Job listing of a sort
54 A cut above, with "to"
58 Two-time loser to Ike
59 Caesar's 107
60 K thru 12
61 Glowing signs
62 Letters on a phone button
63 Scads
64 With 66-Across, one of five found in this puzzle
65 Caesar's being
66 See 64-Across

DOWN
1 Midterm, e.g.
2 Do followers, scalewise
3 Protects from disease
4 Batting helmet opening
5 Orono, Maine, is a suburb of it
6 Surveyor's measure
7 Bucking horse
8 Start of summer?
9 Access illegally, as computer files
10 "__ me, you villain!"
11 Agree to another tour
12 Former Atlanta arena
13 Christmas quaffs
21 Holy terror
22 Gulf State resident
25 Loan shark
26 Immortal PGA nickname
27 Thick
29 Control freak in a white dress
30 Syrian leader
31 "CSI: NY" actor Sinise
32 Bunch of beauties
34 Andalusian article
37 Rose-colored glasses wearer
38 Wet behind the ears
42 "Who are you kidding?!"
44 Tropical lizard
46 Ewing Oil, e.g.
47 Notice
49 Sends regrets, perhaps
51 Pealed
52 River of central Germany
53 Gin flavoring
55 Direction reversals, in slang
56 "Yeah, what the heck!"
57 Communion, for one
59 Miler Sebastian



A	S	N	E	R		A	H	A		S	T	A	B	
C	H	O	S	E		L	O	F	T		L	A	C	E
L	I	T	T	L	E	L	U	L	U		O	G	R	E
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G	O	E	S	S	O	L	O			P	Y	R	E	S
L	O	N	E		T	O	T	E	R		P	E	E	T
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D	O	H		A	C	R	O		D	O	L	L	U	P
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T	O	D	O			E	D	Y		S	E	L	E	S

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Climate changing pop culture

Although it seems like "global warming" has long been a common term, it only entered the cultural vernacular recently as climate change was being accepted by the majority of Americans. And like many serious phenomena, the public has turned global warming into something we have perfected the art of: an object of pop culture.

I am not referring to nonfiction — "An Inconvenient Truth" qualifies as more than just pop culture. But Dennis Quaid staring dramatically into the distance as glaciers crumble around him in the blockbuster movie "The Day After Tomorrow" fits that category. So does the "South Park" episode that aired later: "Two Days Before the Day After Tomorrow."

Climate change is worming its way into literature as an increasingly common fictional subject. Scientists-turned-authors abound, and even normal authors are using a warming world as a plot device.

But the truly spectacular works it inspires take place in the future. Climate change is the new darling of science fiction — think Star Wars, but with an extinct Chewbacca and Obi-Wan battling the Force of an encroaching ice storm.

It has entered children's pop culture as well. The little trash-chewing robot WALL-E in my favorite Pixar movie makes the dangers of waste understandable to even the very young.

Comic books have grabbed the reins as well. And though some consider these to be lower forms of literature, graphic novelists like Kate Evans are proving that they can tackle this issue just as well as any novelist. Her new graphic novel "The Carbon Supermarket" uses humor to explain carbon trades in terms anyone could understand.

It's not all Death Stars and climate superheroes either; global warming has inspired some truly poignant works. Barbara Kingsolver, an environmentalist-author, makes climate change a plot driver in her emotional books. And as much as I make fun of Dennis Quaid, his search to find his son in a drowning New York City gets me every single time.

Climate change is so scary and so dramatic because it is real and happening now. When we see families torn apart by extreme weather, we think Hurricane Sandy; in our minds fictional devastated towns and cities become our own.

Some might think the transformation of climate change from a scientific subject into a medium of pop culture downgrades its seriousness, but I think it's a good thing.

People will only act to change something they consider important. Stuffy scientists droning on about glacial temperatures may not inspire the average individual, but a movie about a family that looks just like your own certainly might. Even cartoons like "South Park" get global warming into ordinary people's living rooms, and that is the first step.

Climate change is no laughing matter, but if it takes a million comic books to get people to change their ways, then let the jokes roll. After all, when the climatologist walked into a bar…

NEXT
11/28: LIVING WITH IRONY
Sarah Edwards urges us to consider the hipster.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

By Matt Leming, UNC Comics, facebook.com/unccomics

EDITORIAL

Ad nauseam

The town's bus ad policy has been frozen for too long.

After deferring a decision at previous meetings, the Chapel Hill Transit partners should come to a consensus tonight on the town's bus ad policy, and the Chapel Hill Town Council should agree to implement that decision at its next meeting.

The firestorm about bus ads began when the Church of Reconciliation ran a controversial ad calling for an end to American military aid to Israel. The debate intensified when Pamela Geller threatened to sue if the town declined to run one of her pro-Israel ads.

Geller's ad has not run because the town decided last month to freeze all ads on Chapel Hill Transit buses. Ads will be frozen until the council's Dec. 3 meeting.

Since then, people have debated as to whether allowing the first ad and preventing the second from running was right. This debate has led to a question of if the town should allow political, religious, or issue-based advertisements at all.

The lack of a decision on the policy puts the stability of transit operations at risk and provides little clarity for potential advertisers. Kicking the can down the road helps no one.

Just because choosing how to regulate bus ads is a difficult, politically charged decision doesn't mean the Town Council is excused from making it. It's council members' job to make tough calls.

Despite arguments from both sides about the nature of the ads in question, a decision has to be made to set precedent for the future.

If the partners and Town Council don't come to a decision, future advertisers may be uninterested in working with the transit system.

To ensure the viability of Chapel Hill Transit in the future, it is imperative that the council comes to an agreement on a new bus ad policy at tonight's meeting.

EDITORIAL

Unity, despite conflict

UNC's Israel/Palestine groups should join for a human cause.

To buck the trend of political conflict between Israel and Palestine, UNC's relevant campus organizations should work together to draw attention to this conflict's humanitarian issues — outside of the politics.

In light of last week's political rally about the conflict, it might seem as though student organizations are too starkly opposed to find a common cause.

However, the sometimes — but not always — stark differences in policy stances are all the more reason for interested UNC campus organizations to foster their already positive relationships by publicly coming together around the loss of life on both sides of the conflict.

Hillel's national policy states that campus chapters can't co-sponsor events with political organizations that have differing policy views on certain issues, such as supporting divestment from or sanctions against Israel.

This applies even to events where co-sponsoring organizations have the same views about the purpose of the event, such as fostering respectful dialogue or honoring lives lost, regardless of which side they were from.

UNC's chapter of Hillel should lobby Hillel's national organization to adjust policy to allow for decisions about co-sponsorship to be made on a case-by-case basis.

This could allow organizations like J Street, Hillel and Students for Justice in Palestine to work together on those issues where they do have common ground.

If organizations can adamantly oppose each other's views on a conflict currently raging continents away but can mourn the deaths on both sides as one, they would prove UNC students to be more capable of mature and compassionate relations than most international political leaders.

EDITORIAL

The right development

The town should simplify its process for development.

In comparison to other major college towns, Chapel Hill has the distinction of having one of the slowest processes for development approval.

This is unacceptable, and Chapel Hill should streamline the approval process in order to sustain growth and remain attractive to potential developers.

Currently, it takes an average of 12 months for a developer to receive approval from Chapel Hill for a proposed project, whether it be for residential, commercial or civic purposes.

Rezoning for high-density projects that require special use permits is one of the main reasons why the approval process takes so long.

If a proposed development exceeds 20,000 square feet of floor area or disturbs more than 40,000 square feet of land, then the developer must receive a special use permit.

This regulation can add a considerable amount of time to development projects in Chapel Hill, which in turn, adds to costs.

Town Council member Matt Czajkowski has proposed a sensible and commendable solution to this problem. Instead of sticking with the current process, Czajkowski believes that the town should adopt by-right zoning to address development.

By-right zoning would give town officials the authority to determine how they want certain tracts of land to be used. From there, developers with proposals that fit these uses may petition the town to develop the land.

Chapel Hill is a growing town that has to accommodate new residents and students. This is impossible without new residential and commercial development.

But unless the town further streamlines its process for development approval, it may find itself falling behind other prosperous college towns.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We'd set a screen and they'd run through it. They'd set a screen and we'd stop and start calling for momma."

Roy Williams, on the men's basketball team's play in Maui

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

"Not believing a survivor of violence who has the courage to speak up about it and tell the police is absolutely unacceptable."

doubleEwe, on Sabrina Caudle's claim that police doubt her account

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We should reflect on Willingham's message

TO THE EDITOR:

We write to express our support for Mary Willingham, who has bravely spoken to the press about her recent experiences in the Academic Support Program for Student Athletes.

As a learning specialist who worked with the athletes most challenged to meet UNC's academic demands, Willingham showed her dedication to athletes' well-being day in and day out for seven years.

In her time with the program, she also saw the effects of a competitive environment that encourage universities to focus on processing at-risk students instead of providing them with educational experiences comparable to those of other students.

As a distinguished institution of higher learning, UNC has a responsibility to provide a meaningful education to every single student it admits.

This includes when that responsibility conflicts with sport schedules or the expectations of the NCAA, or when it is complicated by the deficient high school preparation of its recruits.

Like any university, UNC has an obligation to be completely honest about what it does and how it does it.

We faculty of the Athletics Reform Group hail Mary Willingham's principled commitment to honest and open discussions and salute her as an example of what is best in UNC's educational traditions.

We also call on others in the campus community to voice their support for her.

E.W. Brooks, Jay Smith and Lewis Margolis on behalf of the Athletics Reform Group

Five-year plan should focus on inclusivity

TO THE EDITOR:

What will the faces of UNC-system students look like in the next five years?

With the current ideas of the Advisory Committee on Strategic Directions, UNC risks becoming less diverse in racial and socioeconomic composition.

The board is focusing on increasing degree attainment by raising the requirements for students to get into UNC schools.

This could mean schools will seek more nontraditional students and students from community colleges, thereby selecting fewer students from straight out of high school.

Restricting the pool of students going to UNC schools would disenfranchise intelligent students from smaller, lower-funded schools in N.C. whose academic ability is limited by their school resources, not their lack of effort.

Secondly, the advisory board is also considering tightening access to funding for UNC schools.

The board, which is backed by a heavily conservative legislature, has proposed a "performance funding" model for UNC-system universities.

This model would base the amount of state appropriations going to schools on certain metrics the board deems central to the system's success.

What will these metrics be? How will they impact schools that already have fewer resources? The devil in these plans will be in the details.

The UNC system is a public institution paid for by tax dollars and donations. The new plan should be inclusive to all students regardless of socioeconomic status, race or county resources.

Sanyu Gichie '15
Political science

Matthew Hickson '13
Business

Victims should not be doubted or silenced

TO THE EDITOR:

This semester, a UNC junior, Faith Hedgepeth, died of head trauma after being beaten to death in her local apartment complex.

In addition, a female UNC student reported rape, a male UNC student was robbed at gunpoint, two women were assaulted at gunpoint and a woman claimed to be assaulted on campus.

These are only the reported assaults.

Despite the gravity of the influx of violence this semester, students have taken the alerts as described: "Not a threat to the community."

In Monday's article, Sabrina Caudle claimed that UNC police asked her to take a lie detector test and asked if she was capable of "doing this for attention."

While we do not know the all details of her attack, the greater concern isn't about what potential arrests can be made.

It's about the manner in which the investigation placed the victim in a situation in which her story was deemed "incredible."

In our country, only 25 percent of all physical assaults and five percent of sexual assaults are reported.

Regardless of disciplinary action that ensues, those who report should not find themselves doubted and silenced before the investigation has even been conducted.

It is time that our University realizes that all violence is, in fact, "a threat to our community," and that perpetuating silence does little to alleviate it.

If our University's mission can claim to want to "improve society and help solve the world's greatest problems," we need to prove that we are still a university that listens to its people and does not silence the critical concerns in our community.

Andrea Pino '14
Political science
English

SPEAK OUT

WRITING GUIDELINES
- Please type: Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- Sign and date: No more than two people should sign letters.
- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

SUBMISSION
- Drop-off or mail to our office at 151 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514
- E-mail: opinion@dailytarheel.com

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