

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, Wednesday's page 1 story "SBP results face further delays" incorrectly stated Kevin Whitfield's title. He is counsel for the defense in the Santoro v. Phillips case and is in the middle of a confirmation process for the student solicitor general position.

Due to an editing error, the photo accompanying Tuesday's page 9 story "Struggling Wake Forest squad next for Tar Heels" misidentified Dexter Strickland.

The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the errors.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Ivan Rusyn to chair board of toxicology publications

UNC Professor Ivan Rusyn, who teaches environmental sciences and engineering at the Gillings School of Global Public Health, will become the chairman of the Society of Toxicology's board of publications May 1.

Rusyn was selected for the position because of his work in toxicology, a study of the adverse effects of chemical, physical or biological agents on living organisms and the ecosystem. He will serve a one-year term as chairman.

The Society of Toxicology is a non-profit group of professionals and scholars founded in 1961. The publications board determines editorial policy for all of its technical publications, including its official, peer-reviewed journal, Toxicological Sciences.

DTH wins state award for higher education reporting

The Daily Tar Heel took first place in the Duke University Green-Rossiter award for higher education reporting, besting other professional and student papers in the state for the first time since 1997.

Former University Editor Kevin Kiley, former State & National Editor Ariel Zirulnick, senior writer Eliza Kern and staff writers Dean Drescher and Courtney Tye were honored for their collective coverage of grade inflation, Erskine Bowles' tenure and administrative hiring practices.

The Daily Tar Heel won three other awards when judged against papers with a circulation size between 10,000 and 34,999. Former sports editor Powell Latimer won first place for sports feature writing for his story about field hockey team captains Dani Forward and Ilse Davids. A video, The MP3 Experiment, took first for best video. The design staff, led by Kelly McHugh, took second place in the news section design category for papers on Aug. 23 and Aug. 24.

The awards will be presented Thursday night at the Carolina Club by the North Carolina Press Association as part of its 86th annual winter institute. They will also present the North Carolinian of the Year Award at the ceremony.

UNC-TV to air documentary on environmental activists

North Carolina Public Television will launch a television documentary that profiles environmental heroes from North Carolina on Feb. 24 at 9:30 p.m.

Students and faculty from the School of Journalism are co-producing the program. Tom Linden, director of the medical and science journalism program at UNC, will serve as the show's executive producer.

The documentary will profile Black Mountain, N.C., arborist Will Blozan, who is trying to control a hemlock tree-killing insect.

It will also profile Alex and Betsy Hitt, who practice sustainable agriculture at Peregrine Farm in Alamance County.

The show also documents the work of Diana Tetens, executive director of the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association in Durham. Tetens and her volunteer group are working to restore health to the creek, which flows from Durham to Falls Lake and supplies drinking water for nearly half a million people.

CITY BRIEFS

Railroad crossings to close for several hours on Friday

Rail crossings in Hillsborough will close for several hours on Friday while Norfolk Southern Railway will recondition tracks, signals and bridges along the Raleigh-to-Charlotte corridor.

The West Hill Avenue and Dimmocks Mill Road crossings are expected to be closed at least twice Friday for several hours at a time.

Residents are advised to take alternate routes, such as Bellevue Avenue.

The N.C. Amtrak Piedmont's mid-day services have been temporarily suspended Monday-Thursday through April 21 because of the reconditioning work.

-From staff and wire reports

Borders to close 5 NC stores

Company files for Ch. 11 bankruptcy

BY OLIVIA BARROW
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Chapel Hill will lose one of its biggest national brand stores when Borders closes in the coming weeks.

The Borders Group announced Wednesday that it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, and the Borders store in Chapel Hill is one of 200 unsuccessful stores nationwide — about 30 percent of the national network — the company is closing as part of its restructuring.

"We are sorry to see a national brand go," said Aaron Nelson, president and CEO of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce.

"It's an exiting opportunity for locally owned and operated book stores to capture market share."

Nelson said the closing could affect the health of Chapel Hill's economy, which loses retail revenue to malls and brand stores in surrounding counties.

"I do think that Borders was helping us capture Orange County retail purchases that would otherwise leave the county," he said. "We will need to redouble our efforts to grow our retail sales."

Brandon Jaynes, the manager of the Chapel Hill store, couldn't comment Wednesday on the closing and was meeting with the store's 33

employees throughout the day.

A Borders corporate spokesman also declined to comment.

According to the company's press release, the closings resulted from poor economic conditions rather than shortcomings of the employees at each store.

Stores in Apex, Cary, Raleigh and Greensboro will also close.

Chapel Hill resident Marc Roth said he comes to Borders about once every two weeks because he prefers its staff to that of other stores.

"They're a lot more attentive and easier to access," he said.

Dan Koster, a resident and recent graduate of UNC's master's of library science program, said he will miss the store.

He frequented Borders as often as twice a week and liked its brighter and less crowded atmosphere better than Barnes & Noble.

"I'll probably spend a little more time at the library and at Barnes & Noble if they're the only retailer in town," he said.

Koster said he will keep shopping at independent book stores.

"I'm a big fan of the book as physical object," he said. "I like a funky, falling-apart building with stacks of books and cats."

Andrew Neal, owner of Chapel Hill Comics, said although his store



DTH/ROBYN ELLISON

The Borders Group announced that it filed for bankruptcy. The Chapel Hill Borders store is one of 200 stores nationwide that will close.

competes with big name brands like Amazon.com Inc., Borders and Barnes & Noble Inc., he is sad to see Borders leave.

"But it will mean less competition for us," Neal said. "People who were shopping at Borders will spread out. There's no one store that's going to benefit."

Betty Schumacher, manager of

The Bookshop Inc. and former Borders employee, said Borders couldn't keep up with the high profit margins and competition of the book-selling business.

"Barnes & Noble always seems to have the edge — which is a shame."

Contact the City Editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

LICENSE TO SNUGGLE

Volunteer cuddlers comfort young patients

BY LINDSAY POPE
STAFF WRITER

For two hours every week, Pam Bordsen cuddles.

She is one of about 45 trained pediatric cuddlers that volunteers at N.C. Children's Hospital. At any time, at least three cuddlers are searching for upset children who need to be held, comforted or entertained.

"I just like holding the babies, cuddling the babies, singing to them, interacting with them, playing with them," Bordsen said.

Being cuddled and shown affection is an important part of a child's development, one of the reasons the positions exist, said Linda Bowles, director of the UNC Health Care Volunteer Services Department.

"The patients are being poked and prodded all the time to make them well, and while they probably won't remember that when they get older, it's very comforting to have someone hold you close and to hear that heartbeat," she said.

Bordsen, a new grandmother and a cuddler of five years, said being a volunteer is a way for her to feel close to her grandchild and also offer comfort to the children.

"The babies are wonderful," she said. "They are really sweet."

Bordsen said she has had a variety of reactions from the parents of the hospitalized children she tends to.

Sometimes the parents are uncomfortable, she said, but many times they appreciate the chance to slip out to get some dinner without feeling like they are leaving their child alone.

Melanie Edwards, director of Women's and Children's Services, said children who are held and given affection fare better in long-term hospitalizations.

"A child that is not held or cuddled is basically just left in a crib until the nursing staff can get around to them," Edwards said.

Nurses' medical duties are often too demanding to care for upset children, but if cuddlers are available, the nurse can call them to come in and help soothe a crying child, she said.

Additionally, it can be stressful for babies to eat properly when they feel rushed, Edwards said. But a cuddler has time to hold the bottle and rock the babies while they eat.

Cuddlers go through general orientation training and also receive extra instruction on working with IV poles and holding babies properly, Bowles said.

The main requirement to become a pediatric cuddler is that the volunteer be at least 21 years old, but Bowles said she typically doesn't offer this position to students because the children and staff need consistency, something student schedules don't always allow.



COURTESY OF UNC HEALTH CARE VOLUNTEER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Nancy Elkins, a UNC health care volunteer, is one of about 45 trained pediatric cuddlers at UNC hospitals. There are about three cuddlers in the hospital at a time to entertain, sing and comfort the babies when they get upset, in addition to feeding them.

"A child that is not held or cuddled is ... just left in a crib until the nursing staff can get around to them."

MELANIE EDWARDS, DIRECTOR, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Bowles said volunteers usually range from 30 years old to retirement age and tend to apply for the position when their children move out or they have new grandchildren that live far away.

Donna Davis, UNC Health Care adult

volunteer coordinator, said keeping the nine daily cuddler spots staffed is not a problem.

"Most of the time the cuddle room is full."

Contact the City Editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

Kidzu looks forward to gifts

Museum readies for plaza move

BY JODIE SINGER
STAFF WRITER

A year and a half after receiving approval to move into a larger location downtown, a local children's museum is still working to collect donations to meet its fundraising goal.

Jonathan Mills, a member of the Kidzu Board of Directors and soon-to-be chairman of the capital campaign committee, says the museum is on track to complete its fundraising by late 2014.

The museum expects a major contribution to its efforts to come through a challenge grant it will soon receive, the donor of which will be announced in coming weeks, Mills said.

"If we raise 'X' amount of dollars, they will give us 'X' amount of dollars," he said.

Kidzu, a museum for children located at 105 E. Franklin St., received permission in November 2009 from the town to lease the Wallace Parking Plaza on Rosemary Street for \$1 per year for 99 years.

The move will cost between \$11 million and \$11.5 million, but the town's donation of the plaza contributed \$4 million, Mills said.

Kidzu received a \$1 million pledge and \$225,000 in donations, and the museum expects to continue raising money through donations from individuals, foundations and businesses in the community, Mills said.

Despite a slow economy, Mills said Kidzu's donor base has grown during the last 18 months thanks to the efforts of the board of directors and volunteers.

And as the economy turns around, Mills said he expects the support base to grow even more.

"One or two people can't build a children's museum," Mills said. "It needs to be a community effort."

The museum is also looking for an interim site for the next two years to save money, Mills said.

He said he expects the move to an interim site will save Kidzu hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Mills said the museum is looking at two possibilities for interim locations, which they will announce in about a month.

Chapel Hill resident Cindy Sellars, a mother of three, comes to Kidzu about once every few weeks with her one-and-a-half-year old twins.

Sellars said though she is happy with the current location, she thinks it is great that there will be more parking and a bigger space in the plaza.

"I would love to see more family activities downtown," she said.

Mills said he wants the long-term location of Kidzu to change the area's image.

"We really want the rooftop of the parking deck to no longer be thought of as the rooftop of the parking deck," he said. "We want it to be the plaza."

His vision includes people coming to the area even if they do not want to visit the museum.

"It will have character," he said. "If you look downtown now, there isn't that space yet. There are some benches on the sidewalk, but they're small. It's not a place to be."

Butch Kisiah, director of the town Department of Parks and Recreation, said he is looking forward to Kidzu's downtown expansion.

"We just think it's a good partnership, and hopefully we can continue to work together and have a successful Kidzu," he said.

Contact the City Editor at city@dailytarheel.com.

UNC professor dedicated to diabetes research

BY JEANNA SMIALEK
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Elizabeth Mayer-Davis entered the field of diabetes research with her head, not her heart.

Without a personal connection to the disease, Mayer-Davis was drawn to diabetes 20 years ago by its science and impact on public health. But two decades later, it was her passion for her research and the people it helps that took her to the top of her field.

In January, President Barack Obama appointed her to the advisory group on prevention, health promotion and integrative and public health. She had already been named president of health care and education for the American Diabetes Association

this academic year.

"We were all so excited for her. It's well deserved," said UNC professor Melinda Beck, one of Mayer-Davis' colleagues in the nutrition department at the school.

A pioneer in diabetes research, Mayer-Davis has juggled her national roles with her teaching duties at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. She is also a mother of five who still finds time to read mystery novels and cook with her husband.

"She's not just a great mother and scientist, she's a really great best friend," said Richard Davis of his wife, who came to UNC to do research and teach three years ago.

Despite her many national accomplishments, Mayer-Davis said she sees her role

as chairwoman of the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Study and principal investigator for the SEARCH Carolina Site as her most rewarding professional work.

She said that SEARCH, a multi-center project funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that researches diabetes in youth, already helps children across ethnic groups to manage their diabetes and will continue serving adolescents for years to come.

"It's the gold standard in diabetes research," said Lindsay Jaacks, a first-year graduate student and member of Mayer-Davis' research group.

Jaacks said Mayer-Davis not only has a passion for her research, but also works diligently to apply her findings to help patients

— characteristics that make her inspiring. "When I came here, I was mesmerized by her," she said.

Mayer-Davis said that she believes teaching and working with young scientists is both fun and crucial to the future of diabetes.

"That's where the real potential for impact is," she said, adding that it will fall to the next generation of scientists to implement the findings of her studies.

In her more than 20 years in the field, Mayer-Davis has researched type 1 and type 2 diabetes in youth and adults, diabetes prevention and management and diabetes in minority groups. Much of her work focuses on the

SEE DAVIS, PAGE 11