Eve Carson always sat behind Holden Thorp at basketball games in the Smith Center. She did this for the last time on March 4, 2008 — on senior night — as they watched their beloved Tar Heels beat the daylights out of Florida State.

They had a custom after a victory like that to slap a high five on the way out, Thorp said. But that night when he gave her a high five, she grabbed his hand and shook it.

Because it was senior night, and they had just whipped the Seminoles, and because for Eve, at that exultant moment, a simple high five just wasn’t good enough, Thorp explained.

“It needed more love,” he said. “There was always more love in Eve. Especially love for Carolina.”

But that night would also turn out to be the last night of her life, Thorp told a throng of more than 400 who came to the Pit to mark the first anniversary of her death.

From the first time he met Eve as a candidate for the prestigious Morehead-Cain Scholarship some five years before her death, Thorp said he had always been one of her biggest fans.

They met long before she had been elected student body president, when she was still in high school in Athens, Ga., and he was one of four people on the interview committee.

The good scores were low, and the best score was supposed to be a 1.0. But Thorp said he couldn’t help himself: “I gave her a 0.7.”

In her recent State of the State address, Gov. Beverly Perdue vowed to do whatever was necessary to pay the bills.

Last week, she made good on her promise by allocating $787 million from the state’s emergency “rainy day fund” to the general fund, which is used to pay the state’s general expenses.

Nearly one-third of the money, $250 million, will be used to bolster the financially ailing State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees, and the rest will be reserved to help the state meet its financial obligations.

The move is not unprecedented. During the 2001 recession, then-Gov. Mike Easley took similar action.

And at the beginning of this month, Perdue allocated $300 million from four dedicated accounts, including $87.6 million from the Education Lottery Reserve Fund, to help close the estimated $2.2 billion gap in this year’s state budget. Money was also moved from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the Public School Building Capital Fund and the Public School Textbook Fund.

If the $2.2 billion estimate proves to be correct, it marks a 10.6 percent decline in revenue that was budgeted for this fiscal year and 5.9 percent less than the state received during the last fiscal year, according to figures reported by The News & Observer. The State Budget Office is predicting a deficit for each of the next two fiscal years topping $3 billion.

Perdue had not submitted her proposed budget for the 2009–10 fiscal year by the time the Gazette went to press, but it was expected to be released this week.

HEALTH PLAN

Recent actions of both the governor and the N.C. General Assembly are designed to get the State Health Plan back on track.

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved legislation last week to allocate the $250 million Perdue moved into the general fund for the health plan this fiscal year and an additional $609 million for the next two fiscal years.

The legislation, which has to be voted on by the Senate and the House, also would raise co-payments and deductibles for the plan’s more
BEQUEST AIDS KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS

Eighteen years after Carmen Conry received a kidney transplant from her sister, Marisa McLeod, their aunt’s estate donated $4.7 million to the UNC Kidney Center, marking its largest gift ever. The gift from the estate of Shirley Gilman establishes several funds to assist and promote kidney transplantation.

ACADEMIC MARCH MADNESS

Inside Higher Ed has picked Carolina as the likely winner of its 4th Annual Academic Performance Tournament. Unlike the hoops version, the 65 teams in these brackets advance to the finals based on their scores in the NCAA’s Academic Progress Rate, a nationally comparable score rating athletes’ academic standing.

ZIPPING AROUND

Zipcars on campus aren’t new — they were introduced here in 2004. The identifiable silver Volkswagen Beetles with the green logo provide an alternative means of transportation for people who don’t have cars on campus. Rental rates for participants vary from $5 an hour to $35 a day, with gas and insurance included.

Carolina North likely to generate jobs and construction, but require more town services

The long-awaited report of the fiscal impact analysis for Carolina North, in some ways, raises as many questions as it answers in that the actual impact the future campus will have on the area hinges on factors that cannot be predicted or controlled.

Nevertheless, Jack Evans, executive director for Carolina North, said the report’s conclusion earlier this month was an important milestone because it provides a framework for University and town representatives who are now working together to complete a rezoning and development agreement for Carolina North.

The fiscal impact study looks at how Carolina North might affect Carrboro, Chapel Hill and Orange County under two different development scenarios.

It is one of three foundational studies upon which planners will rely as they complete that work: the fiscal impact analysis and an environmental impact study, both of which have been completed, and a transit study commissioned by the Town of Chapel Hill that is nearing completion.

Discussions currently under way among members of the Chapel Hill Town Council, and the University’s trustees and chancellor are expected to result in a draft development agreement for formal consideration during May and June, with a decision expected by the council in late June.

The 64-page document, which included a 120-page appendix, analyzed two development scenarios for Phase 1. Both project development of corporate office space, retail and housing, but they differ in the timing for housing and corporate office development as well as the mix of housing that might be built.

In both scenarios, the University plans to develop a total 2.5 million square feet in Phase 1, and has committed 25 percent of that building space for housing units. The number of units will depend on the type of housing actually built.

While the report projected population growth throughout Orange County, it also revealed how much of the impact will center on the type of housing actually built.

In both scenarios, the University plans to develop a total 2.5 million square feet in Phase 1, and has committed 25 percent of that building space for housing units. The number of units will depend on the type of housing actually built.

Enterprise Resource Planning has been renamed ConnectCarolina

ERP is not a name that rolls off the tongue. It stands for Enterprise Resource Planning, the University-wide effort to replace aging software systems that manage student information, human resources, payroll and finance.

The more generic ERP has given way to ConnectCarolina, as the broad endeavor at Carolina will now be known. The department within Information Technology Services, however, is still ERP.

The new name came about as the result of a campuswide appeal made last year to seek suggested names for the project from the students, staff and faculty who will use it. The project’s sponsors chose ConnectCarolina, a variation of one of the more than 200 suggestions submitted.

“We believe ConnectCarolina reflects both the positive feelings we share about Carolina and the project vision of an integrated system that makes interaction with the University easier for applicants, students, faculty and staff,” said Bernadette Gray-Little, executive vice chancellor and provost, and chair of the project sponsors. Dick Mann, vice chancellor for finance and administration, and Larry Conrad, vice chancellor for information technology and chief information officer, are also sponsors.

“ConnectCarolina also reflects the interconnected way that the project operates,” said Roger Patterson, associate vice chancellor for finance, and chair of the ConnectCarolina Student Stakeholders Committee. “Individuals from across the University are working or advising on all phases of the project to ensure that the needs of the entire community are addressed.”

The first phase of ConnectCarolina includes student services: admissions, student records, financial aid and student finances. Beginning this summer, it will support admissions. The next phase encompasses human resources, payroll and finance.

ConnectCarolina will provide a wide range of integrated administrative processes. It is designed to help people such as:

- A student registering for classes;
- A staff member running a report;
- A faculty member recording grades;
- An employee checking a payroll stub; and
- A business manager processing a check request.

For more information about ConnectCarolina, refer to www.connectcarolina.unc.edu.
Forum discusses furloughs as one option for saving jobs

Heightened anxiety over the prospect of some University employees losing their jobs in the coming fiscal year was a focal point of discussion at the March 4 Employee Forum meeting.

That anxiety found expression in a debate about employee furloughs — unpaid time off — as a means to keep more people working. Any discussion of furloughs is hypothetical, however, unless the General Assembly authorizes the UNC system to use them.

Alan Moran, a carpenter in Facilities Services who serves on the forum’s Compensation and Wages Committee, introduced a resolution asking Chancellor Holden Thorp to keep furloughs from being applied to any employee who earned below a “living income standard.” In his resolution, Moran defined that standard as a family with an income equal to twice the federal poverty level.

Vice Chair Brenda Denzler told Moran she understood the spirit of the resolution and supported his goals, but it was important to consider alternatives to a furlough. Without it, she argued, there was the real possibility that more people, including the people Moran wanted to hold harmless, could lose their jobs completely.

Denzler also suggested that the resolution, though well intended, needed to acknowledge the broader context from which the idea of furloughs sprang.

People have suggested furloughs as a way to use the cost savings from reduced work hours to help more employees keep their jobs.

While losing income from unpaid leave can be bad, she said, it can be far worse for people to lose jobs that they may never be able to get back — something Denzler compared to “having to choose between cutting off a foot or putting your leg in a cast for the next nine months.”

The resolution will be referred back to various committees for revision before it is presented to the forum again for action.

Another resolution dealt with the hundreds of tickets that have been issued to employees who park in the Dogwood Deck on Manning Drive and the Ambulatory Care Center lot off Mason Farm Road without first getting a temporary permit to do so. The parking areas are reserved for hospital and dental school patients and visitors weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Forum Treasurer Marshall Dietz, a systems analyst for Energy Services, first raised the issue in January. His resolution, which was discussed but not voted on, would have called on Thorp to void all the citations that have been issued and refund the fines employees have paid until the Department of Public Safety strengthens its efforts to notify employees about the parking restrictions.

One suggestion was to simplify the wording and look of the signs posted at the entrances to these parking areas.

Finally, the forum endorsed “The Song of the University Employee” as the official University staff poem. Its author, Jeffrey Beam, was on hand to read the poem (see related story on page 10).

Community meeting focuses on budget situation, layoff policy

Nearly 400 staff members and students attended a community meeting with Chancellor Holden Thorp and top administrators on March 2.

The session, organized and sponsored by the Employee Forum, was called “University Budget 101,” but in reality no one knows yet what next year’s budget will look like. It was that singular point — it is too early to offer definitive answers — that Thorp and other speakers emphasized during the discussion.

The forum invited Thorp, Dick Mann, vice chancellor for finance and administration, and Brenda Malone, associate vice chancellor for human resources, to address the group. Vicki Bradley, senior director of employment, classification and compensation, and Matt Brody, assistant vice chancellor for human resources, also presented a layoff overview for SPA employees and EPA non-faculty employees, respectively.

EMERGING THEMES

Some consistent themes emerged, however, including Thorp’s emphasis that Carolina administrators wanted to help ease the financial burden on faculty and staff by taking cuts at least as large as those of the rest of the campus.

Another theme was the efforts of vice chancellors and deans to trim their budgets wherever possible to prevent job cuts and to assist affected employees. (Last month, Thorp authorized the creation of an Employee Assistance Fund to help employees who lose their jobs; refer to hr.unc.edu.)

“I’m convinced that Carolina has what it takes to get through this crisis,” Thorp said. “We have people here who have been through it before.”

He told audience members he shared their frustration about the lingering uncertainty over what might happen. There are reasons to be worried, he said, but there are also reasons to be hopeful.

For instance, the UNC system is likely to experience smaller budget cuts than other state agencies. At this point, Gov. Beverly Perdue has asked the UNC system to undergo 7 percent cuts this year, while many other state agencies have been asked to take a 9 percent cut.

Both Thorp and Mann said the state would not have a clear picture of revenues until April 15 after all state tax returns have been submitted. And it is not yet altogether clear what impact the federal stimulus package might have on the University because a great deal of work must be done both in Washington D.C., and Raleigh first, Thorp said.

One certainty is that there will be more money for federally sponsored research — money that would likely create staff support positions to help manage contracts and grants. The stimulus package should also include money for “shovel-ready” construction projects, but it is not clear if any here will be funded.

Thorp spoke about the possible use of temporary furloughs as a way to reduce layoffs, but the General Assembly has not authorized the legislation to make that possible, he said.

CAMPUSWIDE PERSPECTIVE

Thorp admitted that how well he handles the budget situation could be the most important thing he does as chancellor, because it will affect not only how well the University weathered the crisis, but also how it will be positioned to achieve new heights once the crisis has passed.

Several students stood in the back of the room holding placards supporting staff members keeping their jobs. One student asked Thorp about the implications of a study of University operations now under way by Bain & Company, a global business consulting firm.

Thorp said he approved the privately funded study to get an objective campuswide look at how the University currently operates and how it can streamline operations and better stretch available resources to fulfill its mission.

The study will supplement input he has already received from individual units about ways to reduce costs and will shed light on enhancing efficiency from a University-wide perspective in areas such as information technology, purchasing and energy.

An oversight committee consisting of...
New device tests for potentially lethal airborne dust

Six years ago, an explosion at West Pharmaceutical Services in Kinston killed six people and sent dozens to the burn unit at UNC Hospitals.

“We knew something had happened, because we heard the sirens all day and the helicopters going over,” said environmental scientist Maryanne Boundy.

The cause? A dust explosion. Combustible dust from raw materials on the plant’s production line had built up in the spaces above the ceiling tiles. It was an inch thick in some places, and investigators said there could have been as much as a ton of it there, just out of sight.

“Dust is a huge health issue in everything from coal mining to grain operations,” Boundy said. And the pharmaceutical industry is particularly vulnerable to the dangers of dust, said David Leith, the head of Boundy’s lab. So when an official at Pfizer, the world’s largest research-based biomedical and pharmaceutical company, contacted Leith about developing a dustiness tester, he and Boundy got to work.

Moving conveyor belts and industrial processes set particles loose in the air, and most facilities have ventilation set up to collect that dust. But powders from different materials all have different dustiness, or potential to become airborne.

Machines that test for dustiness are bulky and designed to test large quantities — often a kilogram or more — of powder. Lab workers in pharmaceutical development deal with minute quantities (often just a few milligrams) that are very expensive and very potent.

The pill you shake out of a prescription bottle is mostly filler, Leith said. Maybe 0.5 percent of it is actual drug powder, but the rest is usually lactose, which is inert, abundant and cheap. “Drugs are so powerful — sometimes the amount you want to know exactly how potent or toxic they are, or what interactions they will have with other chemicals. But they are biologically active, Boundy said, and many are designed to target specific cells of the body and alter protein synthesis. So even a few stray molecules can wreak havoc on a healthy worker who accidentally inhales them or absorbs them through the skin.

Pfizer asked Boundy and Leith to develop a dustiness tester that could fit on a lab bench. The first step, it turned out, was to empty the cookie jar on Boundy’s kitchen counter. The jar was the perfect size, she said, and made of glass (plastic can generate static electricity).

After that, they worked with Randall Goodman in their design shop to construct a steel frame around the jar, a timer, various tubes to draw air into the jar and blow dust through the filter and a powder injector.

The powder injector turned out to be their biggest challenge. Off-the-shelf devices did not work, so the team developed its own.

“We used a miniature venturi device that puts lots of energy into the powder to cause its dispersal,” Leith said. That way, they were able to introduce energy into the powder and disperse it in a way that mimicked how airborne dust forms when pharmaceutical labs mix, blend, grind and compress powders into tablets.

Their tester is now licensed to BGW, a German occupational safety and health company, and orders from labs around the world are coming in.

“The pharmaceutical companies are in business to help people get better,” Leith said. “The last thing they want is to make people sick.”

Editor’s Note: The Office of Technology Development is the only University office authorized to execute license agreements with companies. For information on reporting inventions, call 966-3929.

Environmental scientists David Leith and Maryanne Boundy, who provided this photo, developed dustiness testers to monitor potentially hazardous dust that can be set loose by moving conveyor belts and industrial processes.

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PlayMakers Repertory Company announces 2009–10 season

A two-part repertory production of Charles Dickens’ epic “The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby” will headline PlayMakers Repertory Company’s 2009–10 season, its 34th.

Also during next year’s main-stage season, PlayMakers will present Arthur Miller’s wartime drama “All My Sons,” Oscar Wilde’s comedy classic “The Importance of Being Earnest” and the regional premiere of “Opus” by Michael Hollinger.

In addition, PlayMakers will present three topical, thought-provoking shows in its second-stage season, the PRC2 series: Mike Daisey’s new monologue “The Last Cargo Cult”; “I Have Before Me A Remarkable Document Given To Me By A Young Lady From Rwanda” by Sonja Linden; and a third play yet to be announced. Each performance includes a post-show community dialogue.

“This new season will feature a two-part, once-in-a-generation theater-going experience, a searing American masterpiece and perhaps the greatest comedy ever written,” said Joseph Haj, producing artistic director.

All performances will be presented at the Center for Dramatic Art. Main-stage productions will be in the Paul Green Theatre; PRC2 shows, in the Elizabeth Price Kenan Theatre.

Main-stage performance dates are:

- “Opus,” Sept. 23–Oct. 11 — talent and temperament collide in a behind-the-scenes look at personal discord and professional harmony in the lives of a fictional string quartet billed as the world’s finest. PlayMakers will collaborate with the music department on the sound design.
- “The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby,” by David Edgar, from the novel by Charles Dickens, Parts I and II performed in rotating repertory Nov. 11–Dec. 20 — Dickens’ masterpiece comes to life in this thrilling ride depicting life’s astounding journey.
- “All My Sons,” Jan. 27–Feb. 14, 2010 — the consequences of a business decision rock the foundations of a World War II-era family and send shockwaves into the larger world, leading to questions about moral responsibility. PlayMakers is among the first theaters given the rights to present this work since Miller’s death four years ago.
- “The Importance of Being Earnest,” March 3–21, 2010 — wicked wit and dead-on social satire are wrapped in a Victorian confection of dual identities, matters matrimonial and the provenance of a particularly pertinent handbag in this work that the playwright himself called “a trivial comedy for serious people.”

The first two plays in the PRC2 second-stage series are:

- “The Last Cargo Cult,” Sept. 16–20 — the astonishing true story of a cult religion created by remote South Pacific islanders in abandoned World War II military bases.
- “I Have Before Me A Remarkable Document Given To Me By A Young Lady From Rwanda,” March 24–28, 2010 — a young woman struggles to chronicle the brutal genocide of her people in this astonishing true story of a cult religion created by remote South Pacific islanders in abandoned World War II military bases.

Subscription packages are now available. New and renewing subscribers can take advantage of PlayMakers’ Early Bird Discount rates through May 4. Call 962-7529 or refer to www.playmakersreep.org.
SILS grant will help preserve electronic records

Preserving the wealth of documented information in this increasingly digital world creates challenges.

To be able to deliver digital information reliably to future generations, the National Archives and Records Administration’s (NARA) Transcontinental Persistent Archives Prototype (TPAP) project addresses the safeguarding, preservation and accessibility of authentic national electronic records.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Office of Cyberinfrastructure has awarded nearly $1 million to the Data Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) group at the School of Information and Library Science to help.

“The goal is to identify the basic preservation rules and procedures that automate the management of authentic archives over decades or longer,” said Reagan Moore, a SILS professor and principal investigator of the project. “The TPAP project is developing a reference implementation for preservation environments that can be used as a starter kit.”

The TPAP project is built on the DICE iRODS (Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System). Its automation is essential for the TPAP prototype to be able to preserve, validate and provide long-term access to collections of digital data as they grow to petabytes in size and hundreds of millions of files. A petabyte is one million gigabytes, or about 100 years of a standard television signal.

“The ultimate goal is to have an archive that cleans up after itself,” said Richard Martinez, a SILS professor and co-principal investigator of the project. “The iRODS middleware allows you to specify the management policy for the archives or repository and turn these specifications into a set of rules, without having to change the iRODS code. This allows easy customization of how the archives behave, creating a system that is self-managed based on rules that can be individualized for each organization and user.”

As a test-bed for preserving NARA electronic records collections long-term, the TPAP project has six national partners: SILS, the Renaissance Computing Institute, the University of Maryland, a West Virginia arm of NARA, the University of California-San-Diego and Georgia Tech.

“The DICE group is world-renowned for its expertise in large-scale data management and persistent archives for digital preservation,” said José-Marie Griffiths, school dean.

March 27 memorial service to honor revered former chemistry professor

William F. “Bill” Little, a faculty member for more than 40 years, a former UNC system vice president and a visionary leader who helped guide the development of the Research Triangle Park and the Research Triangle Institute, died Feb. 27. He was 79.

After receiving his bachelor’s degree in chemistry, biology and mathematics from Lenoir-Rhyne College, he came to Chapel Hill as a member of the first class of Morehead scholars, earning his master’s degree in physical chemistry in 1952 and his Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1954.

Little became an instructor at Carolina in 1956 and rose rapidly through the faculty ranks; in 1959, he became chair of the chemistry department at age 35. He was appointed University Distinguished Professor of Chemistry in 1977, a position he held until his retirement in 1996.

Little also served in various other administrative roles, including associate dean for research administration in the Graduate School, 1965–70; chair of the division of the natural sciences, 1972–73; vice chancellor for research, development and public service, 1973–78; and interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, 1991–92.

He was involved with the Research Triangle Park and the Research Triangle Institute from their creation until his death. In 1957, then-Gov. Luther Hodges appointed him to the Research Institute Committee, charged with evaluating the possibility of creating a scientific center in the Triangle. Little led a nationwide effort to spread the word about the fledgling RTP and, through his work at Carolina, helped recruit some of RTI’s first chemists.

At Carolina, Little inspired and guided thousands of students. During his tenure as chemistry chair, the department grew dramatically in both faculty numbers and national stature, enhancing the Triangle’s reputation as a center for scientific excellence.

“The role that Bill played in the birth of the Research Triangle is hard to overstate and his contributions and dedication to the growth and strength of the sciences and economic development in our region will long be felt,” said Chancellor Holden Thorp, who studied under Little in the 1980s.

“But Bill’s greatest love was our chemistry department and especially its young faculty. He created a culture where the coins of the realm were wisdom and encouragement. He was a giant.”

Little’s research area was organometallic chemistry, located at the intersection of classical organic and inorganic fields.

In addition to his ongoing efforts on behalf of the RTP and RTI, Little sat on the governing boards of the Triangle Universities Center for Advanced Studies, the First Flight Venture Center and the George Watts Hill Foundation. He also chaired the central selection committee for scholars of the John Motley Morehead Foundation and was a trustee of the University’s Arts and Sciences Foundation.

A memorial service will be held March 27 at 3:30 p.m. in the Carolina Inn’s Hill Ballroom. For information about making gifts in Little’s memory, refer to snipurl.com/dqpv9.

HONORS

JASON UI, director of the Office of Classroom Management, has been appointed co-chair of the North Carolina Virtualization Work Group. The group, which consists of representatives of K-20 educational institutions from across the state, is exploring how to make education available and affordable to North Carolinians using technology such as virtual desktop infrastructure.

The goal of the group is to come together as a community to better understand what the statewide virtualization requirements are and determine potential solutions and recommendations to address them.

VALARIE A. ZEITHAML, the David S. Van Pelt Family Distinguished Professor of Marketing at the Kenan-Flagler Business School, has been selected by the American Marketing Association (AMA) to receive its highest honor for a marketing educator.

The AMA gave Zeithaml the 2009 AMA Irwin/McGraw-Hill Distinguished Marketing Educator Award for her leadership in marketing education and extensive contributions to the marketing discipline during its winter educators’ conference held Feb. 21 in Tampa, Fla.

JAN BUSBY-WHITEHEAD, a professor in the School of Medicine, has been elected chair of the board of the American Geriatrics Society’s Foundation for Health in Aging. The foundation is a national non-profit organization that aims to link geriatrics research and practices and the public, and to advocate on behalf of older adults and their special health-care needs. Busby-Whitehead is chief of the medical school’s division of geriatric medicine and director of the Program on Aging, and associate director for clinical practice for the UNC Institute on Aging.

American Theatre magazine has named JOSEPH HAJ, producing artistic director of PlayMakers Repertory Company, one of 25 theatre artists who will have a significant impact on the American theatre scene during the course of the next quarter-century.

In the magazine’s April 2009 25th anniversary issue, Haj will be among a select group of contributors to the article, “An Eye on the Future: What Will the Next 25 Years Bring to American Theatre?” As one of the 25 artists featured, Haj will be a guest of honor at a gala anniversary benefit on April 20 in New York City.
It was obvious, even then, that she was special. Eve reinforced that in her response to Thorp’s congratulatory e-mail to all the Morehead-Cain winners urging them to come to Carolina.

Most students responded with a perfunctory note. But for Eve, that just wasn’t good enough. “Eve sent me 500 words,” Thorp said. “Her letter was emotional, erudite and the punctuation was unlike anything I had ever seen. She used colons, semi-colons and hyphens like a college professor — and she used exclamation marks like a 10-year-old kid.”

He soon learned, as did all her friends and admirers, that those exclamation points were a barometer for her enthusiasm, her excitement, her eagerness about whatever topic she happened to be discussing.

“She never quit pushing us to do more for our world and for each other,” he said.

He described her enthusiasm, her originality and her persistence as the qualities that made her so unforgettable.

“The best way to remember Eve is to accept her challenge of service,” Thorp told the crowd.

In conjunction with the remembrance, the student organizers of Service North Carolina asked the Carolina community to think about incorporating service to others as part of their daily activities throughout the month. March 5 was a day for remembering Eve.

But after Thorp spoke, after classmates reminisced, after the Clef Hangers sang “Carolina in My Mind” and the Bell Tower tolled the final note of “Hark the Sound,” it seemed to have turned into something more.

The day, in a way an enthusiastic 10-year-old might better understand, had turned into the University’s exclamation point back to Eve.

Above, Chancellor Holden Thorp joins the Clef Hangers as they sing “Carolina in My Mind” during the March 5 remembrance for former student body president Eve Carson. Hundreds of people gathered in the Pit for the ceremony, which marked the first anniversary of her death. Below, students comfort one another at the conclusion of the remembrance.

The LLCAC, which consists of students, faculty and administrators, may recommend sanctions against licensees who do not live up to the terms of the University’s Code of Conduct.

The committee also recommended, and Thorp agreed, that if Russell Athletic could document future compliance with the University’s labor code, the LLCAC should consider Russell’s new application to become a licensee — but only after March 31, 2010.

The University is a dues-paying member of two national labor-monitoring organizations — the Fair Labor Association (FLA) and the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC). FLA is a White House-originated non-profit organization made up of corporations, non-government/human rights organizations and universities. WRC was conceived by a coalition of student and worker-rights organizations.

Carolina products no longer associated with Russell Athletic

A s of March 31, Russell Athletic will no longer be licensed to manufacture and sell products bearing the Carolina logo.

In a 7-2 vote, the University’s Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee (LLCAC) earlier this month recommended severing ties with the company because of labor code violations in its Honduras plants.

Chancellor Holden Thorp accepted the committee’s recommendations on March 6.

“I do not take ending a partnership with a longtime licensee lightly. However, our expectations for our licensees are clear: Comply with our labor code and the protections it affords to the people who make these logoed products if you want to do business with Carolina,” Thorp wrote in his response to the committee.

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Videoconferencing takes you virtually anywhere you need to go

In tough economic times, travel is usually one of the first budget items to go. So what are researchers, faculty members or graduate students to do when they need to meet with a colleague or professor halfway across the world? Videoconference.

Information Technology Services (ITS) provides easy-to-use videoconferencing that is currently free of charge.

ITS provides support for 20 general-purpose and department classrooms equipped for videoconferencing as well as a videoconferencing suite located in Peabody Hall.

View available facilities online at hotline.unc.edu/index.cfm?fuseaction=classroom.
Carolina Commons will offer faculty and staff below-market housing

The University is seeking approval from the town of Carrboro to build a new neighborhood that will offer a combination of 166 single-family homes, townhouses and condominiums to faculty and staff at below-market rates.

Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for facilities planning, said the development will help to achieve what has been a long-held goal of the University: to make it possible for more University employees to live close by where they work.

“There are many reasons why it would be desirable for our employees to live near campus,” Runberg said. “They would save time getting to work and money spent on gasoline.”

The availability of housing at prices within reach of many employees’ incomes has been and continues to be limited in the Chapel-Hill-Carrboro market. As a result, many employees, particularly the lowest paid, have been buying homes miles away from campus.

“Carolina Commons is not the answer to this chronic problem, but it is part of the answer,” Runberg said. “And it will address the need for the faculty and staff who buy homes there.”

Of the 166 units, 149 will be part of the Carolina Commons faculty-staff housing program, he said. In the northwest corner of the tract, the University has proposed 17 single-family lots that would be sold at market rates to help subsidize the below-market units.

The University has owned the 63-acre tract that will become Carolina Commons since 1940, Runberg said. It is located near the heart of Carrboro and is surrounded by existing neighborhoods, with Winmore to the south, Lake Hogan Farms to the west, The Highlands to the east and a proposed new residential development called Colleton Crossing to the north.

The University held an information meeting with residents of these neighborhoods last December. Carolina administrators also believe Carolina Commons will be good for the town of Carrboro by adding property tax revenues to its tax base and potential customers to downtown stores and restaurants.

Shorter commutes would also be good for the environment because of reduced traffic congestion and air pollution, Runberg said.

Mary Jane Nirdlinger, project manager in facilities planning, said Carolina Commons would be as green as designers can make it, with landscaping and architectural features geared to being environmentally sustainable.

Great care has already gone into the project’s design to protect Bolin Creek, to handle stormwater in a responsible manner and to provide amenities such as a greenway connection along the creek, Runberg said. Great care has already gone into the project’s design to protect Bolin Creek, to handle stormwater in a responsible manner and to provide amenities such as a greenway connection along the creek.
**IN BRIEF**

**PLAYMAKERS REPERTORY COMPANY PRESENTS ‘PRIDE AND PREJUDICE’**

Jane Austen’s classic story of courtship and the course of true love, “Pride and Prejudice,” comes to PlayMakers Repertory Company April 1–19. For a complete schedule of performances in the Paul Green Theatre and to purchase tickets, call 962-PLAY or visit [www.playmakerstrep.org](http://www.playmakerstrep.org). Tickets are $10 to $40.

PlayMakers also offers a free director’s talk and set preview at noon on March 25, free post-show discussions on April 8 and 12, and an all-access performance for attendees with special needs on April 14.

**POVERTY AWARENESS WEEK EVENTS**

The Campus Y, HOPE (Homeless Outreach Poverty Eradication) and the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity sponsor Poverty Awareness Week events March 30 through April 3, including the following events:

- On April 2 at 7 p.m., the documentary “Change Comes Knocking” will be screened in the Hanes Art Center Auditorium. It is a film about the N.C. Fund, a controversial anti-poverty initiative from the 1960s; and
- On April 3, Howard Fuller, one of the N.C. Fund’s grassroots organizers and civil rights activist, gives the week’s keynote address, also in the Hanes Art Center Auditorium. A reception at 3:30 p.m. precedes the 4 p.m. talk. [snipurl.com/dko7m](http://snipurl.com/dko7m)

**ITS TRAINING RESOURCES**

The ITS computer-based training service ended in February. LearnIT offers links to online tutorials and other resources to help the campus community continue to find training opportunities.

Tutorials are available for Microsoft Office applications, Oracle Calendar, Web authoring, Blackboard and other instructional technologies. The site also has links to face-to-face training providers on campus and in the Triangle area.

[learnit.unc.edu](http://learnit.unc.edu)

**OPEN FORUMS SET FOR DEAN CANDIDATES IN ARTS AND SCIENCES, NURSING**

Public forums are scheduled for the following candidates for dean of the College of Arts and Sciences:

- Karen Gil, Carolina — March 20, 2:30 p.m., Morehead Faculty Lounge, Morehead Building;
- Paul Armstrong, Brown University — March 24, 2 p.m.,
- Katherine Newman, Princeton University — March 27, 2 p.m., Pleasant Family Assembly Room in Wilson Library;
- Kristen Swanson, University of Washington — March 23, 4:15 p.m.; and
- Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, University of Miami — March 31, 3:30 p.m.

Finalists’ curricula vitae are online: [provost.unc.edu/announcements/open-positions](http://provost.unc.edu/announcements/open-positions).

**LECTURES**

- U.S. Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic candidate for president in 2004, delivers this year’s Weil Lecture on American Citizenship March 20 at 2:30 p.m. in Hill Hall’s auditorium. Kerry is chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a five-term senator and decorated Vietnam War veteran. The Weil Lecture, free and open to the public, is hosted by the Institute for the Arts and Humanities. [iah.unc.edu/calendar/weil2009](http://iah.unc.edu/calendar/weil2009)
- Deepak Advani, an IBM vice president, gives a free public lecture March 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the Kenan Center dining room as part of the Business Across Borders series sponsored by the Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise. E-mail to attend: rsvpkenan@unc.edu.
- Yale University physicist Meg Urry, an expert on active galaxies, black holes and the challenges facing women in science, speaks at the Hanes Art Center Auditorium on March 23 at 7 p.m. Her free talk, “Falling into a Black Hole,” is sponsored by UNC’s WOWS initiative (Working on Women in Science). A reception follows the lecture and discussion.
- Michele Buck, global chief marketing officer of The Hershey Company, gives a free public lecture March 24 at 5:30 p.m. at the business school’s Koury Auditorium. The talk is part of the Dean’s Speakers Series and UNC Women’s Week, sponsored by the Carolina Women’s Center. A reception follows in the Kenan Center dining room. For reservations, call 843-7787 or e-mail kfbkrsrpv@unc.edu.
- Nora Rubel, assistant professor of religion and classics at the University of Rochester, speaks about “‘The Settlement Cookbook’ and the Transformation of Jewish American Identity” in a talk at the Friday Center on March 30 at 7:30 p.m., sponsored by the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies. [www.unc.edu/ccjs/events.html](http://www.unc.edu/ccjs/events.html)
- William McDonough, architect and Time magazine’s “Hero for the Planet,” gives the Gillings School of Global Public Health’s Foard Lecture April 1 at the Friday Center. His talk, “Cradle to Cradle Design,” presents his vision of the possibilities of an environmentally and economically intelligent future of design. A reception and book signing begin at 5 p.m.; the lecture and presentation of alumni awards follow. Registration requested: sph.unc.edu/foard.
- The legal settlement between authors and book publishers and Google regarding the company’s indexing and book scanning project is the focus of the third annual OCLC/
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NEW WORKS PROCESS SERIES PRESENTS MARCH 20, 21 PERFORMANCES

“Caleb Calypso and the Midnight Marauders,” a new play by Durham playwright and educator Howard L. Craft and directed by UNC artist-in-residence Joseph Megel, is scheduled for two shows on the Carolina campus March 20–21. It is sponsored by UNC’s Department of Communication Studies and N.C. Central’s Department of Theater.

Exploring issues of race, class, regionalism and homophobia in the Army, the concert reading is scheduled for 8 p.m. both nights as part of the New Works Process Series and is free and open to the public. A third performance will be held March 27 at the N.C. Central campus.

For information, contact Megel (843-7067 or megel@email.unc.edu).

READING AT THE BULL’S HEAD

March 24 — Jeffrey Marsocci: “Estate Planning for Domestic Partners: The Legal Secrets You Need to Know to Protect Your Partner and Your Future.”

March 26 — Matthew Vollmer: “Future Missionaries of America.”

Joyce Allen: “Hannah’s House.” All readings are at 3:30 p.m. in the Bull’s Head Bookshop on the second floor of Student Stores.

WOMEN IN BUSINESS CONFERENCE


wibconference.wordpress.com

PROGRAM OFFERS HELP TO CANCER SURVIVORS

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center is one of 20 sites across the United States that will participate in a new national program titled “Cancer Transitions: Moving Beyond
Ode to staff reveals author’s passion for words, people — and service

At the age of 4 or 5, Jeffery Beam began collecting books. As he got older, he began making friends play “library” with him.

But even before he dared to dream it, his love for words had put Beam on the path to becoming a poet.

When he reached 10th grade at his high school in Kannapolis, his English teacher said, “If you want to be a poet, you should dig ditches for a living.”

Beam understood his teacher’s advice — being close to the raw beauty of nature and all that — but pitching dirt from a ditch every day was closer to it than he wanted to be.

Instead, he wanted a comfortable place that would allow him to combine everyday work with high pursuits. Since graduating from UNC-Charlotte with a bachelor of creative arts degree in creative writing in 1975, he has found the perfect fit at Carolina, amid the book stacks of the library.

For eight years, he worked as an assistant in various library units, and in 1983, he found the job as assistant to the biol-ogy librarian in the Botany Library, now the Biology/Chem-istry Library. His official job title, which for the longest time was “Library Technical Assistant II,” changed last year to “Advanced University Library Technician.”

What has not changed is the way Beam sees himself. Whatever his title, he said, he is a helper.

Beam found he loved being in a small library with such great variety and scope. He found he loved helping students, faculty and staff find exactly what they need. And he found, to his surprise, that the work here not only allowed him to pursue his poetry, but that it informed, inspired and enriched that pursuit.

Two of his many works of poetry (they total 20 including two works due out this year) are “Visions of Dame Kind” and “An Elizabethan Bestiary: Retold” — works that he said would probably never have been written had he not worked with biological and horticultural materials.

Similarly, his interest in children’s poetry might not have developed if the University’s Friends of the Library had not approached him in 1993 to develop a children’s pro-gram. Beam went on to run the program for 12 years and it continues today.

HISTORIC SWEEP

But it was not until 1998, while serving as vice chair of the Employee Forum, that Beam fused his devotion to his work with his love of poetry in “Song of the Uni-versity Worker,” which the forum this month voted to make the official poem for University staff.

The forum had unofficially commissioned Beam to write the poem and recite it before the Board of Trustees. It was an auspicious moment for the forum as much as for Beam. Never before had forum representatives been invited to speak before trustees.

In the 13 minutes the forum had been allotted, leaders wanted a poem that could capture the historic sweep of contrib-utions that staff have made to the University.

Beam struggled with the assignment until Libby Evans, a forum member at the time, showed him the following pas-sage written by Martin Luther King Jr.: “If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets as Michelan-gelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry.

“He should sweep so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, ‘Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.’

Hearing those lines illuminated the path for Beam, a path that begins and ends with this stanza:

Who builds this world?
All manner of men and women.
Some in their heads.
Others behind the saw.
Some with money and paper.
Others with motors and tendons.
With sweat and fear and a bowl of beans.
With rest and hope and a cup of cool water.
With gratefulness for work.
With the work of gratefulness.
With grace and gratitude.

In those 60 words, Beam sought to encompass all the jobs that staff members have performed during the last two centu-ries and to recognize the spirit in which they have done it. People who are familiar with the poem comment that the
words take on another dimension when they are heard rather than read, especially when recited by the poet.

That is no accident, Beam said. A poem left on a page is like a bird trapped in its cage; only when it is read to an audience can its music be set free.

POWER, MEANING OF WORDS

Beam said he developed his appreciation of the power and meaning of the spoken word from his grandmother. He spent hours with her in her gardens back in Kannapolis, singing old gospel songs as they tended to their work.

As he grew older, he understood there was spirituality in gospel music that sprang as much from the sounds produced as the religion to which it spoke. He sought to convey this same kind of spirituality in his own poems.

When Beam heard beat poet Allen Ginsberg speak at Davidson College in 1972, he gleaned the power of performance, although William Carlos Williams had the strongest influence on his work.

Williams was an American poet closely associated with modernism and imagism, an early 20th-century movement that favored precision of imagery and clear, sharp language. Beam also found motivation in this passage from German poet Rainer Maria Rilke: “Find out the reason that commands you to write; see whether it has spread its roots into the very depth of your heart; confess to yourself you would have to die if you were forbidden to write.”

Although Beam is gay, he never wanted to be seen exclusively as a “gay poet,” or to move out the reason that commands you to write. "A lot of my gay friends felt a need to leave because they didn’t feel they could be themselves here," Beam said. “I felt some of us needed to stay behind so that people here could see we were no different from anybody else.”

Beam has often wished that he could become a full-time writer, even as he has remained thankful for his job at the University. As retirement inches closer, he appreciates even more the forum’s endorsement of his poem.

“I am very, very pleased and deeply honored by it,” Beam said.

He knows now it will endure after he is gone to serve as a reminder to future University employees not of his job well done, but their own.

MEETING from page 3

Thorp, Mann and Elmira Mangum, senior associate provost, will meet with Employee Forum Chair Tommy Griffin and Faculty Chair Joe Templeton to get their input on the study.

The student asked Thorp to guarantee that privatization, the cost-cutting practice of converting functions handled by public employees to a private firm, would not be considered.

Thorp refused, but said it was possible that the Bain & Company study could generate ideas about using privatization in selective ways that would make sense financially and could be accepted by the larger University community.

He emphasized the University’s commitment to transparency throughout the process.

BUDGET from page 1

than 666,000 state employees, teachers and retirees.

Senate Majority Leader Tony Rand, who sponsored the legislation, said the bill would have to clear the legislature by the end of the month for plan changes to take effect July 1. Failure to do so could reduce savings by 15 percent, Rand said in an interview with The News & Observer.

ON CAMPUS

Although the full extent of next year’s budget deficit is not yet known, economic conditions are taking a toll on some of the University’s planned construction projects.

The latest to feel the pinch is the second phase of renovations to Kenan Stadium. Construction to add club seats, individual suites and a new academic center to the south side of the stadium will not start after the 2009 football season as originally planned, Chancellor Holden Thorp and athletic director Dick Baddour announced earlier this month.

Rent from the boxes and club seats is expected to pay for the project in 12 to 14 years. To move forward with plans and approvals so construction could start in January 2010, the athletic department wanted to have at least half of the new seats — about 25 to 30 suites and 1,250 club seats — sold by October.

While the project has a high level of support among University administrators and Educational Foundation members, all agreed the timing was not right.

The first phase of stadium renovations, however, began last month and will be completed by September. The Educational Foundation will raise $18 million to add a fifth floor to the existing football center on the stadium’s west end.

This project is important, Baddour said, because Carolina’s two revenue sports — football and men’s basketball — are largely responsible for supporting the entire 28-sport program. Ticket sales from football accounted for about $10.3 million of the athletic department’s $61.4 million budget in 2008-09, while men’s basketball tickets accounted for about $8.8 million.

NEWS IN BRIEF from page 9

Treatment.” The program was created to help cancer survivors bridge the gap between cancer treatment and life following cancer.

Offered at no cost to participants, the program will provide 20 N.C. cancer survivors with information and tools to make the transition into living life as survivors.

The sessions will be held on six Tuesdays beginning on March 31, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. For more information or to register, call 843-5069 or e-mail elizabeth_sherwood@med.unc.edu.

CIVIL RIGHTS EVENTS TAKE PLACE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL

“Jim Crow’s Last Stand: Fighting Educational Inequality North and South,” is the title of a talk by author Thomas J. Sugrue on April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Stone Center. The free lecture is part of “The Long Civil Rights Movement” conference and is the only opportunity to attend a conference event, which is wait-listed.

The conference is part of a three-year project, “Publishing the Long Civil Rights Movement,” funded in part by a $937,000 grant to UNC from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation of New York.

Spaces remain in an April 2 conference, “Looking to the Future: Legal and Policy Options for Racially Integrated Education in the South and the Nation,” at the Hill Alumni Center. It is sponsored by the School of Law’s Center for Civil Rights.

‘OUR STORIES, IN FOCUS’ PROJECT CONTINUES MARCH 21, MARCH 28

Two installments remain in the three-part community art and history project that is a joint effort among many units at UNC, Chapel Hill and Carrboro. “Our Stories, In Focus” continues on March 21 (from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at University Mall) and March 28 (from noon to 2 p.m. at Century Center in Carrboro).

The project invites local residents to bring mementos and photos — to be scanned and returned — and to take part in workshops in genealogy, journal and memoir writing, storytelling and collection of oral histories sponsored by UNC’s Program in the Humanities and Human Values and the Southern Oral History Program, among others.
Pedaling a HARD truth

MORGAN GIDDINGS IS CONVINCED CONTINUED DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL MIGHT ONE DAY DESTROY THE PLANET, AND SHE IS CALLING ON ORDINARY CITIZENS TO HELP STOP IT.

Morgan Giddings is a scientist by vocation, a cyclist by choice.

Growing up in Salt Lake City in the 1970s, she discovered, as countless kids have through the generations, the exhilarating freedom a bicycle provided to explore the streets of her neighborhood — and discover the world beyond it.

But unlike many kids, her love of bicycling did not end with childhood.

As a student at the University of Utah, she earned degrees in physics and computer science. And it was there, surrounded by the Rockies, that Giddings got her first mountain bike in 1984.

She went on to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where she became interested in computational biology. Her work focused on developing software that could be used by scientists to get a more accurate reading of a DNA sequence trace, the order of the nucleotide bases of adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine in a molecule of DNA.

The advent of DNA sequencing has significantly accelerated biological research and discovery, and become indispensable in applied fields such as diagnostic or forensic research. People convicted of capital crimes have been freed from death row when DNA has proved them innocent. In the future, genome therapy may make it possible for people to be freed from the death sentence of a disease carried in their genes.

This is all heady work, and it is what brought Giddings to Carolina in 2002 as an assistant professor (she was promoted to associate professor this year) in the departments of microbiology and immunology, biomedical engineering and computer science.

SHIFTING GEARS

Just as she had always done — even on vacations to Italy — she brought her bike with her to Chapel Hill. Then she did something that perhaps was inevitable: she applied her scientific mindset to her avocation.

Riding a bike had always been something she had done for fun. But after 9/11 and the Iraq war, and after Al Gore won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 for his dire warnings about global warming, Giddings changed her attitude toward bike riding.

Its purpose shifted to a higher gear.

When she pedaled to her office every day, she began to think about how it helped reduce her carbon footprint.

And after the birth of her daughter, she began to think what little benefit her work in DNA sequencing would be to the next generation if there was no clean air to breathe or a world at peace. When her twin daughters were born 15 months ago, her sense of urgency intensified.

But even then, the scientist in her did the calculations: One person riding a bike to work every day was not going to make much difference.

Or, she didn’t dare think so until she stumbled upon the writings of Paul Hawken, an environmentalist and entrepreneur, who in “The Ecology of Commerce” advocates for First World countries to reduce consumption of energy and resources by 80 percent in the next 50 years.

He touts a change in business culture in which commerce is conducted from a biological point of view, where concern for preserving the natural world is the real bottom line.

It was in this socially responsible frame of mind that Giddings and her partner, Elise Giddings, came up with the idea for Cycle 9 LLC, a Carrboro bike shop focused on the needs of commuters and filled with practical specialty items such as electric-assisted bicycles, cargo-carrying bikes and folding bikes.

They don’t expect to make much money, but that had never been the point, Giddings said. They didn’t start the business to compete with other bike stores in the area that focus almost exclusively on the needs of the recreational rider.

They went into business, Giddings said, to serve a niche market for the commuter bicyclist, a fledgling market in the United States that they hope to create and build within the Triangle by their store’s presence (www.cycle9.com).

While Elise runs the shop, Giddings is the resident geek in chief, tinkering with new technologies that could help change people’s minds about the practicality of riding a bike into work every day.

She has heard all the excuses — some of which are true and Giddings can’t control. It can be too hot, too cold, or too far. Other people complain about the difficulty of pedaling up hills, or not having any space to put their lunch,

books, computer bag or purse.

Her shop, and the products it offers, can only alleviate some of those excuses.

RISE OF THE ‘SUB’

A bike assisted by an electric motor can’t conquer distance or move a steep hill, but it does make it possible to climb the hill without having to touch a pedal if you don’t want to.

As for cargo space, the Xtracycle system that, while it adds only a few pounds to the bike, transforms it into what Giddings calls an SUB — or sports utility bike — is capable of hauling kids, groceries, books or computers.

In the winter, Giddings figures the weight she carries on her bike — if she includes the weight of the bike, herself, her 5-year-old daughter (who she takes to day care each morning), her computer, shoulder bag and lunch, and some days a change of clothes — tops out at 340 pounds.

Giddings is an idealist, to be sure, but she is under no illusion that people in the United States will give up the convenience of their cars anytime soon, especially since gasoline prices have again dipped below $2 a gallon.

In the Netherlands, where the land is flat, bicycle use accounts for some 35 percent of the trips people take. In the United States, that figure drops to 1 percent.

“If one-third of the people in the United States replaced two car trips each week with riding an electric-assist bike, it would save 5.5 billion gallons of gas, prevent the release of 59 million tons of carbon dioxide and save $17 billion,” Giddings said.

Riding an electric bike is far and away the most efficient human transportation on the planet...

“While Elise runs the shop, Giddings is the resident geek in chief, tinkering with new technologies that could help change people’s minds about the practicality of riding a bike into work every day...”