



**N.C. STATE TOPS MIAMI 77-73 IN FINAL HOME GAME**

SPORTS



**TAR HEELS CRUSH TERRAPINS 88-64**

SPORTS

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**Margaret Shimkus, 61, talks with an emergency responder at her damaged home in Harrisburg, Ill.**

STEPHEN LANCE DENNEE - AP

**DEADLY TWISTERS RAVAGE MIDWEST**

Tornadoes rip through the Midwest, killing at least 12 and flattening neighborhoods in Illinois and Kansas. **3A**

**YOUNG DOESN'T TESTIFY IN RETRIAL**

The defense rests without calling Jason Young – who took the stand in the first trial, which ended with a hung jury – to defend himself against charges that he killed his pregnant wife in 2006. **1B**

**FINAL ARGUMENTS OVER IN CLINE CASE**

A judge could rule as soon as Friday on whether Durham District Attorney Tracey Cline should keep her elected position. **1B**

**SEABOARD OWNER FILES BANKRUPTCY**

The owner of the Seaboard Station retail center near downtown Raleigh files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. **4B**

**MONKEES SINGER DAVY JONES DIES**

The heartthrob of the popular 1960s pop group dies of a heart attack at age 66 near his home in Florida. **2A**

**WEATHER**

**Today:** Sunny and warmer. High 79; low 47.

**Friday:** Isolated thunderstorms. High 67; low 59. **8B**

**INDEX**

Business .....4-5B Editorials.....10A  
Classified.....6-7D Films, Puzzles .3D  
Comics.....4-5D Style.....1D  
Deaths.....6-7B TV.....2A



A B ● ● ●

## Charters headed for approval

**Nine applications move forward, including two controversial schools in the Triangle.**

By LYNN BONNER  
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Two controversial charter schools to be located in the Triangle appear headed toward state approval today despite fierce local opposition cen-

tered on questions of money and diversity.

Research Triangle High School would open in Durham, and the Howard and Lillian Lee Scholars Charter School would open in Chapel Hill in August if the full State Board of Education follows the recommendation of one of its committees to approve them along with seven other charters. Those nine would be the first approved under a new law that eliminated the 100-school cap that contained

charter expansion for 15 years.

The proposed Durham and Chapel Hill schools inflamed a debate about racial and economic diversity, competition, and public money going to support charters. Charters are public schools but operate without many of the rules that traditional public schools must follow.

State Board Chairman Bill Harrison said more than 900 people contacted him about the Research Triangle High School and the Lee Scholars

**ON THE SCHOOLS**

Online: More education news is at newsobserver.com/education.

academy. Most of the Chapel Hill messages were against the school, he said, while comments on the Durham school were more balanced between opponents and supporters.

These local protests are likely to be repeated in other communities as the

SEE CHARTERS, PAGE 8A

## Cuts, deficits shutter YWCA



Olivia Robinson, left, says goodbye to Katie Lowek in the YWCA's general purpose room on East Hargett Street in Raleigh on Wednesday. The staff members were among 14 laid off when the facility shut down.

SHAWN ROCCO - srocco@newsobserver.com

### Staff is laid off and programs abruptly end

By MARTHA QUILLIN AND AMANDA JAMES  
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**RALEIGH** – The YWCA of the Greater Triangle ceased operations Wednesday in the face of mounting financial problems, an abrupt end to a social services organization that has been working on behalf of women in the Raleigh area for 110 years.

The move put all of the YWCA's employees out of work and leaves in a lurch the parents of about 50 elementary school-aged children who relied on the Y's after-school care, as well as about 60 older adults whose main meal of the day came from a Meals on Wheels program based at the

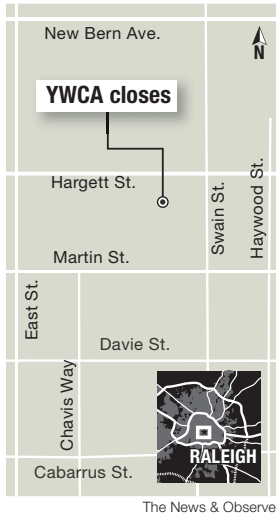
East Hargett Street facility.

In all, the YWCA served about 12,000 people throughout the Triangle in its mission to "eliminate racism and empower women." Much of the work the YWCA did was designed to help financially strapped single mothers.

The YWCA was supported by grants from corporations, foundations and governments and got money from the United Way. Except for its below-market rates for after-school care, it didn't charge for services.

The nonprofit has struggled financially

SEE YWCA, PAGE 8A



## N. Korea agrees to nuclear pause

By JONATHAN S. LANDAY  
McClatchy Newspapers

**WASHINGTON** – North Korea will halt long-range missile launches and nuclear weapons tests and suspend the enrichment of uranium at its key nuclear site in exchange for badly needed food aid from the United States, the two countries announced Wednesday.

The surprise deal, reached in talks last week in Beijing, appeared to raise the prospects of resuming long-stalled negotiations on shuttering North Korea's nuclear weapons program, although there was considerable skepticism

that Pyongyang, which has hailed the nuclear effort as its greatest achievement, will fulfill its end of the bargain.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called the accord a "modest

first step." White House spokesman Jay Carney said that further progress would "depend on actions the North Koreans take to demonstrate that they are upholding the commitments they've made."

If implemented, the deal would represent a major policy shift by North Korea after the death of dictator Kim Jong Il from a heart attack in December and the accession of his son, Kim Jong Un. North Korea has refused to suspend its nuclear program since six-nation talks over the issue collapsed nearly four years ago.

Under the deal, U.N. Interna-

SEE N. KOREA, PAGE 8A

**ELECTION 2012: GOVERNOR**

## Democrats' race to be short and sweet

By ROB CHRISTENSEN  
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The Democratic primary for governor may closely resemble a traditional British election – a brief campaign season, relatively austere electioneering budgets, and stingy television advertising. The only thing missing will be tea.

"Americans don't like campaigns because of their length. They're too long, and they are glad they when they are over," said British-born Andy Taylor, a political science professor at N.C. State University. "This

one will be done and dusted pretty quickly."

With only 69 days until the May 8 primary, the three major Democratic candidates, Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton of Rutherfordton, former U.S. Rep. Bob Etheridge of Lillington, and state Rep. Bill Faison of Orange County, will have little time to get their message before the voters.

For many Democrats, the question is, "Who he?"

The candidates have little time or money to remedy that problem. That means they will spend the next

**INSIDE**

**Tax returns:** Etheridge releases his and challenges McCrory to do the same. **►1B**

10 weeks frantically dialing for dollars, campaigning mainly along the populous Interstate 85 corridor, and introducing themselves to voters, rather than developing issues.

"Historically, we have never seen a primary like this in modern state history," said Brad Crone, a veteran Democratic strategist. "This cam-

SEE RACE, PAGE 9A



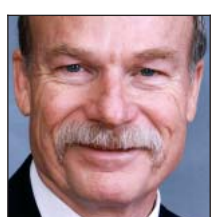
Dalton



Etheridge

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Faison

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