THE DAILY CLIPS

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Photos aiding police search

Authorities release two more pictures of a suspect in the murder of UNC Student Body President Eve Carson.

By Mike Baker
The Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL — Detectives investigating the slaying of the University of North Carolina's student body president focused Monday on a suspect pictured in several surveillance photos using her ATM card.

Police released two new photos Monday evening of a young man wearing jeans and a black coat inside an area convenience store. Chapel Hill Police Chief Brian Curran said the man appears to be the same person seen in two ATM surveillance photos released Saturday.

In those pictures, the suspect is seen in a baseball cap and hooded sweatshirt driving a sport utility vehicle that may be Eve Carson's Toyota Highlander. Curran said Monday the man in the two new photos is the only person inside the store when Carson's ATM card was used.

Earlier Monday, police said they are trying to enhance the first two photos. They clearly show the driver of the SUV, who is wearing what appears to be a vintage Houston Astros hat, but detectives also believe a dark shape in the photos is a male passenger in the rear seat.

Police have declined to say when the surveillance photos were taken or the exact location of the ATM machine and convenience store, but Curran said Monday the same ATM card was used when all four photos were taken. He would not say if any money was successfully withdrawn from Carson's account.

"It still feels like a random crime to us," Curran said.

Carson, 22, of Athens, Ga., was found last week lying on a street about a mile from campus after police received two 911 calls reporting gunshots. She had been shot several times, including once in the right temple. Her SUV was found the next day a few blocks from her home.

According to a search warrant, police found Carson's cell phone near a shopping center located on the main road between Chapel Hill and Durham, about 1½ miles from the scene of her death. Detectives have yet to locate her wallet or keys. They retrieved Carson's laptop and memory cards from her campus office, according to the warrants.

Carson's death led to a widespread outpouring of grief at

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CARSON

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North Carolina, where thousands gathered last Thursday at two memorials to remember the senior biology and political science major. At North Carolina's men's basketball game against archrival Duke on Saturday night, thousands of fans — including those rooting for the Blue Devils — wore Carolina blue ribbons in her honor.

Police said Monday they received roughly 200 tips this past weekend. The school's Board of Trustees, of which Carson was a member, has offered a $50,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in her death.

"We've been really truly blessed with the outpouring of support we've had from both the community here in Chapel Hill and from other law enforcement agencies," Curran said. "It's really been really nice to see. Everybody's really coming together trying to get this case solved."

In another case involving a female student, Auburn University in Alabama has begun new security measures since 18-year-old Lauren Burk's abduction and shooting death.

Maj. Melvin Owens, Auburn's executive director of security and public safety, said Monday the school has increased the hours of its security shuttles and has implemented an escort service for students leaving the library.

Burk was found about five miles from the university last Tuesday and her car was later found burning in a campus parking lot.

Courtney Lockhart, arrested on capital murder charges, is accused of kidnapping, robbing and attempting to rape Burk. Lockhart, who lived in rural Smiths in Russell County, was arrested in Phenix City on Friday after a chase and was to make a court appearance Monday.

Police have said there was no indication the killings of the two students were related.

Lockhart served with the Army in Iraq from August 2004 to July 2005. At Fort Carson, in 2006, he was convicted on military charges of communicating a threat and use of marijuana as well as assault said Maj. Nathan Banks, an Army spokesman at the Pentagon. Lockhart was sentenced to seven months' confinement and given a bad conduct discharge.

Banks said the records he has available do not indicate who was assaulted, but the victim would have been in the military since the case was handled by the military rather than civilian police.

Associated Press writer Desiree Hunter contributed to this report from Auburn, Ala.
The Brand New Kid

Play tells story of acceptance from Katie Couric children's book

Before she became the brand new anchor of the CBS Evening News, television journalist Katie Couric published the children's book "The Brand New Kid."

The book, published in 2006, tells the story of Lazlo S. Gasky, a 7-year-old new student who doesn't look like or speak like the other kids. In the story, told in rhyme, students at Brookhaven School learn a lesson about accepting people with differences.

In 2006, the Kennedy Center Theatre for Young Audiences staged a musical production based on Couric's highly acclaimed book. A year later, "The Brand New Kid," with lyrics by Melanie Marnich and music and lyrics by Michael Friedman, went on tour. The production comes to East Carolina University's Family Fare series with a performance at 7 p.m. Friday in Wright Auditorium.

Bailey Cooper, a member of The Daily Reflector's Youth Advisory Panel, talked with David Kilpatrick, manager of the Kennedy Center's Theatre for Young Audiences, about the show.

Q: I read that Katie Couric's "The Brand New Kid" was performed at the Kennedy Center a year before it went on tour. Did Katie Couric come to the show while it was there?

A: No, actually she wasn't able to attend. But she knew that we were taking her book and turning it into.
Q: How do you decide which shows from The Kennedy Center will go on tour?
A: With this show, we were really excited about how it turned out and how we were able to take this book with the message that we really liked and expand it into an hour-long stage musical. And we just wanted to share that with different communities all across the country.

Q: Does the show change from the time it's performed at the Kennedy Center and when it goes on tour?
A: It does sometimes. What we tend to do is different staged readings of the show in advance to let the creative team hear the words out loud and to look at the overall arc of the story. This show is pretty much very similar to what was on stage here at the Kennedy Center, but sometimes they do continue to develop and get stronger as they go.

Q: Does the cast change?
A: The cast does change, although sometimes we have the same actors involved. With "The Brand New Kid," we're really thrilled to have a whole new team of excellent actors that have been out on the road since October.

Q: What would you say is the message of the story?
A: I think the message is twofold. One, it does deal with how tough it is to be a new kid in a new school, you know, moving when you're younger and meeting a whole new group of teachers and students and neighbors and an entire new community. And then the other thing deals with the idea of bullying and what you can do to sort of prevent that in a school setting. My favorite part of the story is Ellie McShelly and she sees that Lazlo, the new kid, is being bullied and really having a rough go of it and steps in and, rather courageously, stands up for him in front of some of her peers at risk of being bullied herself to really help him feel welcome at the school.

Q: How many people are in the cast?
A: There are six people in the cast.

Q: What age audience will the play appeal to most?
A: Lazlo's 7 years old, so technically second grade. I think the play appeals most to that K-4 age range.

Q: Is there audience participation?
A: There is definitely audience participation, not necessarily that any audience members come up on stage but more that they'll be part of Lazlo's journey.

Q: I looked at the schedule, and it looks like Greenville is one of the last stops on the tour. Can you tell me how many times it has been performed and in how many states?
A: It's been touring since October, so you're right. Greenville is near the end of our tour. There's 41 cities and 24 states that we're visiting on this six-month tour, so it wraps up only about a week and a half after we're in Greenville. We're pretty thrilled to be bringing it to that community.

Q: What shows are you working on next for the tour?
A: Next year we've got two other shows that we're planning to tour. One is called "The Phantom Tollbooth," and it's based on the famous Norton Juster children's book, and that's a one-hour musical. Then the other show is a show we produced here two seasons ago called "Blues Journey," and it's based on a book by Walter D. Myers.

* * *

Bailey Cooper is a student at Wintergreen Intermediate School.
Carson case photos multiply

Phone was found at shopping center

By Jesse James DeConto
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill - Police think the same man who used Eve Carson's ATM card at a local bank tried to use it again at a local convenience store machine.

Police Chief Brian Curran would not say where the two ATMs were located, but he did confirm that investigators found Carson's cell phone last week in a shopping center near U.S. 15-501 about 1.5 miles from downtown Chapel Hill.

That area includes University Mall, Ram's Plaza and Bastgate Shopping Center, along with several banks that have drive-through ATMs. Such ATMs are rare in

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Chapel Hill because of strict land-use regulations, Curran would not say exactly where the cell phone was found.

The man in convenience-store photos released Monday evening is not wearing the same vintage Houston Astros ball cap as the man in the ATM photos released Saturday morning.

Both photos depict a young man with long hair. In the ATM photo, it sticks out from a hooded sweatshirt or jacket. In the convenience store photo, it appears to be tied in a ponytail.

"To my eye, it appears to be the same person," Curran said.

Investigators have received more than 200 calls from tipsters, most of them since police released the bank surveillance photos.

"Prior to the release of the photos, the tips were kind of trickling in," Curran said.

After analyzing the bank photos more closely over the weekend, Chapel Hill police said they think there is a second man in the back seat of the vehicle in the photo. They think the vehicle is Carson's blue 2005 Toyota Highlander and have contacted Toyota representatives to make sure.

"I still can't tell you 100 percent, but it appears to be a Toyota Highlander," he said.

Curran said he can't identify the second person seen in several stop-action photos. The pictures are not clear enough, he said.

"I've seen basically a silhouette of a guy in the back seat," Curran said. "If we could see this guy's face, we'd have that out there."

The body of Carson, 22, was found in the Hillcrest neighborhood northeast of campus about 5:15 a.m. Wednesday with gunshot wounds, one to the head. A memorial service was held Sunday in her hometown of Athens, Ga.

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HEAR 911 CALL

Hear a 911 call from the shooting, see video and a photo gallery, and share your remembrances and condolences at newsobserver.com/news.

HOW TO HELP

The UNC-Chapel Hill board of trustees is offering a $25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of Eve Carson's killer. If you have information about the case, call Chapel Hill police at (919) 942-7575 or go to www.crimestoppers-chunc.org.

Police think this man at a convenience store is the same man at a bank ATM.

Photo courtesy of Chapel Hill Police Department.
N.C. IS ‘UNDER-LAWYERED’

Freeing up legal education

BY GEORGE LEEP

RALEIGH

Did you know that North Carolina has the lowest ratio of lawyers to people of any state in the nation?

That’s one of the key findings in a report entitled “Legal Education in North Carolina” just released by the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy. Written by law professors Andrew Morriss and William Henderson, it contains a wealth of information about the state’s law schools, including student outcomes, debt loads and average salaries. It also has some provocative recommendations for change.

Morriss and Henderson conclude that North Carolina is “under-lawyered.” They argue that a liberalization of the rules on entry into the legal profession would benefit rich and poor alike. As they see it, we have several problems.

One of them is that the state allows only those who have earned degrees from law schools accredited by the American Bar Association to take the bar exam. That rule prevents people in other states who have degrees from non-ABA law schools from entering our comparatively low-competition legal services market.

The obvious question is whether instruction in law schools not accredited by the ABA is good enough. And the answer is that there is little or no educational difference between ABA and non-ABA schools. They all teach contracts, civil procedure, property and other basic legal subjects. They all teach legal research and writing. The professors are all highly educated, competent professionals.

If a graduate of a non-ABA law school is able to pass the bar examination — as most do where they are allowed to try — why worry about the school he attended? There’s no reason to.

A dirty secret about the American Bar Association is that it deliberately keeps its standards restrictive and costly in order to keep down competition in the legal profession. As Lawrence Velvel, dean of the Massachusetts School of Law wrote for the Pope Center last October, “The sad truth is that the ABA mostly serves to drive up the cost of a legal education and keep down the number of people who can enter the profession. What it’s doing is bad for Americans who need legal help — especially poorer ones.”

A lawyer can learn his calling every bit as well whether he went to an elite ABA school such as Duke, a non-elite ABA school such as N.C. Central or an unaccredited law school. The fact is that most of what a lawyer needs to know to capably represent people and solve their legal problems isn’t learned in law school at all, but is instead learned on the job.

Morriss and Henderson would like to see the state establish its own law school standards, ones that would just focus on the basics. Could the law school curriculum be cut down from its current three years? Certainly. It’s widely understood that the third year of law school is merely an expensive waste of time, accumulating course credits just for the sake of fulfilling the degree requirement.

If we opened up our legal system, following the model of California, how would that benefit the poor? Preparation for the legal profession is now so costly that few lawyers can afford to take low-fee cases for poor people. There’s a great deal of evidence that more often than not the poor have to do without professional assistance when they need legal help.

And what about the rich? Morriss and Henderson say that with easier entry into North Carolina’s legal profession, the state would attract more of the highly skilled transaction lawyers who help facilitate business growth.

Our law has been stuck in a restrictive, competition-suppressing mode for many decades. It is time to think about the benefits of greater freedom in legal education and entering the legal profession.

George Leep is vice president for research at the John W. Pope Center for Higher Education Policy.
I disagree with USA TODAY reader Brian Toye, who wrote that students should be allowed to carry concealed weapons on campus ("Allow guns on campus," Letters, Feb. 22).

I believe that is a terrible idea. I want to be able to trust my fellow students, but we have all witnessed how impossible it is to do that in today's world.

College campuses do not have enough security. Campuses should require more frequent police patrols in and around the entire campus so officers can respond to emergencies as quickly as possible. I want to see a marked unit or a foot patrol officer on every corner of my college campus.

I feel that it is the absence of a police force that causes people to believe that they can take advantage of vulnerable college campuses and shoot others.

Students should be scared to commit any type of crime on campus because of the massive amount of law enforcement.

Campus is a place for learning and interacting with fellow students, not for expressing unresolved issues by going on a shooting rampage.

Amanda Messic, sophomore
Indiana University
Bloomington, Ind.
Today's debate: Fan behavior

When cheers turn to abuse, colleges need to take action

Our view:
Ugly incidents, vulgar chants mar college basketball season.

College basketball games have always been rowdy events where students pack arenas and cheer at ear-splitting volume. A fired-up student body can give the home team an advantage. But there's cheering and there's, well, something else.

What students did at the University of Oregon on Jan. 24 and at the University of Illinois on Feb. 7 went way over the line.

At the January game, Oregon students targeted UCLA player Kevin Love, an Oregon high school graduate who had taken his prodigious talent to California. Most of the obscenities students screamed at him can't be printed here. Some of the worst abuse was directed at Love's relatives. His grandmother was reportedly reduced to tears when students chanted "whores" at the family.

The situation was similar when Indiana played at Illinois in February. Illini fans were furious that Indiana star Eric Gordon had backed out of a verbal commitment to attend Illinois, so they screamed vulgarities at him and reportedly threw a drink at his mother.

Bad behavior by spectators isn't unique to college basketball, of course. Hours-long tailgate parties regularly fill college and pro football stadiums with drunken idiots who scream obscenities, throw things onto the field or, in a case involving the New York Jets, sexually harass female fans week after week. But such behavior at college basketball games is particularly egregious because the arenas are so intimate and because colleges are supposed to be oases of tolerance and civilized behavior.

College officials have struggled with this for years, often halfheartedly. Sports Illustrated, which detailed the incidents at Oregon and Illinois in an article on student boorishness, calls this "the ugliest season in years." With conference tournaments and March Madness approaching, it's time for colleges everywhere to clean up their acts.

College students have free speech rights, and no one's suggesting censorship or cracking down on clever-but-clean jeering. But one goal of education is to convey that just because you can doesn't always mean you should. College administrators teach students a terrible lesson when they fail to stop obscenities, one-finger salutes and harassment of visiting players' families.

Officials at Oregon and Illinois were embarrassed by what happened at their schools and quickly issued apologies. Oregon President Dave Frohnmayer told us he considers what happened to be "absolutely appalling." He and others took steps to make sure it doesn't happen again.

Making it clear to students that the behavior had to change and working with student leaders to put peer pressure on their fellow students. Before the start of the next game, Oregon coach Ernie Kent addressed the students to ask them to be good hosts, the sort of appeal that popular coaches elsewhere have used to moderate student behavior.

The appeals seem to have worked. Students at subsequent games have been loud enough to rattle opponents but say the student newspaper, the Oregon Daily Emerald, much cleaner.

If relatively mild steps aren't sufficient to change student behavior, perhaps barring students from a game or two, or requiring the home team to forfeit a game, will make the point. Even in college basketball, some things are more important than winning.
Allow 'cheering speech'

Opposing view:
In a nation of free expression, rowdy fans shouldn't be punished.

By Howard M. Wasserman

Much college-student sports fans' conduct crosses the line. Threatening messages on players' voice mails, as Oregon students did with UCLA star Kevin Love, cross the line. So does throwing food at players' family members. So does storming the court and getting into matches with players. Such conduct should be stopped and fans punished.

Rudeness, nastiness, profanity, insults and incivility cross a different line — how we wish people would behave. But in a public-university arena in a nation committed to the freedom of speech, fans' "cheering speech" — however rude, nasty, profane, insulting and uncivil — does not cross a line that permits speech to be silenced. Government might encourage students to keep it "stylish, clever, clean and classy." It cannot force them to do so or punish them for failing to do so.

One refrain from would-be regulators of fan speech is "I am all for creative, loud and funny fans, but ..." There is no "but," however. One person's creativity and humor is another person's rudeness and offensive-ness. When Duke fans targeted the low graduation of Maryland basketball players with signs of "Fear the Classroom" and "A mind is a Terrapin thing to waste," were they being creative and humorous or arrogant and offensive? "But" requires that government be appointed arbiter of what is sufficiently creative, funny and classy to merit being said — something we properly have been loath to do in most other realms of public discussion.

Another refrain is "it's just sports." But universities themselves place great weight on the success of their athletic teams and what those teams mean to the university community. If sport is important to the university, then so is student speech about sport and everything that surrounds the game.

I may not enjoy sitting, or having my child, sit, in an arena with fans hurling expletives throughout the game. But commitment to neutral principles of freedom of speech means tolerating speech I do not like or do not wish to hear. It is the price of living in a free, but sports-mad, society with a commitment to discussion that is "uninhibited, robust and wide-open."

Howard M. Wasserman is a law professor at Florida International University. Where his specialties include the intersection of sports and free speech.
March 11, 2008

WELL

An Enduring Measure of Fitness: The Simple Push-Up

By TARA PARKER-POPE

As a symbol of health and wellness, nothing surpasses the simple push-up.

Practically everyone remembers the actor Jack Palance performing age-defying push-ups during his Oscar acceptance speech. More recently, Randy Pausch, the Carnegie Mellon professor whose last lecture became an Internet sensation, did push-ups to prove his fitness despite having pancreatic cancer.

“It takes strength to do them, and it takes endurance to do a lot of them,” said Jack LaLanne, 93, the fitness pioneer who astounded television viewers in the 1950s with his fingertip push-ups. “It’s a good indication of what kind of physical condition you’re in.”

The push-up is the ultimate barometer of fitness. It tests the whole body, engaging muscle groups in the arms, chest, abdomen, hips and legs. It requires the body to be taut like a plank with toes and palms on the floor. The act of lifting and lowering one’s entire weight is taxing even for the very fit.

“You are just using your own body and your body’s weight,” said Steven G. Estes, a physical education professor and dean of the college of professional studies at Missouri Western State University. “If you’re going to demonstrate any kind of physical strength and power, that’s the easiest, simplest, fastest way to do it.”

But many people simply can’t do push-ups. Health and fitness experts, including the American College of Sports Medicine, have urged more focus on upper-body fitness. The aerobics movement has emphasized cardiovascular fitness but has also shifted attention from strength training exercises.

Moreover, as the nation gains weight, arms are buckling under the extra load of our own bodies. And as budgets shrink, public schools often do not offer physical education classes — and the calisthenics that were once a childhood staple.

In a 2001 study, researchers at East Carolina University administered push-up tests to about 70 students ages 10 to 13. Almost half the boys and three-quarters of the girls didn’t pass.

Push-ups are important for older people, too. The ability to do them more than once and with proper form is an important indicator of the capacity to withstand the rigors of aging.
Researchers who study the biomechanics of aging, for instance, note that push-ups can provide the strength and muscle memory to reach out and break a fall. When people fall forward, they typically reach out to catch themselves, ending in a move that mimics the push-up. The hands hit the ground, the wrists and arms absorb much of the impact, and the elbows bend slightly to reduce the force.

In studies of falling, researchers have shown that the wrist alone is subjected to an impact force equal to about one body weight, says James Ashton-Miller, director of the biomechanics research laboratory at the University of Michigan.

“What so many people really need to do is develop enough strength so they can break a fall safely without hitting their head on the ground,” Dr. Ashton-Miller said. “If you can’t do a single push-up, it’s going to be difficult to resist that kind of loading on your wrists in a fall.”

And people who can’t do a push-up may not be able to help themselves up if they do fall.

“To get up, you’ve got to have upper-body strength,” said Peter M. McGinnis, professor of kinesiology at State University of New York College at Cortland who consults on pole-vaulting biomechanics for U.S.A. Track and Field, the national governing body for track.

Natural aging causes nerves to die off and muscles to weaken. People lose as much as 30 percent of their strength between 20 and 70. But regular exercise enlarges muscle fibers and can stave off the decline by increasing the strength of the muscle you have left.

Women are at a particular disadvantage because they start off with about 20 percent less muscle than men. Many women bend their knees to lower the amount of weight they must support. And while anybody can do a push-up, the exercise has typically been part of the male fitness culture. “It’s sort of a gender-specific symbol of vitality,” said R. Scott Kretchmar, a professor of exercise and sports science at Penn State. “I don’t see women saying: ‘I’m in good health. Watch me drop down and do some push-ups.’”

Based on national averages, a 40-year-old woman should be able to do 16 push-ups and a man the same age should be able to do 27. By the age of 60, those numbers drop to 17 for men and 6 for women. Those numbers are just slightly less than what is required of Army soldiers who are subjected to regular push-up tests.

If the floor-based push-up is too difficult, start by leaning against a countertop at a 45-degree angle and pressing up and down. Eventually move to stairs and then the floor.

Mr. LaLanne, who once set a world record by doing 1,000 push-ups in 23 minutes, still does push-ups as part of his daily workout. Now he balances his feet and each hand on three chairs.
"That way I can go way down, even lower than if I was on the floor," he said. "That's really tough."

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UNC board supports a plan that will bring more doctors to Western North Carolina

By Nanci Bompey
NBOMPEY@CITIZEN-TIMES.COM
March 8, 2008 12:15 am

CHAPEL HILL- The University of North Carolina Board of Governors on Friday endorsed a plan that will help lure more physicians to Western North Carolina.

If funding is approved by the General Assembly, the campus will bring 40 third- and fourth-year UNC Chapel Hill Medical School students to the region for their clinical rotations starting in 2011, while also possibly increasing residency programs in the area.

Developers of the proposal hope it will fill a need for physicians in WNC and attract businesses to the region.

WNC has an even greater need for physicians because of its fast-growing elderly population, along with the difficulty in attracting physicians to rural areas.

The proposal will encourage students who grew up in WNC to come back to the region to practice medicine, said Gary Bowers, head of the WNC Health Network. "It is really, truly a regional collaborative effort by all the hospitals in WNC to ensure that we are going to have an adequate supply of physicians for the long term."

The Mountain Area Health Education Center, Mission Hospitals and the Western North Carolina Health Network developed the proposal this past fall.

The plan will create a similar satellite medical campus for 100 third- and fourth-year students in Charlotte and will call for increased enrollment at East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine with satellite campuses in eastern North Carolina.

A task force will develop a strategy to increase the number of residency slots in the state.

"The No. 1 indicator of where physicians practice is where they did their residency. No. 2 is where they are from and where their spouse is from," said Mission Hospitals CEO Joe Damore.

The entire scheme will come at a cost of $450 million over 10 years. Funding for the plan will be included in the university system budget, which could go before the General Assembly in May, said David Young, a member of the board of governors' western delegation.
Medical schools to expand enrollment

From Staff Reports

The UNC Board of Governors on Friday endorsed a plan by the state’s two public medical schools to add students and create regional campuses to prepare for an expected doctor shortage.

The plan calls for UNC-Chapel Hill to expand first-year enrollment at its medical school from 160 to 230 students in phases starting in 2009. The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University would expand its first-year enrollment from 73 to 120.

Also, UNC-CH would develop facilities in Charlotte and Asheville, where 70 students would complete their last two years of medical education. And ECU would expand opportunities for students to spend their third and fourth years in clinics in areas of Eastern North Carolina that need more doctors.

The cumulative cost of the plan is expected to be about $450 million, mostly for new and renovated facilities. It would be phased in over the next 10 years, and it would require funding from the legislature.

The plan also calls for a task force of public and private medical schools and health care centers to develop a plan to expand the number of residencies to train doctors in North Carolina. The group will seek more federal money for the residencies.

That will be a key to producing more doctors for North Carolina, because where physicians ultimately practice medicine is closely tied to where they do their residencies after medical school.

"This is a milestone for our medical schools, as well as the people of North Carolina," UNC President Erskine Bowles said in a news release.

State and national studies predict a deficit of doctors by 2020, particularly in primary care.

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A subsidiary of The McClatchy Company
Population Shift Sends Universities Scrambling
Applicant Pool Forecast To Shrink and Diversify

By Valerie Strauss
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, March 10, 2008; A01

Colleges and universities are anxiously taking steps to address a projected drop in the number of high school graduates in much of the nation starting next year and a dramatic change in the racial and ethnic makeup of the student population, a phenomenon expected to transform the country's higher education landscape, educators and analysts said.

After years of being overwhelmed with applicants, higher education institutions will over the next decade recruit from a pool of public high school graduates that will experience:

- A projected national decline of roughly 10 percent or more in non-Hispanic white students, the population that traditionally is most likely to attend four-year colleges.

- A double-digit rise in the proportion of minority students -- especially Hispanics -- who traditionally are less likely to attend college and to obtain loans to fund education.

Despite those obstacles, minority enrollment at undergraduate schools is expected to rise steadily, from 30 percent in 2004 to about 37 percent in 2015, some analysts project.

"The majority will become the minority," said Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, president emeritus and professor of public service at George Washington University. "There will be more Hispanics, more African Americans, more Chinese, Indians, Pakistanis, Koreans. I anticipate that the most common last name in the freshman class will be Kim."

The demographic changes will be profound for individual students: Some will probably see their chances of getting into selective schools improve, and others will see opportunities to enroll at the most selective schools decline. And for colleges, the demographic changes will mean new ways of recruiting and educating students.

"One challenge will be looking at the interface between high schools and college and the issue of college readiness, and the other will be the whole issue of the cost of college," said David Ward, president of the nonprofit American Council on Education.

The efforts come as the nonprofit Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education plans to release a report this month that will show a decline in high school graduation next year in most areas of the country, except the West, senior research analyst Brian Prescott said. That is at least a year earlier than in some past projections.
Schools likely to thrive through the changes will be those in popular areas, endowed well enough to continue upgrading facilities and programs, and public flagship universities that offer lower tuition than private colleges, admissions experts say. So will schools with strong workforce programs amid a surge of adult students, said Trinity Washington University President Patricia McGuire.

Schools in more remote areas, with fewer resources and no particular academic focus, could struggle, said Steven Roy Goodman, an educational consultant and admissions strategist. That is why the 700-student Northland College in Wisconsin uses its location on Lake Superior to promote it as "the environmental liberal arts college."

"To use the obvious ecological metaphor, we must specialize in our niche, because we can't compete with dramatically better-resourced generalists," Provost Rich Fairbanks said.

Many schools, accustomed to annual increases in the number of high school graduates, are retooling recruitment efforts to focus on states where that population will keep rising.

Although the outlook varies from state to state, the West is projected to have the highest percentage growth, with the Midwest and Northeast experiencing declines. The South is looking at mixed results, according to projections.

At a recent fair for college admissions officers in Pittsburgh, the topic on everyone's lips was increasing out-of-state recruitment, some participants said. Certain states are known to be fertile ground for students wanting to leave. Others are not.

Virginia, for example, is known for retaining most of its high school graduates. According to the latest information from the nonprofit National Center for Higher Education Management systems, Virginia in 2004 lost 11,503 high school graduates but brought in 15,748 from out of state for a net gain of 4,245.

Maryland has the opposite reputation. Data showed that in 2004 the state lost 15,685 high school graduates and imported 9,731 for a loss of 6,954.

There are no listed data for the District.

Such statistics aggravate C. Dan Mote, president of the University of Maryland at College Park. "The state has not promulgated the fact that it has a world-class university," he said, adding that Maryland officials must improve recruitment in and out of state.

Educators and administrators say that as the student population changes, they will face a range of complicated challenges that go to the heart of the academic mission of higher education institutions and the issue of affordability. Efforts have begun to introduce the notion of college preparation to middle school students and students who traditionally would not have sought out college, Ward said, but more needs to be done to improve K-12 school systems from which many of the students will come.

The cost of college also will require a new collaborative financial aid system that takes into account cultural differences toward borrowing and spending patterns, Ward said.

Non-Hispanic white families are the most likely to borrow money for college, but that is the population that will experience the biggest decline. Hispanic families traditionally have fewer resources to spend and are more averse to borrowing, Ward said.

At Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, President Elaine Tuttle Hansen said the school has started to boost its aid budget by a few percentage points to "keep ahead" of the trend. Out of an $83 million budget, she said, $18 million
went this year for financial aid.

Officials in the State University of New York, the public higher education system with the more campuses than any other state's, 64, and more than 427,000 students, are focusing their recruitment on population growth areas, said Kitty McCarthy, assistant vice chairman for enrollment marketing.

Catholic University is in its third year of using specific mail and e-mail campaigns to attract new prospective students, and has started a mail campaign to selected parents, said Victor Nakas, associate vice president for public affairs. George Washington University has built regional admissions offices in Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago, Boston and northern New Jersey, and school officials are spending more time recruiting overseas, said Kathryn M. Napper, executive dean for undergraduate admissions.

American University officials are devising strategies to increase the school's exposure in population growth areas including Arizona, spokeswoman Maralee Cseller said.

Meanwhile, governors in five Northeastern states are advancing plans to target scholarships to keep in-state students at home, and some state legislatures are spending more -- or proposing an increase in funds -- for public institutions of higher education so they can stay attractive.

"This is all going to be huge for schools in a planning and financial sense," said Hansen, the Bates president. "But we also have to look upon it as an opportunity."

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