

# THE NEWS & OBSERVER

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## MORE NEWS

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### ACADEMY AWARDS



AP PHOTO BY MARK J. TERRILL

## 'NO COUNTRY' FINDS A HOME ON OSCAR NIGHT

"No Country for Old Men" wins statues for best picture, adapted screenplay and supporting actor — Javier Bardem, above. Get your full Oscar fix inside. **1C**

### WHICH LOOKS ROCKED THE RED CARPET?

Who was best dressed on the red carpet last night? Share your thoughts online at [share.triangle.com/oscaroutfits](http://share.triangle.com/oscaroutfits).

### CASTRO'S BROTHER TAKES REINS IN CUBA

Raul Castro assumes presidency and hints that reforms are possible. Entrepreneurs hope he's right. **3A**

### RALPH NADER JOINS PRESIDENTIAL RACE



Nader

The consumer activist makes another run for the White House; Democrats downplay the effect he might have. **3A**

### VACANT STOREFRONTS A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Consumer cutbacks put a chill on retailers' plans to expand and build in the Triangle. **8B**

### EXPO LURES LOG CABIN LOVERS

Luxury vendors deliver message that going back to basics doesn't have to mean roughing it. **1B**

### TAR HEELS END DEACONS' RUN, 89-73

Tyler Hansbrough scores 29 points; the win sends UNC into first place in the ACC standings. **1D**

### CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNEYS BEGIN TODAY

Shaw and St. Aug's women, St. Aug's men are among the favorites in Charlotte. **1D, 5D**

### WEATHER



**TODAY:** Partly to mostly sunny and warmer. High 60, low 45.



**TUESDAY:** Mostly cloudy, chance of a shower. High 62, low 33. **10B**

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Business ..... 8B Editorials ..... 10A  
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# Promise now. Pay for it how?

**Candidates say they'll give us big programs, costly tax cuts. Deficits suggest they can't do it.**

By ANDREW TAYLOR  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama promises \$4,000 credits to help pay college tuition. Hillary Rodham Clinton backs \$25 billion for home heating subsidies. And John McCain wants not only to extend President Bush's tax cuts but to eliminate the alternative mini-

mum tax at a cost of about \$2 trillion over 10 years.

These campaign pledges — and dozens more in the manifestos of the leading presidential candidates — face a collision with the real world come January.

That's when the new president will start putting together a real budget and economic plan, one drafted against the backdrop of record federal deficits exceeding \$400 billion. Even more challenging is the growth of the Medicare and Social Security retirement programs, which budget experts say could require

wrenching benefit cuts, politically difficult tax hikes or both to handle the retirement of the baby boom generation.

In that environment, promises to effectively rebate the first \$500 of Social Security payroll taxes (Obama), provide \$1,000 tax credits for retirement savings (Clinton) or cut the corporate income tax by 10 percent (McCain) may turn out to be campaign fantasies. "They're operating in Never Never Land. ... None of them are honestly addressing the real chal-

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 9A

### PROMISES, PROMISES

The three leading presidential candidates — Democrats Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama and Republican John McCain — are promising plenty of expensive programs and big tax cuts, but it's not so clear how they'd pay for them. A few examples:

**CLINTON**  
■ \$25 billion for home heating subsidies.  
■ \$1,000 tax credits for retirement savings.  
■ \$10 billion for universal preschool.

**MCCAIN**  
■ Eliminate alternative minimum tax — \$2 trillion over 10 years.  
■ Cut the corporate income tax by 10 percent.  
■ Extend President Bush's tax cuts — \$300 billion a year.

**OBAMA**  
■ Tens of billions in tax cuts for seniors, students, workers.  
■ \$60 billion for infrastructure.  
■ \$18 billion per year boost in education spending.

SOURCE: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### OPENINGS AN OCCASIONAL SERIES ON NEW BUILDINGS IN THE TRIANGLE



Raleigh's skyline, seen from South McDowell Street south of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, is abuzz with construction. "People gauge their lives by their landscapes," says Marvin Malecha of N.C. State University.

STAFF PHOTO BY SHAWN ROCCO

## Triangle skylines evolve

By MATTHEW EISLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Picturing the Triangle isn't as easy as, say, picturing Atlanta, Richmond, Nashville or Charlotte.

The Triangle isn't just one place, one skyline. It's Raleigh-Durham-Cary-Chapel Hill and at least a dozen other towns sharing highways and hiphens.

Part of it, too, is our region's ambivalence about declaring itself. What other metropolis would put its tallest building — the 43-story Soleil Center, now under construction off Glenwood Avenue near the Beltline — in one of its deepest valleys?

But the economic dynamism that drives the Triangle is giving this subdued region a bold new look.

By the time Soleil is finished in 2009, it will have followed a flurry of new buildings opening this year. Some will become landmarks helping to define Raleigh, Durham, and the rest of the region: the capital city's new convention center and hotel, its downtown RBC Plaza tower, and a cluster of mid-rise condominiums;

### 'INTELLIGENT BY DESIGN'

On March 1, N.C. State University's College of Design will host its fifth annual urban design conference in Raleigh.

The conference, "Urban Growth: Intelligent by Design — Sustainable Models for Development," is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Cardinal Club atop the Wachovia tower, 150 Fayetteville St.

The conference will present the perspectives of developers, architects, planners, landscape architects and engineers. Topics will include infill development and renovation; high density, mixed-use and affordable housing projects; water conservation and management; sustainable site development; and local plans incorporating best practices. Registration is closed, however.

For more information, call (919) 515-8320 or go online to [www.design.ncsu.edu/urban](http://www.design.ncsu.edu/urban).

Durham's new performing arts center and expansions of its American Tobacco complex; a new terminal at Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

In establishing a sense of place, buildings matter. More than mere markers, they're stages for our public and private lives.

Today, The News & Observer begins an occasional series that will assess significant new buildings as they open. With the series, Marvin Malecha, dean of N.C. State University's College of Design, will provide a design perspective.

"People gauge their lives by their landscapes," Malecha says. "It's primal that you identify with a place. You know you're home. When you don't have that sense, you feel disconnected."

Modernism and progress shouldn't obliterate local traditions and culture, Malecha says.

"We're at a moment in time when we're building things so fast that we're basically removing the sense of place," he says. "We have a couple of hundred years of history here. We shouldn't just remove it."

But we can add to it, reshape it.

"I hope we have the wisdom to create new landmarks for each generation," Malecha says.



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN ROTTET

## New day for tobacco complex

Where immigrant laborers once hand-rolled Bull Durham tobacco, urban pioneers can dwell in bright and airy apartments for \$2,350 a month. The remaking of Durham's American Tobacco district has entered a whole new dimension as two buildings there — including the 1874 "Old Bull" building, left — become living quarters.

Story begins on page 8A. See additional photos at [newsobserver.com](http://newsobserver.com).

## 'Bodies' protest finds wide audience

By CRAIG JARVIS  
STAFF WRITER

Sarah Redpath drew little attention last summer when she handed out fliers protesting a traveling exhibition of real human bodies at The Streets at Southpoint in Durham, where crowds lined up to see a show that was popular with millions of visitors across the country.

But since then, the suburban mother from Cary has been heard by politicians, anatomists, religious leaders and the body-show industry itself. Her vow to dog "Bodies ... The Exhibition" even after it



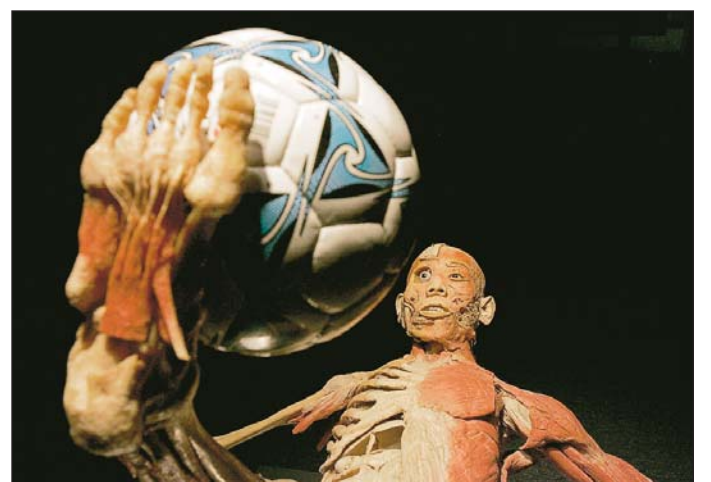
Redpath started a one-woman protest.

left Durham has patched isolated pockets of local opposition into an organized network that has brought the exhibition's owners under new scrutiny.

Earlier this month, the ABC news program "20/20" aired a segment challenging Premier Exhibitions' insistence that the bodies it uses

come from credible sources in China. As a result, the New York attorney general has launched an investigation. The company's stock plunged more than 20 percent on the day of the news broadcast.

California and Washington state are considering legislation to outlaw the exhibitions unless there is documented proof that people consented to have their bodies used commercially. A New Jersey congressman has called for a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing. Anatomists in North



A cadaver on display at The Streets at Southpoint last year was posed as if frozen while kicking a soccer ball.

STAFF FILE PHOTO BY TED RICHARDSON

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