

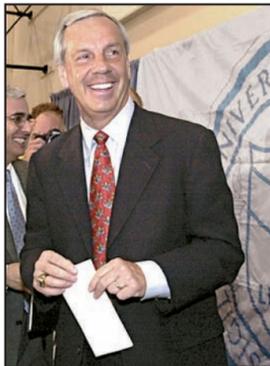
NEWS & RECORD

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Greensboro, North Carolina

50 CENTS R S H C

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LYNN HEY/News & Record

Roy Williams finishes up at a news conference Monday in Chapel Hill. Williams ends a 15-year tenure at Kansas, which he built into one of the nation's most successful programs.

Williams leaves Kansas for UNC

Roy Williams' return comes three years after he rejected an offer to coach the Tar Heels.

BY LARRY KEECH
Staff Writer

CHAPEL HILL — Following three years of turmoil and 19 days of agonizing uncertainty, the University of North Carolina landed the basketball coach it wanted in the first place.

Roy Williams decided to return to his alma mater Monday after spending the past 15 years compiling a 418-101 record at the University of Kansas. That record included four trips to the NCAA Final Four and nine conference championships.

"Three years ago, I decided to stay (at Kansas) because it was the right thing," Williams said. "This time, I decided to leave because it was the right thing. Every decision I've made, I've become glad I made it."

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MORE: Head coach Roy Williams inherits a talented team. C1

New North Carolina basketball staff begins to take shape. C1

Consumers go to court for relief from debt

Bankruptcy filings rise by 16 percent in North Carolina for the first quarter of 2003 as the economy continues to lag.

BY MIKE FUCHS
Staff Writer

The struggling economy is keeping the area's bankruptcy court busier than ever.

Mounting consumer debt has prompted area North Carolinians to file for bankruptcy protection in record numbers this year.

Bankruptcy filings climbed nearly 16 percent during the first quarter of 2003 compared with the same time a year ago, according to U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District.

That district comprises Guilford, Rockingham, Randolph, Alamance, Davidson and 19 other counties.

"I think the major reason is that we had a booming economy in the late 1990s, which motivated and allowed many

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Last bastion falls; war winding down

MARINES TAKE CONTROL IN SADDAM'S HOMETOWN



DAVID GUTTENFELDER/The Associated Press

U.S. soldiers arrest a group of men Monday in Baghdad for driving a vehicle with weapons and attempting to ambush U.S. forces. Soldiers were still dealing with resistance in Baghdad, often Syrians and other foreigners, who were operating individually or in small clusters.



DEVELOPMENTS

- All oil fields in Iraq now fall within areas controlled by the coalition, U.S. Central Command says.
- Eleven containers buried close to an artillery ammunition plant in southern Iraq are discovered by U.S. troops and could be dual-use chemical and biological laboratories, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Ben Freakley tells CNN.
- Two of the five Navy aircraft carrier battle groups engaged in the war are heading home this week. Commanders are reviewing the timetable for sending the Army's 1st Cavalry Division into Iraq.

— The Associated Press

MORE INSIDE

- Among the many challenges facing postwar Iraq is what to do with all the money bearing Saddam Hussein's likeness. A4
- U.S. Marines take the presidential palace in Tikrit, meeting no resistance. A4
- North Carolina bankers give \$100,000 to five military installations to help with child care expenses. B12
- For coverage of the war on Iraq, including photographs, go to www.news-record.com

Patrols negotiate careful balance

BY ELLEN KNICKMEYER
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi police and U.S. soldiers began jointly patrolling the troubled Iraqi capital on Monday, stumbling over language difficulties but determined to bring order after days of wholesale chaos.

Outside the Palestine Hotel, Marine Cpl. Scott Groff stood uncomfortably with two local policemen.

"Can you help me talk to these guys?" Groff, of Lake Havasu City, Ariz., asked a passing journalist. "I don't know how to talk to them."

"Do you speak any Arabic?" asked one of the police.

It was a rough start to the joint security program, but

even halting progress is welcome in Baghdad. A dozen towering columns of black smoke, from fires likely set by looters, ringed the center of the city on Monday, a baleful reminder of the anger and desperation that grip Iraq in the wake of the U.S.-led military drive against Saddam Hussein.

Despite pleas from residents terrified by looting and robberies, U.S. forces in Baghdad have held back from exercising police duties out of concern such a move would send the wrong message.

"It's important that we do this jointly, rather than just us, because there's fear among the Iraqi people that we've come as an occupying

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EARNIE GRAFTON/The Associated Press

A soldier with Charlie Company of the 3-69 Task Force, 3rd Infantry Division, talks with children Monday in Baghdad. Soldiers are stepping up patrols in communities, listening to the Iraqis' needs and questions.

U.S. pressures Syria on fugitives

BY JONATHAN S. LANDAY, SARA OLKON AND MARTIN MERZER
Knight Ridder News Service

TIKRIT, Iraq — The Pentagon declared the end of significant fighting in Iraq on Monday as Marines stormed the heart of Tikrit, suppressed hard-core resistance there and captured the last stronghold of Saddam Hussein.

"The major combat operations are over," Maj. Gen. Stanley McChrystal said after more than 3,000 Marines fought their way to the center of Saddam's ancestral hometown.

In Washington, the Bush administration's attention already was shifting to two post-war concerns.

The White House and

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld turned up the pressure on Syria, demanding that it stop harboring Iraqi fugitives and renounce terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, even as British Prime Minister Tony Blair denied any U.S.-British plans to invade Syria.

U.S. officials also looked forward to a meeting today in Nasiriyah, where they hoped to begin forging an interim government for post-Saddam Iraq by welding together rival ethnic, religious and exile factions.

The military action, however, focused on the Marines' success in securing Tikrit.

They seized an opulent presidential palace and

See Winding, Page A6

Look out: Signs fail to yield results

After being pummeled routinely by vehicles, the city removes pedestrian markers from Market Street.

BY RUSS RIZZO
Staff Writer

GREENSBORO — Call them driving hazards or pedestrian protectors. Whatever you call them, those bright yellow crosswalk markers in the middle of Market Street are history.

"This just isn't working,"

Adam Fischer, engineering manager with the Greensboro Department of Transportation, said Friday. "Cars don't seem to be yielding."

What's more, cars have pummeled the mid-lane yield signs for nine months now.

The markers, which stood between lanes in front of the city courthouse, were routinely nicked and remained standing with no damage to cars, Fischer said. But at least once a month, the \$80 signs were torn from their bases.

Fischer picked up the remains of one Thursday. It won't go back up, he said.

The other was missing a chunk from a corner last week. Monday the signs were gone.

Bill Osteen is happy to see the signs go. Cars seem to hit them every few days, and they are only confusing the situation, he said.

Now a car in one lane will stop at any sign of a pedestrian, while drivers in other lanes

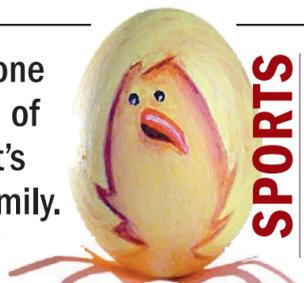
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H. SCOTT HOFFMANN/News & Record

These crosswalk markers on Market Street downtown, which have been removed, will be replaced by two blinking yellow lights.

LIFE Decorating eggs is one of the most beloved of Easter rituals, and it's fun for the entire family. Coming Wednesday



SPORTS A Greensboro man prepares for his first Boston Marathon with help from friends. C1

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Precipitation:
0% chance
High: 80
Low: 55
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