



**HOME CANNING  
MAKES A COMEBACK**

LIFE, ETC.



**DAY ONE OF THE  
2010 WOLFPACK**

SPORTS

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**MORE NEWS**

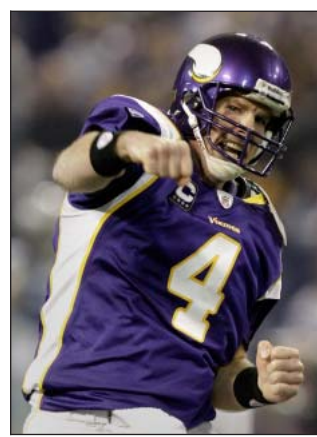
**UPDATES ALL DAY AT  
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**NINE DEAD IN  
SHOOTING SPREE**

A man about to lose his job at a Connecticut beer distributorship went on a rampage there, killing eight before committing suicide. **3A**

**BP LAUNCHES  
'STATIC KILL'**

It will take several days to see whether the massive mud injection will permanently plug the blown-out oil well. **3A**



PAUL SANCYA - AP

**BRETT FAVRE  
CALLING IT QUILTS?**

Here we go again. He's told some of his teammates he's retiring, but the Minnesota Vikings are hoping for one last change of heart from the quarterback. **1C**

**A CELL-PHONE SALE  
GONE WRONG**

A man answered an online ad to buy smart phones, and says he ended up fleeing gunfire. Two were arrested. **1B**

**CONVENIENCE CHAIN  
PLACES BET ON FOOD**

The Pantry is remodeling stores by getting rid of clutter, adding a better coffee selection and offering more fresh-food options. **4B**

**HAITI AWAITS  
WYCLEF JEAN**



The buzz is that he's going to run for president of earthquake-shattered nation. **2A**

**WEATHER**

**Today:** Scattered thunderstorms. High 95; low 76.  
**Thursday:** Hotter still and maybe some more storms. High 97; low 76. **8B**

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## Five on death row claim bias

**The inmates are the first to use the state's Racial Justice Act in an attempt to get sentences reduced.**

By ANNE BLYTHE  
STAFF WRITER

The bias claims that five death row inmates filed Tuesday seeking to have their sentences converted to life without parole are the first of many expected in coming days under the fledgling

Racial Justice Act.

The law, one of only two of its kind in the country, was adopted last year to try to combat racial disparities in death sentences. The 159 prisoners on North Carolina's death row must make their challenges by next Tuesday, the day before the anniversary of the law.

The first five cases came from Kenneth Rouse in Randolph County, Guy LeGrande in Stanly County, Shawn Bonnett in Martin County, Jeremy Murrell in Forsyth County and Jath-

iah Al-Bayyinah of Davie County.

All five – black men accused of killing white victims – contend that some racial bias contributed to the outcome of their trials and their sentences. Each used results from a new study of North Carolina capital sentencing to try to bolster their claims.

"These are cases that are all around the state and exemplify what we are seeing in terms of issues that are raised by the Racial Justice Act," said Ken Rose, staff attorney at the Center for Death Penalty Litigation in Dur-

ham. "We would like to live and practice in a system where race does not matter. But the results show that white victims are valued more highly than black ones and that black jurors are being denied their right to serve. This evidence of racial bias cannot be ignored."

Prosecutors argue that they do not consider race of defendants and victims when deciding to pursue capital punishment. They say they weigh ma-

SEE DEATH ROW, PAGE 12A



This is Concourse D, under construction in the second phase of Raleigh-Durham International's Terminal 2. The project employs 450 construction workers, making it one of the Triangle's largest public works projects.

PHOTOS BY JOHN ROTTET - jrottet@newsobserver.com

## RDU poised for prosperity

Terminal 2 will be done before the NHL All-Star Game on Jan. 30

By MATT EHLERS  
STAFF WRITER

As workers saw, hammer and paint their way toward completing Terminal 2 at Raleigh-Durham International Airport, a transportation hub designed for a growing community, and an improved economy, is emerging.

Scheduled to open in January, Terminal 2 will be able to handle 11.4 million passengers annually, more than 2 million more than traveled through the entire airport in 2009. Airport officials expect 2010 traffic to mirror last year's, but they note that Terminal 2 is designed to last more than three decades.

"It's wonderful for the economy that will come," said Charles Hayes, president of the Research Triangle Regional Partnership. Airport passenger numbers aren't growing at the moment, but they will, he predicts. "At some point, it will

**BY THE NUMBERS**

RDU passenger numbers so far this year are roughly the same as 2009. Through June, 2.16 million passengers boarded planes at the airport, 0.6 percent more than the same period in 2009. About 2.15 million passengers got off planes at RDU, nearly exactly the same number as in the previous year.

**WORK IN PROGRESS**

**Photo gallery:** See more photos of RDU's Terminal 2 at [newsobserver.com/news](http://newsobserver.com/news).

be like, 'Oh my goodness. We need to expand some more.'

Airport workers opened the construction site to reporters on Tuesday for a peek behind the temporary walls that keep the bulk of the project from public view. About 550,000 square feet of Terminal 2 opened in Octo-

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Terminal 2 will be able to handle 11.4 million passengers a year. It will have 37 restaurants and shops, 36 gates and space for 10 security lanes.

**AGENTS' SECRETS**

JUNK SCIENCE, TAINTED TESTIMONY AT THE SBI



**COMING SUNDAY**

Rogue agents, twisted science and an unhealthy zeal for convictions. Read the start of our four-part series on the State Bureau of Investigation, which focuses on the case of Floyd Brown, above, who was needlessly locked up for 14 years. Log on now to watch a video about the series at [newsobserver.com](http://newsobserver.com).

## Columnist going to law school

Sheehan will leave The N&O after almost 20 years

By MARTHA QUILLIN  
STAFF WRITER

Longtime News & Observer columnist Ruth Sheehan, who has an ear for a story, an eye for detail and a strong sense of justice, is swapping her reporter's notebook for a legal pad.

Sheehan's last column for the paper will appear in late August. She will begin classes at the University of North Carolina law school this fall.

"There is no better job than being a columnist. None," said Sheehan, 45. But she's ready for a new challenge.

Sheehan knew she wanted to be in newspapers from the

day, back in 3rd grade, when her teacher told the class to imagine that aliens had landed on the south side of Milwaukee and they were the first reporters to arrive on the scene.

"I realized that if an alien did land on the south side of Milwaukee, I would love to be the first one out there to cover it."

As it was, Sheehan became the visitor to the foreign land, leaving her native Milwaukee

two days after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Madison for a job at the Burlington Times-News in North Carolina. A year later, she was covering North Carolina government and politics for the Freedom Newspapers chain.

Sheehan joined the N&O in 1991 as a reporter in the Chapel Hill bureau, where she covered the university and the Orange County board of commissioners before coming to Raleigh as a general assignment reporter.

Eight years later, there was

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## It's the gas! It's the brake!

It's a pedal that may save lives

By HIROKO TABUCHI  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

**TAMANA, Japan** – Two pedals, inches apart, one for gas and the other for brakes. For years, a Japanese inventor has argued that this most basic of car designs is dangerously flawed.

The side-by-side pedal arrangement, the inventor says, can cause drivers to mistakenly floor the accelerator instead of the brakes, especially under stress.

The solution? A single pedal that accelerates the car when pressed with the side of the foot. More to the point, when the pedal is pushed down, it always activates the brakes.

"We have a natural tendency to stomp down when we panic," said the inventor, Masuyuki Naruse, who owns a small factory in Tamana in southwest Japan. "The automakers call it driver error. But what if their design's all wrong?"

Naruse, 74, is one of a handful of people who have designed combined brake-accelerator pedals in an effort to prevent accidents caused by unintended acceleration, which has come under a spotlight since charges that some Toyota vehicles accelerate without warning.

Regulators in Sweden are testing a single-pedal prototype by the inventor Sven Gustafsson. In Japan, about 130 cars equipped with Naruse's pedal, mostly owned by friends and acquaintances, have been declared street-legal, including Naruse's own

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