

# University Construction Bonds Deserve Students' Votes

Editor's Note: The authors are student body president and vice president.

University Day has come and gone, but months of Bicentennial celebration and self-examination remain ahead. As a University community, we must continue to ask ourselves: "Where have we come in 200 years and, more importantly, where are we going?"

Essential to ensuring that our University remains a leader in higher education in its third century is the continued ability of our University facilities to meet the changing needs of teaching and research. Critical to this effort, the referendum tomorrow on the University construction bonds offers an opportunity for the University to accommodate pressing space needs and to capture state-of-the-art technology.

Not only would the construction bonds offer support for UNC-Chapel Hill, they would provide desperately needed improvements at the 15 other member schools of the UNC system. And it would send a clear message to budget-cutting legislators that the citizens of the state support their University.

**What are the University construction bonds?** The bond issue, if passed by the N.C. voters Nov. 2, would give the UNC system \$310 million for construction projects. Over the last five years, during which the General Assembly has approved only \$75 million in new construction, the UNC General Administration has requested \$644 million in new capital projects.

Every campus in the system has pressing needs that have gone unsatisfied for years. With passage of the bond referendum, UNC-CH would receive approximately \$35 million to fund five new construction projects:

- Kenan-Flagler Business School building,
- Addition to the School of Dentistry,
- Lineberger Cancer Center Research Addition,
- Area Health Education Centers-Construction Grants, and
- Carolina Living & Learning Center for Autistic Adults, Phase II.

**Why support the construction bonds?**

## 1. The Need for Construction

The passage of the construction bonds is critical for the University's future. Even if a student would not use one of the proposed buildings the bond would fund, passage of the referendum would clear up legislative moneys for other planned University construction.

Furthermore, additional space will open up as University programs vacate existing buildings. For example, a new business school will provide more undergraduate

classroom space on main campus by opening up Carroll Hall.

More importantly, meeting our space needs would eliminate the otherwise inevitable competition for state funds between construction projects and money we desperately need for library acquisitions, financial aid and faculty and staff salaries. While we cannot constitutionally issue bonds to support these other funding needs, we can issue bonds for construction.

## 2. The Bond Will Not Raise Taxes

Taxes would not have to go up to finance the bond issue, says State Treasurer Harlan Boyles. Our state's debt service would increase from 1 percent of the budget to just over 1.3 percent, but it would return to under 1 percent within seven years as other debts are retired. Interest rates are extremely low, and the state has a top bond rating, so the time is opportune for a bond issue.

## 3. Send a Signal to Legislators

If the bond referendum passes, the vote will reaffirm the state's commitment to its universities. If not, legislators will perceive that the University is not a citizens' funding priority, and we will see that sentiment reflected in the allocation of funds we receive in future years. Deeper budget cuts and a continued decline in resources might result as legislators heed the message sent by their constituents.

## Create a Student Voice.

It is in the self-interest of every student (and indeed every member of the UNC-CH community) to support the bond referendum.

The value of our diplomas depends on the University's standing through the next century. We as students have a unique opportunity to lead the support of the bond at the polls.

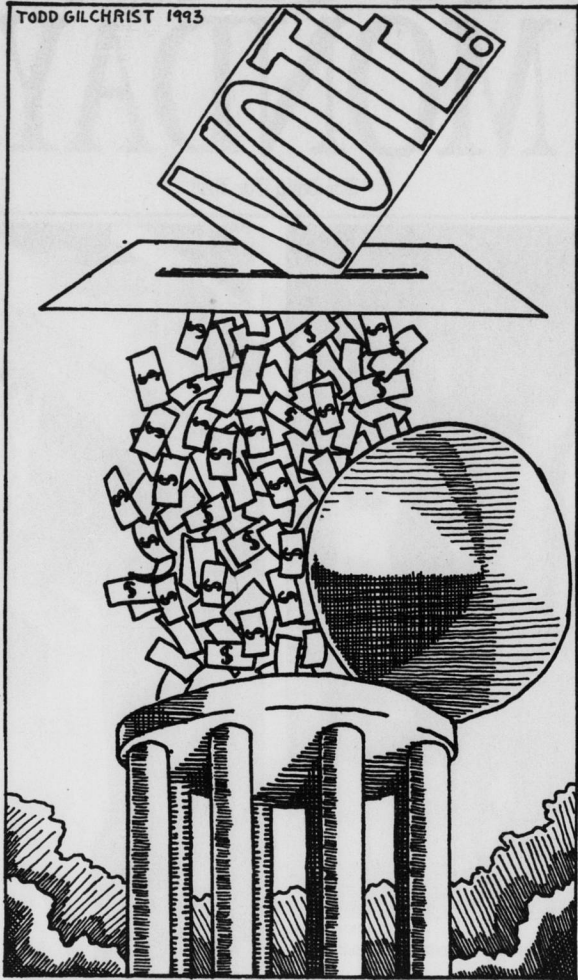
Student government will be running shuttles tomorrow to the polls to ensure students can vote. They will run from Union



JIM COPLAND  
GUEST COLUMNIST



DACIA TOLL  
GUEST COLUMNIST



Circle to the General Administration building and police station, from Hinton James and Craige residence halls to the Community Church and from Granville Towers and Whitehead Residence Hall to Lincoln Center.

No student who is registered in Orange County should fail to exercise their right to vote. In addition to the bonds, the results of Chapel Hill Town Council and other local elections have an impact on both the University and its students.

We all must vote to ensure the placement of one piece of the puzzle essential in preserving our future. Don't let others call students apathetic; let's make our voice heard at the ballot box and make sure the University Construction Bond Issue succeeds.

Jim Copland is a senior economics major from Burlington. Dacia Toll is a senior political science and economics major from Bethesda, Md.

# Public Television Will Benefit From Passage of Bond Issue

It's not every day that the average person has a chance to directly affect the quality of life — and of public television — in North Carolina. But that day comes Tuesday, when residents will have the opportunity to cast some very important votes on our state's future course.

North Carolinians will find on their ballots that day four public-television bond referendums for major capital improvements that will make a positive difference for every state resident. One of these bonds (the second on the ballot) is a \$310 million referendum for improvements to the University of North Carolina. The measure, which includes \$6 million for The UNC Center for Public Television, will directly affect the center's ability to serve the people of North Carolina.

If these University bonds are approved, we will invest our share in two key areas: construction of the first public-television station in the Lumberton/Fayetteville area; and replacement and upgrade of WUNC-TV, which serves 12 counties in the Triangle area.

**A new station for Lumberton/Fayetteville:** This populous area of the state is not currently served by UNC-TV. Building a new transmitter here would bring the well-known benefits of public television's educational programs to some 105,000 school children. In all, an estimated half-million people would receive public television for the first time.

Primary counties to be served by a new Lumberton station would include Cumberland, Robeson, Bladen, Hoke, Harnett and Scotland, as well as the city of Fayetteville. Some of the state's most economically disadvantaged citizens live in this section of the state. These are people for whom UNC-TV services (which include learning opportunities such as high-school equivalency and community-college courses) could make a difference.

**Improvements to WUNC-TV/Channel 4:** WUNC-TV primarily serves the Triangle, but it also reaches viewers in an area extending from Eastern Greensboro to Moore, Johnston, Franklin and Granville counties. This flagship station is the oldest in the state's public-television system. Unfortunately, the WUNC-TV broadcasting tower also is the oldest standing structure of its kind in the country.

Passage of the bond issue would make possible long-needed improvements to this perilously outdated equipment, including, most importantly, the replacement of the nearly 40-year-old tower. Both safety and

reliability are at issue. Mounted on the tower is the critical link in the microwave system beaming our signal to the other nine stations across the state. If the tower were to collapse, a majority of the state might be without public television for months.

With a new, taller tower, we will be able to send a stronger signal to a wider audience, an estimated 450,000 additional people, as well as many schools and colleges in the region. North Carolinians also would benefit from better coverage for WUNC-FM, the Triangle's public-radio station, which has its antenna on the WUNC-TV tower.

The funds also would make possible the installation of an emergency generator, avoiding delays of several hours when power is interrupted. Just recently, both WUNC-TV and WUNC-FM were off the air for more than three hours when a car hit a pole conveying power to the site.

Our annual FESTIVAL telethon raises many of the funds used to create original productions that serve the people of the state and to obtain high-quality programs from PBS and other sources. The N.C. Public Television Foundation has raised more than \$4.4 million in private contributions to equip our production facilities. But we depend upon the state to fund construction and maintenance of our transmission system, a priceless state asset.

The other referendums are: \$250 million for community colleges; \$145 million for clean water; and \$35 million for state parks. All would improve the lives of North Carolinians in tangible ways.

This is an especially good time to sell bonds for major capital projects. Interest rates are extremely low. And North Carolina's credit rating is AAA, the best possible guarantee that bonds will sell well.

State treasurer Harlan Boyles said the state should be able to make interest and principal payments without a tax increase, because the annual cost would be such a small percentage of its overall budget.

What it comes down to, in essence, is neighbors helping neighbors to make a better life for everyone. We urge you to help ensure the future of public television that belongs to all North Carolinians this Nov. 2. Vote yes on the University improvement bonds.

Tom Howe is director and general manager of the UNC Center for Public Television.

# Panel Forums Will Probe Important Campus Issues

Editor's Note: Nick Johnston is the panel coordinator for student government.

TO THE EDITOR:

In time with the Bicentennial Celebrations, the Executive Branch of student government has launched the "From the Front Line" project. This project has been started in order to produce a report examining the University, looking both at what is right and what is wrong.

In essence, it is a study of where we have come in 200 years, and, more importantly, where we are going. We now are conducting a telephone poll to students, asking them general questions, but we are not polling administrators or faculty.

Therefore, we have set up panel forums with administrators, faculty and student leaders to further promote the issues that Front Line is probing and to create more in-depth discussion. The panels have been set up in association with the Student Bicentennial Planning Committee chaired by Kevin Moran. We are appealing to the leaders of the University in the different areas, as we feel that we are lacking important feelings and attitudes in trying to address the issues. By holding these panels, we intend to create vital discussion which can add to the statistics and information we are already collecting.

We intend to hold five sessions, with the first one scheduled for tonight at 7 p.m. in the North Wing of Lenoir. These panels will include: Two academic affairs panels due to the complexity of the topic; the environmental issues of the University; the state of race relations and the subsequent problems on campus; and finally, the state of campus security.

The first forum uses the slip in UNC's rankings in the U.S. News & World Report survey as a springboard for discussion. This forum will take the form of direct question and answer sessions to the guests, before the discussion is opened to the audience.

Guests on the first panel will include the president of the UNC system C.D. Spangler; Chairman of UNC-CH Board of Trustees Johnny Harris; Chancellor Paul Hardin; N.C. House Finance Chairman Joe Hackney; Faculty Chairman James Peacock, the head of the Center for Teaching and Learning; Joel Schwartz; David Taylor, head of the Undergraduate Library; Student Body President Jim Copland and Executive Branch coordinator of Academic Affairs, Jasme Kelly.

If there is a particular issue which you feel strongly about in relation to this discussion, now is your chance to speak directly to those who are responsible for the University. I must stress again there is a need for these leaders to hear your views, all of which will be noted. Everyone will have ample opportunity to air his or her views. All are welcome to attend the discussions.

Look forward in the future to further forums. We as student government feel that we are covering issues which are important to every student on campus, from the BCC question to the safety of the campus to the necessity to have recycling and other environmental programs. These sessions are in-depth discussions and will bring

the issues to debate. They will provide an excellent opportunity in which students can directly interact with administrators and faculty who make and implement campus policy.

Nick Johnston  
SOPHOMORE  
POLITICAL SCIENCE/HISTORY

Calvin Cunningham  
JUNIOR  
POLITICAL SCIENCE/PHILOSOPHY

## Students Should Exercise Their Right to Vote

TO THE EDITOR:

Please let me express my gratitude to The Daily Tar Heel and to the students of the University for their continuing friendship and support, both over the years and during my recent troubles. Students are the reason for our town, and the heart of our existence. Without their support and the support of the local newspaper with the largest circulation there would be no reason for me to be politically active in Chapel Hill.

Please also let me take this opportunity to encourage all registered students to vote in the local elections this Tuesday. (The polls are open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.) There are a number of good candidates running for the Chapel Hill Town Council (and the Carrboro Board of Aldermen). And this year the local school board election especially is important. Please vote for the good guys (and gals).

I encourage voters to support the four state-wide bond referenda. (My favorite is the one for state parks.) And please reject the proposed state constitutional amendment, which would only encourage local governments to disregard the will of the people.

Thanks again for being good citizens of Chapel Hill and Orange County.

Joe Herzberg  
CHAPEL HILL

## Vote for Amendment, Against Bond Issues

TO THE EDITOR:

On Tuesday, every registered voter in North Carolina is going to be asked to vote on a general obligation bond referendum for \$740 million in new state debt. \$740 million is the biggest bond proposal in this state's history, and paying it off will cost us at least \$60 million per year for the next 20 years.

For the past four years, 65 percent of North Carolinians have wanted to vote on a lottery referendum but the legislature has said, "No." For the past six years, 70 percent of North Carolinians have wanted to vote on a veto for our governor but the legislature has said "No."

Now the legislature needs your approval for \$740 million in new bond debt.

John F. Kennedy said, "Things didn't just happen, they are made to happen." This is the time to make something happen.

Vote "No" on the \$740 million bonds and send this simple message: "Not one dollar more for debt until a lottery and a veto are on the same ballot."

"Give a little, get a little," is what makes



# READERS' FORUM

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticism. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 400 words and must be typed, double-spaced, dated and signed by no more than two people. Students should include their year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff should include their title, department and phone number. The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity.

politics work. Link your vote on the bonds to your right to vote on a lottery and veto.

Under our state constitution, if the \$740 million bond referendum fails Nov. 2, the governor can quickly call a special session of the legislature. Within a few weeks, we can have another referendum at which we can vote on a lottery, the veto and the same \$740 million. Anyone who claims that linking the bonds to a lottery and the veto shouldn't be done has forgotten, "no taxation without representation." Trading what they want for what you want is the heart of everyday politics.

In fact, it is at the heart of our society: On the job we trade our skills and time for wages and salaries; as customers we trade our money for goods and services — always linking what we want to what they want.

So what is suddenly wrong with doing at the polls what we do every day? Nothing is wrong with linking \$740 million in new debt to a chance to vote on a lottery and the veto. In fact, it is the only way you're going to get a chance to vote on a lottery and a veto in North Carolina because our constitution does not permit citizen initiatives. The only way you get to vote on any issue is to send a clear signal at the polls that you want to vote on a referendum.

There are five proposals on the referendum ballot which is distributed statewide for the Nov. 2 election. Proposals 2, 3, 4 and 5 are the \$740 million general obligation bonds for UNC, community colleges, water and sewer projects and state parks. Each proposal will be voted on separately.

Vote "No" on these four proposals until they are on a referendum with the lottery and the veto.

Here's a rhyme to help you remember: "On the state referendum election day, Stand up for your right and vote this way:

#1 — 'Yes', #2 through #5 'No', until we can vote on lottery and veto."

Joe Mavretic  
N.C. REPRESENTATIVE  
DEDEGCOMBE

## Some Faculty Demean University's Reputation

TO THE EDITOR:

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill faculty who equate their value to the University vis a vis their seating location in the Dean Smith Center demean the reputation of the University as a whole. I trust their comments at the recent Faculty Council meeting express a minority position within the University community.

In reflecting on the celebration of our University's 200th birthday, I am reminded of the theme our students chose for the celebration: community. As President Clinton pointed out in recognizing this theme, community "ought to be America's theme today — how we can be more together than we are apart."

President Clinton also reminded us of Frank Porter Graham's words about the destiny of the two great races in the South: "If we go up, we go up together." This same principle applies to the members of the University community. If we go up, we go up together.

The troubling notions of a few University faculty suggest that we still have work to do if we are to achieve the value and meaning of community. As I said in rededicating the cornerstone of Old East, as we (faculty, staff and students of UNC) undertake the challenges of this third century in the University's history, may we unfailingly respect the individual worth and dignity of each member of our community, and may we always value and reward each person's service in honor of our University's contributions to North Carolina and the nation.

Kay Wijenberg  
CHAIRWOMAN  
THE EMPLOYEE FORUM

## Editorial Left Out Greed Of Athletic Department

TO THE EDITOR:

It is most amusing to watch the University community fight over the dregs of good basketball tickets, most of which already have been allocated to contributors to the Dean Dome or persons who join the Rams Club.

If DTH editorial wrath is to be directed anywhere, it should be directed at a greedy athletic department willing to give the good seats to any Tom, Dick or Harriet with an extra \$500 in hand, or to a wealth-dominated nation whose taxing authorities permit most of that "bribe" to be treated as a charitable tax deduction.

The so-called faculty seating preference

is minuscule. After teaching here and supporting the team for 27 years, and becoming a chaired, full professor, I finally received downstairs tickets — in the last row behind the basket.

Moreover, since this University now pays less and awards lesser benefits to faculty than competitive campuses, would you further handicap its ability to attract and retain good people by eliminating this tiny perk in the name of politically correct egalitarianism?

If ever an inter-university bidding war breaks out for staff personnel, they will have the bargaining power to demand their own perks. Meanwhile, you might save your wrath for something of consequence.

Martin B. Louis  
PAUL B. EATON PROFESSOR OF LAW

## Seating Controversy Elicits Rhyme and Reason

TO THE EDITOR:

We have some great faculty at UNC, but I couldn't resist the following "generalization" in light of the faculty/staff seating formula controversy at the Dean Dome.

A professor bemoaned his seats at the Dome. "An embarrassing problem," said he. "I'm a faculty member, king of the Hill, yet my seats are way up in ZZ.

My colleagues are laughing, they think it's quite funny, that things have worked out this way. For way down in front, behind Dean himself, sits my secretary in Row A.

"Now it's true that she has been here for 31 years, missed five days of work all that time. But c'mon, let's get real, what does UNC value, her capabilities or mine? She works hard, but I teach!

It's as simple as that. The importance of each well defined. And questionable concepts of equality and such were not in the contract I signed.

"Anyway, it's important for students to know how the real world is run, and by whom. And sharing the spoils is a threat to our system of rewarding a chosen few. We must take a stand. She already gets parking. Good God, where will it end? The staff's demands get worse and worse. My perks I must defend!"

Just then he awoke, it had all been a dream. "What a relief, what a nightmare!" said he. But it did make him think, "I'm not

getting enough. Maybe Nike's got something for me ..."

Bruce Egan  
STAFF

## Hardin Should Reinforce Good Image Among Staff

Editor's note: The following letter was addressed to Chancellor Paul Hardin.

TO THE EDITOR:

During the past several days the media reports about the discussions at the Faculty Council meeting on Oct. 15 has many State Employees Association of North Carolina members and me alarmed. Of particular concern are remarks quoting professors who said that they were "better educated and more valuable to the University than staff."

SEANC members and their supporters believe that staff employees deserve equal treatment and respect at the University. These contrasting points of view make clear that the relative status of staff employees is in dispute among faculty leaders here.

A clarifying statement from you at this time may also promote a positive public image of staff. At the same time, it would also go a long way toward reinforcing a positive self image among staff — something stressed by President Clinton on Oct. 12 — so that faculty, staff and community alike may better focus on the University's future work and activities.

Patricia Bigelow  
CHAIRWOMAN  
SEANC, DIST. 25

## DTH Advertising Inserts Add to Litter Problems

TO THE EDITOR:

How many UNC students can walk across campus and NOT notice the piles of litter which have accumulated as a result of the inserts found in the DTH? This seems to be an early morning ritual for many of us. Twenty thousand copies of the DTH are distributed each day, and on average an insert is located in the paper once a week. By allowing these inserts to be placed in our campus paper, the DTH is only adding to the problem of litter on our campus.

Not only do the inserts contribute to litter on our campus, but they are also a waste of paper. The vast majority of these inserts go unread and are quickly discarded about the campus in hopes that someone might have the courtesy to pick them up. Would it not seem that the money used to pay these people could be put into some project which would benefit our campus? I realize these inserts are a definite money maker for the DTH, but surely there is some other way to generate funds and still preserve the beauty of our campus.

Placing recycling bins near the locations where the DTH is distributed would at least begin to make a dent in this problem. There must be some way for us to make a change in this situation, a change which will accommodate the needs of the DTH and those of our campus.

Paige Snow  
FRESHMAN  
BIOLOGY