The Daily Tar Heel

State & National

5

Attention of Students

Students in Washington and UNC say they lost interest in the impeachment trial and its historic end of acquittal.

BY VICKY ECKENRODE AND ASTA YTRE Staff Writer

Fifteen minutes away from the media frenzy on Capitol Hill, Georgetown University students went about their regular schedules Friday afternoon, largely ignoring the political events going on across town going on across town.

Several televisions in Georgetown's campus bookstore aired the live Senate vote, which marked the end of the pro-longed impeachment trial of President Clinton. But few students stopped to pay attention to the vote for very long. "Everyone knows it's historic, but it's core, the ret tired of in end for the

easy to get tired of it and forget the trial," said Ed Karam, a first-year medical student.

Karam, like many students around campus, sat with friends discussing classes, not the vote

"Anything that's going on on campus will take importance over an impeachment trial," said sophomore linguist and French major Kirby Johns.

Other students cited early predictions that Republicans would not garner enough votes to avoid acquittal as their reason for ignoring the vote. "I figured Clinton's getting off any-

way so I'm not paying attention to today's vote," said Anthony Hill, a junior psychology major. "(The trial's) just not as important as it's been made out to be this whole time in the media."

Closer to home, UNC students and faculty said they followed the end of the impeachment trial over the Internet or on television. Most people seemed to be glad it was over, and nobody said they were surprised about the acquittal. Emily Howell, a junior from Raleigh,

watched the casting of the Senate vote in the Student Union. The former president of the College Democrats said she was pleased the trial had ended. "Hopefully, we can get back to the

Ric Flair's

Now Open

24 Hours

business of the country," Howell said. "As a nation, we would have set a scary precedent if we used private life to ondemn our leaders," she said. Erin Karcher, an English major from

Cary, said the acquittal vote was not a surprise. She said the lack of public interest turned the trial into a source of amusement "After awhile, it seemed the general

public lost interest (in the trial)," Karcher said. "It became a joke after awhile.

The public's feelings of apathy for the trial also registered on campus. Senior biology major Danny Dunston said media coverage of both sides of the trial had prevented him from forming an honest opinion of the outcome.

"I try not to pay attention," Dunston id. "I hate politics." But Dunston said the trial was not a

waste of the government's time. "It was a good way to show that not even people with high positions in government get away with everything," he said. "It shows the world that the United States

does not cover up our problems." UNC political science Professor Marco Steenbergen said there was not enough evidence to have warranted a trial. but that once it began, more time should have been spent on it. Steenbergen said he did not pay a lot of attention to the trial. "The (media)

coverage was not very helpful," he said, adding that it was high time to move on other issues. UNC Professor of Law Buck Melton to oth

said the outcome was what the public had expected.

"The process became extremely political and not judicial," he said. "This

great interest in the case," Melton said. "The general public was tired of the whole thing, if you believe the polls."

The State & National Editors can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu

Acquittal Fails to Grab Hackney: New Position No Problem

Rep. Joe Hackney, D-Orange, says he welcomes the new challenges presented by his job of speaker pro tempore.

BY KIMBERLY GRABINER Staff Writer

The position of Speaker Pro Tempore increases the amount of responsibility for a representative, but local Rep. Joe Hackney, D-Orange, says he can handle date

the pressure. The N.C. House of Representatives elected Hackney as Speaker Pro Tempore on opening day, with a vote of 65-54 against Republican nominee Rep. George Holmes, R-Alexander.

His new responsibilities include assisting the Speaker of the House, Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, presiding over the House when the speaker is absent, and fulfilling whatever other duties Black assigns to him, Hackney said.

Hackney said the new responsibility would not disrupt his usual balance between his position as a lawyer and as a legislator. "I do my regular job on

Mondays and Fridays," Hackney said He has already begun managing work in the House, said Rep. Verla Insko, D-Orange, who sug-gested Hackney's

name as a candi-The N.C. House for the elected Rep. Democratic cau-Joe Hackney cus nomination.

D-Orange, as Speaker Pro Tempore "He asked me to nominate him," on opening day. she said. "It was a courtesy on his part to ask me to do it."

Insko said Hackney was a model leader – knowledgeable and articulate. "(Hackney) has been around here for 18 years," she said. "It was time for him have a major leadership position. to

"I think that is where he will make the largest contribution - being part of

the speaker's leadership team." Hackney said he had expected to win over Holmes when the vote was taken last month. "In as much as the Democrats are the majority in the House, it was the anticipated result," he said

Rep. Billy Creech, R-Johnston, who voted for Holmes, said other members of the House did not really show any feelings toward the outcome. "I don't know if people feel one way

or another about it ...," Creech said. "(Hackney) is a good guy. I think he will work out fine."

But Holmes expected to win the nomination until Rep. Dan Blue, D-Wake, lost the race by one vote for Speaker of the House

Blue's nomination came as part of a political coalition between the Democratic Black Caucus and the

Republicans. Under the agreement, the

Republicans. Under the agreement, the Speaker Pro Tempore would be Republican, Holmes said. "The Republican delegation was assured that there would be enough votes for Dan Blue to be elected," he said. "When that came up one vote short, I did not expect to win."

"(Hackney) has been around here for 18 years. It was time for him to have a major

leadership position."

expect to win." Holmes said he received all the GOP one vote VERLA INSKO N.C. House of Representatives

Hackney received the remaining Democratic votes. Holmes said,

votes and

Democratic

while

"The majority party is happy with the results."

The State & National Editors can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

221055 Inspire the minds of rural high school students. Increase service learning opportunities at UNC.

North Carolina

Open the doors of the University to all of North Carolina's people.

Vote to support our mission on Feb. 16



Hotel Raleigh/Durham/RTP

5219 Page Road, Durham, NC 27703 1-40 exit 282

If you're looking for comfort, you're in the right place. The **Comfort Suites Hotel** offers 123 exquisite suites, and all of the amenities that you can expect in a full service hotel with excellent service and hospitality.



Easy access to Duke University and hospital, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University. Conveniently located near Research Triangle Park, IBM, Nortel and Glaxo Wellcome to name a few

In-Room Amenities include:

- Suites with King or Double Queen Beds and Double Sleep Sofa in every room
- Microwave, Refrigerator, Coffee Maker, Ironing Board, and Hairdryer in every room
- · Handicap, Smoking/Non-Smoking Rooms
- Extra large desk with two-line speaker phones with dedicated data port

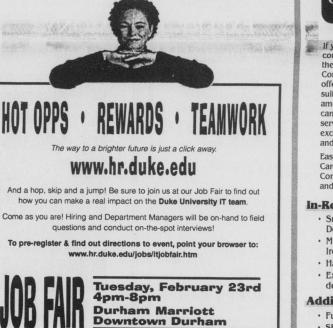
Additional Highlights include:

- · Full Hot Breakfast cooked to your order Monday-Friday
- · Shuttle Service to and from Raleigh/Durham Airport
- · 2,000 Square Feet of Meeting Space 100%
- Business Center with Internet Access · Fitness Center, Sauna, Spa, and Pool

STUDEN

Satisfaction Guarantee

Comfort Suites Hotel (919)314-1200 or FAX (919)474-0104





Duke University Duke University Health System

 FREE Aerobics • FREE Yoga FREE Parking • FREE One-On-One Training ** FREE Nutritional Counseling Let GOLD'S GYM be THE Solution ** to your New Year's Resolutions! ** Newly 25% OFF All Clothing! Renovated!

933-6377

503 C West Main Street • Carrboro (one block from Harris Teeter)

ARTCARVED

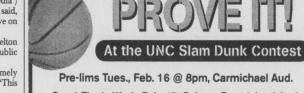
***** GOLD'S GYM ****

is very disturbing." Melton said he followed the case carefully. He said the trial went by as fast as it could have, but that public interest had waned long before the acquittal vote. "Even law students did not pay a

during half-time of the men's basketball game vs. Wake Forest

Sign-up outside the CAA office in Suite B. Room 216D of the Union or contact Erica or Rob at 962-4300

SPONSORED BY THE CAA-SPORTS MARKETING COMMITTEE



Semi-Finals Wed., Feb. 17 @ 6pm, Carmichael Aud.

Think Ya Got Mad Rise?

Finals, Tues., Feb. 23 @ Dean Smith Center

Participants can sign-up until 5pm Tuesday, Feb. 16

The Official May Graduation Announcements are HERE! Stop by the ArtCarved table in Student Stores this week!

Duke University Is An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Carolina Ring Event

DATE......Monday, February 15 - Friday, February 19 TIME......10am-4pm, Wednesday 10am-7pm PLACE......UNC Student Stores **DEPOSIT...\$20**

1-800-952-7002

Local Artcarved Office: 919-968-7894 • Special Payment Plans Available. 🔤 🜌

LEGE JEWELRY **presents**