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STUDENT CODE

extensive, said former student body president candidate Matt Liles, who many Congress members credit with the idea to overhaul the code. "We tested the sys-tem this year," he said. "We really pushed the bounds into what the Board (of Elections) could do."

Article IV, Section 402C of the Student Code states that the chairman of the BOE "is responsible for placing each administrative and punitive decision in writing within 24 hours."

Anderson said that there was a need for the board to review the charges and make them valid before making them public, and that therefore the decision should be posted 24 hours after it is made not that a decision should be made within 24 hours.

When the BOE decided to hold closed hearings regarding the investigations into the election controversy, another issue of much debate was whether the BOE was considered a public body and sub-ject to the N.C. Open Meetings

The only public body that is subject to the statutes is Student

said The revised code will address that issue by being rewritten based on the N.C. Open Meetings Law. But Anderson said the BOE

Congress, not the BOE, Anderson

probably would still not fall under the definition of a public body. Elyse Ashburn, editor of The

Daily Tar Heel, said that because of a 1996 agreement reached between the UNC-system Office of the President and the N.C. Press Association, many student government bodies don't fall under the N.C. Open Meetings Laws.

"If Student Congress and student government want the Student Code to mirror the N.C. laws, the Board of Elections would clearly be a public body," Ashburn said.

She said that several lawyers have indicated that state election boards are some of the most open bodies in state government, and that if the Student Code indicates that the BOE is not a public body, then it is not in line with how such boards in the state are viewed.

But Slain said opening the investigation would have affected its integrity.

the investigation 'Keeping closed until deliberation was necessary to ensure the integrity of the

"Keeping the investigation closed until deliberation was necessary to ensure the integrity of the process."

JONATHAN SLAIN, FORMER STUDENT ATTORNEY GENERAL

process," he said.

Congress officials said the BOE wanted to assess the validity of the charges brought against the candidates before making them public, so as not to damage someone's campaign with claims that had not been verified.

"All information needs to be dis-

closed to students," Orr said. "But that information should be ven at the right time and the right place."

Ashburn said the investigation could have fallen under reasons to

meeting for whatever reason.

All content changes to the code must be approved by the Rules

Pieces of fuel rod go missing in Vt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Two pieces of a highly radioactive fuel rod are missing from a Vermont nuclear plant, and engineers planned to search on-site for the nuclear material, officials said Wednesday

The fuel rod was removed in 1979 from the Vermont Yankee reactor, which has been shut down for refueling and maintenance. Remote-control cameras will be used to search a spent fuel pool on the property, officials said. "We do not think there is a

threat to the public at this point. The great probability is: This material is still somewhere in the pool," said Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesman Neil Sheehan.

But Sheehan said it is possible that the spent fuel was mixed in with a shipment of low-level nuclear waste and ended up at a repository in South Carolina or a facility in Washington state.

He said it also was possible that it was taken to a nuclear testing facility run by General Electric, which designed the plant. The material would be fatal to

anyone who came in contact with it without being shielded properly, Sheehan said

Spent nuclear fuel also could be used by terrorists to construct so-called "dirty bombs" that would spread deadly radiation with conventional explosives.

The rod was part of the fuel assembly used to power the reactor. One of the missing pieces is about the size of a pencil. The other piece is about the thickness of a pencil and 17 inches long. "It would be very difficult to

remove this material from the site without somebody knowing about it," Sheehan said. "It would set off radiation monitors.

Sheehan cited the heightened awareness of the need to control nuclear material that followed the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

close a meeting. "Certainly the BOE should have the right to close a meeting," she "But I don't think they should have a blanket ticket to close a

"They should be held account-able and have a good reason indi-cating why they close a meeting."

student input, and that's what I'm interested in changing," he said Once legislation is approved, both student government and University students will benefit from the up-to-date document, said Jordan Mendenhall, chairman of the Student Affairs Committee.

advantage of.

'We'll have a code that's consistent, contemporary and concise."

Contact the University Editor at udesk.unc.edu.

and Judiciary Committee of

Committee Chairman Luke Farley said the committee will

enlist student involvement by

holding public hearings regard-ing prospective changes to the

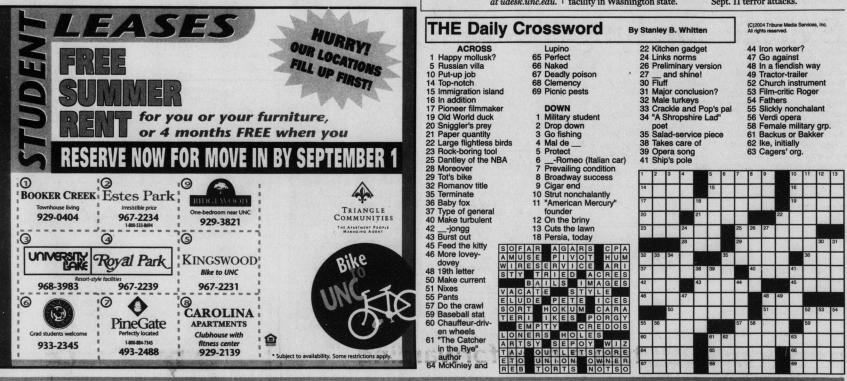
Farley said he wants to foster a

more welcoming atmosphere for students that always existed but hasn't necessarily been taken

"The emphasis hasn't been on

Student Congress.

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The Department of Housing and Residential Education would like to say THANK YOU to all our student staff!

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Bold print designates our graduating staff members

Thank you for your service to your residence hall community and residents!