

# NEWS

## Students lobby against proposed tuition increases

By CATHERINE COWAN  
Staff Writer

Students got mixed results in their efforts to lobby state legislators against Gov. James G. Martin's proposed tuition hikes on June 17, said Student Body President Bryan Hassel. While some legislators were supportive enough to come to the student's press conference in Raleigh, others said they felt the state already spent too much on education, Hassel said.

The University of North Carolina Association of Student Govern-

ments, or UNCASG, which is made up of members of student governments from all over North Carolina, gathered in Raleigh on Wednesday and Thursday June 18-19 to lobby N.C. state senators and representatives on Martin's proposed tuition increases and education appropriations in his budget proposal for the coming fiscal year. The position the UNCASG took matched that of the UNC Board of Governors on most issues.

In his budget, Martin had proposed an in-state tuition hike of 3.2

percent and an out-of-state tuition hike of 12.3 percent. Students lobbied for no tuition hikes. The final budget proposal, put together by the Democratic-controlled Joint Appropriations Committee on June 23, did not include any in-state tuition increase, but did increase out-of-state tuition by Martin's proposed 12.3 percent.

The Joint Appropriation Committee's final proposal included no funding for removal of barriers to handicapped students. Martin had proposed \$2 million for handicapped barrier removal, while students had lobbied for \$4 million.

The final budget proposal also allocated \$40.6 million for major construction projects on UNC system campuses, slightly more than Martin's proposal of \$30 million, but far short of the UNCASG and BOG proposal of \$145,792,100.

"The biggest disappointment was that they didn't allocate any money for handicapped barrier removal," Hassel said. "\$480,000 was allocated for 200 additional horse stalls in Asheboro. Not to say that that's not important, but handicapped barrier removal has not been funded for five years in a row now."

Hassel said that while many legislators were sympathetic to not increasing in-state tuition, almost all wanted to raise out-of-state tuition. "The Democratic leadership seemed more willing in conversations than Martin to support education, but they were very much for an out-of-

state tuition increase. They were very conscious that if they support education more, other programs have to be cut."

In a statement made during the UNCASG press conference, Hassel said, "The students of the University of North Carolina face a crisis situation in the area of government support of our education. On the Federal level, President Reagan has said that public education is the responsibility of the state governments, and he has launched a wholesale attack on the financial aid programs which allow many of us to attend school."

"But if Governor Martin has his way, the North Carolina state government will not pick up where the federal Government left off. Rather than increasing the state's support of higher education, Governor Martion

has submitted a proposal to raise the costs of tuition by a substantial percentage."

Also during the UNCASG press conference, UNCASG President and N.C. State Student Body President Gary Mauney said, "Today, we, the elected representatives of the students of the University of North Carolina, have assembled to ensure that we do not become passive recipients of a future in which education is a commodity accessible only to those endowed with a fortunate economic status."

"If education is indeed the instrument by which our past is preserved, the present made productive, and the future given promise, then clearly our state and our citizenry all stand to lose if the plans Governor Martin has for post-secondary education come to fruition."

## College president suspended

From Associated Press reports

WESTFIELD, Mass. — The trustees of Westfield State College voted Monday night to suspend their president without pay because of his indictment on charges of sexually assaulting two male students.

The 9-1 vote to suspend Francis J. Pilecki, 52, must be approved by state officials, who had criticized the college after it was revealed it paid a \$10,000 settlement to one of the students who claimed he was assaulted by Pilecki in 1984.



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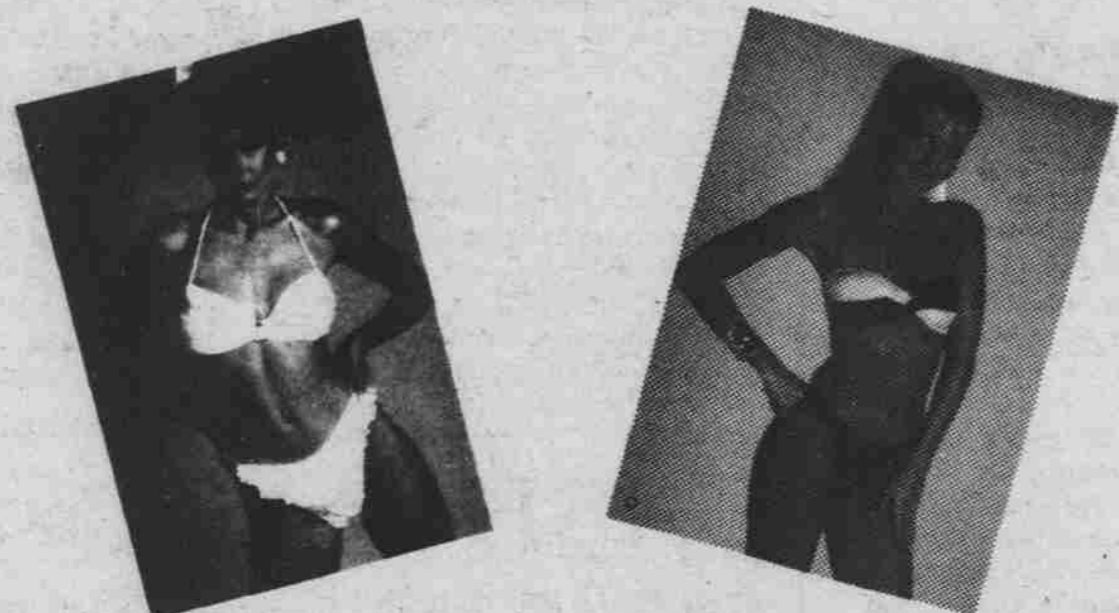
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## Writers get off your clouds; Mandatory meeting for staff

Attention all Summer Tar Heel writers! This is your pilot speaking. We're having a MANDATORY meeting Thursday at 3 p.m. in the office. It's imperative that you come to get a story assignment, not only for the following week but for the mail-home issue coming up. If you can't be there at three, come by as soon as possible. Tell your sick grandmother to watch a little "General Hospital," pump some

air into that flat bike tire, tell your boss you're taking a lunch break, and come on over. If you don't attend, your name will be sludge on the lips of your editors, who will promptly begin chanting anti-Pulitzer curses over your reporter's notebooks as they smolder in a huge newsroom bonfire. As Jo so eloquently puts it, non-attendance will insure one's crucifixion, STH-wise.



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