

# Citizens protest proposed development of Duke Forest

By LAURA DIGIANO  
Assistant City Editor

Administrators at Duke University are considering opening up several thousand acres of Duke Forest for development, but many people are speaking out against the proposal.

Duke Forest, which is broken into five main tracts, separates Chapel Hill from Hillsborough to the north and from Durham to the east. An estimated 250,000 people visit Duke Forest every year to bike, ride horses, bicycle and participate in forestry research projects.

The Duke University administration commissioned a non-profit group called The Urban Land Institute (ULI) to study possible uses for the 8,300 acres of land. The group recommended that 6,000 acres be developed for residential and commercial use. The ULI report included suggestions for condominiums, shopping centers and some light industry.

A decision by the administration concerning the ULI report is expected this spring and several local groups are lobbying against the proposed

development.

Randy Schenk, a representative of the Sierra Club who serves on the steering committee for the Save Duke Forest group, said Duke administrators were naive to believe that commissioning the ULI study would not create community backlash.

"We had over 300 people at one public hearing and not one of 40 speakers advocated developing the land," Schenk said. "Only one official, Hillsborough mayor Fred Cates, has lent any support for the ULI proposal."

"Duke University has some definite obligations to the community and they are in the balance right now against the financial forces emanating from the administration," he said.

"They are considering what \$200 million could bring to Duke in terms of big name faculty members, financial aid packages and other legitimate needs vs. the resource Duke Forest represents to the community and to forestry research projects."

Given the public outcry and unwillingness of the academic community

to lose an important research tool, the ULI proposal has a slim chance of getting through, Schenk said.

William Nealy, one of the leaders of the Save Duke Forest organization, disagreed. He said the development will probably take place.

"I think the decision has already been made in the minds of many of the Duke administrators," Nealy said. "Our biggest fear right now is that the university will just release the land and we will have rampant, uncontrolled growth."

Nealy said his group hopes to save 3,000 acres of the forest. "What will probably happen is that the land will be developed in smaller pieces — nickel- and dime-sized tracts — near 1-40," he said. "We just want to keep at least some of the forest intact."

The financial benefits of developing Duke Forest are important, but seeing the area grow and prosper is the real motivation for many administrators, Nealy said.

"I think many of these people just want to have some buildings named after them and make a nice retirement

community for the alumni," he said.

Public response to Save Duke Forest has been impressive, Nealy said. According to a group fact sheet, more than 80 citizens came to the initial organizational meeting to work on increasing public awareness and organizing a letter-writing campaign to Duke University trustees to speak out against development.

Group members have asked local government officials to make statements supporting the preservation of the forest, Nealy said. "Unfortunately, in Durham County if a big developer wants to do something, it will usually get done," he said. "But Orange County and the county commissioners have taken a strong stand against development."

Orange County is considering using zoning and buying adjacent land to buffer the forest, Nealy said.

Jane Norton, another member of Save Duke Forest, went to the Chapel Hill Town Council in January to ask them to support the preservation of the forest.

The council responded by adopting a resolution that asks the Duke University administration to keep the forest as "part of the university's heritage, as a distinctive feature of the Research Triangle and our state and as a scientific and environmental benefit of future generations."

Norton said the town was concerned that the current proposal for development was not consistent with Chapel Hill's plan to use the forest as a natural buffer zone between Durham, Hillsborough and Chapel Hill.

"Condominiums obviously do not fit in," she said.

"I think another big concern was the loss of recreational or green space that so many residents use," Norton said. "The forest is also an important research site for those in Duke's forestry school."

Bev Kawalec, assistant to Chapel Hill Mayor Jonathan Howes, said the mayor and council members are very concerned about the development.

"The key issue is the rural buffer," she said. "We need to preserve the

forest as an essential part of our transition zones. Mayor Howes very much wants to see Duke Forest remain as is."

Kawalec said Howes will make a proposal about the future of the forest to the Community Concerns Committee, which was created by the Duke administration to gather input from neighboring communities.

The committee is part of a larger Land Resource Committee, composed of Duke University trustees and faculty members, which will make recommendations to the administration in late spring.

Nealy said citizens interested in the future of Duke Forest should write to the Duke University trustees or contact their local government officials.

"If Duke decides to keep the land, the university will be taking a leadership role in trying to keep this land livable," Nealy said. "If not, Duke will be sending a real big flag nationwide to develop and encourage areas such as the Triangle to be overbuilt."

## Minority students visit UNC to compete for scholarships

By JACKIE DOUGLAS  
Staff Writer

Eighteen minority students from high schools across North Carolina spent three days this week visiting the UNC campus as part of the 1988 Pogue Awards Program, Herb Davis, associate director for undergraduate admissions, said Monday.

During their visit, which began on Sunday, the students interviewed with members of the Pogue selection committee, which consists of nine UNC faculty members, Davis said.

The committee narrowed the field to 18 finalists after receiving more than 200 applications from N.C. high school students, he said.

Eight students will be selected to receive the scholarship, worth \$4,300

annually. Students are chosen on the basis of academics, contributions to their community, leadership potential and how they present themselves, Davis said.

Robert Reives, a finalist from Lee Senior High School in Sanford, said he thought the program was well-organized.

"The entire program was really nice," he said. "The committee treated all students as adults. It's definitely the best program of interviews I've been through."

Veronica Williams, a finalist from Bertie High School, said she thought her experience as a Pogue finalist was rewarding.

"I have enjoyed meeting the other finalists and I'm glad I had the chance

to see the University," she said. "The campus is quaint and old and has a good history behind it and has certainly affected my decision to come here."

At a dinner held for the Pogue finalists Monday night, Chancellor Christopher Fordham praised UNC's faculty and told the finalists they should choose to attend the University.

"There is no better faculty than the UNC faculty in the eastern part of the United States," Fordham said. "UNC has an outstanding library and an excellent curriculum and the faculty is concerned that a student have a general education first."

Harold Wallace, vice chancellor of University affairs, told the finalists that they should press forward in their ambitions.

"You can be a part of that successful black population of students that have made their mark at UNC," Wallace said.

Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, told the finalists they should explore their options and postpone their decision on a major area of study.

Slayton Evans, chairman of the Pogue selection committee, said he hoped the visit had a positive effect on the finalists.

"I hope your experience has encouraged you to want to attend Carolina," Evans said.

## Graduate student federation sponsors week of activities

By KATIE BECK  
Staff Writer

The Graduate and Professional Student Federation (GPSF) is sponsoring a week of discussions, speakers, and a free concert during the group's first Graduate and Professional Student Federation Week March 14-18.

Audrey Vanden Heuvel, GPSF president, said the main purpose of GPSF Week is to allow graduate and professional students to mix.

"Graduate students are really unique in that they're all working in their own special areas and they don't have classes together," Vanden Heuvel said. "This gives grad students a chance to meet other grad students."

GPSF Week should also increase campus recognition of the 7,000 or so graduate and professional students on campus.

"We really need recognition of the graduate student body,"

Vanden Heuvel said. "We do a lot of the research on campus, and we do most of the TA (Teaching Assistant) work for undergraduates."

The UNC Graduate English Club will sponsor an interdisciplinary talk Wednesday by Richard Ohmann, professor of English at Wesleyan University. In his discussion, "Graduate Students, Professionals, and Intellectuals," Ohmann will discuss the connections between graduate school and the real world. A panel of professors and graduate and professional students will continue the discussion on Thursday.

Also featured during GPSF Week is a free concert Tuesday night by Joe and Odell Thompson, a fiddle and banjo duo from Mebane. The concert is sponsored by GPSF and the UNC Curriculum in Folklore.

The calendar of events also includes a brown-bag lunch and

a wine and cheese party for graduate and professional students on Thursday, and a St. Patrick's Day Aftermath Bash on Friday.

The GPSF is a separate body of students funded by Student Congress, Vanden Heuvel said. GPSF's ruling body is composed of 70 senators representing different academic departments on campus, she said.

GPSF deals with graduate student concerns like housing, day care on campus and funding for the phone-in registration system, Vanden Heuvel said.

GPSF week is sponsored jointly by several graduate organizations including the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, The Curriculum in American Studies and The Graduate English Club.

Vanden Heuvel said that the graduate departments and groups have been instrumental in arranging the events funded by GPSF.

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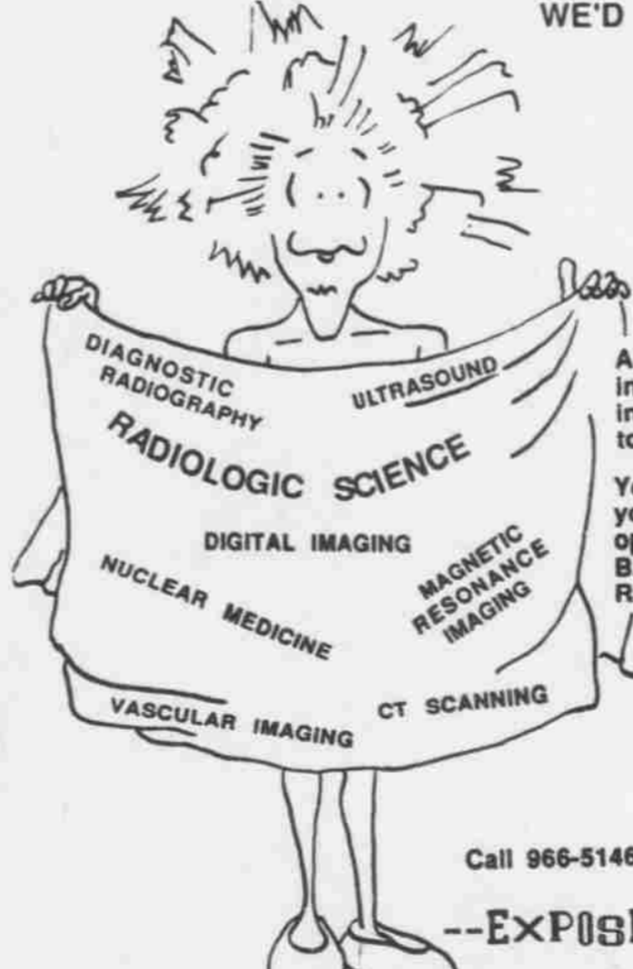
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## Mass primary may be 'super flop'

By AMY WINSLOW  
Staff Writer

As the presidential candidates leave Super Tuesday behind to continue on the campaign trail, local Democrats, Republicans and political scientists

### Campaign '88

are left questioning the effectiveness of the celebrated primary.

"It appears to have helped the Republicans more than the Democrats, and it was the Democrats that created Super Tuesday," said Robert Jones, communications director for the N.C. Republican Party.

But Super Tuesday achieved its goal of appealing to a broad range of people, and it also brought many Democrats out to vote, said Margaret Lawton, press secretary for the N.C. Democratic Party.

Both agreed that the primary is simply too big and too costly.

Originally designed to put the South on the political map and steer the Democratic party toward conservatism, Super Tuesday has been touted a "super flop" by some. Held on March 8, the primary extended to 20 states, including every state of the old Confederacy except South Carolina.

And while Vice President George Bush stormed through the Republican field, three Democratic candidates, Sen. Albert Gore Jr., the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Mass. Gov. Michael Dukakis fought to break

through the pack. Republicans drew a larger voter turnout and saw a "unity of spirit," contrary to the Democrats' response, Jones said.

"Having 20 states on the same day is too many for candidates to cover," said Merle Black, associate political science professor.

The candidates must also be reasonably well-known and be able to raise sufficient funds to do well in Super Tuesday, said political science professor William Keech.

"It puts a tremendous burden on the candidate to compete successfully," Keech said.

Also, the individual states received little personal attention because of the vast areas that each candidate had to cover in such a short period of time, Jones said.

"It turned out that personalities were involved more than the issues," he said. "It was a beauty contest more than anything else."

The primaries should be more spread out, Jones said, and the issues should be focused on in each state to bring efficiency to the nominating process.

Super Tuesday should not be abolished, Lawton said, although "like everything else," it could be fine-tuned.

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