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upper 70s to low 80s

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"Wuthering Heights"
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Students rally around tuition defense



SBP Brien Lewis, left, addresses the crowd gathered for a Tuition Defense Initiative rally

By WILL SPEARS
Assistant University Editor

Carrying signs saying "TDI means give us ample warning" and "Hey! The students are out of town — raise tuition," members of student government rallied in the Pit Wednesday to involve students in their fight against future tuition hikes.

About 30 students attended the rally, which was a means of gaining student support for a series of proposals known as the Tuition Defense Initiative (TDI). Student Body President Brien Lewis drew up the proposals in response to this past summer's tuition increase.

The increase was 20 percent, or \$100, for in-state residents and 15 percent, or \$669, for out-of-state students.

The Association of Student Governments (ASG), a coalition of student governments from the 16 UNC-system schools, unanimously adopted Lewis' six-point plan at its meeting Sept. 16.

"We're not out here being radical," Lewis said at the rally. "All we're saying is that we want a say; we want to be a part of the process."

One of the points in the TDI calls for the ASG president to be allowed to report student concerns at each UNC Board of Governors (BOG) meeting.

"Our past experience tells us that students are getting screwed over," said Gene Davis, Student Congress speaker and newly-elected ASG president. "The

General Assembly doesn't listen to them. We need a voice in the General Assembly and the Board of Governors."

Lewis said the precedent for the adoption of this point had been set. "We already have the student body president sitting on the Board of Trustees at each school in the state university system. We're asking that they follow through."

Another of TDI's points is that future tuition increases take effect the year following the decision to raise the rates. "A two-week notice is not enough," Lewis said. "We need time for the financial aid office to respond."

Student government members could not combat the increase this summer because they were "operating on a skeleton staff," and most students were out of town, Lewis said. "We were not able to write 150 letters a day to the legislature or go see congressmen in their offices every day, but we tried."

James Henderson, a freshman from Denver, N.C., said he supported the proposals. "I agree. I worked the whole summer and I needed all the financial aid I could get. The financial aid checks came before the bill for the tuition increase."

The proposal also calls for student leaders to appear before House and Senate committees and subcommittees to provide a student voice when in-

vided. "We've got 150,000 students (on the 16 UNC-system campuses) whose voices are not being heard," Davis said. "That's what TDI is all about."

The proposal requests that a percentage of any tuition increase be reserved for financial aid grants and that any and all funds for private colleges from the General Assembly be directed to need-based aid.

In order to help students deal with tuition increases and help prevent future ones, Lewis also proposed that all UNC-system student body presidents establish a financial aid task force to examine aid policies.

Davis said he thought the rally was a success in helping drum up student support. "I'm excited about the people who did come out. The most important thing is announcing this proposal to the student body; this proposal cannot be accomplished overnight, but will require the support of students across the state."

Lewis said he had hoped that more students would attend. "But, I guess, unless we had people hanging off the roofs we would want a bigger turnout."

The response Lewis has gotten to his proposal has been nothing but positive, he said. "A lot of people have come up to me and said, 'Yeah, I think my par-

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Plans for Pit ramp up in air

By SIMONE PAM
Staff Writer

Plans to construct an access ramp in the Pit to aid students in wheelchairs are still being discussed by University officials, but the ramp will definitely be built, said Claude Swecker, associate vice chancellor for Facilities Management.

"I did the design for a ramp eight years ago," said Thomas Shumate, consulting architect for the UNC Facilities Plans. "We felt there has been a need for a ramp for many years. But when it came down to making a decision then, we opted to prioritize, and provide accessibility to classrooms first."

Rutledge Tufts, general manager of the Student Stores, said the construction of the ramp originally was going to be included in the renovations of the Student Stores. But the budget ran too high, and the ramp was eliminated to cut costs, he said.

The Student Stores had originally agreed to help pay for the ramp, Tufts said, and still plans to contribute \$5,000 toward construction.

Shumate said the total cost of building the ramp was estimated at \$10,000. The total is not overly expensive for a ramp, he said. "The cheapest ramp ever built on campus was \$7,000."

Swecker is still trying to find a source for the rest of the money, he said, but thinks he will be able to come up with it.

He agreed that \$10,000 was not unreasonable because the costs of labor and material were so high. "It's the cost of doing business."

Once construction begins, the ramp should take three to four weeks to build, Shumate said. The date to begin construction has not yet been established.

According to the design, the ramp will replace the steps on the west end of the Pit, near the Undergraduate Library, Shumate said. The ramp will be straight and include guard rails.

Stuart Hathaway, co-coordinator of the Students for Educational Access committee, said he was pleased that a public commitment had been made to build the ramp. "It was very frustrating that the ramp couldn't be done during Student Stores renovations. But it is great the University has remained committed to the idea."

Hathaway said a ramp would provide three benefits:

1. It would provide direct access for students in wheelchairs to get into the Pit;

2. Handicapped students' presence in the Pit, which serves as a focal point on campus, would be more recognizable; and

3. The students who do not use wheelchairs would be directly exposed to the difficulties handicapped students face every day.

"It will expose the non-handicapped

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Opponents address flaws in SRC plans

By BILL TAGGART
Staff Writer

The Student Recreation Center (SRC) has problems with its site and design that the student body has not been made aware of, two opponents of the proposed SRC said Wednesday in a press conference.

"Students need the assurance that the site and design of the \$4.5 million building they are paying for will be designed and located according to their suggestions and best interests," said Student Congress representative Jeffrey Beall (Dist. 7).

Beall was the author of a bill before the Sept. 13 congress that called for another referendum on the SRC. The bill was defeated 17-9 with one abstention. The SRC was passed originally on a spring referendum by 56 percent of the student body.

Petitions asking the Building and Grounds Committee to "systematically consider sites other than the proposed Fetzer Courtyard" and to "systematically reconsider the existing design" of the SRC are being circulated on campus.

John Silva, associate professor of physical education, said the purpose of the petitions was to expose campus administrators to the conflicts that exist with the SRC.

"I think when they become aware of these irregularities, they will become concerned."

The petitions will be presented to Chancellor Paul Hardin, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Carolina Athletic Association (CAA) and the SRC Board of Directors, Silva said. More than 370 signatures have been collected in less than a

week, he said.

Lisa Frye, CAA president, said the site for the SRC was examined thoroughly before the Fetzer Courtyard location was suggested.

"Other sites have been researched in a very appropriate manner. Facilities Planning decided Fetzer Courtyard was the most advantageous site. We (CAA) do not decide where it goes."

Silva said problems with the site included loss of "greenspace" in Fetzer Courtyard, the possible use of student funds to build a new courtyard and the way new sites have been researched.

"To date, no systematic assessment of any alternate site has been provided. The handling of this matter creates the impression that an attempt has been made to railroad the Fetzer Courtyard location."

The design of the building has been questioned because it does not include restrooms, showers or locker rooms, Beall said. Students would have to use the facilities in Fetzer Gym.

"Because the gym is controlled by the P.E. Department, the Student Recreation Center could only be open when Fetzer Gym is open," Beall said. "Thus, one of the biggest benefits of student control — setting our own hours — will be denied students, at least if the current design is implemented."

"The way the building is currently designed, the students are funding a \$4.5 million extension of the P.E. Department."

Other conflicts of the SRC issue mentioned by Silva and Beall include the vote of the physical education faculty on the proposed site, the actions of the CAA and coverage of the issue in The Daily Tar Heel (DTH).

Beall and Silva said the faculty vote would be appealed to the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and the chairman of the physical education department because of irregularities in the way it was handled.

The vote of tenure-track faculty was 5-4 with two abstentions, Silva said. One member who is publicly opposed to the SRC site was absent from the meeting, but was not allowed a vote in absentia, he said.

The vote was reported as 7-4 with two abstentions by Frye at the Sept. 13 Student Congress meeting, but she said she mentioned that the vote total included tenure and non-tenure track physical education faculty at the meeting.

"I've reported the vote accurately, and the vote was reported accurately in the DTH," Frye said. "I clearly delineated between tenure and non-tenure track faculty."

Beall said the "vote irregularities" may have influenced the vote of the Congress, but Frye said she respected the vote.

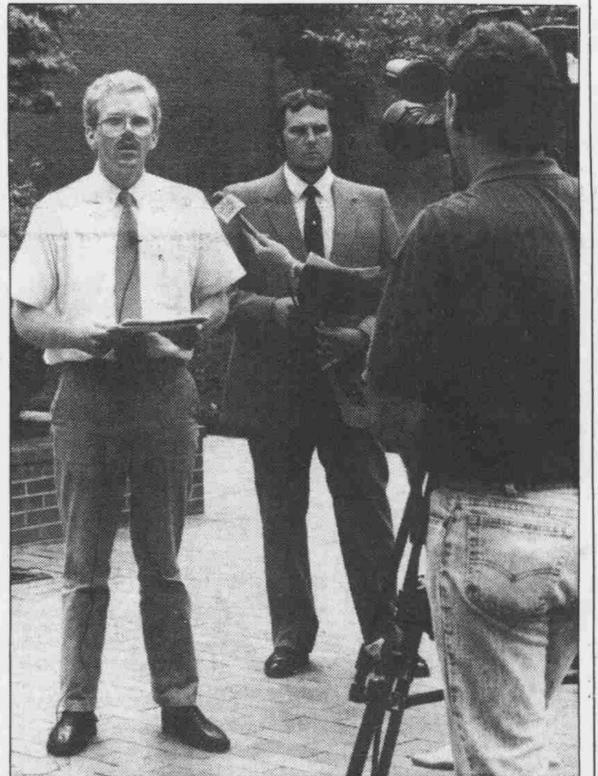
"I don't feel Student Congress was misled," she said.

Beall said the CAA has not made all important information on the SRC available to the students.

"Since the SRC was first presented to the students, the Carolina Athletic Association has limited and controlled information on the Center, emphasizing only the obvious benefits to students," Beall said.

"The CAA has done a disservice to students by prematurely placing before them for vote a concept that was poorly

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Jeffrey Beall speaks at a press conference in Fetzer courtyard

New students learning the ropes of honor system

By KATHERINE HOUSTON
Staff Writer

Freshmen and other new students are being introduced to the honor system this week in small sessions conducted by the Undergraduate Court and the Undergraduate Student Attorney General's staff.

The mandatory sessions are made up of about 30 students and are held by floor in residence halls. The groups discuss the Honor Code, which deals primarily with academics, and the Campus Code, which concerns the social aspects of the University community.

Another focus of the sessions is the three new amendments to the Instrument of Student Judicial Governance

that outline specific student responsibilities. The amendments, called "the date rape amendments," deal with racial harassment, sexual harassment, sexual assault and rape.

These issues are being covered in the sessions because of "the amount of incorrect generalities that have been generated throughout campus," said Jeff Tracy, assistant chairman for the Undergraduate Court.

"We want to stress that if you walk to class and you're heckled, you do not have to take it; you can avoid that. And these amendments allow victims of rape to seek retribution in a closed and confidential hearing of the Undergraduate Court."

The groups are also discussing the

University's judicial system, which is divided into two branches — the Attorney General's Staff and the Undergraduate Court.

The Attorney General's Staff gathers evidence regarding possible violations of the Code of Student Conduct and presents evidence to the Undergraduate Court. The Court hears the evidence and determines innocence or guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, and, if necessary, applies a fair sanction.

Jeff Cannon, a judicial officer, said, "The sessions are an effort to bring students together in a smaller group and to talk in detail about their responsibilities. People do not fully understand that out-of-class conduct on issues are equally important and that

offenses against other people fall under the Student Code."

Tracy said: "The Undergraduate Court staff wants to instill pride in the honor system. The system is unique because it is completely student-run."

Applications for the Undergraduate Court and the Attorney General's staff will be available in the spring.

Students were given a copy of The Instrument of Student Judicial Governance as well as a reference card with information on how to report violations of the honor code.

Freshman Amy Garrett of Hickory attended the program Tuesday night. "They told us how to get involved in the Honor Court," she said. "Also, they told us to check with teachers about

plagiarism." Anna Fox, a freshman from Winston-Salem, said the meeting gave her a better understanding of what the system is about and how it is run.

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Try everything once except incest and folk dancing. — Sir Thomas Beecham