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Highs in 40s

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State suffers drastic budget shortage

\$2.8 million cut hits home at UNC Expenses, low revenue create crisis

By SARAH CAGLE

Assistant University Editor

The University has initiated across-the-board restrictions on spending and hiring in the wake of a \$2.8 million cut in state funds for this financial quarter.

The restrictions will be similar to those of last spring, when a \$3 million cut in state funds forced a spending freeze.

University officials learned early this month from the state budget office that for the third quarter they would receive \$13.2 million instead of the projected \$16 million. This follows a \$600,000 cut from last quarter's funds.

The state's deficits are a result of unexpected expenditures such as the \$20 million aid for victims of Hurricane Hugo and lower-than-expected revenue from the tax amnesty program.

"The deans assured us they'll help out," Clegg said he hadn't had time yet to decide how his department would respond, but he doesn't foresee a great impact for his department because cuts were somewhat anticipated. "We've made an effort to spend as intelligently as possible. We could be in worse shape."

Lawrence Gilbert, chairman of the biology department, said his department would cooperate with the restrictions. "Everyone just accepts it as a fact," he said. "We don't like the freeze obviously, but as it was explained to us, the state really is in financial trouble."

Several department officials said they were more prepared to cope with the spending restrictions than they were last spring.

"We'll cooperate as best we can," said Thomas Clegg, chairman of the physics and astronomy department.

By WENDY BOUNDS

Staff Writer

Gov. Jim Martin faces a \$170 million budget revenue shortage as the new decade rolls in.

Unexpected expenses, dwindling tax revenues and fickle consumer spending have forced North Carolina to join the ranks of other states experiencing budget problems this fiscal year.

The state will be \$170 million short of its total allotment for the 1990-91 budget, said Jeff Merritt, press secretary for the governor.

"The state's General Fund is short this amount for its \$12.6 billion annual budget."

The General Fund comprises all income and sales taxes received by the state and covers all budget expenses except for highways, which are supported by a separate fund.

The unexpected cost of Hurricane Hugo drained this fund, Merritt said. Lower Christmas sales tax revenues and a decrease in gasoline purchases put a strain on the state as well.

The decline in new car sales due to a recent car tax hike may have also added to this revenue shortage, according to David Prather, Martin's deputy director of communications.

Whatever the cause of the revenue shortage, its effects are already taking their toll.

State agencies usually return to the

government unused funds totalling \$170 million to \$175 million each fiscal year. They will not be able to do so this year.

Because of the unexpected expenses and other economic burdens, the state government reduced third-quarter allocations to state agencies by \$26 million, said Marvin Dorman, state deputy budget director.

"This average 2.5 percent decrease in allotments per agency is in addition to the normal allotment reductions we

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Freshman applications down

By CHRIS HELMS

Staff Writer

Freshman applications to UNC dropped by almost 5 percent in 1989 after two years of record-setting highs, according to Anthony Strickland, assistant director of undergraduate admissions.

The decline is mainly the result of a decrease in the number of high school seniors nationwide, said Strickland. "We are supposed to be about two-thirds of the way through a precipitous decline in the number of high school seniors."

The drop in applicants to UNC mirrors a national trend, said Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Cell cited an article in the Chronicle of Higher Education that reported falling high school enrollment throughout the '80s and expectations that college enrollment will fluctuate in the early '90s before rising in 1995.

Strickland said he expected the current decline to continue before leveling out in 1992.

Although the overall number of applicants is down, the number of black applicants rose 12 percent (from 1,236 in 1988 to 1,334 in 1989) while the number of black applicants accepted declined 7 percent (from 750 in 1988 to 646 in 1989). Cell said the decline in the number of accepted black applicants was because of a decline in the quality of the black applicant pool.

Despite the numbers for 1989, Cell said minority admissions had increased over recent years. Cell also said retention of black students increased over last year. Of the 77 freshmen declared academically ineligible after the fall semester in 1988, 39 were black students, while there were only 22 black students among the 54 freshmen declared ineligible after last semester, Cell said.

"We are continuing improving academic support services to the students."

The University has a number of programs to promote minority enrollment, said Harold Wallace, vice chancellor for University Affairs. He said UNC representatives visit as many secondary schools as they can, promote campus visits for prospective students and hold workshops for guidance counselors.

Although the University has no specific quota for minority enrollment, Wallace said that the unstated goal was to bring University enrollment levels in line with population percentages in North Carolina. He said black enrollment in freshman classes had been more than 10 percent throughout the last decade and as high as 15 percent some years.

Wallace said the way to increase enrollment was to reach students early enough to convince them to take college-track courses. "If I had my greatest wish, it would be to do more for the seventh- and eighth-graders."

Wallace said he would like to get young students to "think of college first and Carolina second."

Freshman SAT scores rose to 1109 (up from 1101 in 1988), continuing a five-year trend, Cell said. Although N.C. SAT scores are the worst in the nation, UNC students made a strong showing among high SAT scorers. Of the 878 students with a SAT score higher than 1200, 641 were from North Carolina.

Cell said that while the good SAT scores show there is a strong applicant pool in the state, the national statistics about SAT scores are misleading. She said that in other states, fewer students take the SAT, and those who do take it are likely to be college-bound.

In other areas, applications from N.C. men decreased by 197 from 1988 and by 50 from N.C. women.

Out-of-state applications dropped by 4.55 percent.

Downtown mosque given go-ahead

By CAMERON TEW

Staff Writer

Muslims in Chapel Hill and Carrboro are one step closer to having a permanent place of worship, since plans to build a mosque and Islamic Center near downtown Chapel Hill were approved Tuesday.

The Chapel Hill Planning Board voted 8-1 to approve the site plan for the project. The plan comes under the town's Site Plan Review and cannot be sent to the Chapel Hill Town Council to deal with opposition from neighboring residents.

UNC's Student Muslim Association will build the Islam Center, mosque and a small house on a site off Stephens Street, across from the Chapel Hill

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Municipal Building. The Islam Center will be used primarily by Muslim students attending the University.

Qasem Shehadeh, a member of UNC's Muslim Student Association, said a mosque in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area would be more convenient for the town's Muslim population. There are two mosques in Durham and one in Raleigh where Muslims from the Triangle area attend services.

The project is scheduled to be built over the next 15 years in four phases, said Runyon Woods, who is designing the project. "We will try to finish the architectural drawings in the next three to four months and begin building by

the summer."

Some neighboring residents argued that the project would add noise problems to the neighborhood through the calls for prayer proceeding each of the five daily worship services at the mosque, and the project could cause traffic and parking problems on Stephens Street and Airport Road.

Two residents requested that the planning board table the project and turn it over to the town council for final review, but the board refused to do so.

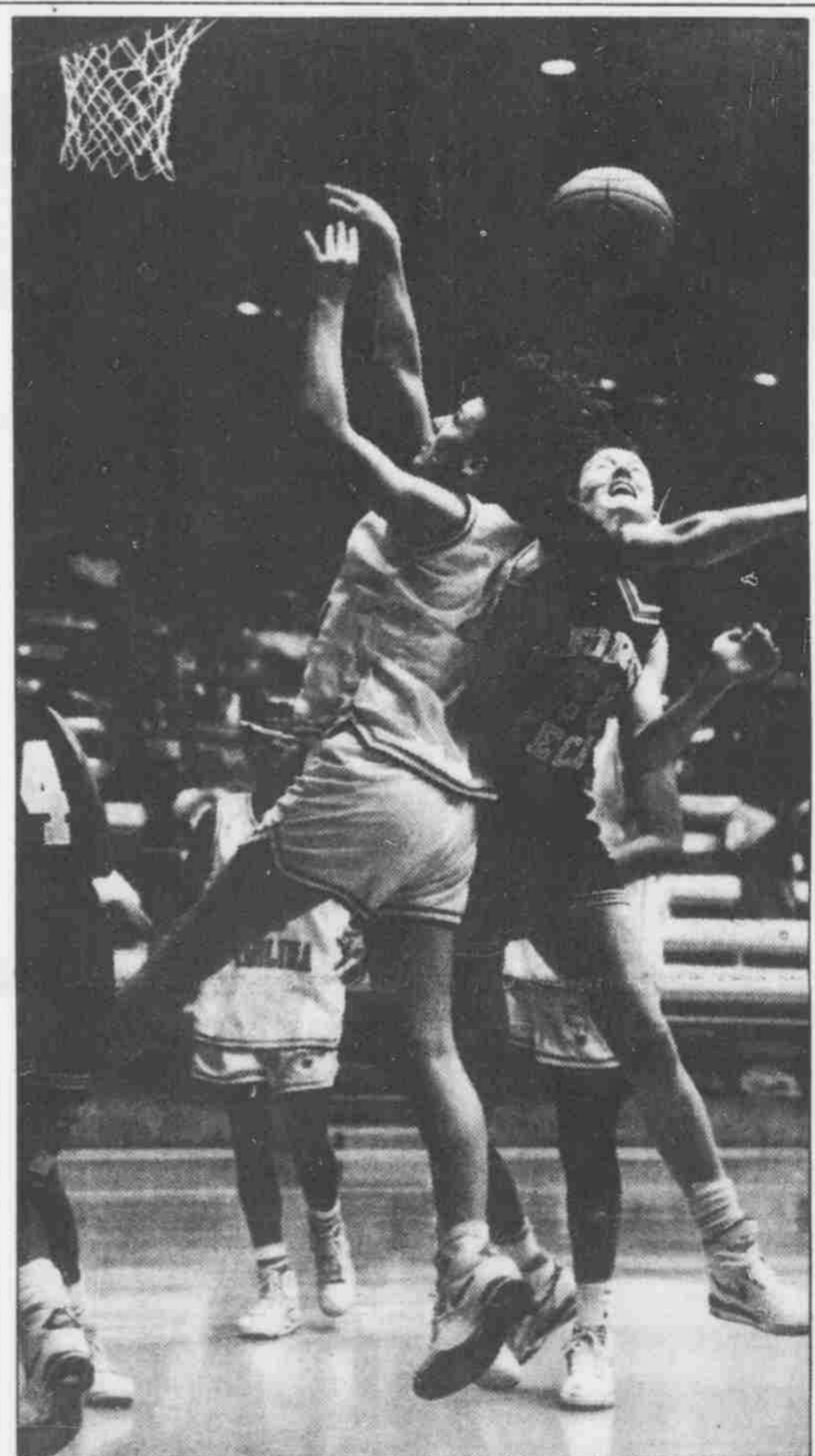
The complex qualifies as a church under the town building ordinances and meets all of the stipulations in the town's zoning ordinances, according to town planner J.B. Culpepper. The Planning Board may only consider whether plans

comply with zoning ordinances.

Woods said he expected the decision the planning board made. "I wanted to look out for my clients' interests, and the planning board did the correct thing in approving the site. I am pleased with the outcome."

Jerry Edwards, a junior from Chapel Hill, said he was in favor of the project. "The main problem I think that the community could have is that it is a 'foreign' religion to the majority of people in Chapel Hill. If it was a well-known religion like Baptist there would not be much opposition to it."

The domed mosque will include a sanctuary and a prayer tower. The Islam Center will include a library and meeting room.



DTH/Evan Elle

Up in the air

Georgia Tech's Theresa Gernatt blocks a shot by UNC's LeAnn Kennedy. See story, page 9.

Education school's dean resigns post

By TOM PARKS

Business Editor

Frank Brown, dean of the School of Education since 1983, announced his resignation over the holiday break.

Brown tendered his resignation Dec. 18, but will not resign his position until June 30, when he will return to full-time teaching and research at the University.

Brown said Thursday that he wanted to move on to research, and when he got the opportunity he decided to move on.

"I'm pleased with the things we have been able to accomplish during my administration — extremely pleased."

Brown received an offer for a research grant from the Carnegie Corp. of New York late last year. Brown talked with UNC Provost Dennis O'Connor about the offer. After deciding to accept, he tendered his resignation. "I took some time to consider the offer, and I decided to take it."

Before Brown became dean seven years ago, the School of Education had gone through five deans and interim deans in 10 years.

O'Connor said Thursday that the members of a search committee for the next dean of the School of Education would probably be announced sometime next week.

Chancellor Paul Hardin will appoint the new dean in consultation with the committee and the provost.

While the committee will work to find a new dean by July 1, O'Connor said it might not be realistic to expect the new dean be appointed by then.

"That's optimistic, but we'll certainly work toward that," he said.

O'Connor said that while he had not been expecting Brown to resign, Brown had told him that he wanted to return to other academic pursuits.

"He and I had a number of conversations in which he indicated a serious desire to get back to teaching and research," O'Connor said.

Brown will take advantage of a two-year grant from the Carnegie Corp. to study the effectiveness of federally-

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DTH/Evan Elle

Stairway to hell

A reluctant mob of students slowly files through the doorway on a balmy Thursday afternoon on their semi-annual pilgrimage to the

drop-add shrine of Woollen Gym. As expected, a large crowd attended the festivities. See story, page 7.

I want to thank everybody who made this day necessary — Yogi Berra