

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Volume 99, Issue 41

Tuesday, April 23, 1991

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

News/Sports/Arts 962-0245
Business/Advertising 962-1165

Tuesday Up Front

College students hurt by parents' breakup

By Sarah Barrett
Staff Writer

Elissa Randall was 18 when her parents separated in 1989. They had been married for 24 years.

Dealing with her parents' breakup has been difficult for the sophomore from Shelby. "The fact that I don't have a real family anymore upsets me, and it always will," she said.

Grieving the break up of a family is very common among older children of divorced parents, said John Reinhold, D.S.W., a clinical social worker at Student Psychological Services.

Some students who experience divorce may literally lose their homes because their parents sell the house to live in condominiums, he said. "Even those who still have the same home to go back to feel they have lost their family," he said.

Randall is just one of a million children who experience divorce every year. About 35 percent of American children born in 1980 will endure two divorces between birth and the age of 18.

Behind these numbers are faces and names, and a growing number belong to children over 18.

Although the median age of children affected by divorce is 7, a growing percentage of college-age students are affected by divorce as more middle-age adults end their marriages.

Jamee Mills, a student at Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pa., was 16 when her parents were divorced in 1987. They had been married for 20 years.

Mills was jolted to reality by her parents' divorce. "It made me grow up real quick," she said. "It really opens your eyes."

She said she's still confused and isn't over it yet. "Emotionally it really strains everything."

The divorce made her more nervous and insecure, she said. "You do think it's your fault," she said. "I thought a lot about it to analyze it and figure out what happened."

Mills comes from a family of six children. She thought her parents may have focused more on their children than on their marriage, and she used to blame the divorce on that, she said.

According to Reinhold, older children generally are less likely to blame themselves than younger children. But some older children do feel responsible because they may have encouraged the parent to leave the marriage, he said.

For example, a child may urge a parent to leave a marriage when the other spouse is an alcoholic. Then when mom or dad leaves and is miserable, the child may feel responsible, he said. Or an older child may feel that he should have known and maybe should have done something to prevent the divorce, he said.

Kim Berdy, a student at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa., was 6 when her parents divorced in 1977. They had been married for 10 years.

"I was too young to understand it, so it wasn't a big deal," she said. But as she has grown older, she realizes that the divorce has made her unable to relate to men.

She said she didn't remember her parents as a couple so she couldn't learn how to deal with a relationship.

"I won't put myself on the line for anybody because I don't want to get hurt," she said. "Ideally I see myself getting married, but realistically I'm not sure."

Divorce tends to make children wary of having long-term relationships. There is an increased rate of divorce among

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Tuition might increase 15 percent

By Jennifer Dunlap
Assistant University Editor

Student government members said Monday that a proposal to raise tuition by as much as 15 percent in the UNC system could be in the works at the General Assembly.

"We have heard some tentative numbers, and it's going to be about 15 percent," said David Henderson, student government bud-

get crisis coordinator. "It's a rumbling right now."

Although a written plan to increase tuition has not been proposed, informal discussions about the idea have occurred, Henderson said.

"It's in the planning stages," he said. "I don't know if it's going to come to fruition or not."

Marc Basnight, Senate Appropriations

Committee chairman, said the General Assembly would consider raising tuition for the UNC system.

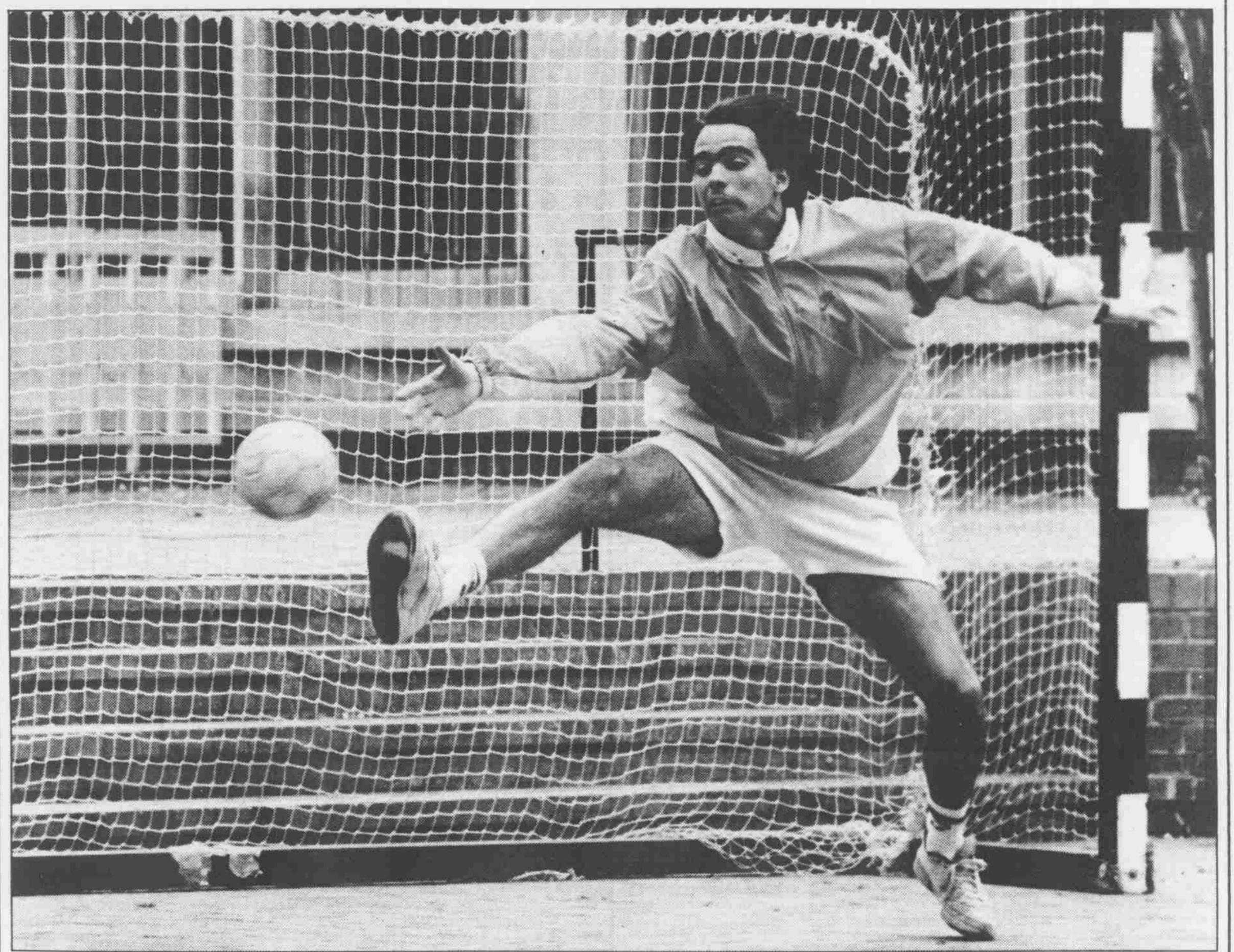
"It hasn't been discussed a great deal as of yet," he said. "It certainly will be discussed in the coming weeks."

Joe Hackney, House Finance Committee co-chairman, said he was sure members of his committee would discuss the issue of a tuition increase in the next few weeks.

"Almost everyone assumes that there will be at least a modest tuition increase," Hackney said.

Jay Robinson, UNC-system vice president for public affairs, said he had not heard of any specific tuition increase proposals, but agreed that the issue would be considered in the future.

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Hand out

Carlos Alvarez, a junior foreign exchange student from Avila, Spain, plays goalie in the Pit Monday afternoon as students try their luck at scoring goals. The activity was sponsored by members of

the UNC handball club team to raise funds for their trip to the national handball tournament in Oklahoma City, Okla.

DTH/Frances Lewis

Voters in favor of legalizing marijuana

By Shea Riggsbee
Staff Writer

Seventy percent of people who took part in a vote on the legalization of marijuana think the drug should be regulated and distributed like alcohol and tobacco.

The survey was sponsored by Students for Individual Liberties and an off-campus organization, Friends of Hemp. Results showed the majority of voters favored legalizing the drug.

More than 500 students participated in the survey held Thursday in the Pit. Some of the results were:

■ Ninety-one percent of voters said doctors should be allowed to prescribe marijuana to patients who could benefit from its use.

■ Eighty-five percent said they

thought American farmers should be allowed to grow non-smokable marijuana for industrial purposes.

■ Seventy-nine percent said adults should have the right to do whatever they want in the privacy of their own homes if others are not imposed upon.

Members of Students for Individual Liberties do not advocate marijuana use, but they believe that the government should not impose morality on people, said Chris Martin, chairman of the group. The group hopes to publicize the survey results but does not plan to present them formally to anyone.

Sean Lyles, a junior from Charlotte, disagreed. "I think it is good that government takes some interest in our health," he said.

Martin said the media, not laws, was the key to reducing marijuana abuse.

The questions were worded to indicate the variety of uses for the drug, he said. But some people complained that the questions were vague, he said.

David Crowe, a freshman from Cary, said the wording of the survey's questions hurt its validity. If the questions were more neutral, the results would have had more impact, he said.

Martin said the survey was an attempt to raise voters' level of knowledge about marijuana. The legalization of the drug would help relieve the budget crisis by reducing the number of people in prison for marijuana-related crimes, he said.

Crowe said he thought the results would have had more impact if the survey had been given at another college. "It's not going to surprise anyone," he said. "There will just be a few

more jokes about Carolina around the old senators' lunch table."

Rob Beck, a senior from Marion, said he did not think the drug would be legalized. "Politics around here is a pretty grass roots, conservative thing."

William Mau-Asam, a freshman from Curacao, Neth. Antilles, said he had visited countries where marijuana was legal, and did not agree with the drug's legalization.

A high drop-out rate in Holland's schools can be attributed to the students use of marijuana, he said. "One of the reasons I came to the U.S. was that the percentage of people who make it in schools there is really low."

Dawn Strider, a sophomore from Advance, said, "What stops people from doing it are their own morals, not the legal aspect."

Committee approves proposal eliminating 180 teaching posts

By Bonnie Rochman
Staff Writer

The N.C. House Appropriations Committee voted Thursday to accept a proposal calling for the elimination of about 180 teaching positions in the UNC system.

The Democrat-sponsored bill, if passed by the full House, will decrease the number of administrative positions that had been proposed to be cut.

Jay Robinson, UNC vice president for public affairs, said the final compromise consisted of a 2.11 percent cut in teaching positions and a 5 percent reduction in non-teaching Exempt-from Personnel Acts positions such as deans, administrators, financial aid officers and vice chancellors.

"The teaching positions possibly fared better than anyone," Robinson said. "It's impossible to not cut any teaching positions without devastating other parts of the budget by not having the support personnel necessary to help teachers do their job."

The committee rejected a proposal by Rep. J. Arthur Pope, R-Raleigh, that would have preserved teaching jobs by cutting more administrative positions. The plan would have cut 10 percent of the administrative positions in the UNC system and one percent of the teaching jobs.

House Minority Leader Johnathan Rhyne Jr. said he thought the Democratic proposal was an outrage. "We think it's a very bad deal for the students," he said. "We're not out to save the bureaucracy but to save class

availabilities." The difference between the two plans was that the Republican proposal would have saved 110 faculty members, but the Democratic plan will save 86 administrators, he said.

See CUTS, page 6

Massachusetts higher education suffering from cuts

Editor's note: This is the second segment of a five-part series examining the effects of state budget cuts on higher education across the United States.

By Wendy Bounds
State and National Editor

When Massachusetts students and faculty marched to their legislative building last week in protest of state education budget cuts, they didn't just bring picket signs and complaints.... They brought cake.

A large cake, in fact. One the size of an average student. And the protesters shared their art department's creation with the legislators in a ceremony appropriately dubbed, "The Devouring of the Student Body."

The symbolic gesture was part of a two-day faculty strike at two of the University of Massachusetts' campuses,



Education

Amherst and Boston. After suffering cuts of over \$170 million for public higher education during the past three years, students and professors fear they are witnessing the destruction of educational opportunities for the middle and working classes of their state.

"Massachusetts is a basket case," said Allan Ostar, president of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. "Their governor is taking desperation measures, and they're in real

trouble."

Real trouble indeed. Many teachers are working days without pay. Under the new governor's state-wide furlough program, any state employee with a salary over \$20,000 must work between two to 15 days without pay during the year, depending on the level of their salary.

The furlough affects Republican Governor William Weld himself, who will withstand a 15-day pay cut in his annual \$75,000 salary.

Weld is taking a lot of heat from state education organizations for the state's education woes. Different sources say the governor will seek anywhere from \$92 to \$115 million more in cuts during the upcoming fiscal year. Weld's officials say the figure is closer to \$79 million. Regardless, Weld has refused to raise taxes to help soften the blow.

"This is the worst I've ever seen it," said Edward Marshall, executive director for the Mass. branch of the American Association of University Professors. "Until citizens and politicians are ready to bite the bullet and raise taxes, things won't get any better."

Whether the Mass. legislature understands the school's plight is questionable, according to David Gagne, student body president at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst (UMASS). He said the rally last Wednesday and Thursday solicited sympathy from some and demonstrated the naivete of others.

"It was funny because some legislators were saying that Amherst has fat that needs to be cut," Gagne said.

"They didn't have a grasp, and they didn't want to 'rock the boat.'"

Gagne pointed to fast rising tuition

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People who are sensible about love are incapable of it. — Douglas Yates