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Tuition increase of \$360 approved by the board

SARAH BRODERS

NEWS EDITOR

Over 250 students from the 16 UNC universities met at the General Administration Building in Chapel Hill March 19 to protest proposed tuition increases.

The students spoke at a press conference, then to local media and then to the Board of Governors in hopes of persuading them to change their minds about the proposed tuition hikes across the UNC system.

The students were not the only ones standing up against the tuition proposals.

"Gov. Easley has stood in support of the students of the university system and in opposition to

the board of governors by promising to make every effort for [his] 2004-2005 budget to include full funding for enrollment increases, support for financial aid, and pay increases for state employees, including university faculty and staff," Ouellette said.

The students protested two tuition increases: a campus-initiated increase of \$360 plus fees recommended by Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo, as well as an additional 2 percent increase system-wide recommended by the Board of Governors.

The Board of Governors approved the campus-initiated tuition raises, but voted against the additional system-wide 2 per-

cent increase.

"The tuition increases passed by the Board of Governors ranged from 9-19 percent for resident students. This means tuition has doubled since 1999-2000," said Evan Ouellette, vice president for state and national affairs for SGA.

According to a *News and Observer* article, "Increases for North Carolina students in 2004-2005 will range from 7 percent at N.C. State University to 17 percent at the N.C. School of the Arts. Out-of-state tuition and fees will rise from 2 percent at NCSU to a high of 10 percent at UNC-Chapel Hill."

This will bring a tuition

increase of \$250 for in-state students attending UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University. Most other in-state students at the other UNC system schools will have an approximately \$225 increase. UNCW in-state students will see an increase of \$360 plus additional fees, which were also raised.

The board said that these increases were necessary because

of state budget reductions, which were hindering the systems' class sizes and other academic offerings.

UNCW will also see raises in other services such as meal plans and on-campus housing next year.

The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board ranks North Carolina as No. 1 in the nation for tuition increases.

"Tuition has doubled since 1999-2000."

-Evan Ouellette,

SGA vice president for state and national affairs

Construction of sports medicine building to begin

MARIE MITCHELL

STAFF WRITER

The new sports medicine building is still in the planning process but will soon be ready to begin being built. The anticipated date of construction is March 2004, the completion date is late December 2004.

"This is an exciting building- it will be in the same neogeorgian architecture as the rest of campus," said Steven J. Weitnauer, P.E. director of Facilities, Planning and Design. "Hale Building Company from Wilmington is the low bidder in process and they are going through the award process now."

"This building will provide classroom space and therapy facilities to support the Health & Applied Human Sciences program. Additionally, the building will include offices for various coaches and locker room facilities for various team sports," Weitnauer said.

The total project budget for this project is \$2,221,464.

The Office of Facilities is in charge of the project - specifically, the Facilities, Planning and Design department. The project will shift to the control of Construction Services once the

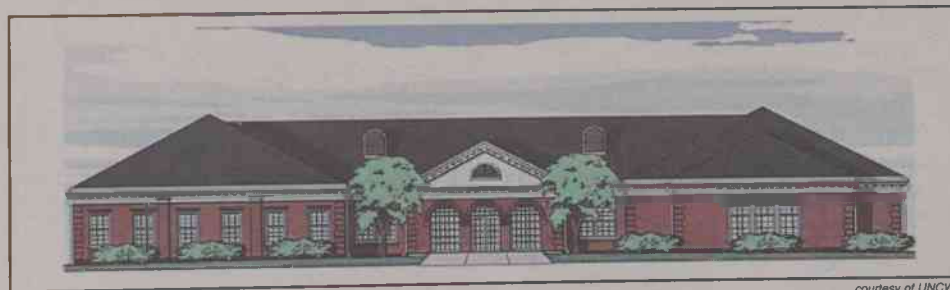
construction contract is fully executed.

With another building on campus, the question of parking arose among many students' minds. "The funding for this building does not allow for construction of additional parking for this facility," said George Goudarzi, proj-

ect manager assigned to the project and project manager in the Facilities Planning and Design department.

"The sports medicine facility is a single story building, comprising 9,600 gross square feet, and will be constructed consistent with UNCW's modified Georgian architectural style," Weitnauer said. "The building includes office for coaches, locker rooms and showers for various team sports, a classroom, and a sports medicine room including a hydrotherapy room. The hydrotherapy room will house hot

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courtesy of UNCW

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