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Students to speak up in Raleigh

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On Wednesday, Feb. 2, students from all 16 University of North Carolina schools will get a chance to voice their concerns and questions regarding university policies – in particular, the recent proposed tuition increase – with the people directly responsible for its final decision.

Members of the UNCW student body are being asked to join in the effort to represent their campus for the event. Students' Day – as it is being called – is open to all students regardless of their class and will be held in the courtyard of the state's legislative building in Raleigh.

"It's always gone well," said SGA President Zach Wynne. "They want to hear from us and it always helps to have more people there. It sends the message we are paying attention and know what's going on."



Zach Wynne

Students' Day's top issue is expected to be the striking tuition increase requested by the UNCW Board of Trustees. It features an 11.7% hike in price for students from North Carolina – an additional \$225 per year. If the Board of Governors, which is directly affiliated with legislators likely to be present, were to accept the proposal, in-state fees would be up 63% from five years ago.

Attending students are not limited – see STUDENTS page 2



Kate Kaizer | THE SEAHAWK

Senior Kristen Hicks leaves her on-campus apartment headed on her way to class. She is one of the last classes of undergraduates with the opportunity to live on campus after freshman year. The university has decided to remove upperclassmen housing to allow for the overwhelming number of incoming freshmen, until such a time as more residences can be built.

ASHLEY MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

Rising upperclassmen had better start looking for a place to stay: A new housing policy for the 2005-2006 school year leaves no room for juniors and seniors.

The new plan allocates all on-campus housing to incoming freshmen and rising sophomores, with no housing reserved for juniors and seniors. In addition, transfer students will not be allowed to live on campus with the new housing plan.

For the past five years, any returning student was permitted to live on campus. Due to a high number of incoming freshmen, a new policy had

to be implemented for the 2005-2006 school year in order to

"The younger the student, the higher the need to live on campus. A student coming straight from high school to the university needs the experience more."

-Brad Reid, Director of Housing and Residence Life

accommodate the majority of the

freshmen.

This school year, roughly 300 freshmen were denied on-campus housing due to limited space. The Office of Housing and Residence Life wants to avoid turning away such a large number of freshmen in the 2005-2006 school year.

Out of 2,430 living spaces on campus, 82%, or approximately 1,600 spaces are being reserved for the incoming freshman class. All other spaces on campus are being used to house sophomores along with resident assistants, Residence Hall Association members and hall government members.

see HOUSING page 2

Media bias debate hits Kenan Auditorium

HOLLAN PETERSON
STAFF WRITER

The issue of bias in the media has become extremely controversial in recent years. People depend on the media not only to stay informed of current events, but to form their beliefs and perceptions about politics as well. Media bias goes far beyond journalists expressing their political views and results in the overemphasis of some stories while ignoring others altogether. Therefore, media bias is not an issue that affects only politicians and political activists but everyone who watches, listens to, or reads the news at some point in their day.

On Monday night Kenan Auditorium was packed as UNCW Presents Leadership Lecture Series sponsored "A Look from the Left and the Right", a debate on media bias. Jonah Goldberg, who has been referred to as the P.J. O'Rourke of Generation X, and is currently a columnist and editor for National Review Online, presented the argument for the "right." Peter Beinart, a Yale alumnus, a Rhodes Scholar and current editor of The New Republic argued for the ideological "left."

Moderator Dr. David Weber of Communications Studies opened the discussion posing the question "What if everything you know is wrong?" Since people acquire most of their ideas and perceptions about politics and morality from the media, what could be the possible ramifications of a biased press?

It is impossible to control the media from injecting bias into its

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Contestants line up for another season of humiliation on American Idol. Page 5

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