

# The Daily Tar Heel

**INSIDE**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
OCTOBER 16, 1996



## Election education

In preparation for Election Day, area groups are working to educate voters about the issues. *Page 2*



## A rush deferred?

Deferred rush could be problematic, say Greek Affairs committee task force members. *Page 5*



## Common threads

The nation's capital played host last weekend to a display of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt. *Page 6*

## Today's Weather

Mostly sunny; high 70s.  
Thursday: Cloudy; mid-70s.

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## Daly challenges town's domestic partner law

BY ERICA BESHEARS  
STAFF WRITER

Jack Daly, Republican candidate for state auditor and executive director of the N.C. Fund for Individual Rights, plans to file a lawsuit against the town of Chapel Hill today.

Daly, a UNC law student, is contesting the portion of Chapel Hill's domestic partners ordinance that extends health insurance benefits to partners of town employees on behalf of an anonymous NCFIR client. Daly's lawsuit will claim that a municipality does not have authority to define a "dependent." Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos said state law had never been tested in court.

State statute defines a "dependent" as

a spouse, child or a person for whom one provides financial support. Daly said extending that definition to include domestic partners violates the statute.

"A municipality has only that authority granted to it by the General Assembly," he said. "If it is not empowered to do something and does it, then it has exceeded its authority."

After similar Georgia and Minnesota ordinances were struck down for that



Republican candidate for state auditor JACK DALY plans to file the lawsuit today.

reason, Daly and his client decided to challenge the Chapel Hill ordinance. "The state Supreme Court rulings are not binding, but they are still persuasive," Daly said. "We will point to these cases."

Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos said the rulings will have little to do with the suit because the law in North Carolina was different from those in other states. "Our laws are interpreted by our court."

Karpinos, who advised the Chapel Hill Town Council about the ordinance, said, "Paying for health insurance benefits was an issue about which we had some concern." No N.C. law states whether extending benefits was allowed.

Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf didn't want to comment on the suit. She said the council voted for the ordinance

with knowledge of its legal ramifications. "We made a choice," she said.

Although all five employees who receive health benefits for domestic partners are involved in heterosexual relationships, Daly raised the issue of this summer's state legislation banning same-sex marriages.

"The question is whether a homosexual lover is a dependent," he said. "I don't think anyone would argue that was the intent of the General Assembly."

A press release stated that Daly's client was a Chapel Hill resident who wanted to remain anonymous to avoid "reprisals at the hands of the militant homosexual movement."

Karpinos questioned why Daly was filing the suit less than a month before the

election. Daly said the suit was not related to his bid for state auditor.

He has filed several lawsuits over the course of his campaign, including one contesting UNC-system minority presence grants and one alleging racial gerrymandering of General Assembly districts. Last week NCFIR took on the case of 6-year-old Johnathan Prevette of Lexington, who was punished for kissing a classmate. Daly said his cases addressed issues of national importance. "If someone were to say those suits are frivolous, they are speaking out of ignorance."

Council member Mark Chilton said he did not view the suit against the town as serious. "I think these suits are usually not about law," he said. "They're more about publicity."

## Low minority presence felt in congress

Members say they want to increase minority and female representation.

BY EVAN MARKFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

Because of the relatively low numbers of females and minorities involved with the 78th Student Congress, representatives say they hope to increase the involvement of these groups.

Speaker of Student Congress James Kilbourne said seven females, two blacks and two Asian-Americans currently were numbered among the 33 members of Student Congress, but he added that he hoped to increase female and minority involvement.

"We try to get the entire campus involved with what we're doing," he said. But some Student Congress members are concerned about the lack of diversity.

"I think that you don't have too much variety (in Student Congress)," said Vince Rozier, speaker pro tempore of Student Congress.

However, Kilbourne said the reason for the lack of diversity might have a lot to do with a partial lack of interest on the part of women and minorities.

"The problem is not that there is prejudice, but that individuals do not compete and try to win elections," he said.

Former Student Congress member and current Student Body Treasurer Julie Gasperini agreed with Kilbourne's statement and said education of students was necessary to increase involvement.

"The only thing we have a responsibility to do is to educate the whole student body as to their opportunity to become involved in student government," she said.

Gasperini added that the aim of such education should not only be minorities and females, but all students who may want to get involved. "I don't think it's necessary to give emphasis to any particular group," she said.

Kilbourne echoed this idea of education for the campus, and said Student Congress is working on a web page so students can get information on Student Congress' activities.

He added that his main goal was to "increase interest" and to "have more people involved."

## Spirit of march moves in attendees after year

BY CRISTINA SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

The mall in Washington, D.C., will look today as it always does — the glimmering mirrors of water surrounded by poignant reminders of our nation's vibrant history.

But last year on this day, the pools reflected much more than stone monuments to the past; they reflected the faces of a million men making a statement while they made history.

On the one-year anniversary of the Million Man March, an event for black males organized by the National African-American Leadership Summit, keynote speaker Louis Farrakhan will address an estimated crowd of up to 50,000 outside the United Nations building in New York.

The New York event, inaugurating the World Day of Atonement, is not intended to replicate the Million Man March. The day calls for an end to injustice, exploitation, violence and war worldwide.

"It's a low-key rally," said Tyson King-Meadows, a graduate student instructor in political science at UNC who teaches a class on black politics in America.

The Hartford Board of Education has recognized the day by cancelling classes after hundreds of teachers and employ-

ees requested the day off. In addition to Farrakhan, Winnie Mandela and civil rights activist Dick Gregory are scheduled to speak.

The World Day of Atonement marks the third phase in a plan to awaken consciousness to the issues facing blacks, King-Meadows said.

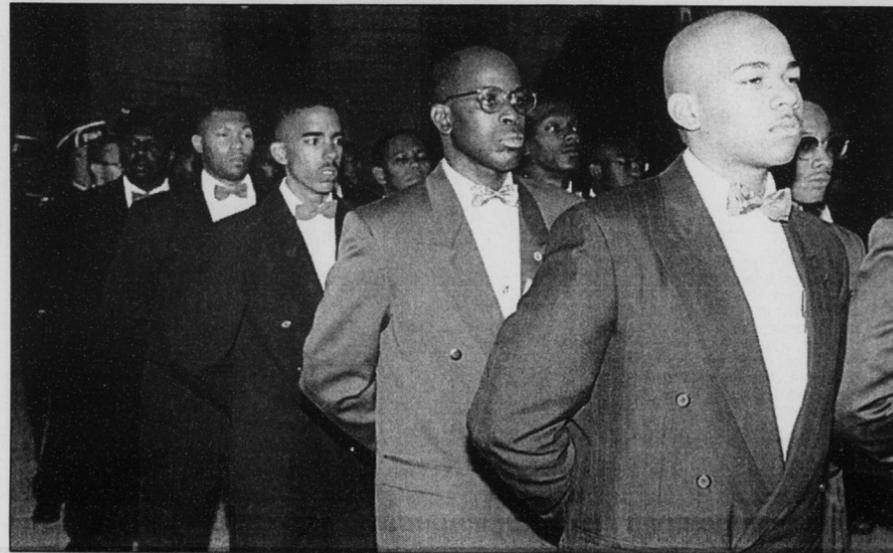
Months after the Million Man March, the second phase was executed through the National Political Convention of the Oppressed, held in St. Louis last month.

"The purpose (of the convention) was to develop a strategy for educating voters and mobilizing around a national agenda for African-Americans and other oppressed people," King-Meadows said. By putting forth a national agenda of issues, convention participants and organizers strove to prevent political parties from ignoring or exploiting minorities and their concerns, he said.

Although the controversial Nation of Islam leader launches today's rally, King-Meadows said it was important to note that the march and convention, as well as the rally, were the result of the coming together of many black groups — not just the Nation of Islam.

Many of the march participants were not members of the Nation of Islam, he said, but support its organizational and political efforts.

"The Nation of Islam is significant



One year ago today, Nation of Islam members lined up to begin the Million Man March in Washington, D.C. Today, the World Day of Atonement will be marked in a slightly quieter fashion in New York City.

because it provides political might and a social force," said Malcolm Logan, a senior at UNC who marched in Washington. Logan added that all blacks were encouraged to voice their own opinions. "The goal ultimately is to uplift everyone," he said.

More important than raising awareness, the march created bonds among people, Logan said. "The Million Man March heightened a sense of brotherhood in the black community. To me,

that is the most important effect it had."

King-Meadows agreed that the march strengthened cohesion among blacks. "There is a greater sense of political and economic efficacy," he said, explaining that blacks are learning that they can transform their communities without government intervention.

"It's more than just buying black," he said. "It's buying black and investing black."

King-Meadows said another difference

a year had made was the encouragement of community involvement in small groups working to support the goals of national organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"Organization translates into influence," he said.

Another influence the march had on the community at large was to break the

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## ATN to pull plug on old e-mail system Thursday

Students who do not switch to the new Isis will not be able to use e-mail.

BY KERRY OSSI  
STAFF WRITER

The combination of last week's e-mail crash and today's deadline for switching accounts to the new Isis system has many students frustrated with the University's e-mail services.

Jeanne Smythe, director of academic applications and systems at Academic Technologies and Networks, said Tuesday that though today was the deadline to change to the new Isis, ATN would not turn off the old machine until 8 a.m. Thursday.

"We want to make sure we have plenty of staff available to answer people's questions when they realize they can't log on," she said. "So we're going to wait until the next morning instead of turning it off at midnight on Wednesday."

Smythe said ATN would not throw away anyone's mail if they had not changed from the old system by the deadline, but students would be unable to log on to their accounts until they switched systems.

Smythe also said e-mail addresses would not change under the new system and students could still receive mail at the old address, email.unc.edu.

The new Isis system performs better and faster than the old one, Smythe said.

It handles more mail, allows more people to use it at one time and has more disk space and better security.

"We recognize that it's a critical function for the University, and we're willing to commit the resources to do a good job," she said.

Last Wednesday's e-mail crash left some students questioning this job.

The system went down at 7:15 p.m. and was back up by noon on Thursday. ATN restored the system using the backup saved from Tuesday night, Smythe said.

"We tried several tactics throughout the night to get it back up quickly," Smythe said. "But at 5 a.m. we finally decided we had to go to the backup from Tuesday, which caused some mail to be lost."

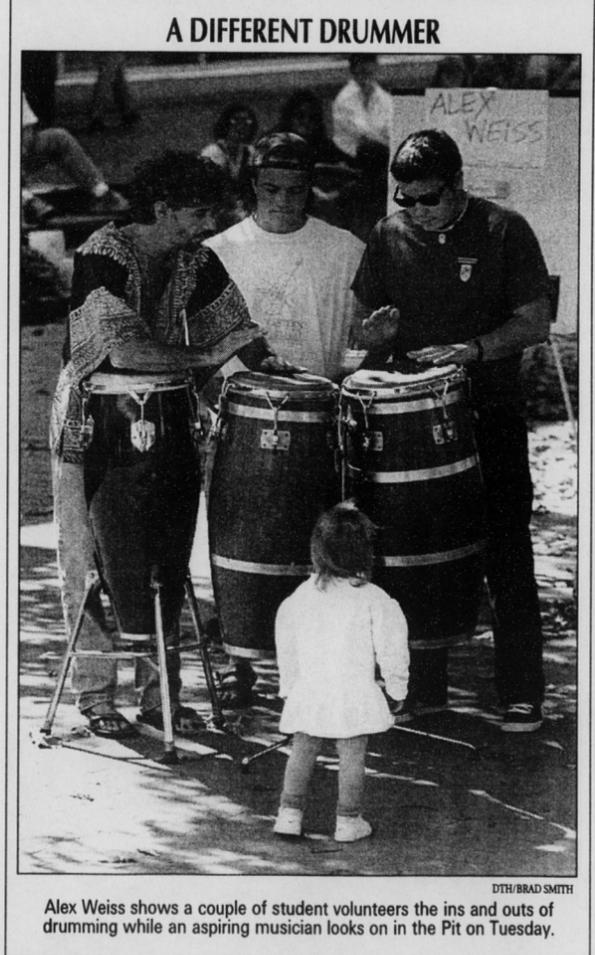
Director of Client Services Linwood Futrelle said the backup restoration meant students lost any mail received between midnight Tuesday and 6 p.m. Wednesday that they had not saved in a folder.

Futrelle said a student employee, who he did not want to identify, caused the crash.

"He unplugged a cable from a string of disk drives he thought was inactive," Futrelle said. "It was an honest mistake."

Because human error caused the crash, Smythe said this particular problem would not happen again.

"I was really frustrated by the crash," said Kristen Cuffee, a senior from Carboro. "If you're relying on e-mail for a class, then it's a huge problem when something like this happens, especially if it's for a grade."



A DIFFERENT DRUMMER

Alex Weiss shows a couple of student volunteers the ins and outs of drumming while an aspiring musician looks on in the Pit on Tuesday.

## Report details highs, lows of SBP's first 6 months in office

BY JOHN SWEENEY  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Stressing the importance of accountability in his administration, Student Body President Aaron Nelson released the "October Report" detailing the ups and downs of his first six months in office.

"We do not seek recognition for our work but instead accountability for our promises," Nelson stated in the opening to the report, which was unveiled at the Oct. 9 meeting of Student Congress.

The report addresses issues raised in Nelson's campaign platform, goals of the administration that have been formulated since Nelson's inauguration and issues that have come up unpredictably. While the administration fulfilled only 15 of the 34 promises set forth in the original platform, most of the 14 issues that have come up since Nelson's inauguration have been dealt with successfully.

Nelson could not be reached for comment Tuesday, but members of his cabinet said they were pleased with the work that was included in the report.

Graduate and Professional Student Federation President Katherine Kraft, a member of Nelson's cabinet, came into office when he did and has worked with him on many issues. Kraft said she was sometimes overwhelmed at the amount of work that had been completed and the number of goals that had been achieved by the executive branch.

"It truly is amazing how much our administrations have done," she said. "It

seems like we've been in office two years instead of six months."

Student Body Vice President Lindsay-Rae McIntyre said she felt the administration's biggest success was dealing with Hurricane Fran, which left the campus covered with debris. Student government helped organize several cleanup projects, the largest of which included more than 3,000 students.

"It required us to come together as a team in a hurry and to motivate and mobilize the student body," she said.

The report cites the "spirit of community and accomplishment" fostered by the cleanup effort as the most important achievement.

Kraft said that particular achievement gave her a great sense of satisfaction.

"I have to agree with Aaron when he says we have done a lot to develop a sense of community," she said. McIntyre cited the lack of "hands-on outreach" to students to understand their concerns as among the areas where the administration had not been as successful as hoped.

"We can have student body meetings and we can do surveys, but my primary frustration is getting the concerns of students into our hands, so we can work with them to find solutions to those concerns," she said.

McIntyre said she hoped to use the next six months to develop better communication with students.

Another big issue discussed in the report is funding from the state legislature.

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*I would never die for my beliefs because I might be wrong.*

Bertrand Russell