

The Daily Tar Heel

INSIDE THURSDAY
JANUARY 23, 1997

Embezzlement escapade
An embezzler avoided relinquishing property to authorities. Page 2

Behind the scenes
Diversion looks at what it means to be a choreographer. Page 5

Seminole sink men's basketball
FSU beat UNC 84-71, leaving the Tar Heels 2-4 in the ACC. Page 9

Today's Weather
Partly sunny; low 60s.
Friday: Cloudy; low 50s.

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Graduate funds issue resurfaces during meeting

Student Congress debated for almost 30 minutes before funding Town and Gown, which was previously denied student fees.

BY JOHN SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

Student Congress representatives again faced off about the proposed funding of a publication that prints the literary works of some of society's fringe groups on Wednesday night.

At issue was whether Student Congress should have allocated \$2,200 in student fee money to Town and Gown, the student organization that planned to publish the magazine, which would include poems and stories from groups like prison inmates, homeless people and mental patients.

"We want to provide a forum for people who go through these things," said Patrick Liedtka, a representative of Town and Gown. "We think they have eloquent things to say, and we can learn from them."

Student Congress approved the bill, but only after almost half an hour of debate. Later, though, the body approved a \$3,991.96 allocation for the Cellar Door, another literary magazine, almost without debate.

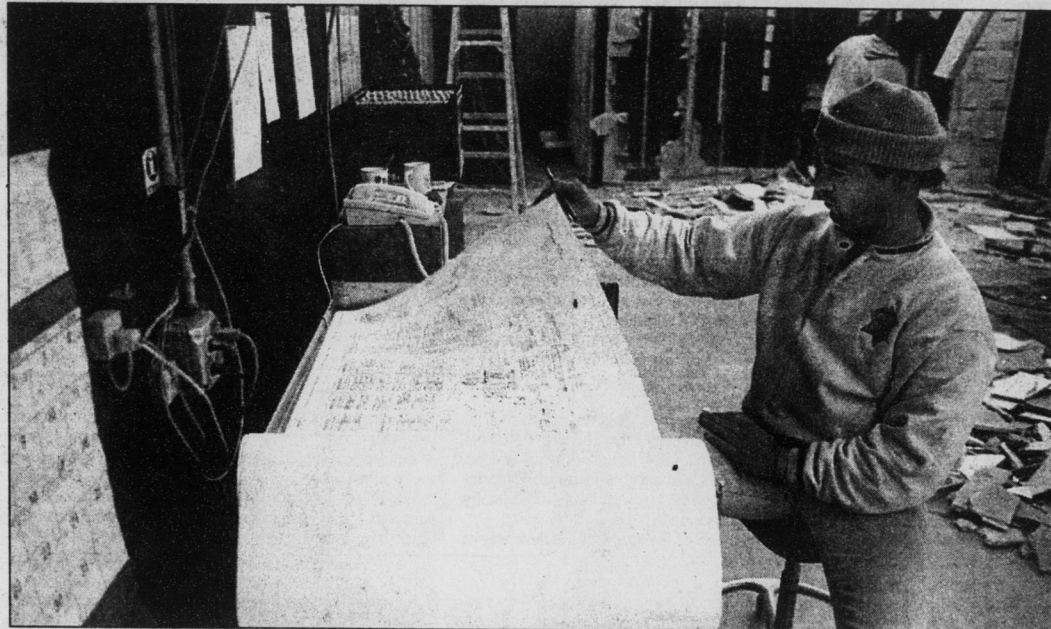
Rep. Dara Whalen, Dist. 8, suggested the speedy resolution of the Cellar Door bill was due to the fact that that publication was geared toward undergraduates, while mostly graduate students comprise Town and Gown. "My problem is the very obvious disparity in how they're considered, and it's very hard to believe it's not a graduate-undergraduate thing," she said.

Undergraduate Rep. James Hoffman, Dist. 15, admitted that Town and Gown had been treated differently.

"Why Town and Gown got so much grief I don't know," he said. "It was obvious that they were under far more scrutiny."

It was not the first time the group went before Student Congress requesting funding. In October, the group's request for funding was denied. Graduate student members of Student Congress said it showed the reluctance of undergraduate representatives to fund groups that did not specifically support undergraduates.

At the time, graduate representatives suggested allocating graduate student fees separately. Currently, 75 percent of graduate student fees are combined with undergraduate fees in a single fund. The other 25 percent goes to the Graduate and Professional Student Federation Senate for allocation.



Dan Smith of Winston-Salem looks over the plans for a new Starbucks Coffee. The coffee shop will be located at 103 E. Franklin St., the old location of The Hub, which has moved to Northgate Mall in Durham.

Coffee drinkers will soon be seeing stars

BY MARY-KATHRYN CRAFT
CITY EDITOR

Caffeine junkies and coffee addicts will have yet another place to get their fix on Franklin Street.

Starbucks Coffee, a Seattle-based coffee-shop franchise, will open its doors this spring at The Hub Ltd.'s former location at 103 E. Franklin St.

Dan Smith, the construction project supervisor, said construction was starting this week and should be completed in time for an early April grand opening.

"(Starbucks Coffee) is real similar to Caribou Coffee," he said. "It's an upscale coffee shop."

Starbucks Coffee offered a unique taste, he said. "Their coffee is an acquired taste," Smith said. "I worked with them for five or six years before I ever drank their coffee. It's very rich."

Franklin Street is home to four other coffee

shops, and the addition of a fifth business has some local managers worried.

Kim Roberts, store manager at Caribou Coffee, said Starbucks targets her franchise as top competition. "Wherever we go, they go," she said. "In Raleigh, a Caribou Coffee opened on Hillsborough Street and then (Starbucks Coffee) opened."

Roberts said she thought Chapel Hill customers would try Starbucks Coffee initially, but would eventually return to where they felt most comfortable.

"What the trend has been is that business will drop off a little," she said. "Starbucks is a big name. People will be curious and try it, but will find their niche."

Customers will come back to Caribou Coffee because it provides a welcoming atmosphere, Roberts said.

"All (Starbucks Coffee's) other stores aren't

comfortable and cozy," she said. "They have a more to-go atmosphere. It doesn't foster a hang-out atmosphere like Caribou Coffee."

Tonja Tolliver, manager at Caffetrio, said she was surprised Starbucks Coffee was coming to Franklin Street. "I don't have a good feeling about it," she said. "(The other coffee shops on Franklin Street) are so much smaller, and it could put everyone out of business."

Local commerce officials said they welcomed a new national franchise to the downtown area.

Joel Harper, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce president, said the new Starbucks Coffee would contribute to the downtown atmosphere. "There are a lot of coffee places on Franklin Street, so it fits in with the trend," he said. "It's always a compliment when a big national chain like that moves in. It shows that the community is vibrant."

N.C. touts graduated licensing

The plan would place restrictions on teen drivers for 18 months.

BY MONIKA RUEF
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — State highway officials said Wednesday that plans to delay young people from getting behind the wheel would help decrease deaths and injuries among this age group.

The Governor's Highway Safety Commission held a community forum Wednesday to discuss a proposal that would require 16-year olds to fulfill certain conditions before receiving full driving privileges.

Rob Foss, a member of the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center, said 40 percent of all deaths in 1993 were motor vehicle injuries.

According to the highway safety commission, 43 percent of licensed N.C. drivers who are involved in car accidents are 16 or 17.

Foss said inexperience contributed to this high rate. To avoid these problems, the state can either implement graduated driver licensing or require new drivers to be 18-years old, he said.

The first step in graduated licensing is the limited learner's permit, which a 15-year old can get after completing a driver's education class. For 12 months after that, the driver must have a licensed driver's supervision and is not allowed to get a traffic violation.

At the second level, the driver obtains a limited provisional license that allows unsupervised driving between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. The driver must not get any violations for six months in order to obtain a full provisional license.

"We need to give these young people practice in a safe setting," Foss said.

He said 74 percent of N.C. residents — 68 percent of whom are between 16 and 20 — think the state should implement graduated licensing.

"Graduated driver licensing is the best thing we have going as far as resolving teenage crashes," Foss said.

Two states that have recently started the program, Florida and Michigan, have not shown much improvement because the programs are too young to see major changes, Foss said.

However, New Zealand, which has had the program for nine years, has reduced fatalities and injuries, Foss said.

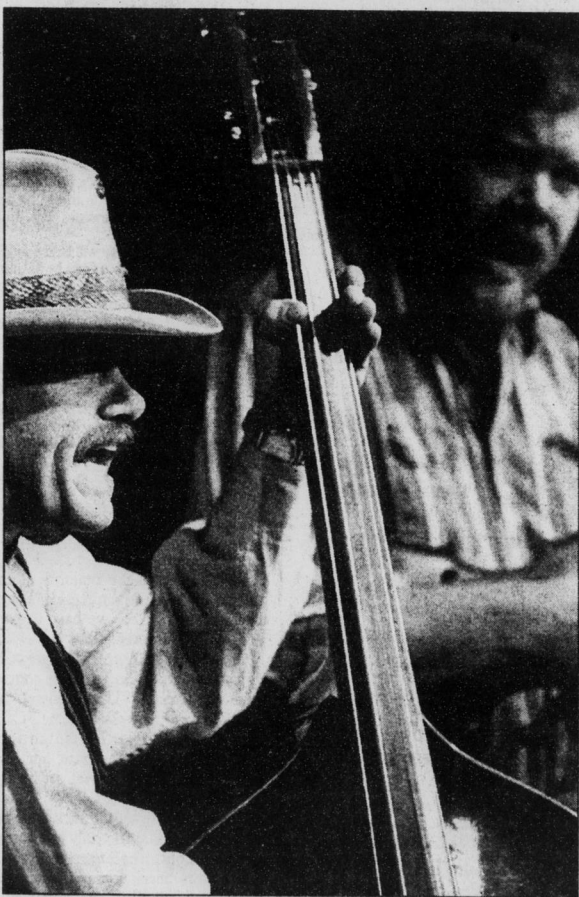
Officials also discussed new laws that would mandate seat belt use, require restraints for children and restrict passengers in the back of trucks.

Joe Parker, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program, said, "What we have proposed has worked in other jurisdictions."

Most people spoke in favor of the new restrictions because of the possibility of avoiding senseless accidents.

A Winston-Salem mother who spoke at the forum said, "An inexperienced 16-year old killed my son, who would have been 5-years old today." When the driver forgot to put the car in gear, the car rolled onto the woman's porch where her son was playing. Had the 16-year old been supervised, this would not have happened, she said.

PREACHIN' THE COTTON PATCH GOSPEL



Pete Corum (left) and Johnny Ridge belt out a number from Harry Chapin's "Cotton Patch Gospel," playing at Swain Hall. See story, page 2.

Check it out tomorrow

Due to deadline restraints, we were unable to cover the controversial Student Congress decision on whether to let students vote on a

25-cent fee increase to fund the United States Student Association. Full coverage will be in tomorrow's paper, so pick up a copy.

Carrboro cable offers more channels

BY JULIA WOOD
STAFF WRITER

Although Carrboro residents have access to nine extra channels with their cable service, they only pay about \$4 more per month than Chapel Hill subscribers.

Willis Smith, area manager for Time Warner Cable, said that although Time Warner owns both Chapel Hill and Carrboro cable, the systems were autonomous and had different programs and capabilities.

Time Warner's buyout of Carrboro's former cable company about one year ago contributed to Carrboro's upgrade, Smith said.

"When companies come in and purchase other companies, equipment changes, rebuilding and upgrading have to be done," he said.

Smith said prices vary in different franchise areas because they are based on a federal formula. The formula takes into account several factors, including per capita income and the number of customers in the area.

Dion Pearson, office manager of cus-

Chapel Hill and Carrboro cable rates differ

Although Chapel Hill and Carrboro are located side by side, Time Warner Cable provides different cable services. Chapel Hill offers channels in a separate tier service while Carrboro includes these channels in its standard service.

	Chapel Hill	Carrboro
Standard service	\$9.15	\$18.95
Basic service	\$7.35	\$8.65
Tier service	\$7.95	—
A la carte package	\$3	\$3.75
Total	\$27.45	\$31.35
Chapel Hill a la carte package includes: TBS, Discovery Channel, American Movie Classics		Carrboro a la carte package includes: TBS, CNN, Discovery Channel, Cartoon Network

SOURCE: TIME WARNER CABLE

DITH/KELLEY SHAW

tom service for Time Warner's Chapel Hill and Carrboro offices, said Chapel Hill's system is currently at full capacity with around 40 stations, while Carrboro's much newer system has room to spare.

Time Warner currently has a franchise with Chapel Hill and is on schedule to build a new system next year that would allow for more channels, Smith said. Both towns should have identical

channel lineups by 1998.

Both Chapel Hill and Carrboro recently experienced increases in rates, which Smith attributed to inflation and external costs.

Time Warner signed a Federal Communications Commission contract agreeing to make upgrades and changes in the systems as long as they could raise

SEE CABLE, PAGE 2

Food Lion wins more than \$5.5 million in suit vs. ABC

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
GREENSBORO — A jury Wednesday ordered ABC to pay Food Lion more than \$5.5 million for sending two reporters undercover with cameras in their wigs for an exposé accusing the supermarket chain of selling spoiled meat.

While Food Lion disputed the allegations in the 1992 "PrimeTime Live" report, it was ABC's news-gathering methods that were at issue in the federal trial. The jury earlier found the network committed fraud, trespassing and breach of loyalty.

But in the closely watched case that opened a new line of legal attack against the media — and put undercover report-

ing itself on trial — Food Lion got far less than the \$52.5 million to \$1.9 billion in punitive damages it sought.

Juror Tony Kinton called the award a "slap on the wrist."

"We weren't in there trying to handcuff the media," explained Gregory Mack, foreman of the jury that deliberated the damages for six days. "We would not have gotten the story if the media had not gone in."

Bruce Sanford, a First Amendment lawyer in Washington, called the Food Lion verdict emotional, irrational and unconstitutional and said it would force journalists to think twice before doing investigative pieces.

"It's punishing the messenger, plain

and simple," Sanford said.

The jury, in the second multimillion-dollar verdict against ABC in as many months, ordered the network to pay \$5.5 million and its employees an additional \$45,750.

ABC said it will appeal. Last month, the jury gave Food Lion \$1,402 in compensatory damages to cover the paychecks issued to the undercover reporters and administrative costs.

The "PrimeTime Live" report — narrated by Diane Sawyer — accused Food Lion of selling rat-gnawed cheese, expired meat and old fish and ham that had been washed in bleach to kill its smell. Food Lion denied the allegations and said it lost more than \$1 billion in

sales and stock value because of the report, but the judge barred the supermarket chain from seeking compensatory damages for those losses.

ABC producers Lynn Dale and Susan Barnett landed jobs as food handlers at Food Lion and went to work there with tiny cameras hidden in their wigs and microphones inside their clothing. Small video decks were strapped to their bodies.

Former executive producer Richard Kaplan was ordered to pay \$35,000 in punitive damages and Ira Rosen, the head of the show's investigative unit, was told to pay \$10,750. The two used fake references and backgrounds to get jobs at Food Lion stores.

Stoop and you'll be stepped on; stand tall and you'll be shot at.

Carlos A. Urbizo