

# The Daily Tar Heel

**INSIDE  
FRIDAY**  
FEBRUARY 14, 1997



**Are you their  
type?**  
A bone marrow-typing  
drive will be held  
today. Page 2



**Together  
we save lives**  
A bill proposes new  
regulations to increase  
seat belt use. Page 6



**Streaking UNC  
to tackle Tech**  
The men's hoops team  
goes for its fifth win in  
a row Saturday. Page 7

**Today's  
Weather**  
Mixed precipitation;  
mid 40s  
Weekend: Cloudy; mid 50s.

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## Candidates ponder delays in Congress vote returns

■ The Elections Board said  
some results should be  
available today at 5 p.m.

BY KAREN JOYCE  
STAFF WRITER

Student Congress hopefuls are still waiting for election results three days after the polls closed. And candidates who face a runoff race, including two senior class teams, will face a week delay from the scheduled runoff on Tuesday. While most results were released unofficially Tuesday after hand counts of the ballots, Student Congress candidates will have to wait until 5 p.m. today for their results to be posted.

The results of the races for 23 open Student Congress districts and the vote on referendum No. 3 have been left undecided since the University's only Scantron machine broke during the counting of election returns.

Some Student Congress candidates said the Elections Board did not treat them as seriously as other candidates.

"I feel like the Student Congress race was pushed aside like it's not as important as the others," said James O'Neal,

Dist. 15 candidate. "The whole situation has been hard to deal with," said O'Neal. "It's been a long waiting period."

District 17 candidate Edward Shipley agreed that the delay was frustrating. He also said he "wished they would have done some type of unofficial count" for Student Congress as well.

"It was kind of weird that they counted student body president so quickly, and we have to wait three days," Shipley said.

Rep. Kristen Sasser, Dist. 19, said "I think it's ridiculous the way they treat (Student Congress) as compared to other offices."

Referendum No. 3, concerning the ex officio powers of the student body president and student body treasurer, is also waiting for the Elections Board's official posting of results.



Elections Board Chairwoman ANGE DICKS said results for referendum No. 3 might also be available today.

*"I feel like the Student Congress race was pushed aside like it's not as important as the others."*

JAMES O'NEAL

District 15 Student Congress candidate

Once the results are posted, Student Congress candidates who face runoffs will face further delays.

The Elections Board has postponed the runoff election until Feb. 25, rather than the scheduled Feb. 18 date. This delay is in the event that some Student Congress districts might need runoffs.

"The delay will allow both the senior class candidates and the possible (Student Congress) candidates to have time to prepare their campaigns," said Ange Dicks, Elections Board chairwoman.

Dicks refused to comment further.

"Right now I'm just putting (the Student Congress delays) out of my mind," said Ryan Schlitt, Dist. 21 candidate. "We have no control over it, but everyone is just a little frustrated."



Donetta Evans (left) and Lucy Tinnen, both first-year students at Chapel Hill High School, work on a computer-drawing project for their Foundations of Technology class.

## New high school raises concerns about racial, social inequalities

BY RACHEL SWAIN  
STAFF WRITER

Racism. Classism. Equality. Three popular topics high school students normally don't contend with on a daily basis. But when East Chapel Hill High School first opened its doors in August 1996, these hot issues entered the modern facilities alongside the students.

Today, students at both East Chapel Hill High School and Chapel Hill High School are still wondering just how the two schools compare.

"A lot of people say this school is racially imbalanced," ECHHS freshman Leslie Talbott said.

Peter Russell, a CHHS senior, agreed. "East Chapel Hill High School has a way larger majority of white students than black students," he said.

Statistics in the annual high school profiles support Talbott and Russell's claims. According to the profile, black students make up 17 percent of CHHS's student body and 12 percent of the newer school's student body.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of

Education members said they recognized the problem. "Everyone is committed to having schools racially balanced," Board member Bea Hughes-Warner said. "In order to achieve racial balance, we would have had to have done some fairly extensive busing of kids."

Hughes-Warner said that during the redistricting process the board had met with parents of the black students who would have faced the long bus rides to the new school. "None of them wanted to do the busing," she said. "We don't anticipate any bigger long-term problems after the next redistricting. The minority percentages will come closer."

The next redistricting will take place in four or five years, she said.

John Gillespie, an ECHHS English teacher who taught at CHHS last year, said he didn't think the race issue was particular to ECHHS. "Both (schools) are wrestling (the racial) issue in an active way," he said.

"Speaking with minority students, they have some issues with the school system," Gillespie said. "(Racial bal-

ance) is one of the most profound issues facing both schools."

Students at both high schools also focus on the economic makeup of their school. Hayley Hoffman, an ECHHS freshman, said some students from CHHS taunt them at sporting events about being rich.

"Everyone's calling us rich punks," she said.

Hughes-Warner said the location of the new school had a lot to do with both the racial and economic imbalances. "Ultimately, we let geography dictate a lot of the redistricting," she said.

"The geography of (ECHHS) is in a high-income area of town."

Russell said he had noticed the standards drop at CHHS since the new school opened. Most noticeably, ECHHS got more attention this year for an act of vandalism than CHHS, which faces similar problems, he said.

"Spray painting is all over CHHS and (officials) haven't said anything about that," he said.

"It's been there all year. It doesn't seem fair to me."

## Local road crews battle icy weather

STAFF REPORT

The Triangle was under a winter weather advisory last night as an icy storm blew through the state and kept local crews on all-day alert.

Ron Humble, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Raleigh, said there was the possibility of icing overnight as temperatures hovered around the freezing point.

"We're expecting less than a fourth of an inch of ice to develop, but it's still a time for caution," said Humble.

He said conditions would be progressively worse in the northern and western sections of the state.

Richard Terrell, field operations superintendent for the Chapel Hill

Public Works Department, said crews worked around the clock monitoring the weather conditions on local roads.

"We've checked streets and bridges in town to see how the situation was progressing," Terrell said.

"People traveling the roads should definitely use extra caution in the morning."

Dave Poythress, street superintendent for the Carrboro Public Works

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information**  
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Department, said difficulties due to the weather were expected to be minimal in comparison to last year's storms.

"This is not something we're taking lightly, but we don't foresee much of a problem at this point," he said.

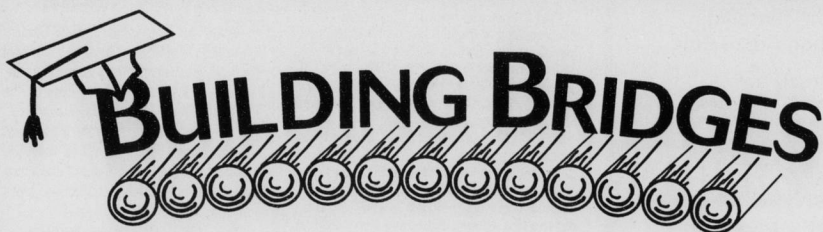
Poythress said he put 10 workers on standby last night to monitor roadway conditions and police reports.

The crews won't be relieved until morning.

Rising temperatures before daybreak could help melt any ice that formed, Humble said.

He said, "People should still be careful if they have to drive."

"Most accidents happen because of the small patches of ice you can't see."



BY ERIN GUILL  
STAFF WRITER

Many people complain that the gap between the haves and the have-nots grows wider every year.

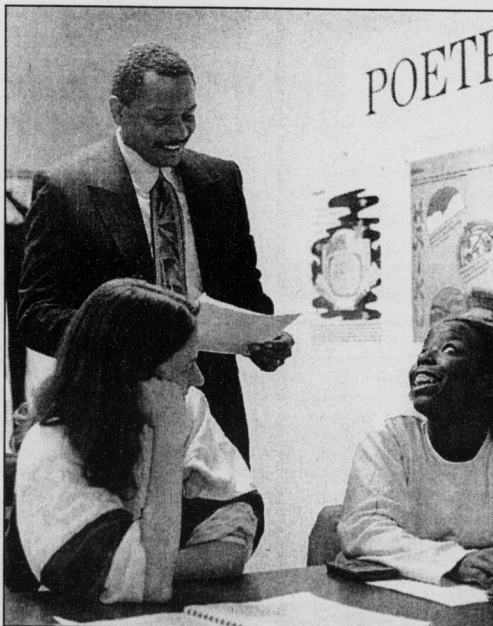
But one UNC professor is trying to build a bridge in Durham to help urban youth catch up with their peers who have had more opportunities.

Dr. James Johnson Jr., a professor of geography and business, is working to generate support for educating inner-city youth through the Durham Scholars Program and an honors seminar at the University titled, "Building Educational Bridges for Our New Urban Students."

The program, which began two years ago, targets children in grades six through 12 from Durham's six most economically distressed neighborhoods.

The goal of this after-school, weekend and summer program is to give children positive alternatives to idleness, drugs or crime along with a range of opportunities that most middle-class families take for granted, Johnson said.

Upon graduation, Durham Scholars participants receive a scholarship to continue their education at any N.C. college or technical school.



Dr. James Johnson admires the perfect score that Holton Middle School student Tequilla Barkley got on a math test.

But the program does not stop there. This spring's honors seminar, which will become a year-long program in the fall, was developed to complement the program. Each of the students is required to work with children for about 70 hours during the semester.

Since many Durham Scholars participants are used to spending less than 15 minutes on homework each day, the students work one-on-one with them to help them stay focused on their assignments.

"It closes the gap between the haves and the have-nots," Johnson said. "And the result is learning on both sides."

Monte Allen, a sixth grader who has been in the program for two years, said: "They don't just let you come in here and do your homework. If you are doing bad in something, they help you do better."

Allen is one of about 60 children who meet in Durham four days a week for academic, social and cultural enrichment.

The children benefit from the individual attention and support while University students gain a valuable look at different lifestyles, Johnson said.

Succeeding academically presents a big challenge for many of these children, but the real obstacle, according to Johnson, is social interaction.

The program tries to teach the children what Johnson calls "code switching," meaning the ability to change their behavior to fit a particular situation. What may be appropriate on the streets will not help them get a job later, he said.

"The challenges these children face are gargantuan," Johnson said. "You may have a child who is 30 years old in experience but in an 11-year-old body."

Jill Feldstein, a sophomore from York, Pa., is one of the students in Johnson's class who tutors students at Union Baptist Church. She said she enrolled in the class

SEE JOHNSON, PAGE 5

## Greek houses could get lowered sprinkler rates

BY KATE HARRISON  
STAFF WRITER

The Orange Water and Sewer Authority will consider reducing or eliminating sprinkler fees for fraternity and sorority houses as a part of its rate study program.

At an OWASA board of directors meeting Thursday, members discussed revising fire protection charges.

OWASA Executive Director Ed Kerwin said there was a general consensus that fire protection rates, including sprinkler charges for Greek houses, were too high. But the board is still looking at rates, he said.

Service fees range from \$23.60 to \$318.70 a month, depending on the connection line size.

Linda Faulkner-Vaughn, OWASA's director of customer and consumer affairs, said the typical Greek house would be low on the scale.

"(Our consultant) will evaluate a number of different alternatives from leaving it the same to having no charge," he said. "All we're committing to is having our consultant look at not changing or what impact changing would have on our customers."

OWASA attorney Robert Epting said he had no problem working with the University, but questioned UNC-system President C.D. Spangler's comments that rates were too high.

"Sometimes he goes beyond the scope he is supposed to serve," he said.

In a telephone interview Thursday afternoon, Spangler said he was concerned about safety issues considering the May 1996 Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house fire, which killed five people.

"Every roadblock put in front of dormitories, fraternities and sororities increases the chance of future tragedies like the one which happened on graduation day," he said. "We have to look at safety, not revenue."

Chapel Hill Fire Chief Dan Jones said he thought any unfair burden placed on OWASA to find a different source of revenue if it reduced the fire protection rate was outweighed by the benefits of increased fire safety.

"What's unfair is the tremendous water costs from putting out full-blown fires. It also disrupts the community and puts firefighters at risk," Jones said.

Jim Goldstein, OWASA steering committee member, said he thought rates should not be reduced. "These fees are very reasonable," he said.

Barry Jacobs, chairman of the board of directors, said OWASA would have to adjust its contract with the University before it could legally reduce the rates.

"Mr. Spangler can say it would be nice if we reduced the fees. But having a position or interest isn't the same as the University being willing to let it happen."

*I'd rather be in jail than in love again.*  
from "Hear My Song"