

The Daily Tar Heel

INSIDE WEDNESDAY
MARCH 19, 1997



Bring in spring with a splash
Two area lakes will open for the season Saturday. Page 2



Little buddy, you're the one
Youth United provides area kids with positive role models. Page 4



Believe it or not
Urban myths take on a life of their own with e-mail. Page 7

Today's Weather
Showers; upper 50s
Thursday: Showers ending; upper 50s

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N.C. House names BOG members

BY ANNE CORBETT
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — The N.C. House of Representatives appointed six new members and re-elected two old members to the Board of Governors on Tuesday.

Current BOG members expressed concern that the BOG now will have a majority of inexperienced members. Ellen Newbold, an outgoing BOG member who chose not to seek re-election, said 19 of the 32 BOG members have served two years or less.

"There's not the continuity that we used to have," she said. "Hopefully these people are fast learners."

Newbold said the BOG would under-

go a period of transition until the new members understood their duties.

"It's awfully hard to get on the board and immediately pick things up," she said. "It takes a while to figure out what you're supposed to do."

The new at-large members are Bradley Adcock, H. Frank Granger, Henry McCoy, J.



ELLEN NEWBOLD, a former Board of Governors member, said she hoped inexperience wouldn't plague the new BOG members.

Craig Souza and Robert Franklin Warwick and Timothy More.

BOG Secretary John F.A.V. Cecil and D. Wayne Peterson were reappointed.

The two re-appointed members pledged to continue improving the university system. "I don't think anyone would challenge that we are one of the finest university systems in the nation," Peterson said. "I hope the new board will make sure there is no complacency at any level."

Peterson also praised the BOG's efforts to limit the partisan influence on its decisions.

"My observation has been that once you're on the board, partisan politics are left behind," he said. "We start looking at the needs of the university (system)

and any partisanship disappears."

Peterson said he also wanted to expand the positive relationship the BOG has with the N.C. General Assembly. "We've invited General Assembly members to visit meetings," he said. "We want them to spend time at meetings to get a better understanding of what we do."

BOG members are appointed to four-year terms by the General Assembly. Each house selects eight members every four years.

Rep. Lyons Gray, chairman of the House Committee on University Board of Governors, said prospective BOG members must be nominated by a sitting member of either house and submit a profile for consideration.

Out with the old, in with the new ...

The N.C. House of Representatives filled eight positions for the Board of Governors with six new members and two reappointed members.

Old members

Mark L. Bibbs
John F.A.V. Cecil*
Derick S. Close
D. Samuel Neill
Ellen S. Newbold
D. Wayne Peterson*
H.D. Reeves Jr.
Harold H. Webb

*reappointed

New members

Bradley Adcock
John F.A.V. Cecil*
H. Frank Granger
Henry McCoy
Timothy More
D. Wayne Peterson*
J. Craig Souza
Robert Warwick

DTH/JESSICA GODWIN

Anyone can seek appointment to the at-large seats. Two seats are reserved for appointees from the minority political party. Other seats are reserved to maintain racial and gender diversity.

Outgoing BOG member D.H. Reeves expressed regret at his loss, but said he

hoped the board continued to do good work for the UNC system. "I'm disappointed, but I've thoroughly enjoyed myself," he said. "I'm proud to have been associated with them for the past four years and I wish them the very best."

Legislators say tax on occupancy likely

State legislators might have to settle a conflict for the University and town.

BY JONATHAN SESSLER
STAFF WRITER

The fate of a Chapel Hill Town Council resolution asking the state to impose an occupancy tax on the Carolina Inn lies in the hands of local representatives.

Currently, the university-owned hotel shuttles none of its revenue back into the town. Former Carrboro mayor, N.C. Sen. Eleanor Kinnaird, D-Orange, said the town had a good case for expecting some type of payment.

"The Carolina Inn has served the general public as much as educational services," Kinnaird said. "The town has a very strong position."

Kinnaird said the Legislature followed the recommendations of the parties directly involved.

"Local bills are usually passed without question," she said. "It largely depends on how much support is received from local representatives."

Julia White, director of N.C. Senate communications, said the level of local controversy determined the Legislature's support.

"If there is local disagreement the Legislature is reluctant to step in," White said. "We would want a unified recommendation before taking action."

"The Carolina Inn has served the general public as much as educational services. The town has a very strong position."

ELEANOR KINNAIRD
N.C. Senator

Professor of political science Thad Beyle said the job of passing the tax belonged to the local delegation.

"The tax must be presented as a local bill," Beyle said. "The Legislature will pass it if the whole delegation agrees and presents the bill together."

Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange, also said local support was important but did not believe the Legislature's reaction could be predicted.

"There are numerous bills on occupancy taxes that have not been voted on," Lee said. "You can't tell the mood of the Legislature."

However, Lee said the Legislature approved local taxes in the past, and there is a history of support from the University.

"There has always been a tug of war between Chapel Hill and the University," he said. "There is a precedent of the University being responsible to the town; it has paid money in lieu of taxes in the past."

Kinnaird also made reference to this rocky past. She said problems were surfacing between the two institutions because they were never ironed out.

"This is a unique situation, not every university owns a hotel," she said. "The relationship never got sorted out as both the town and university grew."

Rep. Joe Hackney, D-Orange, said the University should not offer much resistance.

"The University probably would not oppose such a bill."



Sen. HOWARD LEE, D-Orange, said legislative support for the occupancy tax was not predictable, despite local support.



Pat Nesbit, in town for a health care training session with UNC, checks into the Carolina Inn. If Chapel Hill officials get their wish, guests staying at the Inn on University-related business will soon have to pay an occupancy tax.

Town asks state to review inn tax

BY SARA GRIFFITT
STAFF WRITER

Now that Chapel Hill has decided to ask state lawmakers for the right to collect certain taxes from the Carolina Inn, town leaders say they expect an eventual, positive response.

"This isn't really an emergency, so we can't expect action immediately," said council member Joe Capowski.

Chapel Hill Town Council members unanimously passed a resolution Monday night requesting that legislators review a decision made six years ago that exempts nonprofit organizations from collecting a 5 percent occupancy tax that goes to town coffers.

The resolution should come before

the General Assembly some time during this session, Capowski said.

Locally, this decision did not hit home until the University-owned Carolina Inn began implementing the exemption on Jan. 1.

Guests staying at the hotel on University-related business do not pay the occupancy tax.

Council member Julie Andresen said she thought the situation regarding the occupancy tax was simple.

"I think it's really just more of an administrative problem," she said.

Andresen said she believed the tax provided needed money to all parties involved.

"The proceeds that come from this tax go to the Visitors Bureau of the

county, which benefits both the town and the University," Andresen said.

"I think that it is a very worthwhile use of the money."

Capowski said he believed that the situation needed to be resolved.

"It's an opportunity for the University, the town and the county to solve this situation," Capowski said.

"And this is a situation that really has to be resolved because the amount of money involved is pretty substantial."

In an earlier interview, UNC Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd said the occupancy tax generated about \$160,000 per year for the town.

Officials at the Carolina Inn could not be reached for comment at press time.



Rosemarie Gulla, a teacher from Chatham County, demonstrated how she educates young children about racism through literature enhancement at a racism forum Tuesday night.

Open forum puts spotlight on racism in public schools

BY JIM MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

Area residents might differ about their definition of racism, but parents who spoke at an open forum Tuesday night say it certainly exists within the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools.

"One of the things I've told my children is to look out for unidentified racism," Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education member Elizabeth Carter said. "Racism is dependent on which seat you are sitting in, and if you've never experienced it, it doesn't exist for you."

The forum, held by the Orange County Human Relations Commission at New Hope Presbyterian Church, was titled "A Heart to Heart: Unseen Racism in Our City and County Public Schools."

The forum identified racism as being

any unfair treatment by a person of power based on color.

Participants discussed personal accounts of racism as well as how racism is evident in the public schools of Orange County.

Tanya Webb, a Carrboro resident, said black students were slighted in the public school system.

"Teachers accept less than the best from minority students," Webb said. "It is a challenge to get teachers to place students in to honors classes."

Human Relations Commission member Pat Callair, who facilitated the discussion, said racism had been predicated upon the institution of racism in schools.

"The white majority sets the examples by which everyone has to live by," Callair said. "Black kids are under-rep-

SEE FORUM, PAGE 6

Students push for national involvement

Students are being urged to get involved with federal issues that hit home.

BY LEAH HANEY
STAFF WRITER

UNC students will soon be sending postcards from Chapel Hill instead of the tropics if a new student group is successful in its campaign.

A group of UNC students has brought a nationwide campaign to campus that encourages students to send postcards in support of national issues to Washington. Many different organizations play a role in this campaign sponsored by the United States Student Association.

Rebecca Slynn, the organizing director for USSA in Washington, said students needed to be concerned with federal issues.

"What happens in Washington, D.C. affects your doorstep, even though it is far away," Slynn said.

The USSA, a national organization that lobbies Congress for student concerns, tries to increase student awareness of national issues.

Each year, the USSA focuses its efforts in Congress on three issues that affect students. This year's issues particularly interested the UNC students who are promoting this campaign.

Joanne Werdel, a senior from Raleigh and co-president of the Campus Y said UNC group's goal was to have 15 percent of the student body sign postcards in support of three national issues that directly concern students.

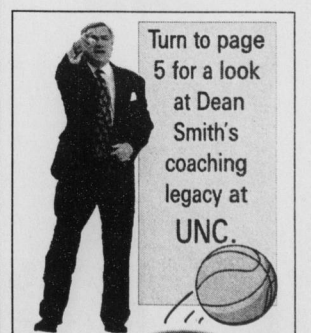
They are actively seeking students to sign the postcards by setting up tables in the Pit, visiting residence halls and meeting with various campus groups.

The first issue involves increasing the number of federally funded grants, instead of loans, to students. Slynn said USSA especially wanted to promote the state student incentive grant, which gives money to states for education grants if the states match the grants two to one.

The campaign also hopes to increase affirmative action on college campuses and is working to allow students who are in school or have work-study jobs to receive welfare funds.

Werdel said many campus groups were interested in those issues.

SEE ACTION, PAGE 6



Turn to page 5 for a look at Dean Smith's coaching legacy at UNC.

Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery.

Calvin Coolidge