

The Daily Tar Heel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1998

Volume 105, Issue 135

News/Features/Arts/Sports: 962-0245
Business/Advertising: 962-1163
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
© 1998 DTH Publishing Corp.
All rights reserved.

104 years of editorial freedom
Serving the students and the University
community since 1893

Freshman Seminars to enhance climate

Forty faculty members will be hired to implement the new seminars.

BY MONICA DEV
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Next year's incoming freshmen will be the first to experience the University's first major step towards a new intellectual climate.

The Chancellor's Task Force on Intellectual Climate presented plans to start the Freshman Seminars program at Friday's Faculty Council meeting. The committee plans to begin the seminars next January.

Students in groups of no more than

20 will work intimately with professors on research projects, Provost Richard Richardson said.

"The experience of a freshman working (with faculty) will be very exciting," he said.

Student Body President Mo Nathan, who serves on the task force, said the seminar program would enhance the freshman experience.

"We may be a large research institution ... but we intend to treat our students with the same care as a small liberal arts college," he said.

The task force was formed at the beginning of the school year to find ways to encourage students to have more intellectual conversations both in and out of the classroom.

Much of the task force's agenda con-

centrated on enhancing the freshman experience.

To offer seminars in conjunction with regular courses, the University will hire 10 new faculty members every year for the next four years.

Any department that offers seminars will receive new faculty to fulfill teaching spots for courses, Nathan said.



Chancellor MICHAEL HOOKER said the new seminar would aid freshman retention at the University.

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Risa Palm said the seminar program should assist tremendously with the University's advising program.

The University advising system has come under fire recently after being ranked last among UNC-system schools by UNC-Chapel Hill students. Part of the problem with the University's advising program lay in students not feeling connected to University faculty members, Palm said.

She said the seminar program would provide freshmen with the opportunity to choose a mentor in their field of interest.

"Students want to be known by a faculty member," she said.

Chancellor Michael Hooker said the seminar and mentoring opportunities

should assist in freshman retention.

But he said it would not be easy to study that improvement since the University already has a high freshman retention rate.

While new faculty probably will not be teaching the seminars, no decisions have been made as to whether they will be taught solely by tenured faculty, Palm said.

"We welcome participation from members of graduate and professional schools," she said.

Palm also said no one had decided if non-freshman undergraduates would be allowed to enroll in seminars or if freshmen would be required to take them.

"We wanted to implement the program first, structural issues will be taken up early."

Council fills vacant spot with Bateman

The council appointed Flicka Bateman after many attempts to fill the seat.

BY NICOLE WHITE
STAFF WRITER

Following five ballots, two meetings and a great deal of compromise, the Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously selected an applicant to fill the council vacancy at their retreat Saturday.

Flicka Bateman was the council's unanimous choice after five votes, two of which were cast at the Jan. 12 council meeting. Bateman received only one vote in each round of voting during this meeting.

In the retreat's first ballot, Mayor Rosemary Waldorf and council member Joe Capowski voted for Bateman. Council members Julie Andresen, Joyce Brown and Kevin Foy voted for Dianne Bachman. Council members Pat Evans, Lee Pavao and Edith Wiggins voted for Jim Ward.

In the second ballot, Capowski, Evans, Waldorf and Wiggins voted for Bateman. Andresen, Brown and Foy voted for Bachman. Pavao voted for Ward.

Bateman garnered all eight votes in the final ballot. "The overriding concern was having someone that everyone on the council could work with," Foy said. "What we ended up with was someone who everyone could support."

Capowski, who consistently voted for Bateman, said she would make a superb council member.

"I've known her for years," Capowski said. "She's very smart, hard-working, open-minded and fair."

Waldorf held a similar opinion of Bateman. "She has a well-deserved reputation as a reasonable person who approaches problems rationally and cares about people."

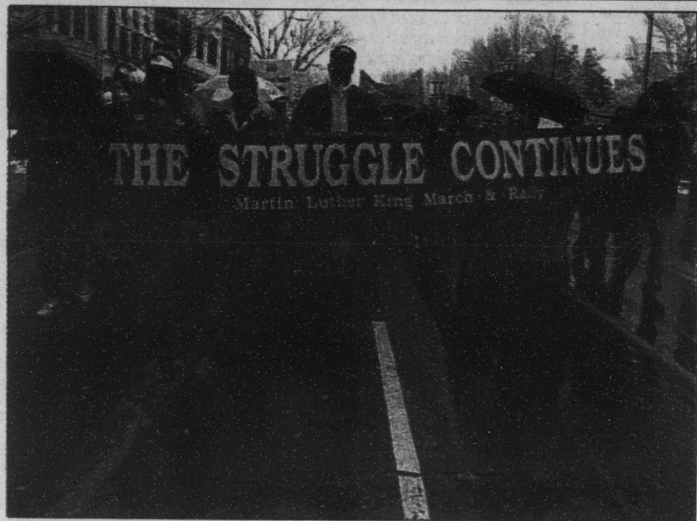
Council member Pat Evans said the final selection was a result of a great deal of compromise. "I think everybody compromised except for Joe Capowski," she said.

Although Evans did not cast her first three ballots for Bateman, she said she thought the council had made a good choice.



Council member PAT EVANS said the final decision to fill the seat with Bateman was the result of a great deal of compromise.

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 2



A crowd of more than 300 people marched down Franklin Street from the post office to the Hargraves Recreation Center, where people had a chance to speak their minds in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Activists rally to remember legacy of civil rights leader

BY JON OSTENDORFF
CITY EDITOR

Even a blast of winter weather Monday couldn't keep some from living the dream.

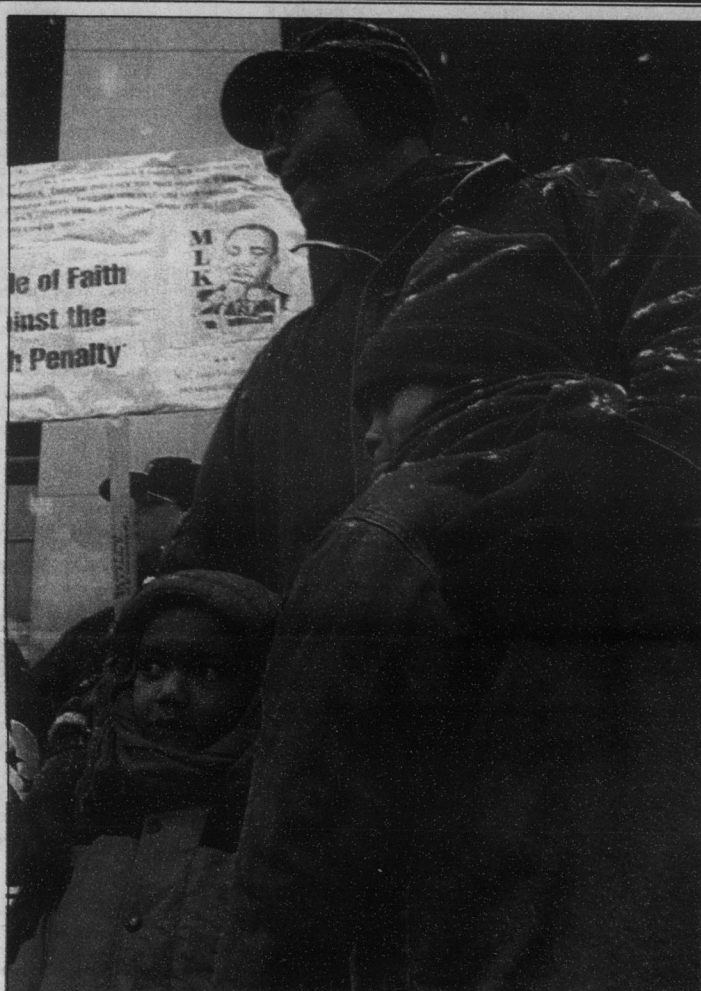
Three hundred people rallied at the Franklin Street post office and marched to the Hargraves Recreation Center in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Those who spoke at the rally focused on the legacy King

left behind.

Leo Wafford of the UNC Groundskeepers Association told the crowd that the groundskeepers, much like King, were also struggling for civil rights. "We, too, are fighting racism," he said. "We must stamp out racism. It's like an alcoholic denying his own disease. Each person must admit his own racism to overcome it."

Last week 19 groundskeepers told a University committee that institutional racism

SEE MLK DAY, PAGE 2



Step Edwards keeps hold of his children, Crews and Ashley, while chanting along with the crowd gathered on the steps of the Franklin Street post office.

Smart driving necessary due to low temperatures

BY SHARIF DURHAMS
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Fluffy white flurries coated campus Monday, causing more of a distraction to students than problems on roads in Chapel Hill.

The precipitation, which switched back and forth from rain to snow, left two inches of mixture on roads.

Unlike the area's last major snowstorm two years ago, ice did not pack roads before snow fell, so precipitation on major roads melted during the day.

But the National Weather Service expected temperatures to drop into the 20s on Monday night, causing hazardous driving conditions for drivers hitting the road this morning.

"If it's going to stay that cold, we're going to have some icing problems," said Sgt. Brian Curran of the Chapel Hill Police Department.

University Police Lt. C.E. Swain suggested drivers take care on bridges, which freeze more quickly than roadways. He also suggested that drivers watch for patches of ice. "The water, when it freezes over, you can see it," Swain said.

Police said they were lucky that business and school closings for the Martin

"Traffic has been a lot clearer than it would normally be for a Monday. We've had fewer accidents than if it had been clear (on a non-holiday)."

SGT. BRIAN CURRAN
Chapel Hill Police Department

Luther King Jr. holiday kept a lot of motorists off the road and likely prevented accidents.

"Traffic has been a lot clearer than it would normally be for a Monday," Curran said. "We've had fewer accidents than if it would have been clear (on a non-holiday)."

The sole accident on campus sent three people to UNC Hospitals and one to Student Health Service.

Witnesses reported that a vehicle leaving the parking lot at Morrison Residence Hall ran into a vehicle traveling the speed limit on Manning Drive, Swain said.

A 7-year-old involved in the accident seemed fine after an examination by doctors, and everyone involved in the accident seemed in decent condition, he



Safe driving in the ICE and SNOW

Snow and ice create hazardous conditions on North Carolina's roadways. Specific driving techniques should be employed during these conditions. The following tips are taken from North Carolina's driving license manual:

Proper braking

If you decide to brake on ice or other slippery surfaces, apply the brakes gently, increasing the pressure as you feel the tires grip the road. Do not brake to the point that the wheels lock. If the wheels should lock, ease slightly off the brakes, but do not release them completely.

This action may unlock them without losing brake power entirely. Then apply the brakes and ease off again, repeating the process.



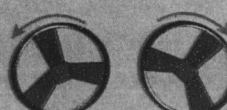
Pump the brakes to avoid locking

Controlling a skid

Driving on a slippery surface can throw your vehicle into a skid. When this occurs, there are several actions to take:

- Do not press on the brake any further.
- Turn the wheel quickly in the direction of the skid.
- As the car begins to straighten out, turn the wheel quickly back the other way so your vehicle doesn't wind up skidding in the opposite direction.

Direction of skid



1. Turn wheel left 2. Straighten wheel

Notes

Here are some other suggestions for safe winter driving:

- Before you start driving, clear snow or ice from all windows and lights so you can see and be seen by others.
- Equip your car with snow tires or chains to help prevent skidding and reduce stopping distances.
- Drive gently; do not change speed or direction suddenly.
- Slow down before stopping or turning. Driving on packed snow is like driving on ice.
- Watch for ice on bridges and in shady areas. Bridge surfaces freeze before other road surfaces.

SOURCE: N.C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DTH/JAKE ZARNIGAR, ANDRES FERNANDEZ AND CHANTAL PUNDSACK

INSIDE

Drinking too young

A new survey reveals the younger teenagers begin drinking, the more inclined they are to become dependent on alcohol at some point in their lives. Officials hope the results will prompt parents to monitor the drinking habits of their children. Page 5

Long road home, for some

Out-of-state students face several differences attending UNC. How did they deal with leaving home for college? Page 11

Today's weather

Sunny;
mid 40s

Wednesday: Partly Cloudy;
low 50s

Real unselfishness consists in sharing the interests of others.

George Santayana