

The Daily Tar Heel

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1998

Volume 106, Issue 13

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

Hunt to head higher education commission

■ The new center will serve as an advisory board to education policy makers.

BY VICKY ECKENRODE
STATE AND NATIONAL EDITOR

Gov. Jim Hunt announced Tuesday he will lead a nationwide endeavor to tackle some of the basic problems facing higher education in America.

Hunt, who was named Founding Chair for the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, said the Center was attempting a new direction as a nonprofit, nonpartisan advising group.

"This will be a unique entity in America," Hunt said.

"There's really no resource like this now."

The Center's President, Pat Callan, said the group's founding organizers were unanimous in their decision to recommend Hunt for the head position. "We are extremely gratified to have Governor Hunt participate," he said.

The Center would serve to advise legislators, governors and college officials across the country concerning higher education policies, Hunt said.

"This group will, from time to time, release commissions, and studies will be available to get out the information across the country," he said.

Callan, former executive director of the California Higher Education Policy Center, called the Center an innovative step for higher education.

"This is the first national effort of this

type in the last quarter century," he said.

"It comes at a time of enrollment pressures, cost pressures and quality pressures."

Hunt stressed the need to make higher education more accessible and affordable in order to relieve those pressures.

These problems were also apparent in North Carolina, where the number of high school students is expected to increase 26 percent during the next



Gov. JIM HUNT said affordability and accessibility were the main issues facing higher education across the nation.

decade, Hunt said.

"North Carolina clearly has a commitment to increase access to higher education," he said.

Hunt also cited affordability as an important focus for both the Center and the state. Hunt said North Carolina had made it a priority to keep tuition low at its public institutions, but he was quick to point out that there were always people who advocated raising the price of college.

"That's the challenge to higher education — to find ways to keep tuition and fees low," Hunt said. "This means colleges will have to find way to make colleges more efficient."

The first public findings of the group, a survey commissioned by the Center, was also released Tuesday. The report concluded that 85 percent of those

polled voiced their opposition to tuition increases.

Hunt said the Center would continue to conduct studies and collect information to aid policy makers and school officials.

Callan stressed the nonpartisan nature of the Center, which will operate out of San Jose, Calif.

"We are not a group out to accumulate political power for ourselves," he said.

"We wanted to create a national reform effort based on policies."

Hunt said there were several higher education issues for the Center to address. "There are questions of access, questions of affordability and always questions of quality," he said.

"There are many things left to be done."

UNC leaders jump several high hurdles

■ Administrators had to react to several problems and controversies this year.

BY LESA NAGY
STAFF WRITER

The 1997-98 school year has not been easy for many University administrators as UNC continued a decade of change and progress.

When administrators initiated projects and contracts, they often received negative criticism — some expected, some that caught them off-guard. The responses forced them to make compromises in their plans to appease the protesters.

Despite criticism of vast undertakings and unplanned events — including widespread construction and grievances filed by University Police Lt. C.E. Swain — most officials from the departments of facilities planning, University housing, auxiliary services and University administration said their departments fared well.

"We have a very dynamic University," said Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd. "I think we've dealt with the issues in a very thoughtful way."

A 5 percent increase in tuition for out-of-state students, and a 3 percent increase for in-state students passed by the N.C. General Assembly at the beginning of the fall semester sparked protests from students who said the hike was unfair.

University officials met with leaders of the student body from the executive branch and Student Congress, as well as members from the faculty and staff to get feedback on the tuition hike.

Floyd said once the N.C. General Assembly approved the increase, administrators felt they had the necessary support to justify the tuition hike. He said the main objective was then to show students that administrators were sensitive to students' financial concerns.

"There was some opposition from students, but not a significant amount," Floyd said.

University administrators also stressed that they used the tuition hike to increase graduate student teaching assistant and faculty salaries, and for projects on campus such as rewiring buildings to accompany the new tech-

SEE REACTION, PAGE 10

Proposed parking hike to hit faculty harder than students

■ Students should pay less because they pay other fees, a committee decided.

BY ANDRIA CHENG
STAFF WRITER

Even though students, faculty and employees might have to pay a higher parking-permit rate next semester, the students should shoulder a lower burden, the Transit and Parking Task Force recommended in a Tuesday meeting.

If a proposal is approved by the Board of Trustees, students buying parking permits will pay \$257 per year for most of the ungated parking lots on campus, in comparison to \$276 for faculty or staff. Students' rates for gated lots will also be lower than that for faculty

and staff.

Students are already paying \$30 transit fees for Chapel Hill Transit Services out of their tuition and fees, which pay for services like the fare-free U bus.

Because faculty and staff do not currently pay transit fees, the discount given to students' parking permits should be balanced by a higher permit price for faculty and staff, said George Alexiou, the University's parking consultant.

The transit fees students pay will be used as a guideline to calculate the credit given to students' permit prices, he said.

Terence McIntosh, associate professor of history, said he agreed that students buying parking permits should be reimbursed for what they pay for transit service.

However, he said he didn't think faculty and staff should pick up the tab.

"(There's) no logic behind (the proposal)," McIntosh said. "(The issue) should settle among students themselves. Why should that cost be picked up by employees?"

Most of the task force members said they did not agree with McIntosh's comments.

"(The parking-permit price difference) creates a better equity between all members of the University — faculty, staff and students," said Emily Williamson, chairwoman of Student Government's Student Services Committee.

Elizabeth Evans, associate director for information services at the Carolina Population Center, said she also agreed faculty and staff should pay more for the parking permits.

SEE TRANSIT, PAGE 10

Speaker discusses media images

BY KATIE ABEL
STAFF WRITER

Several audience members gasped and shrieked in disgust when they viewed images of how women were being violently portrayed in the media at Tuesday's slide presentation and lecture "Sexy or Sexist? Violence Against Women in the Media."

The program was presented as part of Women's Week by Gail Dines, Ph.D., who said she wanted to make people aware of how images of women in advertising impact our society.

The slides came from various magazines including Cosmopolitan, Playboy and Hustler.

Her presentation also includes images from films, advertisements, magazines and movies.

Pictures for her presentation, which she shows nationally, come from diverse sources that range from "slasher" movies to MTV.

Many of the images showed disturbing pictures of women who had been displayed pornographically.

"The image is the most seductive

form of media," Dines said. She said society had become desensitized to these images — it hasn't been

trained to understand what they really

SEE SLIDE, PAGE 10



Gale Dines speaks with students after her slide presentation on violence against women in the media on Tuesday night as part of Women's Week.

Planned subdivision brings familiar worries

■ Residents' concerns echo those of people living near the Meadowmont property.

BY NICOLE WHITE
STAFF WRITER

Residents near East West Partners' latest project say they do not want to live near a miniature Meadowmont.

Land owners' concerns about the proposed Lawrence Road subdivision mirrored those that Chapel Hill resi-

dents expressed about the Meadowmont development during a neighborhood information meeting in Hillsborough on Tuesday.

East West Partners is in the early stages of obtaining approval to build an 88-acre subdivision with 243 residential lots, which will be located east of Hillsborough between U.S. 70A and Interstate 85.

"That's putting a lot of puppies in one pen," said Jim Singleton, a county resident who lives near the proposed site.

Several residents said more homes

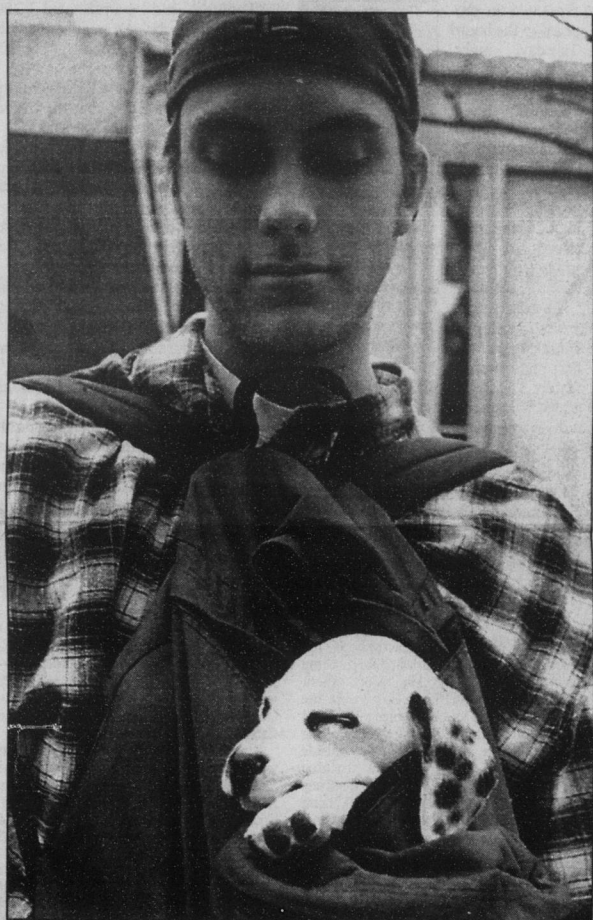
and more children in the area could contribute to an increase in crime. Some residents said they were concerned that children playing in others' yards could get hurt, leaving the residents liable in a lawsuit.

"If you don't provide recreation, they're going to go looking for it," Singleton said. "And they'll go looking for it in my backyard."

According to the plans submitted to the Orange County Planning Board, the subdivision will include two recreation-

SEE SUBDIVISION, PAGE 10

.101 DALMATIANS



Sophomore Dennis Fullerton gives his new Dalmatian puppy its first tour of campus. The tired 2-month-old has yet to be named.

Sports victories put Carolina on minds of more applicants

■ More students applied to UNC this year, but fewer will get invited to attend.

BY LAURA STOEHR
STAFF WRITER

In the wake of UNC's athletic success, more high school seniors could vie to become Tar Heels. The University has received 1,161 more applications this year, totaling 17,140 applications.

The men's basketball team's trip to the Final Four last year and the national championships of the women's soccer and lacrosse teams have shined the media spotlight on UNC.

"Publicity with athletics probably has a lot to do with the attention people give to UNC from out-of-state," said Strickland, associate director of undergraduate admissions. But the University will not accept as many students as it did last year because of overenrollment in 1997, Strickland said.

This year's freshmen class has slightly more than 3,400 students, which is more than the University's target class size of 3,250 to 3,300 students. UNC will accept 5,587 students this

year, 296 fewer students than last year so the class size will fit into the target range, Strickland said.

"Carolina has been in people's minds, and I think folks have simply acted on it this year," said Director of Admissions Jerry Lucido.

But the decrease in the number of students will not be spread evenly among in- and out-of-state students, he said. UNC will accept more out-of-state students this year than in 1997 because 17.1 percent of this year's freshman class is from out-of-state, Strickland said.

The state mandates that no more than 18 percent of UNC students come from out-of-state.

In 1996, more than 18 percent of the freshman class came from out-of-state, causing the state to react by cutting funds. As a result the admissions office was careful to remain under the limit, Strickland said.

About 1,000 more students applied this year from out-of-state.

The increase in applications is due to a number of factors, Strickland said. The University's wide range of opportunities draws students, said student tour guide Van Fletcher, a junior from High Point.

SEE ADMISSIONS, PAGE 10

INSIDE Wednesday

It's electric!

This week's focus takes a look at the electric car and why it's gathering so much attention lately. Page 5



Service with a smile

After facing several funding battles, AmeriCorps is receiving more political support across the nation. Page 4

No time to kill



Senior of the Week Nirav Shah is the president of Sangam, volunteers in the community and helps conduct genetics research. Page 2

Today's weather

Cloudy, showers; low 60s
Thursday: Variably cloudy; low 70s

Flattery is all right — if you don't inhale.

Adlai Stevenson