

State Schools Earn High Marks in Study

North Carolina's mentoring program for beginning teachers impressed editors of Education Weekly.

By TAENA KIM
Staff Writer

North Carolina's public education system received high marks from Education Weekly for improving teacher quality.

In its annual study released Tuesday, Quality Counts 2000, the state's K-12 education system outranked many other states in overall excellence, research associate Greg Orlofsky said. "Our special focus was to see how

states encourage people to enter the teaching profession," he said.

Orlofsky said one of North Carolina's most significant accomplishments was requiring and funding more intensive teacher training.

Quality Counts 2000 was also impressed with North Carolina's mentoring program for beginning teachers.

"(The mentoring program) is something we think is very important," he said. "(North Carolina) is one of the 10 states that do that."

He said the outlook for North Carolina seemed favorable overall due to many policies that had already been implemented, particularly the ABCs of Public Education which emphasizes school accountability for student academic performance.

Besides improving teacher quality, states were graded on student standards and accountability, as well as school climate, on a scale of A to F.

In standards and accountability, grades were based on the academic performance of students in core subjects such as math, science, English and social science in each state. North Carolina, which regularly scores high in this category, was one of six states to receive the highest marks in this category.

"We are quite pleased with the area of improvements we have made," said Cecil Banks, associate education advisor to Gov. Jim Hunt, who has made education a high priority during his tenure.

But the study did find some flaws in the state's education system. For the past four years, North

Carolina has failed to improve in school climate, which consisted of class size, student involvement, parental involvement and school enrollment.

"Obviously, we're not pleased with (the grade)," Banks said. "But only 15 states are ahead of us."

He said student and parent involvement were soft categories because they were based on principals' perspectives instead of data.

But North Carolina was not the only state with a small amount of participation from parents. Orlofsky said 1996 and 1998 studies showed principals' perceptions on parent involvement had decreased nationwide.

But local parents disagreed with the findings. Kim Fahs, membership chairwoman of the Parent, Teacher and

Student Association at Chapel Hill High School, said membership had increased over the past two years.

She said the PTSA sent out letters to every parent, offering them opportunities to volunteer at Chapel Hill High.

The PTSA was also working with the Student Governance Committee to address students' needs.

Also, a petition to end class rankings had been a hotly debated subject at Chapel Hill High School recently, and the PTSA had been working to involve more parents. "PTSA is working with SGC to hold night meetings to hear parents' opinions," Fahs said. "Parents are discovering better ways to get involved."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

ELLIOTT
From Page 1

other changes were submitted until summer officers were named in June 1999.

But Student Body Treasurer Ryan Schlitt said he had worked with Elliott last spring at Student Congress' annual budget hearings when Schlitt served as finance committee chairman.

"I do know he came and posed as (BSM) treasurer during budget and congressional hearings," Schlitt said.

Although Rodgers was named BSM treasurer in October, Schlitt said he did not work with Rodgers last year. "My contacts were with (former BSM President) Tamara Bailey and Brian Elliott," he said.

Faison said Elliott had a role in the budget hearings because of his experience. "Officially he wasn't the treasurer according to the records, but he was still assisting," Faison said. "Honestly, had anyone known he wasn't a student he wouldn't have been up there representing our organization."

CAA officials first became aware that Elliott was not a student after his actions as chief of staff came into question in December.

In a letter submitted to Student Attorney General Drew Haywood on Dec. 10, CAA Treasurer Patrick Frye raised concerns that Elliott might have intentionally made long-distance phone calls using another member's code to disguise personal calls.

After reviewing the phone bills from May through October, Frye said CAA officials' attention was drawn to 39 calls to Milton, N.C. by CAA member Casey Privette, among other things.

One of the Milton numbers is registered under Daphne Elliott of 121 Jordan Lane. The same phone number and address were listed in the UNC 1997-98 directory as Brian Elliott's home number and address.

Pruitt said questionable calls had been made under Elliott's personal identification number and the personal identification numbers of three other CAA members. As chief of staff, Elliott handled the numbers for all Cabinet members.

"He's the one who got (UNC Telecommunications) to assign PIN numbers - it all went through him," Frye said.

Frye said Elliott offered to pay for personal calls he had made.

Elliott was terminated as CAA chief of staff Dec. 9, Pruitt said. On Dec. 10, Frye submitted CAA concerns and evidence in a letter to Haywood, turning the matter over to the Honor Court.

While Haywood could not speak on the specifics of any Honor Court cases because of the Family Education and Rights to Privacy Act, he said the misuse of University property could fall under several instruments of the Code of Student Conduct.

Although Elliott has not been enrolled since summer 1998, he can still be treated as a student under the Code of Student Conduct because he has not officially withdrawn, according to Section 1.A.2.

The code states, "Jurisdiction under the Code of Student Conduct may be exercised at any time between the student's initial enrollment and the granting of his degree or other termination of enrollment."

If a student is not enrolled at the time of the violations, the Honor Court can take that information into consideration when deciding sanctions, Haywood said.

"The members can say that the student cannot enroll for the next semester and at the student's return (he or she) will be on probation," he said.

Haywood said he could not remember any previous incident involving a person who held a student officer position without being enrolled as a UNC student. "I can't think of any situation," he said. "But I think that there might be certainly some reason to consider that an Honor Code offense."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Campus Calendar

Today

4 p.m. - Dr. Ludwig DeBraeckeleer of the Duke University physics department will present "Neutrino Mass and Mixing" in 277 Phillips Hall.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 962-7166.

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. - The University of Chicago's Berthold Hoeckner will present "Schoenberg's Eyes and the Moment of German Music" in 103 Hill Hall. A reception will follow.

Tuesday

8 p.m. - Pianist Sean Gallagher will join the Carolina Wind Quintet in Person Recital Hall. The event is free. For more information, call 962-1039.

Wednesday

12:30 p.m. - There will be an a.p.p.l.e.s. summer internship information session in Union 208.

4:30 p.m. - An information session on the Class of '38 Summer Fellowship Abroad will be held in South Gallery. Applications for the fellowship are available at the International Center, located in Union 116.

FEES

From Page 1

In addition to the education and technology fee, the athletic fee was raised \$5 to support Olympic sports programs, to maintain outdoor facilities and athletic fields and to allow students the opportunity to attend all regular season athletic events.

The health service fee was increased for the first time in five years by \$8 to cover personnel costs.

The committee approved a \$7 increase in the student transit fee to support the evening Point-2-Point van service and provide funds to replace worn

P2P Xpress buses.

The Student Facilities Debt Service fee rose by \$37.50 to pay for Student Union renovations, which were approved by a student referendum in February 1998.

Patterson said the general fee increases would be 3.9 percent or less. Patterson said he found the feat impressive because this was the first year without a state-imposed 5 percent cap on increases.

"It speaks highly of us that we still kept it this low even though there was no cap in place."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Gates Names New Microsoft CEO

Associated Press

REDMOND, Wash. - Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates on Thursday promoted longtime friend and company President Steve Ballmer to chief executive officer of the software giant Gates founded.

Gates said he was giving up the CEO title so he could return "to what I love most, focusing on technologies for the future."

Gates, who has turned over much of the day-to-day operations of Microsoft to Ballmer in the past year and a half, will remain chairman and will also take on the title of chief software architect.

Thursday's announcement does not necessarily mean he is giving up any power in the company he co-founded in 1975 with Paul Allen.

Microsoft has made Gates the wealthiest private individual in the world, with a fortune estimated at more than \$80

billion.

Gates said he planned to dedicate his time to fashioning and promoting the "next generation" of Microsoft's flagship product, the Windows 2000 operating system.

He said he especially wanted to develop software services that will be hosted on the Internet and made part of future versions of Windows.

Microsoft is working to make its popular software, especially its Office suite of business programs, available over the Internet, in addition to the traditional way of loading it onto individual personal computers.

"Steve's promotion will allow me to dedicate myself full time to my passion - building great software and strategizing on the future and nurturing and collaborating with the core team helping Steve run the company," Gates said.

Ballmer will retain his title of president. He also will be given a seat on

Microsoft's board of directors.

"I'm certainly honored and very, very excited about the opportunity," Ballmer said.

Ballmer, like Gates, has already staked out a position against breaking up the company, a possible remedy which might be sought by the federal government and 19 states that are suing Microsoft due to alleged antitrust violations.

"I think it would be absolutely reckless and irresponsible for anyone to try to break up this company," Ballmer said. "I think it would be unprecedented and I think it would be the single greatest disservice that anybody could do to consumers in this country... I just think it would be reckless beyond belief."

Ballmer, 42, was appointed president of Microsoft in July 1998, giving him direct responsibility for improving the performance of all of the company's divisions and customer satisfaction.

MARCH

From Page 1

students suspended or dropping out of school as problems facing society.

Ruby Sinreich, a former Town Council candidate who helped organize the celebration, said the rally would stress the continuing need to address

civil rights issues.

"The point of Martin Luther King (Jr.) Day is to remember his message," she said. "We don't need to just be nice to everyone - we need to make changes on a systemic level as well."

Al McSurely, a member of the Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition, said the rally would also address the proposed tuition increase at UNC as a

threat to the availability of education.

The UNC system is currently considering a plan that could boost tuition at UNC by \$475 in a three-year period.

"We see the tuition increase as a direct attack on minorities and lower-income people in general," he said.

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

LOOK OUT! January Sell Off!
CATALOG & NAME BRAND OUTLET
All Three Locations.

UNIVERSITY MALL Chapel Hill • 928-0100	205 W. MAIN ST. Carrboro • 933-5544	706 9TH ST. Durham • 286-7262
---	--	----------------------------------

Just about everything substantially MARKED DOWN! ...plus, we'll bring in new merchandise all month long.

LLB Field Coats \$29 - \$39
Kids Coats (LLB & LE) \$19
EMS Polartec Fleece \$21 - \$24
A & F Jeans \$25
Rampage and other dresses: \$30 or less
Boutique Collections: all reduced

our (Out Of) Stock Room at University Mall in Chapel Hill is now open as a clearance center. Come rummage every Fri. & Sat. 12-6 through January. Most everything from \$2 to \$9. Lots of bargains, lots of fun!

eat big. cheap. late. great COSMIC

menu sampling:

various menu items	\$2
old school veggie burrito	2
veggie burrito deluxe	4
chicken burrito	5
quesadilla	3
chicken quesadilla	4

...and more plus...
all mexican beers \$2

ONE COSMIC DOLLAR

\$1 FF

ANY BURRITO OR QUESADILLA
ANY TIME AFTER 5PM • MINIMUM \$5 PURCHASE
OFFER VALID THROUGH 1/18/00
CHAPEL HILL LOCATION ONLY. ONE COUPON PER PERSON.

ONE COSMIC DOLLAR

960-3955
open super late night until 4am
always fresh, juicy, big and healthy

where are we?
chapel hill: right across the street from the varsity theatre at 128 franklin street [at the end of the hall].
durham: on 9th street and perry street [across from brueggers]. 286-1875.

HEALTHY LOWFAT LATE NIGHT
Cosmic Cantina
(it's what we do best)

Sure you're buying a name yours.

but it's

reflect.com
LISA MARINO'S
CONDITIONER
Because you tend to
powdery condition! Your
conditioner has been
formulated with light
moisturizers to help
your hair

Haircare.
Skincare.
Cosmetics.

You create them for you alone.
We help.

reflect.com
It's the image of you

Yogurt is our menu!

the YOGURT pump

Downtown Chapel Hill • 942-PUMP
106 W. Franklin St. (Next to He's Not Here)

North Durham • 286-7868
Northgate Mall (Next to Carousal)
Mon-Sat 11:30am-11:30pm, Sun 12pm-11:30pm