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Matthews To Stick By Choice

The controversy will wind up in the hands of the full Student Congress at its meeting next week.

By C.B. MABEUS
Staff Writer

Student Body President Brad Matthews will continue to seek a controversial appointment to the Elections Board despite a preliminary ruling by a Student Congress committee.

"As an administration, we make decisions we believe to be right, and this is the right decision," Matthews said. "The right ones are worth fighting for."

Members of the Rules and Judiciary Committee voted unfavorably Tuesday on the appointment of Marissa Downs as chairwoman of the Elections Board.

Downs served as vice-chairwoman this year.

Several members cited ethical concerns because of the nature of the relationship between her and Matthews as well as the widely criticized performance of the Elections Board in February's student elections.

But Downs, who told the committee she was involved in a relationship with Matthews, could still be appointed to the position if two-thirds of the full Congress moves to remove her from the "unfavorable list" and ultimately approves her nomination.

Downs said she planned to lobby Congress before next week's session in attempt to secure her appointment.

Matthews said he would also continue to support Downs' nomination for the post. The Elections Board works to advise and publicize on behalf of candidates, assign poll-takers and count ballots during elections.

Sarah Tully Miller, the chairwoman of the Rules and Judiciary Committee, said she considered a potential conflict of interest but was more concerned about Downs' performance as vice chairwoman. "I saw some merit to the ethical question but not to the point that it overshadowed the questions of the quality of her work," Miller said.

Congress members, questioning Downs' commitment to her current position, cited the Board's problems in poll-taking, publicity, organization and violations of the Student Code during the past year.

Speaker Pro Tem Sandi Chapman said it was those problems that raised her concern about Downs' commitment and ability to perform.

"While most of those are the respon-

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Legislators to Bring System Needs to Raleigh

By JONATHAN MOSELEY
Staff Writer

GREENSBORO - N.C. legislators completed the last leg of their tours of UNC campuses Wednesday, and many said they would head to Raleigh ready to share firsthand accounts of the system's capital needs.

Members of the N.C. Joint Select Committee on Higher Education Facilities Needs, a group formed to study the need to repair and renovate facilities at the 16 UNC campuses, have spent the past few months visiting and inspecting every system school.

They visited Guilford County's community college Wednesday, as well as four UNC campuses - N.C. Agricultural & Technical State University, UNC-Greensboro, N.C.

School of the Arts, and Winston-Salem State University.

The committee will hold one more meeting in Raleigh on May 3, before making a recommendation to the N.C. General Assembly when it reconvenes in mid-May.

At each site, chancellors and prominent members of the university's faculty spoke to the group about the need for capital funding at their schools.

School officials then took committee members on brief tours of each campus' rundown facilities, highlighting the potential for improvement.

Commenting on the focus of the tours, Board of Governors member John Sanders said, "Normally tours of campuses show off the brightest spots, so these tours are unusual in that they highlight the most rundown places on cam-

pus."

Several proponents of the various universities said they hoped the tour would produce tangible funding results.

"I thought (the tours) were very informative," said N.C. A&T Chancellor James Rennick.

"We only had an hour, but we tried to show them the campus, so hopefully it went well."

UNC-G Chancellor Patricia Sullivan said she wanted legislators to take



As legislators prepare to tackle UNC's capital needs, Sen. Tony Rand says the campus tours will prove helpful.

responsibility for the condition of her school. "(UNC-G faculty) are ready for the facilities to match the quality of the academic programs here at UNC-G," she said.

As if in response to the university officials' concerns, the committee members said they thought the tours were helpful.

"A picture is worth a thousand words, and being on-site you can see the whole picture," said Sen. Kay Hagan, R-Guilford. "Sixty percent of the state budget goes to education, so these tours are helping me know how to utilize tax dollars more efficiently."

Committee Co-chairman, Sen. Tony Rand, D-Cumberland, also said the tours allowed him to visualize campuses' problems. "In an intelligible sense, you know (what the problems are), but from a visceral sense, the tours help," he said.

"(The tours) make you more ashamed of the conditions of the campuses."

The committee members, the majority of whom have historically supported funding for higher education, expressed eagerness at the opportunity to help fund pressing capital needs. "I think I can be an advocate to some of the nay-sayers in the General Assembly," Hagan said. "I can go one-on-one with them and hopefully make a difference."

Clifton Metcalf, UNC associate vice president for state governmental affairs, said he also noted the committee's anticipation. "It's exciting to see the legislature get excited about the challenge," he said. "If you listen to them talk, you can see they're feeling a sense of urgency."

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

WIRING TO THE WORLD

The Internet Generation Grows Up Surfing the Waves of Information

By VICKY ECKENRODE
Managing Editor

Earlier in the 1990s, adults lamented the apathy of Generation X and questioned what young people would contribute to society.

A few years later, the next generation answered back by taking its place in the explosive trend of a society increasingly dependent on technology.

"I'm finding a lot of students are taking media into their own hands - whether that

means developing a Web page, participating in an online chat or something as simple as sending an e-mail to friends or family," said David Silver, director of the Resource Center for Cyberculture Studies.

Members of this Internet Generation have taken this head-on approach to the burgeoning technology world.

As a result, they are growing into the role of teachers and leaders as society finds itself shifting from the Industrial Age to an era defined by a dependency on digital information.

Technology has advanced to the point in which we could essentially live in a faceless society. We use e-mail and fax machines to communicate instantly, order everything from flowers to food over the Internet, read books and take classes online.

We can be reached at all times during the day via cell phones and beepers. Instant messaging, virtual reality, MP3s, cybersex - all created a society radically different than a decade ago. Advancements in biotechnology and medicine are closing into finding cures and creating an improved version of the human body.

"In the present times you cannot really take technology away as an entity," said Deb Aikat, assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

"In many ways technology is making our lives better, but there are still concerns - all of these advantages comes with something you have to pay back."

The wealth of information that is now exchanged has prompted concerns about its quality and regulation.

The federal government cracks down on child pornography on the Internet. Music companies are trying to rein in the downloadable pirated music.

And the average person faces the new annoy-

ances of electronic junk mail, company profiling and the general inability to get away from constant communication.

For a society that now banks, files taxes, shops and fills out credit card applications online, the amount of personal information floating around during the Information Age can prove harmful if in the wrong hands.

"This is an area where there are not enough bureaucrats in the world to go out and enforce this stuff by themselves," said Gary Clayton, CEO of the Privacy Council, which helps both consumers and corporations learn how to safely collect personal data.

Despite the drawbacks, society has embraced the conveniences of new technology. Aikat said he expected future uses of technology to increase the level of efficiency in people's daily lives.

E-convenience is the next step of integrating life and technology, he said.

Simple tasks such as shopping for groceries from home might take the place of weekend errand trips, possible from a person's living room in front of a computer screen.

These innovations stem from the explosion of the public's use of the Internet.

The evolution of the Internet started in the late 1950s as a military project. Soon it was adopted

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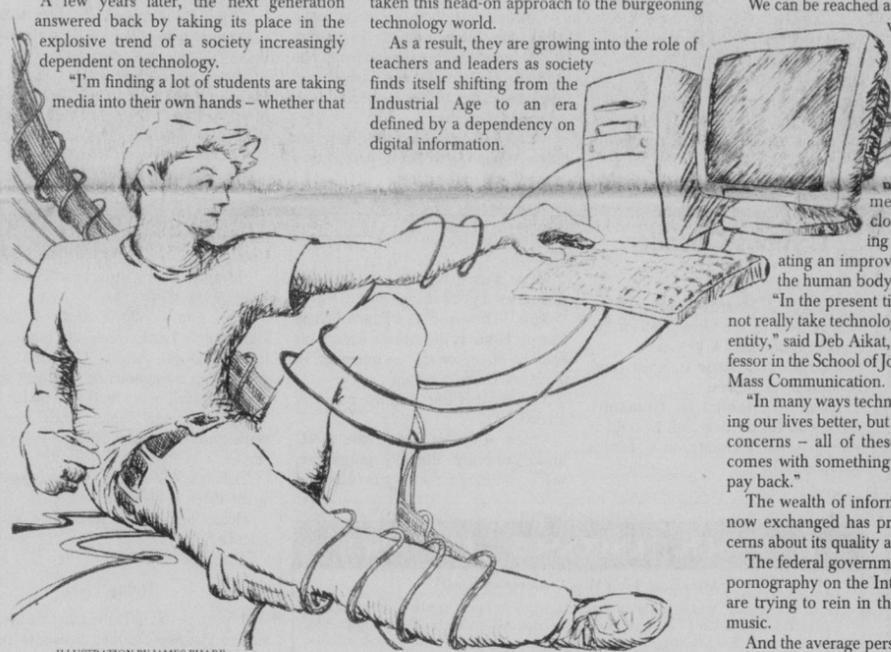
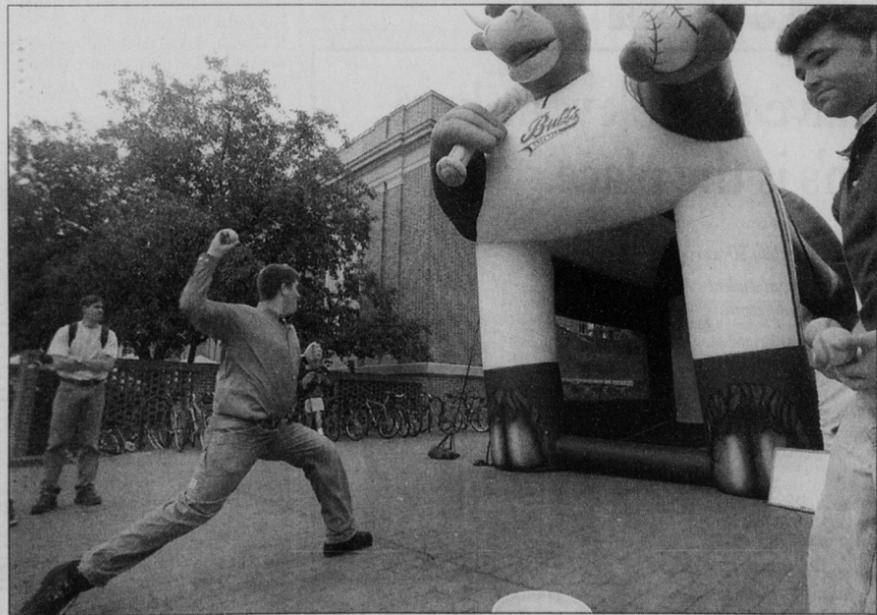


ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES PHARR

THROWDOWN



DTH/CARA BRICKMAN

The Carolina Athletic Association's Sports Marketing Committee hosted a pitching contest in the Pit on Wednesday to promote support for UNC's baseball team. They brought in a speed pitch machine to see who could throw the ball fastest. Winners were given tickets to Durham Bulls games.

Jordan to Christen Restaurant Today

By KELLIE DIXON
Assistant City Editor

Twenty-three people will have an opportunity tonight to do something most Tar Heel fans just dream about - meet Michael Jordan.

A worldwide basketball legend, Jordan will appear tonight at his restaurant, 23, located at 200 West Franklin St., to meet with contest winners and to present a new logo for the restaurant.

Contest winner Jennifer Hurtgen, a UNC junior and psychology major, said she was a huge basketball fan and that she had a few questions for Jordan.

"I want to ask him if he wishes he could walk around campus and enjoy it

without getting harassed," she said. "I just hope we can bring our cameras."

The restaurant 23, along with local publications and two radio stations, sponsored a contest in which people entered to win a chance to meet Jordan.

Hurtgen was one of four winners drawn at 23. Others won through the contests sponsored by the local media.

Jessica Hayes, promotion coordinator for Triangle Radio Partners said G105 and Sunny 93.9 would send a total of 15 people to meet Jordan.

"They had to qualify (through radio contests)," she said. "At the end of the week, it was random draw and we notified the winners."

The final four people were chosen by The Herald Sun's "Mainly4Kids" page contest and a writing contest in the Independent Weekly, a local newspaper.

Betsy Brack, public relations manager for Phoenix Communications, said that after meeting with the people, Jordan would autograph the restaurant's sign, making that 23's new logo.

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Michael Jordan will be in town today to make his first appearance at 23, his Franklin Street Restaurant.

INSIDE Thursday



Off-Broadway Birthday

With the production of "Cabaret" this weekend, Pauper Players will celebrate its 10th anniversary as a musical theater group at UNC. See Page 5.

Into the Crystal Ball

University officials sponsored different sessions about the Master Plan for students, faculty and staff including a map display in the Pit. See Page 4.

Summer Lovin'

Applications for positions on The (Weekly) DTH this summer are in the DTH front office in the Union. We need reporters, copy editors, photographers, designers and graphic artists. Applications are due May 3.

Today's Weather

Partly cloudy;
High 67, Low 47.
Friday: Thunderstorms;
High 67, Low 47.

A thought that sometimes makes me hazy, Am I, or are the others, crazy?

Albert Einstein