

ASG President Discusses Year's Plans

By KATHLEEN HUNTER
State & National Editor

Cliff Webster was elected president of the UNC Association of Student Governments in April, a post that also earns him the sole student seat on the Board of Governors.

Webster is beginning his second year in the business masters program at East Carolina University. He served as ECU student body president last year.

Webster and Vice President Liz Gardner, a UNC-Chapel Hill junior journalism major in the public relations sequence, took office July 1. The Daily Tar Heel conducted an interview with Webster and Gardner on Sunday in which they outlined their plans.

The duo said they primarily planned to work on a campaign at each of the 16 UNC campuses to make sure that N.C. voters approve a \$3.1 billion bond pro-

posal that will fund capital improvements at the state's higher education institutions.

The following is an excerpt from that interview:

DTH: What are your main goals for the year as ASG president and vice-president?

Webster: I think our main goal exactly at this point is the bond issue. Until Nov. 7 that's going to be our life as president and vice president. That's the main thing within the whole system. We've got to make sure that that passes. No ifs, ands or buts about it.

DTH: Have you developed any strategies through ASG that you are going to use to try to help the bond campaign?

Webster: We have been working on that a lot this summer. Mainly through Web sources, making sure that ideas are exchanged. Right now, one of our ASG

representatives is working on a message board, which he promised me is supposed to be done by this week. Hopefully, that will be done, so that we can keep communicating back and forth.

Gardner: I think the most important thing ASG can do is just facilitate communication between the campuses. ... We are hoping to send out voter registration information strategy packets to student body presidents with places to target, such as high traffic areas for students ... so that they have some resources to at least start with or to build upon what they are already doing.

DTH: Is there anything in the internal structure of ASG that you two are looking to change?

Webster: It's not so much changing the structure, but opening up the lines of communication - letting people know what we are doing.

Gardner: The problem with ASG hasn't been structure, per se, ... the problem is when campuses are under-represented. ... Reaching out to campuses is really the best way to help with communication and unification efforts.

DTH: Are there any events ASG is planning specifically for the bond campaign?

Webster: Not as a whole right now, and the main reason is we don't have a lot of (student leaders back yet). ASG is me and Liz right now.

DTH: The role of ASG president is a dual one. Not only are you ASG president, you are also the student voice on the Board of Governors. What do you see as your role on the BOG?

Webster: I was expecting it to be like the Board of Trustees and it is nowhere near that. However, it is a communication strategy. You no longer have the power of a vote, which is very different. ... In the aspect of the BOG, I am going to have to make sure that I have some sort of relationship with the board members, so I can convey the message of the students of the University.

DTH: About a year and a half ago, there was a big push to give the student BOG member a vote. Is that something you would like to breathe new life into?

Webster: I think after Nov. 7, when I stop saying 'vote bond,' we can look into that.

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Tropical Storm Debby Threatens Caribbean

Associated Press

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten - Speeding west at near hurricane strength, Tropical Storm Debby threatened several northeast Caribbean islands still recovering from last year's storm damage.

Schools closed, people rushed to buy emergency supplies and governments prepared shelters. Tourists crowded airports to flee the storm and cruise ships turned away from the winds and rain.

The fourth named storm of the Atlantic season emerged with unnerving suddenness as the season's first threat to land. At 5 p.m. Eastern time, Debby was centered about 165 miles east-southeast of Antigua, heading for French, Dutch and British islands overnight and expected to continue onto the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico on Tuesday and then the Dominican Republic. Forecasters said it is too early to say whether the storm could threaten the U.S. mainland.

Debby seemingly came out of nowhere Saturday and reached near-hurricane strength in little more than a

day. Its sustained winds reached nearly 70 miles per hour late morning Monday, just shy of the 74 miles per hour to be classified as a hurricane.

Debby was churning west at about 22 mph, and was expected to intensify and keep on the same track for the next three days. Hurricane warnings were posted from the French island of Guadeloupe north through the island chain including Dutch St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius, through the British and U.S. Virgin Islands.

A hurricane warning was posted Monday afternoon in Puerto Rico and a hurricane watch was expected in Dominican Republic later Monday. Debby could be a hurricane by the time it hits Guadeloupe and the Caribbean's easternmost islands around 10 p.m. Monday, said forecaster Henry Laskosky at the National Weather Service office in San Juan.

In Montserrat, British Gov. Anthony Abbott warned in a radio broadcast that, "There's a possibility that Debby could pass right over Montserrat."

Meteorologists in Antigua warned their residents to prepare for a direct hit,

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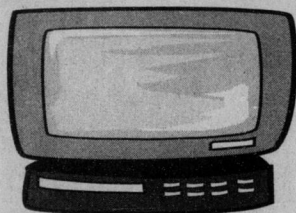
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