

Digging In  
Price breaks new  
ground. See Page 3



Find Out More  
Come to Union 226 at 6 p.m.  
for the DTH interest meeting.  
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All Wet  
Today: Rain, 67  
Thursday: Cloudy, 73  
Friday: Sunny, 80

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Wednesday, September 6, 2000

## Congress Fills Elections Board Post

By ELIZABETH BREYER  
Assistant University Editor

The first meeting of the 82nd Student Congress focused primarily on filling the vacancies in the organization, reaching an end to the controversial search for an Elections Board chairman.

**Student Congress Takes First Action On Resolutions**  
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Jeremy Berkeley-Tuchmayer, a senior political science major from Wilmington with experience on the Student Supreme Court, was named Elections Board chairman.

Law student Matt Fisher, Dist. 1, was

also named as ethics committee chairman. Student Body Treasurer Patrick Frye said, "(Berkeley-Tuchmayer) is thoughtful and will make a good choice, because we need someone thoughtful in this position."

The Elections Board has awaited an appointment since early May, when Student Congress nixed Student Body President Brad Matthews' appointment of Marissa Downs to the post.

Skepticism was aroused when then-junior Downs, former Elections Board vice chairwoman, and Matthews revealed their romantic involvement. Frye made light of the controversy as he introduced Berkeley-Tuchmayer, joking, "There is no conflict of interest between Jeremy and myself, or any improper relationship."

Other members had questioned Downs' aptitude for the job after February's elections were riddled with problems stemming from Elections Board computer malfunctions.

But Berkeley-Tuchmayer said his familiarity with the Student Code qualified him for the job. "I have been on the (Supreme) Court, I know the code, and I have interpreted Title I and VI (which deal with student elections)," he said.

Rep. Michael Harris, Dist. 21, cast the sole dissenting vote against Berkeley-Tuchmayer's appointment.

"It's a protest vote," he said. "Nothing against him personally, but my way of saying the things that were done last spring were not right."

This year's Congress suffers from the perennial shortage of members, a problem that has been left standing until a chairman was appointed. Only the Elections Board chairman can oversee special elections designed to fill congressional holes. But one congressional position was filled internally with the appointment of a new Ethics Committee chairman. Rep. Jeffrey Hill, Dist. 7, resigned at the beginning of the semester, and Fisher was approved to fill his position. New members of Congress were also assigned to either the Finance Committee or to the Rules and Judiciary Committee.

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



DTH/KATHERINE EAKER

At Student Congress' first meeting of the year, Matt Fisher (center) was elected chairman of the Ethics Committee.

## Caseload Increases For Court

Student Attorney General Taylor Lea says a flood of Honor Code violations has swamped her office staff.

By KAREY WUTKOWSKI  
Assistant University Editor

A 100 percent increase in the number of complaints filed with the Student Judicial System over the past two years has saddled the Honor Court with an unexpectedly larger caseload and insufficient staff resources.

"We have both more cheating and assault cases, and there's more drug use occurring," said Student Attorney General Taylor Lea.

To deal with the increased caseload, Lea is looking to add 20 more student counsels to the 50 counsels who are already handling the 117 pending court cases.

The largest increase in cases has come from Honor Code violations involving harassment and assault, Lea said.

In the 1998-99 academic year, Lea said the judicial system received nearly 20 reports of possible Honor Code violations in the harassment and assault category.

But last year, the number of those reports jumped to 35.

"There's been a real increase," Lea said.

"We're trying to figure out why. It might be a trickle down from the violence in middle school and high school."

But University police Maj. Jeff McCracken said he hasn't seen a large increase in assault, harassment or drug cases.

"There has not been anything as dramatic as that," he said.

"I would know if we had doubled our reporting of assault and harassments. Maybe (the Student Attorney General's office) changed their ways of reporting."

Lea said this year's larger number of students enrolled at UNC has led to the significant increase in the number of Honor Code violation complaints.

She also said that a series of high-profile Honor Court cases last year, including separate charges against then-junior Chiara D'Amore and former Student Congress Speaker Mark Klemschmidt, raised student awareness about the judicial system and its proceedings.

These cases helped get the word out about what the Honor Court does, and as a result, students are more willing to file complaints, Lea said.

The Honor Court is also considering  
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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JASON COOPER

## THE FEMALE FACTOR

### How Does 'The Ratio' Impact UNC Life?

By JERMAINE CALDWELL  
Features Editor

UNC's class of 1980 started it all. Women outnumbered men. And since then, there has been no looking back.

Within four years of 1972, when the University stopped discriminating based on gender, female students were the majority on campus. Two years later, they made up 60 percent of UNC students.

Today, women make up 59 percent of the entire University, with a 62 percent female freshman class this year.

This is UNC's gender gap - an issue that is often defined as shaping the academic and social atmosphere at the

University.

"(Women) are generally much more serious than when I came here (25 years ago)," said Julia Wood, professor of communication studies.

She noted that interest in the gender gap doesn't work both ways.

"When we had a disproportionate number of men, no one was commenting," she said.

But now the female majority is a hot topic of conversation at the

University.

Incoming freshmen know offhand that there's a female majority before they pack their bags; ladies keep this in mind when they venture out to Franklin Street bars

and guys know there is a "60-40" ratio working for them.

These figures have an impact on more than how easy it is for a guy to get a date.

The classroom is among the places where gender has an effect.

"Men and women are in classes on more of an equal basis," Wood said. "If you want to look to the future, that's the training ground."

The gender ratio is a 22-year trend that has an effect on many daily aspects of UNC.

From the way the professors teach their classes to how men treat women socially, the gender makeup of this campus is an issue that deserves a deeper look.

The Features Editor can be reached at [features@unc.edu](mailto:features@unc.edu).

## Senior Officers Strive to Select Gift, Speaker

Although a class gift will not likely be chosen before October, class officers Jason Cowley and Sherilynn Black want student input.

By KIM MINUGH  
University Editor

Efforts to select a senior class gift and pinpoint a commencement speaker are already in the works, senior class officers say.

While encouraging senior participation in the Pit this week, the senior class officers will welcome ideas for the 2001 senior class gift.

Senior Class Vice President Sherilynn Black said the gift committee is open to all suggestions, from memorial scholarships to a new fountain in the Old Well. "I don't want to make any false promises," Black said. "Our gift is nowhere near picked."

President Jason Cowley said a few final options would be put to a vote before the senior class in mid-October.

During February's student elections, Black and Cowley presented a platform suggesting several gifts. But the team included a disclaimer welcoming all student input. "While those were some ideas, we want to make sure we are 100 percent public and open for all seniors to participate," Black said.

And even with nine months of classes remaining, Black said preparations for Commencement are already under way.

A Commencement speaker selection committee, composed of University officials, senior class marshals, and one senior class representative, is exploring options for this year's speaker.

After last year's senior class officers failed to finalize a Commencement speaker and gift plans until spring, Black said some students have feared a repeat.

But she said such comparisons are not fair to last year's officials or this year's crew. "Last year they did a great job; they just did things differently," she said. "Whatever happened last year, we want to make sure this is open to everyone."

Black and Cowley also said they are stepping up efforts to create various activities and opportunities for senior class participation. "To get people excited about their last year here is a general theme here," Cowley said.

He added that community service would be a focus this year, with Hurricane Floyd relief efforts already planned for Saturday. "We're really looking for a way to give back."

Black touts active senior participation as a main goal. "We're trying to bring a different twist besides party plans," she said.

Cowley, who said he takes pride in leading the first graduating class of the millennium, said he and Black will strive to redefine their class. "I think there's a real ethos of togetherness that I haven't seen before," he said. "A sense of togetherness is something Sherilynn and I were really interested in promoting and that we're glad to see come about."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHAPEL HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Surveillance cameras at Central Carolina Bank took this picture of the suspected bank robber.

## Police Seek Bank Robbery Suspect

Central Carolina Bank & Trust was robbed by a man who presented the teller with a note and escaped in a nearby truck.

By KATHRYN McLAMB  
Assistant City Editor

Chapel Hill police are investigating a robbery that took place Tuesday at the Central Carolina Bank & Trust Co. on Chapel Hill

Boulevard.

Police received a call reporting the robbery at 12:39 p.m. from bank officials at the 1775 Dobbins Drive location. Police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said investigators have no leads at this time.

Cousins described the suspect as a black male in his 40s, between 6 feet 2 inches and 6 feet 8 inches tall and weighing about 230 pounds.

The suspect was also reported to have graying, salt-and-pepper hair and a beard.

The suspect entered CCB and approached

the teller's counter wearing sunglasses, a plaid shirt, a tan jacket and a tan floppy hat.

The suspect then gave the teller a note but did not show a weapon during the robbery.

Police would not disclose the contents of the note or the amount of money taken because the investigation is ongoing.

After the teller gave him the money, the suspect fled the bank and escaped in a vehicle described by police as an older model burgundy Ford pickup truck.

See CCB, Page 4

The best thing about women is that there are so many of them.

Anonymous