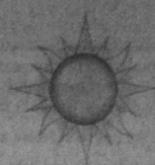


A Sight to See
Locals try to help
student. See Page 3



Bling Bling
N.C. A&T's voter registration drive
racked up more new voters than
UNC or N.C. State. See Page 3



Gee Whiz
Today: Sunny, 65
Tuesday: Sunny, 74
Wednesday: Sunny, 76

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Student Congress Grapples With Financial Strain

With the number of student groups on the rise, Congress members must decide how best to spend a rapidly shrinking budget.

By JASON ARTHURS
Staff Writer

Facing a dwindling pool of funds, Student Congress will find out tonight how far it can stretch the student buck this semester to fund campus groups' activities.

During its meeting, Congress will likely dole out about \$4,000 to nine campus groups hoping to get their share of the \$9,567.15 still remaining for student organizations, said Congress Speaker Alexandra Bell.

Student Body Treasurer Patrick Frye said Congress gets strapped for cash every year but usually not until the end of spring semester. "It happens every year; this year it happened a little quicker."

Frye said that given this year's shortage of funds, accompanied by an increase in student groups, Congress generally needs to be more careful this year about what events it supports.

"It's hard to say 'no,'" he said, adding that the general attitude when making tough funding decisions was, "Who cares if there's not going to be enough money for the next Congress?"

Student Body Secretary Michael Woods said that it is because of Congress' habitually careless spending practices that it is scraping the bottom of the financial bucket so early in the semester.

"They had their hand in the fire for three months, and now they are looking up and saying 'shit, it's burning,'" he said. "It's really about some of the practices of Congress."

But Bell said Congress has made smart choices this semester. "I think Congress has been heavily scrutinizing all the groups," she said. "We've been funding what we think is important."

Congress Finance Committee Chairman Mark Townsend also said the shortfall was not due to Congress' unwise spending. "It comes down to we don't have enough money," he said.

Frye said the funding shortfall was caused this year by a depleted Special Projects and Speakers Fund and fewer unused dollars being returned by groups.

The Subsequent Appropriations Fund, which is currently being distributed, is the money that Congress doles out for events held by campus organizations not accounted for in Congress's annual budget. The fund, which totaled \$22,350 at the start of this semester, is composed of 11.6 percent of the \$10 student fee paid by each undergraduate student.

Bell said most groups that came before Congress had proposed legitimate uses for the money they requested. But Woods said Congress needs to learn how to say no to funding events that do not directly benefit UNC. "Is value being returned to the campus? Since all students are paying for this, are all students benefiting?" Woods said. "It's tough because decisions have to be made, and you can't replace your wallet with your heart."

Rep. David Seymour, Dist. 17, said he has tried to support events that have a direct impact on campus. "You can't really point the blame at some one person," Seymour said. "Some people are going to get money, and that's just the way it is."

Woods said the first come, first serve attitude in Congress is not fair to all groups at UNC. "If we can develop a better protocol, at least you'd know ahead of time what the score is," he said.

The Subsequent Appropriations Fund was about \$5,000 short this year because of a debt incurred by last year's Congress. The debt, Frye said, occurred because the budget reversion, or left-over money returned by student groups, did not reach the projected 20 percent. He said the reversion came up about 1 percent short because Congress changed the reversion policy to allow unused funds to carry over into the spring semester instead of asking groups to return the money at the end of each semester.

"The reason the reversion rate wasn't as high as expected was they changed the rules of reversion after budget was made," Frye said. "Groups had the money longer, and they had greater opportunities to (spend) that money."

He also said Congress gave individual groups less money last year. "When you give groups less margin, they return less." Moreover, the Special Projects and Speakers Fund, which in the last three years has paid for groups' guest speakers and Hip Hop Nation's annual concerts, has been exhausted.

Frye said the money in the Special Projects and Speakers Fund became available three years ago during the 79th Congress, which passed legislation providing that speakers costing more than \$2,000 to be paid for with the fund.

He said that while the reversion shortfall will be corrected this year and the \$3 increase in student fees will help, the absence of the Special Projects and Speakers Fund will have long-term effects. "This Congress doesn't have the money (to restore it)."

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Congress Speaker Alexandra Bell says Congress has "heavily scrutinized" each organization's requests.



Student Body Treasurer Patrick Frye said Congress needs to be more selective in doling out funds.

Growing Pains

Phases of the Environmental Master Plan:

- Phase I: Representatives visit UNC to familiarize themselves with the campus and prepare their study.
- Phase II: The firms assess their resources and examine campus topography and the water runoff system.
- Phase III: The firms analyzed the campus Master Plan in the context of water resource management. They identify conflicts and impacts and propose alternative measures.

Today, the DTH begins its three-part examination of UNC's Master Plan, a blueprint for campus growth.

- Today: *The Environmental Impact*
- Tuesday: *The Faces Behind the Plan*
- Wednesday: *A Plan in Action*

Ecology Plays Role in Plan

By LOREN CLEMENS
Staff Writer

When it rains on campus, it's more than a natural phenomenon — it's a factor now changing the course of campus growth.

Stormwater runoff is just one of UNC's ecological dilemmas the Environmental Master Plan is attempting to address. These recommendations for a greener campus are part of the larger UNC Master Plan, which will guide future development on University property.

To form a set of environmental guidelines for UNC, Ayers Saint Gross, the architectural firm hired to formulate the Master Plan, called in Andropogon Associates and Cahill Associates. The two Pennsylvania firms are known for helping businesses, colleges and botanical gardens around the country design ecologically sound facilities.

"It became obvious that the land and water resources had to be considered," said Teresa Durkin, Andropogon Associates' project manager for the Environmental Master Plan. She said her firm, along with Cahill Associates, was called in to analyze the topography and the stream system of UNC's campus.

The firms had help from the Environmental Advisory Group. This group was composed of individuals from the UNC and Chapel Hill communities who are knowledgeable about environmental issues facing the area. They served as guides and advisers for the consultants as they evaluated the campus from April to July.

When it came to identifying the most important problems, the group's discussions covered a lot of ground. Air pollution, solid waste management and energy efficiency were all brought to the consultants' attention.

The number of undeveloped spaces

on campus was high on the list of priorities for group members. Planners say future developments will not encroach on too many of the campus' existing green spaces, and plans to construct new ones are also in the works.

But along with the need to preserve trees and lawns, the group's primary focus eventually settled on water quality and control.

"One thing we wanted to do was to make this campus a leader for the state in what you can do to be environmentally sensitive," said Don Francisco, part of the 31-person group. "Water was the thing we could have the most impact on."

UNC's campus is the watershed for several local streams, one of which runs directly under Kenan Stadium.

See ENVIRONMENT, Page 2

Town Sweats Sprawling UNC Campus

By LEAH COLE
Staff Writer

How big is big enough?

As UNC's campus continues to grow, many people worry that the University will start spilling into neighborhoods despite efforts by officials to preserve the town's small size.

In September, a revised edition of the Master Plan for UNC was unveiled. This blueprint will guide University development over a 25- to 50-year period. But the University is not an island unto itself, and the UNC Master Plan will affect not only the campus, but also the areas surrounding it. And some are concerned that not all those changes will be positive.

"The major goal (of the Master Plan) is to accommodate the growth and development of the University while maintaining the beauty and the small campus

See SPRAWL, Page 2

Barenaked Ladies Put on Silly Show

The Barenaked Ladies left their fans at the Smith Center satisfied after a show full of goofy antics.

By WARREN WILSON
Staff Writer

Call them nerds, criticize their music, knock their Canadian heritage — but you still can't deny that Barenaked Ladies put on a good show.

The band's Friday night performance in the Smith Center was a marvelous example of a mediocre band giving the crowd what they want, and how they want it.

The theme of silliness, highlighted by giant balloons floating above the stage and a random guy dressed as a chef, veiled the well-oiled machine that is Barenaked Ladies and their crew.

The precise pacing and execution, not to mention the excellent sound

and the snazzy matching red-and-black outfits, reflected the slickness and superficiality of their latest album, *Maroon*, yet the members still took sufficient time to banter with the crowd and goof off.

The concert began with a reading of the poem from which the album takes its name, set to cheesy Latin jazz, a nonsensical cartoon on the four giant screens strategically framing the stage.

After sufficient buildup, the band came onstage and burst triumphantly into "Too Little Too Late." The Ladies proceeded into "Alcohol" from *Stunt* and "Life in a Nutshell," before stopping to talk to the hysterical crowd about how much fun spinning until you get dizzy is.

There was method behind the ludicrousness, though, as the jokes and dorky freestyles always flowed seamlessly into another song, as did the one drum solo and one bass solo of the night.

While the band played them as well as technically possible, many of the songs themselves were still pretty lousy, especially *Maroon* flops like "Baby Seat."

The set included most of *Maroon*,

peppered with well-timed old favorites like "The Old Apartment" and "1,000,000 Dollars." For those whose favorite songs could not fit into the set, the band included a funny but well-done five-minute medley of about a dozen of its older tunes.

Barenaked Ladies' two encores left the crowd satisfied, finishing the first one comically as the roadies came onstage with paper bags over their heads to take away the instruments. The second encore concluded the show sweetly, as the band delivered a touching version of "Call and Answer."

The timing and production of the show did become sickeningly contrived at times, as did their goofy, fun-for-the-whole-family humor.

The giant screens exacerbated this problem, zooming in on Steven Page's and Ed Robertson's singing faces, writhing in emotion while I was writhing in pain.

But the band still managed to seem down to earth as far as \$30, alcohol-free arena concerts go.

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DTH/RYAN VASAN

Steven Page of Barenaked Ladies, belts out the song "Alcohol" on Friday night in the Smith Center.

There are no shortcuts in evolution.

Louis D. Brandeis