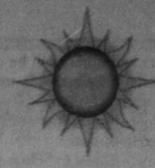


Gettin' Freaky  
Play tells sad tale.  
See Page 3



Quest for the Cup  
The UNC women's soccer team  
needs two more wins for its 16th  
NCAA title in 19 years. See Page 7



Chilly Willie  
Today: Sunny, 49  
Saturday: Sunny, 42  
Sunday: Showers, 42

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Friday, December 1, 2000

## N.C. Colleges Fall Short in Ranking

By PETER JOHNSTON  
Staff Writer

Affordable, but not beneficial enough to the state or accessible enough to students — this was the judgment passed Thursday about higher education in North Carolina by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.

The organization released Measuring Up 2000, a report card assessing each state's higher education performance in six categories.

The report graded each state in terms of relative affordability of institutions, the percentage of 18- to 44-year-olds that participates in college, the percentage that completes their education, how well college students in each state learn, the benefits each state reaps from its higher edu-

cation institutions and how well each state's students are prepared for college.

North Carolina received a "D" in participation, a "D-plus" in benefits to the state, a "B" in student preparation, a "B-plus" in completion, an "A" in affordability and an "incomplete" in learning.

All 50 states received incompletes in the learning category because they did not have necessary data available.

All two- and four-year institutions — both public and private — were included in the report.

The report noted that the small percentage of North Carolinians with bachelor's degrees impairs the state's economy, resulting in a low grade in the category of benefits to the state.

UNC Association of Student Governments President Andrew Payne

said that despite the low benefits grade, the UNC system is still a key component of the state's economy.

"The University of North Carolina system is the greatest economic generator for the state of North Carolina," Payne said.

He said the state can increase both its benefit and participation grade by increasing access to system schools.

"If we could plug more high school students into the system, we will see its full benefits," Payne said.

UNC-system President Molly Broad also said the state's public university system can increase its grade in the participation category by stressing the importance of higher education while potential students are still in secondary school.

"We need to reach out to the students

and families of eighth- and ninth-graders," Broad said.

The report also states that North Carolina allots a relatively small amount of financial aid for low-income students and their families. But Broad added that solving this problem is a top priority for N.C. universities.

The system is seeking full funding from the N.C. General Assembly for a state need-based financial aid program that will provide more than \$30 million for needy students.

Although Gov. Jim Hunt is the chairman of The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, his office declined to comment on the report.

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

## The Grades Are In

A recently released study shows that higher education in North Carolina is affordable but is neither beneficial nor accessible to its residents.

Subject	Grade
<b>Preparation</b> — How adequately are students in each state being prepared for education and training beyond high school?	D
<b>Participation</b> — Do state residents have sufficient opportunity to enroll in education and training beyond high school?	D
<b>Affordability</b> — How affordable is higher education for all students and their families?	A
<b>Completion</b> — Do students make progress toward and complete their certificates and degrees in a timely manner?	B+
<b>Benefits</b> — What benefits does the state receive as a result of having a highly educated population?	D+

SOURCE: THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY & HIGHER EDUCATION

DTH/CAROLINE GOBBLE AND KRISTEN HARDY

## A No-Win Situation?

By ALEX KAPLUN  
Assistant State & National Editor

After spending \$250 million combined and close to two years of campaigning, Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Al Gore might soon find out that the presidency is not worth winning.

More than three weeks after Election Day, the battle for the presidency continues as squads of lawyers contest election laws in courtrooms across the country, angry protesters pace the streets of Florida cities and mudslinging continues back and forth between Democrats and Republicans.

The way things stand today, Bush might win the presidency with 271 electoral votes — just one more than the minimum required for victory. Gore will win the popular vote by less than a 1 percent margin out of close to 100 million votes cast.

The next president will have before him the task of uniting a divided nation, one that voted so evenly on Election Day that the outcome is still uncertain almost a month later.

But the toughest fight for the winning candidate might begin in January when he steps in front of the new Congress for the first time.

The 107th Congress is one of the most evenly split in history along party lines. The Senate is split right down the middle — with 50 members from each party — the first time since 1880 that the Senate has been evenly split.

When the next president takes over — whichever one it might be — the Republicans will control the Senate by one vote.

If Bush wins the presidency, Vice President Dick Cheney will have the tie-breaking 51st vote.

But if Gore manages to pull out the election, then his running mate, Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., would have to step down from his seat. In this scenario, Connecticut's Republican Gov. John Rowland would likely appoint a Republican senator to take his place.

The Democrats will actually control the Senate for 17 days — from Jan. 3, when the Senate first meets, until Inauguration Day on Jan. 20. Both parties agreed Tuesday that Sen. Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., will be majority leader during that period.

In the House, the GOP has slightly

more room to operate with an eight-seat majority and one race still undecided — ironically in Florida, the site of lingering questions in the presidential race.

But the 43rd president's effectiveness could first be impacted by the way in which the 2000 election comes to an end.

"Who decides and how it is decided — that will have more to do with the next president's credibility than anything else," said Michael Munger, a Duke University political science professor.

Munger said that while a Bush presidency would have a cloud over it because the Texas governor will have lost the popular vote, Gore would have to deal with an even larger credibility hit if he managed to pull out the election.

"The worst-case scenario is if Gore wins because he would have done it through the courts and by alienating the military," Munger said.

Hundreds of Florida absentee ballots from military personnel were thrown out last week at the request of Democratic officials because they were missing postmarks.

Munger said that during Bush's six-year stint as governor of Texas, he has shown the ability to reach across the aisle and appeal to members of both parties.

Plus, Bush does have a majority to work with — albeit a slight one.

"If Bush can hold the Republican majority and attract a few Democrats, he could actually get some things accomplished," Munger said.

But he said it would be next to impossible for Gore to get any significant piece of legislation passed.

"I don't think Gore is capable of reaching the Republicans," he said.

Munger said many Republican leaders still hold a grudge against anyone affiliated with President Clinton's administration, including the vice president.

But while the next president might have trouble maintaining credibility with Congress, some analysts say the American public might be more accepting.

"After the decision is made, the legitimacy of the president will not be questioned by the American people," said Ross Baker, a Rutgers University political science professor. "Once he puts his hand on the Bible during inauguration, he will be the president."

Baker added that while images of angry protesters have appeared on television screens and front pages in recent weeks, people who genuinely feel cheated by the election aftermath represent a minuscule minority of the American public.

"There are going to be a certain number of people that are going to be dissatisfied no matter what happens," Baker said. "You can't allow the government to be held hostage by a few people who are

See MANDATE, Page 2

## Gore Contests Bush Strategy For Electors

Bush says the Florida Legislature has power to choose the state's electors, but Gore claims it is not an issue for the high court.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Al Gore is contending that George W. Bush's lawyers are improperly trying to "smuggle in" an issue that is not part of the case the Supreme Court agreed to hear today — whether the Florida Legislature can step into the disputed presidential election.

Gore wants the justices to ignore that question in the show-down session and stick to a narrow review of a ruling by Florida's Supreme Court that extended the state's deadline for conducting manual ballot recounts.

"The validity of speculative future conduct by the Florida Legislature is not before this court," the Gore lawyers wrote Thursday, in the last round of legal filings before Friday's 90-minute high court session.

Perhaps in a measure of the issue's growing importance, Gore addressed it twice Thursday. He raised constitutional and legal questions about the Legislature's involvement in his main written arguments filed early in the day, then followed up with the claim that Bush is trying to pull a fast one.

Bush argued in his own filings that the Legislature does have the authority to appoint its own set of presidential electors if it chooses.

"In this context ... the Constitution specifically assigns the power to determine the manner of appointing presidential electors to the state legislature," as opposed to the "state" in general, Bush's lawyers wrote.

Bush and his running mate, Dick Cheney, met with retired Gen. Colin Powell Thursday at Bush's ranch near Crawford, Texas. Pundits have dubbed Powell a likely candidate for the secretary of defense position.

Even though the election's outcome is still up in the air, Bush has spent much of the week setting up his presidential transition team.

Florida's 25 electoral votes will decide the election. Bush has won state certification, but Gore has sued to overturn that outcome.

A committee of the state Legislature voted on Thursday to recommend a special session with the idea that the lawmakers would appoint their own slate of electors if the issue is still unresolved by the Dec. 12 selection deadline. The Electoral College meets Dec. 18.

Democrats say they are concerned the Legislature would act if Gore prevailed in his court challenges and captured the regular slate of electors.

Both sides addressed the role of the Republican-led Florida Legislature in written legal arguments to the court.

In their first filing Thursday, Gore's lawyers said Congress set Election Day as a uniform national date for selection of electors, and that Florida made its presidential choice Nov. 7, "although by a vote so close and under a counting process so flawed that the state's courts are still attempting to ascertain ... what the choice was."



Vice President Al Gore wants the Supreme Court to stick to a narrow review of the Florida ruling.



Texas Gov. George W. Bush argues that the Florida Legislature can appoint presidential electors.

## Local Doctor Jailed for Practicing Without License

By STEPHANIE FURR  
Staff Writer

A local psychiatrist made his first appearance in court Thursday after being arrested this week for practicing medicine with a license that had been suspended indefinitely.

Chapel Hill police arrested William Frederick Mackey, Jr., who was self-employed, at 3:50 p.m. Tuesday at his office on 109 Conner Drive after a joint investigation with the State Bureau of Investigation.

The suspect was charged with five counts

of practicing medicine without a valid license, five counts of prescribing prescription drugs without a valid license and one count of obtaining controlled substances by fraud.

The latter charge is a felony; the former are misdemeanors.

According to records from the N.C. Medical Board, Mackey's license was "summarily suspended" on March 3.

"A summary suspension is without trial or hearing because of a threat to the public," said Dale Braden, director of the board's public affairs.

The board took action in response to reports of Mackey's alleged alcohol abuse and other charges, including impersonating a law enforcement officer while drunk in 1994.

The board then issued an order on April 10 to "indefinitely suspend" Mackey's license.

Braden said that although indefinitely suspending a doctor's license is not exactly the same as revocation, it is just as final. "It accomplished the same thing with different wording."

Chapel Hill police recently received information that Mackey had continued practicing medicine since his suspension.

"We sent an officer in undercover," said Jane Cousins, spokeswoman for the Chapel Hill Police Department. "And Dr. Mackey presented himself as still a certified psychiatrist."

He was arrested and was transported to Orange County Jail on a \$5,000 secured bond.

He was scheduled to be assigned counsel in court Thursday, but the details of his first appearance were not available at press time.

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

When I was a boy, I was told that anybody could become president; I'm beginning to believe it.

Clarence Darrow