



ASHLEY STEPHENSON

UNC Peeps Must Unite To Fight Cuts

The University is in dire straits. I only wish I were talking about the dynamic music group that spawned such hits as "Money for Nothing" (I Want My MTV) and "Walk of Life."

Late last week, the legislature's Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education (read: Raleigh hooligans) gave the word that our fine institution would need to do a little belt tightening in the name of budget cuts to the ugly tune of \$25 million — quite a hefty price from our lawmakers who have long promised to prioritize higher education.

I'm going to tell you why you should give a damn.

The said cut could result in higher tuition, less quality professors, more barbecue-eating TAs, layoffs and salary cuts.

A bad scene indeed, and one that couldn't come at a worse time. The University was just getting back on stable ground. In August 1999, the community was reeling from the death of Chancellor Michael Hooker. The administrative ranks were shaky. In place was an interim leader who could only steer the flagship for so long. Provost Dick Richardson was recovering from a heart attack and set to retire in a year. The vice chancellor for finance made plans to leave the post. The schools of law and nursing were welcoming new deans. The bond package had stagnated in the legislature, and a \$6.8 million budget shortfall added to the woes.

In the meantime, higher-ups were trying to implement campus-changing initiatives such as the Master Plan and the Carolina Computing Initiative, which had only existed on paper but were now becoming realities.

We were on the road to recovery with the Big Meese securely in place. The bond passed in November, and Student Union construction, Master Plan blueprints and the computer initiative were well under way. With a cut of \$25 million, UNC won't just have to tighten its belt — it'll have to lose the belt altogether.

And there's a lot at stake. Our honchos are already spooked. Meese and UNC-system President Molly Broad are surprised and scared and a little pissed. Faculty Council Chairwoman Sue Estroff is worried that our professors already are packing their bags and potential faculty are writing UNC off.

Students are caught in the middle. And I'm worried our voices will not be enough. But with the big decision-makers in North Carolina, money speaks louder than words. And that's where the Meese comes in.

He needs to start tapping alumni for their cash and their influence. Upcoming meetings with the UNC Board of Visitors and the Parents Council are a good start. Meese needs to continue to follow in the footsteps of Hooker, who once embarked on a 100-county tour of North Carolina to build state support for the UNC system. Hooker made it personal and told residents why they should care.

Big names like Dean Smith and Bill Friday also need to step up to the plate and put the heat on — so should anybody else whose name is on a UNC building.

The legislature's timing is perfect and not accidental. School's almost out. Exams are coming up. But that should not deter students or students leaders from mobilizing to fight this. A UNC-Chapel Hill effort will not cut it. Students from all system schools need to get in the mix.

Because plenty is hanging in the balance.

If lawmakers get their way, grumpy TAs will teach your classes, not quality professors. That course you wanted to take might magically disappear from the class directory. If your teachers aren't laid off, they might go searching for greener pastures where their salaries aren't sliced. The great minds poised to lecture in our classrooms could easily turn their backs.

All this can be yours — if you can afford the raised tuition.

UNC has long been heralded as a university for the people. Now the people need to fight this one together.

If we yell loud enough, they just might hear us.

Columnist Ashley Stephenson can be reached at ashley21@email.unc.edu.

Students Vow to Fight Budget Cuts

By FAITH RAY AND ALEX KAPLUN
State & National Editors

As UNC-system officials prepare to lobby the N.C. General Assembly to prevent possible budget cuts, the UNC Association of Student Governments has made its own plans for appealing to the legislature.

The ASG is sending state lawmakers a memo, urging them to find solutions to the state's budget woes other than slicing \$125 million out of the UNC-system budget.

The Joint Appropriations

Subcommittee on Education formally requested last week that UNC-system officials find a way to cut 7 percent from the University's recurring budget.

At UNC, the cut would result in a \$25 million decrease in University funds.

Budget cuts could mean a slashing of 1,800 UNC-system jobs, including 700 faculty positions, ASG delegates said.

ASG President Andrew Payne also said legislators could increase tuition in order to compensate for the loss of funding.

In the memo, ASG delegates remind-

ed legislators of their constitutional duty to "provide that the benefits of the University of North Carolina and other public institutions of higher education, as far as practicable, be extended to the people of the state free of expense."

Payne also suggested that student leaders consider a gathering at the General Assembly, similar to February's Students' Day at the Capitol, to lobby legislators on these issues.

Payne added that in this case, students would have much more support than they did during Students' Day at the Capitol, which focused mostly on student

issues. "We have the faculty and staff on our side who have a lot more resources," Payne said. "We are prepared to join together."

Payne urged student leaders to e-mail their U.S. Congress representatives to push for protection of low tuition and adequate financial aid funding for UNC-system students.

Student leaders also met Friday with UNC-system President Molly Broad to discuss further lobbying efforts.

Broad once again emphasized the

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ASG Picks Payne for 2nd Term

The Association of Student Governments chose Andrew Payne and running mate Sonia Blanks as its leaders.

By FAITH RAY
Assistant State & National Editor

RALEIGH — In an overwhelming show of support Saturday, the UNC Association of Student Governments delegates re-elected Andrew Payne as president.

Payne's running mate, and the new vice president of the ASG, is Sonia Blanks, who served as student body president at Fayetteville State University. "Thank you for your support," N.C. State University student Payne said after being elected. "I appreciate the opportunity to represent the association and the students."



ASG President Andrew Payne said a focus of the association would be on becoming more Internet-reliant.

David Chesley, a student at Western Carolina University and Veronica Hatton, UNC-Pembroke student body president ran against Payne and Blanks.

Payne said the ASG would be his main priority because he will be taking one class in the fall 2001 semester.

"The ASG will be my job working with the General Assembly, the Board of Governors and the students."

Before the voting started, members stood up to probe the candidates about what changes they would make to the organization. The focus of the association for the next school year will be implementing a heavy reliance on the Internet, Payne said.

He said he hopes the ASG Web site will attract the interest of students and legislators to the association.

But Payne said he was concerned about the current image the ASG projects, and said he would continue to re-establish the association's credibility.

"Many think the state student association is not doing its job," Payne said. "The ASG is almost like a glorified social club, and that concerns me."

Payne also said he wanted to serve a second term because he felt that he did not get a full opportunity to serve the ASG during his first term. Payne replaced then-ASG President Cliff Webster last September, who resigned after being charged with larceny.

Chesley agreed the ASG is not currently producing desired results.

"We need to take the current (ASG) constitution and throw it in the trash," Chesley said. "It's useless. We need to come up with a new one."

Talk soon turned to the internal direction the association will take for the new school year. Payne said he is aiming to establish an optional \$1 student fee to increase funding for the association.

"We have to get our name out," he said. "We have to get to a level where (the ASG) does the job for the students of North Carolina."

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No Chills at Area Street Festival

By BEN GULLETT
Staff Writer

Jon Hunt stood motionless among the throngs of people at Sunday's Apple Chill festival as they anxiously waited for him to break his pose.

While standing for hours as a human statue was not the most common way to celebrate Sunday's Apple Chill festival, it was the route taken by Hunt, who took up his act several years ago in Europe. He stood mostly motionless for more than an hour, making only small gestures of thanks to tipplers. The 29th annual Apple Chill, sponsored by the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department, drew revelers with arts and crafts booths, food, live music and entertainment such as Hunt's performance.

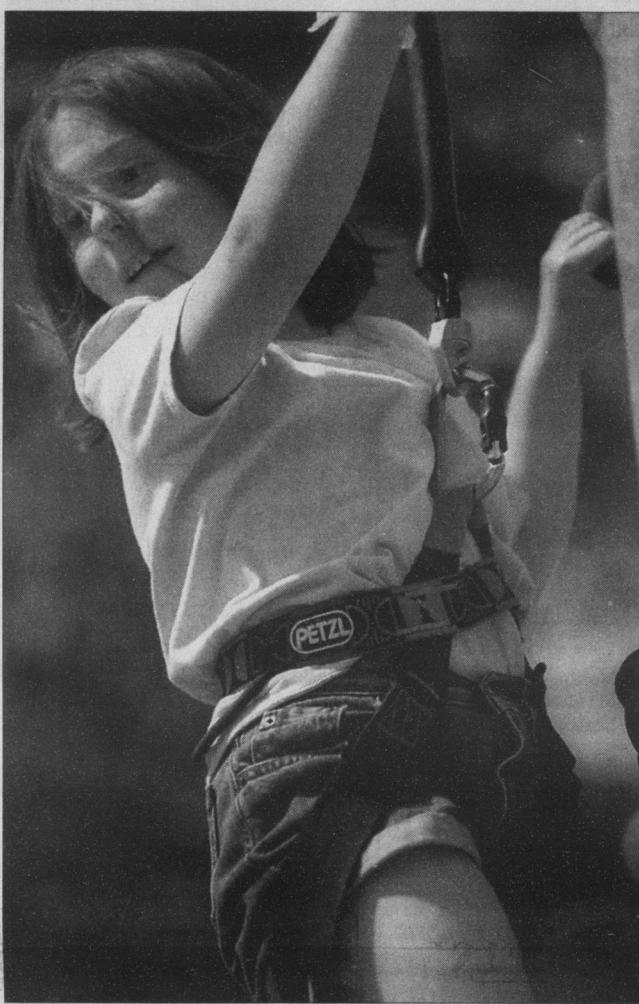
"I was broke in Ireland and wanted to go to a pub," he said. "I made about 12 bucks in 10 minutes."

What started as a joke earned enough money for that evening's festivities and sparked an interest that has brought him across Europe and the United States, eventually landing him in Chapel Hill.

Other activists, artists and vendors also took advantage of the festival's high turnout.

Jeanie Arnel worked at the the Christian Science Reading

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Katherine Thomason, 8, of Chapel Hill (above) scales a rock-climbing wall at Sunday's Apple Chill festival. Hare Krishnas sing on McCorkle Place (top).

DTH/MIKE MESSIER

Officials Question Flying Club Actions

Bill Sawyer, president of the Chapel Hill Flying Club, did not believe Thursday's incident was a big deal.

By GINNY SCIABBARRASI
City Editor

UNC officials are questioning a decision made by the Chapel Hill Flying Club to delay notifying proper authorities after a forced landing near the Horace Williams Airport on Thursday.

Pat Greenwell, a Flying Club board member, and her passenger, Richard Binkley, also a club member, made an emergency landing at the end of the runway after the engine of the single-engine plane Greenwell was flying stopped. The plane landed on UNC property, making it fall under University jurisdiction.

The landing occurred around 5:30 p.m. UNC and emergency officials were not notified for another 2 1/2 hours.

"It took (Greenwell and Binkley) about 30 to 45 minutes to walk back to

the airport," said Flying Club President Bill Sawyer. "They called me, and we went out to the scene and then we called the (Federal Aviation Administration) and UNC officials."

But Carolyn Eiland, the associate vice chancellor for auxiliary services, a position that oversees airport activities, rebuked Sawyer for delaying the call to University officials.

"If an accident occurs on University property, we expect that the employee on duty at the airport will immediately be notified," she wrote in a letter to Sawyer.

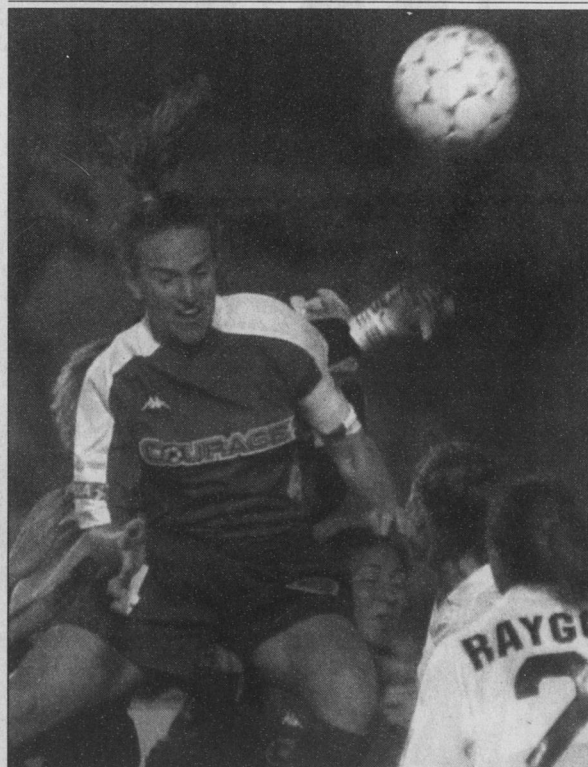
"If the incident occurs after hours and no employee is on duty, we expect Public Safety to be notified immediately."

"The situation (Thursday) night was inexcusable."

But Sawyer said the incident was downplayed by the club because it was just a landing and no injuries occurred. "This is no big deal," he said.

"This is not a crash. It's never happened before."

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Carolina's Carla Overbeck heads the ball during the Courage's inaugural game Saturday. Overbeck played on four undefeated UNC teams in college.

DTH/SEFTON IPOCK

Courage Loses Inaugural Game 1-0

The game, a homecoming for many former UNC stars, pitted the WUSA's Courage against the Boston Breakers.

By JAMIE AGIN
Staff Writer

Fireworks lit up the sky above UNC's Fetzer Field in celebration of the inaugural game for the Women's United Soccer Association's Carolina Courage and Boston Breakers.

But much to the disappointment of the Courage and thousands of enthusiastic fans, the action on the field was less than explosive.

A crowd of 6,134 watched the Breakers dominate the majority of Saturday night's contest.

The Breakers ultimately hung on for a 1-0 victory.

In the 14th minute of the first half, Boston midfielder Maren Meinert, one of two German nationals playing for the Breakers, scored Boston's first-ever goal, taking a pass from 20 yards out on the right wing from teammate Keri Raygor and putting it by Courage goalkeeper

Bente Nordby.

After squandering several scoring opportunities, the Courage's best chance to tie came in the 90th minute when a shot by forward Silvana Burtini clanged off the right post.

There was a scramble for possession in front of the net before Boston finally cleared the ball.

"There were some offensive opportunities with our team, but it's a matter of finishing," Carolina coach Marcia McDermott said.

"The first game is not going to be anybody's best game."

In addition to being the regular season opener for both teams, the game served as a homecoming for many former North Carolina players.

Returning to Chapel Hill for the Breaker squad were Kristine Lilly (1989-'92), Raygor ('91-'94), Tracy Ducar ('91-'95) and Robin Confer ('94-'97).

Meanwhile, the Courage sideline was lined with nine former Tar Heels, including McDermott, Carolina assistant coach Susan Ellis, 2000 NCAA Final Four MVP Meredith Florance and U.S. National Team Captain Carla Overbeck.

Overbeck, who played four undefeated seasons at North Carolina, found herself in an unusual position after the loss.

"It's very frustrating," Overbeck said.

"I don't like to lose."

But Breaker midfielder Lilly, who played with Overbeck in 1989 and helped UNC win four NCAA titles from 1989-1992, pointed out that Overbeck wasn't the only former Tar Heel with a winning past.

"We all had a winning streak, and it all had to end (for someone)," said Lilly. She credited the Breaker victory with a strong opening effort and bit of luck.

"The last 10 minutes, they were down on our end, and in the first half we dominated," Lilly said.

"We held on, and the post was on our side."

Despite the loss, Overbeck remained enthusiastic regarding both her return to Chapel Hill and the beginning of the brand-new league.

"As a professional athlete, it doesn't get any better than this," she said. "Although if we had won, it would've been better."

Carolina's franchise — owned by Time Warner Cable — was originally supposed to be in Orlando, but when the deal fell through, the team ended up in Chapel Hill.

"It's always good to come back," she said. "It's just exciting to get the league on the way. It's a good area for soccer."

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