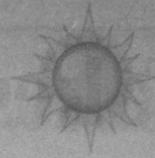


Good Fun  
Event earns cancer  
funds. See Page 3



Oh, What a Knight!  
Heath Ledger stars in a medieval  
comedy with a modern twist.  
See Page 2



Countdown  
Today: Sunny, 74  
Tuesday: Sunny, 81  
Wednesday: Sunny, 81

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Monday, April 30, 2001

## Students to Take Action Against Budget Cuts

By DANIEL THIGPEN  
Assistant University Editor

Wednesday not only marks the end of classes but also the beginning of a student-centered movement to combat potential budget cuts at UNC.

About 20 students from student government and other campus groups met Sunday night outside Hamilton Hall to plan protests against the proposed cuts.

Earlier this month, a General Assembly subcommittee, facing the worst budget deficit in a decade, suggested that \$125 million be cut from

UNC-system funding. UNC's share would total \$25 million.

Student Body President Justin Young suggested developing a lobbying system that will attract the most attention from the state.

"What we need to do is make sure we set up our strategy front," he said.

Young and other organizers plan to set up e-mail and phone stations in the Pit on Wednesday so students can contact state representatives.

A demonstration with student, faculty and administrative speakers will take place the same day, but a location is yet

to be determined.

Students will be able to meet legislators on Thursday, and Young said transportation is still being worked out. He said he is weighing several options, from carpooling to busing.

Wednesday and Thursday's events are scheduled to coincide with other demonstrations at campuses across the state, particularly N.C. State University, Young said.

Students at N.C. State will be walking out of classes Wednesday at 11 a.m. and gathering at their bell tower, where they will march to the legislative building and

meet with representatives at noon.

Between now and Wednesday, Young said organizers will be getting the word out by fliers, e-mails and word of mouth so students will be eager to get involved.

"I think it's important we do so now," Young said. "We have to make sure our voice is heard throughout the summer."

Chancellor James Moeser made an appearance at Sunday's meeting to encourage the students' endeavors.

He said developing a strategy is essential to alleviating potential damage.

"These are very real cuts," Moeser said. "If we don't turn this thing around

it will be very devastating."

Moeser said he doesn't believe legislators want to harm the University, but that students should emphasize the importance of finding other means of cutting the state deficit.

"I think it is our job to mobilize public opinion," he said.

Moeser rallied the students and gave them inspiration to make the projects effective means of persuasion. "I think our work is cut out for us."

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## UNC, Nike Consider Labor Issue

The University could set an example for other schools by incorporating labor concerns into its contract.

By KIM MINUGH  
University Editor

Department of Athletics officials say UNC is taking a groundbreaking approach in drafting its new contract with Nike, addressing labor concerns for the first time in the partnership's history.

Director of Athletics Dick Baddour said the University's negotiators are hoping to incorporate UNC's labor code into the deal, balancing the department's financial needs and UNC's social responsibilities. By doing so, he said, UNC would set an example for other universities.

"We've been talking to Nike about initiatives," Baddour said in an interview with The Daily Tar Heel on Sunday. "Nike knows our concern about labor practices."

Although still in the fourth year of a five-year deal with Nike, UNC began the recontracting process this year, and Baddour said he hopes to finish next month. The Nike-UNC partnership began 10 years ago. Then, in the summer of 1997, Baddour signed a \$1.7 million contract with the sportswear giant.

Baddour said he has played an integral part in this year's negotiations, which he expects will lead to a contract that will result in an even larger payoff for UNC.

But getting more for his money hasn't been his only concern, Baddour said. Discussions have addressed the UNC community's changing areas of concern.

Students for Economic Justice and others have pushed UNC in recent years to support fair labor practices. Chancellor James Moeser most recently tackled the issue by sending a letter to Nike in January expressing his disapproval of alleged labor code violations in a Nike-contracted factory in Puebla, Mexico.

Baddour said discussions used to center on public versus private dealings, but now the issue is reconciling money and morals.

Because the University is a member of the Fair Labor Association and the Workers' Rights Consortium, two labor

See NIKE, Page 5

## Housing Frustrates Residents

Christopher Payne, director of housing, said students were back on South Campus because it has more rooms.

By ROB LEICHER  
Staff Writer

Officials say complaining parents are not the reason that rising sophomores had trouble moving off South Campus for next year.

Rumors that the parents of incoming freshmen, concerned about unsightly construction, have successfully pressured housing officials to keep their children off South Campus have spread since housing assignments recently were issued.

But Director of University Housing Christopher Payne said the main factors are a record number of housing applications from returning students, the closing of Joyner Residence Hall for renovations and the reservation of a certain number of spaces on North and Mid campuses for incoming freshmen.

"It's just that we have more physical bed spaces in our South Campus communities," Payne said.

The recontracting process, which took place during the week of March 19, differed this year from previous years in that rooms were assigned on a first come, first serve basis by academic classification.

After fulfilling the requests of graduate students, seniors and juniors, the only sophomores who could switch regions were those who had chosen a roommate already living in another region.

"We value the opportunity for students to select their roommates," Payne said. "It's untrue to say that all students living on South Campus couldn't move to a different region."

Spaces are reserved each year for incoming freshmen to live on North and Mid campuses. "Our philosophy is to place students from all academic classifications in all of our campus communities," Payne said.

About 1,800 freshmen currently live on South Campus, with 700 living on North and Mid campuses. The ratio changes from year to year, Payne said, adding that the complete figures for next fall's ratio are still unavailable.

"We don't operate off a percentage," he said. "What we do is develop intentional communities."

Payne said he has not talked to any parents of incoming freshmen who did not want their children to live on South Campus. Instead his experience has shown the opposite to be true. "Most first-year students give us their preference as one of the South Campus communities," Payne said.

The trend of fewer students switching from South Campus to other campus regions in their sophomore year will

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## Bush Approval High After 1st 100 Days

By MICHAEL MCKNIGHT  
Staff Writer

After 36 days of recounts, lawsuits and danging chads, Texas Gov. George W. Bush was named the winner of one of the closest and most contested presidential elections in American history.

When President Bush entered the White House on the bitterly cold and rainy afternoon of Jan. 20, he did so with low public expectations and, many said, without a mandate.

Many wondered whether the new president would be able to overcome the stigma of the far-from-decisive election, a near-even split in Congress and questions about his experience to lead the country.

His campaign and inaugural address were both filled with lofty goals, including instituting the largest tax cut in national history, reforming education and ushering in a new era of bipartisanship.

One hundred days into his term, some analysts and politicians say Bush has lived up to his promises and exceeded expectations, while others say he has fallen short of his goals and leaves much to be desired.

### Overcoming the Election

Before the election was decided, analysts and average citizens alike speculated that the new president, whomever he turned out to be, would have difficulty being accepted as legitimate by the American people.

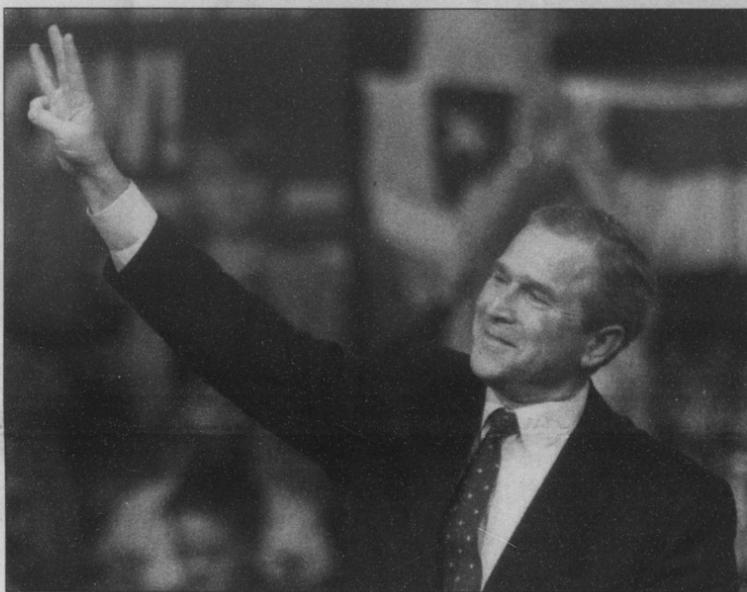
Even now, three months after the inauguration, some people still harbor such feelings. "I think (the closeness of the election) makes people wonder if he is our legitimate president," said Chris Fitzsimon, executive director of Common Sense, a liberal think tank based in Raleigh.

A recent CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll indicated that close to a quarter of Americans still don't accept Bush as a legitimate president.

But Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., who recently hosted Bush during his visit to promote his tax cut in Greenville, said the future looks bright for the Bush administration.

"I don't think (the election) really affected (Bush's presidency) from the standpoint of his ability to lead the nation," Jones said in a recent telephone interview. "I don't think there is a cloud over this administration. I think the sun is shining."

Bush has enjoyed high job-approval ratings thus far. A Gallup poll taken last week gave Bush



DTH/MIKE MESSIER

President George W. Bush flashes a 'W' sign to supporters during a stop in Greenville early this month. Bush has crossed the country to garner support for his tax cut.

a 62 percent approval rating, seven points higher than Clinton in his first 100 days. "Right now in terms of public perception, he is doing very well," said Michael Munger, professor and chairman of the political science department at Duke University. "But I think that will dissipate."

Munger said most presidents' approval ratings tend to drop after the 100-day honeymoon period.

### Exceeding Expectations

Munger attributed Bush's strong showing in the polls to his selection of a diverse Cabinet. He said this combination made it difficult for people on both sides of the spectrum to be critical. "It's the most diverse administration in history," Munger said, adding that it would be easier for Democrats

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DTH/MIKE MESSIER

## Crowd Protests Nuclear Expansion

By KELLIE DIXON  
Assistant City Editor

Early Saturday morning, 10 bicyclists pedaled furiously from Sen. John Edwards' Raleigh office down a 22-mile stretch to protest the on-site expansion of a nearby power plant.

The bicyclists wore signs encouraging motorists to follow them to Carolina Power & Light Co.'s Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, where more than 100 residents, students and other activists teamed up to protest the plant's potential on-site expansion. The expansion is slated to start this summer, should the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's March 1 decision go uncontested.

Kristen Kerr, co-chairwoman of the Students Environmental Action Coalition, said the bicycling tactic was a creative way to make an impact. "It showed how close the plant is," she said. "It was a good way for people to do public outreach."

Kerr also said that props, such as a two-headed gigantic puppet representing a connected

relationship between CP&L and the NRC, were used to push their points further home.

"It boosted the morale of people," she said. "This issue has been going on for a long time so it's easy to get burned out."

Keith Poston, spokesman for CP&L, attended the event and said plant officials respect the community's right to protest. "We are steadfast in our belief that our plan is safe and responsible," he said. "Not everyone is going to agree with us. We might have to agree to disagree."

Poston also dismissed claims made by the N.C. Waste Awareness and Reduction Network that CP&L and the NRC were working together.

Talks began between CP&L and N.C. WARN last week, where officials are trying to mend the process.

"We made it clear that we are committed to answering all the questions we can," Poston said. "We're also realistic and know that we can't make everyone happy."

But Kerr said she thought CP&L was becoming aware of the implications of ruling without input from residents.

"CP&L has met with N.C. WARN in the past week, so they're getting scared," she said. "They're running out of time. We want to rally the public and take a stand on the issues."

At the end of the event, Kerr said about 20 people stuck around to meditate after the group finished singing. "We sat and meditated to send good energy into the plant," she said.

Jim Warren, executive director of N.C. WARN, said the rally was targeted at getting Edwards more involved. "(Edwards) is being expected and being asked to try and persuade the NRC's call for these hearings and that is what we've been waiting for all this time."

Warren said this is the chance the group needs to spring forward and get what they want. "The (NRC) has full discretionary authority and (will) do whatever is right," he said.

"Sen. Edwards has an opportunity to demand that this go through proper safety review."

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



DTH/BESS LOEWENBAUM

Trip Overholt shows daughter Taya the cooling tower at the Shearon Harris plant while protesting CP&L.

Music is well said to be the speech of angels.

Thomas Carlyle