

# Mothers' Love, Fight Is MAJIC

**D**uring his three-decade-long Senate career, which has seen Americans struggle over everything from civil rights to stem cell research, Jesse Helms has met his fair share of supporters and opponents.

And in the aftermath of Helms' decision to not seek a sixth term in office, friends and foes of North Carolina's senior senator have come out in full force. Some praise Helms' ability to maintain his conservative views, while others chastise him as a bigot and racist.

Yet in the midst of all the hoopla, it is a group of mothers whose unrequited love for their sons might be a lasting reminder of one of Helms' most controversial stances.

And all it took was a little MAJIC. When Mothers Against Jesse In Congress first popped on the scene in the spring of 1996, few realized the future impact of the budding political action committee. Co-founded by Raleigh residents Patsy Clarke and Eloise Vaughn, MAJIC targeted Helms' controversial views on AIDS patients — a subject that hit both women close to home.

Both Clarke and Vaughn lost sons to the disease. Mark Vaughn died in 1990 at the age of 34. Clarke's son, also named Mark, died in 1994. He was 31. A mutual friend introduced the mothers in 1994, and the pair quickly bonded.

It was during this time when the U.S. Senate was set to vote on the Ryan White Care Act to provide funding for AIDS research. Helms vehemently opposed the act and in a June 5, 1995 editorial in the Raleigh News & Observer, he was quoted as saying that "because HIV is spread through risky behavior, AIDS sufferers deserve their fate."

In disbelief, Clarke wrote to Helms, describing her son's final days and asking the senator to rethink his views. "In my naivete, I thought he just didn't understand," said Clarke, 72.

Two weeks later, Helms responded, maintaining his stance against AIDS funding. But it was the letter's end that caught Clarke completely off-guard. "As for Mark, I wish he had not played Russian roulette with his sexual activity," Helms wrote.

Helms' arrogant response led Clarke and Vaughn to take action and bring others with them. But the pair did not want to create a "grief group." Instead they wanted to form a network of mothers who would work tirelessly to encourage tolerance for AIDS patients in society — even if it meant driving one of our nation's long-standing icons out of office.

And thus MAJIC was born. From its first publicity in The Daily Tar Heel to appearances in People Magazine and international newspapers, MAJIC's prominence quickly spread. In 1996, Clarke and Vaughn were even invited as speakers during the Democratic National Convention.

However, following Helms' re-election that same year, MAJIC began to lose steam. The group did not re-apply for its political action committee status and has since disbanded. But Vaughn said she doesn't view MAJIC's end as a failure.

"We don't feel like we lost because we did make a statement: We didn't agree with what he was saying about a marginalized part of society," said Vaughn, 69, who now lives in Blowing Rock.

Clarke and Vaughn soon set their sights on a new venture and in May released their first book, "Keep Singing: Two Mothers, Two Sons and Their Fight Against Jesse Helms." The book, published by Alyson Publications, is now in its second printing.

As for Helms' decision to opt out of the 2002 Senate race, the pair said they were neither completely surprised nor upset. "Some said it was the end of an era, and I guess it was," Clarke said.

Clarke added that she has not had any contact with Helms in the past few years and does not know what impact, if any, MAJIC had on his views towards AIDS patients. "We did what we could do and we wrote our book," she said. "There's nothing else to do except speak out where people want us to."

But the book's success and the continued interest surrounding MAJIC remains a pleasant and gratifying surprise for Vaughn.

"We just thought that (MAJIC) would just be around Raleigh," she said. "We never thought it would be a national story."

**APRIL BETHEA**  
STATE & NATIONAL COLUMNIST

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# UNC Tuition Less Than Peer Schools'

**By ALEX KAPLUN**  
State & National Editor

Out-of-state tuition at UNC-Chapel Hill is still far below the University's peer schools, despite the N.C. General Assembly's approval Wednesday of a 9 percent tuition increase.

When the 9 percent across-the-board tuition increase goes into effect, out-of-state undergraduate tuition will be \$13,226.

But that figure is still \$2,000 less than tuition levels at the other four schools that typically rank in the nation's top five public universities.

UNC-CH's peer schools in California — University of California-Los Angeles and University of California-Berkeley — both have out-of-state tuitions of slightly

more than \$15,000.

University of Virginia's tuition will be more than \$18,000 this year, while University of Michigan-Ann Arbor has an out-of-state tuition of just more than \$20,000, making it one of the most expensive public universities in the nation.

While UNC-CH's tuition might still be below that of its peer institutions, UNC-CH's tuition level for out-of-state students will be among the top 20 at a state flagship university and second highest in the South — behind only UVA.

But some University officials said while UNC-CH's tuition might be relatively low, the school might be losing some of its luster as a "best buy" education.

"It is true that the idea of a combination of quality and value is what many

students find appealing about UNC-CH," said Jerome Lucido, UNC-CH director of undergraduate admissions.

Lucido added that while he doesn't think a 9 percent tuition increase will hinder UNC-CH's ability to recruit out-of-state students, he worries that if out-of-state tuition continues to increase, the University could lose some of its appeal.

"I don't know if we are on the verge of pricing ourselves out of the market," Lucido said. "But I don't suggest we should try to find out where that point is."

Lucido did say the 9 percent increase could hurt the level of diversity in the student body. "We try to craft a class of interesting people of diverse backgrounds," he said. "If (UNC-CH) becomes unaffordable to needy students

then we will lose some of our diversity."

Lucido said as University tuition continues to increase, it is important for University officials to make prospective students aware of financial aid programs.

UNC-system spokeswoman Joni Worthington said system officials have argued that tuition at many UNC-system campuses is already more than the national average. But Wednesday night, just minutes after the legislature approved the tuition increase, Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange, said UNC-CH will always be able to attract out-of-state students. "UNC is so popular that all the seats will always be filled."

The State & National Editor can be reached at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

## Price of Education

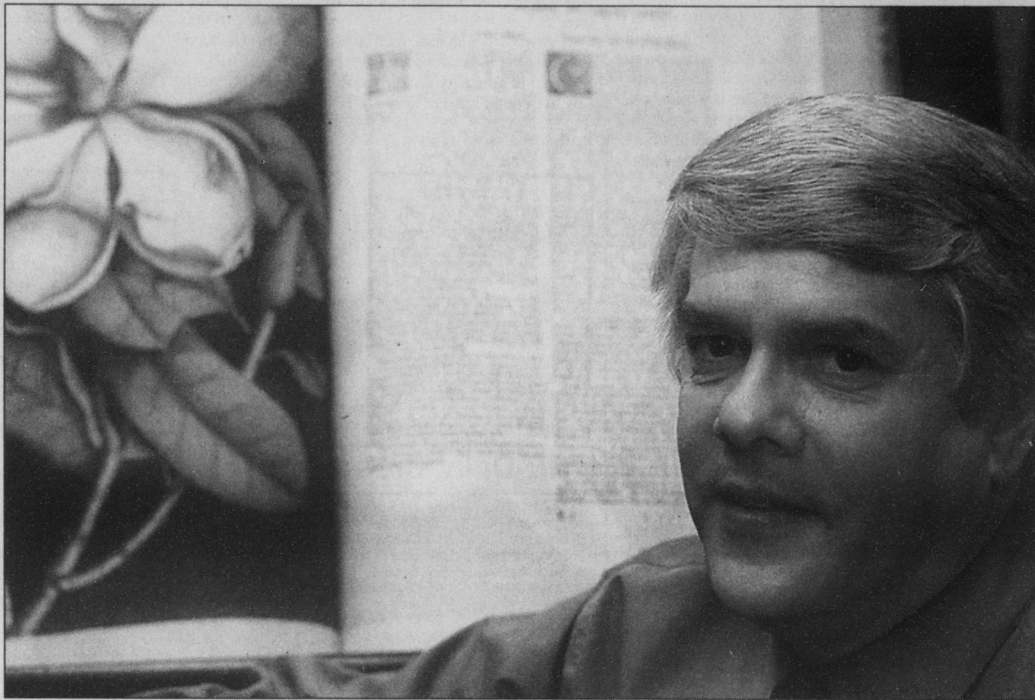
UNC's out of state tuition remains relatively low despite the increase.

### Tuition and Fees for 2001-2002

■ UMich	\$20,323
■ UVA	\$17,409
■ UCLA	\$15,303
■ Berkeley	\$15,196
■ UNC	\$13,226

### Tuition and Fees for 2000-2001

■ UMich	\$20,323
■ UVA	\$17,409
■ Berkeley	\$14,220
■ UCLA	\$13,502
■ UNC	\$11,934



DTH/CHRISTINE NGUYEN

Robert Anthony is the North Carolina Collections Curator at Wilson Library. The collection gallery is now featuring John Lawson's travel journal and natural history book among other articles of North Carolina nature writing.

## Tar Heel Born, Tar Heel Read

**By FAITH RAY**  
Features Editor

Robert Anthony's office in Wilson Library is cluttered with thick, hard-bound volumes and scattered papers.

But the room's disarray belies his meticulous planning that went into creating an upcoming conference that will exhibit one of North Carolina's earliest nature writers and naturalists.

Anthony, Wilson Library's North Carolina Collection curator, along with his colleagues, created "Lawson's Legacy: Nature Writing and North Carolina 1701-2001."

The conference, which will take place Sept.

7-9, will celebrate the 300th anniversary of Englishman and naturalist John Lawson's 550-mile trek through the state's back country.

It will feature Lawson's travel journal and natural history book, and North Carolina nature and outdoor writers will display their work samples.

A casual comment by a colleague made Anthony start thinking about creating a conference that would bring writers from across the state together.

"I found out that this is the anniversary of the trip," he said. "I started writing speakers, asking them to talk."

Anthony said the event is expected to draw

people from 27 counties and will also lend conference-goers a better appreciation of early naturalists.

As North Carolina Collection curator since 1994, Anthony is responsible for collecting manuscript, encouraging public and private donations and organizing events and exhibits like the Lawson conference.

The collection ranges from a photographic archive to old maps to manuscripts written by a North Carolinian or about a state topic.

But Anthony has not always had such access to books.

He said he can remember, as a sixth-grade

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## Sellers Say High Prices Necessary on Textbooks

**By STEPHANIE HORVATH**  
Assistant University Editor

Students experience it each semester when they fork over a wad of cash for a load of textbooks.

Sticker shock.

"I think (textbooks) are too expensive," said sophomore Amy Way, who spent about \$350 on books this semester. "They've always been that way, and it's something you deal with."

But John Jones, director of UNC-Chapel Hill Student Stores, said the Course Materials Department of Student Stores' pricing is in line with college bookstores across the country. Textbooks are simply an expensive item to produce. "They sell in low numbers," Jones said. "Typically there's a lot of time, expensive graphics, royalty payments and

the need for publishers to make a profit."

All books are priced one of two ways at Student Stores — either the publisher sets the retail price or sells the book to the store at a wholesale price. In either case the store makes the same profit.

Steve Thurston, manager of Ram Book and Supply on Franklin Street, said the store's mark-up varies. "We discount the book based on if it was in circulation or if we had to order them," he said, adding that the store buys a list of books from Student Stores and carries books for most undergraduate classes.

Arvind Satyam, a foreign exchange student from Sydney, Australia, said the \$360 cost of his books surprised him. "It was more than at home," he said. "I bought a textbook last year at home and I've seen the

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## Bargain Buys?

Students often shop around for the best textbook buy. Below is a breakdown of the books' costs for a common 15-hour underclassman schedule used at Student Stores, [varsitybooks.com](http://varsitybooks.com) and Ram Book and Supply. Coursepacks are not included.

Course	New Student Stores Books	Used Student Stores Books	New varsitybooks.com Books	New Ram Book and Supply Books	Used Ram Book and Supply Books
<b>Chem 11 (sections 1-4)</b>					
■ Chemistry and Chemical Reactivity	134.50	100.90	134.95	N/A	89.95
■ Solution Manual	48.50	36.40	48.95	N/A	32.10
<b>Poli 41 (section 6)</b>					
■ The Bill	14.95	11.20	14.95	N/A	11.20
■ We are the People: A Concise Intro to American Politics	45.35	34.00	48.95	N/A	N/A
■ Brave New World	12.00	9.00	12.00	12.00	9.00
<b>Econ 10 (section 6)</b>					
■ Economics: Principles and Policy	104.65	86.65	115.95	N/A	67.95
■ Macro/Micro Combined Study Guide	33.65	25.25	39.95	N/A	21.50
<b>Psyc 10 (section 5)</b>					
■ Psychology Themes and Variations	58.35	43.75	56.95	55.95	N/A
<b>Engl 11 (sections 1-92)</b>					
■ The Longman Handbook for Writers and Readers	44.00	33.00	44.95	N/A	29.40

SOURCE: DTH RESEARCH

DTH/COBI EDELSON

# Sudden Downpour Leads to Leaks, Accidents

**The 0.26 inches of rain that covered the Raleigh-Durham area flooded one room full of periodicals in Hill Hall.**

**By RACHEL CLARKE**  
Staff Writer

Rainy weather, although predicted by local weather services, surprised some with puddles on campus and caused minor accidents around town.

The sudden rain that drenched the area Thursday afternoon caused minor problems but nothing too unusual, officials

said. According to the National Weather Service, 0.26 inches of rain fell at Raleigh-Durham International Airport on Thursday.

A small stream of rainwater pooled on the floor of the Union Auditorium lobby, making several square feet of the floor wet.

Scott Hudson, director of operations for the Union, said the same thing happened twice over the summer during heavy, wind-driven rain storms.

Hudson said he told the physical plant shop, which put the problem on a list of things to be fixed. But the problem isn't urgent because it rarely happens, and so far, hasn't caused any damage.

"The problem only rears its ugly head

in huge storms," he said.

Heavy winds can drive the rainwater into the building through a broken seal between the glass door and the building, Hudson said.

A room full of current periodicals in Hill Hall also flooded — but for the music library, it was business as usual, said librarian Diane Steinhuis.

"It's just what we expect whenever we get rain," she said. Steinhuis said the library staff keeps a wet/dry vacuum and several fans on hand for every storm.

Steinhuis said the water extended about halfway across the floor, which is standard. "It never gets above the bottom shelves," she said.

At least one UNC student was taken by surprise when the rain started.

"I usually look at weather.com but (today) I didn't," said junior Anna McLean, walking into Greenlaw Hall with her hair dripping wet.

"I got out of class about 3:15 p.m. and ran to the (Student Recreation Center) really fast," she added. "I was slipping and sliding. I found a towel in there."

Meanwhile, Chapel Hill officials also dealt with the sudden downpour that caused at least four accidents by late Thursday afternoon.

"If it's raining when (people) go to their cars, they're in the mind-set of 'Hey, I need to be careful,'" said Maj.

Tony Oakley of the Chapel Hill Police Department. "We seem to have more wrecks when it starts raining."

Only one injury and no fatalities had been reported by early Thursday afternoon.

Oakley said the department reacts differently to inclement weather depending on its severity. "Sometimes we have to count on the common sense of the motoring public. There are a lot of intersections in Chapel Hill," Oakley said.

"People need to be patient, take a deep breath and count to 10."

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