

Moerer Did Right Thing For UNC

On Friday, Chancellor James Moerer proved he's going to be a fine Tar Heel after all. After months of courtship, Moerer announced that discussions with the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development about establishing a satellite UNC



KATY NELSON
UNIVERSITY COLUMNIST

Kenan-Flagler Business School campus in Doha, Qatar were over, due to significant gaps in financial expectations. Like Chancellor Michael Hooker, who considered building a satellite business school in

Indonesia in the mid-1990s, Moerer clearly understands that great 21st century universities must have campuses around the world.

But by ending negotiations with the Qatar Foundation last week, Moerer demonstrated something not all Tar Heels were certain of - that Moerer understands how important it is not to sell Carolina to just anyone.

Ever since Moerer arrived in 1999, hailed as a champion fund-raiser who would turn UNC's financial situation around, many Tar Heels believed he saw campus through a dollar-bill green lens, rather than a Carolina blue one.

But to my relief, the man in charge does know the importance of preserving UNC's good name before we go global. Despite Qatar's enticing offer of an international foothold and the opportunity to help create a peaceful democracy in the Middle East, Moerer did the right thing - he refused to participate unless UNC's educational standards were maintained.

Moerer refused to go ahead with the project unless the Qatar Foundation covered all management expenses. The chancellor rightly reasoned that during a state budget crisis, North Carolinians should not be financing oil princes' educations.

Furthermore, Moerer demanded that Qatar take care of UNC faculty's financial and safety concerns, as Qatari officials expressed their desire to have faculty members uprooted from Chapel Hill for several years.

UNC's negotiating team made clear that the Qatar project should also benefit the Chapel Hill community.

A note written by Provost Robert Shelton indicating that UNC was debating over a Qatari gift - ranging from \$10 million to 35 million - to UNC was encouraging. Imagine how much could have been accomplished in Chapel Hill with a gift of that size - up to three times the amount to be raised with the tuition increase approved by the UNC Board of Trustees.

It took guts for Moerer, who is extremely focused on raising the UNC endowment, to turn down millions and millions of dollars in favor of doing the right thing.

Thanks, Chancellor Moerer, for not selling out. That was enough money to make most Tar Heels cry at the negotiating table, and you didn't flinch.

It is ironic that the Qatar decision did not come down to safety or academic and religious freedom concerns but money - Moerer's weakness.

It's a shame UNC missed such a fantastic international opportunity, but at least our institutional integrity is intact. It's an even bigger shame that Qatar would not fork over the extra oil money to ensure educational peace of mind in Chapel Hill.

In future international entanglements, Chancellor Moerer, please keep the lessons learned from Qatar in mind. The world is full of oil money, but only one UNC.

Sadly, Qatari students have lost out on a UNC education. But on the upside, Chancellor James Moerer has gained Tar Heels' respect - including mine.

Columnist Katy Nelson can be reached at knelson@email.unc.edu.

Fund Raising for Senior Class Gift Kicks Off

By MEREDITH NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

Senior class officers and marshals celebrated in the Pit on Friday to launch fund-raising efforts for the senior class gift.

Officials said they hoped the event would familiarize seniors with this year's gift, a memorial to the "unsung founders" of the University - slaves and other black men and women who built UNC.

"I think this gift is the best gift ever given by a senior class," said Ben Singer, senior class president.

The event featured balloon animals made by a clown, a speech by journalism Professor Chuck Stone and a performance by the Clef Hangers, a UNC cappella group. "This is like a coming-out party for the gift," said Byron Wilson, senior class vice president.

Organizers decorated the Pit with balloons and gave out Carolina blue cotton candy and lemonade to celebrate the event.

Stone said the kickoff was appropriate

for the first day of Black History Month and read excerpts from Ralph Ellison's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "Invisible Man." "These people who built the University were invisible," Stone said. He said the memorial would create visibility for the unsung founders so their contributions could be celebrated.

Wilson said he thinks the freestanding memorial is important because there has never been anything like it on campus. "It's been said that genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration," Wilson said. "This is a great university, and we never celebrate the perspiration."

Reida Lawrence, chairwoman of the senior marshal's gift committee, said she thinks the memorial is a wonderful gift that makes a statement about the University. "We need to say that we are a Southern university, and people of color built it from the ground up," she said.

Emily Stevens, director of young alumni at the Office of Development, said it is important that the entire senior class participate in the fund-raising process. Brochures describing the gift have

been sent to seniors and will be sent to parents within the next couple of weeks. Officials also will soon begin making fund-raising phone calls, Lawrence said.

Lawrence said she hopes all seniors will give as much money and time as they can. "You're getting a superb education," Lawrence said. "To give \$20, \$50 or \$100 is nothing compared to the education you're getting." Stevens said the average fund-raising goal for senior classes is \$30,000, and this year's senior class has set a goal of \$40,000.

Officials have not selected an artist to design the memorial but have narrowed the field to four candidates, including one artist from Chapel Hill. A decision will be made Feb. 13, Stevens said.

Singer said he hopes all seniors who are excited about the gift will follow through with their generosity. "We're honoring the people who made our education possible," he said. "We wouldn't be graduating without them."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.



DTH/BRIAN CASSELLA

"Jelly Bean," aka Ken Ahern, celebrates the fund raising kickoff for the senior gift Friday by crowning senior Aadam Hukins with a balloon hat.

Dole, Bowles Lead Campaign Fund Raising

Republican Elizabeth Dole's spokeswoman says the \$3 million she has raised shows support both for Dole and for her issues.

By RACHEL LEONARD
Staff Writer

Republican Elizabeth Dole and Democrat Erskine Bowles have raised the most money so far in their U.S. Senate campaigns, but their opponents say the race is far from over.

According to federal reports filed last week, Dole raised more than \$3 million during the reporting period ending Dec. 31, 2001. During that same period, Bowles raised about \$1.7 million.

Dole is a Salisbury native and former president of the American Red Cross. Bowles, a Charlotte investment banker, was White House chief of staff under President Clinton.

Other candidates have raised far less money. Among Democrats, N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall has raised about \$260,000, and N.C. Rep. Dan Blue, D-Wake, raised \$200,000. Democratic candidate Cynthia Brown and Republican Jim Snyder have each raised about \$10,000. No other candidates filed fund-raising reports, which are required only when a candidate has raised more than \$5,000.

Dole campaign spokeswoman Janet Bradbury said Dole's fund-raising capability shows that a "tremendous" number of people stand behind her platform. "I think it demonstrates the support she has and the support for the issues she supports," he said. Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life, also said Dole's fund-raising totals are an indication of the strength of her base.

"She's a national figure," he said. "She has a pretty wide wingspan when it comes to raising Republican dollars."

Guillory said Bowles has been able to "raise money out of the old Clinton network" but has also received money from Republicans. But he said that although fund raising is crucial to a campaign, it is still early in the race. "This is just the beginning."

Guillory said he was surprised that Blue has not raised more money. But Daniel Drum, spokesman for the Blue campaign, said the primaries will be decided by whose message most resonates with voters, not merely by dollars. Drum noted that Blue has the endorsement of the N. C. Association of Educators. "We don't need the resources other candidates need to win this race," Drum added that because of the longest

PHOTO COURTESY OF N.C. MUSEUM OF ART

The classic film, "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town" (1936), directed by Frank Capra and starring Gary Cooper, will be screened Feb. 15 as part of the N.C. Museum of Art's Winter Film Series.

Film Festival Celebrates Capra's Life

By JENISE HUDSON
Staff Writer

RALEIGH - The N.C. Museum of Art kicked off the Frank Capra Film Festival on Friday night by screening "Frank Capra's American Dream," a documentary produced by the influential filmmaker's son.

The festival is the part of the art museum's Winter Film Series and consists of six Capra films in addition to the documentary.

Capra Jr., president of Screen Gems Studio in Wilmington, presented and answered audience questions. He received extended applause

as he walked to the front of the screening room to address the crowd and gave his reasons for making the film. "We began to see that my father's work meant so much some 50 or 60 years after they were made in an industry not known for longevity," he said.

Capra Jr. chronicled his father's climb to success in "Frank Capra's American Dream." He touched on many facets of his father's life - his breakthrough success directing "The Miracle Woman," the effect of his personal life on his films and finally his father's emotional collapse at the pinnacle of his career.

"We tried to take pieces from many, many

films," Capra Jr. said, bringing the focus back to Capra's true legend: the memorable films Capra left behind.

Ruggedly handsome and unabashedly ambitious, Capra had the talent and the ambition to start changing the way America looked at movies. And early in his career, he began to do just that. "A hell of a lot of films were being made when my father was making movies that you never hear about," said Capra Jr. of his father's work.

Though Capra was widely known for the eternal optimism of his movies, "American Dream"

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Memorial Honors Professor's Legacy

By JOELLE RUBEN
Staff Writer

Saturday's memorial service for the former chairwoman of the School of Social Work's doctoral program seemed like a family reunion as well-wishes hugged each other and mingled in the Tate-Turner-Kuralt auditorium.

Friends and family members filled the auditorium to honor Anne-Linda Furstenberg, 61, who died Jan. 23 from

complications related to carcinoid cancer.

Furstenberg was diagnosed with cancer 13 years ago, a few years after joining the UNC faculty in 1986. She continued to research the mental and physical health of older adults and to teach others about the aging process.

In 1999, Furstenberg served as the first chairwoman of UNC's doctoral

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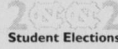
Ballot May Feature Two Referendums

By KARA EIDE
Staff Writer

Two student-initiated referendums are likely to appear on the Feb. 12 student elections ballot.

One potential referendum is sponsored by the Graduate and Professional Student Federation and will propose adding 75 cents to the student activity fee for child care for UNC students with children. The other asks students to vote in support of urging N.C. legislators to pass campaign finance reform.

The GPSF's proposed resolution is



scheduled to go before Student Congress on Tuesday. If passed by Congress, the referendum will appear on the Feb. 12 ballot.

The other possible referendum, which is based on a student petition, has to pass through student government before officially appearing on the ballot.

The 75 cent fee increase in the GPSF's referendum would aid student parents in paying for day care fees. The town of Chapel Hill now offers day care that costs students about \$1,000 per month, said Gregory Wahl, chairman of Student Congress' student affairs committee.

Wahl said that if placed on the ballot, the GPSF referendum might not get a majority of the student voters' support

because the percentage of student parents on campus is low. But Congress will likely pass the resolution to include the referendum on the ballot, he said. "It has a pretty good chance because it's something that has to do directly with the students."

The resolution for the referendum dealing with campaign finance reform failed to pass Student Congress last fall largely because many members felt there should not be "issues" on the ballot, Wahl said.

This semester, student activists concerned with campaign finance reform pursued another route for getting the referendum on the ballot. The UNC

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