

The Daily Tar Heel

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Insomniac

Dave Attell comes to the Triangle for some comic relief. See Page 3



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Weather

Today: Sunny; H 46, L 18
Friday: Mostly Sunny; H 53, L 31
Saturday: Rain; H 58, L 37

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Thursday, February 28, 2002

TPAC Votes on Revenue Options To Ease Shortfall

TPAC is divided between the three different ways to compensate for the Department of Public Safety's \$2 million budget shortfall.

By MEREDITH NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee members voted Wednesday on a series of recommendations for revenue sources to alleviate the Department of Public Safety's estimated \$2 million budget shortfall next year.

After some debate among committee members, many members said they did not feel that it was their duty to present Chancellor James Moeser with a complete budget but instead to provide him with guidelines by which to draft a budget.

"I believe the details are important, but I don't think it's this committee's job to come up with those," said Ted Zoller, a TPAC representative from the Kenan-Flagler Business School.

Members voted on amounts for each of three revenue options: increased day parking permit prices, an increased department transit tax or a minimum funding contribution from UNC.

Because the committee members did not come to a clear consensus on what amount was best for each revenue option, the members decided to send Moeser the breakdown of their votes on several options. Moeser will consider the committee's recommendations and present a finished budget to the UNC Board of Trustees on March 28.

According to most TPAC members, the most important element of the recommendations was the increase in parking permit prices. Members voted on different amounts for an increase in all daytime parking permit prices. Four members voted for a maximum increase of 5 percent, nine members voted for 10 percent, and 10 members voted for 20 percent.

Members also voted on different amounts for an increase in the department transit tax. Four members voted not to increase the tax at all. Two members voted for a maximum increase of 50 percent, 14 members voted for 100 percent, and two members voted for 150 percent.

Committee members also said they felt it was important that the University contribute to the budget every year or allocate a lump sum that DPS can distribute at its own discretion.

"The University has to participate," said Willie Scroggs, a senior associate athletic director for operations and facilities, and TPAC member. "Even if that gets shot down, I don't want to sign my name to a proposal without it."

Two members voted for a \$250,000 annual contribution. Nine members voted for a \$500,000 annual contribution. Three members voted for a \$750,000 annual contribution and nine

See TPAC, Page 4

Town May Cut Funds, Increase Taxes to Aid Financial Shortfall

Mayor Kevin Foy proposed compensating for the cuts with a 7- to 8-cent tax hike in addition to an already planned increase.

By JOCELYN OBERDICK
Staff Writer

A significant cut in state funding to Chapel Hill is likely to force both a cut in town department services and a rise in taxes for residents.

The Chapel Hill Town Council met Wednesday with officials from the local finance, police and fire departments to discuss the town's budget for the upcoming year.

The budgetary discussion was affected by Gov. Mike Easley's decision to withhold funds from state municipalities to compensate for a \$900 million state budget shortfall. The withheld funds will mean a \$1.4 million cut for Chapel Hill.

Mayor Kevin Foy said Wednesday that a 7- to 8-cent tax increase might be necessary to compensate for the lost revenue.

Foy also said that before learning of the governor's cuts, Chapel Hill Town Manager Cal Horton already estimated that a 5-cent tax increase would be necessary to fund the town's original budget. The previously planned 5-cent increase plus Foy's 7- to 8-cent prediction could bring the total tax increase to as much as 13 cents.

But Foy said these numbers are purely speculative because the state has yet to determine the exact magnitude of the cuts. Without the exact figures, Foy said, the town cannot accurately project its budget for the next fiscal year.

"You can see that we don't have firm numbers to rely on," Foy said.

"We don't know what the economy or state is going to do. It's difficult to form firm figures."

See WORK SESSION, Page 4

Basnight Retracts Graduated Tuition Proposal

By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
Staff Writer

One of the state's most influential politicians has backed away from an idea to tie tuition within the UNC system to family income.

Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare, asked his staff in January to examine possible changes to the UNC-system's tuition policy, including a graduated tuition plan.

Amy Fulk, Basnight's press secretary, said Basnight asked her to look into graduated tuition systems. "He threw out the idea of a graduated tuition increase to try to make colleges more affordable to lower-income students," she said. But Fulk said Wednesday that Basnight has

recently decided to abandon the plan and is now going to focus his efforts on ways to improve the state's need-based financial aid program by making it more user-friendly and cutting down on bureaucratic red tape.

Fulk said that in addition to questions that the plan raised about equity and fairness, officials were not sure whether revenue gained from charging higher-income students increased tuition would be enough to cover the costs of lower-income students.

Fulk also said it would be difficult for administrators to draft state and university budgets because revenue would fluctuate from year to year.

Fulk said she found examples of other uni-

versities that tried similar methods of charging tuition, including the University of Michigan system. All the schools Fulk researched stopped using the sliding scale system after one or two years or abandoned the idea before it was ever implemented, she said.

UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor James Moeser, who spoke out against Basnight's idea when it first surfaced earlier this month, said that other options are available for students who need financial assistance, making a graduated system unnecessary.

"I understand the senator's intentions, which I thought were noble, but I thought the proposal was riddled with problems," Moeser said. "I think we can do everything the senator

wanted to do with need-based financial aid."

Senate Majority Leader Tony Rand, D-Cumberland, said the idea had good intentions and made people think about other tuition plans. "It engendered a lot of conversation from a lot of people about tuition increases."

But Jeff Davies, UNC-system vice president for financial aid, said financial aid essentially already makes a system in which students pay based on their means.

Davies said, "In essence, that is a sliding scale, globally, because lower-income students do pay less for tuition."

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1 Streak Saved in UNC's Home Finale



DTH/KIMBERLY CRAVEN

Seniors Kris Lang (left) and Jason Capel joke on the bench in the closing minutes of UNC's win Wednesday night. Lang and Capel finished their careers 37-18 at the Smith Center.

With Wednesday's win, the Tar Heels extended their home winning streak against Clemson to 48 games.

By MIKE OGLE
Senior Writer

North Carolina senior Jason Capel fell to the paint as Clemson's Chris Hobbs hammered him Wednesday night.

The whistle blew, the layup fell through the hoop, and Capel pointed at Hobbs. In another time, another season, the extended index finger

could have been a No. 1, as in ranking. In 2002, the gesture stood for the one streak UNC had remaining by the last game at the Smith Center — Clemson's complete futility in Chapel Hill.

Capel, unhappy about a similar previous exchange that went uncalled, yelled at the official just before his free throw extended UNC's lead to 22 midway through the second half.

Behind Capel's career-high 28 points on Senior Night, it was the second time this season the Tar Heels defeated Clemson, this time 96-78.

The win pushed UNC (8-18, 4-11 in the ACC) to a 6-9 home record and a last-place tie in the conference. And the Tigers fell to 0-48 all-time in Chapel Hill.

"We did salvage the streak," Capel said. Capel got UNC off in that direction shortly after pregame ceremonies with the seniors (Capel, Kris Lang, Brian Bersticker, Orlando Melendez and Joe Everett).

Capel hit his first shot, a fading 3-pointer. Three was how many bombs he drained in the game's first 2:19 as the Tar Heels jumped out to a 10-0 start.

"This was my last game here," Capel said. "I was going to shoot the ball."

The first-half lead got as high as 19 until Clemson's Tony Stockman warmed up. Stockman was Clemson,

hitting eight of his 10 3s in the half and compiling 28 of the Tigers' 40 points. Suddenly, Clemson (13-16, 4-12) had clawed back into the game.

"I really thought the game could swing two ways if they kept j-ing it," Shyatt said.

Stockman didn't, though, and finished with 30, tying his career high.

UNC's career highs kept falling. Adam Boone dished a new personal-record eight assists to go with his 13 points.

"Tonight, especially being Senior Night, I wanted to find guys when they were open," Boone said.

"It was a lot of fun out there to see the seniors go out on that note, to see Jackie Manuel break out like he did."

Manuel upped his career high to 16 points in 21 minutes. Jawad Williams had 14 points, and Bersticker rounded out the double-figure scorers with 10.

Lang's last appearance before the home fans wasn't as spectacular. He fouled out with 4:26 left and six points on just three field-goal attempts. "Ideally, this is the way you'd like your senior game to go," said Doherty, citing Lang's numbers as an exception. "Otherwise, we couldn't have written a better script."

Lang, all smiles in the locker room, didn't let his night bother him. Before heading to the locker room, the team stayed on the floor for an impromptu celebration with the cheerleaders and band.

Melendez sprinted into the stands and swayed with the horn section. Lang and Bersticker stood with Doherty and the singing cheerleaders. They looked and didn't see Capel.

He was already heading down the tunnel, and the seniors had to urge him

See MEN'S BASKETBALL, Page 4



UNC senior forward Jason Capel scored a career-high 28 points Wednesday in his final game at the Smith Center.

Stockman Fires Away Early, Fades Away Late

By RACHEL CARTER
Senior Writer

Larry Shyatt might want to contact the FBI.

In the first half of Clemson and North Carolina's Wednesday night contest, Tiger sophomore guard Tony Stockman exploded for 28 points on 8-of-10 shooting from the floor. All of his made baskets were 3-pointers.

In the second half, 1-of-6 shooting, no 3s.

Invasion of the body snatchers, anyone? "I was really hot," said Stockman, who tied career bests in made field goals, 3s and total points (30). "It was fun while it lasted."

Problem was, it didn't last beyond the first 20 minutes.

Stockman singlehandedly kept Clemson in the game in the first half, leading the charge to cut into North Carolina's 19-point lead, the largest of the half.

He hit back-to-back 3s, his fourth and fifth of the half, and sank four straight free throws after getting fouled by Jackie Manuel and Melvin Scott.

Stockman's 10-0 run against the Tar Heels cut their lead to nine.

North Carolina came back, but the team couldn't escape the half without giving up three more Stockman 3s — his new career high.

But then, halftime came and went. So did Stockman's game.

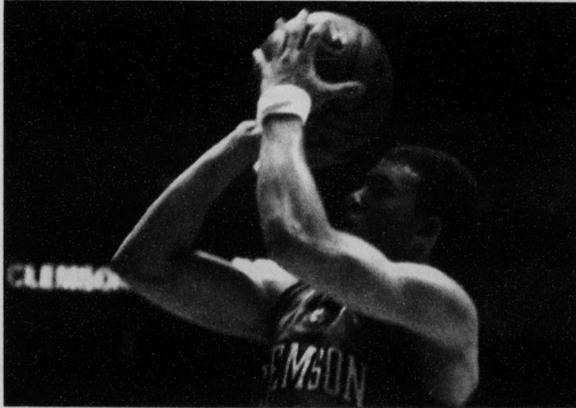
"Better defense. More alertness," said UNC coach Matt Doherty to explain the difference. "They run a play that we run. We just weren't alert to it."

Doherty decided to assign Manuel to the task of guarding Stockman to take advantage of the 6-foot-5 Manuel and his long arms to eliminate the open looks Stockman had.

Scott and Adam Boone, both 6-2, drew much of the defensive duty in the first half.

"I'm thinking I've got to try to make it as hard as possible for him to get his shot off," said Manuel of his defensive plan against Stockman.

It worked. Stockman's shots wouldn't fall when



DTH/BRIAN CASSELLA

Clemson guard Tony Stockman unleashes a 3-pointer in the Tigers' 96-78 loss at UNC on Wednesday. Stockman was 8 of 10 behind the arc.

See STOCKMAN, Page 4

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

Ralph Waldo Emerson