

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Holding Back
Students relate experiences and opinions of Lent.
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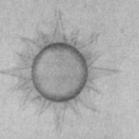


Out With the Old ...
Congress grants approval to new student body officers.
See Page 3

Turn It Around
Tar Heels come from behind to score two wins.
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Weather
Today: Sunny; H 63, L 36
Friday: Cloudy; H 70, L 44
Saturday: Showers; H 72, L 44



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Parking Proposal Takes Heat on Eve of BOT Vote

By LIZZIE BREYER
University Editor

Two trustees vocally opposed a Department of Public Safety budget proposal when members of the University community met Wednesday to weigh in on one final time

Town, UNC Debate Access To Church Lot
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on the plan, which the UNC Board of Trustees will hear today.

Trustee Richard Stevens and Student Body President Justin Young, who sits on the BOT, offered vehement objections to the part of the proposal that would create a night parking permit system.

"The flaw in this plan is night parking – it's just not a good idea," Stevens said. The meeting began with a presentation from campus transportation planner George Alexiou about the effects of

campus construction on parking. Carolyn Elland, associate vice chancellor for campus services, then outlined the DPS budget proposal for 2002-03.

The plan, which was developed by University vice chancellors after they received recommendations from the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee, includes increases in the price of parking permits and the creation of a system of night parking permits.

Night parking permits, which would

allow the user to park in any campus lot after 5 p.m., would cost students \$122 for the academic year and cost faculty \$166. Students also would have the option of parking for free at night in the Bell Tower Lot or the Bowles Lot on South Campus. Day permits would be valid at night.

After the presentation, Stevens immediately raised financial concerns relating to the night parking plan. He said he is concerned students will not be able to afford night permits and said he would prefer the

alternative proposed by students on TPAC – levying an across-the-board \$5 student fee increase to generate revenue. "We've hit students pretty hard already with the tuition increases coming from the (UNC-system) Board of Governors, and this is one more thing added on," Stevens said.

But Faculty Council Chairwoman Sue Estroff said it is too late to impose a fee increase for this year and that the only other option is to have faculty and staff bear responsibility for the rest of the revenue, which she said she did not support.

"I don't think throwing out the whole plan makes sense, but we also can't tolerate a 30 percent increase – we need to think about equity and fairness regarding cost and access," she said.

Trustees then addressed safety concerns, with several administrators and trustees saying they support the security that would be put in the free lots.

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Classroom Diversity Varies Widely Among Majors

By ADDIE SLUDER
Staff Writer

Sophomore Douglas Bynum has always been passionate about drama.

Though he did not enter UNC with the intention of majoring in dramatic art, Bynum's experience with the department prompted him to switch majors.

Bynum is one of nine minority undergraduate students majoring in dramatic art. Though Bynum said he feels at home, he said he thinks more diversity would strengthen the department.

"I do feel at times there is something I could be connecting with here that I'm not," Bynum said. "Having minority students just brings another side to things."

Provost Robert Shelton said many variables, including social pressures and the need for role models, factor into a student's choice of major.

The 22.6 percent of non-white students at UNC are dispersed somewhat unevenly among various majors, according to data compiled by the Office of Institutional Research. Some majors, like African and Afro-American studies, which is 94 percent minority students, attract a large number of minority students. Others, like the curriculum in peace, war and defense, which has a 5.6 percent minority enrollment, have a below average percentage of minorities.

Many officials said that although it is difficult to explain disparities in the racial makeup of different majors, efforts to attract and support minorities are critical in an academic environment.

Student Experience

Junior Siobhan Johnson is an active member of predominately minority groups and interacts regularly with a diverse cross section of people.

But when Johnson heads to class in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, she said the absence of minority students is profound.

"It's definitely different from everything else I do on campus," Johnson said. "I'm in groups like the Carolina Association of Black Journalists and the UNC Gospel Choir, which are predominantly African-American, so when I

come to class, there is an obvious minority absence."

Dean Richard Cole said the school has traditionally had a minority population on par with the universitywide average. The school currently has 223 undergraduate minority students, 15.4 percent of the school's total enrollment.

"We are very proud of our record of diversity and inclusivity," Cole said.

For Bynum, a low minority population in his major does not lower his opinion of the department.

Though there are few minorities in the department, Bynum said he thinks there is a genuine concern for minorities and minority issues, especially in the PlayMakers Repertory Company.

"PlayMakers is actively pursuing the issues of minorities in theater," he said.

Department of Dramatic Art Chairman Ray Dooley said PlayMakers has adopted a colorblind casting protocol that has resulted in minority actors playing traditionally white roles.

Dooley also said that he thinks diversity is an integral part of the educational experience and that he hopes more minorities will be attracted to the dramatic art major.

"I think we have a number of attributes that would attract minority students," Dooley said.

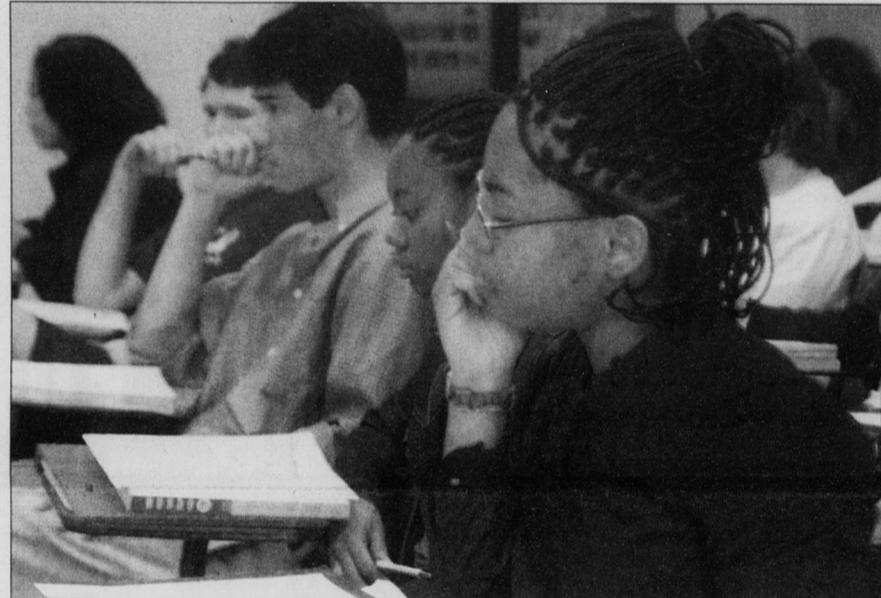
Unlike dramatic art, the public policy major has an above-average number of undergraduate minority students – 32.5 percent.

Department of Public Policy Chairman Michael Stegman said that he is pleased with the relatively high number of minority students in his department and that he attributes the high number to the growth of the department and of the relevancy of issues addressed in the curriculum.

"There is a focus on problems and problem solving that touches people's lives," Stegman said.

Erica Lee, a public policy major from Houston, also said she likes the practical nature of the discipline.

"I like how public policy is based on real-life experiences and real-world issues," Lee said. "I'm interested in



Courtney Jones, right, Cicely Allen and Jimmy Mansfield participate in a Spanish class. Only 14.5 percent of romance languages majors are minority students, compared to 22.6 of the total student population.

learning how to make the government work better for me as well as others."

Faculty

In addition to actively seeking diversity among students, officials said they are making concerted efforts to recruit minority faculty members, who make up 12 percent of the faculty.

"Every recruitment that we make is a potential to add to the diversity of the faculty," said Faculty Council Chairwoman Sue Estroff.

Because areas of study and inquiry at the University are far-reaching, Estroff said she thinks it is imperative that the faculty is diverse. She cited budget constraints and retention problems as central causes of what officials have called a lack of minority faculty.

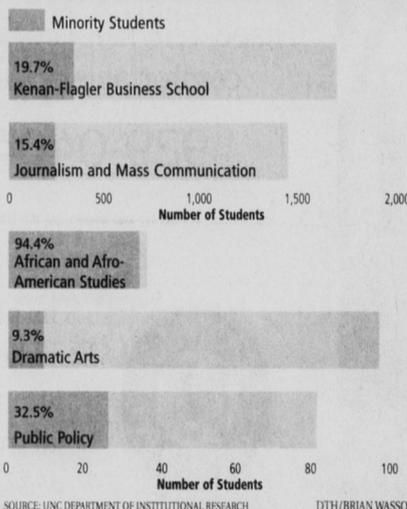
"When another university can offer them a lot more money, it's hard for us to compete," she said.

Dooley echoed Estroff's budget concern. See ACADEMICS, Page 8

In the Classroom

Minority undergraduate students do not make up a consistent percentage of students pursuing various majors offered at UNC. Many department heads and school deans say they want to increase minority presence in their classes to achieve a more accurate reflection of the general population's demographics.

Undergraduate Academic Breakdown by Major



Education May Suffer \$695M Cut

The state cut to education could be part of an overall \$1.2 billion cut to state agencies due to fiscal woes.

By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
Staff Writer

The bad news is that state legislators are considering cutting \$695 million from the state's education budget next year.

And for both state legislators and UNC-system officials, the good news is, well, nonexistent.

State legislators returned to Raleigh this week and began searching for ways to cut about \$1.2 billion from the 2002-03 state budget in an effort to overcome one of the worst fiscal situations in state history.

Education, which makes up about 60 percent of the state's \$14.7 billion budget, could bear the brunt of the proposed cuts with the \$695 million reduction. Other state agencies will be expected to trim a total of \$510 million from their budgets.

Next week, appropriation subcommittees in the state legislature are slated to begin investigations into how much can be cut from state agencies in the next fiscal year, which starts July 1.

See STATE BUDGET, Page 8

U.S. House Seat Hinges On Ruling

The Supreme Court heard oral arguments involving a lawsuit that could remove North Carolina's 13th District.

By ELYSE ASHBURN
Assistant State & National Editor

WASHINGTON – A U.S. congressional seat hangs in the balance. The deciding factor: 900 residents.

The battle began when Utah sued the U.S. Census Bureau over census data-gathering techniques that cost Utah a congressional seat, handing it to North Carolina.

The showdown – Utah v. Evans – made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court Wednesday and had the justices questioning the constitutionality of "hot deck" imputation – a practice used to gather census data.

Hot deck imputation is the process of assigning occupancy to a residence based on the data of the nearest neighbor.

The U.S. Census Bureau has used hot deck imputation to determine pop-

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WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE



Miranda Turner, 4, of Chapel Hill swings at the Community Center Park on Estes Drive on Tuesday afternoon. Miranda visits the park with her grandmother several times a week.

Young Reports on Last 6 Months

Young says issues like tuition, parking and the satellite campus in Qatar took time from his platform.

By JAMIE DOUGHER
Staff Writer

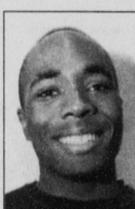
Student Body President Justin Young released his March Report on Wednesday, detailing the issues he tackled during the last six months of his term.

Young said unexpected issues such as parking, tuition and the proposed establishment of a satellite campus in Qatar prevented him from fulfilling some of his platform goals. "Given all the issues we had to deal with, our time was better spent on those," he said.

The Student Empowerment Endowment was a key issue on Young's platform when he ran for student body president in 2001.

Young donated his stipend of \$2,400 to create a grant program for students on campus. Young said his administration never followed through on fund raising for the program because other issues took precedence. "It's a big disappointment for me," he said.

Young said he has not yet decided



Student Body President Justin Young cites tuition as the biggest issue facing his administration.

what to do with the \$2,400.

Young cited tuition increases as the most pressing issue facing his administration this year. He said he attempted to rally students to lobby trustees through letters and protests, but he said the poor attendance at the Jan. 24 UNC Board of Trustees meeting where a tuition vote was taken was "very frustrating."

But Young said it was important that he helped establish the Carolina Lobby Corps last semester to teach students how to lobby members of the N.C. General Assembly about issues like tuition.

Young and his officers also dealt with parking-related issues throughout the year. Faced with the proposal for night parking charges and the possible loss of on-campus parking for resident students, Young

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We're enjoying sluggish times — and not enjoying them very much.

George Bush