

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Eating for Peace

A Carrboro benefit raises money for nonviolence.

See Page 3



Tax Day Cometh

Officials encourage students to file their tax forms online.

See Page 4

High Standards

The gymnastics team competes in NCAA regionals.

See Page 5



Weather

Today: Mostly Sunny; H 60, L 31
Saturday: Sunny; H 60, L 31
Sunday: Partly Cloudy; H 65, L 41



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Friday, April 5, 2002

Volume 110, Issue 24

Rally Set To Lobby Legislature

Today's event, scheduled for noon, will address tuition increases and state office campaign finance reform.

By DANIEL BLANK
Staff Writer

Several lobbying groups will rally at the N.C. General Assembly today in protest of tuition increases passed last month by the UNC-system Board of Governors that will now go before the state legislature for consideration.

Participants also will focus on campaign finance reform in state elections. The rally will begin at noon in front of the Legislative Building in Raleigh.

Speakers at the rally include former UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President Justin Young; UNC-system Association of Student Governments President Andrew Payne; Rep. Verla Insko, D-Orange; and Tara Purohit, organizer of the UNC Common Cause/Democracy Matters Student Alliance for Campaign Finance Reform.

The rally is organized by UNC-CH alumnus Dennis Markatos, youth coordinator for the N.C. Common Cause Education Fund, a lobbying organization promoting open and accountable government.

Markatos said the rally is the end product of several movements to bring about change in the areas of tuition and campaign finance. He said that his organization keeps a close eye on state policy and that the rally is necessary to allow politicians to hear their constituents' voices.

"The state is not living up to its responsibilities, so we're like a watchdog organization," he said. "This is the culmination of many efforts of tuition battles and campaign finance reform."

Markatos added that the organiza-

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Officials Will Cut DPS Budget to Fix Deficit

By RUTHIE WARSHENBROT
Staff Writer

Chancellor James Moeser said Thursday that the administration will cut expenses from the Department of Public Safety's budget rather than resubmit a proposal for night parking fees.

On March 28, the UNC Board of Trustees rejected the UNC administration's proposal for a night parking fee that would have alleviated DPS's projected budget shortfall of nearly \$2 million.

The proposal was sent back to Moeser and his vice chancellors with a request to submit a balanced budget without a night parking plan.

Carolyn Elfland, associate vice chancellor for campus services, said data will be collected to determine what the potential costs and impacts of cutting expenses would be. She said a group within DPS will meet internally today to begin discussing various alternatives and their consequences.

Cheryl Stout, assistant director of

parking services, said she will be at the meeting. She said that nothing is established at this point but that participants of today's meeting will discuss what needs to be done next.

Elfland said that after this group meets, it will make suggestions to a larger group of key leaders of groups that use parking and transportation services.

This group, which she said will meet next week, will give input and cite what its members predict will be the impact of budget cuts in their respective areas.

Representatives from the Employee Forum, Faculty Council, student government, the Division of Student Affairs and UNC Hospitals are all possible members of this committee, Elfland said.

Moeser said the committee will look at several different scenarios for reducing parking expenses.

But Elfland said there are no plans to cut any services that would affect safety.

"I do not envision us at all doing anything to reduce security," she said.

Elfland said there are two ways to bal-

ance a budget. She said DPS can either increase revenues or cut expenses. Because the BOT rejected the administrators' proposal, which would have increased revenues by charging for night parking, the only option left is to cut expenses, she said.

Elfland said no one has finished going through the budget to determine potential cuts. But she said there are certain areas of the budget that cannot and will

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SOCER AT SUNDOWN



DTH/BRENT CLARK

Octavio Gómez, a resident of Carrboro, watches and contemplates his next move as several of his friends fight for control of the ball during an early Thursday evening soccer game at Carrboro Community Park. Gómez and his friends play soccer together two or three times a week at the park's soccer fields.

Winmore May Be Too Expensive for Employees

By JAMES RUSS
Staff Writer

Officials have expressed concerns that the Winmore mixed-use development might not be affordable to all the University employees and Carrboro residents in need of inexpensive housing.

Winmore is a 62-acre satellite tract of the Horace Williams tract that the UNC Board of Trustees voted March 28 to sell to Winmore developers.

The project will combine residential and

retail space for residents.

Although the mixed-use project is expected to include houses and apartments, only the apartments are designed to be affordable for employees of the town of Carrboro, UNC and UNC Hospitals.

Developer Phil Szostak said that while the definite price for the rental units has not yet been set, the range will be from \$400 to \$500 per month.

This rate is calculated based on a Carrboro ordinance that limits the yearly rent for affordable housing to less than 12

percent of the median income level for a family of four in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area.

The median income for residents in the Triangle is \$46,000, although some figure for Orange County residents is \$41,169.

Under the ordinance, the rent could not be set higher than \$460 a month.

The ordinance also stipulates that the rental apartments must be affordable for at least the next hundred years.

Although the houses at Winmore are not specifically targeted to be affordable, Szostak

said the houses at the lower end of the price range at Winmore might be affordable to lower-income government employees with the assistance of a state financing program.

But Szostak said the prices of these houses probably will escalate quickly.

"The homes range from \$132,000 to \$175,000, but if you buy one, the price will escalate as the property value escalates," Szostak said.

These prices contrast with other affordable

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N.C. Supreme Court Hears Republican Suit On Districts' Legality

The Democrat-backed district plan passed in November was declared unconstitutional by lower courts but is now being appealed.

By ALEX KAPLUN
State & National Editor

RALEIGH — As the state's top politicians looked on, the N.C. Supreme Court heard arguments Thursday in a case that could determine the balance of political power in the state legislature.

Lawyers representing the N.C. Republican Party argued before the seven-member court that state House and Senate district lines drawn by the N.C. General Assembly last fall violate the state constitution.

The court did not come down with a ruling Thursday, and it is unknown when it will do so.

State district lines were approved last November by the General Assembly, where both chambers are controlled by Democrats. Not one member of the Republican caucus voted for either plan.

Republican leaders filed a lawsuit challenging the newly drawn districts shortly after they were approved by the legislature.

A lower court judge ruled in February that the districts were unconstitutional because they split too many counties. The House district map split 70 counties, while the Senate district map split 51. That ruling has already forced the N.C. State Board of Elections to postpone the primary elections, which were scheduled for May 7.

But lawyers for the state argued Thursday that the 1968 N.C. constitutional provision that called for legislators not to split counties lines when drawing legislative districts is unenforceable and violates federal voting rights laws.

Julius Chambers, former chancellor for N.C. Central University and prominent civil rights attorney, argued for the state that the 1968 provision was intentionally created to weaken the minority vote and that it would have the same impact if it was enforced today.

If the constitutional amendment is enforced it would direct legislators to draw some large districts, such as Wake and Mecklenburg counties, with about 10 representatives and some smaller, majority black districts that would only have one or two representatives in order to comply with federal voting rights laws.

"You would have to create huge districts — huge, white districts — to surround black districts," Chambers said. "You're telling black voters you're going to have one person to vote

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UNC Receives an Increase in Applicants, Mails Letters to Class of 2006

By JOY BUCHANAN
Staff Writer

It's the time of year when many high school seniors make frequent and frantic trips to their mailboxes, checking to see if colleges across the country have sent them narrow envelopes or thick packages.

But applicants to UNC-Chapel Hill will not have to wait much longer for their envelopes. The UNC-CH Office of Undergraduate Admissions last week sent out the acceptance and denial letters for the class of 2006.

Stephen Farmer, associate director of undergraduate admissions, said the office was more selective this year because there were more applicants than last year.

Farmer said 748 more students applied this year, bringing the total number of applicants to 17,454. But the office admitted 502 fewer students, which Farmer said is "significantly lower than last year."

Farmer said that because the office aimed for a

freshman class of 3,500 for the 2002-03 academic year, only 5,839 applicants were admitted. He said this figure is mainly a response to last year's over-enrollment. The office aimed for 3,500 students in the class of 2005, but 3,687 enrolled.

Farmer said there is no concrete way to determine how many students to admit to meet the admissions goal. "Predicting the number of students who'll say yes to you is a tricky thing," Farmer said. "It's an art, not a science."

Farmer said the office aimed for 3,500 students again this year because it was a number in line with earlier projections. "The University enrollment is more or less negotiated with the office of the (UNC-system) president," Farmer said.

The University usually determines enrollment goals for a particular class a few years in advance. Farmer said enrollment goals are established when the University does its biennial budget.

But the number of students projected to enroll for a given class are not etched in stone. "The projections may be fine-tuned once you get closer to the year you're talking about," Farmer said.

Because of grim budget projections, UNC-system officials began looking this year at tuition to fund future enrollment growth. Last month, the UNC-system Board of Governors passed a systemwide tuition increase of 8 percent for in-state students and 12 percent for out-of-state students to support enrollment growth.

In response, the UNC-CH Faculty Council passed a resolution expressing the need to slow enrollment growth to maintain the quality of education in the face of budget cuts, although the idea is not supported by BOG members.

But Farmer said the state's budget problems had little effect on this year's admissions decisions. He said that the office made projections before the budget cuts but that the cuts did have some impact.

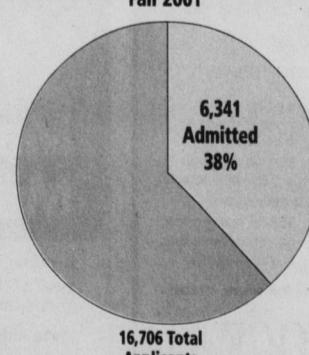
He said the office is more sensitive to over-enrollment to keep class size reasonable and to protect the University's quality of education. "(The budget cuts) reminded everyone here

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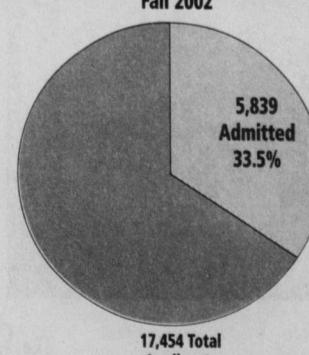
Few Are Chosen

The admissions office reported that more students applied to UNC-Chapel Hill for the fall 2002 semester than the year before. The number of those admitted, both in-state and out-of-state, dropped to compensate for overenrollment in 2001.

Fall 2001



Fall 2002



DTH/MARY STOWELL

Well, you and I would differ on what's ignorance and education.

Sen. Ernest Hollings