

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Let It Shine

Campus lighting tour aims to identify poorly lit areas.
See Page 3



Talk Is Cheap

Take action. Be a part of the summer DTH staff.
Applications Available in Union Suite 104

Blown Away

Russ Adams leads UNC to a 10-2 win against the Rams.
See Page 7



Weather

Today: Partly Cloudy; H 72, L 55
Thursday: A.M. Rain; H 75, L 42
Friday: Mostly Cloudy; H 71, L 42



www.dailytarheel.com

Volume 110, Issue 37

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

Students Air Grievances Behind Closed Doors

By JOHN FRANK
Assistant University Editor

Members of student government said they resolved issues of miscommunication with Speaker of Congress Tony Larson Tuesday night after a private meeting in Student Body President Jen Daum's office. Daum said after the meeting that she was pleased that steps against Larson, like asking him to resign, were not necessary. "It wasn't necessary because he

answered concerns adequately," she said. "It was extremely productive." Larson said he admitted his mistakes and took responsibility for his actions at the meeting. "I apologized and welcomed feedback on how to improve." The meeting was originally to be held in the conference room in Suite C of the Student Union but was moved to Daum's office so it could remain confidential. Student Body Vice President Aaron Hiller said the discussion centered on

miscommunication between student leaders. "You can't qualify Tony's zeal for student government and his dedication to Student Congress," he said. "However, in his excitement to do the job as well as he



SBP Jen Daum

can, he has come across as overzealous." Hiller and Daum said Larson's enthusiasm carried over into his official duties when he sent an e-mail to a group of student leaders encouraging graduate students to run for Congress. Daum said the e-mail, which was sent about a month ago, was perceived as threatening because Larson suggested that if graduate students weren't represented in Congress that they would have to find funding elsewhere.

Larson said he regretted the tone of the e-mail and plans to send another soon that will clear up any confusion. Hiller also questioned Larson about an "overly aggressive" approval process of Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor appointees. "(The nominees) had already been grilled extensively, so we questioned his methods and whether it was efficient to spend three hours rein-

See MEETING, Page 5

Low Vote Count Stops Fee Increase

Unofficial results indicate that as few as one Congress seat might remain vacant after the special election.

By JESSICA SLEEP
Staff Writer

Students voted to increase student activity fees in Tuesday's special election, but provisions in the Student Code will prevent the referendum from passing, said Speaker of Student Congress, Tony Larson.

Students voted 241 to 176 to raise the student activity fee \$16.50 for all students.

But Larson said Article 6, Section 503 of the Student Code requires that at least 10 percent of the student body must vote to approve any increase in student fees.

"I am fairly certain that it will not pass," he said.

Larson said he was disappointed with the number of students who voted in Tuesday's election. "I'm disappointed that turnout was so low, but traditionally elections that are not held during the main election for student body president do not generate a large turnout," he said.

But Larson said he was pleased that the majority of students who voted supported the referendum. "I'm glad to say that the majority of students who voted tonight supported the idea of raising student fees."

Student Congress will now re-evaluate whether to continue supporting the fee increase in the fall, Larson said. "We will have to strategize about how we're going to get 10 percent of the student body to vote."

Tuesday's election also was held to fill 13 empty seats that were left in Student Congress after the Feb. 12 general student body elections.

Board of Elections Chairwoman Emily Margolis said seven students ran for the 13 available seats.

Margolis said that as of Tuesday night, she had contacted all seven candidates, and four of them accepted their posts. She said it was probable that the other three would accept.

Margolis said there were five write-in candidates who her office had contacted but who had yet to accept their seats.

Only District 12, Hinton James and Morrison residence halls, did not receive any votes in the election, Margolis said. The election results indicate that as many as nine and as few as one seat could remain vacant.

Margolis said there would not be enough time this semester to hold another special election.

But Larson said that even though only one seat could remain empty, the Student Code requires Student Body President Jen Daum to order another special election within 30 calendar days of the beginning of the fall semester.

Margolis said the election ran smoothly, despite early technical difficulties, which resulted in the wrong districts appearing on the ballot. "The old district designations were there temporarily, but we fixed it as soon as we found out about it."

But Margolis said she did not think the glitches affected many students.

"It did affect a few people, but they called us, and we fixed the problem," she said. Margolis estimated the correct districts were on the ballot by 9:30 a.m.

Larson said he was pleased that most of the Congress seats were filled. "It's been a long time since Congress has been as active as it has been recently."

Student Fees Increase Referendum	
Yes 241	votes, 57.8 %
No 176	votes, 42.2 %

THE SENATE RACE

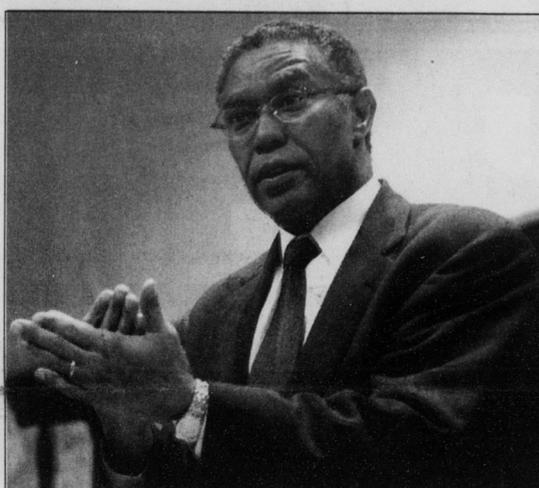
Poised for the Primaries



DTH FILE PHOTO



DTH/JOSHUA GREER



DTH FILE PHOTO

One of three candidates — (left to right) N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, former White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles or state Rep. Dan Blue — is likely to secure the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate. Some pundits say Bowles' party support and fund-raising ability give him the early edge in the race.

THE DEMOCRATS

Blue, Bowles, Marshall Vie for Democratic Bid

By MICHAEL MCKNIGHT
Staff Writer

A former White House Chief of Staff, a long-time state legislator and the first woman to win a statewide executive office in North Carolina are among the leading contenders for the Democratic nomination in this year's U.S. Senate race.

According to recent poll data, former White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles has an edge on both N.C. Rep. Dan Blue, D-Wake, and N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall in terms of name recognition. But all three are nearly tied in the number of people

who hold favorable opinions of them.

A poll conducted in early March by The Institute of Politics and Public Affairs at Elon University — one of the few polls conducted about the race thus far — found that 48 percent of those surveyed recognized Bowles' name, while Blue had a 28.8 percent recognition rate and 24.4 percent recognized Marshall.

The survey found the race was even closer in terms of the number of people who held favorable opinions of the candidates. Bowles again narrowly led in this category with 14 percent of those surveyed responding that they had a favorable opinion of him. Marshall came in second with 10 percent, followed by

Blue with 7.7 percent.

But all three Democrats will have more time to make a name for themselves than originally anticipated due to the postponement of the N.C. primaries, originally scheduled for May 7. The primaries have been put on hold while the N.C. Supreme Court decides the legality of state district lines drawn by the legislature last fall.

UNC political science Professor Thad Beyle said it is too early to tell what effect the postponement of the primary election will have on the race. Beyle said the delay likely will be most costly for Bowles, who is the only candidate to use television ads so far in the election season. "That can get expensive," he said. "A lot of

people have said Dan Blue and Elaine Marshall will come out better because they're doing most of their work on the ground like going out and shaking hands and meeting people."

Erskine Bowles

But Beyle said Bowles still leads the Democrats in fund raising, which is why most people view him as the front runner for the Democratic nomination.

So far in the 2002 election cycle, Bowles has raised more than \$3.1 million for his campaign — \$2.6 million more than any other

See DEMOCRATS, Page 5

THE REPUBLICANS

Dole Likely to Gain Republican Nomination for U.S. Senate Seat

By MICHAEL MCKNIGHT
Staff Writer

As the race to determine who will represent the Democratic Party in November's U.S. Senate election heats up, many who have been closely following this year's primaries say the Republican candidate already has been picked.

Pundits, pollsters and party insiders appear to be in unanimous agreement that former American Red Cross President and U.S. Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole has a commanding lead over the competition for the Republican party nomination.

A poll conducted in early March by the Elon

University Institute for Politics and Public Affairs found Dole had 94 percent name recognition. Her closest Republican competitor, Lexington attorney Jim Snyder, had only 18 percent name recognition.

The poll also found 52 percent of North Carolinians surveyed held a favorable opinion of Dole. No other Republican candidate received a favorability rating of higher than 3 percent.

Sharon Spray, director of the Elon poll, said the apparent split among the three top Democratic candidates could benefit Dole, who, according to the poll, holds a wide lead in both name recognition

See REPUBLICANS, Page 5



DTH FILE PHOTO

Republican U.S. Senate candidate Elizabeth Dole (left) has distanced herself from the rest of the field in her bid for the Republican nomination.

Politicians are ambitious not to make important decisions but to say important things.

Richard Crossman

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