

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

www.dailytarheel.com



• WXYC '80s dance evokes nostalgia
• "Zoot Suit" celebrates Latino culture
Look for more stories online.

Basketball Savvy?

Contribute to the DTH's 2002 Basketball special section. E-mail sports@unc.edu by Thursday with a 250-word submission about this year's squad.

Speaking Out

Locals march to denounce domestic violence.
See Page 3



Weather

Today: A.M. Showers; H 68, L 45
Thursday: Mostly Sunny; H 59, L 38
Friday: Partly Cloudy; H 61, L 33



Volume 110, Issue 103

Wednesday, October 30, 2002

www.dailytarheel.com

Daum, Larson Unveil Campaign Reform

Changes would go into effect this year

BY CAROLINE KORNEGAY
Staff Writer

Student Body President Jen Daum and Speaker of Congress Tony Larson revealed their election reform act Tuesday, endorsing campaigns funded entirely by student activity fees.

The legislation, which Daum and Larson finalized late Monday, also sug-

gests new spending limits and a shorter campaign season.

If approved by Student Congress at its meeting in two weeks, the Larson-Daum Campaign Reform Act of 2002 would go into effect for this year's election.

The act would cut the amount student body president and Carolina Athletic Association president candidates could spend from \$500 to \$400. Those cuts are less than original estimates from earlier in the week, when Larson said spending possibly could be limited to \$300.

Candidates for Residence Hall Association president and Graduate and

Professional Student Federation president would be able to spend \$75 less during their campaigns – a total of \$250.

Students running for senior class officers and Student Congress members would be limited to \$150 and \$20 respectively.

Runoff election spending limits also were cut by more than half in the proposal. Student body president and CAA president candidates would be restricted to \$100. RHA presidential hopefuls, senior class officers and GPSF president candidates would be limited to \$75. Under current legislation, the candidates can spend

a total of 150 percent of their original spending limits by the end of the runoff.

Under the new regulations, candidates and their running mates only will be allowed to use the funds provided by student fees to finance their campaigns. No other money – including personal funds – may be used.

But before potential candidates can use student fees, they must gather a much larger number of signatures than previously needed on their petitions to be on the ballot – for example, 800 signatures for student body president, up from 500. The measures are designed to neutral-

ize economic differences between candidates, who in the past have used various and sometimes unequal resources for campaign finances, Daum said.

"A lot of it came out of personal experience," she said of the proposed changes. The changes would help the process run more smoothly and be as fair as possible, Daum said.

The limits were proposed to keep candidates focused on developing issue-based platforms and face-to-face campaigning by limiting the use of posters for simple name recognition.

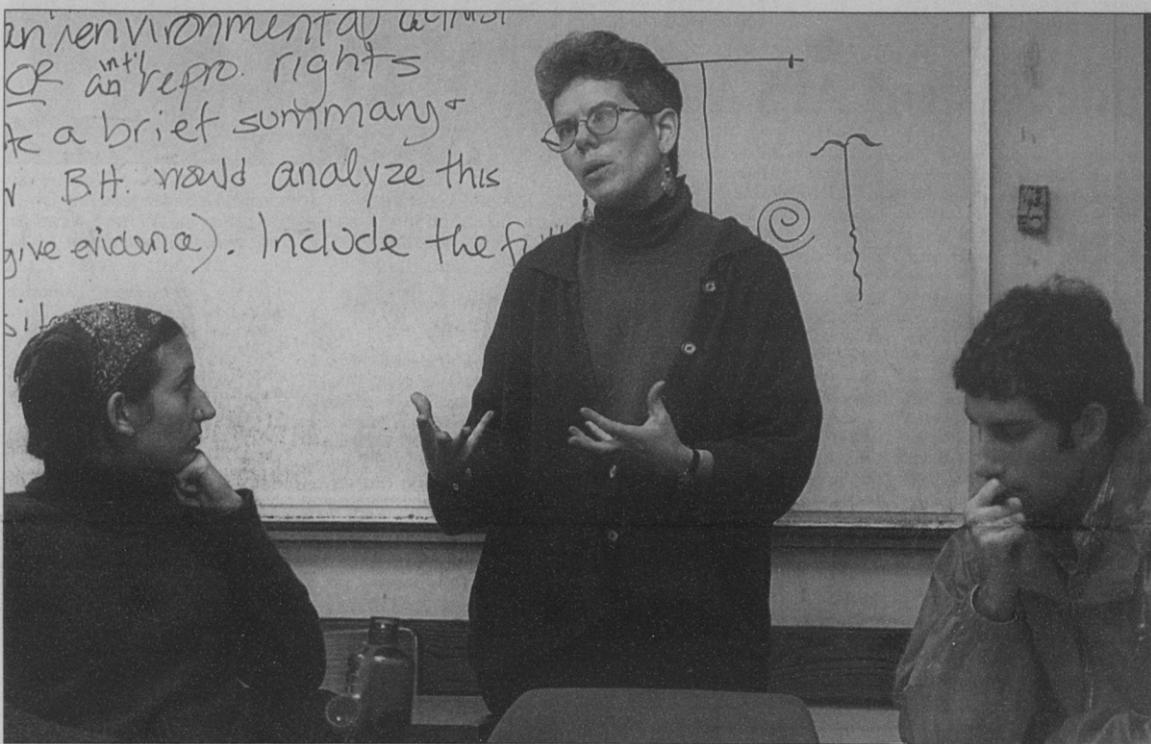
Larson said he hopes giving candi-

dates campaign funds from student activity fees will free them of obligations to campaign contributors. "I hope the effect (of the amendment) is it makes the campaigns more focused around issues."

In addition, the act cuts the campaigning period by one week.

The legislation states that candidates may campaign publicly and orally 21 days prior to the election but may not use fliers or other campaign materials until 14 days before election day.

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



Karen Booth, a UNC women's studies professor and a lesbian, talks in Wilson Library on Tuesday afternoon with her "International Politics of Sexual and Reproductive Health" class about the use of contraceptives in preventing sexually transmitted diseases.

CLOSETED IN CLASSROOMS

Many say that although treatment of LGBTQ faculty has improved, problems still exist

BY RACHEL E. LEONARD / Staff Writer

The treatment of gay and lesbian professors in the United States has come a long way since 1960, when Smith College in Massachusetts fired three gay professors charged with possessing gay pornography.

But that treatment still doesn't equal that of their heterosexual colleagues, many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer professors say today.

Many LGBTQ professors think twice before coming out of the closet. Some have been harassed because of their sexuality – some say they've lost their jobs because of it.

Yet some LGBTQ faculty say their sexuality has never been an issue. Acceptance of LGBTQ professors has

improved over the last few decades, but not at all schools, said Toni McNaron, a retired University of Minnesota professor who interviewed more than 100 LGBTQ professors for her 1996 book "Poisoned Ivy: Lesbian and Gay Academics Confronting Homophobia."

"The progress is in pockets,"

McNaron said. Schools in Southern and rural Western states are the least receptive to LGBTQ professors, she said. Schools in California, New York and big cities are usually more gay-friendly.

Despite those pockets of progress, McNaron estimates that the majority of LGBTQ professors remain in the closet.

Institutional Climate

Most schools say they treat LGBTQ faculty the same as their heterosexual peers, but many professors say that's not the case.

In May, a University of Texas-Tyler professor was fired after undergoing a

Sexuality

Examining how sexuality affects higher education experiences.

Tuesday:
Classes and Majors
Today:
LGBTQ Faculty
Thursday:
Admissions

sex change. In the late 1990s, two gay University of Notre Dame professors resigned, saying the school was hostile toward gays.

Carolyn Byerly, a former communications professor at New York's Ithaca College and a lesbian, sued the school after she was denied tenure in 2000. Byerly, now a University of

Maryland visiting professor, claimed her sexual orientation and feminism were key issues behind her tenure denial.

The school cited a small group of negative student evaluations that said she wasn't feminine enough and that

See FACULTY, Page 9

Congress OKs Fee Hike Referendum

BY LIZZIE STEWART
Staff Writer

Student Congress members voted 28-2 Tuesday to place a referendum calling for an increase in the student activity fee on the general election ballot in February.

The referendum proposes increasing the student activity fee for all students to \$19.50 per semester. Currently, undergraduates pay \$11.50 per semester and graduate students pay \$9.50 per semester.

The increase in student fees would enable student organizations to fund more events and bring distinguished speakers to campus, said Speaker Tony Larson.

This would be the first significant increase in the student activity fee since 1984. Inflation and state budget cuts prevent organizations from continuing programs of a high caliber under the same budgets they have had for almost 20 years, many Congress members said.

The legislation passed despite strong opposition from Student Body Treasurer Michael Vollmer and representatives Matthew Carter and Alak Shah, who called the resolution hypocritical and said voluntarily increasing student fees would ruin the students' credibility with the UNC-system Board of Governors.

"This is one of the few areas where students have the right, impact and ability to determine what they pay," Vollmer said.

Vollmer also questioned the need to increase the student activity fee when Congress has yet to allocate all of its funds for this year and \$24,000 was returned to Congress at the end of last year because organizations did not use it.

Larson said that most organizations received only a small portion of what they asked for last spring and that many will



Speaker Tony Larson talks with Student Congress members at their meeting Tuesday evening.

return to ask for subsequent funding.

He also said organizations are hesitant to ask for funding for major events because of Congress' lack of adequate funds during the last few years.

"Organizations on this campus are afraid to dream big," he said.

Some Congress members said they were motivated to increase the fee because they had witnessed the disappointment of student organization leaders whose requests for funding were turned down. "I watched as groups were told that all of the plans they made this year were not going to happen because

See CONGRESS, Page 9

Water Restrictions May Lead to Rate Increase

BY MICHAEL DAVIS
Assistant City Editor

Orange Water and Sewer Authority will hold a public hearing Nov. 14 to discuss the possibility of additional rate increases to cover a \$1.2 million budget deficit attributed mostly to lost revenue from recent conservation efforts.

Although OWASA water use rates will increase slightly beginning Nov. 1, officials say these hikes are not related to the drought and will not be discussed at the hearing. The adjustments, which were agreed to in June, will result in an increase of 6.25 percent in OWASA customers' rates, said Ed Kerwin, OWASA's executive director.

The public hearing instead will address options to make up revenue lost

over the summer as customers tried to conserve water, Kerwin said.

But he said that the meeting was scheduled before the onset of recent rains, which have helped replenish the area water supply, and that he is not sure whether rates will increase again.

He said OWASA staff is looking at cost-cutting mechanisms designed ultimately to save customers money.

"While we are having this public hearing, we're also working extremely hard to see what costs we can cut," he said. "It's not a given (that rate increases) will happen."

"I'm more optimistic through a combination of saving (and delaying capital improvement projects that) we'll be able to get through it."

See RATES, Page 9

Online Voting
<http://studentcentral.unc.edu>

Senior Class Gift

- Only seniors can vote
- Voting hours: 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Gift options: an Undergraduate Library endowment of at least \$20,000, an artistic glass etching on the windows of the Campus Y building memorializing Sept. 11 or a special-needs scholarship to pay for incidentals

Homecoming Court:

- All students are eligible to vote
- Voting hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Queen Candidates: Rhonda Patterson, Susan Peters and Margaret Young
- King Candidates: Larry Braithwaite and Berry French

SOURCE: DTH STAFF RESEARCH DTH/RENA CHERNOITSKY

Homecoming, Class Gift Votes Today

BY ELIZABETH DANIELS
Staff Writer

Seniors will have many options to choose from in the two online elections being held today.

The day has come to vote for Homecoming king and queen, as well as the senior class gift – the first time the two elections have been held online the same day.

This year all students can vote online through Student Central for Homecoming king and queen between

7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Seniors have the same option for the senior class gift and can vote between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.

The candidates for Homecoming queen are Rhonda Patterson, Susan Peters and Margaret Young. Larry Braithwaite and Berry French are each running for Homecoming king.

Each candidate is touting a unique service project.

Patterson, a senior Spanish and communication studies major sponsored by the Black Student Movement, has proposed a service project titled, "Home is Where the Heart Is," which focuses on organ donation.

Peters, a senior health policy and administration major under the sponsorship of Sangam, the South Asian awareness organization, will promote different cultures by teaching two classes to high school and middle school students.

See VOTE, Page 9

Money isn't everything, but lack of money isn't anything.

Franklin Adams