

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Check online for a photo gallery of the women's basketball team's victory over N.C. State.

Entering the Real Word

Summer and fall graduates say goodbye to UNC during winter Commencement. See Page 3

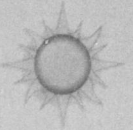
Bad Break

Tar Heels struggle after Sean May's injury. See Page 12



Weather

Today: Sunny; H 46, L 28  
Wednesday: Cloudy; H 54, L 30  
Thursday: Partly Cloudy; H 56, L 36



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## BOG Could Halt All Tuition Increases

Measure expected to pass full board Friday

By JENNIFER SAMUELS  
Assistant State & National Editor

The UNC-system Board of Governors will consider Friday a freeze on all tuition increases for the 2003-04 academic year, an action prompted by concerns about the impact of a faltering economy on students and their families.

The freeze, which was approved by the BOG Budget and Finance Committee on Dec. 5, would affect both systemwide and campus-

initiated increases.

The action comes in the wake of three consecutive years of tuition increases, during which tuition at UNC-system schools has increased by an average of 62 percent. Last year alone the BOG raised tuition by \$486 for in-state UNC-Chapel Hill students and \$1,778 for out-of-state UNC-CH students.

Many BOG members said they are confident the recommendation will pass the full board. "I feel sure that the majority will support

it," said BOG Vice Chairwoman Teena Little, also a committee member.

The committee had input regarding the plan from several outside board members, said committee Chairman Addison Bell. "I think the board in general is in agreement - (we) need to take a break," he said.

BOG member Ray Farris said he thinks the freeze is necessary because students and their families have contributed more than their fair share to higher education costs in North Carolina. "I believe that there's a feeling that the economy is so rough in North Carolina and students (have) borne such a high percentage of

the cost, evidenced by increases over the last few years, (that) they believe it's enough."

But some members expressed concern that the system would suffer without additional revenue from tuition hikes. The rising costs of enrollment growth have been covered by funds generated from increased tuition.

Bell said the committee acted with the hope that the legislature would include enrollment growth in its continuing budget, making additional funds from the system unnecessary.

But some legislators said the state's precari-

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Student Body President Jen Daum (left) and Provost Robert Shelton lead a meeting of the Tuition Task Force on Dec. 19.

## Task Force OKs \$1,050 Tuition Hike

Plan won't move forward due to expected freeze

By DANIEL THIGPEN  
University Editor

Completing a semester's worth of discussions and debate, UNC-Chapel Hill's Tuition Task Force in December recommended a three-year, \$1,050 tuition increase to alleviate disparities in faculty, staff and teaching assistant salaries and to increase financial aid.

It is unlikely, however, that the plan will come to fruition anytime soon.

UNC-system Board of Governors members have said they expect the board Friday to pass a moratorium on campus-based tuition increases. If this happens, UNC-CH most likely will have to revisit the issue of tuition in a year.

And UNC-CH officials, including task force members, said they don't have any reason to think otherwise.

Still, the group voted 14-1 to send a proposal to Chancellor James Moeser, both as a safeguard and to make a statement.

The recommendation calls for an increase of \$350 per year for three years, which would generate about \$24 million. Forty percent of that money, or \$9.6 million, would go to financial aid for students. It also reserves \$1.9 million for TA salary increases, \$11.5 million for faculty salary increases and \$900,000 for staff salary increases.

Task force members had three options from which to choose, all with increases ranging from \$300 to \$400 a year. All of them took 40 percent off the top for financial aid, and all had slight variances in how much money would be allocated to boost faculty and TA salaries.

Only the \$300 option did not include funds for staff salary increases.

The task force agreed that any excess funds that might occur if governing bodies disallow any of the increase's targeted uses be subtracted from the total increase instead of reallocated to financial aid or TA salaries.

But much of the group's time was spent dis-

"I was hoping we could move ahead. I still think it was important to go through the exercise."

ROBERT SHELTON  
Provost

See TASK FORCE, Page 7

## Campus Dodges Charter Lawsuit

By LIZZIE STEWART  
Staff Writer

Officials for a civil liberties organization said Monday they would not pursue litigation against UNC after Chancellor James Moeser recently agreed to recognize a campus Christian group whose charter violated the school's anti-discrimination policy.

In the meantime, 16 other campus groups also have been scrutinized for

bylaws that have been identified as contradicting UNC policy. The Philadelphia-based Foundation for Individual Rights in Education said late last month that it was ready to sue the University after Division of Student Affairs officials sent a letter to the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship informing the group that its right to receive funding would be revoked if its charter was not changed by Jan. 31. Student Affairs officials sent a similar letter to 16 other groups.

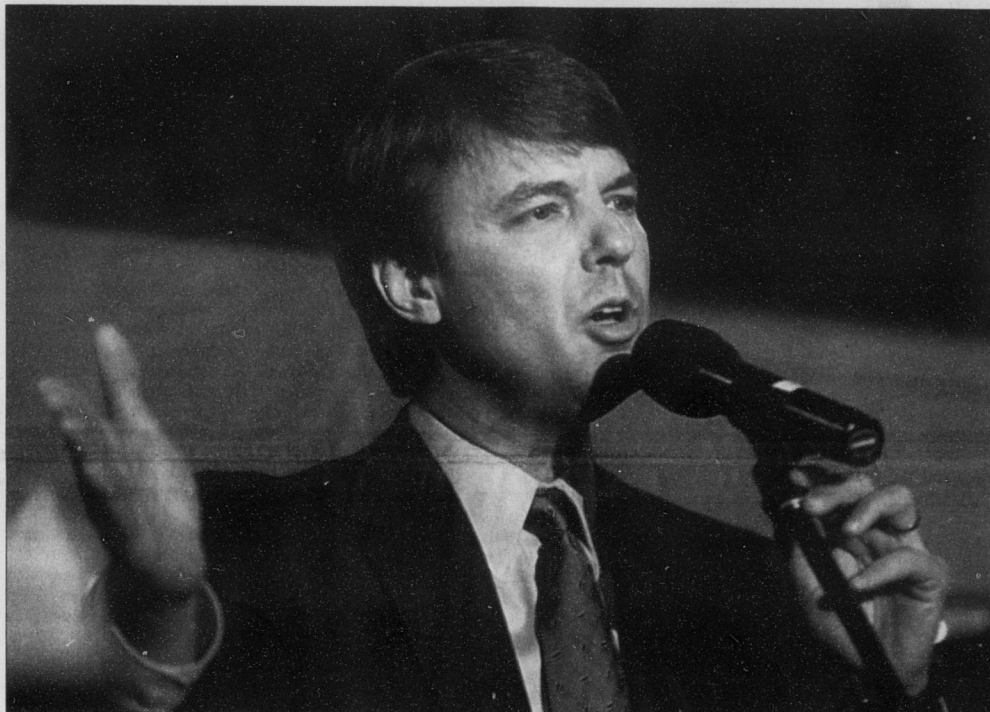
UNC's anti-discrimination policy requires that "openness to full membership and participation must be available to all members of the University community without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender (where applicable)."

But during a campuswide review of every student organization's bylaws, officials claimed that many groups, including InterVarsity, were not in congruence with this policy.

While InterVarsity allows students of any race, gender, ethnicity or religious belief to join its organization, its charter states that leaders of the organization must uphold the values and beliefs of Christian doctrine.

See CHARTER, Page 7

## RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE



DTH/GARRETT HALL

Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., kicks off fund raising for his presidential campaign Saturday night at Greenshields Brewery and Pub. On Thursday, Edwards announced he will seek the Democratic nomination for president in 2004.

## 'COMMON MAN' FOCUS OF EDWARDS' CAMPAIGN

By EMMA BURGIN  
Assistant State & National Editor

RALEIGH - After several months of hinting at a presidential bid, Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., announced Thursday that he will make a run for the White House in 2004. He kicked off his presidential campaign Saturday with several fund-raisers, including one at Greenshields Brewery and Pub.

At the Greenshields event, Edwards said he will show the rest of the United States the principles of North Carolina while he fights for regular people.

"It's about showing the rest of America and the entire world what North Carolina is made of," he said. "We will be the voice for regular Americans every single day, and I will be their voice in the White House."

Several Top Democrats Start Presidential Race See Page 8

Edwards has long considered himself a champion of the "regular people." He points to his career as a successful trial lawyer - during the course of which, he says, he defended the rights of the average citizen.

He says he has continued that service during his four years in the U.S. Senate, where he served opposite longtime Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C. Edwards will become the state's senior senator today as Helms leaves office and Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C., takes his place. Edwards now is one of eight potential contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Notable guests at the Greenshields event included former Gov. Jim Hunt, State Auditor Ralph Campbell, N.C. Attorney General Roy Cooper and former N.C. Secretary of State Rufus Edmisten. Edwards said Saturday that he will uphold an earlier decision not to take money from political action committees or Washington, D.C., insiders.

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MORE STORM COVERAGE See Page 9

• Businesses Thrive, Suffer During Power Loss

• Campus Cleanup Could Continue Until February

After the Dec. 4 ice storm, branches were strewn across the UNC campus and the surrounding area.



DTH/GARRETT HALL

## Ice Storm's Impact, Cost Linger in Town

By JOHN FRANK  
City Editor

One month after a fierce ice storm brought down tree limbs and power lines and crippled the winter-weary Triangle, local officials still are trying to get a grasp on the massive cleanup effort.

Chapel Hill officials estimated early on that they would collect up to 20,000 tons of debris at a cost of almost \$1 million.

Public Works Director Bruce Hefflin said that those initial estimates might be on the high side but that so far the town has double the amount of debris annually collected.

In an average year, the public works department collects no more than 2,000 tons of debris, but in the last month crews have deposited 3,900 tons.

Chapel Hill has hired outside firms to complete a majority of the cleanup, but public works crews still dedicate much of their time to the effort.

Bill Stockard, assistant to the town manager, said crews are working six days a week and plan to complete the first cycle of debris removal by Jan. 17.

Despite the long hours, crews still have about 90 percent of the debris to collect. Stockard said debris removal will continue

for the next several months, possibly extending through April.

In other areas of the Triangle, officials have reported quicker cleanup rates. Raleigh-area officials plan to finish their collection by the end of February, and Durham, which was the hardest-hit area in the Triangle, says it should be done by mid-March.

Chapel Hill Town Council members said the cleanup probably will take longer in Chapel Hill than in nearby counties because proportional to size and population, the area was one of the hardest-hit in the Triangle.

"We are doing the best job we can," said council member Mark Kleinschmidt. "We've

hired outside workers. But there is just so much to clean up."

The storm, which hit Dec. 4 and 5, shut down the entire area as many roadways were impassable and power was knocked out in most homes and businesses.

Power companies worked endlessly for the next couple of weeks to restore power to residents, many of whom were without heat for at least 10 days, and the state was declared a federal disaster area.

Officials hadn't seen destruction on such a large scale since Hurricane Fran paralyzed

See ICE STORM, Page 7

To me the presidency and the vice presidency were not prizes to be won but a duty to be done.

Gerald R. Ford