

The Daily Tar Heel

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Go online for photo galleries of Saturday's anti-war protest in Washington, D.C.

Unrest in Raleigh

Protesters swarm Gov. Mike Easley's mansion to support clemency for Henry Lee Hunt.
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Brown's Blues

Coretta Brown, Tar Heels fail to upset Blue Devils.
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Weather

Today: Rain/Snow; H 39, L 22
Wednesday: Cloudy; H 38, L 19
Thursday: Light Snow; H 34, L 10



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UNC Law School To Side With UM

Diversity crucial in education, dean says

By EMILY STEEL
Staff Writer

UNC's School of Law will join organizations from across the nation — including the White House — in taking a stance on a case that could determine the role of race in college admissions.

The law school plans to file an amicus brief in the U.S. Supreme Court case regarding affirmative action policies at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, arguing that achieving a diverse student body is a compelling interest for a public law school.

"We believe it is crucial to have a strongly integrated student body," said Gene Nichol, law school dean. "We think it is crucial to the education process."

Some undergraduate and graduate applicants to UM have contested that the school's affirmative action admissions policies violate their constitutional rights by racially discriminating against them.

Last week, President Bush voiced his opposition to the admissions system at UM, calling it "divisive, unfair and impossible to square with the Constitution."

But the UNC law school's argument would support the position taken by UM in the first affirmative action case the Supreme Court has heard since 1978.

This case is one of the most important cases affecting public education in the last 25 years, said Jack Boger, the law school professor drafting the brief.

"Public universities and public law schools have a special mission to educate the future generations of their state," he said. "This case is indispensable for our future."

Nichol said he expects that a number of other universities also will file amicus briefs in support of UM. Amicus briefs are filed by outside parties that support either the plaintiff or the defendant. They advise the court about where other interested parties stand on the issue.

Race is just one of many factors the admissions office analyzes when deciding which applicants are accepted to the University, said Herb Davis, associate director for undergraduate admissions.

"It is common opinion that admissions offices often compare black students and white students and take black students with inferior credentials, but it

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UNC 68 | UCONN 65



DTH/JASON ARTHURS

Tar Heel freshman Rashad McCants exults after being fouled with 3.3 seconds remaining in Saturday's game against Connecticut. McCants made both free throws to seal the 68-65 victory.

UNC WITHSTANDS HUSKY ONSLAUGHT

By IAN GORDON
Senior Writer

It had the intensity of a Final Four showdown, the contentiousness of an off-camera get-together before "Joe Millionaire," the pace of the Daytona 500 and the head-scratching finale of a David Lynch flick.

Add in mini-diatribes by both teams' coaches during and after the game, a dubious foul or two, a blown lead, a dramatic jumper and even more dramatic free throws, and a taunting, surging, court-charging crowd and you've got one hell of a spectacle — er, college basketball game.

Emotional
McCants Carries
UNC to Victory
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Despite surrendering a lead that at one point swelled to 19 points, North Carolina needed a clutch Jawad Williams bucket and two key free throws by Rashad McCants to hold off No. 6 Connecticut 68-65 before a sellout crowd of 21,750 on Saturday at the Smith Center.

McCants led the Tar Heels with 27 points on 7-of-11 shooting. He also finished nine of 10 from the free-throw line, including a pair with just 3.3 seconds left and UNC clinging to a one-point lead.

"I'm extremely proud ... of my team," said UNC coach Matt Doherty. "The tough thing is getting off to a great lead because you know they're going to make a run. That's UConn."

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Calls for Peace Fill U.S. Capital

About 1,700 from N.C. made the trip

By ELYSE ASHBURN
State & National Editor

WASHINGTON — The air thundered with calls for peace Saturday as throngs of protesters surged onto the National Mall and spilled into the streets in what was the largest anti-war rally in the capital since the Vietnam War.

Despite the below-freezing temperatures, the substantial crowd — estimated at more than 200,000 — crunched toward a lone stage erected in the shadow of the U.S. Capitol building.

The demonstrators were drawn by national civil rights figures who charged them to fight social inequity and the injustice of the impending war against Iraq.

"Are we talking about weapons of mass destruction or a political game of mass destruction?" the Rev. Al Sharpton, a renowned civil rights leader and 2004 presidential contender, yelled over the roar of the crowd.

"Doctor Martin Luther King started his fight against segregation, but he didn't stop there. He fought for world peace. ... We haven't dropped the banner."

Although the banner Saturday took on many diverse forms — informed opposition, international peace, environmentalism and civil rights — they all were united under an anti-Bush, anti-war theme.

"Let's fight a war on poverty, not a war against the poor," civil rights leader

Jesse Jackson roared. "We choose brains over brawn. ... We've got fire in our bellies for peace. We're going forward by hope, not backward with fear."

Protesters flowed into the streets by the thousands as Jackson pounded his speech to its end. Signs proclaiming, "No Blood for Oil," and "Protest is Patriotism," peppered the crowd; above them, an enormous North Carolina state flag whipped in the freezing wind.

Wajeh Muhammed, the Greensboro resident bearing the flag, said he made the trip to Washington to demonstrate that there is not a national consensus for war.

"I'm a Muslim and an American, and I want to be here for my people," he said. "I'm an American citizen too, and I'm against the war. I want peace, and that's why I'm here today."

About 2,500 North Carolinians, including seven busloads from Chapel Hill, got up in the pre-dawn hours Saturday to join Muhammed in Washington.

Among the Chapel Hill protesters were about 100 UNC students, University professors Catherine Lutz and Sarah Shields and Democratic Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, Orange County's representative in the N.C. Senate.

"I think people are aware that priorities are being skewed," Kinnaird said. "I don't think that Americans buy the fact that there is a case for war."

Raleigh resident Will Scheerer also ventured to the capital because of his conviction that the White House has not met the burden of proof for declaring war against Iraq. "I came because of a conviction that it's wrong. It's all wrong."

Scheerer said that he protested the Vietnam War but that he did not

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DTH/BRIAN CASSELLA

Protesters gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on Saturday morning to protest the potential U.S. war with Iraq.

Reform Not Hurting Hopefuls' Signature Lists



DTH/KRISTIN GOODE

A student signs Friday a student body president candidate's petition.

By ALEX GRANADOS
Staff Writer

Candidates for student body president took to the sidewalks of the UNC campus last week to collect the 800 signatures necessary to place their names on the Feb. 11 ballot.

They also have used friends, the Internet and word-of-mouth to reach out to students during the first part of the campaign, which lasts until Jan. 28. During this phase, candidates are not allowed to use campaign materials.

The Larson-Daum Campaign Reform Act of 2002, which Student Congress passed Nov. 12, restricts candidates to funds provided to them by Student Congress, requires presidential candidates to collect 800 signatures and reduces the duration of the campaigns to two weeks.

The four candidates for student body president — Nathan Cherry, Ben

Pickett, Matt Tepper and Sang Shin — have been spreading their campaign staffers across campus to get out their messages verbally.

All candidates said they have received at least 800 signatures, some of them receiving as many as 1,200.

Candidates are nonchalant about the possible effects of the act and said they don't think students will be put off by the lack of visual aids around campus.

"I don't think it is going to affect the campaign at all," Cherry said.

But Tepper said he sees the possible limitations of not using ordinary campaign materials as well. "It makes it a lot harder for the candidates to get the message out," he said.

Shin said the race is more fair as a result of the changes.

"It has affected us, but it makes everyone fair," he said. "No one gets a leg up."

Brian Fauver, chairman of the

Board of Elections, said the restrictions placed on candidates this year are a way to ensure that those who run for office are dedicated and serious.

The candidates certainly are not taking the campaign lightly.

"I wouldn't say (campaigning without signs) is affecting us terribly," Pickett said. "You are just having to use more intelligent, efficient choices."

If candidates violate the restrictions and use signs to publicize their campaigns, they will be fined.

Fauver said Monday that write-in candidate Dan Pignel will be fined for his use of signs in Hinton James Residence Hall.

Pignel is running as a write-in candidate because he did not attend the mandatory candidates meeting Jan. 14.

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Students Spend Holiday Celebrating King's Memory

Day for Service was run by R.O.C.T.S.

By RACHEL HODGES
Staff Writer

It's not often that college students will get up voluntarily before 9:30 a.m., but this Martin Luther King Jr. Day, more than 200 students made an exception.

On Monday morning, students flooded Hamilton Hall to participate in the third annual Day for Service, a volunteer festival being run for the first time by student organization Carolina Rejuvenating Our Community Through Service.

The event kicked off UNC's weeklong

celebration of King's birthday.

The program was constructed to place students at various volunteer sites throughout the surrounding area.

The Day for Service was started by the Carolina Center for Public Service in 2001 but was handed over to the Campus Y and the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center the following year. Now, with the event under the control of R.O.C.T.S., officials hoped to build off its first two years of success.

"I decided to sign up because I felt it would be a good thing to do on my day off," said Ruth Van Dyke, a freshman who volunteered at the Alterra Wynwood Retirement Home. Some

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Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

Henry Ford