

# The Daily Tar Heel

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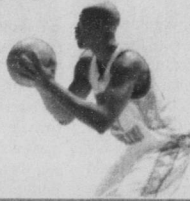
• Abortion's effects studied by UNC  
• Bond program remains on track  
Look for more stories online.

Under Way

As the legislative session gets into gear, the state's legislators must tackle a spate of tough issues.  
See Page 5

Back on Track

Tar Heels aim to end losing streak.  
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Weather

Today: P.M. Rain; H 52, L 37  
Thursday: Showers; H 43, L 33  
Friday: Cloudy; H 52, L 37



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## On Eve of Vote, Daughtry Drops Speaker Bid



Rep. George Holmes was endorsed by Rep. Leo Daughtry.

### GOP caucus nominates Holmes for top post

By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.  
Senior Writer

Adding a last-minute twist to the soap-opera-esque drama in the N.C. House, outgoing Minority Leader Leo Daughtry, R-Johnston, announced Tuesday that he would not seek the position of speaker.

Instead, Daughtry endorsed Yadkin County Rep. George Holmes, a 14-term Republican legislator who served as co-

chairman of the House Appropriations Committee when Republicans controlled the House from 1995-99.

Daughtry, who announced his withdrawal Tuesday night at a party meeting in Raleigh, has been at the epicenter of Republican turmoil over the position that has been held by Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, for the last four years.

In addition to being the most powerful person in the House, the speaker appoints com-

mittee chairmen and has control over which legislation is debated on the House floor.

On Friday, Forsyth County Rep. Michael Decker said he didn't want Daughtry to have the position — so much so that he switched his registration to the Democratic Party.

Decker's move prompted the ire of state Republican leaders, some of whom picketed outside Decker's Forsyth office Monday, demanding his resignation and asserting that Black had promised Decker the speaker pro tem position behind closed doors.

But some argue that Daughtry, who refused comment Tuesday, has even more

political baggage. Several legislators have said they would not vote for Daughtry, while another, Rep. Richard Morgan, R-Moore, made a concerted effort to block Daughtry's bid for the speakership.

"The first political rule is to know how to count, and it had grown clear that the Republican caucus was going to be divided and there was no incentive for any Democrats to come to the other side," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

Holmes said Daughtry made a sacrifice for the good of the N.C. Republican Party. "I

think it was very honorable of him to say to the caucus, 'I do not have the votes to win.'"

Holmes beat out Reps. Connie Wilson of Mecklenburg, Robert Grady of Onslow and Morgan for support of Republican House members. The Associated Press reported that the final vote came down to Wilson and Holmes and that Holmes won 36-17 with seven members not voting.

Morgan, who said he plans to speak with Holmes before today's vote, reportedly said he would not rule out a run for the speaker post.

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## Dean Palm Finalist for LSU Post

By NIKKI WERKING  
Assistant University Editor

Louisiana State University officials announced Tuesday that a UNC administrator is one of the school's finalists for its position of provost and executive vice chancellor.

Risa Palm, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, has been selected as one of five candidates for the position, which has been vacant since July 1.

Palm is scheduled to visit LSU on Feb. 24 and Feb. 25 for interviews with the university's search committee and other LSU officials. She also will participate in a public forum where students, staff and faculty can ask questions.

In an e-mail sent Tuesday night, Palm said that she was nominated for the position and that she knows little about the other four candidates.

"I have visited Baton Rouge just once," she said. "I don't really know about other candidates, nor have I made up my mind to leave UNC."

A search committee was formed by LSU Chancellor Mark Emmert last February to begin the search for a new provost and executive vice chancellor.

Daniel Fogel, former provost and executive vice chancellor at LSU, left the post July 1 to be president at the University of Vermont. Laura Lindsay, a professor at LSU's Manship School of Mass Communication, has served as the interim provost since July.

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## Town Focuses On Duplexes, Northside

By BILLY CORRIHER  
Assistant City Editor

Following the passage of the Land-Use Management Ordinance on Monday, the Chapel Hill Town Council will examine the duplex problem in the town's Northside neighborhood and revisit the duplex development ban it passed last October.

The ban was imposed by the council in response to concerns from Northside residents about property owners buying neighborhood homes and converting them into duplexes for student renters.

In addition to studying the duplex issue, the council hopes to begin establishing the development ordinance's first Neighborhood Conservation District in Northside to protect the neighborhood.

The NCD provision allows landowners to establish land-use rules to preserve the character of neighborhoods, provid-

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Janet Pruitt (left), N.C. Senate principal clerk, explains the organization of the Senate floor to Dorothy Sabow on Tuesday. The state legislature will convene its 2003 session as it meets for the first time today.

## BUDGET WOES LOOM AS LEGISLATURE KICKS OFF

By MATT HANSON  
Assistant State & National Editor

This year, an N.C. General Assembly sharply divided along party lines looks to patch holes in one of the worst budget situations facing the state in decades.

Gov. Mike Easley will submit a budget proposal to the legislature in the next few weeks, expressing to lawmakers how he thinks the state should try to account for a projected \$2 billion revenue shortfall.

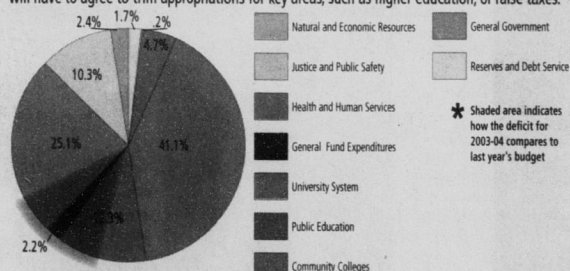
"The starting gun for all this stuff is when the governor sends over his proposal," said Danny Lineberry, press secretary for Rep. Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg. From there, it will be up to the legislature to decide the specifics of the budget, which experts already have predicted will face serious economic constraints.

"We have a structural problem in our budget," said a senior official from the N.C. Office of State Budget and Management. "Our tax structures and revenue struc-

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### Budget vs. Deficit

The N.C. General Assembly passed a budget for the 2002-03 fiscal year totaling more than \$14.3 billion, but the still-stumbling economy makes it unlikely that legislators will be able to sustain such spending. With a nearly \$2 billion shortfall for 2003-04 fiscal year, the House and Senate will have to agree to trim appropriations for key areas, such as higher education, or raise taxes.



SOURCE: [HTTP://WWW.NCLEG.NET](http://www.ncleg.net)

DTH/STAFF

## Candidates Launch Open Campaign Season

By JOSEPH SAUNDERS  
Staff Writer

Tuesday marked the first day that candidates for student elections could distribute and display campaign materials on campus — and the first time many students were exposed to this year's campaigns.

In November, Student Congress voted to approve the Larson-Daum Campaign Reform Act of 2002, which prohibits candidates from passing out fliers, posters, pins or any other kind

of campaign materials until exactly two weeks before the election, which will be Feb. 11.

Many candidates began the day early, posting and passing out fliers all over campus and setting up in the Pit. Although bulletin boards in many academic buildings now are plastered with fliers, many students did not express much knowledge of this year's election or the candidates.

Sophomore chemistry major Kendra Van Kirk said she feels less informed because of the shortened campaign period. "Last year, I was a lot more informed," she said. "(This year) I don't know much about the candidates."

Student body president candidate Matt Tepper said the shorter campaign period will

force his campaign to be more focused. "We will have to be a lot more efficient in what we're putting out so that the most people will see it."

Some students said they don't think the presence of campaign materials on campus will affect their choices in the general elections. "I associate my vote with a face (rather than a flier)," said Katie Gamache, a sophomore international studies major.

Student body president candidate Sang Shin said speaking to students directly will be an integral part of his campaign. "(I plan to) meet people, talk to people," he said.

Other students, like freshman Diana Leon,

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## Bush Pledges To Use 'Full Force' on Iraq

State of the Union address also touched on domestic issues

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Building a case for war against Iraq, President Bush said Tuesday night that he has fresh evidence that Saddam Hussein seeks to "dominate, intimidate or attack" with weapons of mass destruction that he could share with terrorist allies. He pledged to "fight with the full force and might of the United States military," if necessary, to disarm Iraq.

"A future lived at the mercy of terrible threats is no peace at all," Bush said in a State of the Union address delivered before Congress and broadcast live around the world.

For the first time since the Sept. 11 attacks transformed him into a wartime president, Bush faced the nation amid serious questions about his leadership. Most Americans don't approve of his handling of the economy, polls indicate, and only a bare majority support his policies on Iraq — an area where the president enjoyed support of more than 80 percent a year ago.

The first half of Bush's hourlong address was devoted to domestic policy, a reflection of his desire not to let Iraq overshadow a presidential agenda geared toward the 2004 re-election campaign. The heart of Bush's package is his \$674 billion plan to revive the economy and a \$400 billion, 10-year proposal to overhaul Medicare, sprinkled with initiatives to combat AIDS, produce energy-efficient cars and give religious groups access to federal community service money.

After an address interrupted 77 times by applause, Democrats challenged Bush's efforts both at home and abroad.

"Tonight, the president used all the right rhetoric, but he still has all the wrong policies," said Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said he would introduce a resolution requiring Bush to present "convincing evidence of an imminent threat" before sending troops to fight Iraq. "Instead of rushing down the path to war with Iraq, the American people deserve a full debate," he stated in a written statement.

Bush offered no new evidence to support his charges. He said Secretary of State Colin Powell will go to the U.N. Security Council next Wednesday to present the U.S. case.

"We will consult, but let there be no misunderstanding: If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm for the safety of our

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Campaign workers Charlene Wong (left) and Angela Liu woke up early Tuesday to start hanging campaign signs.

*In a whirlwind of change and hope and peril, our faith is sure, our resolve is firm and our union is strong.*

George W. Bush