

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Charter Alteration Deadline Extended

By SARAH KOTT  
Staff Writer

The deadline for student organizations to revise charters deemed by University officials to be noncompliant with UNC anti-discrimination policy has been pushed back to Feb. 14.

The deadline of Jan. 31 came too soon for 35 of the 173 groups – mostly religious and cultural organizations – that received letters and e-mails requiring leaders to rewrite their policies to adhere to the University's nonexclusion policies dealing with race, religious belief and gender.

When controversy erupted at Rutgers University because officials denied funding to Rutgers' chapter of the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship for requiring group leaders to be Christians, UNC officials

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## Tragedy Puts NASA Under Microscope

By STEPHANIE CHIULLI  
Staff Writer

As the nation mourns for the victims of Saturday morning's disintegration of space shuttle Columbia, NASA officials now are faced with another hurdle to maintain the funding needed to keep up with advancing space technology.

Officials and engineers have been working around the clock since the accident to pinpoint its cause. Aeronautics experts said outdated technology could be partly to blame.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration likely will observe a 90-day grounding period before launching any other shuttles, said Wallace Fowler, professor of aerospace engineering at

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60-60: A House Divided



DTH/BRIAN CASSELLA

Republican N.C. House speaker nominee George Holmes (center) speaks to the media Monday night after the chamber stayed in session for less than five minutes. Holmes failed to strike a deal with Democrats on a co-speakership.

## Speaker Stalemate Continues

By ELYSE ASHBURN  
State & National Editor

RALEIGH – N.C. House members failed to reach a consensus on a speaker yet again Monday – leaving them leaderless for the sixth night since they ushered in the 2003 session.

Party leaders on both sides of the aisle said that they are still committed to a power-sharing agreement but that they have yet to reach a consensus on exactly what the agreement will entail.

The House cannot consider any legislation until a speaker is chosen.

Republicans have presented a dual-leadership arrangement that would give each party a speaker and an even number of committee members and committee chairmen.

Democrats, led by current Speaker Jim Black

of Mecklenburg, have yet to respond to the proposal, saying they want more time to review the details of such an arrangement.

But Republican speaker nominee George Holmes, R-Yadkin, said that he is ready to move forward with a co-speakership agreement and that he has the full backing of his party.

"I get frustrated, but we're waiting for a decision on their part," Holmes said.

If Black has not given a response by Wednesday, he said, Republicans will develop other plans. But Holmes said he remains confident that Democrats will concede that co-speakers are the best solution to the stalemate. "I haven't been turned down, so maybe that's a positive thing," he said.

But other Republican leaders say Democrats don't want to share power and are trying to wrangle their way to a one-party speakership.

"Our deal is 50-50, and they're hedging on that because they don't want to share," said six-term Iredell County Rep. Frank Mitchell. "They're not interested in co-speakers. They'd like to pick off one of ours if they could."

Holmes also conceded that though he favors public negotiations, there is likely some backdoor dealing going on as members stall the vote. "I don't know what their motive is," he said. "I would suspect that if they feel they can make a deal and that's to their advantage, then they will."

But Rep. Martin Nesbitt, D-Buncombe, said Democrats are not delaying the vote to serve any secret end. Black is committed to designing an equitable co-speakership and has asked the party to work to that end as well, he said.

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## Social Work Instructor Accused of Racist Acts

By MEREDITH NICHOLSON  
Assistant University Editor

Students, alumni and faculty members who gathered Monday to address racist comments allegedly made by a contract faculty member in the School of Social Work called for an apology from the instructor and punitive action from administrators.

More than 250 people attended a town meeting led by Jack Richman, dean of the school, to discuss comments allegedly made by Martha Lamb during a Jan. 13 master's class, "Social Work and Practice With Couples."

Lamb did not attend the meeting and could not be reached for comment.

Students in the class told the audience that Lamb told stories of supervisors who said that couples therapy doesn't work for black couples and that NAACP stands for "Niggers Ain't Acting Like Colored People." Students said that the comments were made out of context and that no explanation was given for them.

When students confronted Lamb, she reportedly told them that she hadn't meant to offend anyone and that she wanted to share her heritage with them.

Alexander Daye, who was in the class, said he told Lamb that he was worried that she would not treat him fairly because he is black. "She told me, 'I will try not to treat you as an African American. I will try to treat you like a person,'" Daye said. "I did not feel I could remain in that class."

Daye, like two-thirds of the students in the class, dropped it from his schedule. Many people at the meeting said that because the students enrolled in the class were not at fault, they did not think it was

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DTH/JOHN DUDLEY

At a School of Social Work town meeting, Carla McNeill relays her concerns over Martha Lamb's comments.

## Young Democrats, Sangam Endorse Tepper for SBP

### Desire for Diversity Gets Tepper Sangam's Vote

By JESSICA BONNEM  
Staff Writer

On Monday night, Sangam, UNC's Southeast Asian awareness organization, endorsed Matt Tepper for student body president and Zack Mansfield and Daniel Walker for senior class officers.

The endorsements came after the group held an elections forum in which candidates for both races were given the opportunity to discuss their top issues.

Sangam members were most concerned with supporting a candidate with a real sense of enthusiasm for working with diverse student organizations on campus, Sangam President Asha Rangaraj said before the forum.

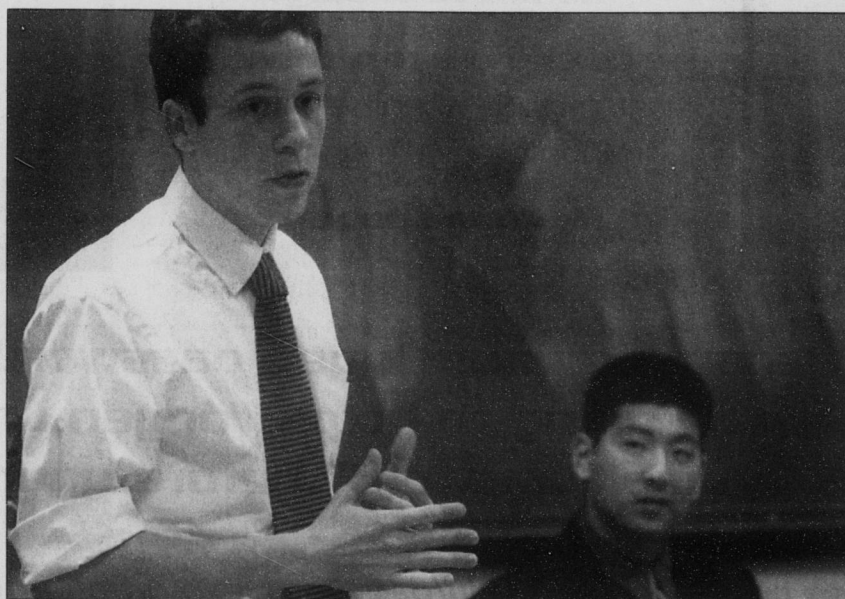
Tepper said he wants student government to cater to students who are passionate about UNC's organizations.

"Everyone's passionate about different things on campus," he said. "We have to make sure student government is a voice for all organizations on campus."

Nathan Cherry focused more on campus apathy, a problem he said interaction between student leaders and campus groups could help solve.

"(Participation) requires the student leaders of Carolina to go out into the community and find people who want to be

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DTH/MEREDITH HILL

Student body president candidate Matt Tepper (left) won both the Sangam and Young Democrats endorsements Monday night. The groups cited his goals for diversity and his leadership skills.

### YD: Tepper 'Would Represent Us Best'

By ESHANTHI RANASINGHE  
Staff Writer

In what they described as one of their closest endorsement competitions in recent years, UNC's Young Democrats are rallying their support behind student body president candidate Matt Tepper.

After 30 minutes of deliberation Monday, members of YD selected Tepper for his well-researched platform and wide experience.

"With (Tepper's) leadership qualities ... he was who we thought would represent us the best," said Justin Guillory, one of the members of the four-person panel leading the forum.

Members of the panel – students Guillory, Elizabeth Self, Tre Jones and Dave Siegel – also cited Tepper's lobbying experience and impressive track record of involvement on campus as additional reasons for endorsing him.

Tepper has worked with the Young Democrats for the past three years and was in the Justin Young administration in 2001-02.

During the forum, Tepper placed emphasis on his plan to create a voter registration program offering campus groups money for voter registration forms they turn into the student government office. "I think that would really improve the cycle of disenchantment that we see so often on campus (with voting)."

But overall, members said that the endorsement decision was decided by a slim margin and that all the candidates received a

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*We don't need anymore leadership training; we need some followership training.*

Maureen Carroll