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UNC set to battle archrival
Duke at Cameron.
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Weather

Wednesday: Sunny; H 49, L 27
Thursday: P.M. Showers; H 42, L 27
Friday: Light Wintry Mix; H 33, L 20



Volume 110, Issue 150

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

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House Looks for New Speaker Options

BY ELYSE ASHBURN
State & National Editor

RALEIGH - The N.C. House became increasingly fractious Tuesday as the leading Republican and Democratic speaker nominees stalled on a power-sharing agreement, leaving the chamber without a leader and opening the door for outside candidates.

"As time wears on, more people on both sides are breaking away," said Rep. Ed McMahan, R-Mecklenburg. "Something

needs to happen soon."

Leaders on both sides said today likely will mark the last chance for Democrat Jim Black of Mecklenburg County, who is seeking a third straight term as speaker, and Republican speaker nominee George Holmes of Yadkin County to strike a deal.

Others said that Black and Holmes already have forfeited that chance and that in the 60-60 House even one legislator with doubts could throw the entire selection process.

"We've stuck with (Black), but now it's

time to retrench and come up with a new solution," said Rep. Mickey Michaux, D-Durham.

Michaux is one of five dissident Democrats who have questioned Black's leadership ability since his second speaker term began in 2001.

Michaux said he has supported Black thus far because he was the only Democrat with a shot at a solo speakership. "I think it would be best to have one Democratic speaker," he said. "If Mr. Black thinks he can get that

extra vote, then we're there."

But Michaux said that six tries in four different sessions have shown that Black doesn't have that vote and that serious attention must be given to the co-speaker option. "If we go to co-speakers, that's a whole new ball game."

In that scenario, Michaux said the best option is a bipartisan coalition between Holmes and Democrat Martin Nesbitt of Buncombe County.

And Michaux said Nesbitt has the votes

to make it happen - 54 Republicans and seven to 10 Democrats.

Holmes has repeatedly said he is willing to work with any Democrat as long as they agree to even power-sharing.

He has spoken to Nesbitt over the past few days and said he would continue to do so Tuesday night and today. "We've got plenty of time to talk," Holmes said.

But some Republicans said that they don't

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Rep. Martin Nesbitt, D-Buncombe, could build a coalition with GOP nominee George Holmes that would give them the co-speakership.

Congress Reverses Russell Censure

Congress to consider impeaching Shaw

BY JENNY IMMEL
Staff Writer

Congress voted 19-5 Tuesday to overturn the Ethics Committee's recommendation to censure Finance Committee Chairwoman Natalie Russell for violating the Student Code by living outside the district she was elected to represent.



Student Congress Finance Committee Chairwoman Natalie Russell urged Congress to reject censure.

Moments later a bill was presented to impeach Rep. Alak Shah, the Ethics Committee member who brought charges against Natalie Russell on Jan. 22.

Ethics Committee members Shah, Matthew Carter and Bill Teeter, Ethics Committee Chairwoman Margaret Thomas and Rep. Danielle DeSimone voted to uphold the censure recommendation.

Ethics Committee member Chad McCullen voted to overturn the recommendation that he voted to pass at the Ethics Committee meeting Thursday.

McCullen said after the meeting that he never agreed with censure but that he saw it as the best option Natalie Russell would receive from the committee.

Charlie Anderson, vice chairman of the Finance Committee, made the motion to overturn the recommendation. "Chairwoman Russell has not violated the code in any way, shape or form," he said.

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HONORING UNC'S BLACK HISTORY



UNC students protest on Franklin Street in 1964. Students played an active role in the integration of UNC, pressuring the University to admit black students. The first undergraduate students were admitted in 1955.

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Thousands of students walk to class every day, and most of those familiar with the UNC-Chapel Hill campus can attest to how many bricks are underfoot.

But few remember that black laborers laid those bricks a century and a half before they were allowed to attend the University.

Today blacks on campus are closer to the equality that so many students and faculty have fought for before them.

In 2002 the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education ranked UNC-CH first among top public universities in overall measures of racial integration. UNC-CH ranked sixth out of 26 top universities nationwide with the most tenured black faculty and endowed chairs.

Even during the civil rights debate in higher education, Bill Friday, president of the UNC system from 1956-86, said UNC-CH was a leader among Southern universities.

"It was an interesting experience because the University was like the state itself, and indeed the country was going through a great social change," Friday said. "I think (UNC-CH) handled the integration issue as well as any major public university could."

LeRoy Frasier, the father who fought to get his two sons, Ralph Frasier and LeRoy Frasier Jr., admitted into the University in 1955 as the first black undergraduates, said that UNC-CH was more accepting than most other universities around but that gaining admission was still a battle.

"I think you could consider (the University) progressive by comparison," Frasier said. "Carolina wasn't a leader in the movement. However, it did support it, and eventually we became very popular."

Friday said desegregation did not break like a wave on campus. It moved slowly through litigation and gradual acceptance of what was the progressive thing to do - an attitude that continues to give UNC-CH the reputation for being one of the most forward-thinking universities in the nation.

This attitude was fostered by Frank Porter Graham, who headed the University from 1930-49 and paved the way for desegre-

"It was so reassuring to see the University itself emerge as the place where people could come and talk about these things."

BILL FRIDAY
President Emeritus

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Leaders Say Race Relations Good, Could Be Better

BY SHELLEY WALDEN
Staff Writer

Race relations has never been an easy topic to discuss in this country or on this campus.

It's a topic that evokes passion, reveals ignorance and has no easy answers.

Even now at UNC, which has more than 2,500 black students and was ranked the 15th best college or university in the nation for black students by Black Enterprise Magazine in 2002, race relations can be a touchy subject.

"There's nothing that's being done covertly or intentionally wrong on this campus in regards to

race relations," said Archie Ervin, director of minority affairs. "But I think that race is such a difficult issue that sometimes it's easier not to deal with it."

This does not mean that UNC is not making notable efforts to foster race relations.

"I think we are in the forefront of our peers, especially in the South," Ervin said. "There are a huge number of things that go on here that support the education, interaction and understanding of different populations."

For example, Ervin thinks UNC integrates different racial and cultural components into the curriculum better than most universities and does

a good job of maintaining diversity in its faculty and students.

According to Lindsay Reed, president of the Black Student Movement, the construction of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center is one of the most productive things being done to foster better race relations on this campus because it will provide an opportunity for students to learn about black history.

"I don't know how you can move on in the future without accurate reflection of your history," Reed said.

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The groundbreaking for the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center took place in April of 2001.



Students listen Tuesday as Brad Wilson, chairman of the UNC-system Board of Governors, speaks during Students' Day at the Capitol.

Students Meet With Legislators to Increase Involvement

Tuition increase moratorium a hot issue

BY MARGAUX ESCUTIN
Staff Writer

RALEIGH - A delegation of participants from all 16 UNC-system schools spent Tuesday in the state capital mingling with legislators and system officials to declare their support for increased student input in higher education issues.

Students' Day at the Capitol, sponsored by the UNC Association of Student Governments, emphasized student power to impact legislative decisions, said ASG President Jonathan Ducote. "We're here today to start off the legislative year with a student pres-

ence. It's all about relationships."

The ASG will try to maintain student presence each week as long as the N.C. General Assembly is in session, Ducote said. He added that many students had meaningful conversations with legislators.

The day's agenda also included a rally featuring speakers who called for further student involvement and improvements in higher education for posterity.

Part of bridging the difficulties in communication might be through voting. Ben Ruffin, former chairman of the UNC-system Board of Governors, encouraged students at the rally to raise the number of registered student voters.

An increased number of student voters would give students a direct say in which elected officials have influence over their education, he said.

UNC-system President Molly Broad also spoke to the student representatives, rallying their support for the BOG's proposal for a tuition increase moratorium for the 2003-04 academic year.

The ASG passed a resolution in January supporting the moratorium.

"We think it's time for us to stop, catch a breath and let your family and the economy catch up," Broad said.

BOG Chairman Brad Wilson told students to share how the lack of funding affects things such as class size and graduation delays. "You tell me your stories about what was happening on your cam-

pus as a result of the budget," he said.

But N.C. Sen. Virginia Foxx, R-Watauga, who mingled with students and asked them questions, said she was unimpressed with the students' emotional anecdotes in substantiating their case.

She also chided them for misspelling Asheville as "Ashville" on an ASG brochure circulating at the event. "Make sure you've got your facts and figures," she advised a group of students.

She said that if the legislature based its decisions on emotion, chaos would ensue.

Several candidates for student body president at UNC-Chapel Hill also attended the event. Nathan Cherry said he appreciated meeting with legislators,

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You ever danced with the devil by the pale moonlight?

The Joker