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• County sells bond to benefit residents
• Study: Women confused about hormone use

Divided Appeal

Poll shows that N.C. residents are divided on Sen. John Edwards' bid for the presidency.
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Nail-Biter

Tar Heels can't withstand 'Pack's persistence.
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Weather

Today: Wintry Mix; H 36, L 30
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UMd. Case May Ignite Cost Debate

Tuition lawsuit could spur similar legal battles

By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
Senior Writer

Student leaders in North Carolina are closely watching a lawsuit against the University of Maryland system that challenges the university's power to raise tuition.

And while tuition conflicts in Maryland and North Carolina are vastly different, some assert that a lawsuit from Maryland system students could spark similar litigation in North Carolina.

"The spark has already occurred," said former Association of Student Governments President Andrew Payne. "The spark's there. It's just a matter of finding somebody with the legal knowledge to take it on."



ASG President Jonathan Ducote said N.C. students have a viable complaint about tuition increases.

Payne said in-state students at UNC-system schools have a definite argument when it comes to suing about tuition increases because of a constitutional mandate that says tuition should be "as free as practicable." This, Payne said, gives a lawsuit here more legitimacy than the one in Maryland.

Seven students from the Maryland system — five graduate students, one law student and one undergraduate — have sued the system for mid-semester tuition increases, which range from \$75 to \$500 depending on a student's class.

The students asked for the case to be a class action lawsuit, meaning it would apply to all 130,000 students in the Maryland system, although not all campuses were not affected by the tuition increase.

But the results of the case could be more far-reaching than that, as many states also are dealing with tough economic times by, among other actions, raising tuition.

Sheldon Steinbach, general counsel for the American Council on Education, said that although he thinks the case for litigation against universities for tuition increases has no merit, there are bound to be more lawsuits against institutions of higher learning.

Former UNC-system President Bill Friday said lawsuits based on the Maryland case are likely to happen. "The precedent for duplication lawsuits is there," he said. "Everything will depend on what happens in the federal court."

But Leslie Winner, UNC-system vice president for legal affairs, said that if litigation was brought against the state, it would not significantly affect the system because officials notify students as far in advance as possible about the potential cost of tuition. Maryland students assert that the state's university system raised tuition without warning.

The N.C. legislature also has raised tuition retroactively in the past. In the fall of 2001, it enacted a retroactive tuition increase to deal with state budget woes that hurt the system's budget.

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"Bill is unique in that he took over a program that was just a notch above a club team and through the years developed it into one of the most respected programs in the country." — DICK BADDOUR, Athletics Director



UNC wrestling coach Bill Lam is presented the Priceless Gem award at halftime of UNC's basketball game with N.C. State on Tuesday. Below: Lam (far right) tends to heavyweight wrestler Ryan Adams during his match against N.C. State this month.

WRESTLING'S ARCHITECT CLOSES BOOK ON UNC CAREER

By DANIEL BLANK
Staff Writer

When North Carolina wrestling coach Bill Lam first stepped foot in Carmichael Auditorium 30 years ago, there was nothing.

There were no championship banners hanging from the rafters, no budget, no scholarships, and he could count the fans at the first match on one hand. When he called his first team meeting, four athletes (whose names he can recite at a moment's notice and include Charles Moose) attended.

And now, as Lam prepares to enter Carmichael for the last time when the Tar Heels take on Campbell at 7 p.m. today, 14 ACC Championship banners hang from the ceiling. Most players are on scholarship, the program is about a year from being fully endowed, and more than 3,000 fans — including Dean Smith and almost every head coach in the Department of Athletics — showed up for Lam's last conference home match, a 22-12 shellacking of archrival N.C. State on Feb. 11.

But in those early days it must have been hard for even Lam to imagine the five NCAA champions and the 36 All-Americans he would produce or the ACC-best 377 wins he would guide the Tar Heels to in his 30-year career.

Lam was presented with the Carolina Priceless Gem, the athletic department's lifetime achievement award, at halftime of Tuesday's basketball game.

"Bill is unique in that he took over a program that was just a notch above a club team and through the years developed it into one of the most respected programs in the country," said UNC Director of Athletics Dick Baddour.

Lam inherited a squad that had gone 2-11 the previous season and hadn't won more than two dual meets in any of the prior 10 years.

Lam, a two-time All-American at powerhouse Oklahoma, went to the opposite end of the national spectrum to start his coaching career. "At Oklahoma we'd have over 10,000 people at every match, and I'll never forget the first



DTH/LUCAS HAMMONDS

match (at UNC) — there were like five people there. There was a janitor, my wife and two parents," Lam said. "And I thought, 'My God, what have I done?'"

In 1974, Lam's first season as coach, playing the same schedule as the previous season, the Tar Heels posted an 11-2 record. The transformation had begun.

Lam built up the program and continues to have success by spotting wrestlers and taking chances on them before they peak.

This was the case with sophomore Evan Sola, who is ranked 18th in the nation at 133 pounds and has never lost a regular-season ACC match.

"Not many people were looking at me because I was only a one-time state champ (in Pennsylvania), but he still had faith in me," Sola said. "There were only a few colleges looking at me, and out of those few, he was probably the most serious about wanting me down here on his team."

It was another low-profile recruit out of Pennsylvania who helped elevate the program to a level of national prestige. The same man, Assistant Coach C.D. Mock, will take over as head coach next year.

"For the second time in my life, he took a gamble," Mock said. "How can you not feel a sincerely strong bond to someone who has taken a tremendous gamble on you, twice? One time, it panned out very well for both of us."

In 1982, Mock became the first Tar Heel to capture an NCAA Championship, leading UNC to a fifth-place finish at nationals — the highest finish ever for the program. That same year, Lam won the National Coach of the Year award.

His tireless effort finally brought UNC into the national spotlight and also was capturing the attention of top talent.

Lenny Bernstein, an All-American at UNC in 1987 and now the coach at the

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Town Tries To Preserve Northside Integrity

By RYAN C. TUCK
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council passed a proposal Monday that could limit the amount of affordable housing in the Northside neighborhood, an area that has been changed by an influx of students in recent years.

A Neighborhood Conservation District was proposed in response to the many conversions in Northside of single-family homes into duplexes.

"We hope that it will encourage people to not develop their single-family homes into duplexes," said Northside resident Estelle Mabry. "We want to remain more of a single-family-home neighborhood."

The newly passed Land-Use Management Ordinance enables residents to establish NCDs to preserve the integrity of older neighborhoods and control housing costs by establishing individualized zoning rules.

By allowing neighborhoods to have more input in their zoning rules, they will be able to control their own development, said council member Bill Strom.

"We want them to be able to put motions in place to preserve the social, economic and environmental viabilities of the neighborhood," he said.

NCDs will try to solve the problem of rental housing in primarily single-family residential areas that the duplex ban passed last fall started to fix, said Strom.

The duplex ban prevents the construction of new duplexes in much of Chapel Hill until late June and grew out of a response to the disruption of single-

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Duke Reviews Transplant Guidelines

Communication key link in Santillan case

By GILLIAN BOLSOVER
Staff Writer

Seventeen-year-old Jessica Santillan's death Saturday as a result of a heart and lung transplant of the wrong blood type has prompted Duke University Medical Center to review its communication procedures.

The medical center completed its initial phase of review of the Santillan incident Friday, which concluded that "human error occurred at several points in the organ placement process."

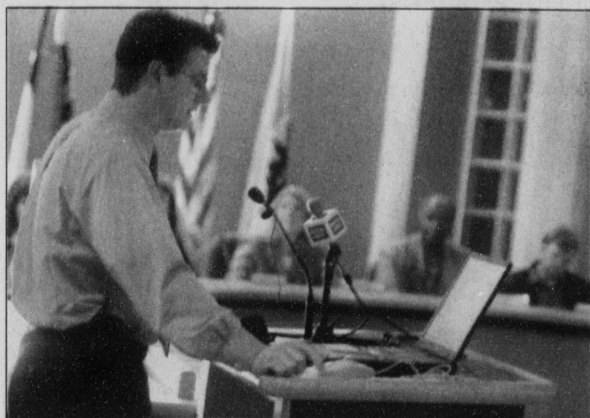
After the first operation, a new checks and balances program was implemented for Santillan's second operation and subsequent transplant procedures. Three people now are required to check for organ compatibility before an operation takes place.

But the changes were too late for Santillan, who died two days after a second heart and lung transplant.

Joel Newman, assistant director of communications for the United Network for Organ Sharing, said Duke's new policies could be successful at reducing mistakes. "It will certainly help reduce the probability that this will occur again," Newman said.

The complexity of the organ transplant process sometimes leads to problems in information transfer, Newman continued. "Communications were part of the focus of this particular error."

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DTH/HUNTER McRAE

Wes Tilghman of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation addresses the Chapel Hill Town Council on the subject of street fairs Tuesday.

Residents Sound Off on Street Fairs

By JENNI NORMAN
Staff Writer

Michelle Cotton Laws was not planning on speaking Tuesday evening when the Chapel Hill Street Fair Review Committee held a public forum to encourage input about Chapel Hill street fairs' uncertain future.

But Laws was inspired to speak after some residents doubted the necessity of popular town festivals such as Apple Chill and Festifall.

In particular, Laws praised Apple Chill, the town's annual spring festival. "I think it's a wonderful event for our town," she said.

Laws added that the festivals bring together members of the community who would not ordinarily come together.

She also said that as the United States faces a looming war with Iraq and economic uncertainty, events such as the street fairs are vital in bringing the community together.

Parrish Anderson, a representative from Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation, said the fairs are designed to strengthen community ties that weaken as towns grow and expand outward.

Anderson said the committee is looking at how the community has changed over the years and is exploring ways to change the street fairs — or eliminate them — after gathering public input.

The committee has been asked to consider whether the costs of the festivals outweigh their benefits.

Residents such as Eunice Brock expressed uncertainty about the necessity of the street fairs. "It seems we could be doing more with our money than a five-hour entertainment event," Brock said of Apple Chill.

"Nothing has been decided or planned at this point," said Pam Hemminger, a committee representative.

Aaron Nelson, executive director of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, said the chamber is supportive of the fairs.

"It's good to know vendors are local but unfortunate that more outsiders aren't coming to spend money," he said.

The street fairs have been criticized in the past for not generating signifi-

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From small beginnings come great things.

Proverb