

# The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 111, ISSUE 96

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2003

www.dailytarheel.com

## Officials suggest change in cap plan

PROPOSAL LETS CAMPUSES ASK FOR MORE OUT-OF-STATERS

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.  
STAFF WRITER

Two UNC-system leaders have proposed an alternative to a potential change in the enrollment cap for system students that would allow individual campuses to request changes to their ratios.

Board of Governors members Peter Keber and Addison Bell have proposed a policy that would enable

campuses to ask permission to accept more out-of-state students.

Campuses could base requests on a wide variety of reasons, not just the academic excellence of potential students as proposed by UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor James Moeser.

The BOG will consider a controversial and politically volatile cap on nonresident students at its Nov.

14 meeting in Chapel Hill.

Higher education officials across the state, including UNC-system chancellors and the members of the UNC Association of Student Governments, have weighed in on the issue.

Bell, a member of the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies and Programs, which first considered raising the

cap in October, has been a vocal opponent of the increase.

He has asserted that state legislators will oppose a policy that would enroll a higher percentage of out-of-state students.

Keber and Bell could not be reached by press time Sunday.

Others, including Moeser and UNC-CH Student Body President Matt Tepper, have said that raising



BOG member Addison Bell, who drafted the alternate proposal, has been a vocal opponent of a cap increase.

their schools most likely won't be affected by potential changes.

BOG Chairman Brad Wilson said the board will consider all proposals, including the one by Keber and Bell, in November. The board will meet an hour earlier to allow for a full debate on the issue.

BOG member Jim Phillips, chairman of the board's Budget and Finance Committee said that, at least initially, he is in favor of the

the cap will diversify the system's student population, improving students' overall academic experience. Some system officials have not taken a side on the issue, saying

SEE CAP, PAGE 5

## OPENING DOORS

University officials say disability access is seeing a steady increase under the Master Plan

BY ARMAN TOLENTINO  
STAFF WRITER

Though some campus facilities have yet to meet regulations regarding disability access, officials believe access is improving, especially with the construction and renovations taking place under the University's Master Plan for campus growth.

Newly renovated buildings such as Murphey Hall, which opened for classes in January, and Alexander, Connor and Winston residence halls, which opened at the beginning of the semester, are now fully accessible.

During the renovation process, these buildings received new elevators, ramps, appropriate signage, automatic doors and other disability access features.

James Kessler, director of UNC Disability Services, said that only Caldwell Hall and Smith Building have significant problems with disability access and that the campus is more than 95 percent complete in terms of physical access.

He also commended Chancellor James Moeser for having an elevator installed in South Building recently.

"By and large, this campus is in really good shape," he said. "Access continues to get better and better."

However, campus facilities that were built or renovated before 1990 — when the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines were released — might not be fully accessible.

Kessler said these buildings will be addressed in coming years as the Master Plan continues to have an impact on campus.

To make sure that renovation projects are consistent with ADA guidelines as well as the North Carolina State Building Code, the University this year hired Michael Pierce, an architect who specializes in disability access.

"With each renovation we're going into we're making the whole

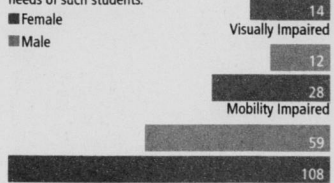


Senior political science major Rebecca Williford sits along a ramp to the basement door that is the only entrance to South Building accessible for people who cannot use the steps. Williford, who uses a wheelchair, is one of 115 undergraduate students at UNC with a disability.

## Lives not hindered by disability

### SELF-IDENTIFIED DISABILITY STUDENTS

One hundred and sixty-seven undergraduate and graduate students at UNC identified themselves as disabled last spring. UNC has increased its efforts to accommodate the needs of such students.



SOURCE: UNC-CH Department of Disability Service  
DTH/MICHAELA IDHAMMAR

### University, businesses provide special services

BY MARY BETH BARDIN  
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to involvement, Rebecca Williford is among the most active students at UNC.

The senior political science major is a tour guide, an unrelenting advocate for disability access and former student body secretary.

Her impact on the University community has been such that her contributions were honored with the Laura L.D. Thomas Access to the Journey Award earlier this month.

Williford also uses a wheelchair.

Last spring, she was one of 115 undergrad-

uate and 52 graduate students with disabilities at UNC. Records have not been updated for the current semester.

"These students aren't different," said James Kessler, director of UNC Disability Services. "It's a medical condition. It's only one characteristic."

Hilary Franklin, a senior public policy major who has a hearing impairment, said there are no significant differences between her life and that of a nondisabled student.

"Everybody is basically the same," she said. "I'm just different in one fundamental way."

Students such as Franklin and Williford say they haven't let disabilities stand in the way of education or school involvement, even as some buildings are compromised by construction.

But some find social interaction to be slight-

SEE DISABILITY, PAGE 5

## Leaders release October Report

Account updates Tepper's progress

BY MEGAN DAVIS  
STAFF WRITER

After six months in office, Student Body President Matt Tepper's administration released its October Report on Tuesday, highlighting the progress made thus far in the administration's diverse platform.

Already this semester the administration has delivered on a majority of its platform goals, which included forming the Off-Campus Housing Association, aiding the establishment of a more predictable tuition increase plan and successfully spearheading the largest campus voter registration drive in at least five years.

The platform was designed to address the diverse needs of the student body, Tepper said. Publicizing services and events offered through the Women's Affairs Committee of student government and Student Health Service is one way the administration has represented varied campus needs.

The administration also has enjoyed success in cementing new security measures and awareness on campus by updating University police patrol routes and making Safe Shuttle a permanent service. The shuttle's services now extend to sorority houses in addition to campus housing locations.

Another major boon to the administration is the inclusion of apartment-style housing on South Campus in the University's Master Plan, a 50-year blueprint for campus growth.

This was a topic the Department of Housing and Residential Education wavered on, Tepper said, and the administration was able to convince University officials that it is something in which students are highly interested.

"We've accomplished so much in so many different areas that we think everyone has benefited in

SEE REPORT, PAGE 5

## Foul weather doesn't dampen fair's end

Event surpasses average attendance

BY LINHDA TRAN  
STAFF WRITER

Exceeding its average yearly attendance, the 2003 N.C. State Fair closed its gates for the year Sunday night beneath overcast, rainy skies.

Enticed by candy apples, life-size teddy bears, adrenaline-pumping rides and towering kiddie slides, more than 763,000 people crowded the State Fairgrounds during the event's 10-day run.

Gov. Mike Easley and N.C. Interim Agriculture Commissioner Britt Cobb were present at the fair's opening ceremony Oct. 17.

As of press time, this year's attendance already had surpassed that of the 2002 fair by more than 65,000 people.

In all, attendance was expected to exceed 800,000, said Fair Manager Wesley Wyatt.

But attendance is not the only factor by which the fair should be judged, he added, since the number of people who go to a fair depends largely on the weather.

"Last year we had some rainy weather, and that depressed attendance," he said.

"We still had good attractions and attendance overall."

Wyatt said he deemed this year's fair a success because there were no major accidents or injuries to fairgoers.

He added that there also was a consistently high quality of arts, crafts and entertainment.

Fairgoers such as Jenna Rosato, a Wake Forest High School student, and her friend Beth Jackson were slightly wary of the larger crowds this year.

"It's really crowded, but it's a lot of fun," Rosato said.

The two young women were among many thrill seekers waiting in line for the Fire Ball, a rotating, swinging pendulum in which riders are held in place by an overhead harness.

Jackson said she also was looking to conquer the fair's concession stands after surviving the rides.

"Eat and eat some more," she said.

Culinary choices at the fair ranged from fried candy bars to turkey legs. Classics such as candy apples, cotton candy, hot dogs, funnel cakes and pizza were found in every nook and cranny of the fairgrounds: in the lunch stands, across from the sand sculpture or next to Kiddieland.

Every night — except for Wednesday, when strong winds became a hindrance — a 15-minute

SEE FAIR, PAGE 5



Fairgoers ride the Top Spin attraction at the 150th State Fair in Raleigh on Sunday afternoon. The 10-day event wrapped up yesterday.



### INSIDE

**GOSPEL ROAD, TAKE ME HOME**  
Professor Michael Chitwood's love for Appalachia led to an award-winning book **PAGE 3**



### SPORTS

**CRUSHING DEFEAT**  
Even after one of their best rushing games, the Tar Heels still lose to Clemson, 36-28 **PAGE 10**

### WEATHER

**TODAY** Rain, H 67, L 45  
**TUESDAY** Partly cloudy, H 61, L 41  
**WEDNESDAY** Partly cloudy, H 66, L 38

