The Daily Tar Heel

CAMPUS BRIEFS 9 unoccupied seats filled in **Student Congress election**

Nine open graduate student seats in Student Congress were filled in special elections held Monday.

One seat was open in District 12, and two seats were available in Districts 14, 15, 16 and 18. A total of 408 ballots were cast in the elections

Parker Wiseman won the seat for District 12 with 19 votes. Erica Gregory and Martin Kuhn were elected to seats in District 14 with 24 and 22 votes, respectively.

In District 15, Steve Russell and Julie Lamberth won the positions with 42 and 40 votes

In District 16, Caroline Jennette was elected with 10 votes, and Karen Duncan received one vote.

Kelly Corr and Yusuf Ahmad were elected to the open positions in District 18 with 42 and 31 votes, respectively. As of press time, only Russell

and Jennette had confirmed their positions

3 laptops reported stolen from campus buildings

A police officer responded to a call at Davie Hall at 8:15 a.m. Monday. A laptop and its charger were stolen between 4 a.m. Friday and 8:15 a.m. Monday. The laptop and charger were valued at \$3,000. The report indicated there might be a connection between this incident and another report of breaking and entering at Davie Hall made Saturday. Officers also responded to a call

at 10:25 a.m. Monday at Hinton James Residence Hall that two laptops had been stolen. A resident had left her room at 10:15 a.m. to take a shower and, when she returned at 10:25 a.m., realized both her and her roommate's laptops were missing. The resident said she didn't lock her door after she left the room. The laptops were valued at \$2,000 each.

CITY BRIEFS

Local firefighters receive statewide excellence award

N.C. The Professional Firefighters have named the Chapel Hill Firefighters Chapel Association (IAFF Local 2580) as the "Local of the Year" in the state. This is the second year in a row they have received the award from their peers.

They were selected this year primarily were selected unity day in marily for the work of the mem-bers to install residential fire sprinklers in the Habitat for Humanity homes built in Chapel Hill and the rest of Orange County.

NATIONAL BRIEFS U.S. to impose quotas on

Chinese clothing imports

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Bush administration increased trade tensions with China on Tuesday by announcing it will limit clothing imports to protect

struggling U.S. companies. Commerce Secretary Don Evans said the administration was granting an industry request to impose quotas on Chinese imports of knit fabric, dressing gowns and robes and bras in an action that Evans said "demonstrates our commitment to our trade rules and America's workers.

The action was the latest response by the administration to shrink the United States' soaring trade deficit with China, which hit a record \$103 billion last year, and which U.S. manufacturers believe is largely to blame for the hemorrhaging of U.S. factory jobs during the past three years.

"Clearly, the enormous surges we have seen in Chinese imports in these categories, and the damhey have car industry, workers and communities warranted such action," said Cass Johnson, head of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute. Critics warned that the decision would drive up the cost of clothing in U.S. stores. Trade expert Gary Hufbauer of the Institute for International Economics said protections already in place for textile and apparel companies cost the typical U.S family \$400 in higher clothing costs annually.

County to manage animal shelter

Top News

APS must relinquish control July 1

BY SUSIE DICKSON

The Animal Protection Society will continue operating the Orange County Animal Shelter until June 30, 2004, the Orange County Board of Commissioners decided Tuesday. However, on July 1, 2004, the

shelter will become a public operation run by the county.

County Manager John Link recommended Friday that the board allow APS to continue operating the shelter for the interim five-month period starting Feb. 1.

Commissioners accepted pro-posals from three firms vying for operation of the shelter. APS, the Humane Society of

Orange County and Animal Care

and Equipment Services, a Denver-based company, all submitted bids to operate the shelter. ACES lost the bid because its pro-

posal was incomplete. Commissioner Stephen Halkiotis said he thinks the county should take over the management

"I'm really dismayed. I'm sick of it and I'm tired of it, and I really don't

tunity for anybody in this room." During the past year, APS has me under fire for poor treatment of customers and an inability to care

for animals adequately. Former Director Laura Walters resigned Oct. 27 after months of pressure. Halkiotis said he was particular-

ly frustrated with the organizations fighting to manage the shelter. "We've got warring factions here

in the county, and people can't put their swords down," he said. "We

need to disarm people who love animals.

ow we will run the animal shelter. Jacobs stressed the importance of

Emmaline (left) and Jeff Simpson (right) sit with their daughter, Rebecca, outside North Raleigh Christian Academy during a break in Rebecca's play rehearsal. Rebecca, 14, was diagnosed last March with acute myelogenous leukemia

Children's Hospital hits airwaves to raise funds

Radiothon event begins Thursday

BY KIRSTEN VALLE

A strong belief in giving back prompted the Simpson family to vol-unteer for the N.C. Children's Promise Radiothon.

The event, which will start at 5 a.m. Thursday and finish at 1 a.m. Friday, is a fund-raiser for the N.C. Children's Hospital.

"My daughter has spent an awful lot of time there, so we wanted to help out and give back," Jeff Simpson said. Fourteen-year-old Rebecca Simpson was diagnosed last March

with a potentially life-threatening bone marrow cancer called acute myelogenous leukemia. Despite the prognosis, Rebecca's

family refused to give up hope. "My family and I believe in God," Jeff said. "We've been given so much.

Out of a sense of gratitude, we want to help with this."

It was perhaps the Simpsons' faith that helped them through Rebecca's ordeal. Jeff said that Rebecca has spent only two months out of the hospital since March.

The time in the hospital was tumultuous, but Rebecca said that doctors and nurses did their best to improve the experience. "They try to make it pleasant. It was probably the best it could be."

Rebecca was released in October because doctors thought her cancer was in remission.

Soon after the Simpsons celebrated the occasion, however, they learned that Rebecca would need to return to the hospital for cancer treat-

"We thought she was in remission," Jeff said. "But she has some additional challenges

Despite needing more treatment, Rebecca remains full of hope and

Now in its second year, the event is run mostly by about 300 volunteers, said Suzanne Herman, director of public affairs and marketing for UNC

Hospitals. Thirteen radio stations from the Raleigh-based Curtis Media Group will broadcast the radiothon live, and several stations plan to interview Rebecca and her family.

When they are not answering questions, the Simpsons will be answering phones.

Herman said the volunteer pool also will include other former hospital patients. "We have a lot of patients coming to be interviewed, and we will work them in in whatever capacity we can," she said.

Volunteers have advertised the radiothon by posting signs through out the community and setting up drop-off points at area businesses, such as Bojangles restaurants

"It was very successful last year,"

SEE RADIOTHON PAGE 6

RSVVP lets locals share food, hope

224 restaurants take part in yearly hunger campaign

BY LINDSEY LISTROM

Customers who purchased food Tuesday at any of Customers who purchased food luesday at any of the 224 restaurants participating in RSVVP Day not only fed themselves but also helped feed others. Restaurants Sharing V/5 + V/5 Percent is an annu-al daylong fund-raiser through which participating

restaurants donate 10 percent of their gross daily totals to local food banks.

In Chapel Hill and Carrboro, the donations will go to the Inter-Faith Council, an organization that aids the homeless community.

Although fund-raising totals will not be tabulat-ed until late December, RSVVP officials said they think this year's event was a huge success. "It's been going amazingly well," said IFC Events Coordinator Deb Baldwin on Tuesday afternoon. "We avant a hunner war".

expect a banner year

Baldwin said officials hope to raise \$23,000, one of the highest totals in the program's 15-year history. Reaching this mark would have a substantial impact on the community, she said.

Impact on the community, she said. "If we meet our goal in Chapel Hill and Carrboro, it would provide 124 days worth of food at a commu-nity kitchen," Baldwin said. "That's 27,000 meals." A record 103 businesses took part in this year's Chard Hill and Carbon BRITH much the ser's

Chapel Hill and Carrboro RSVVP event, a 40 percent increase from last year. Baldwin attributed the increase to a more respon-

sive public and an invigorated economy. "People had some difficult times after 9-11." Managers at most participating restaurants

reported increased business Tuesday and attributed the increase to RSVVP.

"Certainly our lunch today was a lot busier than a typical Tuesday," said Anastacia Malary, a manager at Spanky's Restaurant & Bar."I definitely think there are a lot of people that were aware of RSVVP Day and were taking time to eat out (because of it)."

Customers said they appreciate RSVVP because it offers a fun and easy way to help the hunger cause. "We wanted to embrace the idea of filling our glut-tonous bellies in order that 10 percent goes to those in and "and UNC invite Che Linder the divided to

in need," said UNC junior Chase Foster, who dined at Breadmen's Restaurant & Catering. "It's a good way to combine the enjoyable activity of going out with supporting our town." Bill Piscitello, co-owner of Breadmen's, said he was

happy to contribute to such a good cause but noted an unspoken pressure among businesses to participate

"If (your business's name) is not on the (RSVVP) list, people will wonder why," he said. Piscitello added that the recent increase in partic-

ipating businesses might raise the fund-raising total but will decrease the individual contributions from each participating restaurant.

The proceeds from RSVVP will be divided among the Durham Community Kitchen, the Food Bank of North Carolina in Raleigh and the IFC.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

ASG seeks lowering of Few protesting tuition hike minimum election age

eager to help with the radiothon.

of the shelter. "I see no hope in this," he said. see any hope in a long-range oppor-

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2003

Commissioner Barry Jacobs agreed. "People are so protective of their turf and their prerogatives that there's always a reason that it doesn't work. I think we ought to work on a few alternatives about

starting to plan the county's man-

SEE SHELTER, PAGE 6

"My daughter has spent an awful lot of time (at the hospital), so we wanted to help out and give back." JEFF SIMPSON, VOLUNTEER AT RADIOTHON

Student leaders

CALENDAR

11 a.m. - The Global Education Fair: Welcome to Carolina, Welcome to the World is today in the James M. Johnston Center for Undergraduate Excellence in Graham Memorial.

A part of International Education Week 2003, the fair will offer information on interna-tionally focused student groups, University departments and pro-grams. Refreshments will be pro-vided.

> Compiled from staff and wire reports.

BY ALESIA DICOSOLA WRITER

If the UNC-system Association of Student Governments has its way, the minimum age at which a person can run for most state offices will be lowered from 21 to 18.

Will be lowered from 21 to 18. The ASG and N.C. State University student Zack Medford are lobbying state legislators to approve a bill that would lower the age requirement mandated by the state's constitution.

If the bill is passed by legislators and then by public referendum, North Carolina will follow the lead of 17 other states — including New York, Ohio and Louisiana — that already allow people who are at least 18 years old to run for state office.

N.C. Sen, Richard Stevens, R-Wake, is drafting a bill that would do just that. The legislation, which will be introduced in May, must pass both legislative chambers with a three-fifths majority vote. Because the change would require a constitutional amendment, it also would have to pass a public vote.

The issue has come into focus during the last few years as sever-

"I'm not sure if the public would elect (students), but they ought to have the right to seek office."

SEN. RICHARD STEVENS, R-WAKE

al university students have tried to run for their city or town councils, said ASG President Jonathan Ducote. Some have been unable to do so because of "baseless age restrictions," he added. The underlying premise of the

proposal is that if 18-year-olds can vote, then they should be allowed to run for office.

The proposed amendment would apply to local town councils, school boards, county commis-sions and the N.C. House. However, the bill would not alter the age restrictions to run for the state Senate or for governor, Stevens said.

Medford brought the issue to the ASG's attention after he was

SEE AGE. PAGE 6

endorse increases

BY ANDREW SATTEN, TIM PRICE AND TORRYE JONES STAFF WRITERS

As campus-initiated tuition increases near approval across the UNC system, few student leaders are opposing the hikes — a marked contrast to student opin-

ion just two years ago. The University Affairs Committee of the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees will meet today to vote on a proposal to raise tuition by \$300 per year each of the next three years.

If passed, the increase, which as recommended Oct. 16 by UNC-CH's Tuition Task Force, will go before the UNC-system Board of Governors next semester.

contrast to past years, in which proposed tuition increases have met staunch resistance from the student body and student lead-UNC-CH Student Body ers, President Matt Tepp endorsed the tuition hike has Tepper

"We are not getting the funds we need to make Carolina the best it can be," Tepper said.



DTH FILE PHOTO

Then-Student Body President Justin Young (left) and dozens of students protest a proposed tuition hike at a 2002 Board of Governors meeting.

Student Body Vice President Rebekah Burford echoed Tepper's opinions, although she presented a more cautious stance. "Because it's another year of ... poor economic conditions, this year we're a little bit less willing to support high tuition increases.

Burford, who served last year as chief of staff for former UNC-CH Student Body President Jen Daum, said the current atmos-

phere regarding increases is different from two years ago, when tuition discussions came late in the year. Students opposed increases primarily because they couldn't be involved enough in the decisionmaking process, she said. Western Carolina University

students also are supporting a tuition increase proposal this year

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