

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Tepper mulls plans to rally student voters

BY ANDREW SATTEN  
STAFF WRITER

In light of the lackluster voter turnout among UNC students for the 2003 municipal elections, Student Body President Matt Tepper is revisiting the issue of how to elevate civic participation on campus.

Only 329 people 18 to 22 years old voted in the recent elections despite an extensive voter registration drive sponsored by student government that registered 2,300 students.



Student Body President Matt Tepper wants to make voting easier.

Tepper is investigating the option of consolidating UNC's voting precincts to make it more convenient for students to cast ballots.

The campus now is divided into five precincts, and several of the voting locations are not within walking distance from campus.

"We are trying to make it as easy as possible because a lot of the students that live on campus are first- and second-year students who don't have cars and don't really know the area," Tepper said.

He added that if bus schedules

do not fit students' schedules, they might be discouraged to vote.

But Carolyn Thomas, director of the Orange County Board of Elections, said no changes can be made until the state makes a decision to allow counties to redistrict.

"Right now, everything is frozen. There cannot be any changes," Thomas said.

Despite Tepper's sentiment that the campus is a logical center for a voting precinct, Thomas said that because of the large number of registered student voters, it cannot be consolidated into a single district.

"It depends on the census map and where we can find a location," she said. "We can't just draw a big circle around the campus."

In the weeks before municipal elections, all citizens registered to vote in Orange County had the option of voting early at the Morehead Planetarium, located on campus.

Thomas noted that this location had a low student turnout and that the majority of people who voted at the planetarium were town residents.

The elections board attempts to cap each precinct at 2,500 registered voters.

According to figures given to

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## REDISTRICTING



DTH/GARRETT HALL

N.C. House members discuss the redistricting proposal late Monday night in the hallway of the Legislative Building before adjourning without voting on the plan. Both chambers approved new maps Tuesday. Below: Sen. Virginia Foxx, R-Watauga, speaks Tuesday before the N.C. Senate voted.

## STATE DIVIDES ALONG NEW LINES

BY LAURA YOUNGS  
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

RALEIGH — After more than two years of debate, multiple court cases and mounting frustration, the N.C. General Assembly approved new redistricting maps Tuesday in time to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Senate voted 25-23 in favor of the legislative redistricting bill in the 2003 extra session. The House approved it 63-52.

"We can now present to you a map that leaves 88 counties undivided, which is four more than the interim maps," said Sen. Dan Clodfelter, D-Mecklenburg, chairman of the redistricting committee. "This was not done without some difficulty."

The new Senate districts are more compact than past ones, with 12 districts containing two-county clusters, three more than the previous maps, and with fewer split counties. "This more faithfully adheres to the (state) constitution," Clodfelter said.

Clusters occur when a county of more than 67,000 people, which constitutes a district, is divided into more than one district. The divisions are kept within the county or are paired with neighboring counties to keep districts compact.

"Nobody can show fewer counties that aren't split that I've seen," said Sen. Tony Rand, D-Cumberland. "It fits together like a jigsaw puzzle."

The bill now goes to Gov. Mike Easley. If he signs it, the new district lines will be in place until 2010. "The maps are not that terrible," said Sen. Virginia Foxx, R-Watauga, in an interview after the Senate meeting, although she added that they should have been taken care of earlier in the year.

Both sides of the political spectrum seem to agree that the maps are a reasonable outcome and are in compliance with the state constitution and the federal Voting Rights Act, which was designed to protect minority voices in elections.



DTH/ASHLIE WHITE

"Overall, it appears they attempted to follow court directions," said Rep. Carolyn Justice, R-Pender.

But Justice said the final House maps unfairly split Pender County while leaving neighboring New Hanover County whole. "There are just some areas that could have been better," she said.

Though Sen. Hugh Webster, R-Alamance, said he doesn't think the Senate maps are bad, he said legislators were not consulted adequately. "If it had not been for the taint, the stench that comes with darkness, I probably would've voted for (the maps)," he said.

In 2001, Republican legislators took Democrats to court arguing that the district lines drawn at that time were unconstitutional. N.C. Superior Court Judge

SEE MAP, PAGE 4

## Morgan draws ire of enemies

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.  
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Some say there is an underlying theme in the N.C. House's redrawn district maps: Co-speaker Richard Morgan's enemies will have an increasingly difficult time getting re-elected to the General Assembly.

The House closed Tuesday the deal on district lines that will be used in elections until 2010.

But some legislators assert that the lines, which were drawn in private by the Moore County Republican and Co-speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, unnecessarily pit some Republican incumbents against each other.

The ones negatively affected, they say, are those who have voiced opposition to Morgan.

Rep. Leo Daughtry, R-Johnston, who vehemently opposed Morgan's bid for the speakership this year, is up against Billy Creech, R-Johnston, who also has spoken out against Morgan.

Rep. Ed McMahan, R-Mecklenburg, said he also has been placed in a district with a Republican incumbent — Connie Wilson, also of Mecklenburg — even though he sees no reason to do so.

In an interview Monday, Morgan said he drew the lines "all the while thinking about the best interests of the people."

He said that in redistricting, some legislators — including some of his opponents — probably will be placed in districts with which they are not satisfied.

SEE MORGAN, PAGE 4



Co-speaker Richard Morgan is under fire from his party.

## Leaders' writers take their mantles

BY KELLY OCHS  
STAFF WRITER

Ginger Travis never expected to write speeches.

As a special assistant to the chancellor, Travis has been gathering information and drafting speeches for Chancellor James Moeser for 1 1/2 years.

Before filling the position, she worked for 10 years in the Office of University Development, where she occasionally drafted remarks for University leaders. She said that is where she gained experience writing speeches.

Much of her job consists of talking to people who coordinate events at which the chancellor has been asked to make an address and finding out how long he will speak, what issues he should address, where he can park and who else might be speaking.

Travis said the chancellor often will have seven or eight meetings in a day — a schedule he might not be able to keep without a little help.

"(Chancellors) have an incredibly full calendar, and they can't write every single thing," she said.

Moeser writes his own speeches for larger, more public appearances and prepares the State of the University address and others

*"There's not a big difference in the way he expresses himself and the way I would."*

GINGER TRAVIS, SPEECHWRITER

of similar significance, Travis said. "He enjoys talking about the University," she said.

During a busy week, Travis said, she usually works on four or five remarks the chancellor has been asked to make.

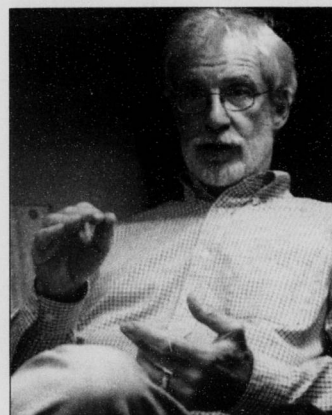
She gives her remarks to the chancellor a couple of days before an event so he can review them and make revisions if necessary.

Most of the time, Moeser is asked to give remarks about new buildings and to welcome students to the University. "Just exactly what you'd expect," Travis said.

She said the chancellor is easy to write for because he has a very direct and simple way of speaking to an audience.

"There's not a big difference in the way he expresses himself and the way I would express myself,"

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DTH/JESSICA RUSSELL

Rut Tufts, director of auxiliary services, will leave UNC to become executive director of the Fair Labor Association in Washington, D.C.

## Tufts to head labor group in D.C.

Work at UNC prepared him for new post

BY KELLI BORBET  
STAFF WRITER

After 31 years of service, Rut Tufts, director of auxiliary services, is leaving UNC to take the position of executive director of the Fair Labor Association in Washington, D.C.

The FLA is a nongovernmental organization that promotes adherence to international labor standards and improves working conditions worldwide.

Tufts will begin his position officially Dec. 1 but already has begun working with FLA by getting associated with procedures and management information.

"When I was offered the opportunity to work full-time for FLA, it made more

sense for me to take the position than to stay here because for the last couple of years my main focus at UNC has been workplace conditions," he said.

That view was shared by James Peacock, who worked with Tufts as co-chairman of UNC's now-defunct Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee. "Tufts is the only person in the U.S. that is on the board of both the FLA and the Workers Rights Consortium," he said.

Through his work for the University, the FLA and the WRC, Tufts has visited factories, workers and government leaders in the United States, China, Thailand, the Dominican Republic and Indonesia.

Tufts played a major role in labor and licensing when UNC signed an eight-year contract with Nike for \$28.34 million in 2001. Tufts served as co-chairman of the advisory committee that was formed to ensure that licensed factories provided fair wages and conditions for laborers.

"Not only has Rut made UNC the leader in the country in licensing by reforming labor practices, but he is also a national leader in the effort to improve labor regulations," Peacock said.

In his new position, Tufts will oversee FLA's day-to-day operations and work in partnership with new President and CEO Aurret van Heerden. He also will provide leadership and represent the FLA in meetings with its many governmental, business and university constituents, stated Adele Simmons, chairwoman of the

FLA board, in a press release.

Tufts said he will miss his involvement with the students and faculty at UNC who are interested in labor regulations.

But he said he plans to remain in Chapel Hill and periodically commute to an apartment in Washington, D.C., while keeping in contact with the University.

"I have made a lot of friends here, and we have worked hard trying to make students aware of labor standards," he said. "I just hope that students will continue to stay involved."

Tufts has held many management positions while at UNC, including director of campus merchandising since 1985 and his current position as director of auxiliary services since 1990.

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## SPORTS

**SOMETHING TO THANKFUL ABOUT**  
Tar Heel women's basketball team defeats Kentucky 75-59 at Rupp Arena in Lexington **PAGE 5**

Happy Thanksgiving

## WEATHER

**TODAY** Partly cloudy, H 58, L 45  
**THURSDAY** Mostly cloudy, H 71, L 49  
**FRIDAY** Windy, H 54, L 29