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Study to inform tuition talks

BOT MEMBERS TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR CAMPUS-BASED TUITION HIKE

BY EMILY STEEL
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

University officials have based recent tuition discussions in part on the belief that the state subsidizes non-residents' education, but numbers from a national business firm indicate out-of-state students actually pay \$294 more than it costs to educate them.

The cost to educate an undergraduate student at UNC-Chapel Hill amounts to \$15,626, according to statistics from the National Association of

College and University Business Officers.

Residents now pay \$4,072 in tuition and fees at UNC-CH while non-residents pay \$15,920.

While operating under the belief that the state subsidizes nonresident undergraduates by \$1,500 to \$2,000, the UNC Board of Trustees rejected Nov. 20 an across-the-board tuition increase in favor of raising nonresident tuition at a higher rate.

The issue of state subsidies arose

this year when the UNC-system Board of Governors considered raising the 18 percent out-of-state enrollment cap.

BOG member Brent Barringer stated in an e-mail to UNC-CH Chancellor James Moeser that he believed an almost \$2,000 state subsidy should be removed before considering a cap increase.

The BOG tabled the enrollment cap issue Nov. 7, but UNC-CH officials have said they will continue to push the issue, and trustees have openly said they are taking that into consideration when reviewing tuition increases.

UNC-CH Provost Robert Shelton will present today the business officers' calculations and assessments on poten-

tial effects of targeting nonresidents for campus-based tuition increases.

Although no final decision will be made at the board's tuition workshop, their discussions will form the building blocks of the campus-based tuition hike expected to be approved this month.

"It is really an educational opportunity for all of the trustees," said BOT Chairman Richard "Stick" Williams. "After that, we should have a better sense of where we should target ourselves."

Several trustees expressed interest at their last meeting in reviewing more tangible information on the impact of tuition increases after rejecting the

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DTH FILE PHOTO

"It's my opinion right now that what the board sees and what a lot of the students are feeling are the same thing," said BOG member Jonathan Ducote.

High cost of college prompts BOG look

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

System leaders say their federal lobbying efforts this year will center around one theme: making college more affordable.

College costs are the first issue addressed in the Federal Agenda that members of the UNC-system Board of Governors considered Tuesday, and affordability is an undercurrent in many of the agenda's tenets.

With the N.C. General Assembly between sessions for the first half of the year, the board will focus on the U.S. Congress' reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

The federal act, which was made to strengthen higher education institutions nationwide, is in the reauthorization process and should be finalized this year.

Most board members agree that increasing college affordability is the most significant issue at hand, particularly in light of the current economic situation and skyrocketing tuition costs nationwide.

"If not the most important strategic direction or goal, it is certainly one of the top two or three," said Brent Barringer, a member of the BOG Public Affairs Committee which is drafting the Federal Agenda.

"Being that we already have 16 campuses spread across the state, we've pretty much covered the geographic access, now affordability becomes the practical matter."

The BOG's Federal Agenda also will focus on increasing system schools' share of capital and research funding and on increasing the amount of money that goes to public schools.

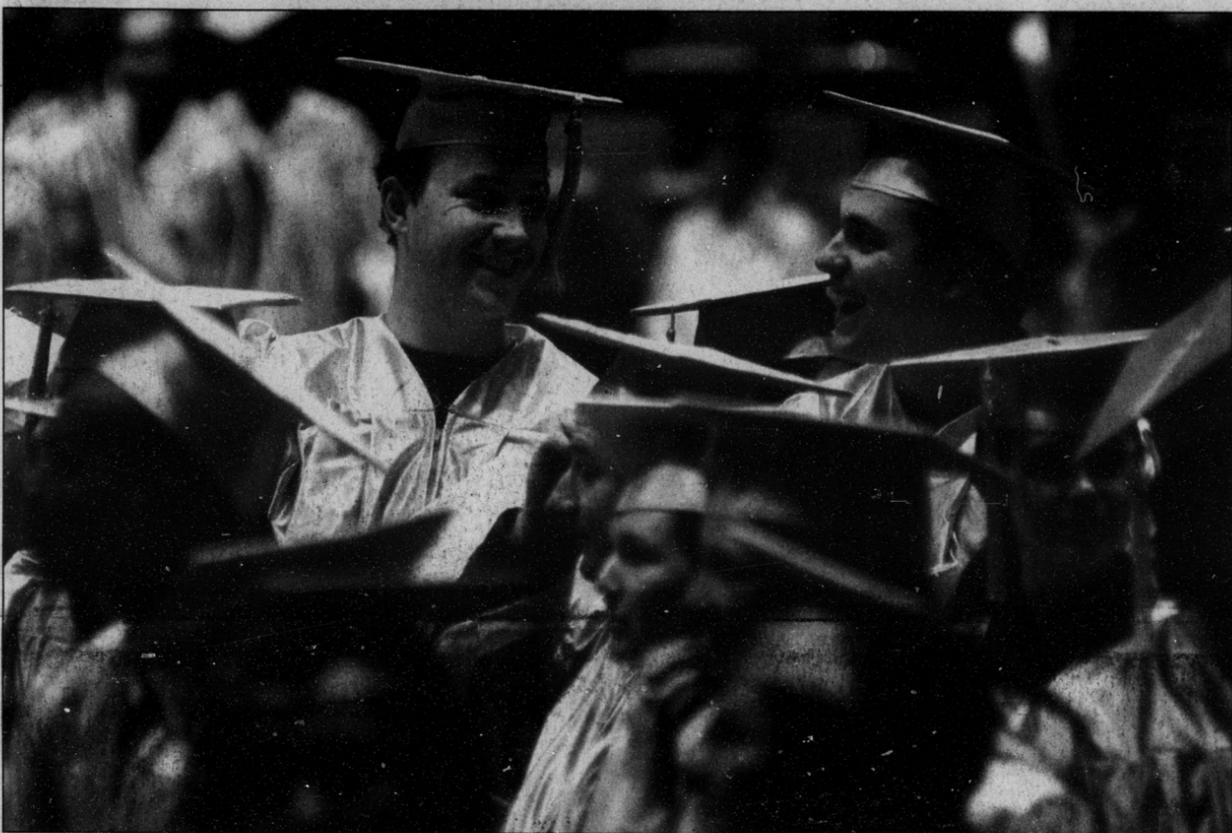
because the BOG's voice will be one of hundreds vying for the attention of lawmakers, Barringer said, it is imperative that members "join forces with ... other universities and university systems across the country."

"They're all affected to a large degree by this legislation so I'm sure there will be a lot of alliances built and that already exist."

J.B. Milliken, UNC-system vice president for public affairs and university advancement, also emphasized that partnership is key to success on Capitol Hill.

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MIDYEAR COMMENCEMENT '03



DTH PHOTOS/KATE BLACKMAN

New graduates enjoy midyear commencement proceedings Dec. 21 in the Smith Center. More than 1,300 students were awarded degrees. Michael Hunt, an author and Everett H. Emerson professor of history at UNC (left) spoke at the ceremony, continuing the tradition of faculty speakers at December commencements. Hunt delivered his address on "Looking Beyond September 11." He included topics

such as the war on terrorism, globalization, hunger and HIV, saying that the graduating generation should consider the available choices at this "turning point" at which the world could experience great change.

Degrees were awarded from the various University programs, including the College of Arts and Sciences, the Kenan-Flagler Business School and the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.



Ruling may affect file-sharing case

UNC student's fate still uncertain

BY EMILY STEEL
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A recent decision by a federal appeals court could trickle down to preserve the anonymity of the UNC student accused of making songs available for downloading.

The student has enlisted the help of the American Civil Liberties Union and has filed to quash the latest subpoena, issued Nov. 12 by the Recording Industry Association of America as part of its battle against illegal file-sharing.

The RIAA withdrew its first subpoena, filed Oct. 6, because it was filed in Washington, D.C., and was invalid in North Carolina.

Judges in the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington ruled Dec. 19 that Internet service

providers are not required to release the names of computer users who share songs.

Aden Fine, a staff attorney for the ACLU, said the federal court's decision most likely will affect the result of the motion filed by the ACLU Nov. 21 at the U.S. District Court in Greensboro.

"By stating that the RIAA's actions are unconstitutional, this case should certainly have an impact," he said.

David Parker, senior associate University counsel, said University officials are waiting to release to the RIAA the name of the UNC student accused of illegal file-sharing until a judge makes a decision on the case.

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N.C. tobacco laws earn F's

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

North Carolina is doing a terrible job keeping tobacco out of the hands of children and otherwise stopping the spread of tobacco use, according to the American Lung Association, which rated states' tobacco and air pollution laws in a report released Tuesday.

"We are so far behind other states in addressing tobacco problems," said Sarah Cox, program and advocacy manager for the American Lung Association of North Carolina. She said the primary reasons for the state's bad grades — F's in all categories, which range from cigarette taxes to youth access — are because the state has one of the lowest tobacco tax rates and has passed little legislation that prevents children from possessing tobacco products.

"It's harder to pass this kind of legislation in a tobacco-growing state because perceptions exist that when we do something to benefit to the public health, the economy is hurt," Cox said.

Many states, including North Carolina, were criticized in the report for not using enough of the money from a large tobacco settlement with major U.S. cigarette

"(North Carolina is) so far behind other states in addressing tobacco problems."

SARAH COX, AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF N.C.

manufacturers to prevent people from smoking and provide medical assistance for people with tobacco-related diseases.

The state allocated about \$7.9 million this fiscal year to fund tobacco prevention and tobacco-related health programs across the state. Twenty five percent of the state's total allocation ultimately will go to the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission, which funds youth tobacco prevention programs across the state.

N.C. House Democratic Leader Joe Hackney, D-Orange, said the money was used wisely, especially considering the state's fiscal situation. It went to benefit people and areas that would be affected adversely by declines in tobacco sales.

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Phone system superseded by computer use

BY JENNIFER IMMEL
SENIOR WRITER

UNC's telephone registration service will end this month, leaving students with just one method to register for classes, view grades and make credit card payments.

The Telephone Information System, first used in October 1990, has experienced a drastic decline in use during the last five years as Internet use for campus services became more prevalent.

This decline led to the decision to cancel the service permanently, Associate University Registrar Donna Redmon said. Only 5 percent of students currently use the telephone system.

"Registration is a point-and-click environment," she said. "As time marched on, (the phone system) began to get less and less use."

In addition to more students turning to online services, Redmon said, the Telephone Information System cost the University almost \$50,000 per year.

John Oberlin, executive director of Academic Technology & Networks, said the money spent on the phone system could be used more efficiently for improving Web services.

"The fact that we can save money on it allows us to improve the other (online) services," he said. "Now we can do other things better for less."

The system, which can be reached at 962-UNC1, will shut down at 5 p.m., Jan. 21, the last day students

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The Tar Heels fall to Kentucky for the fourth straight year, 61-56, much to the ire of their coach PAGE 12

WEATHER

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THURSDAY Partly cloudy, H 47, L 29
FRIDAY Rain/Snow Showers, H 46, L 21

