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200 gather for tuition teach-in

STUDENT LEADERS VOICE OPPOSITION TO \$1,500 HIKE

BY EMILY STEEL
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

As the lyrics "Come together, right now," echoed through the lecture hall Wednesday night, about 200 students organized to learn about the impact proposed tuition increases could have on their university.

"You folks are the future. You are the stewards of this institution," said Faculty

Council Chairwoman Judith Wegner.

"The trustees really want to do the best for this university, but we need to remind them that we are the University."

Both in-state and out-of-state students filled the seats and stood in the aisles at the teach-in sponsored by student government and the Out-of-State Students Association.

They listened as student leaders explained a proposed tuition hike that would cost nonresidents \$1,500 next year. Student Body President Matt Tepper pointed to a "spiky" line graph that depicted recent non-resident tuition increases.

"I've been in enough meetings to know tuition philosophy," he said. "It's supposed to go up gradually, and as you can see, it's not."

Students held a "cheat sheet" that covered the basics of the campus-based tuition increase proposal — to keep in-state

tuition in the lowest quartile among 10 public peer institutions and to raise out-of-state tuition about \$3,600 during several years. The move would place nonresident tuition in the 75th percentile among peers.

"I think it is always dangerous to start doing these tuition comparisons," Tepper said.

Officials have trimmed the figures from previous proposals that projected out-of-state increases as high as \$6,000 during a three-year period.

The new proposal has yet to be studied and, if passed, will

be, as Wegner has said, a "live experiment" on the student body.

Leaders noted the fundamental shift both tuition policies and the philosophy of the University would take if the proposals are approved.

"We don't want to put ourselves in a position that this university is one that is different than it has been in the past," said Rebekah Burford, student body vice president.

Burford underscored the

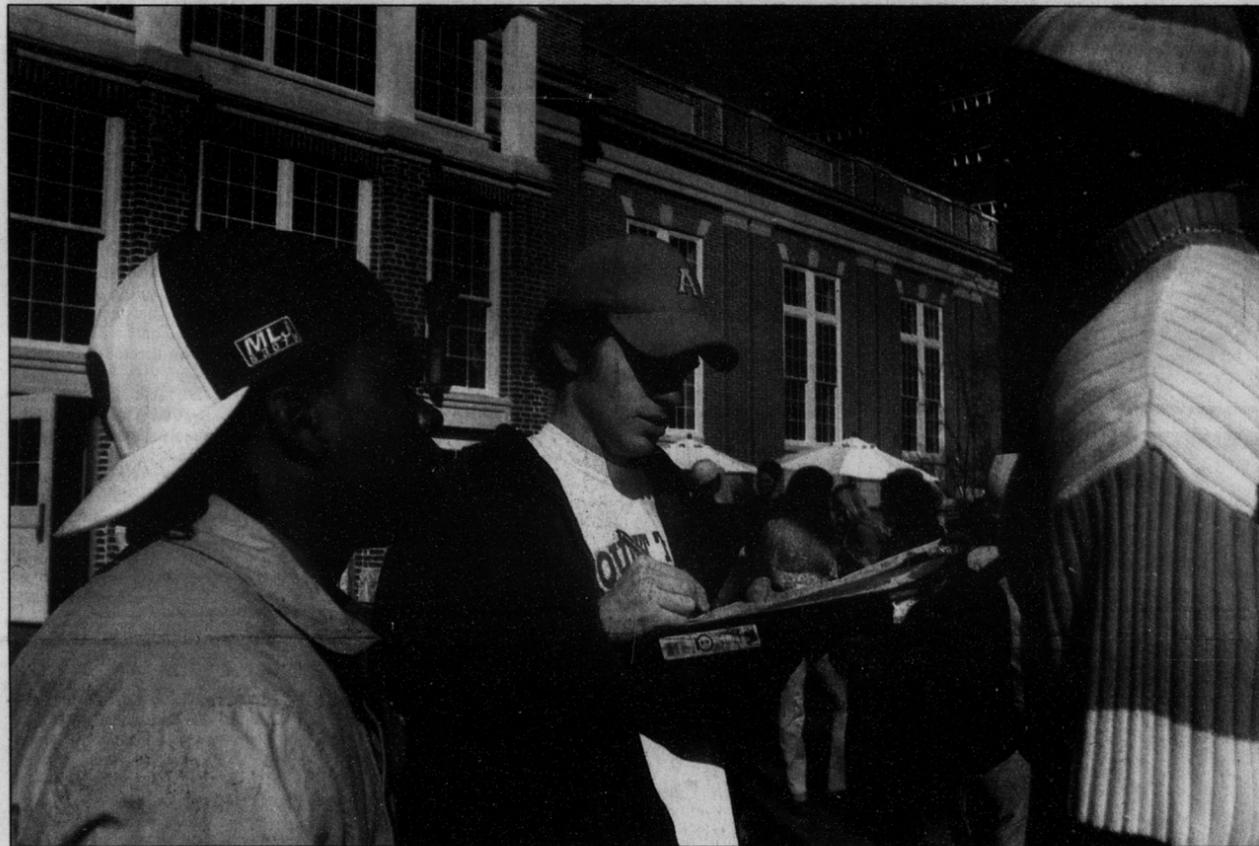
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DTH/JUSTIN SMITH

Students pack Murphey Hall on Wednesday night for a teach-in about proposed nonresident tuition increases.

ELECTIONS 2004



DTH/JANE NOVOTNY

Student body president hopeful Faudlin Pierre (left) speaks with junior Brian Rackley (right) while sophomore Adam Serlin signs Pierre's petition. Each of the 10 student body president candidates have until Jan. 20 to collect the 800 signatures needed to appear on the ballot. The signature requirement was increased last year.

CANDIDATES FACE FIRST CHALLENGES

BY MARY BETH BARDIN
STAFF WRITER

An uncommonly high number of candidates and the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. holiday led to fierce first-day competition for campaign petition signatures Wednesday.

The 10 candidates running for student body president must gather 800 signatures each to be placed on the ballot for the Feb. 10 election.

Because double-signing is not allowed, a total of 8,000 student names are required to keep all the candidates in the race.

But most candidates said that they were not fazed by the loss of a class day to gain signatures and that the extra challenge will bring out the best in the race.

"I think that getting the signatures in the short amount of time shows that you're serious about running and about getting your message out," said Matthew Calabria, a junior political science and public policy major.

Candidates said they welcomed the added challenge of reaching out to a wider range of the student body.

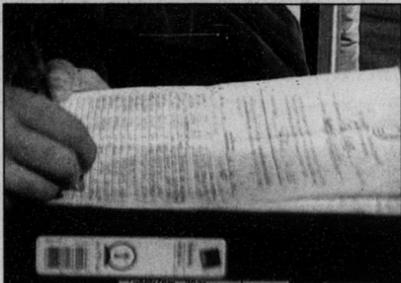
"It forces us to go out and talk to more students, which is a good thing," said Matthew Compton, a junior history and peace, war and defense major. "A race like this is good for the school."

Laura Thomas, a junior international studies and peace, war and defense major, stressed the importance of student signatures.

"If my administration is going to represent all of the student body, I have to show that I can get out to 800 people," she said.

A time extension was not considered because of a strict elections code detailing specific regulations.

"Petitions must start 28 days before elections," said Melissa Anderson, Board of Elections chairwoman. "We can't change deadlines because it's stip-



ulated in the code."

The election code also prohibits candidates from presenting their platform when petitioning signatures, an additional obstacle to the petition process.

"It's frustrating to not be able to tell people, 'This is what I stand for and this is who I am,'" said Ashley Castevens, a junior public policy major. "The reason I am running is for issues and ideas, and it's hard not to be able to tell people."

Lily West, a junior political science and journalism major, said she also found difficulty in suppressing her campaign platform.

"But I think students would rather have someone who followed the rules ... and told them their platform later down the road," she said.

Most candidates said they were optimistic despite the challenges presented by the campaign.

"I'm pretty confident that I'll get the signatures I need," said Micheal Jones, a junior history and African and Afro-American studies major. "You just have to be persistent, determined and double up on time and the things you do."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Pit won't serve as race locale

BY BRIAN HUDSON
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

For the first time in several years, candidates running for student office will not be able to campaign in the Pit — UNC's center of social activity.

During an informational meeting Tuesday, Board of Elections Chairwoman Melissa Anderson discussed some of the rules candidates needed to follow during the elections.

She explained that no candidate will be allowed to campaign inside the Pit because she determined that the election code could not address numerous concerns about the Pit's use.

BOE officials had attempted to reserve the Pit, but the request was not approved by Carolina Union officials, Anderson said.

Student Body President candidate Matt Calabria said the BOE had reserved the Pit in past years so several candidates did not attempt to make reservations on their own behalf.

"The expectations from a lot of the candidates was that the Pit would be reserved for us," Calabria said. "Obviously that wasn't done."

"My understanding is that since it's already reserved by other groups, it can't be used unless relinquished by those groups," he said.

In order to create a fair campaigning atmosphere, Anderson said, candidates will not be able to use the center of the Pit, regardless of prior reservations they had made.

SEE PIT, PAGE 2

Campus to drop journal contract

BY JOSEPH SCHWARTZ
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Biology Professor Lawrence Gilbert said he experiences difficulty completing his research because of the unavailability of many scientific journals in UNC-Chapel Hill libraries.

His task soon might become more difficult.

One of the largest publishers of scholarly journals, Elsevier, will not renew its contract with a network of schools that includes the University.

Gilbert said the absence of an agreement will prolong his research.

"It would make it very difficult because I use the online access to all the Elsevier journals," he said. "I use them all the time when I write papers and when I write grant applications."

Amid qualms with indeterminate escalating prices and a requirement to purchase unwanted journals, UNC-CH officials said the Triangle Research Libraries Network will not renew its contract with Elsevier, a Dutch company that provides a wealth of scientific, technical and health research source information.

The TRLN comprises Duke University, N.C. State University, and N.C. Central University in addition to UNC-CH. The contract provided all schools access to the online journals.

However, Joe Hewitt, associate provost for libraries, said UNC-CH will continue to subscribe to Elsevier journals on an individual basis, even though they will cost more when not bought in bulk.

"We are trying to cancel enough (journals) so that our payments to Elsevier will be about the same as they were last year."

Hewitt said UNC-CH spends about \$1.5 million per year to purchase journals from Elsevier.

He cited the company's inability to lock in a yearly price for a multiyear contract as a key issue,

SEE JOURNALS, PAGE 2



Provost Robert Shelton said journals cost too much.

University's town talks upset locals

BY DAN SCHWIND
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

A neighborhood advocacy group is questioning a system encouraging one-on-one meetings between Chapel Hill Town Council members and University officials.

The Town Council received a petition Monday night from the Coalition of Neighbors Near Campus asking the council to take steps toward ending the policy. The coalition is a group comprising people who live near the University.

But at least one UNC official said the policy is designed merely to help foster better town-gown relations, particularly with two new council members coming onto the scene, and work out issues with the ever-growing topic of Carolina North.

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CONGRATULATIONS

NEW HIRES ARE POSTED
Stop by the DTH in Union 104 today to check out your spring desk assignment.

INSIDE

NATIVE APPEAL
Bricks outside Student Union to feature work of American Indian artist **PAGE 3**

SPORTS

TAR HEELS STUMBLE
The Tar Heels allow Terps to catch up and then win in close matchup **PAGE 4**

WEATHER

TODAY Mostly sunny, H 50, L 20
FRIDAY Sunny, H 43, L 20
SATURDAY Partly cloudy, H 46, L 33

