

# Aldermen lay out sidewalk plan

Guidelines address flexibility issues

BY MEREDITH MILLER  
STAFF WRITER

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen unanimously adopted a set of guidelines Tuesday evening for the implementation of the town's sidewalk bond project. At its Jan. 13 meeting, the board approved an increase in the cost of the first phase of sidewalk construction and requested the town staff to draft a set of guiding principles to implement the projects. The sidewalk bond was voted upon in the town's November election. The approved guidelines address issues of flexibility and the need to consult with members of the Carrboro community, a concern expressed by many board members. A design consultant will be hired to execute the projects, and

there will be two informational meetings with property owners to discuss proposed plans. The first meeting with property owners will occur before the consultant has begun designs for the sidewalk. The second will take place after the preliminary designs have been created. The draft also presented the idea of meetings to representatives and neighbors in various geographic areas to gather community input and concerns. The draft was composed after town staff studied suggestions from residents and former Alderman Allen Spalt. Spalt said priorities the board should consider are safety, drainage, environment and parking. "I think (the sidewalk project) is an important issue and will offer

an immeasurable difference for the town," he said. Alderman Jacquelyn Gist brought up several issues Tuesday concerning sidewalk development. She said the main issue she heard from citizens was, "We want sidewalks, but don't take our trees away." "We need a flexible policy to protect trees," she said. Gist said the guidelines should allow for creative alternatives and innovative ideas, especially with older streets and one-way roads. "We all feel the same about flexibility," said Alderman Diana McDuffee. "And it all comes down to who's hired (to implement the project). We want someone who will work hard with the neighborhood." Spalt said there should be community involvement in designing the sidewalks. "People who live on the streets should be consulted, but (the side-

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walks) are built for the town as a whole." Alderman Alex Zaffron said the project is an ambitious one that needs a planned, precise method to be implemented. "We need a common sense method to promote systematic neighborhood input," he said. Zaffron said the principles are clear steps to follow. "I am enthusiastic to adopt these principles." *Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.*

## EDWARDS

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cantly in the two Saturday states, aides have said, but wins in Virginia and Tennessee this Tuesday are essential. Victories in those two Southern arenas would add to Edwards' momentum and bring much-needed money to a campaign aides said has only \$1 million in its coffers.

"We're now moving from retail politics to wholesale politics," said Thad Beyle, professor of political science at UNC, referring to the fact that candidates no longer can spend time in every state up for grabs. "Now (primaries) are coming on much faster, and in the next two, three weeks, things will be pretty well decided." But even if Edwards emerges with victories Tuesday, he must find a way to win outside his Southern base if he wants to amass enough delegates to challenge President Bush in November. Perhaps his best opportunity to do so before Kerry can put him away is to win in Wisconsin, where his focus on poor workers and his middle-class background appeal to voters, Klinkner said. A win there could convince constituents in other states that Edwards is a viable candidate, thus changing the dynamic of the race. "He needs something to break his way. Wisconsin could be a state where he could do well," he said. Ultimately, though, Kerry's huge lead stacks the deck against Edwards, who needs a lot of things to fall in place.

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THAD BEYLE, UNC POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

Jack Fleer, professor of political science at Wake Forest University, said Edwards' first priority should be to make voters believe he can take the Oval Office — a quality that exit polls indicate is associated more with Kerry. "He's got to go to those people and really have them say ... 'This guy is not only someone who cares about me, who's talking about the issues I'm concerned with, but is also an electable candidate.'" If those efforts fall short, most experts believe, Edwards is a prime candidate to further his political career by being picked as Kerry's running mate.

Though he has denied publicly that he would accept such a position, Beyle said, such a stance is an example of politics as usual. "No one who's running for president is going to say, 'Yeah, I want to be vice president.' It just doesn't work that way." Still, the race is not over yet, Fleer said, adding that even if Edwards doesn't get what he wants, he's still made his mark. "I think he's gone further than a lot of people thought he could ever go." *Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.*

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## CURRY

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Curry, a point guard who was recruited by former coach Matt Doherty, led the state in scoring as a sophomore and broke the 1,000-point mark in just 41 high school games. He scored 47 points in his team's 93-72 win against Graham High School on Tuesday. "He doesn't play for me," Williams said. "He's not here. If there needs to be a decision made at some time, I'll make that decision, and if I do, he and his family will know about it first, whatever that decision

may be. And if I don't need to make a decision, I won't make a decision." Curry was released to his parents on \$40,000 bail and will make his first appearance in court this morning, Jones said. The next step in the process will be an indictment before a grand jury. The time frame for that process is unknown. "I'm with him, I'm praying for him, thinking about him," said UNC center Sean May. "I hope it's not true, what happened. Hopefully, he'll get through this." *Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.*

## COBEY

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ble." Wednesday's stop was third in line for Cobey after he stopped at a diner in Wilmington and a medical facility in Greenville, where he discussed medical malpractice issues. "The diner was probably the most interesting one," said Jeff Miller, Cobey's communications director. "He got to talk to just regular people eating breakfast." From Raleigh, Cobey headed to Greensboro and then to a small cutlery business in Charlotte, where he planned to discuss lowering the tax and regulatory bur-

dens for small businesses. But in Raleigh, Cobey's focus was his disappointment in Easley. "Mike Easley needs to be let go," he said. "I'm here officially applying for the job." Speaking in front of a picture of the state capitol with a vacancy sign across the front and punching the air emphatically, Cobey stressed to supporters that he is the only candidate who can beat Easley. "I'm the complete package," he said. "I'm the embodiment of the conservative values of the people of the state, and I have experience." *Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.*

## GOVERNMENT

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has treated issues as if they just popped up," Calabria said. Candidate Laura Thomas said she would focus on being more accessible to the student body than Tepper has been. "He is more concerned with the (N.C.) General Assembly," she said. "He is not involved enough with the University administration." Candidate Matt Compton echoed Thomas' sentiment on the issue. "There should be more student interaction overall, not just during times of crisis," he said. Candidate Ashley Castevens advocated a balanced approach in dealing with the University administration. "It's all a duality of making sure they're for the students and the administration." Candidate Lily West said her platform stresses communication with student organizations, something she identified as a shortcoming in the Tepper administration. "I wish (Tepper) had been a little more risky and reached out to different groups," she said. "I can't believe student government can do well without ever consulting another student organization." Candidate John Walker could not be reached for comment. Tuition emerged as the biggest issue for candidates and most speculated about how they would have handled the increase if in charge. Liles said he would have been more forceful in presenting the

case against a tuition increase. "You are electing your delegate to the Board of Trustees," he said. But Compton praised Tepper's efforts to mitigate the impact of the tuition increase and said he was impressed by Tepper's proposal. Tepper said dealing with tuition hikes has been challenging for student body presidents historically. "Looking back six or seven years, (the office of the) student body president has been effective at everything but tuition," he said. "A lot of (the trustees) are of the mind-set that this is a student, obviously they don't want a tuition increase. They don't listen beyond that." The last time student government lowered a proposed tuition increase was in 1999, when a possible \$2,000 hike was reduced to \$600 over two years after protests organized by former Student Body President Nic Heinke. But tuition wasn't the only issue criticized by the candidates. Compton and Liles both said they opposed Tepper's proposal to provide permanent funding for the judiciary branch of student government because it demonstrated a lack of research and planning. Most candidates — and Tepper — said they hope the debate about the role of the the office results in a more effective leader. Tepper said, "I want all the candidates to be really ambitious because I want student government to be really successful." *Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.*

## BADDOUR

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administrators. Baddour said Wednesday that he read a copy of the committee's report and saw no surprises. "I was just delighted. They really went into quite a bit of detail," he said in a telephone interview. "And I was very grateful for the attention they gave it." "I am indebted to the chancellor for his endorsement and recommendation," he added.

Whether this will end any speculation, Baddour couldn't say. "I don't know, in my world I live in, if it will ever end," he said. "I know we have a lot of work to do. I really think it's time to look forward and time for us to all come together as a Carolina community." "We've got to get football back and going again," he said. "We've got a lot of challenges ahead of us." *Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.*

## Willie Lavonsa Moore Prize in Creative Non-Fiction

The UNC-Chapel Hill Creative Writing Program invites submissions from Carolina undergraduates for the fifth annual Willie Lavonsa Moore Competition in Creative Non-Fiction, which carries a cash prize.

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