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Sections, faculty may be cut

BUDGET CRUNCH MAY FORCE UNC TO CUT AS MUCH AS \$10.5 MILLION

BY MEGAN SEROW
STAFF WRITER

A 1 percent to 3 percent cut to the UNC budget might seem like a drop in the bucket, but after three years of cuts amounting to more than \$100 million, University officials said further reductions could greatly affect the University. The University still is waiting to see if cuts, ranging between about \$3.5 million and \$10.5 million, will be enacted by the legislature. As officials wait, they

continue to calculate how the cuts could alter many aspects of the University. The size of the faculty could be reduced, class sizes could grow and campus and technology services could suffer. Provost Robert Shelton said that he is optimistic that there will be no budget cuts but that if there are, they might be seen in many different forms. "Something will have to give. Classes may get larger, sections may be cut. We can't keep taking money away and not see any effects."

Among the changes that will occur next year are decreases of between 30 to 60 course sections. Ten to 30 vacant faculty positions will be eliminated, and about 20 will go unfilled.

Shelton said the most critical change would be the loss of faculty. With even a 1 percent budget cut, some filled positions might have to be eliminated.

But he said there are some counterbalances in place for remaining faculty. The state could offer salary increases for the first time in four years to compensate for the increased work load.

With an additional 335 students arriving at UNC next year, changes in the number of courses offered and the

number of students in each section might pose a problem, Faculty Council Chairwoman Judith Wegner said.

"Students really want to be here for contact with experienced faculty members so in the absence of that, it's more difficult to teach effectively, especially with a larger class," she said. "It's harder to get to know the students."

Shelton said he expects an increase in the enrollment growth funding, which would offer some support but not enough to fix the problem.

Cuts to class sizes and available sections would be made to each department.

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 2

Trustees mull fixes to hazing policies

Discuss need to involve Greek alumni in plans

BY JENNIFER IMMEL
SENIOR WRITER

Running errands in the middle of the night. Cleaning houses and apartments at 7 a.m. on a Saturday. Taking hours-long road trips during time that could be spent studying.

Stories such as these have been told for years about college fraternities, but this year, the University's governing body has made well known its intentions to stop such practices at UNC's Interfraternity Council chapters.

"Students were sleep deprived from having to work at the house, do errands," said Rusty Carter, chairman of the UNC Board of Trustees' University Affairs Committee, which handles Greek issues. "They were exhausted all the time. ... Most of the information is anecdotal, but it is enough that we do believe that in certain fraternities, pledging is time-abusive, and we are asking the Greek community to clean it up."

While formal talks about this cleanup began in January, board members said hazing practices and personal servitude have been an issue for years.

Trustee Jean Kitchin became active in implementing changes to the Greek system, specifically in IFC fraternities, after the Phi Gamma Delta fire in 1996 that killed five students. Three students from Kitchin's former hometown of Rocky Mount died in the fire.

SEE ALUMNI, PAGE 2

Assault victim to challenge charges

BY MEREDITH MILLER
STAFF WRITER

A UNC student who claims he was assaulted as a result of ethnic intimidation will meet with the Chapel Hill district attorney Wednesday afternoon to discuss appropriate charges.

Gagandeep Bindra, a senior who was born in Punjab, India, was assaulted March 27 on Franklin Street after three teenage boys called him al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

Though the teenagers each were charged with simple assault and the incident was classified as a "hate crime," Chapel Hill police did not file charges for ethnic intimidation, a misdemeanor charge for assault based on religion or race.

Bindra, who is Sikh, said he thinks the incident was a racially biased crime and will discuss his concerns with the district attorney. He will ask that the assailants be charged with racial intimidation, a Class 1 misdemeanor. Simple assault is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

But Chapel Hill police Chief Gregg Jarvies said the police did not think the physical assault had a direct link to the verbal comment. He said that although he does not disregard Bindra's claims, he is not sure if the attack was racially motivated or just "a simple assault by street thugs."

"You can't act on what you feel. You act on the facts," Jarvies said.

After Bindra learned that the boys were not charged with ethnic intimidation, he met privately last Thursday with Jarvies to discuss the matter.

"I had a concern about the charges," Bindra said. "These people called out 'bin Laden' not because they were my friends, but because they wanted to intimidate me."

Jarvies said the meeting was an opportunity to discuss the possible discrepancy of the charges, adding that he will attend Wednesday's meeting with the district attorney.

"I don't think (Bindra) has accepted my perspective, and that's understandable," Jarvies said.

He cautioned that reporting the incident as a hate crime shows there is a strong possibility that the assault was racially motivated.

But Bindra said he wants the police to consider his account of the incident so that the charges are fair. "I have to explain what happened," he said.

Bindra said he did not have the chance to speak to the magistrate when the initial charges were filed because officers told him it was not necessary. He said he thinks that if he had spoken with the magistrate about the incident, the teenagers would have been charged with racial intimidation.

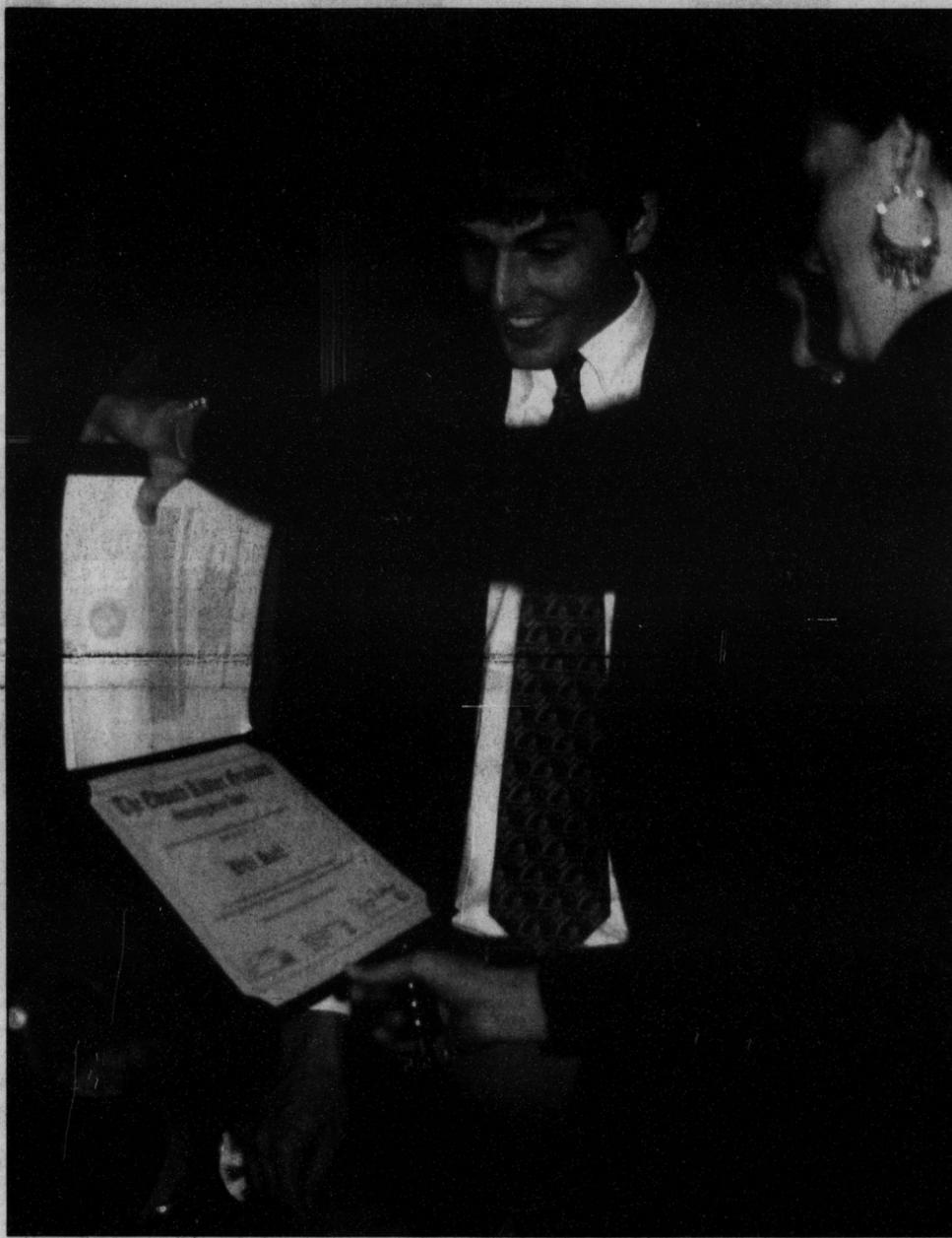
"The police talked for me," Bindra said. "This was more than just two guys fighting."

District Attorney Carl Fox will review the incident at the Wednesday meeting and offer guidance on how to pursue the case.

Jarvies said, "The case is not closed."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

EDWARD KIDDER GRAHAM AWARDS



DTH/JESSICA RUSSELL

Senior Will Hall (left) shows off his Edward Kidder Graham Award to senior Caroline Tilley after a ceremony Monday at the George Watts Hill Alumni Center. Hall received the award for his involvement with the Society of Janus, a student group dedicated to residence hall life. Eleven Graham

awards were given to seniors who distinguished themselves in different organizations while at the University. Forty seven seniors were nominated for the awards, which were known as the Outstanding Senior Awards until they were named in honor of Graham, a former chancellor.

New telescope project to launch in Chile

BY TORRYE JONES
STAFF WRITER

Astronomy Professor Wayne Christiansen said his idea to build a high-performance telescope reflected a line he heard in the 1989 movie "Field of Dreams."

"You know when the ghost says to the man, 'If you build it, they will come?'" he asked. "(The telescope) was just a dream that started in 1986."

Christiansen, director of the Morehead Observatory, said the launch of the Southern Observatory for Astrophysical Research on Friday will put the astronomy program in UNC's Department of Physics and Astronomy on the map.

The telescope, which has a 4-inch thick mirror that is more than 13 feet wide, is atop Cerro Pachon, a

ridge in Chile. It is designed to produce the best image quality of any ground-based telescope.

Its near-infrared capabilities compete with the Hubble, NASA's space telescope that was launched in 1990.

"It's extremely flexible and effective," astronomy Professor Dan Reichart said. "We have a better view of the sky than if you were to walk outside and look up."

UNC shares SOAR with the Ministry of Science & Technology of Brazil, Michigan State University and the U.S. National Optical Astronomy Observatory. UNC will control 124 half-nights of observing each year. The construction cost \$32 million, with UNC contributing about \$12 million.

The Henry Cox Remote Observing Center, located in Morehead

Observatory, was built by Astronomy Professor Gerald Cecil and will house the control room for the telescope.

Another control room will be available in the proposed addition to Phillips Hall on the UNC campus.

Students will be able to use observatories, which will be open for public viewing, for research.

"This is a big thing," Reichart said. "It's good for teaching, training and public relations."

Bruce Carney, who worked with Christiansen on the plan when they were the department's only two faculty members in 1986, said the telescope is a significant tool for both the astronomy and physics departments.

"Telescopes are windows into laboratories that you can't build on



COURTESY OF DAN REICHAERT

The Southern Observatory for Astrophysical Research in Chile is home to a new telescope that is more than 13 feet wide.

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N.C. State Treasurer aims to raise awareness about unclaimed money and property in the state **PAGE 3**

SPORTS

BAKKER'S DOZEN

North Carolina pitcher Garry Bakker looks to bounce back from recent struggles on the mound **PAGE 9**

WEATHER

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WEDNESDAY Partly cloudy, H 62, L 43

THURSDAY Partly cloudy, H 67, L 45