

# The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 112, ISSUE 70

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2004

www.dthonline.com

## Panel prepares for renaming debate

DIFFERENT STANCES TO SHAPE FUTURE OF AIRPORT ROAD

BY RYAN C. TUCK  
CITY EDITOR

Chapel Hill Town Council members quickly scribbled names on pieces of paper and passed them to Town Clerk Joyce Smith.

After its Monday night meeting — filled with discussion of a long-range transportation plan and a financial feasibility report — the little bits of paper were all that stood between the council members and the door.

They were also the final step in

the nomination process for a committee that seems to be dividing the community.

Smith tallied the votes, and Mayor Kevin Foy announced the names of the people who will make up the special committee to consider renaming Airport Road in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

The 20-member committee — composed of members of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, residents and business

owners on Airport Road, students, professors, citizens, council members and Foy — will begin meeting on Thursday. At stake will be the future of Airport Road.

The idea of renaming the road originally came before the council in January. But after a series of heated public forums, the council decided it could not make the decision without more citizen input.

Monday, the council chose 20 people to give that input. Joe Herzenberg, a former

Town Council member, long-time Chapel Hill resident and historian of the civil rights movement, was appointed as a citizen-at-large.

Herzenberg said the struggle to rename the road pales in comparison to the struggles in Chapel Hill during King's lifetime.

The renaming is a way to compensate for things that should have been accomplished locally while King was alive, Herzenberg said.

"We should have something to honor Dr. King," Herzenberg said,

adding that he is willing to listen to those who disagree with him.

Bruce Johnson is one of those people. Johnson has lived on Airport Road for 65 years, and he was appointed to the committee as one of the Airport Road business owners or residents. He owns two businesses on the road, including one that his father started.

He said the question of renaming the road in honor of a figure such as King is a difficult one — and a very important one.

But he opposes the name change, noting the road's history and the costs that his businesses would

incur as result of the switch.

He estimated that his businesses would lose about \$17,700 from having to change business cards and phone listings.

Chuck Stone, a professor at the University and a one-time friend of King's, said King would have been angered about any argument about naming a road in his honor.

"Controversy over this would have really bothered him," Stone said, adding that he thinks the name change is a non-issue.

"I'll pay for the stationery," Stone

SEE MLK, PAGE 7

## Committee to examine student fees

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Campus organizations receiving student fees soon will have to answer to the student fee audit committee, which seeks to ensure that spending of those dollars benefits the University community.

The committee, which first meets Thursday, will begin conducting investigations and examining the proposed budgets of those organizations.

"We want to make sure money isn't being wasted," said Daneen Furr, Finance Committee chairwoman for Student Congress. "We'll evaluate ... every dollar to keep the cost down as much as possible."

The committee will work in tandem with the Chancellor's Committee on Student Fees, which proposes increases to the University's Board of Trustees and ultimately to the UNC-system Board of Governors.

The chancellor's committee will have the proposals in place by the end of October, so its student counterpart will begin meeting

Thursday to evaluate the suggestions, said Natalie Russell, chairwoman of the committee and student body treasurer.

The audit committee met with the larger chancellor's committee Wednesday and set up a tentative investigative timeline. At their first meeting, members will discuss the proposed \$395 education and technology fees, which marks an increase of \$73.

She said this fee will be tackled first because of the new technological services that students have requested.

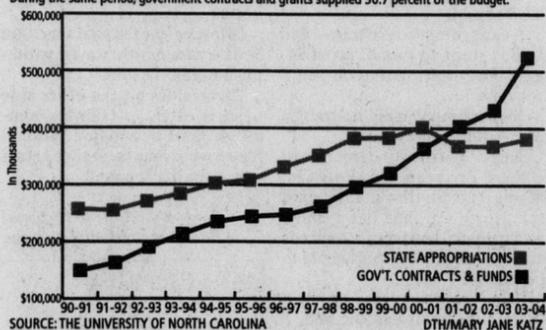
The health service fee also will be scrutinized. It currently stands at \$312 for the 2004-05 year. The proposed increase for next year is \$26.

Russell said former Student Body President Matt Tepper's administration examined the Counseling and Psychological Services fee, and this year's committee will follow up with last year's work.

SEE STUDENT FEES, PAGE 7

### BUDGET BREAKDOWN

State appropriations made up 21.4 percent of total UNC revenues during the 2003-04 fiscal year. During the same period, government contracts and grants supplied 30.7 percent of the budget.



## UNC unlikely to imitate UVa.

BY EMILY STEEL  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

One month ago, Chancellor James Moeser sat in his office, surrounded by a campus just beginning to simmer with activity.

It was about three weeks before three public universities in Virginia announced their intention to bargain with the legislature: In exchange for state funds, they now are looking for more autonomy.

But Moeser had already made a firm decision on the issue. The trend, he said, would not find its way to the University of North Carolina.

"I think the philosophies of UVa. and Chapel Hill are very different," he said during an interview Aug. 19. "They have a very different image of themselves and their relation to the state than we do to this day."

And it doesn't look like this vision is going to change.

The University has had a constitutional commitment since it was

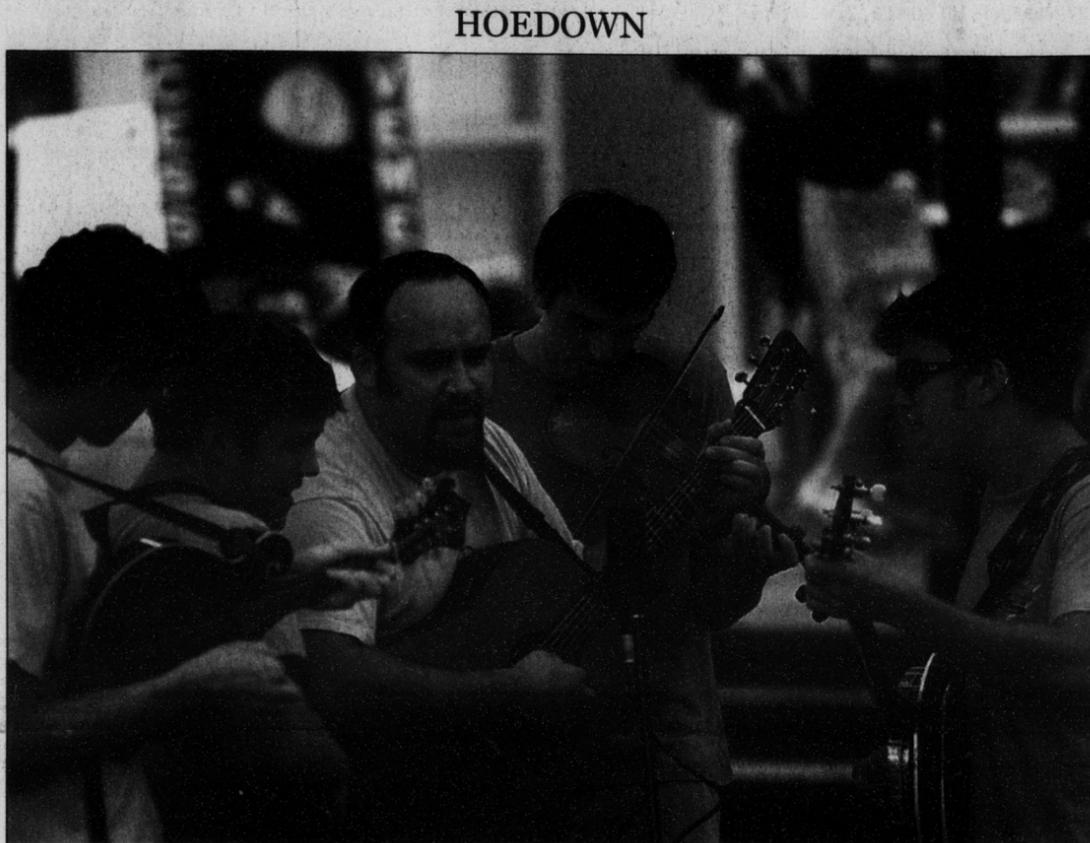
established more than 200 years ago to educate and serve the citizens of North Carolina.

In return, the state has provided the University with ample funding. During the 2003-04 fiscal year, state appropriations constituted 21.4 percent of the University's total revenues. Government contracts and grants made up an additional 30.7 percent. That money equaled \$905 million last year.

"It is a tremendous help to the University, but the most important thing, as far as I am concerned, is that it focuses us on serving the state, reminding us that is our reason for being here," said Richard "Stick" Williams, chairman of the University's Board of Trustees.

The high level of per-student funding helps keep tuition costs low because the ability to pay for instructional programs comes from both tuition and state appro-

SEE STATE TIES, PAGE 7



DTH/JOHN DUDLEY

The Big Fat Gap, a "back porch" bluegrass band, performs in the Pit on Thursday afternoon. The band, which comprises residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, plays regularly in Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Raleigh and Black Mountain. They will be playing tonight at the

Carolina Inn from 5 to 7 as part of the Front Porch Music Series, which is an opportunity for people to enjoy live bluegrass music outdoors along with a tapas menu and drink specials. The band took its name from a forest located in western North Carolina near the Tennessee border.

## Soyinka captivates crowd

Attracts audience of more than 300

BY AYOFEMI KIRBY  
STAFF WRITER

Nobel Prize laureate and human rights advocate Wole Soyinka addressed an audience of more than 300 students, faculty and community guests at the University's Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History on Thursday afternoon.

The seating in the Stone Center's multipurpose room could not accommodate the number of people who came to hear Soyinka speak, forcing the lecture to be moved to the center's unfinished Cobb Theater.

After Joseph Jordan, director of the Stone Center, introduced Soyinka, commenting on Nigeria's two-week holiday and the celebration of Soyinka's 70th birthday, Soyinka took the stage to a standing ovation.

During the hourlong lecture, titled "Creative Myths and the Politics Around Them," Soyinka related the plight of winning international social justice and human rights to popular mythology's power struggles.

"There is a battle between power and freedom that causes the meshing of politics and mythology," he said. "Virtually every form of art has a link to political or moral manipulation. The evidence is all around us in music, poetry and art."

Soyinka compared the stories of mythological characters such



DTH/ANDREW SYNOWIEZ

Nobel Prize laureate, human rights advocate Wole Soyinka speaks at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History Thursday.

as Ulysses and the Cyclops, Pluto, Orpheus and Gabriel to the clash between power and freedom in international politics.

"I wonder if I'm alone in my thinking that mythology often belittles the present," Soyinka said. "Men, even when they deny the realm of myths, often aspire to play God."

Soyinka referenced the life-threatening experiences his colleague, the late African playwright Ola Rotimi, endured with Nigerian authorities as well as

the abuses of power and human rights occurring in Sudan and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

A collaborative effort among the Stone Center, the John Hope Franklin Center at Duke University, the Organization of African Students' Interests in Solidarity, the University Center for International Studies and the Rotimi Foundation brought the distinguished novelist, poet and playwright to the University.

SEE SOYINKA, PAGE 7

## Employees to benefit from plan

Grievance change targets concerns

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

University employees said Thursday they will benefit from newly proposed changes to UNC's grievance process.

In a report completed Wednesday by the State Personnel Act Dispute Resolution Committee, several recommendations were made about the University's grievance procedure to address the process' shortcomings.

The recommendations include eliminating one of the four steps of the process, creating a new University position to oversee the procedure and extending some deadlines.

Tommy Griffin, chairman of the Employee Forum, said he is in favor of the recommendations made by the committee and believes they successfully address employees' concerns.

"It's a very stressful situation," he said. "They've taken a lot of stress out of it."

Griffin said he particularly supports the report's recommendations that propose simplifying the language of the process to make it more user-friendly.

"You don't need a law document

SEE EMPLOYEE, PAGE 7

### SPORTS SATURDAY

#### TAKE TWO

Brave the rain Saturday and grab the DTH's football section at UNC's second home game

### INSIDE

#### ROCK VISUALS

Theater to screen film that accompanies indie LP PAGE 4



### INSIDE

#### DIGGING DEEPER

Team of UNC archaeologists and students discover the ruins of a Cretan city hall PAGE 4

### WEATHER

TODAY Strong storms, H 80, L 68  
SATURDAY T-storms, H 75, L 63  
SUNDAY Rain, H 72, L 61

