

Group praises decision to eliminate Bell Award

BY JACKI SPIES
AND GREG STEEN
STAFF WRITERS

Calling for a representative task force to foster campuswide discussions about the University's controversial past, the Campaign for Historical Accuracy and Truth submitted a petition to Chancellor James Moeser on Thursday.

A task force to study how the University's history relates to today must be created so that UNC is mindful of its history as it moves into the future, proponents of the change said.

"We just felt we needed to let the chancellor know that those of us concerned with these issues are still here," said Yonni Chapman, a graduate student who was a leading force in the Cornelia Phillips Spencer Bell Award controversy.

These issues were also of pressing concern at the Faculty Council meeting Friday. Moeser voiced his intention to create a task force to

decide how to properly honor the Spencer, Love and Phillips families, who have made consistent contributions to the University for seven generations.

"Our own history is a great story," Moeser told the council.

The committee also will develop guidelines to govern how to treat people who have been historically ingrained in the campus but also could be the object of controversy.

As the nation's first public university, history is visible in the names of the buildings and memorial statues scattered throughout UNC's campus. The majority of these buildings were constructed by black slaves.

Today, there are few testaments to their contributions.

"I think the University has a very whitewashed history," said David Brannigan, member of the campaign and groundskeeper at UNC.

Moeser highlighted the importance of the University being honest

with its past by proposing the creation of an online virtual museum of UNC's history. The site would offer candid information about all of the campus's historical figures.

"We want to be honest about it," Moeser said.

Members of the campaign said it is important for the University to acknowledge its past before it can successfully move into the future.

In the petition, the group praised Moeser's decision to retire the Cornelia Phillips Spencer Bell Award.

"When you walk around campus, it looks like the only people who did anything important were white men and, as it turns out, a lot of those white men were slave owners or were involved in white supremacy campaigns," Chapman said. "The University needs to face up to that and acknowledge it."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Club sports want more cash

BY HILARY DELBRIDGE
STAFF WRITER

Jeremy Perrelle says that despite proposed increases to the campus recreation fee, his club soccer team still won't have enough money to cover its expenditures.

The \$500 his team received last year didn't cover the total costs of tournament fees, travel, uniforms and practice equipment. Team members are expected to supplement their allocations through fund raising or paying club dues.

"The main objective of our soccer team is to practice and play — it's not to fund-raise," Perrelle said.

With a \$20,000 boost in funding next year, more than 50 sports club teams should reap the benefits of a \$2-per-student increase in campus recreation fees. The total club sports allocations will reach \$100,000.

"It's one of the best achievements we've pushed through (for club sports) in years," Student Body President Matt Calabria said.

Calabria said there was a popular mandate behind the move because of the teams' rapid growth at UNC. "Through a marginal increase in the campus recreation fee and

also reprioritization among money already in campus recreation, we freed up some more money for club sports," Calabria said.

Much public debate has centered on a recent proposal to increase the campus athletic fee by \$150 during the next two years. The increase will provide a stable funding source for merit-based scholarships and Olympic sports teams.

But with about one-tenth of the student body participating in club sports, several students said more focus should be placed on the campus recreation fee, which funds club sports, intramurals, additional security for athletic facilities, increased staff salaries and part-time employees' wages.

"Twenty thousand dollars seems like a generous endowment, but among 50 teams, it only goes so far," Perrelle said.

Officials said that this year, increased importance was placed on club sports' needs, which will warrant a significant portion of the increased funding.

Director of Campus Recreation Marty Pomerantz said club sports teams receive significantly more

than monetary support in terms of administrative aid. They benefit from the help of a full-time intern and a full-time director.

"You get complaints from everybody that they don't receive as much as they would like," Pomerantz said. Courtney English, vice president of the Sport Clubs Council, said she knew Calabria and the administration were working to help club sports receive more funding.

"Of course you always want more, but we are grateful for what we got."

The two candidates left in the race for student body president both pledge to advocate for increased funding for club sports including working to turf intramural fields.

Candidate Seke Ballard's platform includes plans to work to have varsity sports teams donate old equipment to intramural and club teams.

Candidate Seth Dearmin, who received an endorsement from the Sport Clubs Council, will work to invest money into lighting the University-owned Rainbow Fields, located on Cleland Drive.

Contact the University desk at udesk@unc.edu.

THE Daily Crossword

By Josiah Breward

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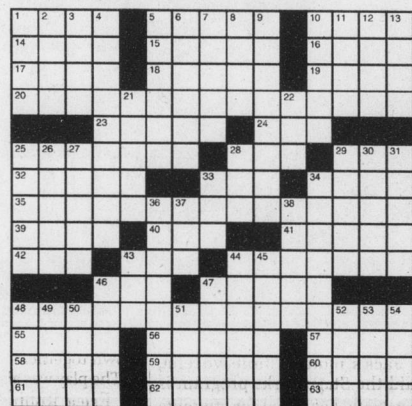
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Abortion coverage faces scrutiny

BY MATT BOWLES
STAFF WRITER

Some state senators are seeking to alter the state's health care policy to prohibit its coverage of abortions, and while most say the measure isn't likely to pass this year, it will receive serious consideration.

The bill, filed Wednesday by Sen. Andrew Brock, R-Davie, would bar state employees from receiving benefits to finance abortion. Brock said the legislation would make exceptions for cases involving rape, incest or the life of the mother.

Because the issue is controversial, Brock said, state revenue should not be allocated to fund abortions. "I don't think the taxpayers of North Carolina should be paying for abortions."

Sen. Robert Pittenger, R-Mecklenburg, a co-sponsor of the bill, also said tax revenue should not be directed to finance abortion.

He added that the bill is consistent with his views on abortion.

"I value life," Pittenger said. "Every life, born and unborn, is

precious."

The bill has received fervid support from the N.C. Right to Life, and President Barbara Holt said the organization will lobby to pass the bill.

She said the proposed change represents the opinion of a majority of North Carolinians — both those supporting abortion rights and those opposing them. "Even people who support keeping abortion legal do not support having their tax dollars to go to pay for it."

But there is a large coalition of women's rights groups and progressives actively committed to defeating the bill, said Paige Johnson, director of public affairs for Planned Parenthood of Central North Carolina. "We don't think politicians should make reproductive health care decisions for women," she said.

The State Employees Association of North Carolina has not taken a stance on this proposal. The members themselves are responsible for setting the association's policy platform, said Communications Director Sherry

Melton.

Although the organization opposes all cuts to state employees' benefits, Melton said she is not sure it will exert much effort to fight the measure. "Just as it's a hot issue in the public, it's probably a very controversial issue among our membership," she said.

Sen. Majority Leader Tony Rand, D-Cumberland, said he opposes the bill. "I don't think the legislature should be making this kind of decision. We pay for the health coverage of persons ... and the things deemed medically necessary by the health panel are covered."

Rand added that the proposal likely will fail in the General Assembly, and even the sponsors are uncertain the majority exists to pass the bill.

Yet Pittenger remains optimistic about the future. "There is a movement nationally, and even in our state, against abortion," he said. "The tide is turning."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

The North Carolina State Employees Combined Campaign

LOVES carolina

In 2004, the employees of UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC Health Care System and UNC General Administration "Partnered Up" for the single most successful charitable giving campaign in state history.

Altogether, you contributed \$1,118,987.40 to hundreds of SECC charities which benefit the residents of North Carolina and beyond. On behalf of those charities, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

