Although Matt McDowell just received his appointment to the student attorney general post Sunday night, he's already set to tackle a hot-button issue.

McDowell said that once his term begins April 5, he will try to secure a stable funding source for the judicial branch of student government.

Past leaders have taken up the idea but have failed to secure the funds, leaving McDowell to pursue new avenues.

"We might go before the Student Fee Audit Committee and look at the possibility of having a small student fee for honor expenses," he said. "The other possibility is to increase fund raising among alumni and let them know that we have financial need."

The problem, said Carolina Chavez, current student attorney general, is that the money the stu-dent-run honor system gets through student fees just isn't enough.

Administrators often insist that, as a student group, the judicial branch must go through student channels. So every year, the group must petition Student Congress for a portion

said, it needs more than it gets.
"When we go to the administration, they say that students should support us financially," she said. "But in the eyes of Student Congress, we are just like any other student organization when it comes to funding.

McDowell said funding is an annual worry because neither Congress nor administrators are willing to fund more than opera-tional costs. "It's a paradigm," he said. "Everyone says the honor sys tem is important, but no one is willing to pay more than basic costs."

"No matter how tight the budget situation gets, it is important that the honor system works effectively,

McDowell's proposal comes at a time when Congress is facing a record number of funding requests from student groups. If his fundraising efforts are successful, they could free up money for other organizations.

When budgeting next year's expenses, Congress allotted the student attorney general's staff \$13,156.63 - \$5,025.75 less than what officials had requested.

of student fees — and often, Chavez said, it needs more than it gets.

Requested funds for honor system outreach efforts were reduced by more than 50 percent.

McDowell's plans take a different path than the one student leaders explored last year. At that time, students voted down a referendum that would have automatically allocated 5 percent of the student activity fee to the judicial branch each year.

After the referendum's failure, the issue disappeared from campus dialogue.

Student Body President Matt Calabria remained neutral in the debate last year and said the issue has not been a priority for his administration. "We tried it once, and the students weighed in," he said. "The officers didn't necessarily think it was a good idea or a priority at that point in time."

Seth Dearmin, student body resident-elect, said that with new leaders in place, a campuswide dialogue regarding the issue will come up in debate. "It's a discussion that needs to promote everyone's best interests," he said.

> Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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46 Strut nonchalantly 48 Eagle's abode 49 Emulate Nancy

51 Garlic sauce 52 Airhead 53 Trap 54 Tra follower 55 Excited 56 Annapolis inst. 57 Fashionable 58 Anatomical pouches

Kerrigan 51 Garlic sauce

Attorney general seeks funds Differing ideologies divide dean search

The ideal leader has 2 skill sets

BY KATHERINE EVANS

It has been 25 years since UNC's School of Journalism and Mass Communication has searched for a new leader.

During that time, enrollment

at the school has grown into the second largest at UNC. The school also is heralded as one of the country's best in journalism education.

As the search for the new dean draws to a close this week, leaders are determining which candidate has a vision that will direct future developments and a past that will best suit these needs.

Officials said choosing a leader with experience in the field is not a new occurrence at professional schools, where both "real-world" and academic prowess are essential to success.

"Over the last 50 years, there have been moments when institutions will choose someone from basically the profession as opposed to an academic," said Thomas James, dean of the School of Education and chairman of the search committee

Steve Jones, a former banking chief executive officer, took the position of dean at the Kenan-Flagler Business School in 2003. While Jones received his master's degree in business administration from Harvard Business School, the bulk of his experience came

demia.
"External deans have served Kenan-Flagler well," said Paul Fulton, a member of UNC's Board of Trustees, who also served as dean of the business school. "It really depends on the way you see the needs of the school. It's not

just a pat categorical thing."
Of the five candidates for the journalism school deanship, Alison Alexander, Jerry Baldasty and Jeremy Cohen now hold positions at universities throughout the country.

The resumes of the other two prospects, Joel Brinkley and Frank Denton, are dominated by

work in newspapers.

Denton worked as editor of the Tampa Tribune for 11 months and as editor of the Wisconsin State Journal in Madison.

Brinkley, a UNC alumnus, won a Pulitzer Prize for international reporting in 1980 and has worked for The New York Times since

But the expertise of the candidates is not necessarily limited to either the professional or academic sector. Most candidates have experience in both, regard-

less of their current professions.
"I think that most people who are accomplished practitioners have connections to universities, and many academics in a professional school have some (industry) experience in their history," Denton said. "It's not a pure black-and-white issue. It's a matter of looking at all the cre-

And the most appealing can-didates, leaders said, will bring both sets of experiences to the position.

"The ideal candidate would be to hire one with a Ph.D. who also had professional experience," said journalism professor Chris Roush, director of the Carolina Business News Initiative and a member of the search committee.

Candidates with predomi-nantly academic backgrounds and those with more professional know-how would bring different strengths.

"A professional would bring real-world experience and exter-nal contacts from the standpoint of industry," Fulton said. "On the other hand, they're not always adept in challenging the academic

Provost Robert Shelton said the issue is not the preference of one set of experience more than the other. Instead, he said, officials will look for someone who can do it all. "It's not really an either/or," he said.

Officials also said that while a candidate's predominant background experience is a point of consideration, it is not an ultimately decisive issue.

"I think it's more important to look at the individual," Fulton said.

"There are terrific people on both sides, and if they fit what you want, they will override the

Contact the University Editor

THE Daily Crossword By Victor Fleming

- ACROSS
 1 Writer Calvino
 6 "Misery" star
 10 Minnesota pro
- 14 Paid heed to
- 15 Alas! 16 Newspaper section,
- once 17 Hit by Tom T. Hall
- 18 Tolstoy and Gorcey 19 Some votes 20 United Nations body
- 23 Pitcher Hershise
- 24 Small boy 25 Hive dweller 26 Drill parts
- 28 Chore
- 30 Classic Pontiac letters
- 33 Sister of Venus

- Pillbox or porkpie
- 43 Bare minimum

- 43 Bare minimum
 44 Like one Hatter
 45 Encountered
 46 Carrier plane
 feature: init.
 47 Ming of the NBA
 49 Paulo
 50 Edible tubers
 54 Post-election
- gathering 59 Lab medium
- 60 Toppled Iranian leader 61 Now in Nogales
- 36 Iceberg summit 37 Sign up 38 Media meeting 41 Bit of elementary Latin
- Soprano Maria Leading Book after Joel Stack TV role Make my day! Grief-stricken Slanted type: abbr Too inquisitive 21 Traveling ca

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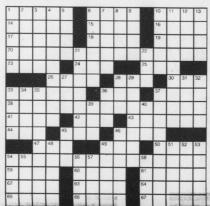
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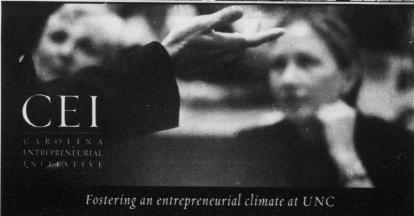
Polish border river

- 62 New Jersey or California city 63 Actress NaIdi 64 Hue 65 "The Night of the Hunter" screenwriter
 - 22 Recede 27 Election victors 28 Peter Pan rival 29 Sandal-like 31 Twitches

 - Small bills

 - 33 Canned pork product
 34 Funny Bombeck
 35 Preconceived
 36 Big bang letters?
 37 Transparent footwear
 39 Feedbag tidbit
 40 Cutback bopper 40 Outback hopper 45 Up-to-date, for short





The Carolina Entrepreneurial Initiative announces

MINOR IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES STUDENTS

INFORMATION SESSION: FEB. 24, 4:30 P.M. GARDNER HALL, ROOM 211

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Student officials aim to improve town relations

List shows campus priorities for town

BY JACKI SPIES

Student government has set its sights on eliminating the divide between students and the town of Chapel Hill.

In a list that outlines the top 10 student priorities for the town, members of student government have proposed various changes that, they hope, will improve the town's relationship with UNC students.

Hill Town Council) will remember

student interest in these projects," Student Body Secretary James Allred said. "We are concerned that the council has become out of touch with students. Top priorities include increasing parking and improving lighting around campus. The list suggests that the council work with UNC's Department of Public Safety to

pedestrian and bike traffic, especially on South Campus. Affordable housing options, downtown development and recycling efforts on Franklin Street are

increase the number of blue emer-

other issues student government is highlighting.
"Some of these issues have been

coming up again and again," said Jeremy Spivey, town relations chairman of student government. "Some of these issues have required a bit more thought, but all of them have a tremendous impact on stu-The list also proposes that the town work with the University to

review construction project pro-posals more quickly and to effect "The goal is that (the Chapel change to campus as efficiently as possible. This point disappointed Town Council member Mark Kleinschmidt, who said it reflects

the notion that students are becoming "a mouthpiece for the University's construction office."
He said he does not think it is unreasonable for the town to ask for an additional 30 days to review construction proposal revisions gency lights, specifically around Rosemary Street, and to examine that relate to projects on the perim-

eters of campus. The list also suggests that Chapel Hill local government ought to open positions for students on the Town Council.

"This is important because cur-

Town Council, so the connection between students and the Town Council is limited," Spivey said.

Seth Dearmin, student body president-elect, said he will try to improve student-town relations by working with Town Council members to make sure that students are more aware of what's going on in

He also plans to encourage dialogue between Town Council memers and students.

Allred described student overnment's approach as "twopronged.

Student government officials aim to keep students informed about the activities of the Town Council, but they also said that they plan to educate town officials about the strong political force that students

could exercise in local politics.
Student government's next move will be to present the list to council members by mail or e-mail, Spivey

"I'm pretty confident that by the time the next election cycle rolls around, there will be a lot of discussions by prospective (council) candidates about these issues

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