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Lottery might see vote soon

SPEAKER HOPES TO BRING BILL TO FLOOR WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS



BY KAVITA PILLAI
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

A lottery-for-education bill might come up for a vote in the state legislature in the next two weeks, and supporters are getting ready for what surely will be a fight to win a simple majority.

House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, hopes to bring the bill to a vote on the floor in about two weeks, said Julie Robinson, Black's spokeswoman.

Robinson said the speaker thinks the time is right to formally gauge legislative support.

Two lottery bills are now in the House rules committee. One, introduced Jan. 27 by Rep. Bill

Owens, D-Pasquotank, would allow counties the option of implementing a lottery. Money from the lotteries would be distributed to schools for construction and educational programs.

The second bill, introduced March 7 by Rep. Hugh Holliman, D-Davidson, is modeled after Georgia's HOPE Scholarship Program and would provide funds for college scholarships.

Owens said the bill that comes up for a vote will be some combination of these two proposals.

A third bill has provoked concerns about efficiency. It would put the lottery up for statewide referendum, a method some experts say would take more time than restricting the vote to the

legislature.

Although legislators might have different ideas about how the money should be doled out for education, the vote is expected to hinge on what they think of the lottery itself.

"I don't necessarily think the state should be in the gambling business," Owens said. "But I think it's a lot worse to let the hundreds of millions of dollars leave the state and educate other children."

Every state bordering North Carolina now has a lottery. Many supporters, including Black,

SEE LOTTERY, PAGE 4

Calabria prepares to bid post farewell

BY BRIAN HUDSON
SENIOR WRITER

With just two weeks until Student Body President-elect Seth Dearmin's inauguration, Matt Calabria's term in the position is all but complete.

Earlier this week, Calabria attended his last scheduled Student Congress session. This morning will mark his final meeting as an ex officio member of the UNC Board of Trustees.

And the executive branch of student government released late Tuesday the March Report, its final review that details the executive branch's progress this year.

When Calabria stepped into office last spring, he was fresh off a campaign spree that offered more than 60 platform planks.

His self-review devotes 44 pages to the successes and — by omission — the shortcomings of the administration.

"We worked pretty hard to complete what I think was a very ambitious platform," Calabria said.

"We were smart to get our big priorities out of the way and to work on continuing projects and a lot of the nitty-gritty."

Completing work on major platform points early in its term allowed the administration to focus on tuition discussions this spring, Calabria said.

The March Report leads with a detailed account of Calabria's efforts to work with the members of

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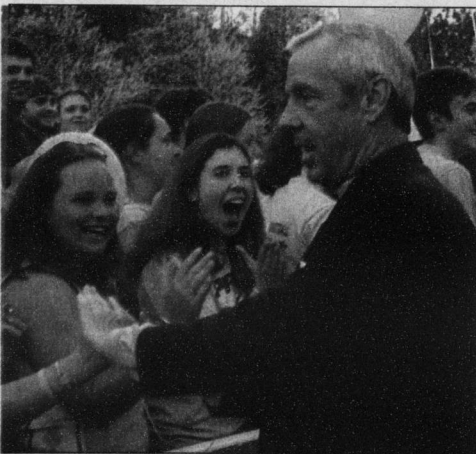
SWEET SEND-OFF



Above) North Carolina forward Marvin Williams leads a line of Tar Heel basketball players through a throng of well-wishers outside the Smith Center on Wednesday. The team departed for Syracuse, N.Y., where it will take on Villanova in a Sweet Sixteen game Friday night. (Below) UNC coach Roy Williams high-fives excited fans.

DTH PHOTOS/LAURA MORTON

TAR HEELS READY TO ENTER 'CAT FIGHT



"They've got great perimeter players. A game like this will be pretty interesting for the fans to watch."

MELVIN SCOTT,
UNC GUARD

BY BRIAN MACPHERSON
SENIOR WRITER

North Carolina knows all about the karma associated with a team losing one of its best players at a critical moment in the season.

After all, it was only a month ago that the Tar Heels traveled to Raleigh to face N.C. State without Rashad McCants, who would eventually miss four games with an intestinal disorder.

Behind the pinpoint shooting of Melvin Scott, who hit four of his eight 3-point attempts, North Carolina rallied together to fend off a feisty Wolfpack squad.

"We were so focused when we went over to Raleigh that first game without Rashad, and I've seen that many, many, many times," said UNC coach Roy Williams.

The veteran coach expects to see

it again when his Tar Heels face Villanova on Friday at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, N.Y., in an NCAA Tournament regional semifinal.

The Wildcats lost 6-foot-7 forward Curtis Sumpter to a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee during their second-round victory against Florida on Sunday.

Sumpter played only 10 minutes in the game before suffering the injury. But the rest of the team fended off the fourth-seeded Gators long enough to deliver Villanova a Sweet Sixteen appearance for the first time since 1988.

INSIDE Women's basketball to take on Arizona State Sun Devils PAGE 13

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 4

Congress pushes back VP decision

BY KATHERINE EVANS
STAFF WRITER

In the wee hours of Wednesday morning, Student Congress decided to postpone its decision regarding the nomination of Adrian Johnston as student body vice president.

Representatives originally struck down Johnston's nomination by a 12-7 vote after a heated discussion that lasted almost 2 1/2 hours and ended with two abstentions. Members later resolved to re-examine Johnston's nomination during a meeting next Tuesday.

During the initial discussion, Congress members raised a bevy of concerns. Johnston's personal character, his administrative qualifications, his friendship with Student Body President-elect

Seth Dearmin and the process by which he was selected all proved to be bones of contention.

When representatives realized the scope of the information presented, many said they thought they were not sufficiently prepared to assess the allegations raised against Johnston.

"I feel that a lot of people have doubts and concerns," said Rep. Blakely Whilden, who voted to reconsider the nomination. "We could have some conversations to clear up."

Most representatives were not prepared for

SEE NOMINATION, PAGE 4

Tar Heel roots legend comes to UNC

Crowd digs Watson's elementary style

BY MARGARET HAIR
ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

North Carolina living musical legend Doc Watson transported a sold-out crowd from the cavernous acoustics of Hill Hall Auditorium to a care-free, back-porch, folk-music jam Thursday night.

For almost four decades, Watson has been one of the leading voices in folk, old-time and bluegrass music. His high-speed style of guitar playing, influenced by fiddle technique, has set a new standard

for players across genres.

With a rich baritone voice, he lent an instant familiarity to his music. Even at Watson's age of 82, his voice is smooth and tinged with the blues, flawlessly moving from ballad to folk standard to rolling train song.

William Ferris, adjunct professor in the curriculum in folklore and senior associate director for the Center for the Study of the American South, said Watson's unique style has garnered him the

label of most important living folk legend in the bluegrass tradition.

"For decades, he's been recognized as the fastest guitar player," Ferris said. "His style of guitar playing and singing has influenced and inspired younger generations of musicians."

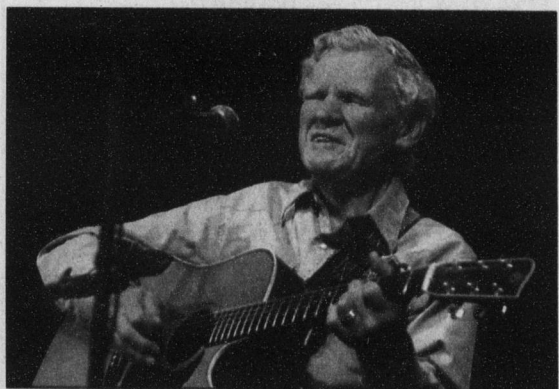
Raised in Deep Gap, Arthel Lane "Doc" Watson has won praise for his music's down-home feel and his distinctive guitar style. His honors include the National Medal of Arts from Bill Clinton in 1997, six Grammy Awards and the Lifetime Achievement Award, received at the 2004 Grammys.

Watson's years of experience were evident in his performance, as he exuded a complete comfort with the audience and his playing.

He provided, often at one time, a steady walking bass line, guitar accompaniment and sweetly melodic vocals. The lightning-fast flat-picking style that Watson made famous came out in the rollicking "Black Mountain Rag" and the soulful "Columbus Stockade Blues."

Michael Vollmer, a University graduate student, said he was

SEE DOC WATSON, PAGE 4



Doc Watson performs at Hill Hall Auditorium on Wednesday. The folk music legend closed out the Carolina Union Performing Arts Series.

DTH/WHITNEY SHEFFE

dive
ONLINE

ONLINE

Capitalism book a useless compendium of facts
Kissinger isn't much better than political namesake
For these stories and more, visit www.dthonline.com.



INSIDE

KEEP FISHIN'

Area's two water sources — University Lake and Cane Creek Reservoir — to open to public PAGE 10

WEATHER

TODAY Partly cloudy, H 65, L 44
FRIDAY Mostly cloudy, H 72, L 49
SATURDAY Partly cloudy, H 72, L 53

