

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 113, ISSUE 49

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2005

www.dthonline.com

Lawmakers prepare for budget debates

BY STEPHEN MOORE
STAFF WRITER

The stage is set in Raleigh for what could become a very long summer.

After months of number crunching and heated debate, the N.C. House presented its budget proposal to the Senate last Thursday.

But the conclusion only created a new beginning.

On Monday the Senate voted unanimously — 43-0 — against the proposal.

The legislation now will move into a committee comprising members of both

Several key differences emerge in budgets

The House budget, released May 17 has several notable disparities from the May 5 Senate budget. Legislators appointed a joint committee to find a compromise.

FOR THE RECORD	HOUSE BUDGET	SENATE BUDGET
total general fund appropriations	\$17,112,251,894	\$16,957,472,231
approximate percentage cut from UNC system	2 percent	1 percent
cut \$13 million from vocational education?	YES ✓	NO ✗
lottery included in budget?	NO ✗	YES ✓
removed 65,000 aged blind and disabled people?	NO ✗	YES ✓

DTH/JENNIFER ALIET

SEE HOUSE BUDGET, PAGE 4

Tuition autonomy provision omitted from House budget

BY STEPHEN MOORE
STAFF WRITER

As UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University continue to grow in size and ability, many legislators are looking to further increase the power of each institution.

A provision in the original Senate version of the state budget would allow both to set their own tuition practices. But the House budget, which was pre-

sented to the Senate last week, excluded tuition autonomy from its plans.

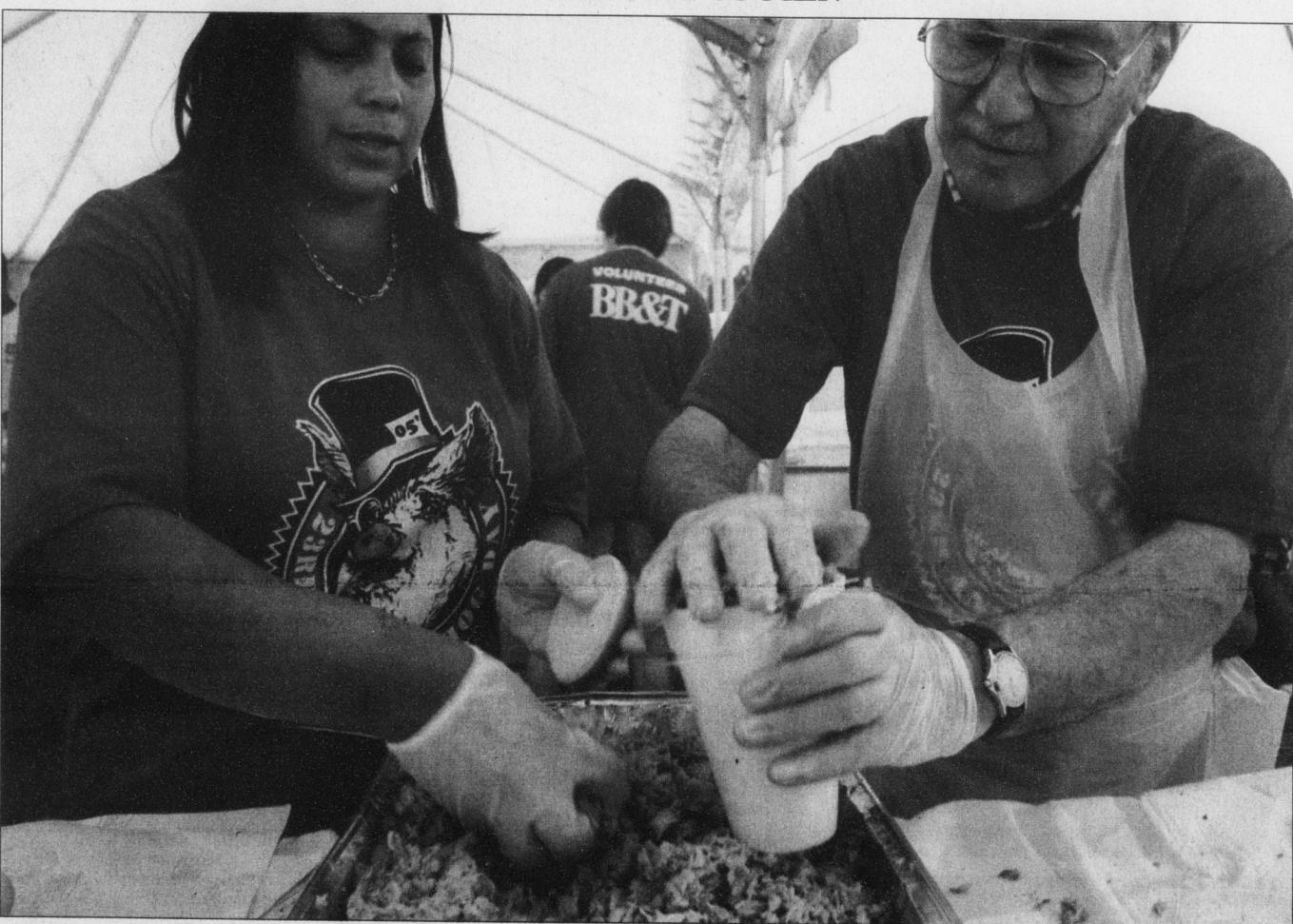
With the voting down of the House budget by the Senate on Monday, the two now bodies will have to work together to achieve a final draft.

The provision would bypass the UNC-system Board of Governors and its ability to oversee the two universities' tuitions.

Rep. Douglas Yongue, D-Scotland, said tuition should remain the charge of the BOG, not the universities.

SEE TUITION, PAGE 4

DOWN HOME COOKIN'



DTH/ISAAC SANDLIN

Tammy Aenion, right, and Ted Williams, both hailing from Hillsborough, scramble to prepare barbecue sandwiches Saturday at the 23rd annual Hog Day festival in Hillsborough, which was held Friday and Saturday. "It's been hot all day," said Aenion. Hog Day, Hillsborough's largest festival, is sponsored by the Hillsborough/Orange

County Chamber of Commerce and has drawn as many as 35,000 people to the town. The event revolves around barbecued pork, but live pigs are present for the "Pig Hollerin" contest and other activities. Pork culinary masters also can enter their barbecue into contests. MSN.com recently named Hog Day one of America's top 10 summer destinations of 2005.

DEDC taps new executive director

Parham to assume role at the end of July

BY BRIANNA BISHOP
CITY EDITOR

A Chapel Hill native soon will be returning home to bring new direction to the ever-changing downtown atmosphere.

Elizabeth Parham, a 1981 graduate of Chapel Hill High School, recently was selected as the executive director for the Chapel Hill Downtown Economic Development Corporation.

"It's actually my hometown, so this was a great opportunity for me to use the skills I've learned over the last 20 years or so and, so to speak, bring it back home," Parham said.

After several months of searching and accepting applications, corporation chairwoman Andrea Rohrbacher said members selected Parham because of her previous accomplishments as well as her presentation to the board of directors.

"We just very much liked her style," Rohrbacher said.

More than 70 candidates applied for the position. Nick Didow, a UNC professor, held the position in the interim.

Parham has worked for more than 20 years on downtown revitalization. For the past 11 years she has served as the executive director of Uptown

SEE DEDC, PAGE 4

STORES FACE RENOVATION

Could see outdoor veranda, escalator

BY JOSEPH R. SCHWARTZ
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

With months of planning already in their rearview mirror, today University planners will take the next step in revitalizing Student Stores.

At least six contractors are expected to submit bids to renovate the facility, a project with about a \$7 million budget.

What started as an update to infrastructure and utilities soon became a large-scale upgrade.

After planners realized the massive scope of their initial plans, the project ballooned.

"We decided we might as well go ahead and see what we can do to make the sales area nicer and the shopping experiences better," said John Jones, director of Student Stores.

Once completed, the building will feature a South Road entrance, increased floor space and a new glass viewing area.

Jones said the project, scheduled to begin in August, will have



COURTESY OF JOHN JONES

An artist's conceptual drawing demonstrates key points in the planned renovations to Student Stores.

a huge impact.

"I think we'll see significant growth in textbook sales and school-supplies sales and in clothing and gift sales," he said.

He estimated that the renovated facility could yield an additional \$1 million a year in revenue, all of which will fund student scholar-

ships and aid.

But while Jones is excited about the construction, he stressed the importance of the bid process.

"We need a contractor who will be able to follow the schedule — who will stay on target — because we've designed the remodel around our major book rush periods," he

said.

Operating the store efficiently in the midst of a 16-month project could prove challenging.

That obstacle separates the renovation from other campus construction efforts, said Carole

SEE RENOVATION, PAGE 4

Candidates set for gubernatorial race

BY JOSEPH R. SCHWARTZ
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Less than eight months after Gov. Mike Easley secured four more years in the governor's mansion, candidates are already lining up out the door to replace him.

Rep. Bill Faison, D-Orange, said this week that he's considering adding his name to a pool that includes several of the state's most prominent politicians.

Some of them, like Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue, have already started hiring a campaign staff.

"We're in an era of course when campaigning takes place all the time, so it's hard to tell when a governor's race or a senator's race begins and ends," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

"Clearly there are folks in both parties who have begun looking beyond the Easley years."

Along with Faison and Perdue, Attorney General Roy Cooper and State Treasurer Richard Moore also are said to be mounting runs.

As relatively young, moderate-

to-progressive, emerging leaders, each fits the mold of the traditional successful candidate for the post, Guillory said.

On the Republican side, Fred Smith of Johnston County and Robert Pittenger of Mecklenburg County are assembling resources.

"They are rivals to put it lightly, and they are already on the air essentially," said John Hood, president of the John Locke Foundation.

The state hasn't seen a Republican governor since

1994.

"They're really going to be hungry for it," Hood said. "However, they're going to probably face a Democratic nominee who is at least

SEE GOVERNOR, PAGE 4



Rep. Bill Faison, D-Orange, might enter the race for governor in 2008.



UNIVERSITY

HEALTH CRISIS

The Minority Health Project hosted a panel discussion about racial disparities in health coverage. PAGE 2



SPORTS

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Former UNC basketball players wait in anticipation as they prepare for next week's NBA Draft. PAGE 7

WEATHER

TODAY Sunny, H 84, L 59
FRIDAY Partly Cloudy, H 87, L 66
SATURDAY TStorms, H 84, L 63

