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HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Political, academic dignitaries flood inauguration for 16th president

BY ERIC JOHNSON
SENIOR WRITER

GREENSBORO — When he took office as UNC-system president in January, Erskine Bowles told members of the university's governing board that he'd prefer a small inaugural ceremony, if there had to be one at all.

So far, that's the only presidential request board members have declined to follow.

A high-profile guest list of congressmen, state lawmakers, university officials and academic notables gathered Wednesday on the UNC-Greensboro campus for Bowles' formal swearing-in as the 16th president of the UNC system.

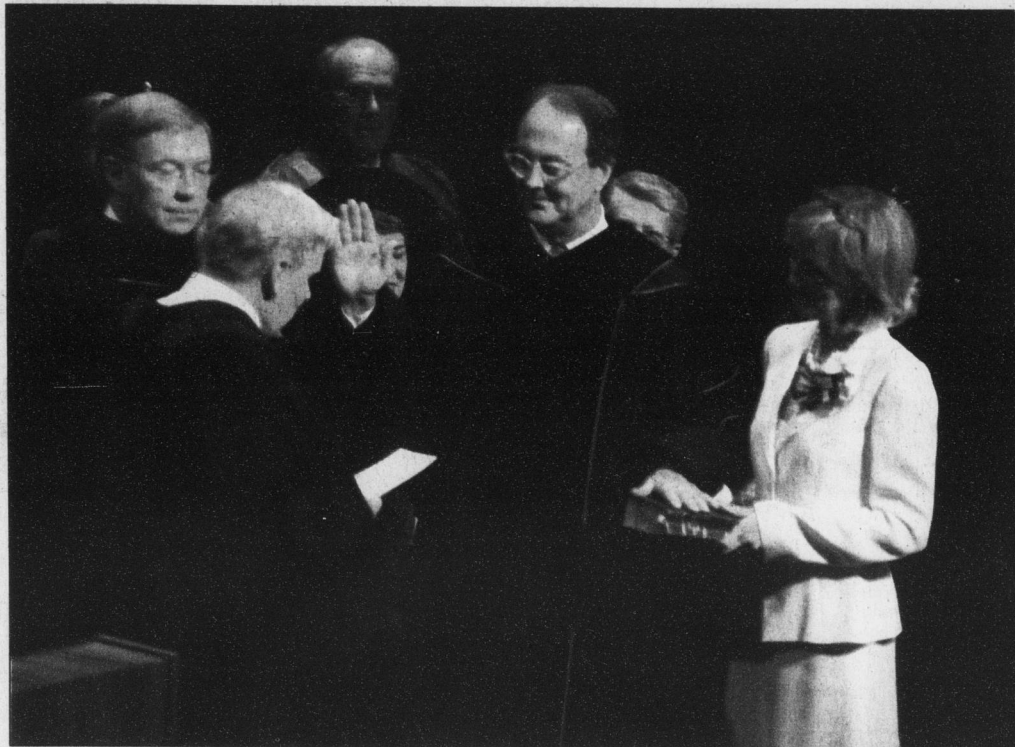
It was an opportunity for chancellors, trustees and Board of Governors' members from across the state to cut loose a little, and most were clearly reveling in a moment of university history. More than a few danced their way into place as the N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University marching band warmed up at the head of the procession.

By the time Bowles stepped to the podium, any reservations about the pageantry of the occasion were gone.

"As my Mama, who is sitting right down there in the front row, knows, I am about to burst — about to burst with joy to stand before you in my hometown, surrounded by my family and my friends from across our state and nation as the leader of our university."

A former investment banker and chief

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Erskine Bowles is sworn in as the 16th president of the UNC system at a ceremony on the UNC-Greensboro campus Wednesday. Bowles repeatedly has called the system presidency his dream job. He has had a busy first four months in office, starting Jan. 1.

DTH PHOTOS/SARA LEWKOWICZ

Faculty council hopefuls emerge

Two to fight for top faculty post

BY NATE HUBBARD
STAFF WRITER

The high-energy tenure of faculty chairwoman Judith Wegner is coming to an end June 30, and two candidates already have emerged as her potential successor.

The new chairman will represent the almost 3,000 faculty of the University and balance issues ranging from graduate student education to faculty salaries and retention.

Steve Bachheimer, a microbiology and immunology professor, and Joe Templeton, a chemistry professor, are vying for the post.

Ballots were sent to faculty through e-mail Wednesday and are due back in a week, said Joe Ferrell, secretary of the faculty.

Elections will close at 5 p.m. April 19, and results will be available April 20, he said.

Sue Estroff, who preceded Wegner as faculty chairwoman, said it will be a tough task to replace the law professor. "She has set the bar high," Estroff said.

Provost Robert Shelton said he doesn't expect the new chairman to work in the same way as Wegner.

"The new chair doesn't have to be Judith," he said. "The new person coming in is going to have to define himself."

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Microbiology professor Steve Bachheimer



Chemistry professor Joe Templeton

PRESIDENT ALL BUSINESS

BY ERIC JOHNSON
SENIOR WRITER

GREENSBORO — It was a message that easily could have been meant for a corporate boardroom, delivered by a CEO with an eye toward future performance.

"Our people are no longer competing for jobs and work with just the citizens of South Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia," said Erskine Bowles in his inaugural address Wednesday as UNC-system president.

"In today's knowledge-based global economy, we're competing head-to-head with China, India and dozens of other countries that are making tremendous strategic investments in education and research."

And it's a competition that North Carolina could well lose, Bowles told an auditorium full of state officials and University administrators.

From his first days in office beginning Jan. 1, Bowles has sought to define the university system as the state's strongest answer to economic challenges. His priorities are laid out as a kind of blueprint for concentrating the 16-campus system on many of its core functions.

Or, as Board of Governors member Hannah Gage calls it, "a focus on the non-sexy stuff that's so fundamental."

SEE GOALS, PAGE 4



GOALS OF BOWLES

1. Improve primary education, especially math and science, through a greater number of quality educators.
2. Facilitate collaboration between UNC-system schools and the state's community colleges.
3. Give every child the ability to attend college by keeping tuition low and increasing financial aid.
4. Decrease the dropout rates at UNC-system schools with mentoring for students.
5. Continue the commitment to public service and research by attracting and retaining faculty.

Mideastern journalists offer a fresh perspective

BY SAMUEL LAU
STAFF WRITER

While the tens of thousands of U.S. troops sent overseas during the war in Iraq are at the forefront of the public conscience, it is often overlooked that they are followed closely by American journalists.

Since last Wednesday, UNC has been turning the tables, playing host to about 20 Arab-speaking journalists through the inaugural Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists.

The program, sponsored by the U.S.

Department of State, was created to offer journalists from around the world the chance to observe journalistic practices within the United States. Six other universities are participating.

Heba El-Koudsy, one of the visiting reporters who has more than 10 years of experience as a journalist in Egypt, said that in contrast to the American journalists in Iraq, the dangers she faces are not those of the world but from the chal-

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Fatima Dashti (right) and Heba El-Koudsy discuss their experiences working as journalists in the Middle East during a weeklong visit to the University last week.

DTH/JULIA BARKER

Traditions cause dating obstacles

BY DESIREE SHOE
STAFF WRITER

With the advent of spring, love is in the air.

Amid a bower of colorful flowers and an enthusiastic wedding party, a Buddhist Sri Lankan bride and a Hindu South Indian groom tied the knot in Sangam's annual mock wedding Wednesday in the Pit.

Part of South Asian Awareness Week, the wedding featured traditions from both religions, including exchanges of flower garlands and fruit, as well as Buddhist and Hindu chants.

In reality, getting to the marrying stage is more of a challenge.

The act of finding and courting that special someone varies from person to person, especially among college students who follow certain religious traditions that guide interactions between couples.

Supriya Khazanie, a University junior, says that while Hindu traditions about dating vary from family to family, certain aspects remain consistent.

"The thing with Hinduism is that there're different stages in life," she says.

"When you're a student, that should be a time to study, and there's a huge emphasis on education. Later on, when you're able to be at a maturity point to balance school and dating, then you can start dating."

Khazanie says her parents gave her the option of dating as soon as she went to college.

"Before, many people didn't believe in dating at all — it was just arranged marriages and that was it," she says.



Petals rain on seniors Vignesh Rajan (left) and Jigna Patel (right) as their hands are joined by juniors Archana Ramesh and Kunal Shah at a mock wedding Wednesday in the Pit.

DTH/RICKY LEUNG

Khazanie says that when Hindus date, they tend to date people with whom there is a possibility of future commitment.

As with most traditional religions, sex before marriage is strictly forbidden.

And while kissing and hand-holding are common between many Western couples, Hindu couples often keep their displays of affection behind closed doors.

Khazanie adds that family plays an integral part in Hindu relationships.

"A huge thing with Hindu marriages is

that it's not just a marriage between two people — it's a marriage between two families," she says.

"That's one thing that hasn't changed." For Carmen Anthony, a junior at Brigham Young University, dating is guided by the special doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"Ryan and I met at a youth conference for our church when I was 16," she says.

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announcement

NO FRIDAY EDITION
The Daily Tar Heel will not put out a Friday edition because of the holiday. Check our Web site over the weekend for fresh content and breaking news.

online | dailytarheel.com

WON'T SIT DOWN One student files lawsuit over improperly graded SAT exam

EXTENDED RELIEF Service groups discuss Spring Break trips to Gulf Coast

ARTS BLOG Information and reviews about local entertainment acts to see



dive | page 5-8

BODIES HIT THE FLOOR
The Triangle concert scene sees a rise in violence at shows. Participants stress that it's all in good fun and adds to the hardcore atmosphere.

today in history

APRIL 13, 1977 ...
A fall semester course on Islamic culture will be one of the first to combine classes from Duke University and UNC.

weather

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