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UNC fares well in House budget

Proposal funds priorities for N.C. schools

BY STEPHEN MOORE
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

RALEIGH — Class sizes could stay small, course sections could stay on students' schedules and professors could make enough money to stay at state schools if the numbers in the latest legislative budget proposal wind up

becoming law.

The state House's proposed budget, released early this week, funds all of the UNC system's top priorities.

That means full funding for enrollment growth and financial aid, as well as wage increases for staff and faculty. It also means none of the cuts to "dis-

cretionary spending" that UNC-Chapel Hill leaders dread because they force the University to offer fewer course sections and larger classes.

In combination with the state Senate's proposed budget, which also includes full funding for system priorities, the document has system leaders crowing.

"Overall, it is a great budget that is not that different from the Senate's," said Peter Hans, a member of the system's

Board of Governors, during last week's board meeting.

Rob Nelson, UNC-system vice president for finance, reiterated the sentiment, noting that this is the first time in the past five years that the system has not suffered cuts.

"We're very pleased that they budgeted money for enrollment growth, financial

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 4

Pit driver to appear in court Tuesday

Taheri-Azar condemns lawyer, UNC Muslims

BY GRAY CALDWELL
CITY EDITOR

More than three months after driving a rented SUV through the Pit and striking nine people, Mohammad Taheri-Azar will appear in court Tuesday.

Taheri-Azar will appear for the first time in Orange County Superior Court and will be represented by

public defender James Williams, despite his desire — stated in letters to The Daily Tar Heel — to represent himself.

"It's not uncommon for some criminal defendants to want to represent themselves," said Durham attorney Butch Williams, adding that it is not necessarily a good decision.

"I have never seen anybody represent themselves and get exonerated," he said.

Taheri-Azar wrote in one of his letters to the DTH that he plans to plead "not guilty" on Tuesday, despite repeatedly admitting to committing the act and feeling no remorse about it.

"Due to my religious motivation for the attack, I feel no remorse and am proud to have carried it out in service of and obedience of Allah," he wrote.

Butch Williams said that if Taheri-Azar pleads "not guilty," it will allow a jury of his peers to decide exactly what "guilty" means.

"You don't know whether he's going to try and use an extravagant defense," he said,

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FRIENDS OF A FEATHER



DTH FILE PHOTO

Keith Anderson (right), a member of the Catawba Cherokee tribe of Native Americans, struts his stuff at Saturday's Native American Festival and Pow Wow in Hillsborough. Anderson said he's participated in various Native

American events for nine years to celebrate his heritage. The festival, put on by the Occaneechi Saponi Tribal Association, was a two-day affair — one of many in Hillsborough. The town's annual Hog Day will be held Friday and Saturday in the downtown area.

Former student leader is named BOG chairman

BY STEPHEN MOORE
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Jim Phillips comes to the helm of the UNC system's policy-making body during a time of dramatic transformation among the system's leadership.

Voted in as the new chairman of the Board of Governors on June 9, Phillips is a major part of the reshuffling within the university's leadership that has come with recently installed system President Erskine Bowles.

As a 1979 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, a

former Chapel Hill student body president, a member of the BOG since 1997 and a two-time chairman of the board's budget and finance committee, Phillips brings a wide assortment of skills to the table.

And he will need them as he negotiates the intricate challenges of tuition and enrollment growth, along with the increasing need for qualified teachers and nurses across the state.

"We've got to go back and think strategical-

SEE BOG, PAGE 4

Three Tar Heels track down titles

Men turn in best performance since '96

BY STEPHEN LARGEN
STAFF WRITER

UNC athletes Laura Gerraughty, Justin Ryncavage and Vikas Gowda all won national titles at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships last week in Sacramento.

In the process, all three cemented their place as some of the greatest individual performers the North Carolina track and field program has ever had.

The coup marked the first time that

three Tar Heels won individual titles in the same meet.

In the team competitions, the UNC men tied for a ninth-place finish with 26 points, their best performance at the competition since 1996. The Tar Heel women finished in a tie for 14th with 18 points.

Gowda and Gerraughty, quite the prolific tandem for the last four years, finished their UNC careers with a bang.

Gowda, who became the first Tar Heel man to win a national title in

Vikas Gowda took home the NCAA title for the discus — hurling it 198 feet, 8 inches — to win by 3 feet.

three years, won the discus with a throw of 198 feet, 8 inches Friday night to win by 3 feet.

He finished his career as a five-time All-American and as the school-record holder in the discus and shot

SEE TRACK, PAGE 4

BREAKING DOWN THE BRACKETS: TAKING A LOOK AT THE TAR HEELS AND THEIR 7 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES FOES

BY BRANDON STATON
SPORTS EDITOR

The ACC is well-represented, to say the least, in this year's NCAA College World Series. North Carolina will make its first trip to Omaha, Neb., in 17 years.

There, the Tar Heels will find plenty of teams familiar with NCAA baseball's biggest stage.

Clemson faces Georgia Tech at 1 p.m. Friday. They and UNC's first opponent, Cal State Fullerton, will join the Tar Heels in Bracket One — UNC's game is at 6 p.m.

In Bracket 2 of the CWS, Rice will face Georgia at 1 p.m. Saturday, followed by OSU vs. Miami at 6 p.m.

Each bracket is double-elimination. The winners of each bracket meet for a best-of-three championship series.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

(52-14) CLEMSON	STRENGTHS The number 1 — as in the ranking Clemson got from the NCAA tournament selection committee. This team is good. WEAKNESSES There aren't many. If the Tigers can survive Ga. Tech's offense, look for them to be around in the end, as usual.	VS	(50-16) GA. TECH	STRENGTHS Offense. Ga. Tech is an offensive powerhouse. They're No. 3 in the nation in scoring at nearly nine runs per game. WEAKNESSES Defense. The Yellow Jackets have good, not great, pitching. That means that their iffy defense will get tested.
(50-13) CAL STATE FULLERTON	STRENGTHS Starting pitching. Despite Daniel Bard's struggles in the Super Regional, UNC has the best one-two tandem in the NCAA. WEAKNESSES Defense. Each play gets a little more important every round — putting UNC's defense under the microscope.	VS	(48-13) FLORIDA STATE	STRENGTHS Starting pitching. East Coasters might not realize that Cal State Fullerton has the best team ERA in the country. WEAKNESSES Strength of schedule. The Titans have struggled when posed with significant opposition. Everybody is good now.
(55-11) RICE	STRENGTHS Consistency. Rice has the best winning percentage in the NCAA this year and more wins than any team in the tourney. WEAKNESSES Not too many holes here. The Owls don't turn many double plays, though, which are known to shift momentum.	VS	(47-21) GEORGIA	STRENGTHS Offense. The Bulldogs score enough to cover for shaky pitching. They're No. 26 in the NCAA in slugging percentage. WEAKNESSES Eddie Degerman. Georgia has to face the Temple ace in Game 1. He is 13-1 with a 1.81 ERA and 158 K's this year.
(44-14) OSU	STRENGTHS Top of the order. The Beavers have the No. 1 run scorer in the NCAA in Cole Gillespie — he'll jump on pitchers early. WEAKNESSES Rest of the lineup. As a team, OSU barely hit more than .300. They'll see the best pitching they have all year.	VS	(41-22) UNC	STRENGTHS Miami is a very even team but doesn't do anything to really stand out — other than playing consistent defense. WEAKNESSES Wins. The Hurricanes have fewer than anyone else in Omaha. It suggests that consistency could be an issue.

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FIELD OF DREAMS UNC's second-day picks in the MLB draft eye the big leagues

MORE FUN THAN SIM CITY Town moves closer to finding a new manager

START THE CONVERSATION The DTH summer blog is alive and kicking



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C-TOPS RETURNS
Incoming freshmen grace campus with their presence — and try not to get lost amid all the construction at the University.

state | page 3

LOANS: WHAT TO DO?
Heard recently about consolidating those student loans? Find out what all the fuss is about, and figure out what you should do.

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SHORT CUTS
The 9th Hi Mom! Film Festival, a local event that focuses on short films, will be held this weekend in various venues around the area.

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