

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Tuition task force looks to level field

BY ERIN ZUREICK  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Schools within the University that in the past were exempt from campus-based tuition increases might not be so lucky this year if discussions of the tuition and fee advisory task force pan out.

The exemption issue dominated discussions Friday during the task force's third meeting. Funding models for potential increases also were considered.

Academic units such as the UNC School of Law and the Kenan-Flagler Business School had been immune during the past several years from campus-based increases.



Student Body President James Allred said tuition increases should be handed out evenly among all students.

For example, if business school officials determined that tuition would increase by \$500 for nonresident students, the full amount would go to the business school.

A change would mean that if the campus-based tuition increase for nonresident students was \$500, business school students

first would pay that. If school officials wanted more revenue, they would have to levy their own increases on top of the \$500.

If approved, the result likely would be lower tuition increases across the board, Student Body President James Allred said.

"The feeling of the task force is that everyone should be paying the same rate," Allred said. "It doesn't make sense to charge people more for different majors."

Allred noted that money brought in for task force priorities such as increasing faculty salaries and creating faculty positions is distributed across campus.

"It's unfair to put the brunt on undergraduate students," he said.

"When they raised their tuition rates it was just staying within that school."

Lauren Anderson, Graduate and Professional Student Federation president, said it's important to ensure that a change doesn't encourage the schools to increase tuition even more.

"What we're trying to avoid is them just tacking on campus-based tuition increases to their tuition," she said.

Additional information about the use of tuition within the schools will be sought before the task force's next meeting.

Of the money brought in by tuition increases, 35 percent goes to fund student aid. Traditionally 5 percent also

went to tuition remission for the graduate school.

But the Office of the Provost set aside a permanent fund for the 5 percent — freeing up more money to finance priorities such as faculty and teaching assistant salaries.

The task force will aim to increase faculty salaries by 3 percent this year and raise teaching assistant salaries by \$500.

Tuition options examined Friday ranged from increasing undergraduate resident tuition by \$175 on the low end to \$276.

Nonresident undergraduate proposals ranged from a \$175 increase to \$1,950.

SEE TUITION, PAGE 7

## Canceled contract draws ire

Administrators request student fees to fund debt

BY ERIN ZUREICK  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A canceled contract between the University and a construction contracting company has left officials searching for funds to pay off its debt.

The State Construction Office determined this spring that UNC owed \$1.4 million to J.M. Thompson Company — prompting officials to request additional student fees to help finance a portion of the payment.

The company was hired in June 2000 to complete three phases of construction on the Student Union.

If approved, an unspecified portion of the proposed increase to the Carolina Union fee would be used to fund a \$500,000 loan officials were forced to take out after the claim's settlement.

The Union fee was slated for discussion before the student fee advisory subcommittee Friday, but was pushed back to this week's meeting to allow time for more analysis.

The dispute first came to light Thursday night at the student fee audit committee when Carolina Union Director Don Luse requested a \$15.35 increase to the Union fee.

### What was the problem?

The Thompson Company was one of four contractors hired to help construct the new portion of the Union and complete renovations to the building.

The contract for the four companies totaled about \$11.2 million.

After complaints of poor workmanship and the company's inability to work with other contractors, the University decided in August 2002 to terminate the remainder of the deal — for all four companies.

"In the years that I've been here it's been one of the more troublesome situations," said Bruce Runberg, assistant vice chancellor for facilities construction and planning.

Runberg said UNC hadn't previously experienced problems with Thompson.

"All of a sudden things went sour on this particular contract," he said. "I feel like we made the right decision to terminate the contract."

UNC hired Skanska USA Building Inc. to complete the final two stages of the project.

UNC officials said they knew terminating the contract posed the risk of a claim but chose to proceed because they thought it would save students money in the end.

The University was able to come to agreements with the three other companies — and actually ended up getting some money back. But UNC and the Thompson Company were unable to reach an agreement and had to resort to adjudication.

Thompson asked for \$2 million and claimed its contract shouldn't have been terminated. It was awarded \$1.4 million by the State Construction Office.

"We were not at all pleased with that decision," said Margaret Jablonski, vice chancellor for student affairs.

### Why use student fees?

During Thursday's fee meeting, members of the student fee audit committee balked at the idea of using student fees to fund the debt — voting against its recommendation by a three-to-one vote, with four abstentions.

Officials said that originally they approached the University's budget committee for aid. But the com-

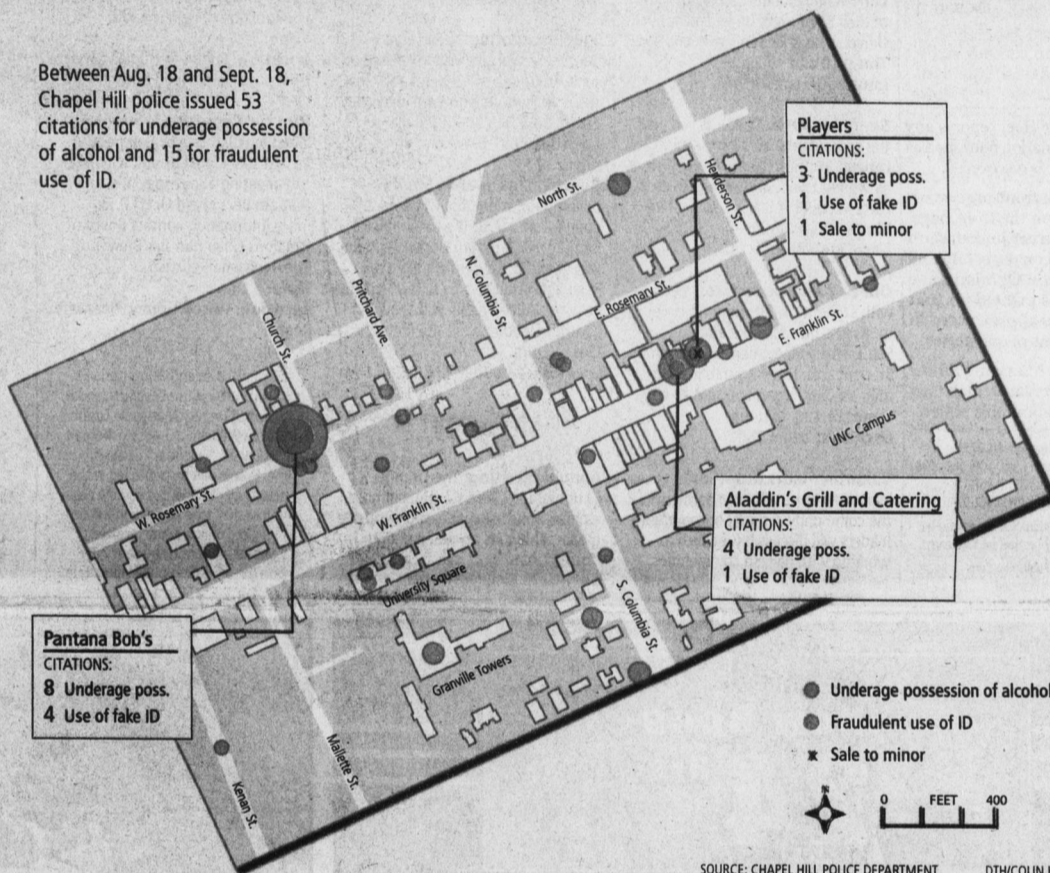
SEE CONTRACT, PAGE 7



MONDAY SPOTLIGHT

## A RISKY PASTIME

Between Aug. 18 and Sept. 18, Chapel Hill police issued 53 citations for underage possession of alcohol and 15 for fraudulent use of ID.



## BAR MANAGEMENT AIMS TO CURB UNDERAGE DRINKING VIOLATIONS

BY JESSICA SCHONBERG  
CITY EDITOR

Nobody who drinks underage thinks he will be the one to get caught.

But 52 people in Chapel Hill did between Aug. 18 and Sept. 18 — the first month students were back in town.

Chapel Hill police issued 53 underage possession of alcohol charges during that month — up 34 from the same time

in 2005 when 19 charges were filed.

Drinking underage has consequences for those who do it, but it also has ramifications for the people who provide the booze.

As police clearly are amping up efforts to curb underage drinking, bar owners are trying to ensure that it isn't happening at their establishments.

K. Rait, the manager of W.B. Yeats Irish Pub, said the risks associated with serving people who are under 21 are too great.

"We want everybody to have fun, but it's not worth the hassle for them and the hassle for us," he said.

Yeats is one of several bars that admits people who are under 21. Rait said the bar deals with this by giving wristbands to those who are legal to drink and marking the hands of those who aren't.



DTH/KEVIN TSUI  
Mike James, a Top of the Hill bouncer, checks IDs Friday. Police issued 53 charges of underage alcohol possession between Aug. 18 and Sept. 18.

"We've got a pretty tight grip on it," he said.

That grip is important for places that depend on alcohol to stay in business.

According to the N.C. Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission's Web site, 75 Chapel Hill establishments hold mixed-beverage permits.

If a bar is found to be serving alcohol to minors, it could lose its permit to sell alcohol at all.

SEE BARS, PAGE 7

## Students getting creative with fakes

BY JULIE TURKEWITZ  
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

A finger tapped his shoulder, and above the clatter of bar conversation at Pantana Bob's, Jonathan Thompson heard a familiar voice.

"The cop stood behind me, and was like, 'You didn't listen the first time, did you?'" Thompson said.

The cop was an agent from the state Alcohol Law Enforcement. Dressed in plain clothes, he was on the porch at Bob's in March and recognized the 19-year-old. He'd busted Thompson in February for having an open alcohol container on the street. He'd also confiscated a fake ID but hadn't charged him for it.

"What was going through my mind?" Thompson said. "Not again."

The February incident hadn't stopped him from restocking his wallet. Three weeks after his first ALE run-in, he shelled out another \$50 for a driver's license that looked identical to the confiscated one.

In recent years, a number of states, including North Carolina, have revamped driver's licenses to prevent fraud. States have changed

SEE FAKES, PAGE 7

### What is the ALE?

► The Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement, part of the state's Department of Crime Control and Public Safety.

► Agents enforce laws that deal with the sale, purchase, transportation, manufacture, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in North Carolina. They sometimes act undercover.

► They also run alcohol and substance-use awareness programs throughout the state.

► ALE has 117 agents in North Carolina, 16 of whom work in District 4, which includes Durham, Orange and Wake counties. At certain times of year, more officers will come to District 4.

► ALE is the only agency with statewide jurisdiction that has enforcement of drinking laws as its main goal.

► The ALE has the power to search any establishment with an ABC license. Officers do not need a warrant.

SOURCE: Bill Berryhill, assistant supervisor for District 4 of the ALE and nccrimecontrol.org

### announcement

#### COMING TUESDAY

The Daily Tar Heel will offer the year's first La Colina, our monthly Spanish section. Stories will feature Latino food, athletes and research.

### online | dailytarheel.com

**RADIO STARS** Pa'lante holds a festival promoting its radio show

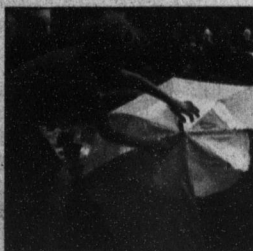
**TASTE TEST** Student chefs exhibit their skills at A Southern Season

**MIX IT UP** Masala hosts games to unify campus multicultural groups

### state | page 10

#### LEAVE THEM KIDS

A counter-recruitment festival in Raleigh on Saturday spreads an anti-war message and fights against military recruiting tactics.



### this day in history

#### SEPT. 25, 2002 ...

A UNC Board of Trustees subcommittee rejects requests from the Faculty Council and Employee Forum for representation on the University's governing board.

### weather



Partly cloudy  
H 78, L 52

### index

police log ..... 2  
calendar ..... 2  
opinion ..... 9  
games ..... 10  
sports ..... 14