

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 115, ISSUE 75

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

www.dailytarheel.com

Student leaders clash on fee process

Legislation changes lead to dispute

BY KELLY GIEDRAITIS

ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

UNC's student leaders have different takes on how to handle student-fee increases.

While both factions say they have students' best interests at heart, the process of determining what is actually in students' best

interest often is a battle.

Leaders from the executive branch of student government and Student Congress have butted heads recently about proposed student-fee increases and Student Body President Eve Carson's veto of an act about referendums.

"I see two groups that are des-

perately trying to do their job, and there appears to be a little bit of disagreement or misunderstanding as to what that is," said Lauren Anderson, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation.

And when student leaders get caught up in the minor details of the process, they are only setting themselves back, Anderson said.

"We're getting bogged down,"

she said. "We're getting in our own way."

Rising tensions sparked recently when Congress Speaker Tyler Younts changed proposed legislation from bills to resolutions and then delegated them to the student affairs committee for review.

Two of the pieces of legislation concerned proposed fee increases for APPLS and Student Legal Services.

The committee met Tuesday and decided to report favorably on the Student Legal Services fee increase. But it voted against the referendum for an increase to the safety and security fee and the APPLS fee.

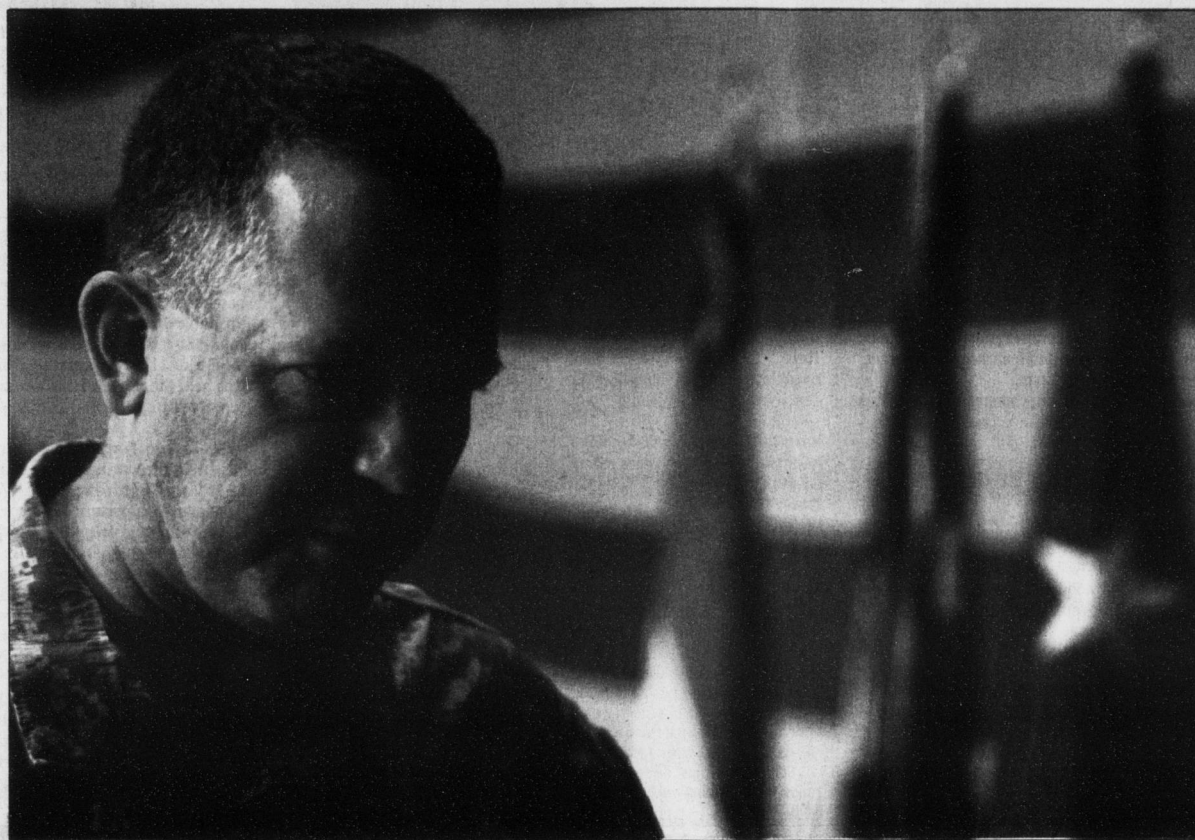
"The response from Congress was extremely disappointing especially in the light of (the fact that) a referendum is to allow the student body's voice to be heard," Student

Body Treasurer Jordan Myers said.

Myers, who originally entered some of the legislation as bills, objected to the decision to change the legislation to resolutions. The difference between a bill and a resolution lies in the impact.

"A bill or act is more or less a law," Myers said. "A resolution is more or less an opinion."

SEE FEES, PAGE 9



DTH/SHARON LEVINE

N.C. State Public Affairs Officer Maj. Matthew Handley speaks at the Claude T. Bowers Military Center in Raleigh on the role the N.C. National Guard has played since Sept. 11. Guardsmen assembled to celebrate the guard's 60th birthday. Several N.C. guardsmen will be deployed to Afghanistan next week.

State draws government contractors

BY CAROLINE DYE

STAFF WRITER

North Carolina's military-oriented work force — it has the fourth-highest military presence in the nation — makes it an attractive locale for private contractors.

Several thousand people transition out of the state's military operations annually, creating a pool of attractive candidates for private security recruitment, said Scott Dorney, executive director of the N.C. Military Business Center.

North Carolina is home to the Army at Fort Bragg, the Air Force at Pope and Seymour Johnson bases, the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, also at Fort Bragg.

Col. Bill Buckner, chief of public affairs for Fort Bragg, said the military pumps money to the tune of \$7 billion per year into the local economy.

The strong presence of the five major military installations in the state makes North Carolina appealing to government contractors, Dorney said.

But the U.S. Department of Defense's reliance on private contractors in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has many questioning how big a role they should play.

A mishandled firefight Sunday in Iraq has deepened the controversy about the role of private security contractors in military operations and has singled out a N.C.-based company.

The Iraqi government decided Tuesday to review its policies regarding foreign security companies after the deaths of several Iraqis on Sunday prompted threats to revoke the license of the Moyok-based Blackwater USA.

Blackwater is one of several private security organizations hired by the Department of Defense to assist the military.

But Dorney said the rise in government contracts with private security firms has been a positive development for the state.

"From an economic standpoint, that's very, very good," he said.

"We're seeing a lot of functions that were previously done by the military being done for DOD by contractors."

Military bases in North Carolina also reach out to private contractors to supplement force that might be sapped by deployment abroad.

Fort Bragg employs private contractors to man

SEE CONTRACTORS, PAGE 9

STANDING GUARD

N.C. National Guard marks 60th year

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK

STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — The N.C. National Guard celebrated its 60th birthday Tuesday, and guardsmen at the event acknowledged their role in the heightened N.C. military commitment since Sept. 11, 2001.

Most of the current Army and Air guardsmen have enlisted since the beginning of the War on Terror and said they are aware of their increased chance of deployment.

"The recruits we have today fully

understand what they're joining," said Maj. Matthew Handley, state public affairs officer for the N.C. Army National Guard.

"They have a very high level of commitment. ... There's a higher level of patriotism."

About 16 N.C. guardsmen are scheduled to mobilize next week. They will go to Afghanistan to train and advise the Afghan army.

First Sgt. Ronald Judson is one of the men in that group. He said he is looking forward to the mission — pre-

paring Afghan soldiers to assume more military responsibility so that fewer American troops are necessary.

"Our job will help bring everybody home," he said.

More than 11,000 N.C. guardsmen have been deployed since the Sept. 11 attacks — some of them more than once. About 700 are waiting in mobilization stations across the country for deployment to Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. And one Army military police company is in Baghdad now.

The N.C. National Guard has about 11,500 soldiers total — 10,000 in the Army and 1,500 in the Air Force.

Handley said the majority of N.C.

guardsmen who have been deployed overseas have gone to Iraq. The rest have gone to Afghanistan, Kuwait or the Balkans. Many have stayed stateside on security, maintenance and personnel missions.

"This is the most experienced National Guard that we've had since World War II," Handley said, citing the high number of active veterans created by the many deployments.

And that experience has translated into their civilian lives.

Judson said he has used techniques and training learned during deploy-

SEE GUARD, PAGE 9

RAs look to find balance

BY DEBORAH NEFFA

STAFF WRITER

The balance between fulfilling their responsibilities and enjoying their college experience can be a delicate one for resident advisers.

Those pressures came to a head this week when several RAs were fired after an incident at a mandatory retreat.

Twelve RAs were sent home and then disciplined further for their involvement in an incident involving alcohol during the event.

But while that particular situation — this year's Sept. 7 through Sept. 9 retreat was not held in previous years — has never hap-

pened before, this wasn't the first time the housing department has penalized RAs for drinking.

Housing Director Larry Hicks said the department has fired RAs in the past for drinking and for abandoning their posts while on duty.

"We expect them to abide by the same expectations we have for students," Hicks said. "The role they play is so critical to students and to the University."

Some former RAs said that the best way to serve the students is not necessarily by enforcing strict

SEE RA BALANCE, PAGE 9

How to apply to be an RA

► Applications are available online beginning in January, with interviews taking place in February.

► Final selections are made in March.

Requirements:

► Must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled full time.

► Must maintain a minimum 2.3 grade point average during employment and must have lived on campus, either at UNC or at another college or university, for at least two semesters.

► Must take a four-credit class about leadership and mentoring skills, which includes going on the RA weekend retreat.

SOURCE: housing.unc.edu

Board discusses day laborers

BY ANDREW DUNN

SENIOR WRITER

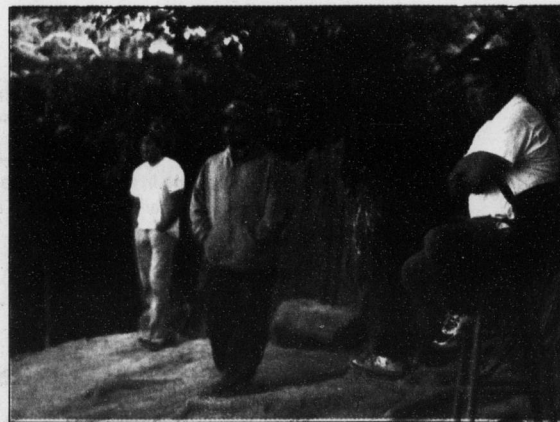
Almost every morning, dozens of men gather at the corner of Jones Ferry Road and Davie Road in western Carrboro.

Construction trucks come by, and most of the men jump in to perform a day's labor. But some men don't come to the corner to find a job.

To combat an increasing concern with illegal behavior by those who stay after the workers leave, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen passed several resolutions to give town police more authority and to work toward a long-term solution.

"There seems to be a somewhat clear situation between those who are there to be picked up for work

SEE WORKERS, PAGE 9



DTH/ELLYSSA SHARP

Day laborers wait at the corner of Jones Ferry and Davie roads early Tuesday morning to pick up jobs in fields such as construction and landscaping.

online | dailytarheel.com

WEB DOWN High-speed Internet access decreased in Orange County last year.

FASHIONABLE READ A Chapel Hill native returns today to promote her book.

TECH TALK Google holds a chat to discuss career opportunities with students.

city | page 4

WANTED: RAIN

Orange County farmers now are eligible for low-interest loans after officials declared Friday that the county is a disaster drought area.



university | page 7

CLOSING RACIAL DIVIDE

An event at the Stone Center engaged students in thinking about how to eliminate stereotypes as part of National Pan-Hellenic Council Week.

this day in history

SEPT. 19, 1944 ...

UNC appoints the first woman to a full-time instructor position. Helen McDevitt, a teacher of algebra and trigonometry, was promoted in the mathematics department.

weather

Sunny
H 83, L 60

index

police log 2
calendar 2
sports 6
games 9
opinion 10