Martin's budget to delay pay raises for teachers, state employees

By TAMMY BLACKARD

Gov. Jim Martin released his twoyear \$22.8 million budget last week, and it includes a delay in teacher and state employee pay raises and a proposed tuition increase for the University of North Carolina system.

Slowed revenue growth projections for two quarters of the next fiscal year forced the governor to delay the pay raises in favor of \$113 million in new spending for the Basic Education Plan, a program to improve North Carolina's public schools, Martin told a joint session of the General Assembly.

"I think it's an excellent budget under the circumstances," said Marvin Dorman, deputy budget director. "Gov. Martin would like to see the raises implemented earlier, but it

would take \$62 million to move the raises up each quarter. He's hoping the money can be found, but based on his budget, there just wasn't a sufficient amount of money to implement them earlier."

Martin recommended a 4.5 percent raise for state employees — 3 percent across the board and 1.5 percent in merit pay - and a 5.7 percent increase for teachers. Both of these increases would take effect in April 1990. The governor favors a shift in raises to teachers toward a merit-pay system, but he didn't say if any of the proposed raise should be across the board.

Dorman said the raises for teachers and state employees could be implemented now, but they would be

considerably smaller.

Some representatives are disap-

pointed with the proposed budget.

"I don't think it went far enough," said Rep. Billy Watkins, D-Granville, the former chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. "Of course, he (Martin) would have to find new revenue to do things difshould do.

"He cut revenue in '85 by \$230 million - insisted we do it. Now we university system is an increase in need that funding."

The tuition increase in the state university and community college systems was proposed to accommodate the \$22 million the systems need to pay for the cost of educating more students. The governor did not propose any specific tuition increases but directed the systems to find the money through a combination of instate and out-of-state tuition hikes.

raising in- and out-of-state tuition," said Felix Joyner, vice president of finance in the UNC General Administration. "The Board of Governors would have to decide."

Watkins is against the tuition ferently, but I think that's what he increase and said he hopes the money can be found elsewhere.

> "The only thing I've seen for the tuition," Watkins said. "We're encouraging people to go to school, and he's (Martin) putting the burden on somebody else."

Sen. Henson Barnes, D-Wayne, president pro tempore of the Senate, also wants to see tuition kept low but hasn't ruled out the possibility of a tuition increase.

"We want to keep public education as low as possible," Barnes said. "Of

"The recommendation calls for course, we do have low tuition compared to other states."

> Martin avoided making specific recommendations about how money should be spent in several areas, including salary increases, tuition increases and the construction of new prisons. Instead, the governor proposed the establishment of several reserve funds which would be allo-

> "Reserve funds are not unusual," Dorman said. "The governor decides to spend money in one way but leaves other decisions for the future. The governor went ahead and asked the General Assembly to appropriate \$75 million for the prisons, but decisions about new prisons and expanding alternatives to imprisonment for non-

> violent offenders will be made later." The proposed budget also includes:

■ More than \$220 million for new building projects, including \$47.5 million for the UNC system.

Two million dollars to begin a limited program of developmental day care for 4-year-olds in danger of falling behind academically.

A reduction in the state's abortion fund from \$924,500 to \$200,000. The reduction would only allow enough money to cover abortions for pregnancies that result from incest or rape or those that are necessary to save the mother's life.

Fourteen million dollars for new programs for the aging.

■ Twenty million dollars for environmental programs.

The governor also called for veto power again during his address to the General Assembly, asking legislators to make 1989 "the year of the veto."

Drop-add lines here to stay until phone-in system in place

By JAMES BENTON

Students will have to continue to wait in long lines, except in cases of unusually severe weather, until a phone registration system is completed, according to John Billing, physical education department chairman.

During the most recent drop-add session Jan. 12 and 13, rain and cold weather dampened students waiting in line outside Fetzer Gym to pick up packets containing class schedules, registration cards and athletic passes

for the spring semester.

University Registrar David Lanier said he asked the athletic department for permission in 1986 to use Carmichael Auditorium for registration and drop-add. The auditorium would have been used to allow students to camp out for registration or for packet distribution, he said.

The auditorium was used for registration and drop-add lines in the fall 1986 semester when heavy rains fell before drop-add, Lanier said.

But the athletic department would

not allow the registrar's office to use Carmichael again because it was concerned about noise in and around the auditorium's athletic offices. The department was also concerned about possible damage to the basketball floor and conflicts with volleyball practices.

"There were too many problems involved with it," Lanier said.

Instead, the registrar's office was allowed to use Fetzer Gym for packet distribution. The lines for registration and drop-add are longer but move faster now, Lanier said. "I don't know if anyone noticed, but the line for registration was gone by 10 o'clock the first day," Lanier

Students are not allowed to camp out in Fetzer overnight because it would require hiring security officers to prevent vandalism and thefts. Other concerns include whether to allow housekeeping staff members to clean the buildings before or after students camp out, the amount of litter students would leave in the building and how to keep students

from playing in the two gyms, he said. Billing said the registrar's office

asked for permission to use either Fetzer or Carmichael for drop-add purposes after deciding registration and drop-add would be more convenient if they were centralized and placed in one location.

The registrar's office was allowed to use Fetzer for packet distribution, Billing said. But allowing students to camp out inside Fetzer while waiting for drop-add, especially in cases of inclement weather, has never been discussed, he said.

"No one's ever asked to keep it open all night," Billing said.

Security in Fetzer has been a problem in recent years, Billing said.

In past years, computers, televisions and other equipment have been stolen from the building's labs and classrooms, he said. The gym's opening at 6 a.m. on the two registration and drop-add days is normal security

procedure, he said. "There's got to be a better way," Billing said.

Despite the long lines associated with registration and drop-add, the present system of packet distribution is better than in the past, Lanier said. Before the spring 1987 semester, students had to go to the basement of Hanes Hall to get their packets,

Tickets

were included in student seating when the basketball team played in Carmichael Auditorium.

But even the 2,000 lower-level seats originally promised to students is not enough, Geer said. "The bleachers would bring the number up to what we thought we should have, but we should have even more."

In 1976, all the chairs were removed from Carmichael Auditorium and bleachers were installed, Swofford said. That added 1,100 to the total seating capacity.

Geer said the addition of bleachers could be a practical and realistic solution. "We don't need the cushy seats," she said. "What we need is more people. It would create a more Carmichael-like atmosphere."

The situation is not completely resolved, Geer said, but the athletic department and the CAA are working together toward a solution. "We are not by any means finished on this

Swofford said the athletic depart-

ment will do its best to satisfy students, but the number of lowerlevel seats that can be added is limited because of previous commitments. When the Smith Center was being built, Rams Club members who donated up to \$500,000 toward buying season tickets.

"We certainly want it (the number of student seats) to be improved," Swofford said. "It's obviously important to the students, and therefore it's important to us."

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Geer said she would meet again with Swofford to discuss the exact construction were given the option of number and location of all student

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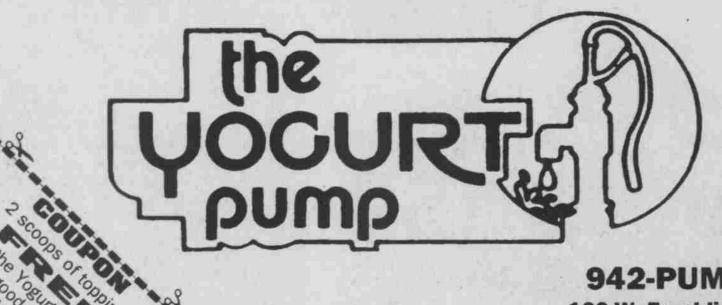
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