SBP Candidates Explain Experience, Vision for UNC

By John O'Hale and Elizabeth Breyer

Editor's Note: The DTH will run candidates' profiles on the same day as the editorial board prints platforms.

Michael Harris

Michael Harris, a junior political science and history major from Shelby, said his experience on the attorney general's staff shaped many of the decisions he has made in his campaign for student body president.

He recalled his first case working

with the Honor Court.
"Here was this girl, and I had to sit at the table with her and determine her academic career – that was when all the big ideals we talk about in a campaign

like this start to mean something. Harris' campaign now revolves around affordability, community service and cross-culturalism.

His platform includes renovation of the Campus Y and making University Day a day of public service. "No other candidate takes as strong a position on community service as I do," he said.

Harris said diversity issues, including recruitment of minority students and making UNC a more welcoming place to minorities, should be at the top of the next student body president's agenda.

Harris has been involved with the

Matt Martin

Matt Martin, a junior business major from Goldsboro, said one of his primary goals was to improve the accessibility of student government.

"Students who don't have a voice in student government don't know how to

get that voice," he said.

Martin said the student government should act as a vehicle of communication. "Many people are not aware of the many academic programs that (UNC)

offers, such as the writing-center."

Having worked with the N.C. General Assembly and the Court of Appeals, Martin said his lobbying experience was valuable for building connections between UNC and the state.

He also plans to increase the pres ence of student groups in the executive branch. "Too often, it is exclusively (Student Body President) Nic (Heinke) who represents the University."

Martin said he wanted to increase student government's accessibility to grad-uate students. "Many graduate students don't really feel a part of the campus representation," he said. "I want to keep a good relationship with the Graduate and Professional Student Association."

Brad Matthews

Junior Brad Matthews, a political sci-Junior Brad Matthews, a pointed sci-ence and international studies major from Boise, Idaho, became interested in the presidency when a friend faced insurmountable red tape.

"I had almost turned in the paper-

work to go to study abroad," he "However, during a two-month long thought process, I had realized that I had the experience to benefit students."

Matthews said his main vision for the office was to improve communication between student government and the student body. "Many times, I've read about an event in The Daily Tar Heel that I didn't even know about," he said.
"I want to establish a campus calendar a central spot where students can learn about campus activities."

Matthews also said he wanted to

found a life skills seminar - a class where students could learn about practicalities, such as how to mortgage a house. "(UNC) gives us the skills to think, but also need the skills to survive.

Matthews began working with student government during his first year at UNC., when he helped to found the Freshman Focus Council.

He has served on the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor and the Enrollment Task Force.

Matthews has also had experience

lobbying in Raleigh, helping to secure Undergraduate Library, which are currently postponed.

Most recently, he has served as senior adviser to Heinke. "I learned to see things in their entirety," he said. "I want to help students acquire the tools to succeed."

Cooperation and contact mark the presidential vision of junior political science major Joshua Ray, a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan from Waynesville municator and coalition builder.

Ray stressed the importance of integrating students in every campus organization, as well as increasing coopera-

tion with the faculty and staff.

He also said he would bring unique potential for unity among major organizations at UNC and eventually, across

"Corey Bell (candidate for Carolina Athletic Association president), Gaffney Gunter (candidate for Residence Hall Association president) and I are already working together," he said.

He said creating such a strong base in cooperation allowed him to feel that if elected, his only fear for his presidency would be losing to Duke.

Other issues that Ray cited as important were keeping tuition low, expand-Point and the UNC ONE Card and ncreasing renovations on campus.

Ray is the governor of Upper Olde Campus. He has been involved with the Young Democrats and served as the

president of Old East Residence Hall.

Erica Smiley

Sophomore Erica Smiley, a political science and mathematics major from Greensboro, stressed that student government must be completely responsible to its constituents.

"A large group of students, including myself, saw the need for accountability," niley said. "I decided to run since I have the qualifications and the motivation.

Smiley said she was concerned with the proposed tuition increase's possible

effect on University accessibility "Last semester, I helped lead the march to Morehead Planetarium. We (over 400 students) led a silent protest.'

Smiley also participated in a December forum with the Board of Governors. "Students, parents and taxpayers came to voice their opinions,' she said. "It was definitely the best."

Smiley has held positions in the Young Democrats, the Black Ink, the Black Student Movement and the Alliance for Creating Campus Equity and Seeking Social Justice.

She has also served as the Rules and Judiciary chairwoman for Student Congress, which successfully indexed the Student Code and changed the Congressional districts. "I don't want to make empty promises," she said. "We're not just building résumés."

Preston Smith

Junior Preston Smith, a political science major from Rialto, Calif., was inspired to form his campaign while studying abroad in Brazil last semester.

"Studying abroad was the best thing I have ever done – it opened my heart and mind," he said. "It gave me time to step away from Carolina and be cre. "I" ative, coming up with problems and solutions without being inundated by

the problems." Some of the issues central to that vision include accountability, commu-

nity and empowerment of students.
Smith outlined plans to become more in touch with the student body, including multimedia chat sessions and

progress meetings in the Pit.
"I wear orange all the time and don't plan on hiding in Suite C – I will be very visible and truly want students to e talk to me all the time," he said.

He also detailed his intention to make community service classes part of every major, involving all students and faculty. Smith said helping students develop

financial independence was crucial.

"Five thousand-plus kids will be coming to this campus," he said. "We need

to consider where we put them, where we park their cars, how to feed them and whose pocket it comes from. His plans to deal with financial prob-

lems include organizing a forum for stu-dents to trade or sell textbooks with one another rather than buying them from Student Stores.

"Once we generate revenue, we can start taking care of ourselves," he said. Smith has been active with Heels on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity and Student Congress.

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu

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NOTE: The INTERNSHIP FAIR has been RESCHEDULED for THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17 from 11 am-3 pm in the Great Hall of the Student Union. For further details and a list of employers, because see our home page.

WORKSHOPS: (no sign-up necessary) Seniors must at:	yers, please see or	ur home page.	
UCS 101 (Sr/Grad Orientation)	Tues. Feb. 8	1:30 pm	
UCS 101 (Sr/Grad Orientation)			209 Hanes Hall
	Fri. Feb. 11	2:30 pm	209 Hanes Hall
Introduction To Internships	Tues. Feb. 8	4:45 pm	209 Hanes Hall
Interviewing Skills	Mon. Feb. 7	2:30 pm	209 Hanes Hall
How to Find a Job/Internship in the Non-Profit Sector	Thurs. Feb. 10	4:00 pm	209 Hanes Hall
I Career Clinic	Mon. Feb. 7	3:15 pm	1st Floor Nash Hall
I Career Clinic	Thurs. Feb. 10	3:30 pm	1st Floor Nash Hall
CAREER PANELS:			
Communications Careers	Wed. Feb. 9	4:00 pm	209 Hanes Hall
, Arts Careers	Thurs. Feb. 10	4:00 pm	209 Hanes Hall
CAREER FAIRS:			
Camp Day	Wed. Feb. 9	10 am - 4 pm	Great Hall
EMPLOYER PRESENTATIONS: (Presentations open to	all interested stud	ents unless other	wise specified)
Fund for Public Interest Research	Mon. Feb. 7	7:00 pm	306 Hanes Hall
General Investment & Development	Tues. Feb. 8	6:30 pm	306 Hanes Hall
I Green Corps	Tues. Feb. 8	7:00 pm	307 Hanes Hall
Americorps	Wed. Feb. 9	6:00 pm	306 Hanes Hall
, Radcliffe Publishing Course	Thurs. Feb. 10	6:00 pm	306 Hanes Hall
ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATING IN RESUME DROP	PERIOD Mon., Feb.	. 7 - Sun., Feb. 13	(recruiting week of Mar. 6 -
details, log into the On-Campus Recruiting Sign-up System	(http://www.unc.ed	lu/dents/career/ucs	emni html) and solget "On C

Mar. 10) For iewTrak." YOU MUST BE REGISTERED WITH UCS TO ACCESS THE INFORMATION!!

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Cavins Inc. - Sales Representative Greater Carolina Group - Assoc. Financial Services Rep. Modern Woodmen of America - Marketing Representative ORGANIZATIONS RECRUITING Feb. 14 - Feb. 18 (schedules of organizations going to "Open" sign-up will begin Wed. Feb. 9) Belk Department Stores - Executive Trainee, Retail Intern

I organizations going to "Upen sign-up will begin Wed. Feb. 9)
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State Public Intrst Rsrch Group - Campus Organizer & Fellowship Prog.
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Ferguson Enterprises - Sales/ Mgmnt Training Prog. Wachovia Corp. - Corp Fin Anlst, Retail Mgmnt Assoc Great- West Life Ins Co - Account Representative Wallace - Outside Sales Representative Parke- Davis - Territory Manager (Pharmaceutical Sales) Western & Southern Life Insurance Company - Sales Representative

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