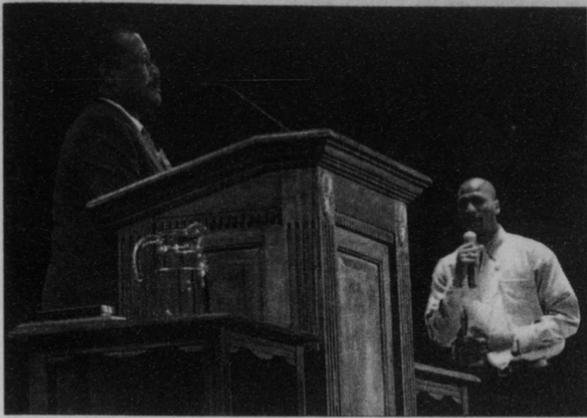


# The Daily Tar Heel

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Attorney Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. answers student questions Sunday night after addressing a crowded Memorial Hall.

## Cochran Touts Activism, Decries Racial Injustice

By ARMAN ANVARI  
Staff Writer

Johnnie Cochran delivered a speech rife with political and legal intrigue Sunday evening, calling on the UNC community — young blacks in particular — to challenge the status quo that enshrouds the U.S. legal system.

Cochran, famous for his role in the O.J. Simpson trial, said the social, economic and racial rift that exists in America has resulted in an unjust legal

system that discriminates and persecutes based on race.

"Here we are in the 21st century with the agenda of the 20th century still very much in front of us," he said. "America remains a nation divided by race and class."

The predominantly black crowd that attended Cochran's speech in the cavernous confines of Memorial Hall had to wait some time before they heard Cochran, the keynote speaker.

In the meantime, members of the

Black Student Movement delivered short talks emphasizing the night's purpose — to galvanize attendees toward activism.

Much of Cochran's rhetoric echoed those sentiments.

"Have the courage to speak out. If it's not popular to speak out, do it anyway," Cochran said. "If you believe in your cause, if you believe it is necessary, don't be shunted aside by others."

See COCHRAN, Page 2

## Candidates To Debate Tonight

The Daily Tar Heel will host a debate for student body president candidates Brad Matthews and Erica Smiley.

By MARK THOMAS  
Staff Writer

Students will have a final chance tonight to hear student body president candidates make last-minute campaign pitches before Tuesday's runoff election.

The Daily Tar Heel is sponsoring a debate between runoff candidates Brad Matthews and Erica Smiley at 9:30 p.m. today in 111 Carroll Hall.

DTH Managing Editor Vicky Eckenrode will moderate the debate, in which each candidate will first give two-minute responses to DTH-initiated questions.

The question segment will be followed by time for audience inquiry, during which the audience will ask questions alternating between Matthews and Smiley.

The last segment will be an opportunity for the candidates to question each other, with 30 seconds allotted for questioning and one minute for answers.

Although she agreed to the evening engagement, Smiley preferred to debate earlier in the afternoon to draw a larger crowd.

"We wanted to have the debate between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in order to make it accessible to the maximum number of people," she said.

Smiley said she viewed the debate as more of an opportunity to present her views than she had in previous forums.

"Debates allow for specific questions on specific issues, and candidates are given an opportunity to voice their opinions regarding these issues," Smiley said.

"A forum doesn't allow candidates to express themselves to that degree."

Upon conferring with his campaign staff, Matthews determined that the earliest he could debate was 9:30 p.m. He

See DEBATE, Page 2

## S.C. Voters Pick Bush In Primary

After Bush's triumph over McCain on Saturday, both candidates discussed future plans for their campaigns.

By MATTHEW B. DEES  
AND CHERI MELI  
State & National Editors

SOUTH CAROLINA — George W. Bush defeated John McCain by 11 percentage points in the S.C. Republican primary Saturday, with Bush touting his victory as the beginning of the end for the insurgent senator's Oval Office bid and McCain downplaying the disappointing loss as merely a "bump in the road."



With 99 percent of precincts reporting, Bush had garnered 53 percent of the vote, McCain had received 42 percent and Alan Keyes had pulled out a distant third-place finish with 5 percent.

The three candidates left their respective rallies in South Carolina on Saturday night and flew to Michigan to attend a flurry of stumping engagements before Tuesday's open primary there, where polls once again show McCain and Bush to be neck and neck.

Before leaving the Palmetto State, both candidates thanked their supporters and vowed to keep fighting.

"After tonight, we come roaring out of South Carolina with new energy in this campaign," Bush said to his rowdy crowd of supporters at the Sheraton Hotel in Columbia, S.C., on Saturday night. "You can bet we will battle for votes in Michigan and Arizona."

McCain, though visibly disappointed, expressed confidence that he would carry Michigan and his home state of Arizona before the major transconti-



The crowd at Furman University on Friday night surges forward to get autographs from winning Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush. Bush spoke on the campus during a campaign stop in South Carolina in preparation for the Republican primary.

ental primary March 7. "You don't have to win every battle or skirmish to win a war," he told a gathering of hundreds of supporters and journalists in North Charleston on Saturday night.

"I wish (Bush) congratulations on his victory tonight and a good night's rest. He's gonna need it, my friends, for we have just begun to fight, and I can't wait for the next round!" McCain said, flashing two thumbs up and drawing exuberant applause from the crowd armed with cocktails and McCain banners.

Analysts pointed to a strong conservative turnout in the open primary and a relatively weak showing from independents and Democrats, two groups McCain had hoped would help him carry the crucial state, as reasons for Bush's convincing triumph.

McCain got overwhelming support from independents in New Hampshire when he shocked Bush there two weeks

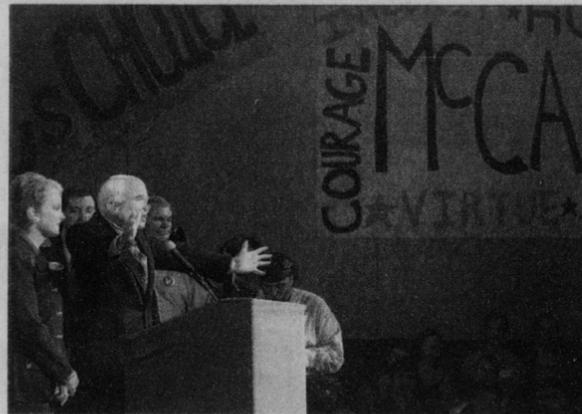
ago. The McCain camp cited the hard-nosed senator's image as a reformer rebelling against the traditional conservative bloc as the reason for his support among Democrats and independents.

But Bush aides speculated that Democrats supporting Al Gore voted for McCain in an effort to push the front-runner Bush out of contention.

Sal Calise, a campaign worker for Bush for President, said he had visited various S.C. polling areas throughout the day. At one site, by 11 a.m., 400 of 2,200 registered voters had already voted. He said eight times as many voters chose McCain over Bush.

But he said when he asked the voters why they had chosen McCain, 75 percent said they were supporting Gore. "If Bush could pull it off tonight, there's no stopping him," Calise said.

See PRIMARIES, Page 2



After losing the S.C. Republican primary, GOP candidate John McCain speaks to his supporters in North Charleston on Saturday evening.

## And Then There Were 2 ...

Here are profiles of the two remaining candidates for SBP.

### Matthews Stresses Outreach

Brad Matthews is a candidate who not only knows the political ropes.

He understands how to climb them. Matthews, a native of Boise, Idaho, said he came to UNC and dove directly into an array of extracurricular activities, excited by what he described as the endless opportunities offered by the University.

"I wanted to see what was out there," he said. Three years later, Matthews is now eyeing the presidency.

Behind his bid for office is extensive experience in student government, an understanding of its intricacies and important connections to key UNC administrators.

In 1997, Matthews founded the Freshman Focus Council to enhance representation for UNC's newest students. He's been a part of the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor, the Chancellor's Task Force Carolina Athletic Association and several honor fraternities.

But while Matthews can talk about campus politics with ease and let his experience speak for itself, he is quick to deny the easy stereotype that he is a true politician.

"I've realized more and more during this cam-

See MATTHEWS, Page 4

### Smiley Shoots for Inclusion

The campaign trail has proven to be a rocky road for Erica Smiley.

"It's been the hardest thing I've ever done," said the sophomore from Greensboro.

Some of her campaign posters have been torn down or defaced, and she has had to contend with prank calls to her room from non-supporters.

"We've definitely met a lot of resistance," she said, adding that such threats could stem from some voters' fears.

"They see that we have a chance. They see that we can win."

Bumping heads is not new for the raspy-

voiced Smiley, who has quickly built a reputation for being one of UNC's most visible and well-known student activists.

In the fall, she helped orchestrate a widespread campaign on campus against a proposal calling for a hefty increase in UNC's tuition.

A member of the Campaign for Educational Access, Smiley, along with her strong backing

See SMILEY, Page 4

STORIES BY ROB NELSON  
Editor

**Carolina, Speak Out!**  
A weekly DTH online poll  
**Should the S.C. Legislature get rid of the Confederate flag?**  
Go to [www.unc.edu/dth](http://www.unc.edu/dth) to cast your vote.

## INSIDE Monday

### What's in a Name?

A push at UNC-Charlotte to change the school's name has garnered some support from students and alumni. But others remain skeptical of the name-change initiative. See Page 2.

### Balancing the Budget

A new task force has been created to aid Orange County commissioners in determining the annual financial needs of local schools. See Page 6.

### Public Soapbox

The Daily Tar Heel is accepting applications for the Resident Feedback Board, which would promote a dialogue exchange between readers from the community and DTH editors. For more information, please call 962-4086.

### Today's Weather

Sunny;

Low 50s.

Tuesday: Sunny;

Mid 50s.

*A Conservative: One who is opposed to the things he is in favor of.*

Elbert Hubbard