

# POLICE ROUNDUP

## University

Sunday, Feb. 20

Two vehicles were involved in a hit-and-run accident at about 4 p.m. when the first driver tried to merge left on Manning Drive. The other driver refused the first driver entrance into the lane, hit the car and drove off.

The victim was en route to the Dean Smith Center during heavy traffic prior to the UNC vs. University of Virginia basketball game, according to police reports.

Saturday, Feb. 19

A student went to the UNC ONE Card Office on Feb. 18 and added \$200 in credit to his/her debit card. The value was charged to the student's credit card. On Feb. 19 it was reported that the number was invalid and did not belong to the person making the charge.

The matter is under further investigation.

Friday, Feb. 18

Between the hours of 11:15 p.m. on Feb. 17 and 7:30 a.m. Feb. 18, an unknown person broke into three cars parked in the Park Place lot.

The first car, a Honda Civic, was broken into through the right rear window, but nothing was stolen.

The second car, a Chevrolet Blazer, was left with a front left window broken. A Discman, a case of 100 compact discs and a camera with a lens in a case were stolen from the vehicle.

The third car, a Toyota Corolla, was penetrated through the right rear window, but nothing was taken.

The total value of items stolen was more than \$2,000.

An Avery Residence Hall resident reported that her wallet had been taken from the women's locker room bathroom in Fetzer Gym.

The victim reported she believed her wallet was left unattended for almost four hours.

The wallet and its contents were valued at about \$570, including a Wachovia debit card and a Foot Action credit card.

## City

Sunday, Feb. 20

Chapel Hill police are investigating an assault and armed robbery of a Durham woman.

According to reports, the woman was walking alone on North Colonial Street in Chapel Hill when she was approached by two suspicious men. The men, who were wearing dark clothes and appeared to have a knife, forced the woman to the ground and searched her pockets, reports state.

Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said the victim was taken to UNC Hospitals for possible injuries, including several broken bones caused by the assault. The victim was forced to the ground by heavy blows from the suspects' hands and feet.

Cousins said police have no suspects as of Monday.

Any information concerning the case should be directed to police at 968-2760 or Chapel Hill-Carrboro Crime Stoppers at 942-7515.

Police arrested and charged a Chapel Hill woman with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Shornita Lashae Bright, of A-2 Villagegreen Apartments, failed to appear in court to stand trial for a previous charge.

While police were serving the warrant for her failure to appear in court, they found a crack pipe in her possession, reports state.

Bright was arrested on North Graham Street in Chapel Hill and taken directly to police headquarters. She is being held at the Orange County Jail in lieu of a \$2,500 bond.

Saturday, Feb. 19

Carrboro police are looking for a single suspect in connection with a local robbery.

Reports state an unidentified man began a forceful entry into Tarheel Tobacco, located on N.C. 54 in Carrboro.

The perpetrator then entered the building through a makeshift hole produced with a pair of bolt cutters, destroying a window, reports state.

According to police, 90 cartons of Kool cigarettes and 90 cartons of Newport cigarettes were stolen from the site.

The stolen merchandise totaled about \$3,000.

The suspect is thought to be between 5 feet 10 inches tall, and 6 feet and one inch tall, with a medium build. He was seen driving away in a four-door Honda, figured to be a late 1980s model, reports state.

# Congress Members Allocate 2000-01 Budget

By AISHA K. THOMAS  
Staff Writer

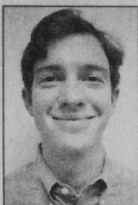
After three days of long hours and tough decision-making, Student Congress decided this past weekend how almost \$200,000 would be allocated between 80 campus organizations for the upcoming academic year.

Congress reviewed the suggestions made by the Budget and Finance Committee and announced the final budget to student organizations Sunday.

The Budget and Finance Committee met Feb. 4 to Feb. 5 to begin the allocation process. Suggestions were then sent to Congress for approval.

Student Body Treasurer Ryan Schlitt said Congress considered how many people were affected by an organization and if the group's events were on campus to determine how to allocate the funds.

He said they also used priorities for funding outlined in the Student Code.



Student Body Treasurer Ryan Schlitt said setting a funding standard was difficult.

"If you appeal to more of the student body and put on more programs on campus, you naturally get more funding," Schlitt said. "Every organization is different and it is really hard to set a standard. That's the challenge of the annual budget."

Unlike the 1999-2000 budgeting process, student organizations have not voiced much opposition to this year's final decisions.

Temper flared last year when some organizations said an unfair amount of money was allotted to the Black Student Movement for the 1999-2000 year.

The BSM had requested \$30,225.94 and received \$18,995.25. "We are the

second-largest organization on campus so it is expected that we would request a larger budget," said Tiffany Black, BSM co-public relations coordinator.

For the 2000-01 year, the BSM requested \$18,815.36 and was approved for \$16,920.84. "This year, we definitely gave a more reasonable budget," Black said. "We weren't expecting to get a \$2,000 cut, but we were not upset."

National Lawyer's Guild President David Neil said the problem with the annual budget was that funds available could not support the number of campus organizations. "The pool of available money is the same (as previous years), while the number of groups have

proliferated," he said. "I understand the constraints (Congress is) working with."

The guild requested \$3,275 and was awarded \$1,515.

Neil said the guild's budget might have been cut in half because it was a graduate student organization. "I think as a law-student organization, the Student Congress is a little more reluctant to allocate funds because they say we can get money from the Graduate and Professional Student Federation," Neil said. "The problem is the GPSF is working with a smaller amount of money."

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

# Bush, McCain Walk Political Tightrope

By MATTHEW B. DEES  
State & National Editor

In August, George W. Bush is seen visiting an inner-city after-school center in Raleigh, shaking the hands of black children and volunteers.

In February, he speaks at Bob Jones University in South Carolina, an institution notorious for its ultra-conservative policies, including its ban on interracial dating.

On Friday, John McCain touts his anti-establishment agenda and moderate platform, soliciting support from non-Republicans in South Carolina.

On Sunday, the challenger is defending his record on national television as a staunchly conservative senator.

The contrasting actions illustrate the nature of the increasingly intense battle

between Bush and McCain as they seek to attract both core conservatives and centrist voters to their camps.

And as the two candidates continue to compete across the country for the right to take on a Democratic opponent in the general election, they are likely to continue to walk this political tightrope.

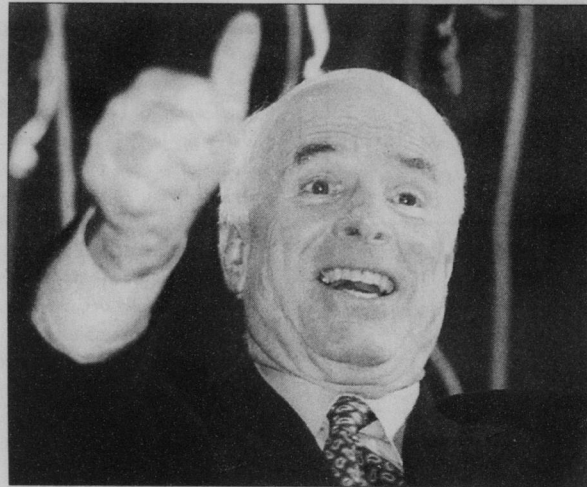
Not only are they having to appeal to a broader voter base in many states' open primaries, Bush and McCain also must ensure that their platforms will appeal to independents and moderates in the general election if they are going to win against Al Gore, the likely Democratic candidate.

David Rohde, a presidential politics expert at Michigan State University, said his state's primary today could be an indicator of who is likely to carry the GOP banner in November.

A state with a large independent population, Michigan could serve as a catalyst for the remainder of the primary.

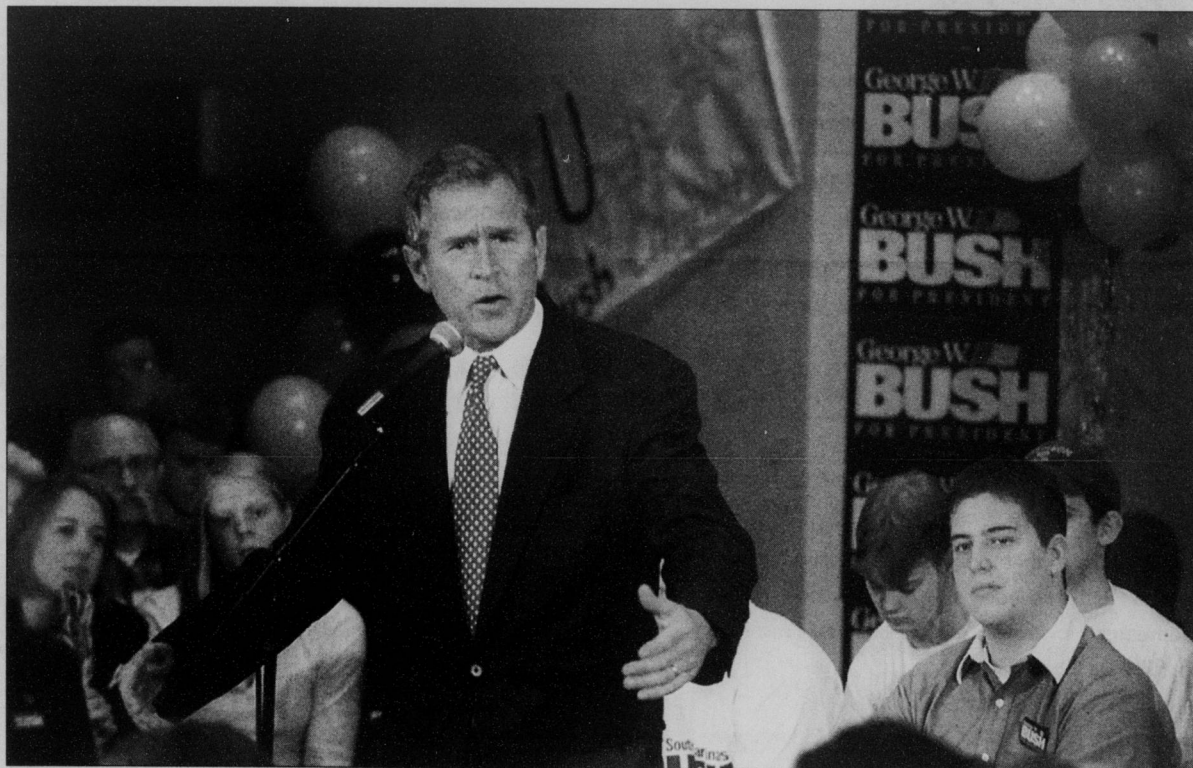
If McCain wins, Rohde said, it would

See PRIMARY, Page 6



DTH/EMILY SCHNURE

GOP Presidential candidate John McCain flashes a smile and a thumbs-up sign to supporters at a rally after his loss in the S.C. primary.



DTH/KATE MELLNIK

Just one day before the S.C. primary election, George W. Bush outlines his platform to an enthusiastic crowd of Clemson University students.

# Posters to Platforms: Managing From Behind the Scenes

By ALICIA PETERS  
Staff Writer

For two intense weeks, sleepless nights became common for UNC students charged with running the campaigns of student election candidates.

Tactics, details and appointments danced through the minds of many campaign managers during the nighttime hours.

And in the daylight, the managers worked even harder for their candidates.

"When I'm not in class, I am doing something for the campaign, and when I'm not doing something for it, I'm thinking about it," said junior Meg Smothers, who managed the successful senior class president-vice president campaign ticket of Jason Cowley and Sherilyn Black.

Campaign managers spend time reaching out to the student body so that their candidates' platforms are understood through posters, Web sites and door-to-door meetings with students.

"I organize and make sure there are people there for Pit-sits," said Jacqlene Nance, the manager for former senior class president and vice president candidates Joy Ganes and Sarah Kolluru. "And I hope and I pray."

Former student body president candidate Matt Martin's campaign manager Jamie Gilbert ran into a problem that other managers mentioned as well.

"It is difficult to get around to every part of the campus," Gilbert said. "Many students live on and off campus, and it is hard to get around to everybody."

Others found that despite their efforts to reach out, some students were not receptive to their ideas.

"A lot of people have preconceived notions, and it is hard trying to change their minds," Nance said.

Graduate and Professional Student Federation President-elect Thad Woody, who managed his own campaign, faced even more trouble informing students about his campaign, because he was a write-in candidate.

But Woody said the difficulties he came in contact with were similar to the undergraduate campaign managers. Graduate and professional students are scattered throughout different campus buildings, but he found them to be open to his campaigning efforts.

"Graduate students are receptive to how the student government and the University works," Woody said.

After the difficulties and time commitment conflicts, campaign managers said they remembered why they agreed to manage the campaigns.

Senior Marc Sanders, manager for former student body president candidate Michael Harris, easily accepted Harris' offer to manage his campaign.

"(Harris') ideas represent what I want for Carolina in the next few years, and I have a deep love for politics," Sanders said.

Although one campaign is more than enough work to fill most students' schedules, Nikhil Thakur was brave enough to manage two campaigns at once.

Thakur was in charge of Gaffney Gunter's campaign for Residence Hall Association president and co-campaign manager for former senior class president-vice president candidates Jen Santhouse and James Hampton. He performed various tasks for the two different campaigns.



DTH/KATE MELLNIK

Alex Mehfar, a junior economics major, stirs up the lunchtime crowd outside Lenoir Dining Hall on Tuesday. He is the campaign manager for Brad Matthews this year.

"For Jan and James I maintain the Web site, design posters and put them up," Thakur said, "and for Gaffney, I organize the platform and publicize."

While Thakur jumped into two races, junior Alex Mehfar returned to familiar territory.

Last year, Mehfar managed the campaign of current student body president Nic Heinke. After one taste of success, Mehfar decided to take the

See MANAGERS, Page 6

# Candidates Vying for Youth Vote

GOP candidates Bush and McCain each visited several colleges last week in efforts to ignite student support.

By CHERI MELLI  
Assistant State & National Editor

COLUMBIA, S.C. - In the midst of primary elections across the nation, presidential candidates are devoting time and money to college students and their votes.

Republican candidates George W. Bush and John McCain each spent part of the weekend at S.C. college campuses, discussing their policies and ideals while trying to gain student support.

Some students, such as Robert Beshere, a freshman at Furman University, where both Bush and McCain made campaign stops last week, said it was wise for candidates to seek young voter support.

"Our age group usually has the lowest turnout," Beshere said. "It is a smart move to get 'em while they're young."

While some students said they appreciated the visits, others said the candidates were pandering to younger voters instead of discussing their platforms.

Just one day before the S.C. primary election, Clemson University students packed the school's Tillman Hall while hundreds more, unable to enter because of fire codes, gathered outside the auditorium to hear Bush speak.

Clemson was the third of four stops at S.C. colleges for Bush on Friday.

Bush centered his speech on the issues that would affect students the most, such as education and tax policy.

He said he wanted to heighten U.S. public and higher education standards.

"Everyone should have a first-rate education because there are no second-rate children and there are no second-rate dreams," Bush said as the auditorium filled with the echo of cheers.

Some Clemson students said the college campus visits were a strategic move on the part of the candidates because the visits sparked interest in many students who might not have voted.

Michael Allen, a Clemson freshman, said the candidates' visits played a sig-

See STUDENTS, Page 6