

Matthews Wins Big in SBP Runoff

The face-off between Brad Matthews and Erica Smiley ended with cheers from both campaigns.

BY ELIZABETH BREYER
Staff Writer

The yearly drama of the student body presidential election finally ended Tuesday night as Brad Matthews grabbed the presidency away from opponent Erica Smiley in a runoff. The results revealed a decisive victory for Matthews, who garnered 61 percent of the vote. His 2,054 votes topped Smiley's 1,338. "I'm thrilled and very, very happy that so many students responded," Matthews said. "Now it's time to get to work, starting tomorrow." As members of both campaigns flooded Peabody Hall to wait eagerly for the results, both candidates were visibly ner-

vous. Smiley perched on the corner of a desk, smiling at times and staring straight ahead at others. Matthews sat quietly in the front row, surrounded by cameras and conversing with campaign workers. Before the results were read, Elections Board Vice Chairwoman Marissa Downs announced that there had been a problem with ballot collections at the Hanes Art Center poll site. Downs said some voters casting ballots in the early hours at that site might not have been asked to show the proper identification, but that the problem was quickly caught. "We have done our best to evaluate the effects of the error," she said. "We found 57 ballots not in accordance with

the (Student) Code, and we feel that low number will not undermine the overall results. Smiley said she had no plans to appeal the election on the grounds of mistakes made by the Elections Board. As the numbers were finally read and Matthews' lead began to mount, a smile slowly crept across his face. He credited his success to communication, one of the backbones of his platform. "I think the key for me was making connections with people, taking time to contact people you see and relaying your message throughout the student body," Matthews said. Smiley's campaign workers surrounded her with hugs as the numbers

were read, but Smiley remained calm throughout, her head tipped to the side as she listened intently. When the final count was in, both campaigns cheered for their candidates. "To think where we've come from, being completely on the political outside, (the results) are no surprise at all," said Michal Osterweil, Smiley's campaign manager. "I'm very happy and proud, and I think she did awesome." Matthews also congratulated Smiley on a job well done and said Smiley's involvement had had a positive effect on the elections process. "I extend my compliments to the Smiley campaign - it made the dialogue better and will help make student government better as a whole," he said. Osterweil said Smiley's work and ideals would continue despite the personally disappointing results of the race. "It's really safe to vote for a candidate who looks like all the ones we ever had, and it's scary to think of real changes,"

"I'm thrilled and very, very happy that so many students responded. Now it's time to get to work, starting tomorrow."

BRAD MATTHEWS
Student Body President-Elect



Student body president candidate Brad Matthews (right) celebrates his victory over Erica Smiley with members of his campaign.

she said. "But that movement isn't just about Erica; it's about students waiting to fix and change student government to fit their needs." Matthews said he would incorporate some of Smiley's ideas as he formulated his plan for the next year. "I will push forward with the idea that student government must be accessible and will be out there letting people know what we do is important," he said. "It will be hard work, but I am excited to have the chance."



Democratic Governor-elect Mike Easley shakes hands with supporters after giving his acceptance speech Election Night. Easley won 52 percent of the vote, while Republican candidate Richard Vinroot received 46 percent and Libertarian Barbara Howe won 2 percent.

Easley Gets Victory In Governor's Race

BY PENELOPE DEESE,
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Staff Writers

RALEIGH, NOV. 8 - "We like Mike, we like Mike" were the words that greeted Governor-elect Mike Easley when he pressed his way through a rowdy crowd of about 250 supporters to give his victory speech at the North Raleigh Hilton on Tuesday night. With 93 percent of precincts reporting, Easley snagged 52 percent of the vote, Republican candidate Richard Vinroot received 46 percent and Libertarian candidate Barbara Howe had 2 percent. When the cheers died down, Easley, standing next to his wife and son, announced his victory in the 2000 gubernatorial election, making Easley North Carolina's first elected governor of the 21st century. "I have so many people to thank, but I want to start with my wife," he said. "We started this thing

together so working families would have a voice - tonight they will." He assured his supporters that he would fulfill his platform promises, such as improving public education and protecting the environment. "We have enormous potential in North Carolina," he said. "We have everything we need to be great - we have the resources; let us now show we have the resolve." At the Marriott City Center in downtown Charlotte, Vinroot greeted a dismayed yet supportive crowd, as he gave his concession speech around 10:15 p.m. "We turned over every rock and every stone," Vinroot said. "I'm very glad about how we came up from defeat and almost grabbed a victory tonight." After thanking his family and many campaign advocates, including his former basketball coach Dean Smith, Vinroot said he is going to take it easy now that the election is over.

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Presidential Debate Hits N.C. Freshman Class Sees Start of CCI

BY KATHLEEN HUNTER
State & National Editor

WINSTON-SALEM, OCT. 12 - Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush and Democratic candidate Al Gore attempted to delineate their views on issues ranging from foreign policy to education to the environment during the season's second presidential debate at Wake Forest University on Wednesday night. The debate, which took place in Wake Forest's Wait Chapel, was attended by nearly 2,000 spectators and members of the media and moderated by PBS news anchor Jim Lehrer. The debate was conducted in a television talk-show style format, with the two candidates and Lehrer seated behind a table to facilitate more of a conversation between the candidates. Wednesday's debate was the first time such a format, which Bush specifically requested when debate details were being negotiated, was used in a presidential debate. The more relaxed setting seemed to make the opponents more civil than last week's debate, though their tones grew more heated as the night wore on. The event began with a discussion of the two candidates' views on foreign policy. Both candidates acknowledged that the United States has a large leadership role to play in the post-Cold War era, but each differed on how the United States should deal with conflicts in the Middle East and Kosovo. Gore also said the government has an obligation, because of its position as the

world's only superpower, to have a hand in world events. "Like it or not, the United States is now the natural leader of the free world," Gore said. "Other countries look to us." But Bush criticized the Clinton administration for being too quick to deploy troops to resolve international conflicts. He said the government needs to focus on rebuilding its military strength and to streamline its foreign policy goals. "We do have an obligation (to help other countries)," Bush said. "But we can't be all things to all people. We have to be grounded in our generosity." The debate then turned to the issue of racial profiling. Gore said racial profiling prevention is one issue he would tackle as president. Bush recognized profiling as a problem but warned that the government must be careful not to limit police officers' ability to investigate crimes. The merits of federal legislation increasing the penalty for hate crimes was then discussed, with Gore accusing Bush of failing to support a Texas bill strengthening hate-crime legislation in the wake of the murder of James Byrd, a black man who was killed by white supremacists in Texas last year. Bush denied the accusation and touted the importance of severely punishing those found guilty of crimes. "The three men who killed James Byrd - guess what is going to happen to them," he said. "They are going to be put to death." One of the issues on which the two candidates were most polarized was the

issue of same-sex marriages, with Bush opposed to the idea and Gore advocating legislation that would legitimize a civil union between homosexual couples. Gun control was another major issue where the candidates touted quite different policy options. Gore's platform centers on making it more difficult for children and known criminals to acquire guns. He said he would support beefing up the enforcement of existing gun laws, restoring the provision of the Brady law that requires a mandatory three-day waiting period before purchasing a handgun and strengthening initiatives designed to make the nation's schools gun-free. Bush said he supports conducting background checks at gun shows and raising the minimum age to carry a handgun from 18 to 21 nationwide. But Bush stressed the importance of instilling values in children early in life that would prevent them from becoming criminals. On the issues of health care and Medicare, Bush said he would work to increase the number of community health centers, give low-income families tax rebates to fund health insurance and allow businesses to form health insurance programs as coalitions. Gore spoke on his efforts to reduce the size of government as vice president and slammed Bush, citing statistics that indicate Texas is the state with the largest percentage of families without health care. Bush responded by saying Texas spends \$4.7 billion annually on the uninsured.

BY MARK THOMAS
Assistant University Editor

AUG. 22 - Somewhere, Michael Hooker is smiling. More than two years ago, the late UNC chancellor stood before a crowded press conference and unveiled one of the most ambitious projects in the University's history - the Carolina Computing Initiative. And if he were here today, Hooker would witness the debut of the groundbreaking program that requires all freshmen to own laptop computers. The initiative represents the first large-scale effort of his kind at a major university and will remain a lasting legacy of Hooker, who lost his battle with cancer in June 1999. CCI is a comprehensive effort that includes updating the technology used by faculty and staff as well as renovating some of UNC's more antiquated facilities to accommodate state-of-the-art technology. From rewiring some buildings to installing wireless Internet ports in others, the University is seeking to enhance students' learning experience by making technology, now a staple of academic life, more accessible. In the classroom, the cafeteria, and everything in between, UNC's freshmen class will be able to log on the Internet across campus. With the largest freshman class ever required to own laptop computers and the resources to support that technology partially in place, UNC appears ever-closer to realizing Hooker's goal of a heightened intellectual climate.

CCI creators said part of that heightened intellectual climate is keeping UNC's students on the cutting edge of technology. "We want our students to be as competitive as any in the country," said Marian Moore, vice chancellor for Information Technology Services. For most CCI administrators, one of the main sticking points of the program was funding, a point Hooker addressed early on. To guarantee that no student who wanted a computer would be left without one, Hooker established a \$3 million fund to be distributed in the form of grants. To date, nearly 900 grants have been awarded to this year's freshman class of 3,400. "Our commitment is to students. No student will be turned away because they can't afford a computer," Moore said. In addition to the grants, the University began offering pre-approved computer loans to all freshmen, making UNC the first public university to do so. To keep the price of the laptops as low as possible, Hooker and the CCI team accepted offers from several different computer firms, including Dell and Compaq, but it was IBM that came to the table with the most appealing offer. "IBM became the laptop of choice following an extensive bidding process," said Linwood Futrelle, director of distributed support for Academic Technology & Networks. UNC students are paying less for their computer than what an IBM employee would receive through their worker discount. To keep UNC on the cutting edge

and from falling behind, CCI coordinators have developed a life-cycling plan which stipulates that a quarter of faculty and staff computers are replaced each year by UNC at a cost of \$4.5 million. With more than two years of work behind it, this semester marks just another beginning for CCI and, despite the long road ahead, many of those who worked on the project feel it has thus far been successful. "A major part of our goal was to move resources from the classroom and into students' hands - we have done that," Moore said. "Our mission, our challenge, was to design a program for all students." Moore, who has been involved with CCI from its beginning, said the program is much more than just a laptop requirement. "You can't just put a piece of equipment on a desk and say, 'You are finished,'" she said. Moore said distribution, orientation and support services are also integral aspects of CCI. When Hooker introduced his vision for CCI, more than half of UNC's entering freshman owned personal computers. But to those within the CCI effort, that was not enough. "(This) program addresses the issue of imbalance between students who have computers and those who don't," Hooker said in 1998. Chancellor James Moeser, who claims no credit for CCI's success, said the project marks a watershed moment for more than just UNC. "(CCI) is one of the most significant moments in the history of American higher education," he said. "Carolina is setting the standard nationally."



Top faculty members and administrators take part in the procession that kicked off the installation ceremony of Chancellor James Moeser.

University Day Marks Official Start to New Era

BY KIM MINUGH
University Editor

OCT. 13 - James Moeser officially accepted his role as UNC's ninth chancellor during Monday's University Day ceremonies, marking the beginning of what Moeser hopes to be a 21st century Renaissance. Moeser, who took office in August, brings to the table a platform that he hopes will land UNC the distinction of being as the best public university in America. The far-reaching and ambitious goals are reminiscent of late Chancellor Michael Hooker's visions for UNC. But UNC has grown and changed in that short span of time, and Moeser has

given a new spin to some of Hooker's philosophies. "With the smiling face of providence and hard work by all of us, we stand at the precipice of a golden age for Carolina, a 21st century Renaissance," he said. Moeser's appointment left him roughly four months to get acquainted with the University community and its history before being plunged into the churning waters of South Building and all it entails. "Since my appointment in April, I have immersed myself in the history of this great institution," he said. "What stands out most vividly is the degree to which we have experienced several critical moments - points in time

where the University took great strides that changed its culture or its character by orders of magnitude." And with the Carolina Computing Initiative in its infant stages, administrative holes staring him in the face and the \$3.1 billion bond referendum so close at hand, Moeser has found himself in the nucleus of one such point in time. CCI was Hooker's brainchild that Moeser inherited and now oversees. While the plan, which requires all incoming freshmen to own a laptop computer, has not been problem-free, it is one that Moeser thinks will keep UNC in step with the changing technological times. "We are well under way in implementing (CCI) - a first for a major pub-

lic University - as a means of transforming the learning environment for students and for faculty," he said. Moeser also inherited an administration and faculty decorated with honor and prestige - and plagued with vacancies. The administration still lacked top-tier leadership in academics, financial affairs and research. But with Moeser's arrival came some closure. Nancy Suttentfield, vice president for Case Western Reserve University, was appointed as the vice chancellor for finance and administration last month. Robert Shelton, vice provost for research at the University of California, See U-DAY, Page 5