

Pitching Duel
Heels, Gophers go
twice. See Page 5



Still Undecided?
See SBP candidates face off at
7 p.m. Sunday in O8 Peabody Hall.
For more information, see page 2.



Moist
Today: Stormy, 69
Saturday: Showers, 52
Sunday: Cloudy, 50

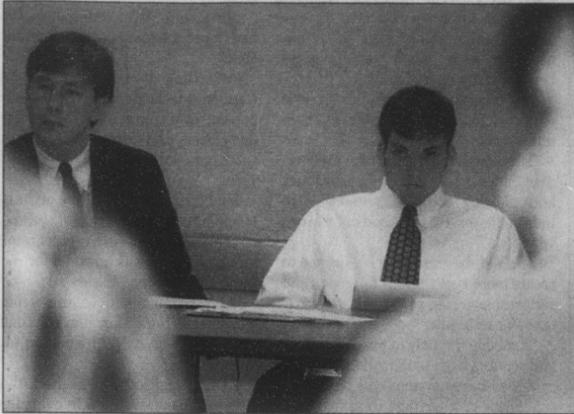
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CAA Race Hinges on Board's Decision



Michael Songer (right) and representative Chris Brook listen to Reid Chaney's representatives speak in a hearing Thursday.

By KIM MINUGH
University Editor

The outcome of the race for Carolina Athletic Association president still weighs in the balance today, as Board of Elections members investigate alleged campaign violations by recently declared winner Reid Chaney.

After a three-hour hearing Thursday night, Board of Elections members delayed making a decision on charges that Chaney and his campaign staff slandered opponent Michael Songer and violated student government elections laws.

Charges were brought to the Board of Elections on Thursday night after Chairman Jeremy Tuchmayer declared

Chaney the winner of the race when 27 write-in votes were invalidated, giving Chaney the majority by five votes.

Before Tuchmayer, Board of Elections Vice Chairman Fred Hill and four board members, Songer and his campaign staff charged that an e-mail sent by the Chaney campaign caused irreparable damage to Songer's campaign, costing him the five or more votes that won Chaney the election.

The e-mail, received by students Monday, allegedly was sent by former UNC student and Carolina Fever President Davin McGinnis to a Songer-camp estimate of 15,000 UNC students.

The e-mail portrayed Songer as dishonest and untrustworthy and said Songer unfairly claimed responsibility for the student risers in the Smith Center

when meeting minutes show that he never went to a meeting.

But Songer and his campaign members say Chaney and his staff violated elections laws by not following guidelines about the e-mail's composition, slandering Songer and reporting incorrect information. "I urge you to read this again and again. It is vicious and unsupportive in the accusations it puts out there," said Chris Brook, Songer's representative in the hearing.

But Chaney said he never saw the e-mail nor approved its contents. "We're very disappointed, very appalled. We don't know where these allegations came from and hate that it looks so bad for the CAA and our campaign," Chaney said. "We pretty much know nothing about this e-mail. I had no prior knowledge of it ...

We don't know where it came from."

McGinnis, the supposed author of the e-mail, did not attend the hearing and could not be reached for comment.

But Brook said he questions whether McGinnis was used as a cover by another of Chaney's staff members.

The e-mail was signed by McGinnis and the reply address, vote_reid_tomorrow@email.unc.edu - was a non-existent account. "Michael Songer was drug through the mud with this," Brook told the Board of Elections. "In the interest of making sure all the bases are covered, I encourage you to get in touch with (Academic Technology & Networks) and find out who did this."

Brook also cited an e-mail - printed

See CAA, Page 4

NRC Votes To Suspend Decision

A federal commission ruled that CP&L could not yet begin storing nuclear waste at the Shearon Harris plant.

By GINNY SCIABBARRASI
City Editor

Lingering questions surrounding the expansion of a local nuclear power plant have caused the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to suspend a December ruling made by a division within the federal agency.

The full five-member commission ordered Wednesday that Carolina Power & Light Co. could not begin storing nuclear waste at its Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant until the commission's staff answers a list of undisclosed questions.

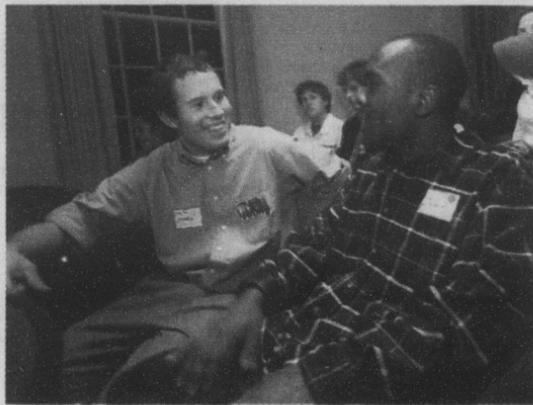
The ruling temporarily suspends a decision made Dec. 21 by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation that gave CP&L the green light to begin expanding existing nuclear waste cooling pools.

Jim Warren, director of N.C. Waste Awareness and Reduction Network, said CP&L could continue to work on making the pools operational, but that they would be doing so at the expense of ratepayers.

"There is no certainty at all they will get final approval for this," Warren said.

But CP&L spokesman Mike Hughes said the company had no plans to start storing waste in the newly expanded pool until the middle of the year, when

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Justin Young's campaign manager, senior Matt Jones, talks with his candidate on election night. Jones served in Nic Heinke's Cabinet.



Junior Tim Nelson strategizes with student body president candidate Eric Johnson before election results are announced Tuesday night.

Orchestrating a Campaign

By JERMAINE CALDWELL • FEATURES EDITOR

While candidates Eric Johnson and Justin Young stand hoping to become student body president, moving behind the scenes are two students giving them any lift they need.

Campaign managers Matt Jones and Tim Nelson - of the Young and Johnson teams, respectively - have spent the past few weeks on the campaign trail that spans across the walkways of UNC and has been filled with everything from fliers and Pit-sits to forums and platforms.

And even though when all is said and done, it will be Johnson or Young with the spot in student government, both Jones and Nelson said they loved the ride on which student government elections has taken

them, and both give their jobs ringing endorsements.

Matt Jones

This summer senior Matt Jones has plans to say "I do."

And standing by will be an usher whom he spent months supporting during a race for student body president.

It's this support, Jones says, that's the key to any good campaign. "It has to be a strong personal partnership for it to work," he said.

Jones and Young both served in the Cabinet of Nic Heinke, former student body president - Jones as vice chairman of external relations and Young as an executive assistant.

But the two wanted to see more out of Suite C. "We left there kind of disenchanted at what student government could do," the political science major said.

So the roommates took a year off, and before Winter Break, Jones recalls Young saying, "Matt, I think I'm going to do it, and I want you to be my campaign manager."

The choice was easy. The answer was "yes." And it was off to the races.

"I really believe in him, his integrity and the change that he'll bring to the office," said Jones, who has also been active in Young Democrats. "I

didn't hesitate to get involved."

First, it was to round up some troops by gathering volunteers, which Jones said ranged from 150 to 200 people, and finding out what students wanted from their government.

Campaigning officially began Jan. 23, when hopefuls announced their candidacy. And the three-week rush leading up to election day was non-stop, Jones said.

Zoom in on these weeks, and one will find each day for a campaign manager contains a lot of activity. Jones would begin the day by reading elections news, then tend to e-mails and return messages.

Afternoons meant hitting campus for campaigning. Whether it was the

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Doherty Sorry for 'Ugly' Comment

Coach Matt Doherty said he made the lighthearted gibe about Duke's cheerleaders in a huddle to help ease tension.

By JENNIFER HAGIN
Staff Writer

A comment made by UNC men's basketball coach Matt Doherty during the Carolina-Duke game Feb. 1 about the Duke cheerleading squad led him to send an apology letter Tuesday.

Doherty wrote the letter after "ESPN: The Magazine" published a column revealing that Doherty told his players that Duke "still has the ugliest cheerleaders in the ACC."

The comment was made in a team huddle late in the second half of the hotly contested game.

But UNC sports officials and Duke student leaders both say the comment has not caused

an uproar. "I said it as a joke to lighten the obvious tension my players were feeling during the game against Duke," Doherty wrote in the letter. "However, I apologize for the insensitive reference and hope you did not take it seriously or personally."

Steve Kirschner, UNC director of athletic communications, said the comment became public after a team member told a friend what Doherty had said.

Kirschner said the comment made it to the Internet and ended up in the magazine article. Another possibility is that Curry Kirkpatrick, the ESPN writer who quoted Doherty, overheard the comment while sitting behind the UNC bench at the Duke game.

"It was for the 12 or so players in the huddle," Kirschner said. "Does (Doherty) think that? No. Does he care? No."

He said Doherty also contacted Duke's cheerleading coach Teresa Ward to discuss the situation. "He talked to the (Duke) coach, and they laughed about it," Kirschner said. "She

knows he didn't mean it."

Two Duke cheerleaders refused to comment on the incident Thursday.

And Duke student leaders said the comment had not generated an uproar on campus.

Jordan Bazinsky, Duke student body president, said he has not heard much discussion on campus regarding the cheerleaders.

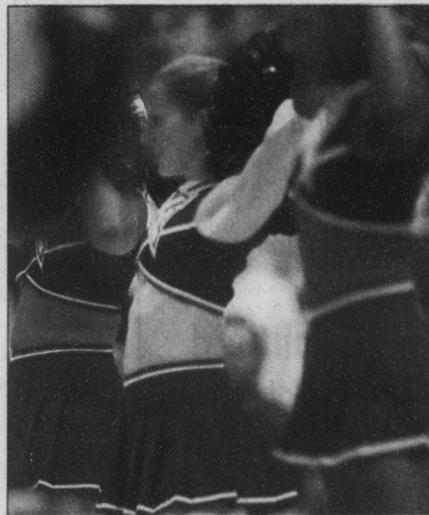
"It's an unfortunate comment; I'm sure it was just a mistake," Bazinsky said.

Whether Doherty meant the comment or not, Brad Morris, a UNC sophomore philosophy and psychology major, said the comment does not taint his view of Doherty.

"I don't care. He can say what he wants," Morris said. "He's God, isn't he?"

Kirschner said there are no hard feelings between Duke and Doherty. "As far as Duke is concerned it's over, and as far as we're concerned it's over."

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DTH/SEPTON IPOCK

At the Duke-UNC game, Matt Doherty told his team the Duke cheerleaders were the "ugliest in the ACC."

Peppers, Forte Say No Thanks

Julius Peppers was voted into four seats in Student Congress, and Joseph Forte won the District 18 seat.

By T. NOLAN HAYES
Senior Writer

Julius Peppers and Joseph Forte have a simple message for voters who elected them to Student Congress on Tuesday.

Thanks, but no thanks. The two North Carolina men's basketball players cited other commitments Thursday afternoon as reasons why they would be unable to participate in student government.

"I would want to do it," said Forte, who found out Thursday morning while surfing the Internet that he had earned a seat in District 18. "But with basketball and my limited schedule, I'm afraid I can't."

The same goes double for Peppers, who was elected to congressional seats in four districts and tied for a seat in another. Peppers stars at defensive end on the UNC football team when he's not banging in the paint as a power forward during basketball season.

"I don't think I have enough time for that," he said.

That Peppers earned votes in so many districts is unusual, especially considering that Congress members can serve only in the district in which they reside.

"That's probably unprecedented," said Jeremy Tuchmayer, chairman of the Board of Elections.

Peppers made an even bigger impact on the election for student body president. He was not on the ballot but still rang up 222 votes - 214 was his unofficial total - as a write-in candidate to finish in fifth place.

He finished with more votes than three candidates whose names were on the ballot.

"I don't know. I don't know what to say about that," he said.

Support for Peppers built after a letter ran Monday in The Daily Tar Heel pushing him for the post. Teammate Brian Bersticker received a similar boost last year after a DTH columnist started a campaign for him.

Bersticker finished third in the 2000 race with 585 votes, but he received a large amount of publicity because his supporters posted hundreds of fliers posted around campus.

Peppers had no such backing, but he might have won if he did. In addition to the votes he gained for Student Congress and student body president, Peppers also got votes in races for Carolina Athletic Association president,

See PLAYERS, Page 4

One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.

Plato