



# The Daily Tar Heel

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Candidate Michael Songer tries to rally last-minute support in the Pit on Monday in an attempt to draw attention away from recent controversy.



Candidate Reid Chaney spends time in the Pit on Monday encouraging students to vote despite scandals that have clouded the race.

## Forum Today To Mull Merits Of Court, Code

Chancellor James Moeser will moderate the forum, which will be at 7 p.m. in Fetzer Gym, to solicit student input on the Honor Court.

By JENNY FOWLER  
Staff Writer

In response to recent demands for Honor Court reform, Chancellor James Moeser and other UNC officials will be included in a forum tonight hosted by the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor.

The forum will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Fetzer Gym, with Moeser moderating the event. Dean Bresciani and Sue Kitchen, associate vice chancellors for student affairs, and Provost Robert Shelton are some officials expected to be in attendance.

And discussion was primed Monday night when the Joint Senate of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies held a debate examining the student judicial system because of recent controversy involving several of the Honor Court's rulings.

"We chose a variety of topics at the beginning of the semester that we would like to debate," said junior international studies major Michael Hoffman. "We chose the Honor Court because it is a pressing issue at the University."

The issue of Honor Court reform surfaced in October when the court convicted two students for cheating during an open hearing. Professor James Coggins turned in 22 other students from his Computer Science 120 class at the end of the 2000 spring semester with similar charges.

On Feb. 9, the appellate panel dismissed the case of senior Mike Trinh, one of the two students in the open hearing, upon finding that his basic rights had been violated. Trinh was accused of unauthorized collaboration on a homework assignment.

Other case dismissals sparked an interest in the court's system of representation in junior William Hashemi. He created the Independent Defense Council, which comprises UNC pre-law undergraduates, to offer students alternative representation.

Hashemi said the current system poses a conflict of interest because both prosecutors and defense counsels are under the auspices of the Student Attorney General's Office.

Both sides of the debate were argued by DiPhi senators in Monday's forum titled "The Student Judicial System Is

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## CAA Candidates Put Scandals Aside

On the day before the second election for CAA president, candidates concentrated on tickets and the fate of Carolina Fever.

By PAIGE AMMONS  
Staff Writer

Two weeks after the original election date, the fate of the office of Carolina Athletic Association president will be decided tonight.

Candidates have been working to win voters back to their camps for the past two weeks with more talk of ticket distribution and the fate of Carolina Fever than of the scandals that have marred the race thus far.

Candidate Reid Chaney was named the winner of the Feb. 13 election after 27 write-in votes were declared invalid, giving him a five-vote majority. Chaney's opponent, Michael Songer, appealed his loss to the Board of Elections, saying that an e-mail message sent by Davin McGinnis, UNC alumnus and former Carolina Fever president, was libelous and possibly could have affected the

five-vote margin.

The Board of Elections ruled that the e-mail likely was fabricated but mandated a re-election, which resulted in extra time for the two candidates to reorganize.

And although these scandals have resulted in heated debates and often nasty personal attacks, Songer and Chaney tried to take a relaxed and laid back approach on the final day before the vote.

Songer and his campaign volunteers spent their day in the Pit and then went door to door in residence halls in the evening.

Songer said he was trying to remain calm in the midst of the controversy and said he has tried to look beyond the scandals.

"I'm trying to focus on all of the issues we brought up in our campaign," Songer said. "I'm trying to stay away from all the negative stuff."

"We are gonna be in the Pit all day, just hanging out and playing music," Songer said.

He used video games and sports footage to attract the attention of passing students.

Chaney speculated that the controversy surrounding the

election probably has done little to attract students to either candidate. He said he realizes that students are tired and frustrated with the situation and he just wants to encourage them to voice their opinions in the election.

Chaney also spent the day in the Pit asking students to remember to vote today. He went door to door at residence halls from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. He also plans to have volunteers on campus today to solicit votes.

"I don't really want to bug people because it has been such a long campaign," Chaney said. "I just want to remind people to vote."

Chaney said he felt he did not need to change his campaign strategies the second time around.

"I'm doing pretty much the same thing as I have for the whole campaign," he said. "It worked last time - hopefully, it will work again."

The saga that happened after Chaney's initial win included a Feb. 15 hearing in which members of Songer's campaign accused Chaney's campaign of being behind McGinnis' mass e-mail sent out prior to the election.

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## Local Schools Amend Funding Proposals

By CAROLYN PEARCE  
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools officials halved their requests for funding last week and submitted a less burdensome proposal for a bond to help alleviate overcrowding.

The \$42.8 million bond was pared down significantly by the board from its original proposal for \$72 million. The initial request included plans for a new high school in addition to two new elementary schools.

Superintendent Neil Pedersen said the request for an additional high school was eliminated because the board doubted the county would approve the funds.

"Our preference was to build a new facility," Pedersen said. "But it would be highly unlikely for us to receive funding for three new schools."

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NEIL PEDERSEN

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools Superintendent

school, the new proposal includes \$7.9 million for expansion of the existing two high schools.

"We have a task force working on how to accommodate additional high school capacity," Hoke said. "Some board members supported a third high school but felt that the resources were not available to the county. A new high school would cost \$25 million."

The requests will be forwarded to the Capital Needs Advisory Task Force, which will assess the needs of both Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools and Orange County schools. The task force also will consider the needs of the Parks and Recreation Department and of the county buildings.

"The group will put together what they feel is a need," Hoke said. "The Orange County Commissioners will then decide what projects will be placed on the ballot in November."

Orange County Commissioner Barry Jacobs said the school's first request of \$72 million was "overly ambitious" and the \$42 million was "more do-able."

"We are all citizens of a county where there is only a certain amount of dollars," Jacobs said. "We need to see how far we can stretch them. By decreasing their request, it shows that they are working hard and taking it seriously."

Jacobs is also on the Capital Needs Advisory Task Force, which will meet

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## SBP-Elect Addresses Young Democrats

By BLAKE ROSSER  
Staff Writer

Young Democrats with a hankering for free ice cream and an interest in Student Body President-elect Justin Young were in for a treat Monday night in Bingham Hall.

Young attended the hourlong Young Democrats meeting primarily to answer questions from about 30 audience members.

Young started by expressing his gratitude for the organization's support. Many Young Democrats campaigned heavily for Young. "I want to thank y'all as an organization for endorsing me - I'm very excited," Young said. "I'm also very excited about the ice cream."

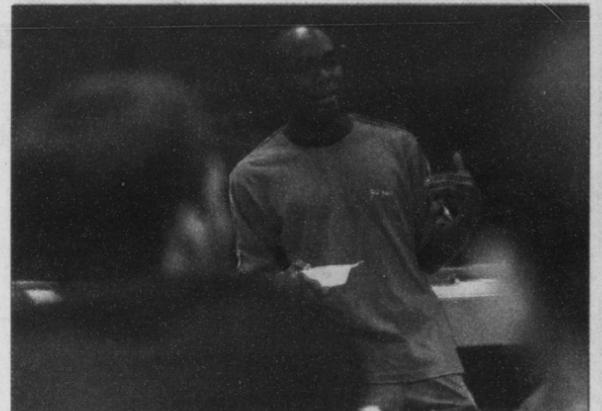
The audience wasted no time in tackling the issues. The first Young Democrat member asked Young about

his recent subpoena by Student Congress, and Young took the chance to explain the problem. "With Congress, I was subpoenaed to explain the Student Empowerment Endowment because they felt I was overstepping my bounds," Young said. "But we got it settled."

During his campaign, Young promised to redirect his \$2,400 student body president stipend to go toward the fund, which would then use the money to help underfunded student groups or fledgling student projects. Congress initially viewed the action as a potential abuse of power.

When asked about today's election for Carolina Athletic Association president, Young threw his support behind candidate Michael Songer.

Other questions posed to Young pertained to housekeepers' rights, congestion resulting from construction, club sports funding and a Lesbian, Gay,



DTH/CHRISTINE NGUYEN

Student Body President-elect Justin Young fields questions about his upcoming tenure at the Young Democrats meeting Monday night.

Bisexual and Transgender Center.

One Young Democrat asked Young if he would adopt any of his opponents' platforms, specifically referring to Eric Johnson's 911 cellular phone proposal, which would give students free access to cellular phones in case of emergencies.

Young said he likes Johnson's idea but does not want to stop there.

"In addition to cell phones, we also need to see what we can do to make this a safer campus," he said. "We need to

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## Animal Shelter Fire Declared Intentional

Fire Marshal Caprice Mellon estimates that the Orange County Animal Shelter had about \$10,000 in damage.

By ISAAC GROVES  
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill fire officials are confident a late-night fire Sunday, which killed four animals at the Orange County

Animal Shelter, was set intentionally.

Fire Department officials spent all of Sunday night and Monday trying to discover who caused the explosion in the night deposit box at the animal shelter off Airport Road. While she would not give details of the investigation, Chapel Hill Fire Marshal Caprice Mellon did say the fire was not an accident.

"It was a deliberately set fire," she said.

The blaze started a little after 9 p.m. Sunday. Assistant General Manager Bart Willis, who was alone in the building at

the time of the fire, said he heard the night deposit door open and an explosion.

"Right now we're estimating the cost of the damage at \$10,000, but we can't be sure it's that high," Mellon said.

The explosion and fire destroyed the wildlife room. The shelter also lost important equipment including two refrigerators and an incubator, said Pat Sanford, director of the shelter.

"(The incubator) is very valuable to us to save small mammals, large mammals and birds," Sanford said.

The shelter takes in both domestic and wild animals in need. Among the four animals that died was a ferret going to an adoptive home and two squirrels that were about to be sent to the shelter's 48-acre wildlife sanctuary on Nicks Road.

"I can't imagine anybody who would want to burn harmless and defenseless animals when they're in their cages and can't defend themselves," Sanford said.

Mellon said she could only guess at a

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Whenever a man has cast a longing eye on offices, a rottenness begins in his conduct.

Thomas Jefferson