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ANALYSIS

Election marked by like platforms

BY JENNY HUANG
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

The next Chapel Hill Town Council might not only feature new faces, but also an altered political landscape as well.

Less than one week before the elections Tuesday, concluding endorsements, last-minute campaign efforts and past experience citations increasingly are revealing ideological similarities among groups of candidates.

While most council candidates advocate similar ideas for downtown revitalization and affordable housing, the candidates' divergent views on issues concerning town-gown relations present the sharpest contrast.

When it comes to University growth and development, endorsements and public record present a strong like-mindedness among incumbent Bill Strom and candidates Cam Hill and Sally Greene.

The Coalition of Neighbors near Campus, a newly formed organization advocating neighborhood preservation, endorsed all three candidates and lauded their ability to protect Chapel Hill neighborhoods from UNC expansion.

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 4

Ad ignites pre-election controversy

BY DAN SCHWIND
STAFF WRITER

An attack ad in Wednesday's Chapel Hill Herald and today's The Daily Tar Heel launched at Chapel Hill Town Council candidate Cam Hill by fellow candidate Dianne Bachman has sparked controversy with Tuesday's election just days away.

The ad alleges that Hill said town residents employed by UNC should not serve in town elected office. Hill disputed this, saying that he has made no such comments.

"I didn't say that University employees shouldn't run for office — I think (UNC) employees are a tremendous asset to town government," Hill said. "I said some of them, particularly those in the administration and involved in campus expansion, might have a clear conflict of interest."

Bachman defended the ad and attributed its statement to comments she said Hill made during an Oct. 13 election forum. "I was stating (in the ad) what Cam Hill had already stat-

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"Selling alcohol at events would definitely be a revenue generator, but the question would be at what other expense." DEAN BRESCIANI, INTERIM VICE CHANCELLOR FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS



Bartenders Phillip Ivey (right) and Kaleo Chung serve drinks Thursday in the Carolina Inn, one of two places on campus allowed to sell alcohol on a regular basis. DTH/ALEX FINE

FOR NOW, CAMPUS WILL REMAIN SOBER

BY JOANNA HOUSIADAS STAFF WRITER

When it comes to drinking downtown, the possibilities are endless.

From He's Not Here to Linda's to Players, UNC-Chapel Hill students don't have trouble finding a spot where they can get together with friends and share a few beers.

In stark contrast, alcoholic beverage vendors are completely absent at UNC-CH athletic events and Lenoir and Chase dining halls.

Provisions set forth in the University's Student Alcohol Policy, primarily dictated by state statutes and local ordinances, explain the lack of alcohol vendors on campus.

With strong concerns regarding student safety and conduct prevalent among UNC-CH officials, the University has no plans to tap alcohol as a new revenue source in the wake of recent budget cuts.

During the 1950s and 1960s UNC-CH's alcohol policy was not clearly defined, said Fred Schroeder, former dean of students and assistant vice chancellor for student affairs.

SEE ALCOHOL, PAGE 4

Others tap alcohol revenue

BY JOANNA HOUSIADAS
STAFF WRITER

Buying a beer in a student union after class has been a routine option for some students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the past 75 years.

While UNC policies prohibit vending alcohol on campus, public and private universities elsewhere open their doors to alcohol vendors, allowing off-age students to consume alcohol.

Both of UW's student unions — Memorial Union and Union South — serve beer and wine. Julie Vincent, assistant director of the Wisconsin Union responsible for food and retail, said that the presence of alcohol on college campuses in Wisconsin is not uncommon.

"A number of the University of Wisconsin schools within the system serve alcohol on campus to their students," she said.

Memorial Union's bar, Der Stiftskeller, serves locally brewed ale in addition to the Brat Stand on the Union Terrace.

Both unions also have gaming areas, with billiards, ping-pong tables and a bowling alley, which serve beer and wine.

Near UNC, Duke University boasts three on-campus locations that serve alcoholic drinks to off-age students. Students have the option of pur-

chasing beverages with their meal plan points.

Jim Wulforst, director of Duke University Dining Services, said he approached administrators four years ago with the idea to offer alcoholic drinks on campus when Armadillo Grill proposed opening a campus location.

"Administration said that if they do it responsibly and tastefully, then it would be okay," Wulforst said. The location opened and Wulforst said it has been successful.

Two other campus facilities also serve alcohol: the Loop, which also has a location in Chapel Hill, and Rick's Diner.

Wulforst also said that making alcohol accessible to students on campus has had somewhat of a positive effect.

"The administration decided to provide options to students on campus so that the temptation to drink and drive and having to deal with the police would be lessened."

Dean Bresciani, UNC's interim vice chancellor for student affairs said that he doesn't know of many public schools in the nation that do serve alcohol, and that UW is an exception to the rule.

"The production of beer is something central to that area's culture," Bresciani said.

SEE CAMPUSES, PAGE 4

Bush policy will decide election

President trying not to repeat father's mistakes

BY ELLIOTT DUBE
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

As the 2004 presidential election approaches, experts say the yet-to-be-named Democratic nominee doesn't top President Bush's list of worries.

Rather, the after-effects of Bush's decisions, both at home and abroad, will make or break his re-election chances.

While Bush's current approval rating, 53 percent, according to a recent CNN/USA Today/Gallup Poll, is down significantly from past numbers, experts say White House officials aren't panicking.

Republican strategists understand the economy and the situation in Iraq are the major contributors to Bush's slipping numbers, said CNN political analyst Stuart Rothenberg, editor of The Rothenberg Political Report.

While those two questions can't be resolved quickly, he added, Bush has enough time to affect a turnaround.

In waging a war in the Middle East and dealing with a struggling economy, the current president has reflected the actions of his father, President George H.W. Bush.

Much of the U.S. public thought the first Bush didn't care deeply enough about the state of the economy, said David Gergen, a former presidential adviser and director of the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



Tuesday: The Bottom Rung
Wednesday: Middle of the Road
Thursday: The Top Four
Today: George W. Bush

"He was seen as out of touch," Gergen said of the 41st president. "And the son, having learned those lessons, has exhibited a lot more 'in-touchness' and is much more aggressive in demonstrating that he cares."

The president also received some encouraging news this week.

The country's gross domestic product, a major indicator of economic status, surpassed expectations in the third quarter and grew at a 7.2 percent annual rate, according to advance estimates released Thursday by the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis.

However, there is a significant lag between the actual state of the economy and the public's perception of it, said Bill Frenzel, a former U.S. representative from Minnesota who serves as a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution.

When the first President Bush lost the 1992

SEE BUSH, PAGE 4



Questions surrounding the national economy and U.S. involvement in Iraq recently have brought down President George W. Bush's approval ratings. DTH FILE PHOTO

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