

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Officials ponder funding surplus

*Cite lack of good, planned requests*

BY LAUREN HARRIS  
STAFF WRITER

Members of Student Congress cited a lack of legitimate, well-planned funding requests as the reason for a \$91,604.72 student activity fee surplus.

"We don't want to fund anything speculative because it wastes student fees," Congress Speaker Will DuPont said.

The increase in the student activity fee to \$19.50 per semester, approved in a student referendum last year, allowed Congress to have a budget of \$304,325.07 and to allocate money to 70 student organizations. This marks a leap from last year's \$164,000 budget.

One of the arguments to increase the student activity fee last year was to bring big-name speakers to the University.

The Student Congress Finance Committee awarded more than \$15,000 to the UNC College Republicans last weekend to bring retired Lt. Col. Oliver North to speak on campus.

Since the beginning of the 2003-04 school year, Congress has appropriated more than \$20,000 to bring three conservative speakers to campus.

But DuPont said that Congress does not make budget decisions based on political affiliations. "We look at this as a big speaker that will draw lots of people," he said.

DuPont said that while it is much easier to fund big-name speakers because there is significantly more money, many groups that requested funding had not confirmed the details of their plans.

Young Democrats Vice President Justin Guillory said his organization, which received \$295 of \$3,700 requested, is still deciding which speakers it would like to bring to campus.

"We will look for a speaker that will benefit all students and not represent the interests of just a few Democrats," he said.

Guillory said he does not oppose spending a significant amount of money on a Republican speaker but that North isn't worth \$15,000 of student fees.

Student organizations that did not receive any of the money they

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## STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT RUNOFF ELECTION



Lily West and Matt Calabria face off as they campaign outside Lenior Dining Hall on Monday afternoon. The two runoff candidates and their supporters have been participating in last minute campaigning before the election takes place today, ending the five-week election season.

# FOCUS, EXPERTISE SET HOPEFULS APART

### CALABRIA, WEST BRING VARIED FACULTIES TO SBP OFFICE

BY BROOK R. CORWIN  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

One cites action, the other interaction. One draws upon a year of student government experience working under Student Body President Matt Tepper, the other working under former Student Body President Jen Daum.

One professes a strength for dealing with officials off campus, the other an ability to unite students on campus.

Matt Calabria and Lily West, respectively, face off today in a runoff election that will decide who will serve as student body president next year.

All students may cast their ballot online for student body president from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. today on Student Central.

Those involved in the five-week long campaign, including campaign workers and leaders of student organizations who hosted forums, say both candidates possess strong platform ideas and impeccable credentials.

But in the areas of leadership styles and personal strengths, a clear divide emerges. "It's not so much the issues we discuss," West said. "It's the way we deal with students that is different."

For Calabria, that approach is based primarily on crafting and implementing a long list of plans to improve student life. It's a focus that can be seen in the size and scope of his platform, which typi-

cally is the first thing to get praise from those who have endorsed his candidacy. "I work with complex issues very well," he said. "I've always been interested in the projects themselves."

West takes an approach rooted in interaction with a broad base of the student body. Her inclusiveness is reflected in the diverse spectrum of her endorsements themselves, which range from the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered-Straight Alliance to the UNC College Republicans.

"I'm willing to lend an ear to everyone," she said. "I listen to what they have to say and take it seriously into account."

These distinctions between the candidates also affect which elements of the position they are most qualified to tackle. The consensus view among all endorsing parties is that Calabria holds an advantage in advocating for student interests to officials off campus, while West has an edge in uniting and rallying students on campus.

"I really like working one-on-one with administrators, and I've had a good rapport with them in the past," Calabria said. "Lily does a good job as far as being persuasive to students."

When describing the research that went into crafting their respective platforms, Calabria is quick to cite his discussions with administrators, while West focuses on her outreach to the entire student body.

SEE FACE OFF, PAGE 5

## ENDORSEMENTS

■ **MATT CALABRIA**  
UNC Young Democrats-Sports Club Council  
The Blue & White Student Environmental Action Coalition  
CAA President-elect William Keith  
Former SBP candidates  
Ashley Castevens\*  
Faudlin Pierre\*  
The Daily Tar Heel Editorial Board\*

■ **LILY WEST**  
Black Student Movement Sangam  
Asian Students Association GLBT-SA  
UNC undergraduate chapter of the ACLU  
Senior class officers-elect Jovian Irvin and Becca Frucht  
Former SBP candidates:  
Matt Compton\*  
Matt Liles\*  
John Walker\*  
UNC College Republicans\*

\*endorsements received after the initial election

## Easley stance mildly praised

*Tuition proposal hinges on budget*

BY KATHRYN ROEBUCK  
STAFF WRITER

Some legislative leaders say they think Gov. Mike Easley's proposition to freeze tuition increases and add system funding in the 2004-05 budget is ideal but probably not feasible due to the state's economic climate.

In a letter sent Feb. 6 to Brad Wilson, chairman of the UNC-system Board of Governors, Easley stated the importance of affordable tuition for N.C. students, especially in hard economic times. Easley also stated his intentions to implement funding for enrollment increases, financial aid and pay increases for faculty and staff.

Easley asked BOG members to vote against the tuition increases.

The BOG is expected to make decisions on tuition increase proposals from UNC-system schools at its March 19 meeting.

Sen. Tony Rand, D-Cumberland, said that he thinks Easley's proposal is a good idea and that he does not support tuition increases.

"The governor and I both graduated from UNC," he said. "We remember the days in Chapel Hill, and we want the education there to be as economical as possible."

Rand said many public universities across the country are cutting back on professors and becoming more privatized, citing Washington State University and the University of Virginia as examples.

"This is a nationwide problem, and fortunately North Carolina has done better than most," he said. "I really hope we don't have to cut back or make that move."

Lisa Kimbrough, spokeswoman for N.C. House Co-Speaker Richard Morgan, R-Moore, said Morgan also is opposed to any tuition increases and would support any method of funding.

But she also said that the possibility of incorporating university funding in the budget depends on the economy.

"The numbers for the budget

SEE BOG, PAGE 5

## Anderson to assume presidency of CUAB

*Hopes to increase event involvement*

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Junior Claire Anderson was selected Carolina Union Activities Board president Sunday, promising more public involvement for the organization.

Anderson, an international studies major, said she wants to provide better advertisement for the organization's upcoming events.

"I'd really like to get the word out," Anderson said. "A lot of people don't know about CUAB and what the Union does."

She said that during her presidency she hopes to increase publicity for the Union's events.

"If more people knew, more people could get involved and excited about events," she said.

Anderson said one of the major functions of CUAB is to bring guest speakers to UNC, such as the Thursday lecture featuring rapper Chuck D.

"Beyond that, we're in charge of the art gallery and the films every

weekend," she said. CUAB also organizes Women's Week and jazz festivals.

Last semester the organization also hosted a Def Poetry Jam contest and band The Neal Pollack Invasion.

CUAB, which ran on a \$160,000 budget this year, comprises nine board members, each in charge of a committee with five to 10 members.

Anderson, chairwoman of the Creative Outlets Committee, said she would like to implement more programs focusing on the arts.

She said she wanted to create an outdoor drama series. "Something a little more low-key than a ticketed event," she said.

Her inspiration for the project came after she was impressed with last semester's CUAB-hosted exhibit, "art in the dark," she said.

Located in the Pit, the nighttime exhibit featured a number of pieces of artwork brightened by lamps.

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## Candidates square off in final forum

BY MEGAN SEROW  
STAFF WRITER

Student body president candidates Matt Calabria and Lily West faced off Monday night in their last forum before today's runoff election.

The event was sponsored by the Coalition of Independent Voters in Carolina, a new student organization

founded to promote nonpartisan political debate.

Only about a dozen students showed up for the forum, but CIVIC leaders said the debate was important as long as there were interested voters.

"A lot of people are burned out by the SBP elections, but it was a good forum," said CIVIC member Mark McIntyre. "Both candidates have the potential to sway voters."

Each candidate was given 3 minutes for a brief overview of their platforms, then took turns asking each other questions.

West's questions to Calabria focused on his platform goals regarding basketball tickets for graduate students' spouses, cheap and legal music downloading, and wireless Internet for off-cam-

pus students.

Calabria said he hopes to get bulk rates for both a music downloading program and wireless routers for off-campus students.

"(A file-sharing program) would allow a relatively cheap option that beats competitive prices," Calabria said.

Questions from Calabria to West centered around the large number of new committees West has planned and her proposal for a Center for Creative Student Leadership, which would create a physical place to provide office resources to student organizations.

West said she doesn't necessarily want to start brand new student government committees but specify already existing jobs to make student government and organizations run more efficiently.

"I want to specifically map out what each person does so we can hit the ground running," she said.

Afterward, the candidates were asked questions from CIVIC and anonymously submitted by the audience. The questions focused on voter turnout and the possibility of adopting the platform goals of former opponents in the race.

Both West and Calabria said they would support a same-day



Matt Calabria (left) answers a question from fellow SBP candidate Lily West at the CIVIC forum Monday night. The SBP race culminates today.

voter registration program, but that the most important aspect of voting is to get students out to vote, not just registered.

When asked if they voted in last November's Chapel Hill Town Council elections, West admitted that she hadn't, but she said that she didn't feel like she knew the candidates well enough to vote for one.

"It's hard to cast a vote for someone you don't know," she said.

Calabria said he did vote in the last election, but he agreed with West on the issue of creating more informed voters.

"We need to bring political figures and organizations here and let

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## SPORTS

### APPROACHING HURDLES

UNC heads to Clemson on Friday and Saturday for the ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships PAGE 7

## INSIDE

### FOR THE KIDS

Eight-year-old George Kupit and his family will be helped by this year's UNC Dance Marathon PAGE 3

## WEATHER

TODAY Rain/snow, H 37, L 29  
WEDNESDAY Flurries, H 46, L 30  
THURSDAY Partly cloudy, H 53, L 33