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Hopefuls to defend campaigns

TUESDAY HEARING TO RULE ON REPORTED VIOLATIONS

BY BROOK R. CORWIN, JENNIFER IMMEL AND EMILY STEEL
SENIOR WRITERS

Charges of campaign violations with grounds for disqualification officially were brought against the campaigns of student body president candidates Matt Calabria and Lily West on Sunday.

Both candidates will face the Board of Elections on Tuesday during an open hearing for their one chance to defend their campaigns before the board makes a ruling.

Calabria's campaign is charged with two acts of illegal political solicitation: campaigning within 50 feet or visible sight of a computer

lab, one instance outside Davis Library and one instance outside the Undergraduate Library.

West's campaign faces three charges: having an illegal campaign worker without compensation and illegal political solicitation at the Undergrad and at the Student Union.

UNC alumnus Alistair Cooper, West's boyfriend, is accused of soliciting votes in the Undergraduate Library computer lab during the final hour before polls closed. Cooper also is accused of being an unpaid campaign worker, a violation for any nonstudent.

The allegations are among a handful that were brought against

both candidates in 42 written statements, 21 against each campaign, that the board spent six hours weeding through Saturday.

"Everything was happening so fast," BOE Chairwoman Melissa Anderson said. "We were getting allegations left and right. It was really difficult to narrow down what were allegations."

The board found that the two formal allegations against Calabria's campaign and the three against West's were the only ones reasonably supported by evidence. But the board noted that other allegations will be considered in the context of all events that occurred during the campaign season.

Both candidates said they believe the charges against their campaigns are unfounded and will be dropped after Tuesday's hearing. Calabria said Sunday evening was the first he heard of the allegations that the board ruled legitimate. The BOE cites credible testimonies from six witnesses in the charges, five of whom the board identified as West supporters.

Two of the original allegations against Calabria's campaign, concerning mass e-mailing and altering the home page of a campus computer, were dropped.

Calabria said that he spoke with the campaign workers charged with the violations and that they told him they had measured their distance from a computer lab.

"The difference between allegations against my campaign and against Lily's campaign is the difference between felonies and mis-

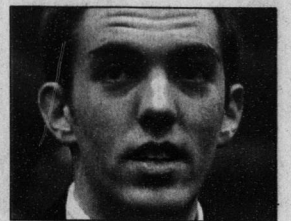
demeanors," he said. "We were brought up on technicalities that will be impossible to prove if they were committed at all."

West has maintained since Wednesday that Cooper was checking his e-mail in the computer lab when the allegations against him were reported.

West also defended Cooper's involvement with her campaign, saying that he only provided moral support and did not directly engage in campaign activities. "I find it disappointing that these allegations were brought forth only on the final day of the campaign," she said.

The BOE cites credible testimonies from four witnesses, one a Calabria supporter, in the allegation that Cooper was illegally soliciting votes by moving around to

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Matt Calabria



Lily West

Official requests probe on e-mail

BY BRIAN HUDSON
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A U.S. congressman has called for an investigation into alleged sexual harassment at UNC in light of an instructor's public reprimand of a student for a comment he made in class.

The Department of English lecturer, Elyse Crystall, sent an e-mail Feb. 6 to students in her English 22 class after one student said he opposed homosexuality during a lecture entitled "Why do heterosexual men feel threatened by homosexuals?"

The e-mail stated that the student was a "white, heterosexual, Christian male ... (who) can feel entitled to make violent, heterosexist comments."

Crystall and the student who made the original comment could not be reached as of press time.

After learning of the incident, U.S. Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., sent a letter to Chancellor James Moeser saying he would contact N.C. Attorney General Roy Cooper

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Rape suspect Robert Allen Harris' trial continues today at 10 a.m. with more testimony.

Rape trial testimony continues

BY CHRIS GLAZNER
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

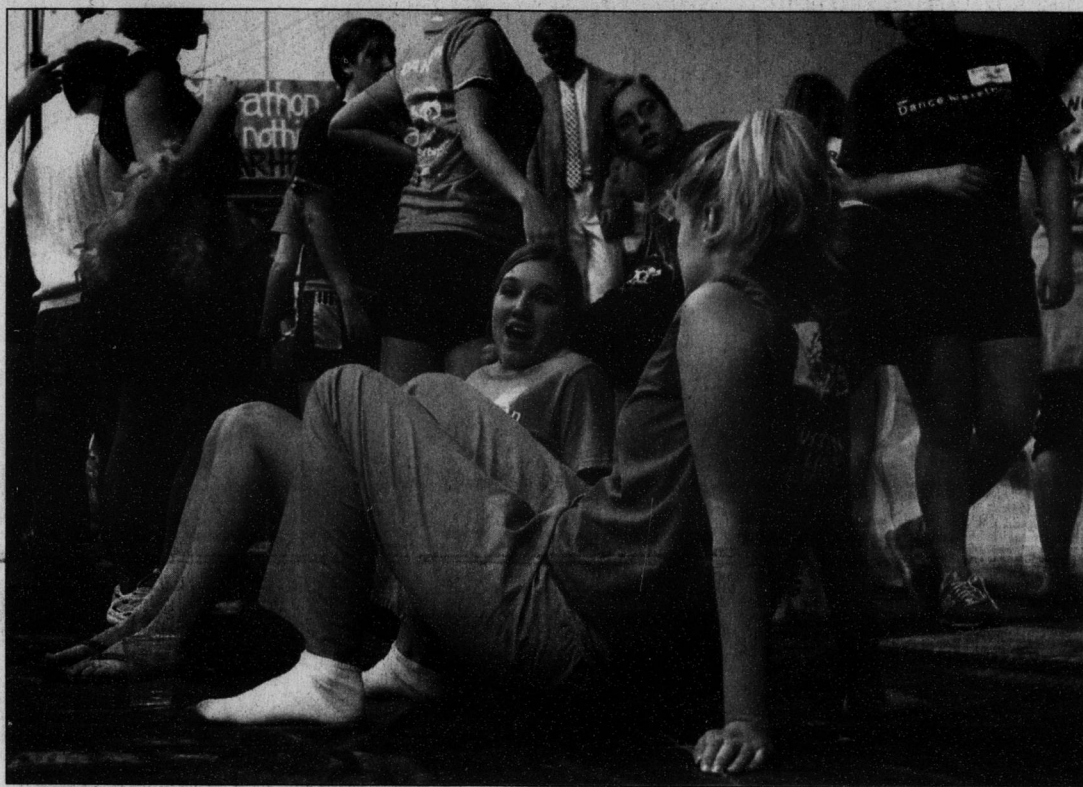
HILLSBOROUGH — The rape trial of former UNC football player Robert Allen Harris continued Friday with testimony from seven witnesses, including law enforcement officers and a student who claims Harris raped her in 2002.

The day began with Assistant Public Defender Glenn Gerding continuing his cross-examination of Harris' accuser, who said Thursday that Harris, her ex-boyfriend, broke into her room and sexually assaulted her in March 2003.

Although the accuser's name was released in court, it is The Daily Tar Heel's policy not to publish names or other identifying information about individuals who claim sexual assault.

Gerding tried to show inconsis-

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Senior Jennifer Richbourg rests her legs while remaining on her feet Saturday morning during Dance Marathon. Below: Senior Class President elect Jovian Irvin cheers on the crowd before the start of the Marathon. The more than 600 dancers stayed on their feet for 1,440 minutes.

MARATHON YIELDS MONEY, SORE FEET

BY MICHELLE JARBOE
FEATURES EDITOR

As more than 600 dancers crouched on the floor, holding their swollen ankles and resting their feet, Overall Committee Chairwoman Haley West announced the fund-raising total for the 2004 Dance Marathon.

A line of committee leaders lifted cardboard signs bearing the total in the moment of truth: Once more, the marathon surpassed its prior earnings, amassing \$170,584.92, up about \$3,000 from last year.

But the grand total represented much more than dollars. Months of effort culminated in 1,440 minutes of

dancing, representing aid given to 65 North Carolina counties, meals fed to sick children's parents on more than 1,300 occasions during the past year and donations from 58 companies contributing to the For the Kids Fund.

"That commitment, that promise to stand on your feet for 24 hours, to feel that temporary pain, it means a lot to the families. ... That type of compassion really shines through in the UNC student body," West said.

Though the 2004 marathon's fund raising surpassed last year's, the jump between the two years in terms of dollars is markedly less than in prior years. Between 2002 and 2003, the fund-raising total increased by more than \$45,000, a leap that Publicity Committee Chairwoman Mandy Helton attributed entirely to the 2003 institution of a mandatory fund-raising requirement of at least \$50 per dancer.

"Really, there are going to be plateaus for any fund-raising organization," Helton said. "We're doing all that we can do right now to raise money, and the way I look at it is that



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whatever we raise is money the social workers otherwise would not have."

Dance Marathon fund-raising efforts this year included a "For the Kids" Family 5K Run/Walk, a benefit concert and a date auction. Donations through the marathon's Web site also bolstered fund raising. "I feel like we have added something great to the marathon legacy, even though it looks like we only had this small jump whereas before they always had these huge jumps," Business Management Chairwoman Jessica Sherrod said.

The 2004 marathon boasted no title sponsor, a spot historically awarded to Chick-fil-A, which did not contribute to this year's event. Helton said marathon organizers decided to eliminate the position in favor of amassing a variety of smaller sponsors.

Instead, the marathon relied on more than 30 other corporate sponsors whose donations ranged from \$100. Many other groups pro-

vided entertainment; marathon activities included an athletic lip-sync and performances by myriad a cappella groups and bands.

Parents of children assisted by the marathon commended dancers for the devotion of a weekend to fund raising instead of partying.

Parent and Duke University graduate Sharon Kupit encouraged the dancers to push students at her alma mater to start a similar marathon. "I'd love to have you challenge the kids at Duke to do this to benefit their hospital. ... I cannot tell you how much this means," she said in one of the evening's most striking speeches.

Moraler Adrian Bissette said everyone participating in the marathon demonstrated heroism. "I have a lot of respect for the people out there," said Bissette, a senior from Wilson.

"Twenty-four hours is a long time."

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu.

Panel's book debate goes on

Group deadlocks on final choice

BY JOHN FRANK
PROJECTS TEAM EDITOR

A group of passionate readers transformed into passionate debaters Sunday evening as the committee selecting this year's summer reading book argued into a deadlock about the final choice.

After reviewing more than 500 books, the committee has narrowed the selection down to two — "Enough: Staying Human in an Engineered Age," by Bill McKibben and "Absolutely American: Four Years at West Point," by David Lipsky.

Committee members noted often that both books could spark another explosion of controversy in the contentious program's fifth year.

"We have to have a book that inspires disagreement — but it doesn't have to be Quran II," said committee chairwoman Jan Bardsley, referencing the University's selection of a book with excerpts from the Islamic holy book that initiated the first controversy two years ago.

Last year the program again came under scrutiny with the selection of "Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America" by Barbara Ehrenreich.

In each of those years, the process to select the book was confidential, but Chancellor James Moeser opened up this year's process at the request of The Daily Tar Heel.

At the group's last scheduled meeting Sunday, eight of the nine committee members debated each of the final five books, touching often upon themes that have plagued the committee since it began the process four months ago. The discussion largely focused on the two front-runners, and the group easily eliminated the other three final books, "A Hope in the Unseen," "Life of Pi" and "Middle of Everywhere."

It was evident early on during the three-hour meeting which were the top two books, and the committee was divided into two distinct camps.

According to the committee's charge, it is to select a book by reaching a "consensus" and use a vote only if necessary.

But at least one member said he wouldn't support either book.

When the group first went around the circle, disclosing each member's top choice, five of eight favored "Enough."

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SPORTS

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Protesters dwarf a National Socialist Movement rally Saturday PAGE 3

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ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK

Dancers and moralers spend 24 hours on their feet in Fetzer Gymnasium PAGE 6

WEATHER

TODAY Partly cloudy, H 55, L 38
TUESDAY Rainy, H 50, L 33
WEDNESDAY Cloudy, H 48, L 27

