

Groups tackle voter mobility

BY KATHERINE EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Members of campus political organizations have shifted to the second phase of their three-pronged attack to get out the vote.

The deadline for the voter registration already has passed, but organizations now are working to educate and mobilize students before the Nov. 2 election.

Leaders from College Republicans, Young Democrats and VoteCarolina say they are working to make sure registered students are well-informed about the issues and to get the word out about what can be a complicated voting process.

"The week after Fall Break, we're planning student body presidential campaign-like publicity," said Justin Guillory, president of UNC Young Democrats.

He also said the group plans to contact all students who are either registered Democrats or unaffiliated voters to make sure they are getting to the polls.

College Republicans also are focusing on sharing ideas with and providing manpower for the larger organizations of the Republican Party.

Chairman Jordan Selleck underscored the importance of the statewide College Republicans in the 2002 elections, in which they supplied 80 percent of the statewide campaign task force.

"In this stage, the second phase, we're focusing on information sharing and targeting certain individuals," Selleck said. "We're putting extensive emphasis on getting our base out (to the polls)."

Organizers at a Kerry-Edwards fund-raiser in Carrboro on Saturday also started to gear up for their last campaign push before Election Day.

Martha Waller, a graduate student who helped host the fund-raiser, said the purpose of the event was not only to inform people about the presidential elections, but also to promote awareness of local candidates.

"People don't see the local level as a big deal," Waller said.

"The week after Fall Break, we're planning student body presidential ... publicity."

JUSTIN GUILLORY, YD PRESIDENT

Many participants said they believe the next phase for the Democratic Party will be to make sure registered voters go to the polls, and some anticipated a change in campaign tactics from both sides.

"I expect that it will get much meaner, but that's a good thing," said Mitch Foxworth, a registered Independent from Carrboro who attended the fund-raiser.

Foxworth said he plans to vote for the Kerry-Edwards ticket.

"Our side needs to learn that skill. I think there will also be harsher competition for uncommitted voters."

Campus political organizations, as well as nonpartisan initiatives, also are heavily promoting early voting at the Morehead Planetarium.

Students registered in Orange County can cast their ballots early. From Oct. 18 to Oct. 30, the polls are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Amon Anderson, chairman of VoteCarolina, called early voting the "no excuses" option and emphasized its accessibility for students who might only have a small window of time between classes to vote.

Because students who live on campus are divided into six different polling locations and only one of these is on campus, county political groups and campus organizations are providing transportation to the polls on Election Day.

VoteCarolina now is working with the Office of the Provost to try to fund Point-2-Point transportation for students to the polling sites.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Students bend bodies, gender at show

GLBTSA festivity ends week's events

BY KATIE HOFFMANN
STAFF WRITER

A sold-out audience crowded into the Great Hall on Monday night and threw dollar bills at men and women dressed in drag who sang, shook and sashayed across the stage.

The Curious Drag Show, the second semiannual event presented by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender-Straight Alliance, topped off National Coming Out Day and marked the culmination of Coming Out Week.

The show served to educate all students about gender in an entertaining way, said Sarah Carucci, co-chairwoman of GLBTSA.

"We're just excited about the diversity of the people who come," she said. "It helps make people recognize gender and sexuality in a way that you can't do in a classroom."

Performers emphasized the importance of using drag shows to educate people about gender and sexuality.

"It's a lot of fun," said student performer Curtis Main, who appeared onstage as Ms. Lolita Raquel Sunshine. "It's good to let people know that gender isn't so constant."

Five student amateurs shared the stage with three professionals who had been selected by GLBTSA members.

"This is my first show," said freshman performer Catherine Adamson, known by her stage name, Mr. Tom Bastien. "I've done drag before, but not in a show form."

As a new component of the show this year, the amateurs competed to win the title by soliciting dollar bills from the audience. Ms. Carmen O'Connor, known by day as Jeffrey Cash, beat out his competitors.



DTH/SAMKIT SHAH

Junior Curtis Main prepares his costume for "Curious," a drag show organized by the GLBTSA and held in the Great Hall of the Student Union on Monday night. The show was the grand finale for Coming Out Week.

"I don't think I've ever been more excited," he said. "It's a great feeling."

Audience members said the show had improved greatly from last year's debut.

"All the performers did much better, especially the amateur acts," said sophomore Jess Donnell.

These acts performed before an unprecedented sold-out crowd of 450 people.

"I think it's great because nothing else brings the entire Chapel Hill community together," said Eric Schmidt, a GLBTSA member.

The show attracted many people from the community interested

in gender issues.

"I'm really into interesting gender expressions," said audience member Mo Morelli. "I think the gender binary is a very false construct. I'd rather be a nongendered person."

The large turnout also was aided by the Coming Out event held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday in the Pit, in which music, balloons and free food accompanied a drag show teaser performance, said Alex Ferrando, co-chairman of the GLBTSA.

"The response we had to the drag show teaser was amazing," he said. "People were rushing up

to buy tickets."

The day also included a keynote address by Jarrett Barrios at 5 p.m.

Barrios, an openly gay senator from Massachusetts, discussed his experiences in office. He also touched on his confrontations with the Massachusetts same-sex marriage proposals.

"By helping other Americans, we are moving towards justice," he said. "It's about pursuing the most American trait of all: equal opportunity for all people."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

BOG sets sights on 2nd phase of construction

BY ERIC JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

With construction equipment still rumbling across many UNC-system campuses, the system's governing body already is looking past phase one of its ambitious building plan — and preparing to seek financing for phase two.

At its Friday meeting, the Board of Governors presented a preliminary budget estimate of \$3.8 billion to \$4 billion for the next six-year phase of the system's comprehensive construction and renovation plan.

That figure takes into account the projected capital needs of all 16 schools, though system officials still are awaiting final projections from several campuses.

Each school has been asked to present estimated costs for capital projects in the next six years, and the system's finance office expects to have all of those figures in hand by the end of the week.

A systemwide plan should be ready by November, when the

board will meet to review the report and to prepare a budget request to submit to the legislature in January.

N.C. Sen. Vernon Malone, vice chairman of the Senate higher education appropriations committee, said a request of almost \$4 billion likely would raise eyebrows.

"I think it'll get a good, hard look," he said. "I'd be more inclined to believe there will be many that will say the number is too high."

Malone, a Wake County Democrat, expressed concern about whether it would be wise to submit another bond referendum so soon after the \$3.1 billion measure voters approved in 2000. He added that

most legislators understand that the previous referendum did not cover all of the costs of the system's construction plan, which in 1999 were projected to be \$6.9 billion.

"I don't suspect it's going to be turned away forthrightly without giving some very serious consideration," Malone said.

It is not yet certain how the BOG will ask the legislature to fund the additional construction.

"If you need a whole lot of money, a bond is usually the preferred method," said board member Cary Owen. "But there are all sorts of ways you can put it together."

Funding for facilities plans also can come from sources within the system itself, such as revenue from residence hall or athletic receipts. Those nongeneral funds typically make up only a fraction of the cost of large-scale construction projects.

BOG members say it will be a give-and-take negotiating process to determine how the legislature will choose to fund the system's eventual request.

"We're going to really have to do a lot of work to make sure that we present the best packet, both for the university as well as to make sure it's one that will get funded," said board member Gladys Robinson.

Legislators and BOG members alike said the attitude toward the next phase of funding will hinge in large measure on the state's economic outlook.

"There is a smorgasbord of considerations that will go into just how this whole thing will be addressed," Malone said. "I don't think there's any simple approach. It's going to be complicated."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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PARKING FOR FRIDAY
Beginning Tuesday, Oct. 12th at 8am, you can get a permit to park on campus for Thursday & Friday, Oct. 14-15. Students should bring a valid driver's license, student identification card, vehicle registration and proof of insurance when coming to purchase a permit. Campus permits will be sold for the Ehringhaus Field lot, Boshamer lot and Manning lot and will cost \$2.00 per day (regularly \$6.00 per day). Students normally having a parking permit for the PR lot will be eligible to purchase these on-campus permits, as well as students that normally do not have a parking permit.

CORRECTIONS

■ Due to a reporting error, the Oct. 5 story "BOE officials hold voting forum" stated that students at the forum were from the Civic Education Consortium.

It should have stated that they were from the Coalition of Independent Voters in Carolina.

■ Due to a reporting error, a caption accompanying the Oct. 11 story "Statement" stated that UNC football player Madison Hedgecock amassed 67 yards against N.C. State on Saturday.

It should have stated that Hedgecock ran for 69 yards in the game.

To report corrections, contact Managing Editor Chris Coletta at coletta@email.unc.edu.

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