

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## October Report released

### CALABRIA CITES PROGRESS IN REALIZING LONG PLATFORM

BY EMILY STEEL  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

He promised to fight unreasonable tuition increases. He promised to activate the student voice. He even promised free music.

And now that Matt Calabria has reached the halfway point of his term as student body president, he said these platform planks — in addition to the more than 60 ini-

tiatives that served as the keystone of his campaign — are well on the way to being realized.

"I'm really confident that all of the headliner goals are more or less out of the way," he said. "Now we're onto more of the nitty-gritty details."

Calabria designed a platform that many say was longer and more comprehensive than that of any of

his seven competitors.

Late Tuesday night his administration released its October Report to evaluate the progress made since Calabria first took office in April. The 306-page document is about twice the size of any in recent history, but the actual report, at 54 pages, is similar in length to those of recent administrations.

The report highlights Calabria's progress on his top initiatives. These include spearheading efforts to provide free and legal music downloading, revising the Student Code, initiating the VoteCarolina

campaign, expanding the role of the Tuition Task Force and introducing more oversight of the Carolina Athletic Association.

The report also documents the administration's work to advocate for renovations to the Campus Y, to reserve funding for sports clubs and to reform the Association of Student Governments.

Student Body Vice President Alexa Kleysteuber said Calabria came into the position wanting all members of student government

SEE REPORT, PAGE 4

## 4 candidates to square off in county race

2 will fill open commissioner slots

BY SARA LEWKOWICZ  
STAFF WRITER

While almost every man, woman and child in Orange County is well aware of the upcoming presidential and senatorial elections, some might have forgotten that 2004 is also an important year for the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Come Tuesday, voters will be charged with picking a pair of candidates to fill the two open seats on the board, which is in charge of countywide services.

Incumbent candidate Moses Carey Jr. is running on the Democratic ticket and said that one of his primary concerns, should he be re-elected, will be equalizing the funding disparity between the county's two school districts.

"When you talk about public education, you're really talking about the future of our nation," Carey said.

It was Carey who, in early 2003, proposed the idea of merging Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Orange County schools as a means of dealing with the disparities.

But his pro-merger stance has proven to be unpopular with a number of county residents, including two of the candidates

running against him.

Jamie Daniel, a Hillsborough resident and county public school parent, is running on the Republican ticket with a firm anti-merger agenda.

"School merger is a bad idea," Daniel said, adding that the move is not necessarily in Orange County Schools' best interest because discrepancies in standardized test scores between black and white students are higher in city schools.

Daniel said merger also would mean a "backdoor tax." Chapel Hill and Carrboro residents now pay a property tax of 20.2 cents per \$100 in assessed value to fund city schools, a type of fee not levied by the county school district.

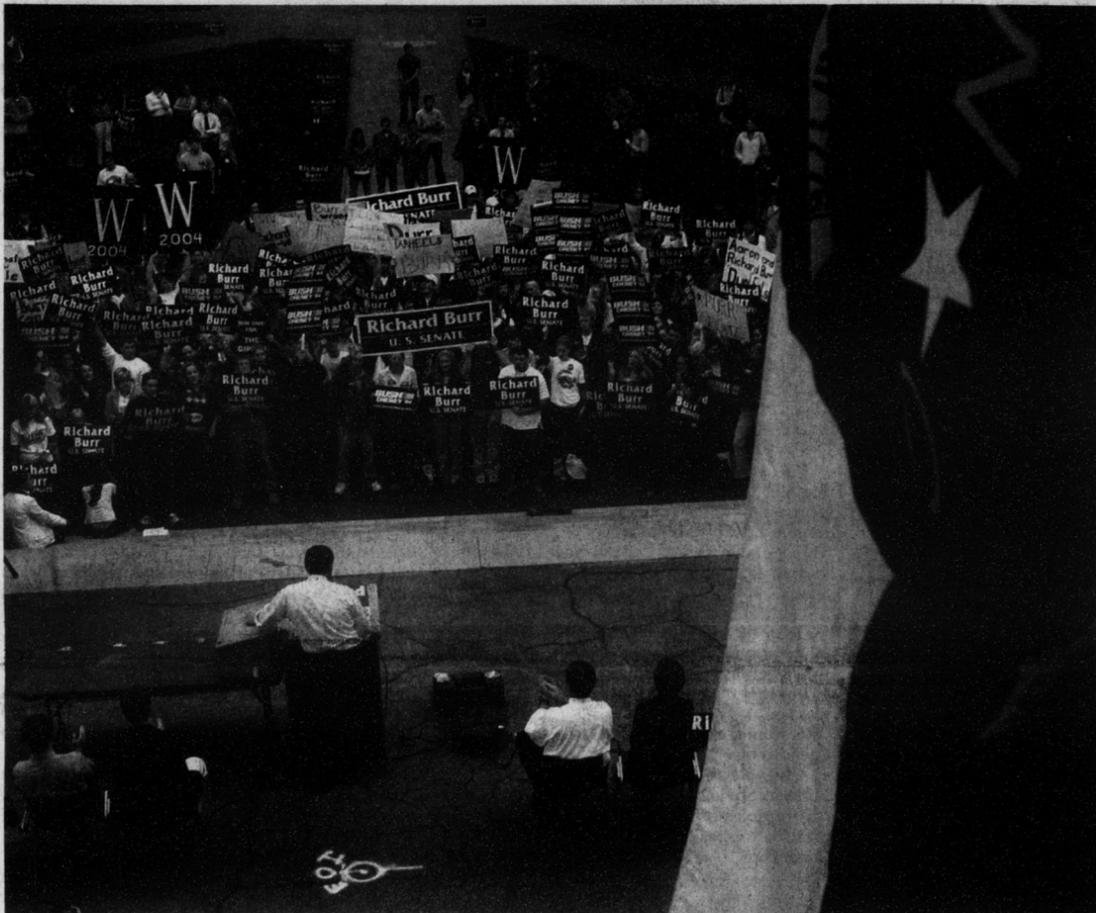
Daniel is not the only candidate running with the intention of stamping out the idea of merger.

Valerie Foushee, a member of the city school board since 1997, recently received the endorsement of NoMerger.org, a group of more than 240 parents opposed to the idea.

Foushee said she does not believe combining the districts would fix disparities because such a move would remove community control over schools. She said, however, that the merger was not the issue

SEE COMMISSIONERS, PAGE 4

## RACE FOR THE SENATE



Rep. Richard Burr, Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, addresses students Wednesday afternoon in front of South Building. During his speech, Burr — who is locked in a tight battle with his Democratic opponent, Erskine Bowles, on the eve of the election — touted his policies and support for President Bush.

## Burr rallies crowd on campus

BY MEGAN MCSWAIN  
STAFF WRITER

A trail of campaign signs and country music led to the steps of South Building on Wednesday, where an excited crowd gathered to participate in a rally for Republican Senate candidate Richard Burr.

About 15 minutes before Burr's speech, the chant of "Erskine Bowles! Erskine Bowles!" was heard as students supporting the Democratic Senate candidate infiltrated the rally, causing the energy in the crowd to increase dramatically.

The Burr crowd was resilient to the interruption and warmly received Burr's introduction from his son Tyler, a UNC freshman.

"Take my word ... he will look out for the youth of America," Tyler Burr said.

The 5th District representative began his speech by voicing his support for President Bush. "I'm here proudly to stand in front of you today to tell you George Bush deserves to be re-elected.

"George Bush understands it's not about us who are serving in Washington. It's about you," he said as the crowd cheered energetically.

Suddenly, a woman shouted, "You've got

blood on your hands!"

Burr quickly responded, "One of the reasons we're in Iraq today is so people can say what she said. So they, too, have the freedom to say whatever they want."

Stephens Johnson, a Burr supporter, said he was impressed with Burr's well-composed response to the woman's accusation. "It showed he was pretty on his toes."

Burr said he is excited that in January, the Iraqi people will get to experience free elections — elections in which women can vote.

"(Women) will reach in that line of future terrorists and pull their 9-year-old children out and put them in schools built by the United States of America and eliminate that threat."

He then introduced his friend, Sen. George Allen, R-Va. "All right, team, y'all ready to win?" Allen said. "Go Burr!"

He continued by presenting Bush as the proper pick for president Nov. 2. "He is the right man at the right time."

"The president needs teammates," Allen said. "Teammates like Richard Burr, a man that he can trust."

Allen added that Burr is the appropriate choice for Senate because he wants to lower taxes, provide affordable health care and make sure the United States continues to be a leader in innovation.

SEE BURR, PAGE 4

"In many ways, we lost our sense of decorum and academic detachment during our debate on the ... resolution." REP. KUNAL NANDY, CONGRESS

## Congress frustrated by tough issues

BY KELLI BORBET  
STAFF WRITER

After spending several hours disputing controversial resolutions Tuesday night, members of Student Congress have expressed discontent with what they called the group's inefficient meetings.

During Tuesday's meeting, representatives spent more than an hour debating a resolution to condemn the selection process for speakers at a nonpartisan elections forum.

The bill, which ultimately was

struck down in a 15-4 vote, targeted the committee for inviting Natalie Fixmer to speak as part of Tuesday's nonpartisan forum on women's health, sponsored by the Women's Affairs Committee of the executive branch.

Fixmer, who works for Planned Parenthood, spoke about women's issues but did not mention her stance on abortion, said Menaka Kalaskar, chairwoman of the committee.

But some Congress members

voiced concern about the committee's decision to allow Fixmer to speak because of her affiliation with an abortion-rights group.

Congress members also debated a bill that condemns the burning of another's American flag on campus. The bill passed in a 7-6 vote with nine abstentions.

After the meeting adjourned well past midnight, Rep. Kunal Nandy sent an e-mail to the Congress listserv and voiced his concern about the amount of

time the group spent disputing the women's affairs issue.

"In many ways, we lost our sense of decorum and academic detachment during our debate on the Women's Affairs Resolution," the e-mail states.

Nandy proposed discussing how to make Congress meetings more efficient, and he offered a four-step guideline to condense discussions on future legislation.

SEE CONGRESS, PAGE 4



Former UNC men's basketball head coach Dean Smith speaks Wednesday at the Morehead Planetarium, supporting Senate candidate Erskine Bowles.

### ONLINE

Groups hold Homecoming feast, giveaway in Pit  
UNC, other groups have massive transit discussion  
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### INSIDE

ELECTIONEERING  
Out-of-state students try to make a big difference Tuesday PAGE 2

### SPORTS

DOWNING THE TRIBE  
Men's soccer team runs its winning streak to five by downing William & Mary PAGE 2

### WEATHER

TODAY Mostly cloudy, H 65, L 52  
FRIDAY Cloudy, H 67, L 58  
SATURDAY Partly cloudy, H 79, L 60

