

Unopposed hopefuls take things easy

Platforms rule candidates' time

BY GEORGIA CHERRY
STAFF WRITER

As some candidates prepare for a rigorous 2005 student election, two hopefuls are focusing on their platforms instead of worrying about competition.

Mike Brady, candidate for Graduate and Professional Student Federation president, and Chasity Wilson, candidate for Residence Hall Association president, both are running uncontested this spring.

Brady, who is the current vice president for external affairs of GPSF, said he is using the energy he would focus on competition for planning. A husband and comput-

er science graduate student, Brady said he knows all about planning and managing his time.

"This will require more time than anything I've ever had to do before," he said. "I'm going to have to be very careful about it, but my friends and family and myself included are all very excited."

Wilson, current national communications coordinator on the RHA executive board, said she primarily is focused on making sure people know who she is.

"Right now, I'm just getting up my Web site and handing out my platform so that people know I am running and so that they know what I'm working on," she said. "I also just want to remind people to vote in general because that's the most important thing."

Brady said he is a little disappointed that he doesn't have any

competition.

"Ultimately, I want to do what's best for the GPSF, and part of that is having the best candidate be in the presidency," he said. "If that's not me, I'm perfectly OK with that, but right now, students don't have that choice."

Colin Scott, current RHA president, ran unopposed last year after losing the race the previous year. He said his second campaign took the opportunity to have a little bit of fun.

"Since we didn't have to contend with opposition, we were able to have more fun with the campaign," he said. "We created a Web site, put some videos together, trying to give the students something else to look at and explore."

Current GPSF President Jen Bushman said she put a lot of time and effort into her campaign, even



Candidates Mike Brady and Chasity Wilson are seeking offices in uncontested races.

though she ran uncontested last year.

"There's definitely less pressure," she said. "But I worked hard on generating a useful, progressive platform, getting my face out, my name out and my platform out so that people would know I was dedicated to the job and that I would do a good job."

Bushman added that the role

of GPSF president is a giant job. She said students from outside the organization often don't want to run because of the responsibilities and duties that come with the position.

She said she thinks the best thing an uncontested candidate can do is act as if there is someone else eyeing the position.

"It doesn't make sense to make a platform on just what you and your friends want to change," she said.

"You can make a more realistic platform by talking to so many other people. Act like you are still running against someone and really sell yourself to the students so that they feel like they're really getting a quality leader."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

POLICE LOG

FROM STAFF REPORTS

■ A mother's report that her preschool-aged child was sexually assaulted has led to the filing of petitions of attempted first-degree rape against three juvenile males, said police spokeswoman Jane Cousins.

The report was filed Jan. 5 and is reported to have happened while the girl was in the care of Dora Etta Wilson, of 500 Church St.

After reporting the incident to police, Cousins said, the victim was taken to UNC Hospitals to investigate the claim.

The evidence gathered suggested that the girl was sexually assaulted, Cousins said.

Wilson was served a criminal summons Jan. 18 on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

She is scheduled to appear Feb. 7 in Orange County District Criminal Court in Hillsborough.

Cousins said that because the victim and accused are all juveniles, ages and names cannot be disclosed.

Wilson, who says the incident occurred while she operated a day care, refused to comment Tuesday.

■ The man arrested in relation to numerous breaking and enterings around Cameron Avenue last year did not make his first scheduled appearance in Orange County Superior Court on Tuesday.

Anthony James Dukes was set to appear Tuesday on 16 charges, including felony breaking and entering, felony larceny and felony first-degree burglary.

His lawyer, Susan Seahorn, from the office of the public defender, would not comment on why she asked for a continuance.

Dukes' next appearance has been scheduled for Feb. 22.

Dukes had been linked to numerous break-ins around Cameron Avenue and Kenan, McCauley, Ransom and Vance streets.

Police arrested Dukes on Nov. 10 after he was seen in the yard of 217 Vance St., a house he is charged with robbing a few days before.

According to police reports, the total amount of goods stolen is estimated at \$23,000.

CORRECTIONS

■ Due to a reporting error, the Jan. 25 article "Tar Heels take down top-ranked Duke" misspelled the name of Duke women's basketball player Alison Bales.

■ Due to a reporting error, the Jan. 25 article "Local legends may see honor" misattributed a quote to Rebecca Caldwell that was spoken by Rebecca Clarke. Clarke, not Caldwell, worked on Howard Lee's 1969 mayoral campaign.

CLARIFICATION

■ Though a graphic with the Jan. 25 story "Body vetoes hike in fees" accurately stated that UNC is considering a \$150 hike in student athletic fees, it failed to note that a \$2 increase already is on the table.

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

J-school dean search narrows

BY CAROLINE KORNEGAY
STAFF WRITER

Three candidates remain in the running for a new journalism school dean after the only female contender dropped out of the race Tuesday.

Terry Hynes, journalism school dean at the University of Florida, withdrew her bid to lead UNC's School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

"It really was wonderful up there, and they have one of the finest programs in the nation," Hynes told The Independent Florida Alligator on Tuesday. "However, I feel my talents are better matched here, and that there's more going on in this program."

She could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

UNC alum Joel Brinkley — who won a Pulitzer Prize for international reporting in 1980 and who has worked for The New York Times since 1983 — is the third and also recently named candidate.

"I'm thrilled to be a finalist, and I'd love to be dean," said Brinkley, a member of the UNC General Alumni Association Board of Directors.

He said he has accomplished everything he has set out to do professionally and thought that a dean position would bring a new and interesting challenge.

One challenge the school faces is finding a dean with both practical and academic expertise, said Chris Roush, director of the Carolina Business News Initiative and a member of the search committee.

"(Brinkley) doesn't even have a master's degree, for crying out loud," said Chuck Stone, Walter Spearman professor in the journalism school. "He's coming into a high-powered faculty."

Stone, who is not a member of the search committee, noted a potential disparity between Brinkley's practical and academic experience. He added that he is disappointed that none of the candidates are women or faculty already within the school.

"I really want to see a woman as dean," Stone said. "That is unfortunate to have all final male candidates. I would hope that the women would protest."

Other school faculty worried that the candidates' solid news and editorial backgrounds might leave some of the program's other disciplines, particularly public relations and advertising, without much of a voice under new leadership.

Candidate Frank Denton served as editor of the Tampa Tribune for 11 months and the editor of the Wisconsin State Journal in Madison. He and Brinkley will now compete against Gerald Baldasty, professor and chairman of the Department of Communication at the University of Washington.

Though Brinkley and Denton, a member of the school's board of visitors, have links to the school, public relations professor and search committee member Dulcie Straughan said Tar Heel ties aren't necessary.

The committee plans to meet later this week in light of Hynes' withdrawal.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Town's move to annex passes sans struggle

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN
SENIOR WRITER

As Carrboro seeks resolution to its controversial annexation proposals, Chapel Hill is adding new areas with little debate.

The Chapel Hill Town Council passed an annexation services plan for the areas of Larkspur and Vineyard Square on Monday night.

The plans will allow for the areas, if annexed, to receive services provided by the town of Chapel Hill, including solid waste collection and street maintenance services.

The areas also would receive water and sewer, parks and recreation, police, fire and public transportation services.

Acquiring Vineyard Square will cost Chapel Hill almost \$70,000 for the fiscal year 2005-06 but will result in almost \$180,000 in revenue for the town.

The Larkspur site will cost the town about \$29,000 for the first fiscal year, while generating a revenue of about \$126,000.

Together, the annexations will garner more than \$200,000 in revenue for the town during that first year.

The 2006-07 fiscal year will result in almost \$380,000 in revenue between both sites.

The council agreed to proceed with the annexation plans with no objections, but recognized council member Jim Ward's request for further information on additional costs the town could incur.

Ward asked Town Manager Cal Horton to compile data on how

much it would cost to annex these sites and to provide them with adequate fire and police services.

"I just wanted the Town Council and the citizens to be aware of additional costs," he said.

"(I want them to be) aware up front that these annexations do have these costs associated with them."

The service report stated that the Chapel Hill Fire and Police departments would not have to add positions to provide services to the residents of the annexed areas.

Vineyard Square will be adding 5.5 persons per its 44.4 acres, and Larkspur will add 2.3 persons per its 33.4 acres.

Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said the police department performed an analysis to examine whether it would need to add positions.

"We could handle the calls without adding any resources," she said.

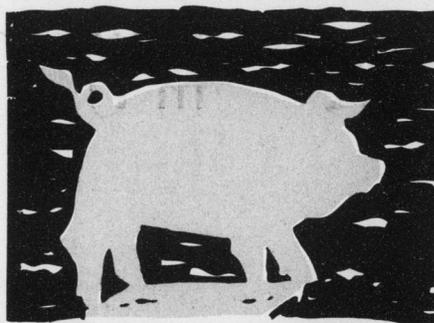
Catherine Lazorko, town information officer, said the information that Ward requested should be available no later than March 21, the date of the public hearing on the proposed annexations.

A public information meeting on the annexations will be held at 4 p.m. March 3 at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

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