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2005 STUDENT ELECTIONS

DEARMIN TRIUMPHS IN TIGHT COMPETITION

BY BRIAN HUDSON
SENIOR WRITER

A year after the most prolonged campus contest in memory, student elections ended without a hitch.

Seth Dearmin was elected the University's next student body president Tuesday, winning 51.6 percent of the votes in a close runoff against Seke Ballard.

Dearmin received 2,602 of the 5,046 votes cast Tuesday after garnering 40 percent of the vote in the general election last week.

After hearing the results, Dearmin spent several minutes rejoicing with his supporters and taking phone calls from well-wishers.

"It's just awesome," he said, laughing and trying to come to terms with the announcement.

Ballard, who picked up an additional 542 votes since the general election — when he received 27 percent of the vote — said he believed that he did all he could to close the original 887-vote gap.

"I think it's just that the student body president identified with one candidate more than

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

■ **SETH DEARMIN**
2,602 votes, 51.6%

■ **SEKE BALLARD**
2,444 votes, 48.4%

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DTH/JUSTIN SMITH

Student body president-elect Seth Dearmin celebrates his win with friends in 111 Carroll Hall. Dearmin garnered 51.6 percent of the vote.

WHISNANT WINS BY SLIM MARGIN

BY STEPHANIE NEWTON
STAFF WRITER

An unprecedented extension of the race for senior class office left candidates with an extra week to zero in on their campaign strategies and platforms. Tuesday night, it was clear that the extra week made a difference.

Senior class president-elect Bobby Whisnant Jr. and vice president-elect Jenny Peddycord narrowly took the crown Tuesday, walking away from this year's campus election season with 51.6 percent of the junior class vote.

Of the 1,584 total ballots cast in the race, Whisnant and Peddycord garnered 818, while opponents Madison Perry and Whit Walker grabbed 766, closing with 48.4 percent of the votes.

The two campaigns were forced into a runoff election after last week's general election results left neither ticket with a majority of the votes. At the time, Whisnant and Peddycord trailed Perry and Walker by one vote — 914 to 915.

"I just want to say thank you to the class of 2006," Whisnant said. "We're very honored that the junior class picked us to be their senior class leaders."

After hearing the totals and celebrating with his campaign staff, Whisnant called his mother. "She's been talking me through the campaign the entire time, telling me to

walk by faith and not by sight," he said.

Though they immediately planned to celebrate at Linda's Bar and Grill, Whisnant and Peddycord took time Tuesday to stress the importance and urgency of their plans.

"You really do need to go ahead and jump right in," Peddycord said. "I think Bobby and I prepared our platform in a manner that was ready to go into action."

Right off the bat, Whisnant and Peddycord said they want to emphasize their desire to reach out to those who voted for the opposing ticket, highlighting the need for unity. "Our initiatives and platforms are for everyone," Whisnant said.

During their first 100 days in office, the pair plans to tackle senior class marshal applications first. Next, the pair said they would like to get their senior celebration off the ground and to schedule the first Commencement speaker meeting before Spring Break.

Perry and Walker said they have no regrets. "We knew it was going to be close for sure," Walker said. "I think we overcame a lot of folks who didn't want us to get this far."

The pair said their unorthodox strategies and disorganization contributed to a skeptical view of their campaign.

"We did it our way," Perry said. "Whit and I don't fit the typical politician definition."

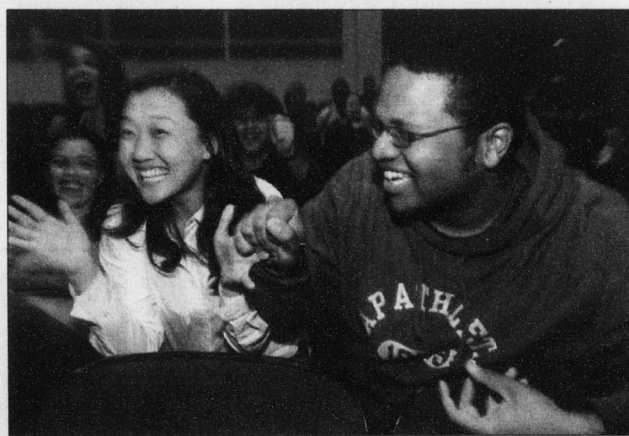
But the two spoke highly of the way that Whisnant and Peddycord managed to garner a wealth of support so early on in the race — something Perry said his campaign did not do as well.

"It's all about a network of people who want to support

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"We're very honored that the junior class picked us to be their senior class leaders."

BOBBY WHISNANT JR., SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT-ELECT



DTH/JUSTIN SMITH

Jenny Peddycord (left) and Bobby Whisnant Jr. react to their victory in the runoff race for senior class officers. The pair beat their competition with 51.6 percent of the vote.

Youth battled to integrate school

BY BRIANNA BISHOP
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Braxton Foushee remembers his high school as a place where families came together.

The Chapel Hill resident was one of many students who attended Lincoln High School in the late 1950s, when the all-black institution struggled to meet the needs not provided to it by a predominantly white school board.

"It brought the whole community together," the 1960 graduate said, recalling fund-raisers the school held in order to make ends meet.

But only one year after Foushee's

graduation, black students would see a vastly different educational system. The Chapel Hill-Carrboro school district became one of the first in the South to voluntarily place students in schools based on geography rather than race, The Chapel Hill Weekly reported at the time.

The Chapel Hill Board of Education voted 4-1 in July 1961 to integrate all schools, beginning with first-grade students.

Later, toward the end of the 1960s, the district opened a new site for Chapel Hill High School, which would be integrated.

While integration occurred after Foushee graduated, he said students of his generation generally supported the ideal.

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COURTESY OF THE CHAPEL HILL TOWN HALL

Faculty members at the all-black Lincoln High School pose for a photo. The Chapel Hill Board of Education voted in 1961 to integrate all schools.

Court to take 1st action in lawsuit against UNC

BY KATHERINE EVANS
STAFF WRITER

The fate of three UNC students and their Christian fraternity is in the hands of lawyers today.

The Greensboro court hearing of the "Alpha Iota Omega Christian Fraternity v. Moeser" case could have significant ramifications — not only for the UNC fraternity but for First Amendment applications on campuses nationwide.

"It is an exciting time," said fraternity member Jonathan Park. "We have a lot of expectations."

While members of AIO said they will have little opportunity to participate, they plan to attend and to show support for their cause.

The students are fighting for



Chancellor James Moeser is named as the defendant in Alpha Iota Omega fraternity's suit against UNC.

official University recognition of their fraternity as a student organization — a designation that was denied when they refused to sign UNC's nondiscrimination policy. The policy, which all student organizations are required to sign, lies at the crux of the lawsuit.

Any group seeking University

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BLOOD DONE SIGN MY NAME

Author of next year's summer reading assignment talks about his book with The Daily Tar Heel **PAGE 6**

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ASG GOES TO WASHINGTON

Student leaders to take trip to lobby federal leaders **PAGE 5**

SPORTS

'HOOS YOUR DADDY?

Tar Heels look to repeat success at UVa. in friendly confines of Smith Center **PAGE 11**

WEATHER

TODAY P.M. showers, H 71, L 38

THURSDAY Mostly sunny, H 51, L 26

FRIDAY Sunny, H 47, L 25

