

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Results spark more questions

### TURNOUT REMAINS LOW, CORE ISSUES NOT EVIDENT

BY BRIANNA BISHOP AND RACHEL ULLRICH  
STAFF WRITERS

The election results are in, but questions about Tuesday's outcome still remain.

One thing that's for certain is that voter turnout was low Tuesday, though candidates can only wonder what consequences that had for their campaigns.

Only 14.83 percent of eligible vot-

ers in the county cast their ballots, according to unofficial results.

"I was really disappointed with the turnout overall, not just the students," said University student Jason Baker, who placed last in the Chapel Hill race. "I'm not sure how the turnout affected me personally, if I would've done better or worse."

#### The final outcome

Whether it was the results they hoped for or not, candidates saw their campaigns come to an end after months of work.

Though the evening was quiet, there were a few surprises along the way — particularly in all three mayoral races.

In a close race, Joe Phelps,

Hillsborough's two-term incumbent mayor, was unseated by challenger Tom Stevens.

Results show Stevens winning by only 39 votes.

In the other two municipalities, the races were more clear-cut.

Though Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy still won with 77.76

SEE QUESTIONS, PAGE 4

## UNC grads should teach

It's November. You're a senior. You're wondering what you should do with your life.

If you're Wendy Kopp, a senior at Princeton, you write an honors thesis proposing the creation of a national teacher corps. You put your dream in visionary terms: "One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education."

Fifteen years later, what has she achieved?

Last year, more than 17,000 recent college graduates applied to join Teach for America, seeking one of the 2,200 spots with placements in 22 locations (including eastern North Carolina and Charlotte).



GUEST COLUMNIST

Judith Wegner stresses the role of Teach for America.

Teach for America members had median GPAs of 3.5. More than 95 percent held campus leadership positions. More than 27 percent are people of color.

There are more than 10,000 Teach for America alumni, including nearly 200 based in North Carolina. Together they've taken significant steps toward Kopp's compelling dream.

How does Carolina fit into this picture?

Last year, UNC was third in the nation in participation in the corps, with 43 members joining in 2005 (behind only Michigan and Cornell universities).

We were 11th in terms of total applicants, and fifth in the nation in those accepted into the Corps. We had the fourth highest rate of graduates accepting Teach for America offers (tied with Yale University) and a rate of acceptance that was more than double the national average.

We've had 250 Carolina graduates join Teach for America in the last 15 years and currently have 79 corps members teaching.

The average corps member teaches 70 students each year. Since the corps' inception, UNC graduates have impacted the lives of 17,500 students in urban and

SEE TEACH, PAGE 4

## WITH GOALS STEADY, GROUP EXPANDS CORE



Angela Cracker decorates a mural in the Pit on Wednesday as part of the Black Student Movement's goal of promoting solidarity among blacks and people of all races.

BY COURTNEY LEIGH MILLER, STAFF WRITER

With a rainbow of hands contrasted against a stark black wall, a Black Student Movement mural marks the larger evolution of the voice of the University's black advocacy group.

Students of all races were invited Wednesday night to contribute their unique handprints to the mural, which sought to symbolize racial solidarity.

"If you're working for the good of people who have been traditionally or historically oppressed, then you're working for the good of all people," said BSM executive board member Carmen Harris.

"Ending racism doesn't just benefit black people or Latinos or South Asians, it benefits everybody."

The event was more than an attempt to demonstrate the importance of diversity on campus. Beyond the advertised motive, the mural marked a growing trend of the BSM toward broadening its scope on campus.

The mural is part of the monthlong celebration of the BSM's founding in 1967. During the course of the past 38 years, the BSM has expanded from a group advocating only for black students' rights to a group seeking to unify an often divided campus.

"Even though we have a very specific focus, when all these collective focuses are brought

together by campus organizations, that's when greatness happens," said BSM President Brandon Hodges. "As students, we also have a certain focus for bettering the campus in any way possible. ... There are certain issues that will tear us apart sometimes, but we need to stand unified as a student body."

The mural, "Solidarity: One Vision, One Body," attracted the hands of a cornucopia of students, not just members of the BSM.

"Actually dipping your hands in paint and putting your print on the blank canvas — it's a very disarming way of building community," said senior economics major Matthew Wynter.

SEE UNITY, PAGE 4

## Credit union woes hit North Carolina

BY STEPHANIE NEWTON  
STAFF WRITER

Culminating in August, the nation has seen the slowest 12-month savings growth rate on record for the credit union industry.

In light of the decrease in growth, North Carolina's State Employees' Credit Union is hoping to draw more patrons back into the fold.

"Folks are saving less in general terms," said Mike Lord, chief financial officer and senior vice president of the State Employees' Credit Union. "Money is going into the stock market or certificates of deposit at other institutions."

Lord's remark comes in the wake of a report issued in October by the Credit Union National Association that cites an August decrease of 0.9 percent in the savings balances housed at credit unions across the country.

SECU serves 1.25 million North Carolinians in 90 of 100 counties — that's one in every eight residents, Lord said.

Leigh Brady, senior vice president of education services for SECU, attributed the decrease of growth to a stronger economy and more attractive investing options

SEE CREDIT, PAGE 4

## Amping up poverty discussions

Bigwigs have it out about issues

BY AMY EAGLEBURGER  
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Academics and policymakers converged on Chapel Hill on Wednesday to confront — or at least talk about — the nationwide issue of poverty.

The summit, hosted by UNC's Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity, included discussions of the lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina and the role of healthy marriages in preventing poverty.

"The summit has literally brought together the best minds in the country to work on the issue of poverty," said John

Edwards, director of the poverty center. "It's been a very substantive and good discussion."

Edwards was the moderator during the final panel's discussion of Katrina.

"A lot of Americans saw, I think, literally for the first time, the poverty that exists in America," he said. "The question for all of us is how we sustain the attention."

Jared Bernstein, director of the Living Standard Program at the Economic Policy Institute, said he was pleased with the attention the issue of poverty

SEE POVERTY, PAGE 4



Ray Boshara from the New America Foundation (left) and former U.S. Sen. John Edwards talk as part of Wednesday's summit on poverty.

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**COME BACK AGAIN** Town council again delays a UNC permit application

**BEEFING UP SECURITY** County looks to maximize emergency response efficiency

**BLIP OR TREND?** N.C. officials look to explain rise in teenage pregnancy rates

campus | page 2

**A FACELIFT**  
Morrison Residence Hall is closed down this year to allow for renovations, including the addition of solar energy capabilities.

dive | page 5-8

**MIXIN' IT UP**  
As digital music becomes more pervasive, 'rock snobs' wonder if there still will be an outlet for their type of music-enjoying experience.



sports | page 11

**SQUEAKING ONE OUT**  
The North Carolina men's soccer team snuck by N.C. State in the ACC Tournament quarterfinals in Cary on Wednesday, 1-0.

weather

AM Showers  
H 62, L 32  
**index**  
police log ..... 2  
calendar ..... 2  
crossword ..... 8  
sports ..... 11  
edit ..... 12