

# The Daily Tar Heel

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www.dailytarheel.com

## ONLINE POLLS

### Student elections

Are you surprised by the men's basketball team record? Go to: [www.dailytarheel.com](http://www.dailytarheel.com)

### Town-gown relations

Results: Is the current town administration anti-University?

YES 51% 128 votes NO 49% 125 votes

This poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of those who have chosen to participate. The results do not represent the opinions of the public as a whole.

# Usage spike crippled UNC network

BY KATHRYN BALES  
STAFF WRITER

Although UNC's Internet network was back in operation before the end of the day Tuesday, a glitch disrupted runoff student elections and campus members' daily routines alike.

An unexpected surge in use cut off Internet access for large parts of campus, including the Student Union and the Undergraduate Library.

The problem was noticed quickly, at 3:49 p.m., and was fixed just before 8 p.m., said John Streck, assistant vice chancellor for information technology services.

Jim Brewer, co-vice chairman of the Board of Elections, said the group thought that the difficulty justified invalidating the results.

Brewer said that Congress hopefuls will not appeal the decision to recall Tuesday's election and that there will be another vote Feb. 28.

Candidates for senior class president and vice president agreed to use Tuesday's results.

"The margin of victory was so small that four hours and 11 minutes of voting could make a big difference," Brewer said.

Streck said that a team was standing by but that unforeseen activity incapacitated the network.

"We saw traffic that looked like from its signal that it was OK, but the volume compared to what we

normally see was about 10 times as much, so it was suspicious," he said.

Network use among residence hall users and UNC administration traffic on the wireless sector was odd, said Jim Gogan, director of networking for ITS.

"It would be the same sort of thing if all of a sudden you had a side street where all of (Interstate 40)'s traffic was suddenly side-tracked," he said. "When that

happens, you know something's wrong."

Streck's team is checking every log documenting the problem, but that might not provide an answer, he said.

Streck said there are monitors in place to alert technicians. The network is designed so that only one section will be down at a time.

"We had spots that lost func-

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## THE DRIVE TO HELP



DTH/GILLIAN BOLSOVER

Tobisa McDougald, a collection technician, draws blood from senior Ann Cosper and junior Ryan Point during a blood drive Wednesday in the Great Hall of the Student Union. Cosper, who is type O positive, says she

gives blood whenever she has the opportunity. The Mu Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Inc. and the UNC Red Cross chapter hosted the drive, which will also be held from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. today. Walk-ins are welcome.

# Towns could fuse fire departments

BY RACHEL ULLRICH  
STAFF WRITER

This time when local officials say "merger," they're not talking about the schools.

Recently, discussions about joining the forces of the Chapel Hill and Carrboro fire departments have been brought to the table.

At the Carrboro Board of Aldermen meeting Tuesday, the possible merger was a topic of debate with regards to the town's budget for the next fiscal year.

"I'm interested in looking at it," Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton said Wednesday.

He said the merger was a possibility that might create benefits for the towns.

The effects on both the towns and the individual departments are unclear until thorough research is completed.

"There are a lot of issues to consider," Carrboro Town Manager Steve Stewart said.

The situation in Carrboro is unique because the town is in the midst of departmental transition.

Former fire chief Rodney Murray, on medical leave until March 1, will

retire after facing multiple criminal charges and spending time in jail.

The Carrboro department now is under the control of interim chief Travis Crabtree.

The department also is in the early stages of building a new sub-station in northern Carrboro to provide service to recently annexed neighbors — a cost which could be shared with the Chapel Hill government if a merger is executed.

Carrboro officials said the possible financial benefits of a merger are appealing, but Stewart said he is unsure whether the merger would be positive financially.

"It could be cost saving; it could actually cost more," he said.

Chilton agreed, adding that his staff is doing preliminary research on the possible effects of a merger.

"We need to see if there is a significant amount of money to be saved," Chilton said. "If there is, I think we need to explore it."

The discussion of the merger began 10 years ago, but no plans have come to fruition.

Chilton said he will continue

SEE MERGER, PAGE 4

# FRATERNITY COULD GET THE BOOT IN '07

BY WHITNEY KISLING  
STAFF WRITER

Residents of Fraternity Court are used to seeing new faces during rush events and at parties — but they could be welcoming more than just new pledges and party revelers in fall 2007.

Sigma Nu, which closed its doors in 2002, is re-colonizing at UNC. Twenty-one students are already on the list of potential members of the inactive fraternity, which plans to move back into its house if the rush process is successful.

Alpha Epsilon Pi is leasing the house at 109 Fraternity Court, which faces North Columbia Street, from Sigma Nu and will

make plans for relocation if the fraternity gains new membership.

When the lease was signed, the Jewish fraternity was made aware Sigma Nu would return, said Jay Anhorn, assistant dean of students, who oversees the office of fraternity and sorority life.

"(Alpha Epsilon Pi) knew it was temporary housing," he said.

Originally, Sigma Nu planned to reorganize in fall 2003, but Anhorn said the fraternity and the University decided it should wait four years to cycle out all students for a fresh start.

"We felt like it was time for us to leave the campus for a period of time," said Bob Lewis, president

of Psi Home Association of Sigma Nu Fraternity Inc.

Lewis added that the fraternity had seen lower membership and recruitment as well as financial issues.

Sigma Nu started recruiting members in January and will be a fully operating fraternity by fall, said Chris Healy, expansion and recruitment consultant for Sigma Nu.

The two fraternities extended the lease through this semester and met to discuss future housing plans.

"We've been shooting back and forth proposals," said Daniel Singer, a director for Alpha Epsilon Pi's house corporation. "They've been great landlords. I have no reason

to believe we won't be there next year."

Singer also said Sigma Nu's move is "tentative and contingent upon their rush success."

If the 21 potential brothers at UNC fail the rush process, Alpha Epsilon Pi then will be eligible to renew the lease, Lewis said.

While Alpha Epsilon Pi is looking at other housing options, Singer and student members of the fraternity declined to offer further details.

Lewis said Alpha Epsilon Pi also has not communicated with Sigma Nu much about its future housing.

"I'm not sure exactly what their specific plans are," he said.

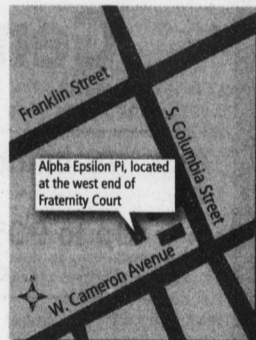
Scheduled for completion in summer 2007, house renovations include adding kitchen appliances and implementing a food service, two initiatives on which the fraternities are collaborating.

Lewis said that once Sigma Nu officially gains new membership, Alpha Epsilon Pi will be notified.

He said that communication between the fraternities thus far has been successful, and that no major conflicts about the house have come up.

"Our relationship with (Alpha Epsilon Pi) has been fabulous."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



SOURCE: GOOGLE MAPS  
DTH/BOBBY SWEATT

# Cartoon was hurtful, but editors were right

As the protesters marched in to The Daily Tar Heel's office Wednesday evening for a second go-round, one thing became clear: They meant business.

The 20-member group had arrived for its second sit-in of the week in response to the DTH's Feb. 9 cartoon depicting the Prophet Muhammad.

They were chanting, holding signs and breathing fire. Earlier in the day distribution boxes had been found littered with petitions and news of the original sit-in.

I say, more power to them. As you likely know, The Daily Tar Heel's editor has decided not to apologize for publishing the cartoon for the exact same reasons he allowed the protesters to



LIZ GREGORY  
PUBLIC EDITOR

make their stand in the newsroom in spite of an obvious disruption to the paper's work flow.

In both cases, this is about the freedoms we hold dear.

As far as I can tell as an outside observer, it was never about racism, marginalization or intentional sensationalism, despite

SEE PROTEST, PAGE 4

## CIVIL PROTEST



DTH/GALEN CLARKE

Officer Mark McIntyre of University police addresses a group conducting a sit-in at The Daily Tar Heel's office Wednesday. McIntyre reinforced DTH Editor Ryan Tuck's position that all were welcome to stay in the office as long as they were not disruptive.

# Campus newspaper continues to evolve

BY BRIAN HUDSON  
NEWS EDITOR

When the first issue of The Tar Heel fell into the hands of students, it was a far cry from what it is today.

On the front page of the tabloid-sized paper were church listings, news briefs and the mission statement of the newspaper: to serve as the premier source of information for the University community.

On the 113th anniversary of The Daily Tar Heel's publication, it not only strives to remain loyal to that mantra but it also works to expand its boundaries.

On this date in 1893, the newspaper's founding editors charged future staff to enable its readers to participate in reasoned and

informed discourse.

"You need to make it a conversation piece," said Peter Wallsten, DTH editor from 1992-93. "People need to know (that) in order to participate in those conversations they need to read the newspaper."

But many of the DTH editors who have overseen the newspaper have worked to go beyond informing the University community.

They have used the pages of the DTH to provoke and challenge the status quo.

"Participating in that debate or at least initiating it is the role of the newspaper," said Elyse Ashburn, editor in 2003-04.

And as the newspaper has

SEE DTH BIRTHDAY, PAGE 4

## CORRECTIONS

Due to an editing error, the Wednesday front-page thumbnail picture of Jonathan McNeill, campaign manager for James Allred, that ran alongside the "SBP seeks supporting castmates" article misspelled his last name.

The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

Due to an editing error, the Tuesday front-page thumbnail picture of Juelle McDonald that ran alongside the "Runoff election pits senior duos" article incorrectly states that she is a biology double major.

McDonald is majoring in English.

The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

online | [dailytarheel.com](http://dailytarheel.com)

**AYE-AYE, GENERAL** U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona explains goals

**ROLE MODELS** Pa'lante goes to Siler City to view a radio program like its own

**EDITOR'S BLOG** Thoughts, reflections on the second sit-in protest of the week

dive | pages 5-9

### DOWNLOADABLE INFO

An in-depth examination of UNC's legal file-sharing pilot and why it is yet to bring any permanent downloading program for students.

today in history

FEB. 23, 1985 ...

With a win against Clemson, the UNC men's basketball team celebrates the program's last game in Carmichael Auditorium.

weather

Partly cloudy  
H 60, L 35

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