

The Daily Tar Heel

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Campus set to vote today

BY KEVIN KILEY
STAFF WRITER

Today students can decide the legacy of the senior class and the direction of Student Congress.

A special election will open at 7 a.m. and run until 10 p.m. During the election the student body will choose 14 representatives to Congress, and seniors will pick a gift.

Students can vote either online at Student Central or by filling out a provisional ballot at one of five voting locations.

For the first time seniors will not vote to determine a physical class gift. Instead, the class of 2007 will endorse donating their funds to either the Carolina Covenant, the Carolina Center for Public Service or the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs.

"The students are basically voting on which fund they want to endorse," Senior Class Vice President Eric Schmidt said.

"We are asking students to give \$20.07, since it's the class of 2007," he said.

Seniors also are encouraged to donate to a favorite campus cause. Last year's class chose a welcome sign, and the previous class picked a Sept. 11 memorial garden.

In the past, voting for the senior gift fell at about the same time as Homecoming, but officials decided to push voting up this year to get a jump on planning and promotion.

"(We) made the decision to have the election as early as possible," Schmidt said. "A lot of problems in the past have been due to not getting started until January."

Schmidt said the campaign will

be ready to go once students return from Fall Break.

Also on the ballots are 32 students hoping to fill 14 vacancies in Congress.

Once elected the students will help dole out student fees and make changes to the Student Code, which governs such things as basketball ticket allocation and election procedures.

Speaker of Congress Luke Farley said he is ready for today's special election to close so he can begin working with a full Congress.

"It will be nice to get this out of the way and fill out seats."

When all the vacancies are filled, Congress has 40 members — 25 undergraduate students and 15 graduate students.

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 6

Special election

► Students can vote either online at Student Central or at one of five voting locations today. Seniors can help decide the senior class gift, and students can help fill vacant Congress seats in their districts.

► Student Central will be open between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.

► Students can vote at the Undergraduate Library, Davis Library and the Health Sciences Library from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students also can vote at the Student Recreation Center from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and at Rams Head Dining Hall from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.



DTH/BETH ELY

NCSU sophomore Jeremiah Nemecek shows Tyree Manuel, 9, how to milk a cow at the NCSU Science Club Milking Booth at the State Fair.

State fair's farming roots see evolution

Event serves as farm convention

BY LINDSEY NAYLOR
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

When the N.C. State Fair first opened its doors in 1853, it was a chance for the state's farmers to share tricks of the trade.

Average fairgoers these days are more likely to digest fried candy bars than agricultural know-how,

but N.C. farmers still make a significant showing.

Gary Gregory, an N.C. State University research technician in the

department of animal science, helps tend the award-winning livestock at the Exposition Center.

He first started coming to the fair about 42 years ago, when the general population was more rural. He said the state fair is an opportunity to educate the modern public, but some just aren't interested.

"When I first started, agriculture was a big thing," he said. "Now people are a little more interested in the midway and the rides."

Jake Parker, national legislative director for the N.C. Farm Bureau, said though public interest is declining, the fair still gives farmers a chance to share survival tips for the increasingly competitive atmosphere of agriculture.

"They trade notes and ideas about how to grow particular products and to become more efficient,"

he said. "They'll swap stories."

The event also is a place for farmers to show off their goods, and fair spokesman Brian Long said the agriculture exhibits always are popular among fairgoers.

"They like to see the giant pumpkins and the giant watermelons," he said. "They like to see the cows and sheep and things like that."

The produce and livestock on display at the 2006 fair are the products of a different kind of farm than when the fair started up in the 1800s.

Agriculture still is the No. 1 industry in North Carolina, generating \$68 billion in annual economic activity, but the size of farms is increasing, and the quaint family farms of the past must evolve into small businesses to stay alive.

Parker said farmers in North Carolina are intelligent and flexible enough to change with the times.

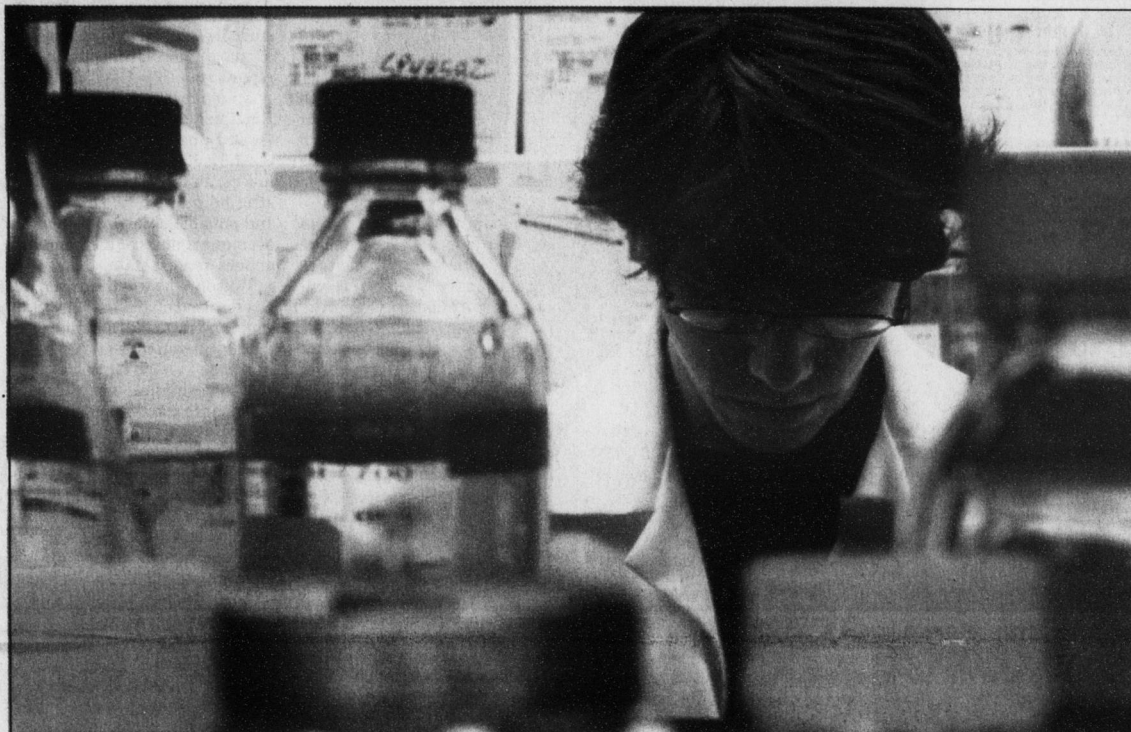
"They're bankers and they're financiers, and they're botanists and they're veterinarians and mechanics," he said. "They do everything to make their operation run."

Amy Shepherd, a fisheries and wildlife management major at N.C. State, said the fair has become more geared toward entertainment but also can educate visitors.

Shepherd has manned the Exposition Center's milking booth since 1998. It's an opportunity for the generally uninformed public to learn first-hand about agriculture.

"It's basically telling kids that milk doesn't just come from a grocery store. It comes from here,"

SEE FAIR, PAGE 6



DTH/COURTNEY POTTER

Freshman Trevor Brothers splits his time between chemicals and minerals in the Neuroscience Research Building on Wednesday. Brothers, a biology and psychology major, often conducts research alongside graduate students to gain experience for his biology major.

EARLY-AGE RESEARCH

Undergraduate students see more opportunities

BY EMILY STEPHENSON
STAFF WRITER

Freshman Trevor Brothers said he was discouraged when he learned UNC does not offer an undergraduate neuroscience degree.

But after meeting with a work-study adviser and attending a research information session, Brothers is one step closer to his dream job: He now collects neuroscience data as a lab

assistant. "Originally my only job was working around the lab, cleaning up," Brothers said.

He found the position in the neuroscience department and said that down the road he hopes to build artificial limbs for amputees. Students such as Brothers are part of an increasing push by the University to promote undergraduate research opportunities.

The office of undergraduate research, which was created in 1999, allows students to explore research options both in and out of the classroom.

The office is searching for a new associ-

ate director in hopes of increasing such offerings and opportunities, said Patricia Pukkila, director of the office of undergraduate research.

"(The office) helps connect students to the University's research mission," Pukkila said.

The associate director will help lead a "Making Critical Connections" program, part of the University's Quality Enhancement Plan. The plan was implemented with the new general education curriculum to improve student learning in a targeted area.

SEE RESEARCH, PAGE 6

Now or never to drop classes

BY BETHANY BLACK
STAFF WRITER

Students who are still unsure if they really want to be in that 9 a.m. section of "Introduction to Economics" have until 5 p.m. today to decide.

This year's deadline is two weeks later than previous semesters, and University officials said numerous factors influenced the decision to move the drop deadline to eight weeks into the semester from six weeks.

Bobbi Owen, senior associate dean for undergraduate education, said she hopes students now will be able to make better-informed

decisions on whether to drop a course.

"I hope that students can make better decisions by having more information about their progress in all of their courses," Owen said.

Owen said she realizes students often do not have enough grades, if any, to make an informed decision about dropping a course after just more than a third of the 16-week semester.

"Six weeks in, not many faculty have given exams, much less turned them back graded," she

SEE DROP DEADLINE, PAGE 6

How to drop a course or declare it pass/fail

► Students in the General College or College of Arts and Sciences must obtain a Registration/Drop/Add form from their academic adviser, department or school.

Am I allowed to do it?

► Students who declare a course pass/D+/D/fail may not use the course to fulfill General College or College of Arts and Sciences perspective requirements in the pre-Fall 2006 curriculum. Students in the post-Fall 2006 curriculum cannot use the course to fulfill General Education requirements.

► Registration changes cannot result in fewer than 12 academic hours for the semester. Students also must take a minimum of nine credit hours for a regular grade.

Cuts loom after day two

Editor's note: The Daily Tar Heel asked senior writer Gregg Found to attempt to earn a spot on the UNC men's junior varsity basketball team to offer insight to a process that most don't see. He will write a diary of his experiences.

BY GREGG FOUND
SENIOR WRITER

While the varsity practice is ending, there's plenty of time to take a look at the 50 or so guys trying out for the junior varsity team alongside you.

Some looked obviously like freshmen. Some looked like guys who played JV before.

Most I recognized from playing pickup basketball in Woollen Gymnasium.

In the few minutes of quiet chatter and stretching — just so there's something to do — everyone sizes everyone up.

But when we get onto the floor to start the day's tryout, there's a mixture of camaraderie and competition that ebbs and flows without really finding a balance.

SEE TRYOUT, PAGE 6



DTH/LEAH GRONNING

Junior Gregg Found strokes a jumper during JV basketball team tryouts Monday. His team shot to stay warm before the next game.

online | dailytarheel.com

A BETTER MAN A one-man show explores domestic violence

BACK ON TRACK County school board gets update on busing issues

GETTING THE SCOOP Dunn newspaper serves as industry model

city | page 4

EDUCATIONAL MODEL

The Board of County Commissioners will review today the construction plans for a new elementary school on Eubanks Road.



campus | page 7

LOOKING BOTH WAYS

Leaders hold a forum on campus to solicit input on transit issues and target ways to better serve the diverse University community.

this day in history

OCT. 17, 2003 ...

Charlie "Choo-Choo" Justice, a UNC running back in the late 1940s and a two-time runner-up for the Heisman Trophy, dies at age 79.

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