

O'BRIEN

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O'Brien said, that helped to shape how he perceives the world. "If you're interested in the world as it is, you'll be a historian," he said. "But I'm more concerned with the world as it could have been or should have been." And these concerns have become a part of his everyday life. He spends most of his day writing and consistently stays up until 3 a.m. reading. "Even at night when I'm doing things with my family, my characters and dialogue are biting at me," he said. And O'Brien's books are products of his constant attention to all things literary. His second novel, "Going After Cacciato," garnered him the National Book Award, and several of his other works have gained similar acclaim, including his seminal Vietnam memoir, "The Things They Carried," which now is taught in many high-school and college classrooms across the nation. But O'Brien emphasized that personal fame and satisfaction are not his prime goal. "The purpose isn't therapeutic,"

he said. "It's about creating a good piece of art." That is why UNC picked O'Brien as the Morgan Writer-in-Residence in the first place, said Susan Irons, the program's coordinator. "Hearing him is a unique opportunity that we didn't want to miss," she said. Irons said O'Brien is a perfect representation of the overall goal of the program, which Allen and Musette Morgan began in 1993 as a venue for a writer to spend a week on campus offering critiques to students and sharing his or her own work. "The way the Morgans envisioned it was to give our students the best access they can get to great writing," Irons said. And Irons said she believes the list of former Morgan Writers-in-Residence — figures such as Joan Didion and former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Hass — is evidence that O'Brien's presence will make for an extraordinary event. And that is exactly what O'Brien might want to hear. "It has to do with probabilities," he said. "A good story, for me, is made from the extraordinary."

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MUSICIANS

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Loudermilk downplayed his own successes and joked about how he was more laid back than the traveling Hamilton. "I wanted to stay home with the family," Loudermilk said. "There's nothing wrong with being comfortable and happy." But Loudermilk also went on to work with acclaimed artists, writing songs for Stonewall Jackson and, more recently, Norah Jones. "There's two layers of show business," Loudermilk explained to the audience. "There's the kind that produces it and there's the kind that brings it to the public." And Loudermilk and Hamilton each brought their talents to both the public and students as they sang hits written by Loudermilk, such as "Tobacco Road" and "Break My Mind." Hamilton was joined on guitar by his son George Hamilton V, while Loudermilk was accompanied by son Mike Loudermilk. Each of their sons also has experience in the music industry, and the

country duo made a point of calling out all their family members that were in the audience. "Introducing family is part of a traditional country performance," said music professor Jocelyn Neal, who served as event moderator and required her "Introduction to Country Music" class to attend. She said the comedic banter the duo engaged in throughout their performance was a recreation of the standard country performance seen years ago, when artists would start telling jokes in the middle of a song. "They've already been at the peak of their career," Neal said. "They're more interested in connecting with fans." The lecture was part of a sort of homecoming for Loudermilk and Hamilton, who will perform at the University Baptist Church tonight to support Habitat for Humanity. "This is like coming home for us musically," Hamilton said. "Music is a glorious gift — it's a bridge builder in a land of walls."

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HARWOOD

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environmental approach has been used at UNC before. "We had Jim Banning come and do an environmental assessment," Luse said. Banning is well known in the field of campus ecology and is frequently called upon to analyze university environments. Harwood said he is seeking the position because he wants to work on a traditional university campus. "The potential is here for great

"If the students are strong enough to push back, they can change the environment."

DEAN HARWOOD, CANDIDATE

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HOUSING

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signed up for Ram's Village since the application was made available," he said. "I expect that by the time the application closes there will be a significant amount of demand." Carmichael will be the next dorm to undergo renovation, closing for the fall. Discussions regarding the future of Whitehead Residence Hall, which eventually will be expanded as part of the Carolina Inn, still are being held, Bradley said. No matter what decision is made, Whitehead will be open for the fall semester, Bradley said. The new styles of living offered by Morrison and Ram Village are a part of the housing department's efforts to accommodate the living preferences of different students, Bradley said. "We are trying to expand the

portfolio of what we have to offer students, so that we have something that meets everyone's lifestyle." Students said they are looking to change dorms for many reasons. Freshman pharmacy major Portia Purvis, who resides in Hinton James Residence Hall, said she wants to move to a dorm that is closer to her classes. "I like Hinton James because it is a nice environment with a lot of people, but it is too far away from classes and different activities on campus," she said. "I'm planning on moving to mid-campus next year." Other students, such as junior English major MyAn Le, plan on living in the same rooms again. "I've lived in Manly since freshman year, and UNC pays for my housing, so I've never found a reason to move off-campus or to another dorm."

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FINANCE

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and former competitor Nick Neptune were allowed an additional \$100 to their budgets since they were involved in a runoff election. Carson spent \$68.45 during her final week of campaigning. Neptune came in second and spent the second most on his campaign, with a total of \$398.32, just \$18.10 of which was used for the runoff. The numbers reflect all expenditures, which include everything from plywood and footballs to labor and election fines. Student Body President James Allred said limits prevent the candidate who spends the most from having an unfair advantage in the election. "It's what makes campaigns about the issues," he said. Allred said small budgets ensure that every penny counts and force candidates to come up with unique ways to communicate their ideas to students. According to Title VI of the Student Code, which governs campus elections, candidates whose names appear on the ballot can be reimbursed from the student activity fund for what they spent during their campaigns — except for fines. Student body president candidate Jon Kite, however, decided not to take the reimbursement for his campaign. He spent \$372.22 on various items, including \$15 on a one-man billboard shaped like a kite.

"I thought that was a contribution for the University. ... It was not an issue for me."

JON KITE, FORMER SBP CANDIDATE

"I thought that was a contribution for the University," Kite said. "I don't know how many people do this, but it was not an issue for me." Some of the candidates spent part of their budgets on Facebook.com advertisements — which run from \$5 to \$30 per day. Doug Whitfield, former candidate for Graduate and Professional Student Federation president, spent \$120 on these advertisements — a large amount of money considering Whitfield only spent \$153.55 on his campaign. "Lots of people use Facebook, so that's why I spent money there," he said. "Low work, high visibility — seems simple to me." But GPSF President Lauren Anderson, who will take office again April 3, didn't spend any money on her re-election campaign. She said she thinks campaigning by talking to people personally is most effective. "I didn't work on boards or fliers because they seemed so wasteful to me."

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