

# Service reigns in Homecoming

BY ELISABETH GILBERT  
STAFF WRITER

Naite Alexander is proof that Homecoming royalty are more than just pretty faces.

Alexander — last year's Homecoming king — started the Equality, Diversity, Unity, Community and Teenage Education program, which brought 60 to 70 high school students to UNC to pique interest in higher education.

"The service does help because Carolina is very service-oriented," Alexander said. "Every little project makes a difference somewhere."

While the impact this year's king and queen will have yet to be seen, the three candidates vying for the crowns said they are fleshing out their projects.

"To be quite honest ... I just have a vague idea," said Bert Ellison, this year's sole candidate for king. He said he does not have a timeline for volunteers to start teaching kids about nutrition and fitness as part of his B-Happy, B-Healthy, B-ert program.

He said a friend works at an area school and has talked to teachers there about his idea. Ellison also has discussed the idea with his boss at the Student Recreation Center.

Queen candidate Meredith Jones' project, "Read to Succeed," would send UNC students to read books at local elementary schools. Jones said she has identified five potential partner schools.

But the candidates said they are having trouble finalizing their plans without having all the facts.

"It's kind of hard right now not knowing how much support we're going to get," Jones said. "A budget? A committee? We don't know."

Alexander said that although the Carolina Athletic Association gave him campaign funds, he received no other money from the University. EDUCATE's funding came from Upward Bound, a program that helps prepare high school students for college, and other outside resources.

"We're doing footwork on our own," candidate Angela Crocker

said of her service project — hosting a series of concerts to support the Amani Children's Foundation, which aids orphans in Kenya. She said she already has begun looking at local venues and is trying to get groups to perform.

Her Homecoming initiative ties in with a project she started as Miss BSM, raising \$3,400 to send a Black Student Movement member on a two-week service trip to Kenya.

"Regardless of whether I'm elected or not, I'm going to do both," Crocker said. But she said she didn't want to say anything yet about possible venues or acts.

Students can vote between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Tuesday on Student Central or at one of the eight polling sites around campus.

The ballot also will include a referendum to amend the Student Code to require the student body to vote on increases for four student fees.

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



Demonstrators stand on Polk Place on Monday in silent protest of gun control laws and to honor the victims of Virginia Tech shootings.

## GUN LAWS

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end up with anything," said John Houston, co-president of the Tar Heel Rifle and Pistol Club.

Houston emphasized the importance of Second Amendment rights.

"The right to keep and bear arms is the most important liberty in this country," he said.

Protesters also honored three former Tar Heels who died because of gun violence: Travis Cooper, former student killed in 1997; Shennel McKendall, former UNC hospital worker killed in 2004; and Jamie Bishop, former UNC German professor killed during the Va. Tech shootings.

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## CHANCELLOR

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to express opinions about the next chancellor, adding that she e-mailed her thoughts directly to the chancellor search committee.

"I would guess that any concerned person could contact any member of the search committee and expect that their thoughts would be heard," DeSaix said. "I don't think it's a one-shot deal."

Students also will have more than one shot to share input before the next chancellor is chosen.

The student advisory board to the chancellor search committee hosted a forum Monday night in Manning Hall to gather additional

input from the student body.

At the forum, the committee presented a 17-page document summarizing student wishes about a variety of topics including honor, athletics and UNC admission standards.

The student board recently was created by Student Body President Eve Carson to collect student opinion about the next chancellor.

The committee members gathered the information through interviews with more than 100 students during the past six days, committee chairman Matt Hendren said.

The forum drew only 15 students, most of whom were committee members, but Hendren said he was not concerned.

"Having a huge turnout tonight

is not essential for us doing our jobs, because we've already collected so much input," Hendren said.

The official search committee also held a forum Friday afternoon, and only seven people spoke at that forum.

After a few revisions, copies of the document will be given to members of the chancellor search committee before the forum today, vice-chairman Chazz Clevinger said.

As the official committee searches for a chancellor in the coming months, this tangible document will help express the voice of students throughout the search process.

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## LEADER

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dren without worrying that it will pull the campaign off message is such a luxury," Stemper said.

Dison said that while some gay officials, work actively for equal rights, others show their colleagues that they are not the stereotype.

"Being out is perhaps the most powerful statement that anyone can make because it forces people to look at you for who you are," he said. "It changes hearts and minds."

Herzenberg encouraged Kleinschmidt to run for town council, and it became a ritual for interested candidates to speak to Herzenberg before filing.

"He is a model which I try to emulate," Kleinschmidt said. "I think that's true for most every politician in Chapel Hill, straight or gay."

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## DROUGHT

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The ordinance, developed with input from local governments and OWASA customers, outlines the orderly process through which OWASA and the towns can reduce water demand in times of shortage.

OWASA also has backed a recent statement from Gov. Mike Easley urging residents to reduce water consumption by 50 percent by the

end of October.

In a press release, Easley provided a list of conservation tips, including taking shorter showers and replacing old appliances with newer, more water-efficient models.

"We believe that a strong majority of our customers can substantially cut their water use by using some well-known, simple methods," said Randy Kabrick, chairman of OWASA's board of directors.

Lakes monitored by OWASA are at 50.7 percent capacity, a figure that is not unique to the Chapel-Hill Carrboro area.

Residents living in the northeastern portion of Chatham County also are affected by water shortages. Chatham County has declared

Stage three-B mandatory water restrictions, which allow for lawn and plant irrigation only one day of the week, among other limitations, said Roy Lowder, director of water and utilities for Chatham County.

On Monday, the restriction was increased so that only hand-held watering cans may be used for irrigation purposes.

"The rains we have had over the last few days were of a good quantity and intensity," Keel said.

But Feller said it will take more than a few days of rain to pull the area out of the drought. "We need more rain, bottom line," he said.

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