

The Daily Tar Heel

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Primaries may deliver candidate

Texas, Ohio have potential to decide Democratic race

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Today's Democratic primaries in Texas and Ohio could mark a turning point for Hillary Clinton.

If Clinton loses to Barack Obama in both states, her presidential campaign could effectively be over, a possibility her husband, Bill Clinton, and campaign officials have both acknowledged publicly.

"Many people in the Democratic Party will be saying that it will be almost mathematically impossible to overcome Sen. Obama's lead," said Ohio State University political science professor Herb Asher.

But perception is just as important as the delegate count, said Kathryn Tenpas, a University of Pennsylvania political science professor.

"If you haven't won the last 14 contests, that makes it really difficult," she said. "It's a lot of successive losses. From that perspective, maybe she should fold up her tent and go home."

But the game could change if Clinton wins one or both states or trails by only a slight amount.

SEE PRIMARIES, PAGE 4



DTH/ABBY METTY

Jose Gonzalez's musical performance in the Student Union Great Hall on Monday was greeted with enthusiasm, especially during his single "Heartbeats."

Gonzalez lulls student crowd

International artists play intimate, relaxing concert

BY NATE HEWITT
SENIOR WRITER

The evening was a welcome lullaby before a long-awaited week of rest.

With a single spotlight above him, Jose Gonzalez began by strumming his guitar slowly. And in brief moments when the music's rhythm picked up, the lights grew brighter and the sound got louder, amplifying the singer's often delicate and musing sound.

The Swedish-Argentinian folk singer and guitarist performed in front of about 500 students in the Union Great Hall on Monday.

"It's the perfect marriage between intimacy and the amount of people at the show," said Tom Allin, Carolina Union Activities Board music committee chairman.

Gonzalez's voice was reminiscent of a young Paul Simon with a little more culture and a little less Garfunkel.

If there was one song the audience recognized more

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ASU reacts to safety threat

All safe; gunman spurs campus lockdown

BY ELIZABETH DEORNELLAS
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Appalachian State University had a real-life test of its new emergency alert system Monday when a gunman was spotted at an apartment near campus.

A masked gunman was seen in the Hill Street area close to campus about 3:40 p.m. Monday, according to Boone police spokeswoman Brenda Lewis.

Classes were cancelled for the evening, and at 5:10 p.m. the campus was placed on lockdown.

Alerts and updates, including a description of the gunman and his location near Appalachian South Apartments, were sent through e-mail and the campus Web site. The school also sent voice and text messages to students who had registered for the new alert system.

At 6:32 p.m. university administration lifted the emergency status after consulting Boone and university police.

That announcement, also sent through e-mail and the campus Web site, said that remaining students and personnel could "leave with caution" and that classes would resume as normal today.

At the time the lockdown was lifted, the suspect had not been found, Lewis said, adding that Boone police would remain on heightened alert. Although no further sightings of the suspect were reported as of 10 p.m., police said they were following some leads.

"It's a little sketch I think," said Appalachian State sophomore Kim Howell, adding that the university should have waited until the suspect was accounted for before lifting the alert.

"This could easily backfire."

Freshman Will Miller also reported a mixed reaction to the school's response.

"The way they handled things today — I feel like they kinda just gave up, but at the same time, nothing had happened," he said. "There was a significant amount of police officers around the campus, and that made me feel really safe."

Speaking from her dormitory during the lockdown, Howell said police had taken over a neighboring building.

"They're completely swarming campus," she said, adding that roads were blocked and news helicopters were circling campus. "It's getting pretty rowdy."

Howell said the university returned to normal soon after the alert was lifted.

"I'm thinking that it wasn't targeted at Appalachian; it was someone looking to lift a TV who ran onto campus," she added, referring to reports that the initial incident was a robbery attempt.

Lewis said an incident of breaking and entering was reported at 318 Hill St. After the suspect ran from the apartment toward campus, a resident reported to police that the suspect might have had a handgun, Lewis said.

The suspect was reported to be a 6-foot white male wearing a black Pink Floyd T-shirt with a rainbow prism image, red and green tennis shoes and a dark jacket and ski mask.

Monday was the first time the school had used the voice and text message system, said university police spokeswoman Sandra Brown, who also said the system had worked without glitches.

An e-mail sent at 11:34 a.m. Monday had informed students of the service.

Senior writer Rebecca Putterman contributed reporting. Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

"I don't know that I've ever felt as good and had as warm, fuzzy feelings about something that's going on with one of my players as I do with Quentin." ROY WILLIAMS, UNC COACH

PLAYING THE WAITING GAME



DTH FILE/LAUREN COWART

North Carolina's Quentin Thomas watches the ball drop through the hoop after one of his two dunks against Virginia Tech on Feb. 16. As a senior, he will be honored tonight at the game against Florida State.

THOMAS GETS HIS CHANCE TO SHINE

BY JESSE BAUMGARTNER
SENIOR WRITER

In today's age of freshmen and early impacts, rarely is a collegiate basketball career defined by waiting.

The very notion of the concept seems to oppose the constant movement and athleticism of the game itself. Players build their reputations on the hardwood rather than the bench.

But for senior point guard Quentin Thomas, it is this waiting, this sustained inactivity, that makes his story tick.

"The word I always hated growing up was 'patient,'" he says. "People were always saying, 'Be patient; your time will come.'"

Indeed, it is that hated word that surprisingly has become the epitome of his topsy-turvy four years in Chapel Hill. Through countless injuries and bench time, he has waited, waited, waited.

California Love

Tricky would be another word to describe Thomas — first and foremost, with the basketball itself.

UNC fans are well aware of The Quentin Thomas Rule, within which the namesake must bring the ball between the legs or behind the back at least once every possession. Thomas claims he tries to keep it simple, but his style defines him.

He'll throw you for another loop, too, when you find out the self-described quiet guy is a writer and a rapper.

That's right, the player who's low-key in the locker room, the one with the soft voice, has already recorded on a mix tape with an up-and-coming producer and friend.

Apparently people liked it, too.

"I write raps a lot, but I write about anything — whatever's going on, what I see other people going through, what I'm going through," Thomas says.

"It just helps me through difficult times, through happy times — it's a way to express

SEE THOMAS, PAGE 4

Tar Heels return to the field for start of spring practice

UNC football squad has 14 more practices scheduled

BY DAVID ELY
SPORTS EDITOR

A blow horn belled above Navy Field, and the entire North Carolina football squad immediately perked up.

Men hooted and hollered; teammates chest-bumped; and gaping smiles flashed across Tar Heel faces.

Spring practices officially had begun.

Monday afternoon marked the first of 15 practices leading up to the April 5 Spring Game at Kenan Stadium, and UNC coach Butch Davis said he expects this year's session to be more productive than last year's.

"I think the second spring practice is somewhat a better opportunity for us as a football team to grow," Davis said at a news conference Monday.

He said a great deal of time last spring was spent learning about his personnel, from their best-suited positions down to their names. But after a year spent in Chapel Hill, Davis is more familiar with his team — and he believes that will translate into a better slate of practices this spring.

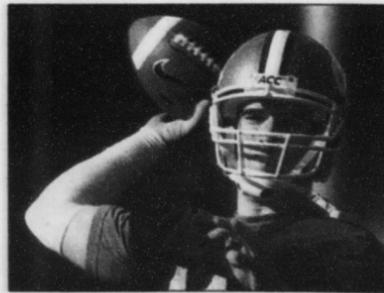
"We know the players, at least from last year's foot-

ball team, significantly better," Davis said. "We know all their strengths, and we know their weakness."

Among other things, the upcoming 14 practices will let a number of Tar Heels adjust to new positions. Richie Rich, Johnny White and Anthony Parker-Boyd are just a few of the Tar Heels who will be lining up in different spots this year. And not only is sophomore Greg Little continuing to learn his role as a tail back, he has to read-just to a different sport from his winter play.

"It was a little different to have a helmet on," Little said of the switch from the hardwood of the Smith Center to the turf of Navy Field.

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 4



DTH/SAM WARD

Cam Sexton readies to throw the football during UNC's first spring practice Monday. The Tar Heels have 14 more sessions before training camp begins.

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, Monday's front-page article "Computer revamp at key phase" misidentified the expected cost to overhaul the computer systems. The cost is \$88 million. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

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SCHOOL TRIPS

The Orange County Board of Education approved a measure that overnight school field trips be OK'd by the board. It delayed discussion on chaperone background checks.



university | page 7

TARGETING TRAFFICKING

The Carolina Women's Center highlights the local impact of sex trafficking. The event was in preparation for a conference the center will hold in April.

this day in history

MARCH 4, 1955 ...

A member of Student Legislature rescinds a comment about The Daily Tar Heel he said was in jest. He called the DTH "the second Daily Worker," a communist paper.

weather

Rain, wind H 71, L 51

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