

# Groups join to register voters

BY JACKI HUNTINGTON  
STAFF WRITER

As the April 11 deadline approaches, voter registration drives are branching from the Pit into residence halls and the Greek community.

The bipartisan Project SERV, Students Engaging in Registering Voters, is venturing to register to vote as many on-campus students as possible by Election Day.

"It was an idea that some of Young Democrats came up with, and then we talked to College Republicans," said senior Sarah Shah, a SERV coordinator.

Holding two competitions among housing communities and Greek houses, SERV is offering a \$500 prize to both the community and house with the highest percentage of registered voters at the end of the two-week competition.

Students also can register and vote during the one-stop voting period, which begins April 17.

UNC Students for Barack Obama plans to engage students by way of their residence halls.

Having identified chapter members in dorms on campus, President Vivek Chilukuri said the group will campaign, publicize events and encourage early voting in the May 6 Democratic presidential primary from within residence halls.

And the campaigning doesn't end at the edge of campus. Music venue Local 506 has publicly endorsed Obama, and its employees have even volunteered in the campaign, which stationed its Chapel Hill headquarters next door.

The bar manager of Local 506,

## One-stop voting

- ✓ **What:** Register and vote for May 6 N.C. primary
- ✓ **Where:** Faculty lounge, second floor of the Morehead Planetarium
- ✓ **When:** Weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 17 to May 3

known as Hoppi, called the move in "a fortuitous landing."

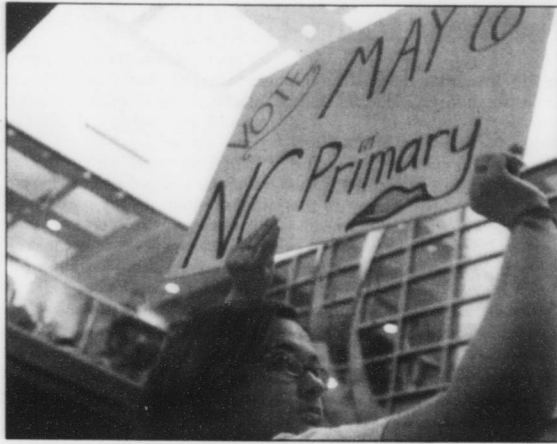
"We've had Obama signs up for quite a while," he said. "He's the guy who appeals to our staff as a whole."

Meanwhile, UNC Students for Barack Obama will continue to register voters in the Pit and outside the dining halls throughout the week.

"We're the most active student chapter in the state," Chilukuri said. "I think our support is much more of a passion."

Heels for Hillary is involving its members in a "Why do you support Hillary?" competition, where students who register the most new Clinton supporters will receive campaign merchandise as a prize.

After coordinating with North Carolina for Hillary to organize Chelsea Clinton's appearance on campus Monday, Heels for Hillary President Amanda Vaughn said members will continue voter regis-



A member of Students Engaging in Registering Voters promotes voting during Chelsea Clinton's speech in the Student Union Monday.

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AMANDA VAUGHN, HEELS FOR HILLARY PRESIDENT

tration and on-campus canvassing.

"It's a competitive primary; either candidate could win," Vaughn said. "It's very important to get young people out to work for a campaign."

The recent efforts of Young Democrats as a whole have centered around registering voters and bringing speakers and candidates to campus.

Without a competitive primary

of their own, College Republicans Chairman Derek Belcher said the chapter has not really started mobilizing support for its presumptive nominee, Sen. John McCain.

Belcher said the group plans to join in voter registration efforts and continue to be a presence in the Pit.

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

# Opening date delayed again for Starbucks

Shop now should open in late May

*"It's just been a lot of little things. ... Coordinating ... took a long time."*

BY MEGAN HANNAY  
STAFF WRITER

The Starbucks that once was planned to open early in the fall semester now will not be ready for business until well after students have left for their summer vacations.

The popular coffee franchise set to be in the Rams Head Dining Hall most recently was scheduled to open before spring exams.

Its original opening date was in September — now it will be late May.

Scott Myers, director of food and vending for Carolina Dining Services, said the most recent delays do not result from one specific problem but are the effects of many smaller construction issues.

"It's just been a lot of little things," he said.

"For instance, to reduce energy usage we combined a project we were doing over there with temperature control. Coordinating that took a long time."

Myers added that workers have had to reconstruct the space's ceiling to cover the exposed pipes and electrical wires to make the Starbucks a more comfortable atmosphere.

The other delays involved in the construction and opening of the Starbucks — a project that has now been in the works for almost a year — were related to an ambitious timeline and problems getting an on-site review, Myers said.

The project is estimated to cost about \$250,000. The space was first occupied by the End Zone Sports Cafe, and dining services has not been bringing in any revenue from the space since that restaurant closed.

Carolina Dining Services is still determining the operating hours of

SCOTT MYERS, DIRECTOR OF FOOD AND VENDING FOR CDS

the shop, but it will probably close between 11 p.m. and midnight each night, Myers said.

The Starbucks on Franklin Street closes at 11 p.m. on weeknights and 11:30 p.m. on weekends.

Before it opens, though, there will be some activity within the shop.

Applications to work at the Starbucks on campus now are available in the food service offices.

Besides looking for students who love coffee, the office hopes to find employees who will be available for two weeks of training in May.

Dining services also will likely hold a coffee tasting in late April. Participants will have the chance to taste a variety of Starbucks coffees along with their corresponding pastries.

"One thing Starbucks does is educating people about coffee," Myers said.

"Coffee is kind of like wine — there are different kinds of foods that complement different coffees."

Freshman Sara Beth Pannell, who will be living on Middle Campus next year, said she is anxiously awaiting the opening of the Starbucks, though she expects it to become an overly popular on-campus coffee shop.

"I really think it's going to be really crowded, because everyone loves Starbucks," she said. "We're college students. ... We have to have coffee."

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

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