

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, Thursday's online story, "Hillsborough Amtrak station a step closer to reality" incorrectly stated that Art Mines said he was hoping the proposal would be submitted for federal funds. Mines never mentioned federal funding; Commissioner Alice Gordon did. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for the error.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

DTH wins renowned award for collegiate journalism

The Daily Tar Heel received the Pacemaker award this weekend, one of the most prestigious honors in college journalism.

The DTH was one of nine daily newspapers to receive the award. Winners were announced Saturday at the American College Media/College Media Advisers convention in Kansas City.

Visit Editor's Notes at blogs.dailytarheel.com for more about the convention.

SBP candidate warned for creating Facebook group

Potential student body president candidate Julia La Roche, a junior, received a warning from the Board of Elections on Sunday for creating a Facebook group for her campaign.

The group — "Campaign Team to Connect Carolina" — was intended only for her campaign team, La Roche said, and she deleted it after the elections board told her it violated the Student Code.

La Roche said she wasn't aware at the time that such a group was illegal. The group had just five members. Though it stated, "I want to run for student body president," it did not contain any platform points.

"I'm not really inclined to do any big punishment about it," said Ryan Morgan, chairman of the board.

The board has already fined two candidates, juniors Ashley Klein and Matt Wohlford, \$40 each for pre-campaign activity.

Homecoming candidate's signs in the Pit vandalized

Two signs belonging to Jeremy Crouthamel, a male cheerleader running for Homecoming king, were vandalized with a derogatory term for a homosexual.

Crouthamel said he discovered the vandalism Friday morning, and had the signs repainted and back out by the end of the day.

Kiplinger's ranks UNC 'best value' eighth year in a row

Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine ranked UNC the best value in American public higher education for the eighth year in a row.

The magazine ranked the universities of Florida, Virginia and Georgia second, third and fourth, respectively.

The ranking is based on several measures of academic quality, including SAT scores of incoming first-year students and admission and retention rates.

CITY BRIEFS

UNC business professor's home site of investigation

Chapel Hill police are investigating the suspicious death of the wife of a UNC business professor Saturday at their home.

Chapel Hill Police Sgt. Steve Lehw said police are doing a death investigation but wouldn't give details about the investigation at 207 Stagecoach Road, the home of professor Barry Roberts.

"We consider all deaths to be suspicious, and we investigate them all the same," Lehw said.

Neighbors of Roberts confirmed that his wife passed away and said the funeral was held Sunday.

Lehw said police might issue more information today.

SPORTS BRIEFS

UNC women's hoops tapped as No. 6 in preseason AP Poll

The North Carolina women's basketball team is ranked No. 6 in the preseason national poll, released this weekend.

Connecticut claimed the top spot for the first time in five seasons, and defending champion Tennessee is seventh.

UNC already has been named the preseason favorite in the ACC.

Tar Heels climb to No. 19 in football's week 10 AP Poll

The North Carolina football team climbed to No. 19 in the AP Poll during its bye week after losses from four of the bottom seven teams in last week's poll.

UNC moved to No. 19 in the BCS standings as well, up from 22nd last week.

The Tar Heels received 418 votes in the AP Poll this week, almost doubling last week's total.

—From staff and wire reports

Seniors finish Habitat work

Home lacks electrical, plumbing work

BY DANIEL PATE
STAFF WRITER

Saturday marked the first day of November and the last day the senior class needed to construct a house for their Habitat for Humanity project.

Construction on the house, which was built for a needy family in Hillsborough, started in mid-August. This is the third consecutive year the senior class decided to build a house for their project.

"Being able to help with that and actually have a very tangible role in providing housing for someone is just a really great feeling," said senior Rebecca White, who also worked on a Habitat house as a senior in high school.

"It's not the privileged Carolina life that you get exposed to every day." Volunteer days have taken place

every weekend since the Saturday before classes began, with the exception of Labor Day weekend and Fall Break.

Senior class Vice President Pinar Gurel said she didn't even know how to use a hammer when the project started but felt like a professional by the end of it.

Another challenge was waking up before 8 a.m. to work on the house.

"It's hard to wake up, but when you get there, it's very rewarding and fulfilling," Gurel said.

Volunteers also said collaborating with other students to construct the house has allowed them to meet others who share common interests.

"It's a really good way to just open your mind and just think about things beyond all the academic concerns we have at school," said senior Jessica Traylor

"It's a really good way to just open your mind and just think about things beyond academic concerns we have."

JESSICA TAYLOR, SENIOR

while layering another coat of white paint on rails for the front porch.

Even though the seniors are finished with construction, the house still needs professional electrical and plumbing work before its official opening.

A dedication for the house will be held the day that the family moves in.

Seniors are still working toward raising the \$35,000 needed to pay for the project.

One of the more successful fundraisers this year was the Habitat House Party, a concert held in Memorial Hall in early October, which raised about \$2,000.

Gurel said she has been pleased with the volunteer turnout as well as the expressed enthusiasm.

After discovering a litter of unwanted puppies living next to the Habitat house early in the project, seniors also decided to find homes for them. The puppies are currently still living at the neighboring house.

Seniors said the heart of the cause is helping out those in need.

"Sometimes you feel obligated to give back in college, especially after nights like Halloween," senior Allen Spicer said.

Contact the University Desk at udesk@unc.edu.



Scott Avett (left) and Seth Avett of the Avett Brothers band, perform at Memorial Hall on Sunday to kick off the beginning of a week of Homecoming activities. The brothers used a variety of instruments to reproduce their music including banjo, electric guitar and piano.

BAND OF BROTHERS

Passionate homecoming embraces audience

BY SETH WRIGHT
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

There weren't many songs after which a member of The Avett Brothers didn't have to leave the stage for a new guitar.

Sometimes they even had to leave mid-song.

Though breaking strings left and right, the group never stopped moving, never stopped playing and never stopped putting forth a blur of emotion — a testament to the group's showmanship.

The band is a four piece acoustic group that had the power of a metal band.

Seth and Scott Avett, along with their stand-up bassist Bob Crawford and cellist Joe Kwon, brought an indescribable energy to the Memorial Hall stage Sunday, playing their fan favorites as well as songs from the group's new EP.

Strumming and dancing, Scott and Seth Avett both used their feet to play bass drums and high hats.

The audience's commitment to the show created the moving, lively atmosphere that every performer hopes to bring.

The band not only got the audience involved through clapping, but also stopped singing and allowed all of Memorial Hall to sing along to their songs.

They played songs from all of their previous albums with animation that can't be purchased with 10 bucks for a CD.

In fact, there was never a moment The Avett Brothers didn't seem to be connecting with every member of the audience.

Whether it was through their slow, touching ballads or their energetic and electric chants, the group never ceased to be full of life.

The Avett Brothers' lyrics were flawless with a bewildering intensity which at times led to crowd chants and screaming.

Occasionally the band would completely stop playing their instruments and sing a four part harmonization that was chill-inducing.

As the group played, the intensity continued to build, and both the band and audience thrived off the escalating excitement.

The group threw their bodies across the stage, fell to the floor and strummed until their strings popped.

All creating a nearly flawless show.

CONCERT REVIEW

THE AVETT BROTHERS
MEMORIAL HALL
SUNDAY

★★★★★

After short leave at the end of their set, the band received a much deserved call back to the stage.

Playing "Pretty Girl from Chile" from their 2007 album "Emotionalism," the Avetts lived up to their famous energetic act.

All of Memorial Hall went dark for a moment and then everything erupted to bright lights, applause and a mayhem of energetic strumming.

It's rare to see a band become so invested emotionally, physically and musically in a single performance.

And though the North Carolina natives have gained national attention and a major record deal, Sunday's show was a personal homecoming for the Avetts, which was clearly emitted to the UNC crowd.

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Palin comes to stir up voters

BY ARIEL ZIRULNICK
STATE AND NATIONAL EDITOR

RALEIGH — The Republican presidential campaign is banking on a high Election Day turnout to balance the high Democratic turnout in early voting.

For that to happen, they need to energize their supporters. Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin came to the state fairgrounds Saturday seeking to do that.

Palin excels at energizing crowds and has drawn large numbers at every rally in the state. On Saturday, thousands lined up outside the Exposition Center hours early. Even though about 5,000 were admitted, thousands were turned away at the door.

"She's electrifying crowds all across the battleground states," said Rick Davis, the McCain campaign manager, in a national conference call Friday.

Palin has turned some previously lukewarm McCain supporters into staunch advocates of the Republican ticket.

"She is the American idea. She came out of nowhere and she is going to be the next vice president," said Vivian North, a stay-at-home mother from Durham who homeschools her children.

"I'm voting for Sarah Palin. John McCain just happens to be there."

The largely female crowd Saturday cheered and shouted so loudly and frequently that the tail ends of Palin's sentences often were drowned out — especially when Obama's tax plan was brought up.

"He calls this idea 'spreading the wealth.' ... A tax plan like that, — it sounds to me like socialism," she said.

Audience members boomed in response, accompanying their vocal reaction with pom-poms, American flags and homemade signs ordering people: "Let Joe keep his dough."

SEE PALIN, PAGE 10

Senior leads McCrory's UNC campaign effort

BY RYAN DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Senior Michael Hutson has turned a passion for politics into a labor of love.

Since June, Hutson has been in charge of a campus campaign effort to elect Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory,

a Republican, to the office of N.C. governor.

"I sleep five hours a night and the free time definitely isn't there," Hutson said.

"But for me, campaigning is an art and a love."

Hutson, who grew up in Charlotte, became familiar with Mayor Pat McCrory during his 14-year tenure as mayor.

Once he found out McCrory was running for governor, he wanted to take part in getting him elected.



UNC senior Michael Hutson has been working to help elect Pat McCrory as N.C. governor.

Jim Ceresnak, a senior political science major at North Carolina State University, joined with Hutson in an effort to inform others about their candidate.

"I've known Michael since 6th grade, and I've never met anyone more motivated or dedicated to a cause than he is," Ceresnak said.

Ceresnak said the McCrory campaign did not recognize the duo's efforts during the summer.

"We invested our own time, energy and a lot of our own money," Ceresnak said.

But by August, the McCrory

SEE HUTSON, PAGE 10

election 2008



Campaigner Profile

Today: Michael Hutson



Republican vice presidential candidate Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin speaks at the state fairgrounds in Raleigh on Saturday.