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THE FINAL VOTE



DTH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/ERIN HULL AND KELLY MCHUGH

Students can vote in the runoff election for student body president by logging in to my.unc.edu before 10 p.m. Results will be announced in Carroll 111 at 10:30 p.m.

In runoff, Cooper and Lee face new challenge of alerting voters

BY VICTORIA COOK STAFF WRITFR

In an election season marred by controversy, candidates had to face a volley of complaints, hearings and, for two candi-

DTH ONLINE: Watch a live video of election results. Follow @dailytarheel on Twitter for instant updates.

Both candidates said they talked to many students this week who didn't know when the runoff election would take place Voter turnout has traditionally dropped in runoff elections, with the 2009 election being the only exception since 2004. 'The biggest challenge of this runoff is getting students to know there's a runoff," Lee said. "Turnout for runoffs is always

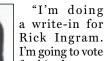
STUDENTS SHARE VIEWS ON TODAY'S ELECTIONS

Bo

Zhang,

Senior

Biology



or nim becaus

of his featured-

text comments

in the DTH.

"I'm voting for Ian Lee. I voted for him the first time around, out now I'm not so sure. None of the candidates were favorites of mine. Ian Lee has, I think, a little bit of a delivery problem."

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2011

Library to cut budget, services

Cuts will reduce hours, staff and computer maintenance

LYDIA RUSCHE

STAFF WRITER

The University's libraries will offer a diminished level of service next year as a result of budget cuts, officials said.

To cope with state budget cuts that will range from 5 to 15 percent, UNC Libraries will reduce hours open, computer maintenance and librarian availability and leave vacant positions empty instead of laying off employees, said Sarah Michalak, University librarian and associate provost for University libraries.

UNC Libraries faced a 4.4 percent budget cut for the current academic year and is preparing for a 6 percent budget cut starting July 1 this year, Michalak said.

This will cost the department 11 vacant positions and \$1.7 million.

Combined with a one-time cut of \$1.2 million from this year, UNC Libraries could feel the effect of losing nearly \$3 million.

The cuts will only affect the facilities classified as UNC Libraries, which include Davis Library, Wilson Library, the Undergraduate Library and the law library, but excludes certain departmental libraries such as the Park Library at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Michalak said the cuts will affect several levels of services like computer maintenance, adding that the department might reduce the number of computers available to students and not replace them for four to five years.

"For students, the computers will be getting older and might not work as well," she said.

The budget cuts will also likely stop the newly extended hours of Davis Library, Michalak said. The library will be forced to close earlier than 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, changing students' study routines.

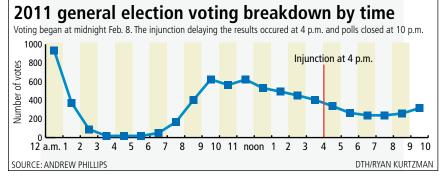
"The good thing is you can move to the

dates, the prospect of disgualification.

But when the dust settled Feb. 17 and candidates Mary Cooper and Ian Lee moved into a runoff with 39 percent and 25 percent of the vote, respectively, they faced an entirely new challenge: informing students that an already drawn-out election wasn't over just yet.

Tonight that end will come at last.

SEE **RUNOFF**, PAGE 6



Biology better.

Jonathan

Hootman,

Junior

Mary Goodwin Junior Nursing

a sense of confidence that I identified with. "I'm voting for Mary Cooper. I

"He displayed

like her platform "I don't know her personally but have friends who do, and I trust their judg-Caleb

Cody, Junior English

"I voted for Ian the first time. I'll probably vote for him again. "It's mostly because of meal plans and parking, although those seem like they might not go through."

Undergraduate Library," she said.

Junior Nina Brashears said she would be one of those students.

"If the hours the libraries were open changed, it could potentially affect me because I would have to rearrange my routine of my study," she said.

But the Undergraduate Library hours will not be affected because they are funded by the Student Library Advisory Board, said Pam Sessoms, undergraduate librarian.

And while the libraries will be losing 11 vacant positions, departments will rework their internal operations to make sure the duties are equally distributed, Sessoms said.

"All of those vacancies are a lot of work here, so the library is just trying to reassign work so that no one area is hit especially hard," she said.

Sessoms said management is working to minimize the impact of the cuts by moving more content online and providing smaller

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE 6

Basketball policy offers fewer tickets to students

ment.

BY LAUREN RATCLIFFE STAFF WRITER

Students crossing their fingers for basketball tickets are vying for fewer seats than last year.

Citing chronically low student attendance, the athletic department has reduced the number of student tickets by 34 percent from last year.

Though rate of attendance has been low for decades, athletic department officials said they decided to reduce the amount of student tickets after particularly poor attendance last year.

The office distributes an average of 2,798 tickets per game this year.

"What boggles our minds is that for the games that are in February, the number of individual students who signed up was 8,600 on aver-

age," said Clint Gwaltney, associate athletic director.

'We then send out the tickets, and the people that decide to come to the game averages 60 percent."

Gwaltney said there was a 37 percent return on last year's average allotment of 4,200 tickets per game, adding that poor attendance has become more noticeable with a general admission system rather than assigned seating.

The lost student tickets have been redirected to the general public. Gwaltney said the decision was not financially motivated, and the athletic department has not earned as much money as it expected from those additional ticket sales.

'We made this decision last year before going into our budget and we budgeted for the potential to sell these tickets," Gwaltney said.

"We did not sell as many as we hoped. We were trying to maximize capacity and trying to fill it up."

Carolina Athletic Association President Brandon Finch said in an e-mail that students have no one to blame but themselves.

"Students can blame the ticket policy, the weather, the long trek to the Smith Center or the team's less-than-stellar performance at times, but at the end of the day, it's clear that students aren't using their tickets, and that's disturbing, he said.

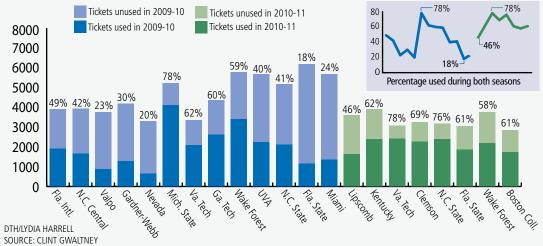
Some students expressed frustration, saying they felt too few winner" e-mails were sent out.

"It seems to me that it's been more difficult for people to get tickets than it even was two years

SEE TICKETS, PAGE 6

Student ticket use at men's basketball in 2009-10 and 2010-11

The graph shows the number of tickets issued through the lottery and the number used for home games in the 2009-10 and 2010-11 seasons. Above each bar is the percentage of students that used tickets they received. Note: In 2009-10 students received one ticket.



this day in black history

FEB. 25, 1870

Hiram Rhodes Revels, raised in North Carolina, is sworn in as Mississippi senator, becoming the first black person to serve in U.S. Congress.



city | page 6

TURNING THE PAGE

93-year-old author Margaret Wharton said her latest book, about her experience during World War II, will be the last she writes.



SportsFriday page 4

TAR HEELS STUNG

With a 64-57 loss to Georgia Tech, the women's basketball team has dropped three straight games and fallen to fifth in the ACC.

Today's weather



Rain falls like cherry blossoms H 69, L 32

Saturday's weather



Haiku-worthy H 58, L 33

