

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Alert Carolina siren and text alerts successful Monday

Alert Carolina successfully tested its emergency alert system Monday, sounding sirens and sending text messages to students. The tone was sounded at 12:10 p.m. A pre-recorded message was sounded from five different locations. Text messages were sent to more than 48,000 cell phones.

UNC researchers link protein to a nerve fiber insulation

Researchers at UNC recently made a discovery that could change widely held beliefs about a key nervous system protein. The protein, called Erk, is part of a large “developmental cascade,” genetic mutations that have recently been linked to different various neurodevelopmental disorders. Nearly 10,000 papers have been published on the cascade, so the allegations that this gene, important in the cascade, could actually behave differently than had previously been observed in lab settings, could hold great importance in the scientific community.

The complexity of the cascade makes it difficult to isolate Erk and remove it, getting rid of the mutated genes. But the UNC-led team found a way using genetic engineering tricks to knock the mutated protein out of mice, who were left “relatively unaffected.” The team plans to tackle the effects of taking the gene out of the brain next

CITY BRIEFS

County commissioners to discuss legislative agenda

The Orange County Board of Commissioners will discuss a potential legislative agenda for the state general assembly at a public hearing tonight. Issues on the agenda include topics ranging from broadband service and agriculture to bio-solids disposal and energy efficiency. Here's a breakdown of three of the issues that could dominate the meeting: ■ Two proposed bills concerning the Orange-Alamance County line will be discussed by commissioners. Board vice chairman Steve Yuhasz said the first bill will ask the state legislature to reaffirm the current county line for 91 percent of the current boundary. The second proposed bill would allow Orange and Alamance counties to come up with a mutually agreeable way to settle the remaining 9 percent, which includes regions that both counties agreed needed some adjustment, Yuhasz said. ■ Another item slated to be discussed is a bill banning the practice of hunting deer with dogs. The bill has already been presented to commissioners, but the restrictive measure failed to gain unanimous approval by one vote. ■ The board also plans to discuss whether they will repeal an ethics policy mandated for Orange County by state law in 1987, Yuhasz said. Visit [dailytarheel.com](http://dailytarheel.com) to read more.

County providing income tax preparation assistance

Orange County is providing free tax assistance for eligible clients of any age is available through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. IRS-trained and -certified tax volunteers will prepare computerized tax returns for clients who meet eligibility requirements. There are no charges for any service including electronic filing of a tax return. Clients must have a household income of less than \$60,000, and clients with complex or lengthy returns may be referred to paid tax preparers. Non-English-speaking clients may need to bring an interpreter. For more information, call (919) 968-2086.

Local school system wins two publication awards

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City schools won two Blue Ribbon Publication Awards from the North Carolina School Public Relations Association. The district's parent calendar was honored for the fifth consecutive year and is published in both English and Spanish. The Learning Links curriculum guides for grades K-8, also published in English and Spanish, picked up recognition as well for the fifth year in a row.

-From staff and wire reports

Lee plans to ‘push the limits’

Says his goals are simple, clear-cut

BY MELISSA ABBEY  
STAFF WRITER

Ian Lee says he isn't running for student body president to enhance his college experience or pad his resume.

Instead, he's running because he can't stand not to. "I get upset when there's so much more you could be doing that you're not doing," he said.

As student body secretary, Lee is the only candidate to have served as an executive officer. With this knowledge of student government, Lee said he felt strongly earlier this year that much more could be done for students.

So in October he decided to campaign for student body president in hopes of doing it himself.

"Being the oldest of five, I've always tried to lead the way and show by example, to push the limits so that someone else can see what's possible," he said.

"I'm always the first to try something new."

Lee created a system for collecting petition signatures online this year, drawing the ire of other candidates. His campaign has been

Candidate profiles

**Monday:** Brooklyn Stephens  
**Wednesday:** Mary Cooper  
**Thursday:** Rick Ingram

the subject of three investigations by the Board of Elections, including one that is ongoing. The first of those complaints challenged Lee's eligibility on the grounds that the Student Code prohibits the student body secretary from campaigning during his tenure. Another challenged his online petitioning.

Title VI, Article IV, Section 408 of the Student Code explicitly prohibits the student body secretary — and students holding other select positions — from participating in a campaign for any elected position. The code becomes murky in one clause, which states that student government officials, when participating in elections, must clearly speak only for themselves and not the student government.

The Board of Elections ruled in favor of Lee in the fall on the condition that he not use his office for campaigning.

Lee said he prides himself on the simple, clear-cut goals outlined in his platform. Those include making Rams Head Deck free after 5 p.m. for students, extending meal



DTH/ERIN HULL

Student body president candidate Ian Lee's platform includes making Rams Head Deck free after 5 p.m. and a FixMyCampus service.

plan credit to campus restaurants and moving tuition allotment from a peer-based model to a cost-based model.

"You need to be focused on a couple of key issues so that you are available to handle surprises," Lee said.

John Sanders, the 1950-51 student body president, has known Lee for more than a year and said he feels confident in Lee's abilities.

"I simply find him an intelligent, interesting, engaging young man," Sanders said. "Plus, he has the background to have good judge-

ment as to what the needs are."

On top of his duties and school work, Lee is an amateur photographer, a scuba diver and an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

"Ian knows when he needs to be serious and focus, but he also knows how to have fun, to smile and laugh and show his funny side," said Chase Pickering, a senior and friend of Lee's.

"He definitely balances it well."

Contact the University Editor at [university@dailytarheel.com](mailto:university@dailytarheel.com).

Ingram almost tossed by ASG

Medlin dismisses reason for conflict

BY ELISE YOUNG  
SENIOR WRITER

The status of a student body president candidate's position in the UNC Association of Student Governments was jeopardized Monday following a suspected breach of the Student Code.

In an e-mail addressed to members of student government, Student Body Treasurer Dakota Williams said junior Rick Ingram, an ASG delegate and student body president candidate, was no longer a delegate because he missed the association's October and January meetings.

Williams, who also serves as senior vice president of ASG, cited a rule in the Student Code which states that if a student government appointee fails to attend a committee meeting on two instances, they are no longer a member of that committee.

The accusation, which Student Body President Hogan Medlin dismissed, sparked further debate on inconsistencies within the Student Code.

Medlin said he excused Ingram from missing the October meeting because Ingram notified him ahead of time that he would miss the meeting. Medlin added that it was his responsibility — not Ingram's — to find a replacement delegate.

Ingram said he was unaware of the Student Code rule.

"Hogan Medlin actually missed three in a row," Ingram said. "I suppose we would need to take Hogan's place away as a delegate as well if technicalities are coming down to it."

Because he is not an external appointment, the rule does not apply to Medlin.

Medlin and Deanna Santoro, speaker of UNC's Student Congress and associate vice president of ASG's legislative and public affairs committee, both said the incident was an example of inconsistencies within Student Code.

"I do think there needs to be a lot of changes in the code regarding external appointments," Medlin said.

Last semester, Student Body Secretary Ian Lee, who is also running for student body president, missed two meetings of the WXYC radio show's board of directors but only received a warning.

He was not removed from the board, said Santoro, a fellow board member.

Williams said it's not his job to monitor appointees' compliance to the rule, but he noticed it after two members of Congress' safety and security committee were dismissed per the code.

But Santoro said that was a much more extreme case. Those committee members did not attend a single meeting, she said.

Santoro said she will work with Medlin and student body Vice President Holly Boardman to create a policy that makes the rule fair.

Ingram said the accusation might have been motivated by his reputation for opposing ASG.

"Student government has gotten a little corrupt, and ASG is definitely one of those areas," Ingram said.

"I am a voice of opposition to ASG," he added. "This looks to me like an attempt to silence opposition."

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DTH/DANIEL TURNER

Rita Bongarten, principal of Frank Porter Graham Elementary School, reads "Miss Tizzy" to an audience of school children as part of the school's annual readathon on Monday night. Bongarten dressed up and performed as Miss Tizzy, the main character of the book.

ONE FOR THE BOOKS

Students pledge 650,000 minutes of reading

BY CONOR FURLONG  
STAFF WRITER

Lauren Gilliam knows a good book when she reads one.

A fifth-grader, Lauren has participated in the annual Frank Porter Graham Elementary School Readathon since she was in kindergarten. This year, her favorite book is "Love, Stargirl."

"Love, Stargirl" is about a girl who moves away to place where she doesn't want to live," Lauren said. "She meets people who are nice, and now she loves it."

During the readathon, which functions both to raise money for the school and motivate students to read, students pledge to read 650,000 minutes — about 100 min-

utes a day per student.

Last year, the students raised more than \$14,000 to support the school's media center, science lab and field trip fund.

Readathon Co-Chairwoman Kathy Irvin said she is optimistic the students will reach their goal.

"Last year the goal was 500,000 minutes, but the kids blew past that and logged around 700,000 minutes," she said.

Throughout the two-week program, which began Jan. 21, the school brings in local celebrities like ABC-11 News Anchor Amber Rupinta and former UNC basketball player Eric Montross to read to the

SEE READATHON, PAGE 7



DTH/DANIEL TURNER

Rachel Combs, a teacher's assistant, reads from "Fancy Nancy" as her daughter Deborah watches in the media center.

Eve Carson Scholarship awarded to two juniors

Clarke, De La Rosa chosen out of 95

BY JESSICA KENNEDY  
STAFF WRITER

Nearly three years after her death, Eve Carson's legacy on campus will be carried on by students who never knew her.

Late Sunday night, juniors Mark Clarke and Zach De La Rosa were selected as this year's recipients of the Eve Carson Scholarship.

Clarke and De La Rosa are members of the first class of students who were not at UNC when Carson was killed in March 2008. But they said they still feel a connection to

the former student body president.

"It's in a very sort of general way, but I think Eve Carson embodied a lot about what was really great about the University," said Clarke, an English major from Fairview.

De La Rosa, a mathematics and economics major from Raleigh, said in an e-mail that Carson's legacy stretches from volunteer events to student discussions.

"I see the legacy of Eve Carson living out on campus every day," he said.

The scholarship funds half the



Mark Clarke plans to focus on the Carolina Campus Community Garden this summer.



This summer, Zach De La Rosa hopes to travel abroad to promote economic development.

cost of attendance of the students' senior years, plus \$5,000 each for a summer enrichment experience.

Clarke, who helped start the Carolina Campus Community Garden, said he hopes to focus on the garden over the summer instead of holding a job.

"I think I will definitely grow but I think the growth will occur

because of the time I'll be allowed to spend in the community with people and in the garden," Clarke said.

De La Rosa said he hopes to travel abroad to promote economic development.

"Hopefully, I can use it as a launching pad to further my understanding of micro-finance and micro-credit

initiatives globally," he said.

Recipients of the scholarship must show that they have found their passion and used it to give back to the community.

Christina Lynch, outreach director of the Eve Carson Scholarship executive committee, said it's clear that Carson's legacy continues because so many worthy people apply for the scholarship each year.

"It means that it's not just going to stop when Eve's not on campus or people aren't on campus that knew her," she said.

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