

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 119, ISSUE 4

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2011

www.dailytarheel.com



sports | page 10

UNC TIED FOR FIRST

A victory over Maryland sent the men's basketball team into a tie with Duke for first place in the ACC standings. Tyler Zeller and Harrison Barnes led the team offensively.



university | online

TALKING TWITTER

Attendees of Saturday's SMART conference learned about the value of Twitter, the merits of blogging and the future of social media. Students and local professionals spoke at the event.



sports | page 10

GOOD TO BE HOME

Shortstop Levi Michael led the way for the baseball team, which went 2-1 against Seton Hall over the weekend in its first home series of the season.

arts | page 3

PLAY IN A DAY

Participants in a LAB! Theatre play festival scripted, cast and rehearsed plays — in 24 hours. The six groups performed their productions Saturday night.

this day in black history

FEB. 28, 1960 ...

Students from all-black Lincoln High School stage a sit-in at Colonial Drugstore on Franklin Street. It was the first sit-in in Chapel Hill history.

Today's weather

Zeus trippin'
H 81, L 42

Tuesday's weather

Double the sulfur,
double the fun
H 59, L 32

index

police log2
calendar2
nation and world5
opinion6
crossword9



DTH/LAUREN MCCAY

After an arduous election season, Mary Cooper won with 62 percent of the vote, beating Ian Lee for student body president. After the announcement of her victory, which came later in the month than expected, Carroll Hall echoed with chants and cheers from supporters.

LAST ONE STANDING

Cooper, with 62 percent, wins drawn-out election

BY DEBORAH STRANGE
AND DANIEL WISER
STAFF WRITERS

Bringing a decisive finish to a student body election season embroiled in complaints and controversy, Mary Cooper emerged unscathed as the winner Friday with a sweeping 62 percent of the vote.

"I'm going to sleep less than I did during the campaign season," Cooper said of her plans to serve students next year.

Before her April 5 inauguration, Cooper said she and her transition team will work to meet with administrators and current members of the executive branch to begin working for next year.

"Hogan and I will be spending an enormous amount of time together," she said. "My first action will be learning as much as I can."

She said she hopes to first work on expanding CCI printing to Greek housing and other off-campus locations, one of her main platform points.

Cooper was largely removed from the com-

plaints and heated exchanges that arose once again Friday, when third-place finisher Rick Ingram publicly announced his endorsement of Cooper as opposed to Ian Lee, who garnered 38 percent of the runoff vote.

The endorsement came in response to an e-mail Lee sent to Ingram's supporters, encouraging them to vote. Ingram responded by taking to Facebook at 11:37 a.m. to announce his endorsement, while campaign manager Billy Klutz took to Twitter and harangued Lee for "fraudulent e-mails" that misled supporters.

Ingram said in the post that Lee, the student body secretary, engaged in "corrupt behavior" by sending e-mails to students who signed Ingram's petition. In the e-mail, Lee cited the similarities of their platforms but later said he did not intend to suggest that Ingram had endorsed him.

Ingram contested Lee's candidacy in December, arguing that the Student Code did not allow for Lee to campaign for stu-

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 4

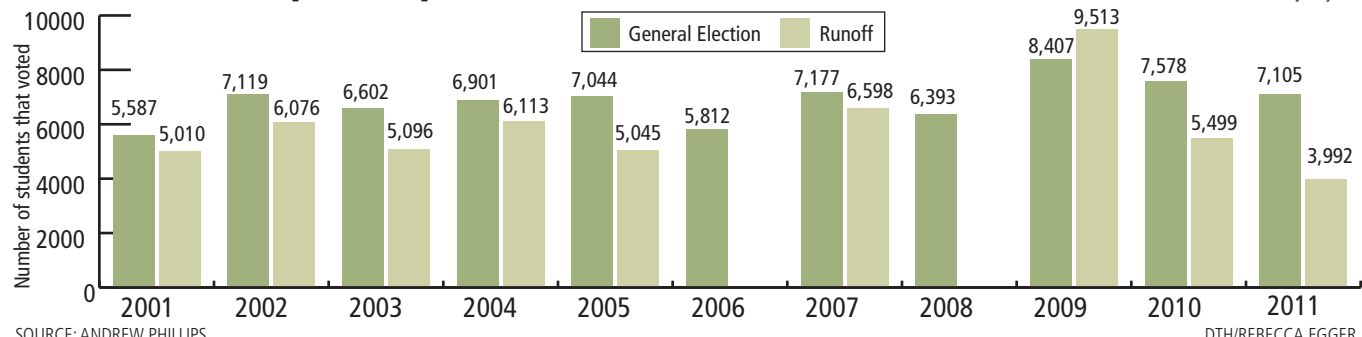


DTH/LOGAN SAVAGE

Ian Lee reacts to the SBP election results Friday night. He congratulated Cooper on her victory with a hug and a Tweet.

UNC election participation

The graph shows the number of students that voted for student body president in general and runoff elections. 2006 and 2008 did not have runoff elections because the candidate won with a majority.



SOURCE: ANDREW PHILLIPS

DTH/REBECCA EGGER

Persuasion one of few SBP powers

ANDY THOMASON
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

As Mary Cooper and her supporters cheered in jubilation after her resounding victory in the student body president runoff election Friday night, Hogan Medlin watched quietly in the corner.

It was in that room in Carroll Hall that Medlin, the current student body president, emerged victorious by a nearly identical margin one year ago.

In the weeks following his election, Medlin set to work on a strategy for limiting tuition increases looming on the horizon.

But after months of planning and proposals, he cast the lone dissenting vote against

a measure to raise tuition by 6.5 percent, the maximum permissible percentage, in a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

It was a glaring instance of a student body president who was unable to deliver what students wanted most on the issue they cared the most about.

This, along with an election cycle that seemed at many points petty and bizarre, challenges the position's perceived influence and suggests that the role of the student body president in the tuition process is — like Medlin's vote — merely symbolic.

Medlin, former student body presidents and administrators alike said the top student leader does levy influence through

persuasion, but that their power is easily trumped by larger forces.

"The student body president has no power," said Bob Winston, chairman of the Board of Trustees. "It has the power of persuasion — the power of the ability to speak to the board at length and to be involved in the process of setting tuition."

Power through persuasion

The student body president interacts with top-level administrators, most notably on the board, and occupies the lone student seat.

SEE PERSUASION, PAGE 4

Police looking for male intruder

Student woke up to man rubbing her leg

BY VICTORIA STILWELL

CITY EDITOR

Junior Kristin Dravis didn't feel the man's touch on the back of her leg at first.

"I kind of woke up and didn't think anything about it because the sensation wasn't there," she said. "I fell back asleep again and then the guy grabbed my thigh, and I woke up and the guy was standing over me."

"I didn't scream," Dravis said. "I said, 'Oh my God.' The guy wasn't scared. He just very calmly turned around and walked out."

Between 5:30 and 6:30 a.m. Friday, an unidentified man entered the houses of two groups of students living off campus, including Dravis and her roommate Catherine Smith, who live on the 300 block of Church Street.

Chapel Hill police spokesman Lt. Kevin Gunter said in both cases the man entered through unlocked front doors, after which he entered the bedrooms of three students. He left upon his discovery each time.

But Dravis and Smith said they locked their door, and students have more to worry about besides remembering to turn the dead bolt.

"I'm 99 percent sure the doors were locked," Smith said. "Nothing is 100 percent, but I'm pretty sure."

Dravis said she left a spare key hidden outside for her boyfriend. She and Smith think the intruder watched the house, stole the key and used it to gain entry.

"I never realized that it was stolen. I thought my boyfriend had it," Dravis said. "It wasn't in a place where you would just assume there was a key."

The other incident occurred on the 300 block of Pritchard Avenue, Gunter said.

"The two women were awoken when they saw a strange man in their bedrooms waving a cell phone in front of their face," Gunter said.

He said the women screamed, and the man immediately left.

Gunter said no one was injured and nothing was reported stolen in either incident.

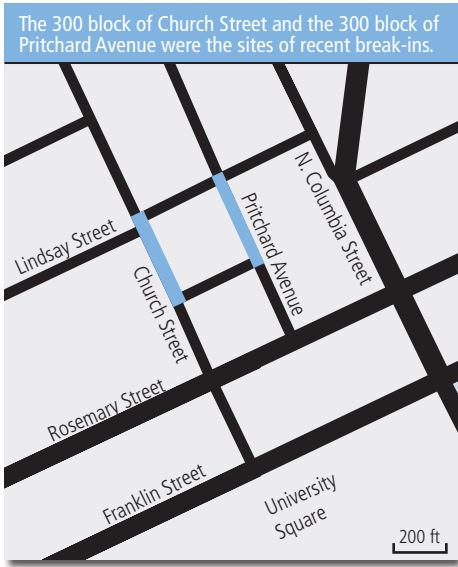
The students described the intruder as a 6-foot-tall black male, with a medium build and very short hair. The intruder may also have some facial hair resembling a thin goatee. The victims were not able to distinguish an age.

After the incidents, the UNC Public Safety Department posted the information as urgent breaking news on its home page and posted it on the department's Facebook page.

Public safety spokesman Randy Young said the department regularly collaborates with town police on news which affects students.

"We live in a large community, and a little

SEE BREAK-INS, PAGE 4



SOURCE: GOOGLE MAPS
DTH/JESSICA TOBIN

Food trucks may gain ground after public forum tonight

BY MICHELLE ZAYED
STAFF WRITER

Fast food in Chapel Hill could take on a new meaning if residents voice opinions on a trend in food venues: trucks.

The Chapel Hill Town Council will discuss a proposal to amend the operating requirements for these establishments at a public forum tonight.

Lex Alexander, the managing partner of 3Cups, proposed the change in requirements. He cited the increasing popularity of food trucks around the country, outdated local legislation and the quality of food that trucks can offer as reasons for the forum.

"If people think we're too snooty to have food trucks, that hurts our

rep," Alexander said.

Although food trucks are not barred from operating in Chapel Hill, they must abide by nearly all the same regulations as brick-and-mortar restaurants, including adequate food storage and temperatures, said Tom Konsler, environmental health director for the Orange County Health Department.

Trucks must also get a license proving they abide by all zoning and health regulations and must operate on private property, as the town code currently limits sale of food in public sidewalks.

But some entrepreneurs have found ways to operate around the town's strict regulations.

Will and Pop's, a food truck co-

ATTEND THE FORUM

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Council Chamber of
Chapel Hill Town Hall
Info: townofchapelhill.org

owned by Will Pettis and his father, normally operates in Carrboro and uses Twitter to alert followers of its different locations.

Recently, the mint-green truck was in front of Chapel Hill establishments like Dead Mule Club, Bub O'Malley's and Run In Jim's.

"You still can't park in Chapel Hill," Pettis said. "The only reason we were able to pull this off is because we happen to know the

SEE FOOD TRUCKS, PAGE 4



DTH/CAROLYN VAN HOUTEN

Will and Pop's food truck, co-owned and run by Will Pettis and his father, Kenny, serves homemade lunches Wednesday on West Franklin Street.