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It's Official: McKissick Ticket to Lead Senate in '03-'04

Adam Lerner
Staff Writer

Floyd McKissick's ticket became the official winner of the Community Senate election when the elections committee announced early this week that it had rejected the Zach Smith ticket's appeal.

Following the decision, McKissick voiced optimism about the year ahead.

"With the relationship I have with many administrators," McKissick said, "I feel like I can build a bridge between students and the administration."

Smith complained to the committee after the polls closed last Tuesday. He alleged that McKissick's ticket had engaged in campaigning in Founders Hall and had distributed mass e-mails.

The first allegation was ruled to be unfounded because, according to senate election rules, no candidate may campaign "in the vicinity of Founders Hall" while voting is taking place. The elections committee re-

jected the charge because it could not determine where "in the vicinity of Founders Hall" referred to.

The allegation pertaining to the mass e-mail distribution was "a slight violation" in the eyes of the committee, according to an e-mail sent by elections committee chair Steven Wheeler to all candidates on the rival tickets. Though still a violation, the e-mail was hardly massive, being distributed to approximately six students, and was not significant enough, in the committee's judgement, to undermine the McKissick ticket's 13-vote lead.

Three neutral community members (students Doug Watts and Katie Abney and Career Development Center Director Irene Harrington) joined the elections committee to determine what actions to take. Previously, the election had been overseen by Steven Wheeler, the current chair of the Inter-Club Council.

This is not the first year in which Senate elections have come under scrutiny.

"I've been here since the fall of



'03-'04 Senate President Floyd McKissick.

Courtesy of Floyd McKissick

1991 and I don't remember an uncontested election," Harrington said. "It seems to me that there's some controversy every year. All of it doesn't reach the appeals process, but there are always innuendos that something improper was done or somebody didn't follow some rule, or what have

you."

Both sides exhibited a conciliatory tone following the appeal hearing.

"We think we can still do what we wanted to do - we can still inform students," said Savannah Turner, vice presidential candidate of the Smith ticket.

War on Iraq Persists Despite International Concerns

Katie Elliott
Staff Writer

POW Rescued

Nineteen-year-old Pfc. Jessica Lynch was rescued from the Saddam Hospital compound in Nasiriya, Iraq, late Tuesday night. She and 14 other members of the 507th Ordnance Maintenance Company were seized on March 23, when their convoy took a wrong turn and were ambushed by an Iraqi force.

Five members of the team are classified as prisoners, two confirmed dead, and eight (including Private

Lynch) were classified as missing in action. During the raid, the American forces found 11 bodies, some of whom officials say might be U.S. servicemen.

Critics Denounced as Undermining Iraqi War Effort

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Gen. Richard B. Myers, the nation's highest-ranking military officer as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, rejected criticism last Tues-

day of the war against Iraq, calling such complaints misinformed and harmful to the troops.

Myers attacked the partly anonymous critics, saying the criticisms are "absolutely wrong, they bear no resemblance to the truth, and it's just harmful to our troops that are out there fighting very bravely, very cou-

rageously."

One critic is retired General Barry McCaffrey, who led a mechanized infantry division during the 1991 Persian Gulf war.

He said of Rumsfeld that he resented "the

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