

Candidates Say School Race Costly Finance Reports Not Needed in Carrboro

BY KRISTEN LANEY
STAFF WRITER

This year's race for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education was more expensive than most candidates had expected.

Of the eight candidates running for the board, Mark Royster has spent the most money, about \$2,750 — \$250 more than Bea Hughes-Werner, according to financial records released by the Orange County Board of Elections.

Royster, a banker, said he did not realize how expensive printing was. "I chose to do a lot of printing because I believe it's the best method," he said.

"I had made a decision early on that I was committed to be in this race, and I wanted to make certain the public knew my platform and what I stood for," he said.

Hughes-Werner, a geneticist, ranked second in candidate expenditures, having spent about \$2,500 on her campaign.

"I was under the impression that the school-board race was inexpensive," she said. "Things cost more than I thought." Like most of the candidates, Hughes-

Werner paid money from her pocket to start her campaign.

Billy Beville, a registered nurse, spent about \$2,600 as of Oct. 18. Of the \$3,750 in individual contributions he received, two of the largest contributions came from members of Putting Children First, the recently formed conservative watchdog group.

The group's president, Robert Alexander, and Doug Breeden, one of the school board members not seeking re-election, each donated \$500 to Beville's campaign.

LaVonda Burnette, a part-time UNC student, was next in line in expenditures with about \$1,800.

She said she was late in filing her second financial report to the board of elections because her treasurer went out of town, but she planned to turn in the report today.

Publicity cost more than Burnette expected, and she said she was surprised to have spent \$600 on yard signs and \$500 on pamphlets.

Mary Bushnell, the only incumbent seeking re-election, said she had not expected to spend more than \$1,000 on her cam-

paign, so she did not file a financial report with the board of elections. Candidates are not required to submit their financial reports if they expect to spend less than \$1,000.

But because of several controversial issues of this election, she spent more than she expected. "I thought my record and my experience would have sent a sufficient message to the people," she said.

She said she spent about the same amount on this campaign as she had in previous elections, but she had to use signs for the first time.

Grainger Barrett, an attorney, said he had not expected to spend more than \$1,000, so he also had not filed a report.

He said he spent about \$990, which was more than he had hoped to spend.

"With all the candidates, it's hard to raise contributions," he said. "I was hopeful that people would recognize me from other activities."

Write-in candidate Richard Kryder said he had spent about \$525 on his campaign. "I'm satisfied. I just can't see spending a lot of money," he said.

Ranking last in spending was David Miles, who said he spent about \$500.

"Being my first time in politics, I didn't know how much to expect to spend."

BY ANUBHA ANAND
STAFF WRITER

Charles Riggsbee knows what it's like to lose by a little. A three-time candidate in the Carrboro Board of Aldermen race, he came within 60 votes of winning in 1991.

Riggsbee, who has spent about \$700 on his campaign this year, said he thought the amount a candidate spent on a campaign could be the difference between coming close and winning.

"Two years ago, I didn't put up any signs," he said. "It's possible if I had put out signs, I would've won."

Carrboro candidates have spent anywhere from \$150 to \$2,500 on their campaigns so far. However, they don't have to make their expense reports public.

Hilliard Caldwell, who is running against Mayor Eleanor Kinnaird, said he spent roughly \$2,500 because of his opponent. Kinnaird ran uncontested in 1991 for election to her third term.

"I have to keep in mind that I'm running against a 3-term incumbent. (Money) probably makes a difference," Caldwell said.

Other candidates' expenses averaged roughly \$850.

Kinnaird, who spent about \$1,000 in donated funds, said her campaign money

had gone primarily toward a fund-raising letter, campaign signs and advertisements in newspapers and on the radio.

Candidates could only quote rough figures because, by state law, Carrboro is not required to make campaign reports public. The state allows small municipalities to decide whether they want to make such reports known. Both the Chapel Hill Town Council and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education make their campaign reports public.

Carolyn Thomas, deputy supervisor at the Orange County Board of Elections, said candidates were required to keep up with campaign expenses for their own records.

"In each municipality, the board votes on whether to turn in their expense reports," she said. "Traditionally, Carrboro has chosen not to."

Kinnaird said she was in favor of making campaign spending reports public. Recently, the board debated whether real estate holdings should be made public, which Kinnaird also said she supported.

"There have been some conservative members of the board who don't want to reveal things, but I think those things should be public," Kinnaird said.

Jacquelyn Gist, the only incumbent run-

ning for a seat on the board, said she had spent about \$700 on brochures and ads.

"All of it was donated," Gist said. "And I just recycled my campaign signs from last time."

Rudy Gregory, a first-time candidate, said he tried to run a \$150 campaign. "I bought wood and stencils and painted my own signs. I wanted my campaign to reflect how I would be in office," he said.

But the \$150 turned into \$1,500, all money donated from his family. "When you're new like me, you have to get your name out there," Gregory said. "I bought newspaper ads. It adds up real quick."

First-time alderman candidate Hank Anderson III has spent the least amount on his campaign — only \$150.

"I haven't had time to go after the donations," he said, adding that he recently has been in the hospital.

Anderson said his campaign money had gone toward a flier, some calling cards and a few posters.

"I think it's going to hurt me, but I don't know," Anderson said. "Newspaper coverage has really helped me. If I win, it'll be because of that."

Aldermen candidates Michael Hughes and Michael Nelson could not be reached for comment Sunday.

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 3

Miles and Billy Beville, said the multicultural plan was of major concern. Beville said he was opposed to the new plan, but he supported the original plan, which did not include sexual orientation.

ALDERMEN

FROM PAGE 3

efforts of Mayor Eleanor Kinnaird, who is seeking a fourth term in Tuesday's election. "We need to keep on doing what we're doing," Gist said.

Anderson said the aldermen should work to bring in more local businesses, as opposed to large companies.

Raising Other Important Issues

One of the tenets of Gist's campaign is taking care of the town's infrastructure, specifically by improving roads, buying new cars and renovating buildings. "It's not real flashy, but we need to do it."

As Carrboro becomes a wealthier community, the aldermen also need to develop more low-income housing, she said.

Community has been Gregory's main theme during his candidacy. "You've got to bring people from different classes and

"I'd like sexual orientation not to be included as a topic to be integrated," Beville said.

Miles said feelings against the multicultural plan were strong and needed to be dealt with. "The school board should have a policy in place saying what is appropriate."

aces together," he said. "We can't be just a place. We have to be a community."

He said one way to encourage community was to encourage affordable housing for couples as well as the poor.

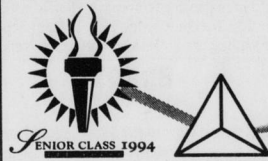
Riggsbee said Carrboro needed to be prepared for its continuing growth. "I think the solution to the growth problem needs to be a well-thought-out master plan."

Nelson said he would work on a number of transportation issues, namely supporting a Triangle-wide bus service.

A branch library in Carrboro is on Hughes' list of priorities, and he said the town was the largest in the state without its own library.

"I grew up in a town where we had a branch library. In the summers, I would jump on a bike, ride to the library and read. Our kids don't have that."

Anderson said the panhandling ordinance was an example of the kind of issues he would work for.



Senior Spectrum

Reflecting the Colors of the Senior Class

'Tis the Gift

This is the story of four tired men. . . Senior Class Gift Committee members have logged countless hours preparing for Tuesday's class gift selection. After a semester of researching and soliciting proposals, interviewing and brainstorming, the committee is nearly ready to present its final recommendations.

Group members say the process has been fun...but draining. "This thing's been on our minds 24-7," says committee member Eric Myers. "I'm ready to get into the actual fundraising — this part was hectic."

Senior Class Marshals will select a gift from these proposals, the "Final Four":

- The Campus Y proposal requests donations to spur fundraising to renovate the Campus Y's upper floors.
- Senior Class President Joe Andrews and Vice President Nanci Locklear propose the Carolina Community Foundation, a grant to fund student efforts to promote community and to solve social problems.
- The College of Arts and Sciences' proposal seeks funding for the Student Initiatives Fund, an effort to promote student innovation and achievement.
- The University libraries propose an electronics endowment to fund technology upgrades in the libraries' computer systems and to pay for emerging technologies.

Gift Committee members Myers, Adam Burns, Jason Dugas, and Matt Williamson will present their findings at the Tuesday Marshal meeting, which Burns has dubbed "Super Tuesday."

"We will have done all of our research, and have a list of pros and cons for each gift," Burns says. "We will rank each gift on a scale based on criteria we have

set up, and the gift with the highest rank will get our recommendation."

The Marshals will then consider the gift presentations, the results of last week's phone poll of seniors and the Gift Committee's presentation before selecting the gift.

So watch for Tuesday's gift announcement as the Senior Class takes big steps to build its place in history.

At Your Service

Any student interested in working for a nonprofit organization or in examining volunteer opportunities should plan to attend the Nonprofit Career Panel Nov. 3.

Scheduled panel members include N.C. Multiple Sclerosis Society representatives and members of the Freedom House in Carrboro.

"This panel will allow students who are interested in nonprofit organizations to talk to an expert in the field," Panel Co-organizer Grant Hoffman says.

Students can question panel members about nonprofit organizations and the

organizations' volunteer opportunities. It's common knowledge — volunteer experience strengthens *any* resume.

Students can get a list of about forty nonprofit organizations containing the names and phone numbers of 'contact people.'

Co-organizer Amy Williams says the panel will also enhance on-campus awareness of nonprofit and volunteer opportunities.

Interested? Stop by 112 Saunders at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 3. Direct any questions to Grant Hoffman or Amy Williams at the Senior Class office (962-1994).

Any ideas, suggestions or comments about the Bicentennial Class activities? Complete this slip and drop it by our Union Desk folder or the Senior Class office (Suite B). We will review these comments every Friday, so don't miss this chance to give us your ideas!

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AUDITIONS & INFORMATION
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The Senior Spectrum
is produced biweekly by the Senior Class of 1994.
Watch this space for more Senior news and Bicentennial information

Edited by Jon Allen and Dave Long
Sponsored by the Senior Class of 1994 and the Bicentennial Student Planning Committee