

Carrboro voters fight Franklin St. extension

By RICHARD BOYCE
Staff Writer

Preliminary counts late last night showed Carrboro voters opposed the Franklin Street extension but approved the second bond referendum to improve Carrboro streets and add new bike lanes.

Polls closed late as voters turned out heavily yesterday, and after problems with ballot-counting machines, the outcome of the referendums was difficult to predict. With three of Carrboro's five precincts reporting, however, voters were defeating the extension 1,136 to 822. Voters were approving the second bond referendum 1,225 to 701.

Carrboro Mayor Jim Porto said late yesterday that he was not optimistic that either referendum would pass. He said he could not tell from the polls what would happen, but added that anything including raising taxes this election was bound to fail.

Brett Sutton, president of Citizens Against the Franklin Street extension, said whether the extension passed or not Carrboro would still need to make a lot of preparation to have quality population growth in the future.

Sutton said if the extension did not pass his goal was to get the improvement of the 54 bypass underway as quickly as possible.

If the extension was approved, Sutton said they would work to try to

minimize the effect of the road on Carrboro neighborhoods. He said their first goal was to get an engineering study.

"I don't understand the purpose," said Gilda Edwards. "I hope if they do build the extension they would build a way for students to get to and from campus."

Edwards said that the other bond referendum improving Carrboro streets seemed more practical.

Mike Gross of said he also voted against the extension. "I thought it would destroy a historic district in Carrboro," he said.

Gross also said he opposed the extension because it might destroy the current bike path between Carrboro and Chapel Hill but said he did not like the way bike lanes are in Carrboro now. "It would make unsafe bike paths," he said. "Those (bike paths) on Greensboro Street ... they are as unsafe as hell."

Robbie Braswell said he voted for the extension to alleviate traffic problems in Carrboro and said that he usually had to wait a long time in traffic every morning on the way to class in Chapel Hill. "I don't have to pay taxes here, so that is not important to me," he said.

If the extension passed, it would start at Crook's Corner on Franklin, pass through Brewer Lane and Carr Street and join Main Street where it connects into Greensboro Street.



Dark horse: Bill Cobey led Ike Andrews by 6,000 votes at 2:15 a.m.

Voters stay patient despite high turnout

By KAREN YOUNGBLOOD
Staff Writer

Predictions of record voter turnout and long waiting lines came true for Orange County voters last night.

The East Franklin polling site located at the Lutheran Church on Rosemary Street had record turnouts, with 79 percent of registered voters casting ballots. Scott Herman-Giddens, registrar at the Lutheran Church, said voter turnout was quite large.

"It's been extremely busy and steady throughout the whole day. Turnout is ... extremely high because we have a high turnover of voters," he said.

Pollsters at the Lutheran Church said they had 1,010 voters, not counting absentee or transfer votes, one hour before the polls closed. This was a larger turnout than in the 1980 election, when 722 voters cast ballots.

Herman-Giddens said although the stream of voters was steady, the waiting lines were never long.

"We never had more than 15 voters waiting at a time. We averaged 100 people an hour for the first five or six hours we were open," he said. He added that people waiting to vote were patient.

Of the voters casting ballots at the Lutheran Church, about two-thirds were registered Democrats.

The Northside polling site at the Chapel Hill Municipal Building was also busy. They had 987 voters, excluding absentee and transfer voters, one hour before the polls closed. Raleigh Wilson, registrar at the Municipal Building, said the voter flow was steady.

Wilson added that voters were very patient and no one complained about the waiting lines. "It's (the waiting lines) been no real problem at all. There's never been a really long waiting line. We haven't had more than 15-25 people in a line at any one time," he said.

Patricia Wall, a Democratic judge at the Northside polling site, said voter turnout was heavier than in 1980. "It's (voter turnout) heavier, although not a great deal heavier," she said.

The Carrboro Town Hall, the South Carrboro polling site, had a waiting line of about 25 minutes. David Mason, registrar at the Town Hall, said the stream of voters was steady all day.

The Carrboro Town Hall had seen 1,500 voters out of the 2,260 registered, one hour before the polls closed. The 1980 election saw only 1,323 voters cast ballots.

Closer to campus, Fetzter Gym saw many voters. David Balmer, chairman of Students for Martin statewide, said waiting lines were long.

"I was here this morning. There was a long line wandering down the halls of Fetzter. It wasn't as long as other polling sites like OWASA (University Lake area), where they had a waiting line of an hour and a half, or Lincoln," he said.

Balmer added that the students waiting to vote did not seem to mind the delay.

"It's been incredible. Everyone wants to vote, and everyone's willing to wait. It's exhilarating."

WUNC tries to raise funds

"Listen '84," a WUNC 91.5 FM fundraising music marathon, begins today and runs through Nov. 13.

During the week, WUNC will accept call-in pledges of money or services from listeners. The station hopes to raise \$160,000, and Program Director Tim Warner said he expected 4,000 people

to call in pledges. Last year, the station raised \$132,000.

Included in the week-long event will be the compilation of "Top 40" works, determined by listener requests. The most popular request will be aired the last day of the marathon. "Top 40" selections include jazz, classical and contemporary music.

Orange County taxi service helps voters get to polls

By ANNE RAUGH
Staff Writer

Orange County Republican and Democratic voters formed long, record-breaking lines at the polls yesterday. By 11 a.m., 35 percent of local votes had already been cast. Yet some were denied the opportunity to vote, because they didn't have a way to get to the polls.

Realizing that problem, law student Harry Kaplan, of the Democratic Party, devised a "taxi" transportation system to bring in all eligible voters.

It operates through a telephone bank system. "This year, over 1,500 volunteers from Orange County made thousands of calls, day and night, to survey potential Democratic voters who would need rides to the polls," Kaplan said.

The telephone bank system operates in three phases, with Democratic voters targeted first.

"On Election Day, we assign poll watchers at each election post who

check off the names of these voters as they come through. The next phase checks off all voters coming through until five o'clock. Those who haven't yet come through are called and soon arranged to be picked up," Kaplan said.

Gene Wagner worked with the taxi service. She said the service gave the elderly and some UNC students the opportunity to vote.

"Several weeks ago I surveyed a 111-year-old woman from the Hillhaven Nursing Home who needed a ride on Election Day," Wagner said.

The taxis shuttled voters to polls for several elections, but they were not publicized until this year when brochures were passed out and banners promoting the service were put up.

Kaplan said that between Sept. 6 and

Nov. 5, 20,000 contacts were made. He said he estimated several hundred rode the taxis.

Mildred Prince, 56, of Lakeview Manor Nursing Home said she was glad the taxi service gave her the opportunity to vote. "Television is the elderly's only source of the campaign in most cases. With the taxi, they are given the privilege to vote," she said.

Senate

from page 1

While Helms supporters celebrated, the mood of the Hunt camp at the Raleigh Inn was glum.

Hunt conceded the election at 12:15 a.m. today before a subdued crowd of Democrats, claiming he was not finished in making the state all it could be.

"We are not beaten in spirit," Hunt said, as his family stood next to him at the podium. "We have fought for what we believe. We have given our all for this cause. We have carried the torch and that flame will never, never die."

But Hunt said the people of North Carolina had made their choice. "While we may not agree, we must accept it," he said. "I wish Sen. Helms the best."

"We have lost our campaign, but not our conviction," he said. "Our hope for North Carolina can never be lost." With 25 percent of the precincts reporting at 10:30 p.m., the Hunt camp was still optimistic.

"(The projection) is based on a slim percentage of votes," said Hunt spokesman Don Hobart. "We're not worried." Hobart said that at the same time ABC was predicting a Helms victory, NBC-TV was reporting the race "too close to call."

"There's no question Reagan and the Republicans are doing well," Hobart said. "But it will take more than that for Jesse Helms to win."

Kevin Monroe, a Hunt campaign worker and former UNC student body president, called the television predictions premature, claiming the results which were in were not Hunt's strong areas.

The mood had gone from excited to somewhat calm, Monroe said after 25 percent of the precincts were in. "Expectation was there for a Reagan victory but not so suddenly — not by such a wide margin," he said. "Everyone's down about the Reagan swoop."

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Gilmore was on hand at the Hunt headquarters last night.

"Reagan is very popular in this state and the coattails are very, very long," Gilmore said. "I'm disappointed and very sad. No one has worked harder and been more sincere (than Hunt)."

Gilmore said he was confident the Democratic Party would remain strong in the state. "We have many outstanding leaders in the Democratic Party," he said. "There are three times more Democrats than Republicans in the state. The Democratic Party is alive and it's well. We probably need to revamp and reorganize and make sure we have the right goals for our party."

Written by Kelly Simmons, reported by Tom Conlon with Helms and Vance Trefethen with Hunt.

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For the record

Steve Murray should have been credited as the author of the review "Country" less than sum of parts" (Nov. 6). We regret the error.

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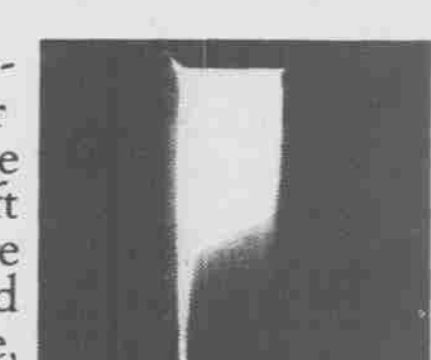
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