

Americans doubt government's honesty, poll shows

By SUSAN HOLDSCLAW
Staff Writer

Most Americans think the federal government is corrupt, according to a recent Media General-Associated Press poll.

A national survey of 1,125 adults found 70 percent believe the taking of illegal payoffs for special favors was widespread and nearly half of them called the government dishonest overall.

People have lost their confidence in the government because of its ethical and legal violations, said John Simmons, N.C. deputy attorney general. "One government official

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after another has been caught in some ethical offense," he said.

The Reagan administration, however, escaped most of the doubts about the government's honesty. While 43 percent said the administration had done a bad job of enforcing ethical standards, 40 percent said it had done a good job. The split was insignificant given the poll's three-point margin of error.

Fifty-one percent said the administration had done a good job of

managing the government, even though most said the government was poorly managed overall.

Republicans strongly supported the Reagan administration while most Democrats rated it poorly. Most independents said the administration had done well on management, but they were split on ethical issues.

Fifty-five percent did not blame the administration for the Pentagon scandal, but 46 percent in the survey said former Attorney General Edwin Meese should have been charged with crimes. Thirty percent agreed with the decision not to charge him, and the remaining 23 percent had no opinion.

Half of those surveyed opposed the idea of a presidential pardon for former national security adviser John Poindexter, the highest official charged in the Iran-contra case.

Respondents were evenly split on a pardon for Poindexter's assistant, former Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, who gained support through his defense of his actions at the congressional hearing last year.

The poll results did not surprise Simmons. "It's been building for some time," he said. "And it's not just government. It's big institutions."

UNC political science professor Merle Black said the poll's results may indicate some carry-over of the distrust of the government that developed in the 1960s and 1970s along with the recent Pentagon scandals.

"It leaves a residue of American citizens feeling misled by leaders," he added. "Americans expect leaders to tell the truth, and when they expect it, they just get used to it."

Simmons said the poll showed that Americans are beginning to pay more attention to ethics, although the presidential candidates have discussed few ethical issues in this election.

Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis proposed tighter ethics rules and sharply criticized the administration for its ethical performance several weeks ago. But the poll, conducted Sept. 6-14, found respondents split evenly on whether Dukakis or Republican nominee George Bush would be better at enforcing ethical standards.

Ethical leadership will make the difference, Simmons said. "The next president can make an ethical government and lead by example."

Waddell

tenses and two counts of securities fraud. Had the charges been added together, Waddell could have served up to 190 years in prison.

According to the State Bureau of Investigation, Waddell used the money he stole to buy luxury items. He owned several Mercedes-Benz automobiles and a Range Rover, all equipped with compact disc players. He owned two homes valued in excess of \$670,000. Fox said Waddell was known around town for his lavish lifestyle.

Waddell came to Chapel Hill as a freshman at UNC in 1967. He ran unsuccessfully for student body president and served as student body treasurer for two years.

He was married to another student in 1972 and received his master's degree in business administration from UNC in 1974. Within three years he was in business for himself and was well on his way to fulfilling his selection as most likely to succeed by his high school classmates in 1967.

Fetzer, Price discuss tax hikes, campaign tactics in TV debate

By ERIC GRIBBIN
Staff Writer

Fourth District congressional candidates David Price and Tom Fetzer emphasized taxes and negative campaigning in a debate taped last Monday and televised locally Sunday afternoon.

Fetzer, the Republican challenger, stressed his belief that Democratic incumbent Price has used negative campaigning tactics, said Bob Harris, press spokesman for the Fetzer campaign. Fetzer also said Price voted four times to raise taxes.

"We had calls yesterday and today saying that Tom Fetzer did well," Harris said. "They thought he explained how David Price used negative ads, and Price never addressed this issue."

Fetzer said in the debate he had evidence that Price used negative campaigning in 1986. He cited a speech made in 1986 by Sol Shorr, Price's 1986 and 1988 campaign media adviser, in which Shorr said they used negative ads during Price's successful 1986 campaign against incumbent Bill Cobe.

"He (Shorr) said that these ads were designed to throw mud, and now

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David Price is running around saying he doesn't use negative advertising," Harris said.

Fetzer cited a Price television commercial that points out Fetzer's past work for the National Congressional Club as negative advertising. Price has said the club's tactics are "distortions, negative campaigning and mudslinging."

Harris defended Fetzer's work for the club.

"Tom is proud to have worked to elect President Reagan, Jesse Helms, Governor Martin and George Bush," Harris said. "I think that Tom Fetzer addressed all of the main issues — defense, the national debt, the environment and education."

Fetzer's campaign ads and remarks have distorted Price's record, said Mike Davis, Price's campaign manager.

"Mr. Fetzer knows that he took Sol Shorr's quotes out of context and used selective quotes," Davis said. "This entire campaign has been about what David Price believes, how he has served in Congress, and how he

will continue to serve."

Price talked about issues in the debate, Davis said.

"Mr. Fetzer has not said one iota about these issues," Davis said. "Mr. Price talked about things that are of the utmost importance in this campaign and to the future of this district, like the home ownership bill and the 60-day plant-closings bill, which Mr. Fetzer finally said he would be against."

Price talked in the debate about notifying employees of chemicals and hazardous waste and about his views on education, which stress workplace literacy and a restoration of the tax deduction on student loans, Davis said.

"Mr. Fetzer's response to the education question was 'we give a lot of money to education,' or something like that," Davis said.

"He pointed with pride to his role in stopping once and for all the high-level nuclear waste dump that threatened this district," he said. "Mr. Fetzer finally said that he would have voted against this legislation."

"Either Mr. Fetzer doesn't have a stand or he wants to keep people from knowing his stands on these issues," Davis said.

Officials sponsor symposium focusing on adolescent issues

By KATHRYNE TOVO
Staff Writer

The Orange County Commissioners are sponsoring a symposium Saturday to address some of the problems that face today's adolescents.

The symposium, "Improving the State of the Adolescent in Orange County," will consist of six workshops focusing on issues including teen pregnancy, poverty, substance abuse and suicide.

Assistant County Manager Albert Kittrell, the chairman of the project, said he expects more than 200 community leaders, professionals, educators, parents and concerned citizens to attend the program.

"We felt there might be some gaps in providing services for teens in Orange County," Kittrell said. "There might be areas in which we do not offer programs, and Saturday's

symposium will help us to identify the needs of our youth."

Marti Pryor-Cook, director of the Orange County Department of Social Services, said 15 percent of the families in Orange County live below the national poverty line, which is \$12,000 per year.

Family income level affects both the school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate, Pryor-Cook said.

"Educational level definitely determines an individual's potential earning power and income level," she said. "Especially in this area, there is a more critical need for workers who are skilled in technology. There is very little for those individuals who are not skilled."

Kittrell said several other counties statewide have held similar symposiums, but that this event will be the first of its kind in Orange County.

A goal of the symposium will be

to develop a set of recommendations to present to the commissioners, and one of these might be to hold more conferences like this one in the future, Kittrell said.

Steve Halkiotis, Orange County commissioner and principal of Orange High School, has worked with the Youth Symposium Steering Committee.

"The event is a sincere effort to bring together all those who deal with youth to reassess where we are and where we are going," he said.

The issues that face today's youth are more complex than those that affected past generations of adolescents, Halkiotis said. "It is a multifaceted problem and there are no easy answers," he said.

The symposium will be held Saturday at Orange High School in Hillsborough and will last from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Rally

spring, Taylor said he told Goodwin that his organization would hold signs at the rally, but would not heckle candidates or disrupt speeches.

The College Republicans assembled at the steps of South Building 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the rally, Taylor said. He instructed participants three times not to be discourteous during the speeches, he said. Chanting could only occur between speakers or while the Democrats were chanting, Taylor said.

He also instructed Republican group members to stand in the back of the rally so Democratic supporters could be closer to the podium, he said.

Taylor said he was sorry for the heckling that occurred, but said that certain actions during the rally were beyond his control.

"Individual actions I can't be responsible for," he said.

Both Goodwin and Philip Sheridan, vice president of the Young Democrats, called the incident a violation of the Campus Code, which forbids the disruption of any function that could serve an educational purpose.

The Campus Code cannot violate the freedom of speech of any citizen, Taylor said.

"I refer this (accusation) to the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States," he said.

Taylor also said a student wearing a David Price sticker approached him at the rally and told him the Young Democrats had a permit prohibiting the College Republicans from participating as a group in the rally. As a result, Taylor said, the College Republicans attended the rally as individuals with their rights to free speech.

Goodwin said the permit was a letter from Larry Trammel, campus superintendent, which granted the Young Democrats sole use of the area just beside the Pit for the rally.

Goodwin said he did not know who approached Taylor. He only learned on the morning of the rally that the Republicans would be present, he said.

Another incident surrounding the rally involved the reported theft of posters in the Pit supporting Democratic candidates, Goodwin said. Democratic group members put up the posters on Monday evening, he said. Later that night, Goodwin said, he received a phone call from Taylor, who said members of his group were going to take down the posters, but that he did not condone the thefts.

Young Democrat members watched the area until 1:30 a.m., Goodwin said, but Taylor called him at 1:45 a.m. to say that the posters had been taken down and were in his possession. Both parties agreed to meet the following morning before the rally to return the posters, Goodwin said, but when he arrived in the Pit, the posters were in their original places, and Taylor was not there.

Taylor said his organization had permission from UNC Student Stores to place posters on the wall surrounding the area under construction in the Pit. He was angry with the students who took down the Democrats' signs, he said, and called Goodwin immediately to inform him about the thefts.

"I did not think it was fair, and I did not condone it," Taylor said.

Taylor personally placed the posters in their original place at 4:30 that morning, he said, the time when the College Republicans put up their posters. Later that afternoon, several Republican signs were reported stolen, Taylor said.

Goodwin also reported that a stack of Dukakis/Bentsen posters were found torn after the rally.

Goodwin said he commended Taylor for replacing the posters, although he has not spoken with

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Taylor since the night before the rally. But he also questioned Taylor's efforts to prevent the thefts.

"I know that if I found out in advance that the members in my group were trying to do something, I would try to stop it," he said. "We all feel that members' actions will reflect back on the group as a whole."

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