

# Thornburg, Edmisten win leading positions in Council of State

By JOHN BAKHT, DAVID BALL and SANDY WALL Staff Writers

Democrat Lacy Thornburg will serve a second term as N.C. attorney general following his defeat of Republican challenger Sam Wilson Tuesday night. Thornburg, who took 56 percent of the vote, began the evening confident and "feeling great."

And Democrat Rufus Edmisten defeated Republican John Carrington by 52 percent to 48 percent to follow Thad Eure as secretary of state.

"I have enjoyed being your attorney general for the past four years," Thornburg said in his acceptance speech. "I have enjoyed representing you in the courts of this state and this nation. I look forward to doing that for the next four and a half years."

Thornburg went into the race Tuesday as the favorite. "Most polls had us 55 to 58," said Bobby Jenkins, campaign coordinator for Thornburg. Thornburg said he received traditional support along party lines as well as a crossover vote of up to 20 percent from Republicans.

"I feel real good about the campaign," Wilson said in an interview. "I enjoyed campaigning."

The problem in all Council of State races is financial, Wilson said.

"We had one fund-raising event that didn't work," Wilson said. "We brought in Ollie North and lost money on that one. . . . People know they elect a governor but they're not so sure they elect a council of state. There's a need to educate them on both what the office does and what I stand for."

As attorney general, Thornburg said he would request a new State Bureau of Investigation building.

"The Legislature passed the planning money for that this past session," Jenkins said. Thornburg also wants an increase in salaries for agents and attorneys at the SBI and Justice Department, because they are having a problem retaining employees. Competition from other states and the private sector led many employees away from public service in North Carolina, Jenkins said.

In an interview, Thornburg said he also seeks additional personnel for his department for environmental protection, consumer affairs and drug enforcement. "We just have to have more people," he said.

Thornburg's son, Alan Thornburg, a student at Davidson College, said he was "thrilled to death that we won the election."

"(But) we didn't expect the Republicans, who didn't even leave their county, to get 40-some percent of the vote. That's disheartening."

Edmisten, who was defeated in his 1984 gubernatorial bid, said he was pleased with his victory.

"I can tell you this, after 1984, this sure does feel better," Edmisten said. "It's not easy to lose, but you cannot believe and imagine how good it feels."

A victory would send a signal to N.C. voters that negative campaigning does not work, he said.

Carrington, who ran for lieutenant governor in 1984, did not make any speeches Tuesday night, but his nephew said Carrington had a hard time raising money for the campaign.

"In this century, Democrats have held all the Council of State offices," said Donald Carrington. "To get into the Council of State race, you either have to have a real bad opponent or a lot of money. John was willing to put up his own money for the office."

In an interview before his speech, Edmisten appeared bitter about the campaign, saying Carrington was out of touch with the electorate.

His experience and contacts with the people of North Carolina were decisive factors in his victory, he said.

"The strategy I followed was that I've shaken most of the hands in North Carolina during my 20 years in office," Edmisten said. "He has never shaken a hand. His only public service was signing a check to television stations to run his ads."



Students take time to vote at the Fetzer Gym polling site Tuesday afternoon

DTH/Brian Foley

# UNC student vote diverges from national election outcomes

By JENNIFER WING Staff Writer

Voter turnout at the two polling sites for UNC campus residents was unexpectedly high during Tuesday's national, state and local elections, elections officials said.

According to results from two precincts where most campus residents voted, almost every UNC result in major races reversed the results recorded around the state and country.

If the election's outcome had depended on votes cast by most UNC campus residents, Michael Dukakis would have been the new president of the United States, and Bob Jordan would have been N.C.'s governor.

On Tuesday, 1296 on-campus students and others who live in the Country Club and Greenwood precincts turned out at Fetzer Gym and the General Administration building to cast their votes in national, state and local races.

"It's the biggest (turnout) there has ever been in this precinct. . . and I've worked here quite a few years," Virginia Julian, registrar for the Country Club precinct, said Tuesday night.

The national races and the unpredictable outcomes probably influenced the successful turnout, Julian said.

"Sometimes students are interested, sometimes they are not," she said.

According to election returns from the two precincts where most campus residents voted, the Democratic Dukakis-Bentsen ticket received 61 percent of the on-campus student vote, while the Republican Bush-Quayle team followed with 38 percent. In the race for N.C. governor, Democrat Bob Jordan, with 53 percent of the vote, narrowly defeated Republican incumbent Jim Martin, who got 47 percent, in the on-campus vote.

On-campus returns indicated Democrat Tony Rand as clear winner for lieutenant governor with 65 percent, while Republican Jim Gardner earned 34 percent. In the race for the District 4 U.S. Congressional seat, Democratic incumbent David Price earned the biggest percentage of votes during the evening, 74 percent, while his opponent, Republican Tom Fetzer, followed with 26 percent.

Voters were the constant targets of Election Day campaigning by the UNC Young Democrats and by the College Republicans, as the political groups made last-minute pitches for candidates.

Phil Sheridan, vice president of the

Young Democrats, said the organization started early Tuesday morning, holding up campaign signs at the major road intersections.

Other activities included transporting students to and from polling places and placing signs in front of the precincts, Sheridan said.

Sandy Rierson, chairwoman of the David Price for Congress campaign, said, "We've had people passing out stickers and literature about the candidates."

College Republicans also put in some last-minute campaigning. Sharon Sentelle, a member of the College Republicans, said group

members posted campaign signs at key intersections on Monday night and worked at phone banks during Election Day.

Bill Taylor, president of the College Republicans, said Tuesday, "We think we've had a great voter turnout. I just thank God today is over."

Both organizations celebrated at state campaign headquarters in Raleigh Tuesday night while the election returns came in.

While some probably disagreed with the results of the UNC precincts or with the nationwide results, some students had the solution to the limited selection of candidates: they voted for UNC head basketball coach Dean Smith.

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