

# RIDGERUNNER

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## Run-off Scheduled; Furek Wins

The Student Government elections for the 1976-77 academic year, held on Tuesday, Feb. 24, failed to give a clear majority to any one of the three presidential candidates. An election held Thursday, Feb. 26, between the two leading candidates, Tom Zumberge and Randy Kindley, will determine the victor.

Kindley received 103 votes or 37% of the total 276 votes cast for S.G. President. The other presidential candi-

dates, Tom Zumberge and Pete Austin received 89 and 84 votes respectively.

John Furek, who ran against Chris Smith for Vice-President, won with 150 or 61% of the 246 votes cast. Smith polled 96 votes.

The history of the decisions behind the run-off are as follows:

Immediately following the vote count, plans began for a challenge to the presidential election. Elections

Commissioner Pat McCraw said at 4:30, "I have been told by Mr. Zumberge that he is thinking of contesting the election." Zumberge refused to comment to the Ridgerunner.

Following this defeated candidate Austin said "it seems to me Tom could call for a new election simply because nobody obtained a majority.

At 5:00 Tom Zumberge, Gary Aiken and Pete Austin asked the Elec-

tions Commission to rule on the prospect of a run-off.

At 5:30 the Elections Commission met and by a unanimous vote declared that a run-off between the two front-runners (Zumberge and Kindley) should be held Thursday. They cited references in Robert's Rules of Order and precedents as the reasons for the decision.

When questioned about the precedents cited President Aiken said

that on "two accounts the latest being the Gasperson election, run-offs were held after a close race." He further stated that in all other cases the "president has won by a clear (50%) majority."

Tuesday's election saw 14 Student Government seats filled for the 1976-77 academic year. New S.G. officials will take office next week on the first day of the fourth term.

Two Senior Senators were elected Tuesday. They include John S. Covey who received 25 votes and Allen O'Brient with 28.

Junior Senators elected include Clay Hutchinson with 46 votes, David Hensley - 28, and John J Register - 24.

In the Sophomore Senate race, Gene Jones received 63 votes, Christopher Mangum-59, and Shawn Penland - 53. The three beat three challengers and will represent their class next year.

Three Freshman Senators won seats in the election Tuesday. They include Vicky Lee Tucker - 60, Caroline Comyns-54, and Ronald Michael Morgan - 51. Andy Govan, the lone candidate for Dorm Senator, won his race easily.

A referendum to award WUNF-FM \$300 for the development of an area bicentennial program passed 143 to 99.

Kindley went on record, before the Commission's ruling as saying "any of the candidates have a right to contest the election." After the decision, in response to an inquiry by Elections Commissioner McCraw he said, "Yes I do object (to a run-off.)"

Pat McCraw said that if Zumberge won the run-off "that I personally feel that he (Kindley) will appeal the election."

When asked if he was aware that his campaign literature was found on the ballot box at Lipinsky Student Center, Kindley replied, "sure don't."



The atmosphere was tense at the ballot counting in the S.G. office Tuesday.



John Furek, a junior drama major, was elected S.G. Vice-President Tuesday, Feb. 26, with 150 votes.

### On the Second Floor

While the race for Student Government President may still be undecided, candidates for the heads of the many campus organizations are moving to assure themselves positions next year. Ray Brown, presently business manager of the Summit, has been training under Finance Commissioner Johnny Wicker for his post.

Recently, Nora Aiken, S. G. Secretary and wife of out-going President Gary Aiken, was selected assistant editor of the Summit. She appears to be the only serious contender for it's editorship next year.

The selection process for next year's Ridgerunner editor is yet to be determined (a publications board is to be established) but already a new face may be in contention. Considered a long-shot for the post is defeated presidential candidate Pete Austin who may join Erwin Cook, presently managing editor and Forrest Reid, Summit writer.

WUNF-FM engineer Kevin Douglass has been attending meetings and playing a more significant role in the station's administration recently. He appears to be maneuvering into the management slot and will most probably receive the endorsement of present manager Larry Warren.

### Response Received To Five Year Plan

A response to UNC-A's academic Five Year Plan was received Tuesday, Feb. 17 by Chancellor Highsmith. It was learned that the response states "UNC-Asheville is not now authorized to develop any new programs."

The General Administration in Chapel Hill requested each university in the system to submit "Five Year Plans"

in late 1974. The plans were to outline the future of each institution's academic purpose and development. UNC-A's plan was submitted in October of 1974.

Tuesday's response from Chapel Hill was reviewed at a meeting held Thursday, Feb. 19. Attending the meeting

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