

The Banner

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Election lacks voter and candidate support

By Sharon Joyce
Asst. News Editor

This week's SGA election was poorly organized and poorly advertised, with the only contested position ending in a run-off, said Geoff Cabe, elections commissioner.

"There was not enough time to organize it," Cabe said. "I didn't want to get it done this quickly."

Cabe said that he had planned to set up the election for the middle of March, but that the Student Senate voted to have it at the end of February.

"They knew where I stood during the meeting, but they didn't care. Everyone wanted to get the election over with," Cabe said.

"Out of the eight offices, there was one position that no one filed for and only the presidential race was contested," said Cabe.

There was little interest on the part of the voters or the candidates, Cabe said.

"One week is too little time to campaign," said Cabe. "If we had done it in the middle of March, we could have gotten the Buncombe County Board of Elections to help us."

"It's bad that it takes this kind of thing to make everyone

see that that's the way we should have run things in the first place," said Cabe.

286 students voted, approximately 10% of the student population. In the presidential

race, Kevin Hamlin received 67 votes, Rosalee Hart, 97 votes, and Lynda Kroeger, 122 votes.

Since Kroeger did not have a majority of the votes, there will be run-off election between Kroeger and Hart, scheduled for March 16 and 17.

The remaining offices were filled by candidates who ran uncontested:

Vice-president: Michelle Pinkerton

Senior senators: Donna Hudgins, Sharon Lance

Junior senators: none

Sophomore senators: Cynthia Fox, Crystal Mounts, Rob Young

Dorm senators: Rick Finnen, Amy Thompson

Commuter senators: Connie West

"I only voted for president," one student remarked. "I didn't bother voting for anything else. The sheet gave me three choices and said 'Choose three.'"

"How are you supposed to choose when you don't know any of the people running?" asked Renee Brown, a freshman accounting major. "You just pick the name that sounds the best."

"Maybe more emphasis would be placed on student government if we knew the people and the issues instead of just names," Brown said.

"I just checked some names," said Tammy Gibson, a freshman

psychology major. "I could have voted for an axe murderer, for all I know."

Rob Young, freshman senator, said, "They told us that it would not be a repeat of the last election. It would be Geoff Cabe with help this time, instead of just Geoff by himself. But it didn't turn out that way."

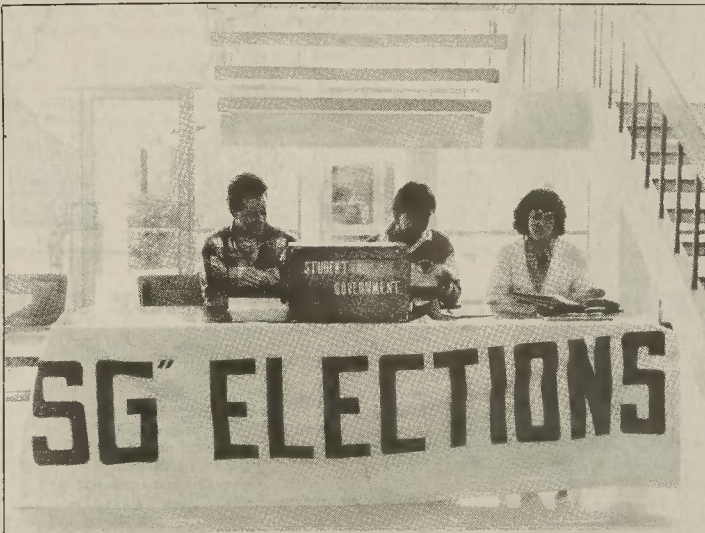
"If we had known that the same thing would happen that happened before, we would never agreed to this."

Young said, "I'm ashamed of it. I really am. I'm ashamed of this election. It made me very angry, and I don't blame the voters at all for being mad."

"There are a lot of reasons why this thing went wrong," Young said.

A big factor was the SGA election budget -- \$100.00, Young said. "You have to provide more funds, or you can't expect anything but disgusting results."

"Hopefully, next time we'll get some help with the election and do a professional job. Instead of being slack, we need to do something which will reflect highly on SGA, showing the voters that we really do care about our own elections," Young said.



Staff Photo--Crystal Smith

Student Government held elections in Carmichael Hall on Tuesday. About 300 students voted for their choice of Student Government Association president. All other offices were uncontested.

Many faculty fear administrative retribution

By Julie Ball
Editor

Anonymous letters circulated through the campus mail have raised questions the ability of faculty members to express opinions openly without fear of administrative retaliation. The unsigned letters have contained criticism of university programs.

The memos consist of fictional dialogues between "the new ambitious assistant professor Billy Noodle Noggin and Top-notch administrator Ned Bullschtich." The first of the critical dialogues was aimed at the Humanities program.

Faculty members have had mixed reactions to the anonymous memos they have received through campus mail.

"I saw one faculty member who took it out of his box, read half of it and crumpled it up. He

was angry," said Dr. Jack Wilson, professor of mathematics.

"One of the most serious problems is that people are afraid to speak, therefore, the university is robbed of ideas," said Wilson.

Many faculty members have expressed concern that the letters were not signed.

"I think it's a sad commentary. We're supposed to -- above all others -- be the guardian of academic freedom. People are afraid to speak out," said Wilson.

"Universities are supposed to be the place where any kind of outrageous opinion can be voiced," he said.

"There is a concern among the faculty that if they (faculty) speak out, they're going to get penalized," said Dr. Cranstoun Reinoso, professor

of management.

Reinoso said that "in excess of 30 faculty members have told him they are afraid to speak out critically against university programs for fear of retribution."

"It says something about UNCA. People are afraid to speak out on issues of concern," said Dr. Walt Boland, professor of sociology.

Boland said this fear of retribution is not valid.

"I think we had some problems in the past, but I don't think we do now," said Boland.

"The fear (of retribution) may be substantial, but the reality is different," said Boland.

Dr. Tom Cochran, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, said he does not think the fear is warranted. "It's not been my impression that

this place is rigid or unaccepting of other opinions," he said.

Cochran said a more appropriate channel for the criticism is the Faculty Senate. "It's better if you present a concern in the proper forum. If there is a concern then there are appropriate groups that you approach," said Cochran.

However, several faculty members said they did not feel the Faculty Senate provided an adequate forum for discussion.

"I think a lot of steps could be taken by the leaders of the campus (both faculty and administration) to move the senate toward a more effective role," said Reinoso, who is currently a mem-

Please see FACULTY page 10.

Weather

Friday: Showers and thunderstorms. Breezy. Morning lows in the mid 40s. Afternoon highs in the 50s.

Saturday: A chance of morning showers otherwise clearing and breezy. Morning lows in the 30s. Afternoon highs in the 50s.

Sunday: Sunny and pleasant. Morning lows near 30. Afternoon highs in the mid to upper 50s.

The UNCA Atmospheric Sciences department provides this information to the campus community weekly in The Banner. The 24-hour weatherline is also available at 251-6435.

Inside

The UNCA athletic department decided to replace the women's soccer team with a women's track team for financial reasons this week. See page 3

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Efland Plans Projects

By Kassi Day
Staff Writer

As the student population of UNCA continues to grow in size, the campus itself is also expanding.

Students have been witnesses to this campus growth. They have seen the addition of a new dorm, the renovation of Lipinsky Hall, and the construction on Rhoades Hall. Many projects are going on, and many are in the wings for UNCA, said Jim Efland, facilities planner for the campus.

Of the projects going on right now, the most obvious is the addition to Rhoades Hall. Efland believes if all goes well, the building will be in use for the fall '88 semester.

"It more than doubles the

Please see EFLAND page 10



Staff Photo--Stacey Higdon

Relief on the way

The administration recently received word from K.J. Putnam, North Carolina division traffic engineer, that he is recommending approval of the funding for a traffic light at the intersection of Broadway Street and W.T. Weaver Boulevard. The light should be installed in June of this year.