

Bolton wins in close election

Jennifer Guarino

Managing Editor

When SGA President John Gardner announced his successor, President-elect Trey Bolton wasn't there to hear his name. He arrived several minutes later as spectators were departing from Hearth Lounge.

More than 40 students turned out to hear the election results. Bolton won by four votes.

Bolton received 608 votes. He needed 604 to win. "Our new president won with 50.3 percent of the vote," Gardner said. "You need 50 percent plus one vote."

Bolton ran against Brian Feeley and Cameron DeJong. Feeley received 35 percent of the vote and DeJong got 14 percent.

"It goes to show you how important one vote is," Gardner said.

A record number of students voted. Barb Carlton, SGA adviser,

said 1,236 ballots were counted. "This is the biggest voter turnout I've seen since I've been here," she said. Carlton has been SGA's faculty advisor for eight years.

The last election in which more than 1,000 students voted was 1996. That year was the first time votes were tallied by computer.

"We had a record number of students voting in the election because the candidates tried hard to get their names out there," President John Gardner said. "They did a lot of legwork talking to people, printing flyers and shaking hands."

"People came out because they knew it would be a tight race and they knew all three candidates had a following," Gardner said.

Vice Presidential-elect Alan Medeiros agreed. "The positive actions of the campaigners motivated much of the student body to vote," he said.

Ballots were counted by a Scantron machine. Two ballots were discarded. One was unreadable and the other was illegal.

Executive secretary and sophomore class secretary/treasurer races were contested.

Megan Williams was elected sophomore class secretary/treasurer with 56.2 percent. She ran against Jennifer Cooper. Susan Denny won 56.7 percent of the vote for executive secretary. Denny ran against Lyndsay McMillen.

Christian Wiggins ran unopposed for the executive treasurer position.

The constitutional amendments passed with 81.3 percent support. The amendments changed the wording from Elon College to Elon University. The judicial process was reformatted to put it in line with standard format and clarified the roles of succession of executive and class officers.



Adam Waterson / Photography Editor

Current SGA President John Gardner congratulates his successor, Trey Bolton Tuesday night after election results were announced.

SURF highlights student achievements

Dan Schrot

Reporter

The student undergraduate research forum (SURF) will feature 160 presenters in 110 individual presentations April 4, making it the largest number of participants ever.

Formed in 1993, the first forum consisted of 19 presenters. SURF has grown tremendously over the years and this year's participants more than double those who presented last year.

SURF presentations are "opportunities for students to present their work to a community of scholars. It's a great opportunity for the Elon College community to highlight student scholarship," Undergraduate Research Programming Advisory Committee member Maureen Vandermaas-Peeler said.

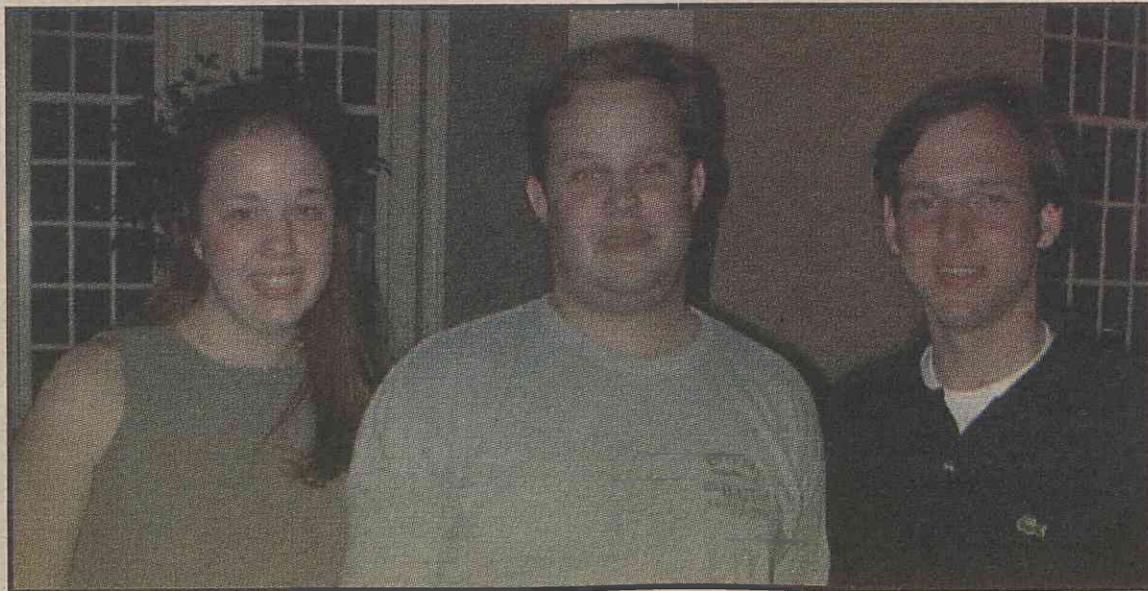
Dr. Maurice Levesque, who leads SURF at Elon, agreed. "Graduate schools look for students who have made an investment with their undergraduate studies and look for preparation outside of the classroom," he said.

Levesque believes the increase in participation this year is due to a number of factors, including increases in student involvement, mentoring from faculty and the quality of work from students.

SURF offers many benefits to students. Those who participate have an open forum to celebrate and showcase their research, artistic and creative skills. Presentation styles will vary from person to person and topic to topic.

The forum also gives many students the opportunity to commun-

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Adam Waterson / Photography Editor

The new Student Government Association executive staff was announced Tuesday night in Hearth Lounge. Pictured below are Secretary Susan Denny, Vice President Alan Medeiros and President Trey Bolton. Christian Wiggins will serve as treasurer.