D. Goins.

Bailey received 10,402 votes in the predominantly white, traditionally more conservative county, 21,717 in the city.

While acknowledging that the black vote helped him regain his seat, Bailey was quick to praise his white supporters as well.

Bailey said both blacks and whites know he has done a good job on the board. "I think I have done a pretty good job to try to represent all segments," he said.

Bailey said his support among blacks continues despite a lowkey approach that perturbs some of his constituents. "The black community knows and likes me even though I don't holler black every time something goes wrong," he said.

He said he probably received votes even from the few blacks who don't like him because of their desire to keep black representation on the board.

Bailey also said he is disappointed that Mrs. Terry lost in her bid to become the second black board member.

Mrs. Terry showed strongly in the black precincts, with 9,576 votes, but she said even more black votes could have made a difference.

Mrs. Terry said she hoped to receive 13,000 black votes. She placed sixth in the race for

five seats with 30,820 votes. Mrs. Terry received the fewest

number of votes in the county among the 10 candidates, with 9,727.

But in the city she totaled 20,627 votes, third in the field behind only Bailey and Ms. Wooten.

Her loss had nothing to do with not working hard, Mrs. Terry said.

"Nobody could have worked harder with my campaign," she said. "The people working with me worked very hard. Money for exposure is a critical issue. If we had had more resources in that regard, we may have made a difference."

Since she hadn't analyzed the numbers yet, Mrs. Terry said, she was hesitant to say what else she might have done differently.

But she did say that more blacks need to be made aware of the importance of their votes.

"I, along with other people who understand how local politics work, need to do a better job of informing blacks," Mrs. Terry said. "We need to give them more reason to come out in more massive numbers."

Mrs. Terry said she has no immediate plans to run for another office, but she might.

"I always say, never say never," she said. "I'll leave it at that."

Mrs. Terry was the only Democrat not to win a seat on the board, which has been increased from eight to nine members.

Among the white candidates, Ms. Wooten received the most black votes, with 7,722 in black precincts. Ms. Wooten also the top vote-getter overall with 32,933.

She received 554 votes at Carver High School, 366 at Martin Luther King Recreation Center and 498 at the Mt. Sinai Church of God.

Ms. Wooten, who served two terms on the board from 1974 to 1982, said she usually does well in the black community. "I would like to think that I have a good reputation in the black community for being responsive," she said. "By responsive, I mean I don't tell anybody I'm going to vote the way they always want. but I'm always available to talk about it.

"I have good friends in the black community who keep my consciousness raised and keep me in touch," she said.

Ms. Wooten said black people see her as someone who is interested in what concerns them. "I think I tend to be more knowledgeable of black issues than some white candidates," she said.

But she said she was surprised to lead the race overall. "I really didn't expect to run ahead of Beaufort," she said.

"Beaufort and I go way back," she said. "He and I used to campaign together. He introduced me to his friends and I did likewise and it has benefited us both."

The two other Democrats also received strong black support.

Mrs. Lohr, an incumbent, received 5,170 votes from black precincts, Mrs. Wood 7,232.

By contrast, Republican candidates fared poorly in the black community. Mrs. Goins, who led the field of 10 candidates in most of the returns, polled 1,778 votes in the black precincts.

Mrs. Goins, an incumbent and the only successful Republican school board candidate, was third in the election with 32,028.

She said that her showing in the black precincts indicated straight Democratic ticket voting.

"I wish they would take a look at the candidates from both parties," she said.

Mrs. Goins said school board elections should be non-partisan. If she were to do it over, she said, she's not sure more campaigning in the black community would have helped.

"I think they still would have voted a straight Democratic ticket," she said.

Mrs. Goins made the strongest showing in the county among the 10 candidates, with 16,568 votes.

NAACP President Walter Marshall and William H. "Bill" Tatum, former convener of the Black Leadership Roundtable,

said the school board race disappointed them.

"Blacks could have voted intelligently and been more selective in the candidates instead of punching a straight Democratic ticket," Marshall said. "It's a shame she (Mrs. Terry) came that close twice and not win."

Mrs. Terry unsuccessfully ran for the school board in 1984.

Tatum said he knew it would be hard for her to win.

But he, like Marshall, criticized blacks for voting a straight ticket.

"Black leaders who support a straight Democratic ticket need to take another look at the fact that straight tickets hurt black candidates," he said.

Marshall said that the enlargement of the board from eight to nine members didn't give blacks the gains they had hoped for.

"We supported enlarging the board and we did not get an extra voice," he said. "We went along with it, thinking that it would be really beneficial to us and we wound up with less power, not

Marshall also said Mrs. Terry's loss underscores the NAACP 's position in its still-pending lawsuit against the county, which charges that at-large elections discriminate against blacks.

"We need a district system in order to guarantee any kind of voice in government," he said.

For instance, even though Bailey won, Marshall said, he did not do well in the county.

Tatum said he expected Bailey to be re-elected because "Beaufort is the type of individual who doesn't make waves."



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