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Pharr successful in election run-off; Sworn in by Stemple on March 30th

By Doug Lerner

Rickey Pharr, a twenty one year old political science major, became the first black to win the student body presidency Thursday, March 18 after an upset victory over Attorney General Bob Verdinek (see complete results elsewhere this page). Pharr edged in to a close victory after winning in six out of eight student polls, defeating his opponent with 52.5% of the vote.

The percentage of students voting in favor of Rickey Pharr, by polling place was: Dorm Cafeteria 45%, Scott Hall (Dorm 72) 32%, Holshouser Hall (Dorm 73) 61%, Moore Hall 58%, Sanford Hall 56%, Rowe Building (Black Studies Office) 100%, Commuter Lounge 55% and the Cone University Center (Student Government Offices) 66%.

Verdinek left on Friday for his spring break in Pittsburgh, but did pledge his support to Pharr in an interview held shortly before his departure.

Rickey Pharr attributed his surprise victory, and complete turnaround following his plurality loss to Verdinek in the general election, to the last minute efforts on the part of his campaign committee, chaired by Greg Reynolds. An extensive publicity campaign had been launched on Tuesday evening (the night before the election) which included political flyers being placed under every dorm door. Verdinek, on the other hand, asserted that most of his efforts had been

expended during the general election and most of his campaign literature had been used up by the time of the run-offs.

The decision as to when Pharr will take office is up to Jamie Stemple, the incumbent president. Stemple can leave office just about any time he is ready to, but according to tradition, is expected to turn over the government to the new president in early April, probably April 6th.

Pharr and his advisors have not completely selected a new cabinet, but he is expected to consider appointments for Attorney General, Student Government Treasurer, Student Legal Counsel, Student Superior Court, Student Media Board, Ombudsman (a new position created under the recently ratified Student Body Constitution) and various legislative positions sometime this week.

In other election results, we have Jani Helms defeating David Woodall for the Commuter Association Vice-Presidency by a slim 85-77 margin. Write-ins and blank ballots totalled 13, so Helms did not receive a clear majority of votes cast for that office but nobody is expected to contest that election.

Frances Dolley won in a special election held for Commuter Association Treasurer under a special provision that allowed a winner to be declared with a simple plurality of the votes. Dolley received 36% of the votes cast in that election. Cindy Rudolph came in second with

31%. Hank Winkenwerder third with 25% and no preference received about 8% of the votes. Frances Dolley said she was looking forward to straightening out the Commuter Association's ledgers.

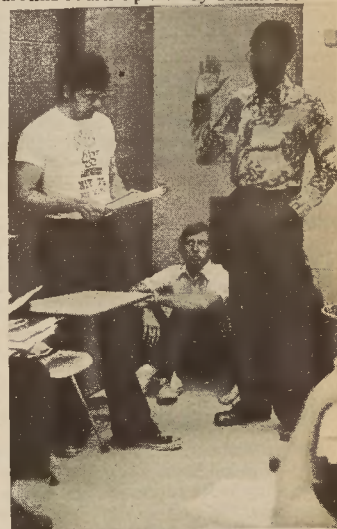
The total number of votes for President totaled 693, one of the highest run-offs recorded. The Chairman of the Elections Board expected a voter turn-out of about 500 because of the NIT and was pleased with the additional 200 ballots. "Considering the problems we had: getting our check requisitions through in time, making signs and coping with certain individuals who tried to hinder us," he said, "overall it went very well."

The Chairman of the Board went on to commend the Nuggets, a recently chartered student organization for their help in manning the dorm polls. "We really couldn't have run the elections without the Nuggets," he said, "they deserve a lot of credit, they are a good organization."

Administrators who were informed of the election results in the midst of the confusion on the Friday following the 49er/State game did say they were looking forward to working with the new administration, although their reaction to the results was indicative of some surprise.

This week, more news of the shape of the student government to come will make itself known. According to well placed sources, the new Pharr

Carolina Journal photo by Susan Cole



Rickey Pharr taking oath.

administration is going to do its best to open up student government and make itself accessible to the students. Also planned is more student participation in community oriented matters and political areas. One student said, "We're going to become the Berkeley of the Southeast."

Carolina Journal photo by Van Gill



Cedric Maxwell, whose fine performance in the 39th annual NIT earned him that tournament's Most Valuable Player award. Maxwell set a new NIT free throw record in route to receiving the honor, hitting an amazing 47 of 53 from the charity stripe.

Jam Up Festival to feature Leon Redbone, Tom Waits

By Greg Reynolds

The Third Annual Jam Up Festival will be the biggest and best ever. The Festival will happen Friday, April 9th, and last through Sunday, April 11th. The opening attraction of Jam-Up is a mysterious character called Leon Redbone. Redbone has been described as a person whose talent "has been inadvertently mislaid for 35 years."

"Mr Redbone, where were you born?"

"Bored?"

"Norm..."

"Uh, Bombay...in the monsoon season..."

"No? Afghanistan, during the torrential rains."

The above exchange is not that unusual a feature of the typical Leon Redbone interview. The list of fellow musicians who have sung Redbone's praises reads long and tall: Bob Dylan, Jack Elliot, Maria Muldaur, Bonnie Raitt, John Prine and John Hammond. On stage, Redbone has gained an extensive word of mouth notoriety. He delivers a minimum of dialogue with his deep, growly voice (Rolling Stone called it, "a contented hum, the magnitude of an outboard motor."), but when he does, audiences fall hard.

Most of his material is drawn from the popular songs of the late 1800's through the early 1940's and touching such stylistic bases as ragtime, blues, ballads, novelty pieces and yoeling. Redbone's appreciation of Jelly Roll Morton, Blind Blake, Fats Waller, Bing Crosby, Jimmy Rogers and Sophie Tucker is prominently displayed. Redbone will be performing at the Rathskeller on Friday, April 9th. Shows are at 8:30 and 10:30. Tickets are 25 cents for the University Community and \$1 for all others and can be purchased at

the Cone University Center.

On Saturday, April 10th, the Social Committee of the University Program Board will present in concert, two nationally acclaimed acts - Firefall and Tom Waits. Firefall is a new group formed partially of 3 members of Spirit. Tom Waits is a popular performer that recently finished a tour with Bonnie Raitt and John Prine. In his own words:

"My favorite writers, Jack Kerouac, Charles Bukowski, Mickael C. Ford, Robert Webb, Gregory Corso, Lawrence Ferlingnetti, Marry McMurtry, Narper Lee, Sam Jones, Eugene O'Neill, John Reency and more. I drive a 1965 Thunderbird that needs a valve job and at least four quarts of Penzoil a week and gets four miles to the gallon on a long distance, the trunk is busted and I have three warrants on traffic violations in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area alone. I am a pedestrian piano player with poor technique but a good sense of melody. I write in coffee shops, bars and parking lots."

Firefall and Tom Waits will be performing at the UNCC Amphitheater and is free to the University Community.

Closing off Saturday night will be a dance band by the name of Opus VII. They will be playing from 9 - 12 on the patio of the new Cone University Center expansion.

On Saturday, April 11th, the University Program Board and the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity will co-sponsor an afternoon of fun and drink. Sugar Creek and Eastern Seaboard will be providing the music from 1:00 'til 5:00. There will be free events, free prizes, free food and 43 (yes, forty three) kegs of free beer. Some of the events scheduled include the greased pole climb, beer drinking contest, Turkey Shoot and many, many more.