

# The Carolina Journal

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## Two races contested in recent elections

By Bill Peschel

The student attorney general is investigating allegations of voting irregularities brought by two candidates who lost in last week's election.

Jamie Willeford and Steve Klocke, candidates for junior and sophomore class presidents, have asked for a recount and filed a petition with the Student Court that could result in a new election for those two offices.

Klocke, who lost by three votes to Jeff Devine, said, "I thought something wasn't kosher when I had lost by three votes and my opponent did not campaign." Willeford refused to talk to the *Carolina Journal* on the advice of Attorney General Billie Stickell. He lost the race for junior class president to the present sophomore class president David Currie by four votes.

The *Carolina Journal* was able to obtain a copy of a memorandum to Tom Chumley and Cathy Allred, co-chairpersons of the Elections and Publicity Staff, from Stickell. In it, the candidates charged the Elections and Publicity Staff with allowing students to vote "without verifying their class status which resulted in some voting in races in which they were not eligible to vote." The memo further said at least one student "was



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**-Steve Klocke**

not allowed to vote in one class while another in the same situation was allowed to vote in that class."

Stickell wrote since "the above charges could possibly change the

outcome of these races if proven true. During the election, after a voter was checked off the computer list, the person would tell a staff member which class president he would vote for.

"Even if they did check it," Klocke said, "Cathy Allred could have been told something else."

Klocke also said there was a possibility of a third violation being filed. In the Elections and Publicity Act (Section 9, paragraph 383-b), "No

dia Board, ran for and won seats on both the Student Legislature and the University Senate. Austin would be the business representative and Sowers the humanities representative. Neither Austin or Sowers was available for comment.

When asked about the violation, Klocke said, "We did notice that, but we weren't sure the senate and legislature would be considered two seats." He did promise to bring the matter up with Stickell.

Chumley is not concerned about the allegations. "If you think you got something valid that can be contested we'll be glad to take it from there." He also said he was willing to hold another election for the two offices. Allred could not be reached for comment.

Stickell could not be reached for comment.

student can seek more than one elective office on the same ballot." Two candidates may be in violation.

Steven Sowers and Joe Austin, present chairperson of the Student Me-

## Plans for WFAE include more student input in programs

By Kathy Espin

Student radio station WFAE is requesting around \$24,000 in student fees for next year, a cut from around \$26,000 budgeted last year.

Is WFAE a student radio station? How much voice do the students have in the operation of the station?

The station is governed by the Student Broadcasting Association (SBA) which elects a six-member executive board. According to the SBA Constitution, the Executive Board is charged with governing the affairs for the radio station, and ensuring adherence to SBA rules and regulations. The Executive Board also approves applications for membership in the SBA.

"No one has ever been turned down," said Station Manager Robert Pittman, whose appointment was approved by the SBA Executive Board. "We have had some people who lost interest and quit, but anybody who wants to get involved can."

There are two other paid employees at WFAE besides Pittman. Chris Wright is paid minimum wage as fulltime program director, and Paul Stribling is paid minimum wage as parttime production director. Wright, who is not a student at this time and Stribling, who is a student, are paid with stipends from student activities fees, and Pittman is paid from state funds.

Frank Talbert who recently reelected chairperson of SBA by the student body, is paid a \$500 stipend.

"My job entails much less responsibility than theirs, so I am paid accordingly," said Talbert, a third-year architecture student and announcer at WFAE.

According to Wright, the Executive Board must approve any changes in operation or format for the station, and has authority over the employees of the station. Members of the Executive Board presently include Talbert, Wright, Stribling, Jeff Wicker (production director) and Jeff Arrowood (former SBA chairperson). The sixth seat provided in the SBA Constitution is vacant.

"WFAE is a student organization; it is run by the students," Pittman said, "it provides an opportunity for students to train in the broadcasting industry."

Who runs the station? "The station runs itself," Stribling said but he added Pittman is the boss.

According to Pittman, 14 of the 21 staff members are students. Except for Pittman, Wright, Stribling and Talbert, all staff members work on a volunteer basis.

WFAE follows a public radio station type format which includes classical music, jazz, bluegrass and educational programs. According to Talbert, the Student Media Board decided a few years ago they would have an FM radio station on the educational band. To meet FCC regulations the station must conform to an educational format.

"One of the things we wanted to do was make a name for this place," Pittman said, "We wanted a radio station that would be a direct link with the community. We wanted to be unique, so we looked at what was not being done. There was no classical music in this area before Davidson (WDAV) started. What good would it do for us to do what four or five other stations are doing?"



*(Photo by Bob Henderson)*  
Bo Pittman, station manager for WFAE, has spent many successful years trying to get government grants. However, the radio station still needs money from student activity fees-\$24,000 this year.

Pittman said he hoped to see the radio station develop into a full-fledged communications department. Plans are now underway to set up broadcasting and announcing classes in cooperation with WBT radio.

Dr. Douglas M. Orr Jr., vice chancellor for student affairs, said, "I think the long-term plan is to get complete relief from the state. Our goal is to obtain state funding for WFAE operating expenses; that together with local fund-raising efforts and federal grants could fully fund the station freeing up student fees for other things."

Vern Parrish, director of the Cone University Center, said, "If I were the students I would still want student fees involved in the station somehow so the students could have a channel to use the station." He said WFAE is the only public radio station in North Carolina partially funded by student fees and he feels the student body should be proud of their involvement.

"One thing that needs to be done is more active recruiting down there (WFAE is located in the basement of the Cone University Center)," Parrish said.

Stribling said there is always a need for more personnel, but there is no active recruiting of students to participate.

Orr said he has had nothing but positive comments from the community on WFAE. "I think the students should be proud of what their station has done."

Many people in the UNCC community are not familiar with WFAE because they live outside the present 10-mile broadcasting area. When the station changes this summer from 10 watts to 100,000 watts, the signal will be broadcast throughout the Charlotte area. For anyone interested in the station who cannot receive the signal at this time, Pittman suggests buying a di-pole or ribbon antenna, available at most department and discount stores for around \$10.