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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Gov. Hunt Opens Special Legislative Crime Session

RALEIGH — Gov. Jim Hunt opened the special legislative session on crime Tuesday with a promise to lawmakers that he would identify \$45 million in state government cuts to help pay for his proposals.

Hunt's 36-point plan will carry a price tag of \$118 million the first year it is implemented. Although the General Assembly passed a number of anti-crime measures last year, Hunt said during a speech to a joint session of the House and Senate that the public didn't believe it was enough.

He also includes proposals to institute life without parole for first-degree murderers, toughen sentences for first-degree rape and cocaine possession, and give life sentences to anyone convicted of three violent felonies.

Budget Office Projects Higher Health-Care Costs

WASHINGTON — President Clinton's health plan would drive the federal deficit up by \$74 billion over the next six years, not cut it by \$58 billion as the White House forecast, the Congressional Budget Office said Tuesday.

The CBO said Clinton's program would require more subsidies for employers than the White House initially projected. It also predicted that more low-wage workers would qualify for the promised subsidies.

CBO Director Robert Reischauer, in testimony for the House Ways and Means Committee, said the plan would increase the deficit from 1996 through 2000 by \$80 billion. But he said it would "reduce spending for health in the longer run" and could reduce the deficit after 2004.

Japanese Officials Unveil Economic Stimulus Plan

TOKYO — Seeking to jolt Japan out of its worst recession since World War II, the government announced on Tuesday its biggest economic recovery package ever.

The long-awaited \$140 billion economic stimulus package includes \$54 billion in tax cuts, plus \$67 billion in new public-works projects and measures to promote investment.

The nation's chief economic planner, Manae Kubota, told reporters the package was expected to lead to economic growth of at least 2 percent in the coming fiscal year beginning April 1.

The measures were announced after markets had closed for the day Tuesday in Tokyo, but word that the package was imminent boosted stock prices.

Reports Suggest N. Korea Fortifying Nuke Complex

SEOUL, South Korea — Facing the possibility of U.N. sanctions, North Korea is fortifying and staging defensive maneuvers around its main nuclear complex, a South Korean official said Tuesday.

North Korea, meanwhile, accused the South Korea of "sword brandishing" and bringing Korea to the "brink of war."

In a meeting Tuesday, national security adviser Chung Jong-uk said intelligence reports showed that North Korea was conducting defense training around its main nuclear complex at Yongbyon, which is 60 miles north of the capital, Pyongyang.

Chung said North Korea also has fortified its underground military facilities at Yongbyon, but he said there was no sign North Korea was trying to provoke a confrontation.

Senators Raise Questions About Nominee's Writings

WASHINGTON — Strobe Talbott, President Clinton's choice for the No. 2 post at the State Department, insisted in Senate hearings Tuesday that he was a staunch supporter of Israel but had deviated from that support in past writings critical of the Jewish state.

"I have always believed that the U.S.-Israeli relation is unshakable," Talbott said at a Senate Foreign Relations Committee confirmation hearing.

Talbott was grilled by Democrats and Republicans about his writings as a Time magazine reporter before he joined the administration last year. Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., questioned Talbott's managerial skills. "We don't need yet another policy wonk sitting in an ivory tower," he said.

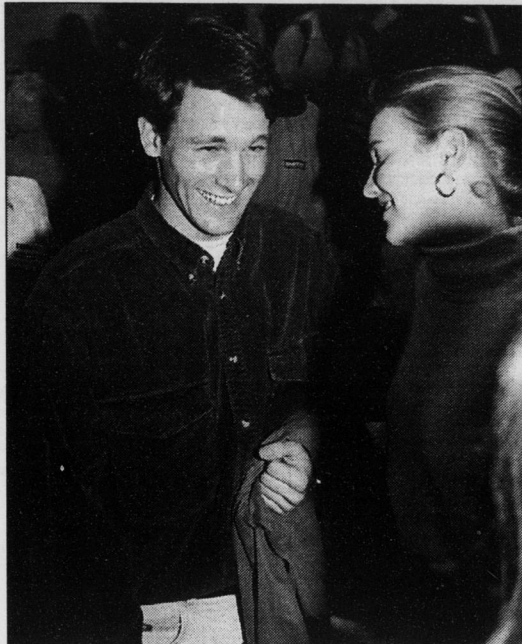
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: Variably cloudy, 40-percent chance of rain; high mid-70s.

THURSDAY: Mostly cloudy, chance of rain; high 50s.

Battle, Koonce to Meet in Run-Off Elections



Tommy Koonce, the top student body president vote-getter in Tuesday's race with 1,245 votes, said he was "relieved" to find out the election results.

BY CHRIS GIOIA
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR
AND LISA ROBBINS
STAFF WRITER

George Battle and Tommy Koonce will face off in a run-off election Tuesday for student body president.

With more than 1,200 votes each, Koonce and Battle beat candidates Rebecah Moore, who had 898 votes, and Wayne Rash, who won 432 votes, in Tuesday's campus elections.

More than 4,000 students cast ballots in Tuesday's election — the highest voter turnout since 1990.

Koonce, who won the most votes with 1,245, said he was "relieved" to be in the final stretch of the student body president race.

"I knew it would be very close," he said after the results were tabulated just after midnight. "I'm so glad I had all these people with me. That's been the best part of it, having people around to keep me calm tonight."

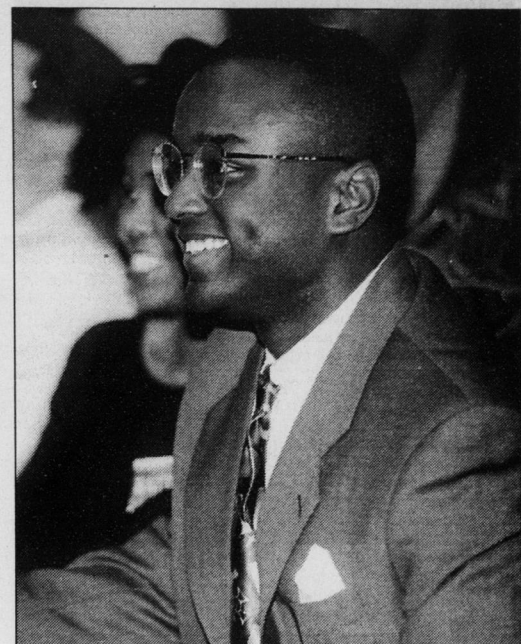
Awaiting election results, Koonce said he wasn't really nervous about the outcome.

"I'm a little numb, I guess," he said. "It's really out of my hands now. We've done all we can do."

Battle, who captured 1,227 votes, said he felt confident about next week's run-off election.

"I think we've got a great shot," he said. "But it's not a victory yet. We have to hit the campaign trail again."

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George Battle accepts congratulations from supporters late Tuesday night after finishing second in the student body president race. Battle received more than 1,200 votes.

Dalal/Rasmussen Picked CAA Co-Presidents Almost 3 to 1



Nil Dalal and Jen Rasmussen celebrate their decisive win over Louis Patalano in Carrol Hall on Tuesday night. Dalal and Rasmussen got strong backing from the Student Union poll site.

BY ERICA LUETZOW
STAFF WRITER

When all the votes finally were tallied for the Carolina Athletic Association presidency, Nil Dalal and Jen Rasmussen had claimed the joint office with a decisive percentage of the vote.

Rasmussen and Dalal captured 2,773 votes while the other candidate, Louis Patalano, received 844 votes.

Rasmussen said they owed their success in the election to both their campaign staff and their hard campaigning.

"We've really had a great campaign staff, and we've campaigned hard ourselves," Rasmussen said.

Dalal said she thought the determining factors in the election were their experience and a strong platform.

"We wanted to run the best campaign we could based on our platform and experience," Dalal said. "The major strength of our platform was that we offered solid ideas rather than empty promises."

Rasmussen said their feasible platform ideas probably appealed to the students.

"We had really concrete ideas that we researched," she said.

Dalal said that as they heavily campaigned, they also listened to students' ideas on issues such as ticket distribution.

In addition to setting up a table in the Pit to gather more student input on ticket distribution, Rasmussen and Dalal said they were looking forward to working on other special CAA events in the near future.

"Hopefully we'll have the Final Four (round of the NCAA basketball tournament) coming up soon, so we will work on a celebration party for that," Rasmussen said.

Rasmussen said she and Dalal were eager to assume their duties as CAA co-presidents.

"Tomorrow morning we will work on the budget, and we will begin cabinet applications within the next two days," Rasmussen said.

"We're real excited, and we can't wait to get to work tomorrow," she said.

Patalano said he blamed his poor showing at the polls on the bad press and mud-slinging he thought he received at the end of his campaign.

Patalano, who unsuccessfully ran for the CAA presidency last year, served as the CAA's associate Homecoming chairman until he was asked to step down by current CAA President Daniel Thornton.

Patalano said he thought his opponents unnecessarily brought up his dismissal throughout the campaign.

"A lot of lies were thrown out, and I was

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CAMPUS '94 ELECTIONS
CAA President

Nil Dalal/Jen Rasmussen 2,773
 Louis Patalano 844

Errors Void Referendums; Students to Revote Tuesday

BY ELIZABETH LINDSEY
STAFF WRITER

The Elections Board nullified the results of four of the five referendums on Tuesday's ballot due to miswording on voting guide sheets and misleading ballots, according to board officials.

The void referendums will be placed on next Tuesday's ballot along with the run-off elections for student body president and for senior class president and vice president.

The four ballots declared null and void by the Elections Board concerned a decrease in student fees, stipends for Student Congress members, the visitation policy options and the end of student funding for The Daily Tar Heel.

The lone referendum not affected by the balloting miscues was the referendum to prohibit student government from appointing three members to the DTH Board of Directors.

The referendum, placed on the ballot as a result of a DTH-sponsored petition drive, unofficially passed with the required number of votes, said Melinda Manning, Elections Board chairwoman.

"We want people to get out and vote again (for the referendums)," Manning said. "Hopefully we can publicize that enough."

The DTH referendum was listed first on the ballot and "looked clearly lined up," Manning said.

CAMPUS '94 ELECTIONS
Referendums

YES DTH referendum to end ties with student government

The Elections Board declared the other four referendums invalid due to miswording on voting guide sheets and misleading ballots. The four referendums will appear on Tuesday's run-off election ballot.
Official numbers for the referendum were not released.

"We're definitely not throwing the DTH referendum out," she said. "The executive decision is, we're kicking four out. It all got screwed up."

The bubbles on the computer sheet did not correspond with the numbers on the ballot, said Margaret Barrett, associate dean of students and faculty adviser to the Elections Board.

"We decided that it would be best to throw it out and redo it at the run-offs," Barrett said.

DTH Editor Yi-Hsin Chang said the passage of the DTH referendum meant that students understood the importance of editorial freedom and the separation of government and the press.

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More Referendums Might Be in Run-Off

BY DAWN BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

Student Congress will hold a special meeting tonight to decide whether to put several referendums on the run-off ballot for campus elections that will gauge student opinion.

If the congress passes the bills, students will be able to vote on whether or not to eliminate the physical education requirement, support Marriott Corp. food services' contract renewal and endorse controversial Chapel Hill-Carrboro school board member LaVonda Burnette.

If the bills are passed by a two-thirds vote in congress, the referendums will appear on the run-off ballot Tuesday, said Wendy Sarratt, Student Congress speaker.

The idea of eliminating the physical education requirement and offering these classes as electives came from data obtained through the "From the Front Line" report, a poll of more than 400 students conducted by student government.

Currently, students have to pass two physical education courses in order to graduate.

"It is a principled argument, not dissatisfaction with the courses," said Student Body President Jim Copland, who introduced the bill.

In order to correctly gauge student opinion of the physical education requirement, students will also vote for or against the elimination of the fine arts aesthetic perspective and the social sciences perspective, he said.

Copland said he proposed that students

vote on the fine arts and social science perspectives to show that students are interested in specifically eliminating the physical education requirement, and not voting just to abolish requirements.

The physical education requirement did not seem to fit into the balance of required liberal arts courses, Copland said.

"Congress was reaching for a balance, and P.E. stuck out," he said. "If more students would rather have physical education courses as an elective, congress would pursue that and try to get faculty administrators to go along with it."

"If there are more students enrolled in bowling than any other P.E., the requirement is not serving its purpose," he said. "Those that need exercise are not getting it by taking bowling."

Students may also get the opportunity to vote on whether they support Marriott as the campus dining services provider.

Marriott's contract is up for renewal this summer, and students should have some input on who will be the food services provider, Copland said.

"The students are the customers, and if customers are dissatisfied then someone should change the situation," he said.

If results show that students are not happy with Marriott, congress would work with the administration in finding a different supplier, he said.

Copland said the two referendums would be on the ballot to assess student opinion on the issues and to help congress frame its agenda for the spring.

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Stansbury Calls For Student Vote On Burnette

BY HOLLY M. WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Although Student Congress will consider a poll tonight to gauge students' opinions about whether LaVonda Burnette should remain on the school board, other school board members say it is unnecessary.

Rep. Joey Stansbury, Dist. 11, will introduce a bill to conduct a referendum vote during next Tuesday's election run-offs. Although a referendum usually is used so students can approve changes to the constitution, this proposal simply would be a poll.

"I'm sponsoring the bill because I feel that LaVonda Burnette has betrayed the trust of the students she came to for support by campaigning as a student for the school board," Stansbury said. "I know of no one who supports her on this campus."

Although Burnette billed herself as a part-time UNC student during the November school board campaign, she later admitted that she wasn't a student. Her fellow board members asked

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If men were angels, no government would be necessary.

James Madison