

The Daily Tar Heel

105 years of editorial freedom
Serving the students and the University
community since 1893

Monday, February 15, 1999
Volume 106, Issue 161

News/Features/Arts/Sports 962-0245
Business/Advertising 962-1163
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
© 1999 DTH Publishing Corp.
All rights reserved.

Vote Recount Reveals Coleman As New RHA President

By AMY STEPHENS
Staff Writer

A recount of the votes for Residence Hall Association president revealed that write-in candidate Murray Coleman was the winner.

Coleman, a junior, received 743 votes while sophomore Jermain Reeves received 703 votes.

Coleman marks the first write-in can-

didate to win a race other than congressional since 1989, when senior class president and vice presidential write-in candidates Bobby Ferris and Greg Zeeman were elected. Reeves was the only official RHA presidential candidate this year.

"I am delightfully excited," Coleman said. "I'm still in a state of shock."

Elections Board Chairwoman Heather Faulk said the votes had to be recounted because Coleman's votes were counted by hand, excluding all graduate student votes, while Reeves

total was tabulated by a computer program that included some graduate student votes.

"The computer program that Academic Technology & Networks wrote had a mistake in it," Faulk said. "It was my mistake



RHA President-elect Murray Coleman said he was in shock.

because I told them what needed to be counted."

According to the Student Code, only students who live in residence halls that are members of the RHA can vote in a RHA presidential race. Therefore, only the votes of graduate students who live in residence halls are valid in the RHA vote total.

"There is currently no way to delineate where people live so all graduate students' votes had to be discounted," Faulk said. "This is something that can be solved with software in future years."

The code does not give Faulk the power to discount the graduate students votes but neither does it specify that she cannot.

For that reason, Reeves said he had thought about charging the Elections Board with a Student Supreme Court case. "I have entertained the thought, but I don't know if I will go through with it," he said.

Faulk said the problem with counting graduate student votes was not a new one.

"For the last 20 years, this has been

going on, but this is the first time a RHA race has been contested," she said. "It obviously needs to be addressed next year."

Coleman said his campaign staff suspected the recount results. "My whole campaign staff was suspect to all the votes Jermain got at the law school," he said.

Reeves said he was notified of the recount results late Friday night.

"I was just surprised," he said. "It was

See RHA, Page 6

Endorsement Calls Code Into Question

By LAUREN BEAL
AND AMY STEPHENS
Staff Writers

Confusion surrounding the Student Code led student body president candidate Brad Morrison to decline an offer of endorsement from the Carolina Review on Saturday, after he learned that such an endorsement might violate campaign finance rules and lead to his disqualification.

According to the code, a campaign expenditure is defined as "any materials, gratuities or services for or on behalf of the candidate or referendum ... which, by intent or effect, tends to advertise the name of a candidate, to endorse or support his candidacy ... by any means."

While the code does not specifically state that a candidate must decline an offer of endorsement in order to avoid financing the publication, it does give the Elections Board the authority to determine what constitutes a campaign expenditure.

Morrison said that when Elections Board Chairwoman Heather Faulk told him that money for the endorsement would come out of his own campaign fund, he had no choice but to decline the offer.

"It's a very scary thing when you're told you are endorsed by an organization but then find out (you will have to pay for the publication and) it will go over your campaign expenditure and you may be disqualified," he said.

According to the code, any candidate that exceeds 105 percent, or \$525, of the spending limit will be disqualified.

Faulk said the line between what was editorial freedom and advertisement for a candidate needed to be defined in the code.

"Where does editorial freedom stop and start and what kind of gray area is there? Because there is one."

Faulk said strictly focusing on the code caused problems because of issues dealing with freedom of the press.

"We are dealing with a First Amendment issue, not a code issue," she said. "(Yet), it's not fair for a candidate to get a

See ENDORSE, Page 6

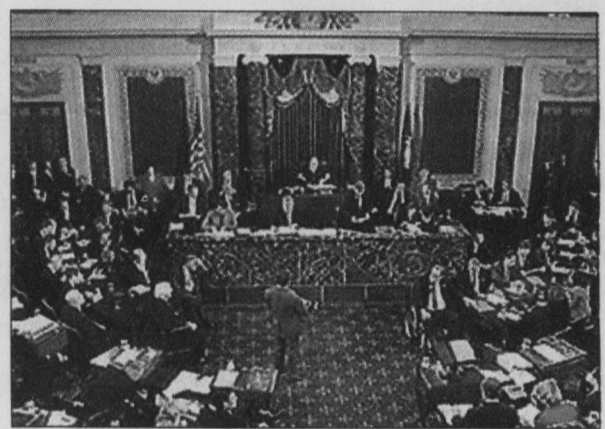


Candidate Brad Morrison said he declined the Carolina Review's endorsement Saturday.

Clinton, Country Move On



President Bill Clinton enters the Rose Garden before addressing the nation Friday. Clinton apologized, saying he was "profoundly sorry" for what he did that led to his impeachment and the Senate trial.



A Senate Page reads the Articles of Impeachment on the chamber floor before Senators cast their votes Friday afternoon. It only took 40 minutes to acquit the president.

Despite Partisan Vote for Clinton Acquittal, Impeachment Process Bridges Political Gap

By JONATHAN COX
Special Assignments Editor

WASHINGTON - After standing in the spotlight of America for more than a month during the trial of William Jefferson Clinton, senators say they will step back into the shadows of mundane legislative duties next week without fear of political repercussions.

Senators will take this week off after acquitting President Clinton on both articles of impeachment Friday. When session resumes next Monday, freshman Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., said he and his colleagues would work together with a better understanding for each other's perspectives.

"I think there is more respect inside that Senate chamber than when we went in," he said Friday as he walked down the

Capitol steps.

Capitol steps.

Because of that unity, and the drive to move forward, the Republican party will not suffer any ill consequences from this defining point on the political landscape, senior Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., said from his office Friday. Analysts have predicted that citizens will turn against the GOP during the 2000 elections because its members pushed the trial.

"This is today and next year is next year," Helms said. "I don't think it will have any lingering effects."

Citing one of his colleagues, Helms said Clinton might not be so lucky during the last two years of his term.

"Billy's going to be Billy, and he's going to fall into another hole," he said.

Clinton escaped from the biggest threat to his political career Friday when Republicans failed to acquire the two-

See VOTE, Page 6

How They Voted

Ending the monthlong Senate trial, weary senators acquitted President Clinton of both impeachment counts. Ten Republicans crossed party lines to vote 'not guilty'.

ARTICLE 1: PERJURY			
	Total	Democrat	Republican
Guilty	45	0	45
Not Guilty	55	45	10

ARTICLE 3: OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE			
	Total	Democrat	Republican
Guilty	50	0	50
Not Guilty	50	45	5

NORTH CAROLINA SENATORS



Jesse Helms, R
Article 1:
Guilty
Article 3:
Guilty



John Edwards, D
Article 1:
Not Guilty
Article 3:
Not Guilty

Education Keeps Home Prices High

Homes outside of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools district are usually bigger and less expensive.

By KIM DRONZEK
Staff Writer

Many potential home buyers in the Triangle are willing to pay more for a home in Chapel Hill just to ensure that their children attend "the best schools in the state," realtors say.

Although there are other factors that influence a buyer to move to Chapel Hill, the main concern is the general rating of the school system, said John Modisett of Tony Hall & Associates Realty in Chapel Hill.

"Chapel Hill (schools) are the highest rated in the state," he said. "I also think there is a good quality of life in Chapel Hill - it has the small-town sophistication of a larger city, and you don't find

The Price of Top-Notch Education

Buyers can expect to find bigger homes in the Durham and Orange County school districts for the same price as a smaller home in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools district.

	Chapel Hill	Durham	Orange County
Total Square Feet	1,989	2,541	2,988
Year Built	1994	1990	1998
Price	\$229,000	\$229,000	\$229,000

- Due to inflation, housing prices have changed since 1995.
 - A \$158,692 house in Durham County costs \$149,376 in 1998.
 - A \$266,084 house in Orange County costs \$242,058 in 1998.

Quarterly Market Update			
	1997	1998	Change
Durham County:			
Average Price	\$143,774	\$144,994	+\$1,220
Sales	772	791	+19
Orange County:			
Average Price:	\$198,345	\$202,390	+\$4,045
Sales	306	332	+54

SOURCE: TRIANGLE MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE

that very often."

According to standardized test scores which contribute to state ranking, Chapel Hill students' total average Scholastic Assessment Test score in 1997 was 1060, while Durham students averaged a score of 875 and students in Orange County had an average score of 845.

Recently the developer of Creekwood, a subdivision in northern Orange County on the border of the

Orange County Schools and Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools district lines, asked the county Board of Education to consider allowing all students in the subdivision to attend city schools.

The school board has not yet made a decision but has generally objected to the change.

Jay Parker, broker in charge of Weaver Street Realty, which brokers for

See VALUE, Page 6

Town Boards Represent Local Black Community

By ASHLEE GREEN
Staff Writer

As the nation faced the fierce backlash of racial discrimination in the 1960s, Chapel Hill helped fight for racial equality with the election of Hubert Robertson, the first black member of the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen, in 1962.

Since then, the Chapel Hill Town Council has continued to have at least one black member on its board, and this racial diversity has also spread to other forms of town government.

Sen. Howard Lee, a black Democrat who represents Orange County in the N.C. General Assembly, said Chapel Hill government was open to all racial groups.

"I have a different view than most," said Lee, who was elected as the first black mayor in the South in 1969.

"I am less concerned with race and numbers and more concerned with giving anyone with the desire the chance."

Through the efforts of local organizations like the Black Public Works Association and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Chapel Hill and Carrboro town governments are growing to become more racially equal, said Fred Battle, president of the Chapel Hill NAACP.

By supporting enthusiastic black political leaders who represent the black population, these organizations have contributed to the representation on local governing boards and councils.

In doing so, the fight for issues such as equal job opportunities and affordable housing for blacks has advanced, Battle said.

Currently there is one black member on the eight-member Chapel Hill Town Council. This 12.5 percentile is exactly even with the 1990 census that estimat-

See REPRESENTATION, Page 6



A month-long series highlighting historical landmarks and contemporary achievements of African-Americans.

INSIDE Friday

Songs for Pooh Bear?

Sweet Honey in the Rock might sound like a delicacy for Pooh Bear, but this Grammy-winning group takes its name from a fable about a land so rich honey flows from rocks. See Page 4.

Drug Busts on Rise

Though UNC-system campus drug violations increased in the 1997-98 school year, UNC-Chapel Hill only reported 16 violations. See Page 2.

Today's Weather

Sunny;
Mid 50s.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny;
Mid 60s.

Got a Story?

Students who are interested in winning a \$250 grant to report an in-depth story for publication in the DTH should pick up an application in Union 104. The grant is part of the DTH's Joanna Howell Fund Award, which honors a former staff writer who died in the 1996 Phi Gamma Delta fire. Proposals are due by 5 p.m. Tuesday.

I believe any person who asks for forgiveness has to be prepared to give it.

President Bill Clinton