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Technical Troubles Stall Election Results

By JOHN O'HALE
AND ELIZABETH BREYER
Staff Writers

The anticipation that had built over a two-week campaign period fell flat early this morning, when candidates learned that election results would be significantly delayed.

At Sitterson Hall, elections headquarters, energy waned as candidates waited for word regarding the computer problems, which prevented the Elections Board from determining a clear winner in any race.

Numbers from the Berryhill Hall and School of Law voting sites were reported early in the evening, but after the first announcement, no further numbers were available.

Tentative numbers showed that Erica Smiley captured 182 out of the 360 reported votes for student body president, with Brad Matthews second at 87 votes and write-in candidate Brian Bersticker bringing up third place with 35 votes.

Presidential candidates expressed concern that the sites that were reported are among the smallest on campus and do not represent a large number of undergraduate voters.

"I don't think those initial poll sites have any bearing," Matthews said. "I don't think there is any value in making predictions until every vote is counted."

Matt Martin was the first presidential candidate to arrive and stayed until the 1 a.m. announcement from the Elections Board that prompted Student Television officials to shut down headquarters for the night.

He said his main concern was also that the elections be reported as accurately as possible, no matter when that might occur.

"We've only had a couple of small

Student Body President	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Scott Harris Votes: 25
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matthew (Matt) Grady Martin Votes: 15
	Robert Bradley (Brad) Matthews Votes: 87
	Joshua W. Ray (Jray) Votes: 6
	Erica Kaye Smiley Votes: 182
	Preston David Smith Votes: 10

polling sites," he said. "I hope that they assure the accuracy of the poll sites and rule out suspicious activities."

However, most of the candidates' focuses were upon their feelings after a long day of campaigning and a long night of waiting for results.

"I'm not going to deny that this is a nuisance," Smiley said. "I'm really tired."

But she did not completely fault the Elections Board. "I think that the Elections Board has done everything that it could, but I would still like a definitive answer."

Candidates Preston Smith and



Campaign supporters who arrived at Sitterson Hall on Tuesday night anticipating election night excitement grow tired of waiting for results and take naps on the floor. By 1 a.m., candidates and their supporters left the building not knowing any concrete outcomes.

DTH/KATE MELLNIK

Joshua Ray indicated that the delay, although annoying, would not have an effect on the eventual outcome of the race and was thus not worth worrying

about. "What's done is done - let the chips fall where they may," Smith said. Ray said, "It doesn't really bother me.

What I think is important is that we had a great voter turnout." Throughout the night, as the wait grew longer and longer, candidates

began to show signs of strain and fatigue.

See SBP, Page 2

Referendum Votes Remain Uncertain

The referendum asking for an increase in student fees had received 107 votes in favor of it and 64 against.

By KAREY WUTKOWSKI
Staff Writer

Two referendums began a head start to approval while another two started off in a negative direction Tuesday night.

The polling results from two sites, Berryhill Hall and the School of Law, gave an official glimpse into the fate of the four referendums on Tuesday's ballot.

Students who cast votes at the two polling sites voted 111-210 against a \$1.50 per student per semester increase in student fees that would allow UNC to join the United States Student Association, a lobbying group for higher education.

This referendum's presence on the ballot was previously in limbo when members of the executive branch realized the Student Congress vote to place it on the ballot did not meet the required two-thirds majority.

Congress Speaker Mark Kleinschmidt then removed the referendum from the ballot after which a group of students sued Kleinschmidt, claiming a discrepancy with the Student Constitution deemed the original vote valid.

Kleinschmidt won the lawsuit but a successful petition drive brought the USSA referendum back onto the ballot.

The student vote from the two sites showed approval for an increase in student fees for the purpose of funding student organizations by a 218-122 margin. The \$3 per undergraduate student per semester increase would bump up the fee to \$13.

Student activities fees, which were last increased in 1973, would help Student Congress fund the growing number of student organizations on campus.

APPLES, Assisting People in Planning Learning Experiences, did not receive a positive response to its request for additional student fees from the two

Referenda	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referendum #1 Raise in Student Activity Fee YES 218 NO 122
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referendum #2 Double Minors on Transcripts YES 257 NO 62
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referendum #3 Amendment to Join USSA YES 111 NO 210
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referendum #4 Increase in Fees for APPLES YES 42 NO 48

polling sites. The vote was 42-48 against the measure.

The service-learning program, which offers paid internships and service courses, asked for a \$1.05 increase per semester per undergraduate student from the current \$1.95 it receives per undergraduate student per semester.

APPLES Director Mary Morrison said the group needed the money, especially because its three-year grant from the Carolina Center for Public Center runs out next year. "When the grant came through, it allowed us to expand," Morrison said. "We're still going to pursue grant money, but we don't want to depend on it." Morrison said the increase in student fees would ensure stable funding for the program.

Student votes from the sites indicated strong approval for the placement of double minors on diplomas.

Previously, UNC did not formally recognize the completion of a major and two minors on transcripts.

Through a referendum last year, students voted to have double majors put on diplomas.

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Night Sees Fair Share of Tension

By GEOFF WESSEL
Staff Writer

Following several hours of tense waiting, student body elections candidates returned home in frustration early this morning after Elections Board members announced they faced a roadblock in tabulating elections results.

Elections Board Vice Chairwoman Marissa Downs made a 1 a.m. announcement that the board was experiencing computer problems, which an Academic & Technology Networks representative had not fixed at press time.

Downs said the problem was caused by a flaw in the database software. "We don't feel comfortable releasing information from the offices without making sure it's accurate," she said.

According to the Student Code, the board has 96 hours to release the poll results, she said. Board members

worked throughout the night counting ballots by hand, and board Chairwoman Catherine Yates said the official word would come down today.

"We're trying to count as accurately as possible in the shortest amount of time," Downs said.

The announcement followed a night plagued with several technical difficulties that delayed results from the polls.

Many students expressed frustration, but Downs advised against a suggestion to have at-large students help count ballots. "Keeping this within the Elections Board is the most accurate and efficient way," she said. "We'll get the word out as best as we can through the proper channels."

Some expressed concern of delays for the student body president runoff race, which is scheduled for Tuesday.

See TURNOUT, Page 2



Students line up at the polls Tuesday evening in Chase Hall. These students cast their votes just before the polls closed at 7 p.m.

DTH/MEREDITH LEE

Pruitt Takes Early Lead in Race

Carolina Athletic Association President Tee Pruitt had 96 votes after the first two poll site results were counted.

By JASON ARTHURS
Staff Writer

Add frustration to the long list of emotions felt by Carolina Athletic Association candidates caught in this year's election stalemate.

The contest for CAA president became clouded with last-minute controversy Tuesday when incumbent and candidate Tee Pruitt was forced to write a retraction to an e-mail message he had sent to several campus listservs concerning co-candidates Michael Songer and Adam Walters' platform.

The controversy, although it might not have a direct effect on election results, caused added tension among the candidates' camps while they waited to hear from the elections board Tuesday night, Songer said.

"Tension, that might be a bit of an understatement," said Songer as he and his supporters stood alongside Pruitt waiting for initial election results from two precincts.

Tentative counts from the Elections Board showed Pruitt with 176 votes, Songer and Walters with 27 and Corey Bell with 15.

However, elections officials estimated that as many as 5,000 students voted Tuesday. Most of these votes have yet to be counted by elections officials.

Songer and Walters passed the time between Elections Board announcements by trying to relax and playing a

game of spades with friends.

Songer said he hoped the e-mail message sent early Tuesday morning would not affect students' votes in a runoff because he felt he and his running mate's platform had been misrepresented.

"We're tired and frustrated," Songer said. "We have a lot of concerns about the integrity of this election."

Pruitt, who said he was both nervous and anxious to get the election over with, said he had a couple of drinks with friends before arriving at Sitterson Hall.

He left early to have some fun and get some sleep, he said. "It's been a tough race," Pruitt said. "It hasn't been fun."

Songer and Walters said they were still optimistic about their chances.

After they get some rest, they said they would examine contingency plans for a potential runoff situation.

"We really hope that if there is a runoff, students will look into the issues themselves," Songer said.

"We encourage people to e-mail or call us if they have any questions."

Pruitt ran for his second term with

See CAA, Page 2

Carolina Athletic Association President	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Corey Lee Bell Jr. Votes: 32
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tee Pruitt II Votes: 176
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Songer & Adam Walters Votes: 43

INSIDE Wednesday

The Cows Go Home

Local Food Lions have taken Maple View Farms dairy products

off the shelf because of inventory problems. See Page 10.

Under a Spell

Students came offstage Monday night after being hypnotized during a show at Memorial Hall claiming that the mystical process has real effects. See Page 10.

Still Waiting ...

Because of the Elections Board's computer troubles Tuesday night, the voting results in today's paper are unofficial and will be corrected in upcoming issues later this week.

Today's Weather

Sunny;
High 60s.
Thursday: Cloudy;
High 50s.

The Elections Board kills us every year.

The DTH Elections Team