

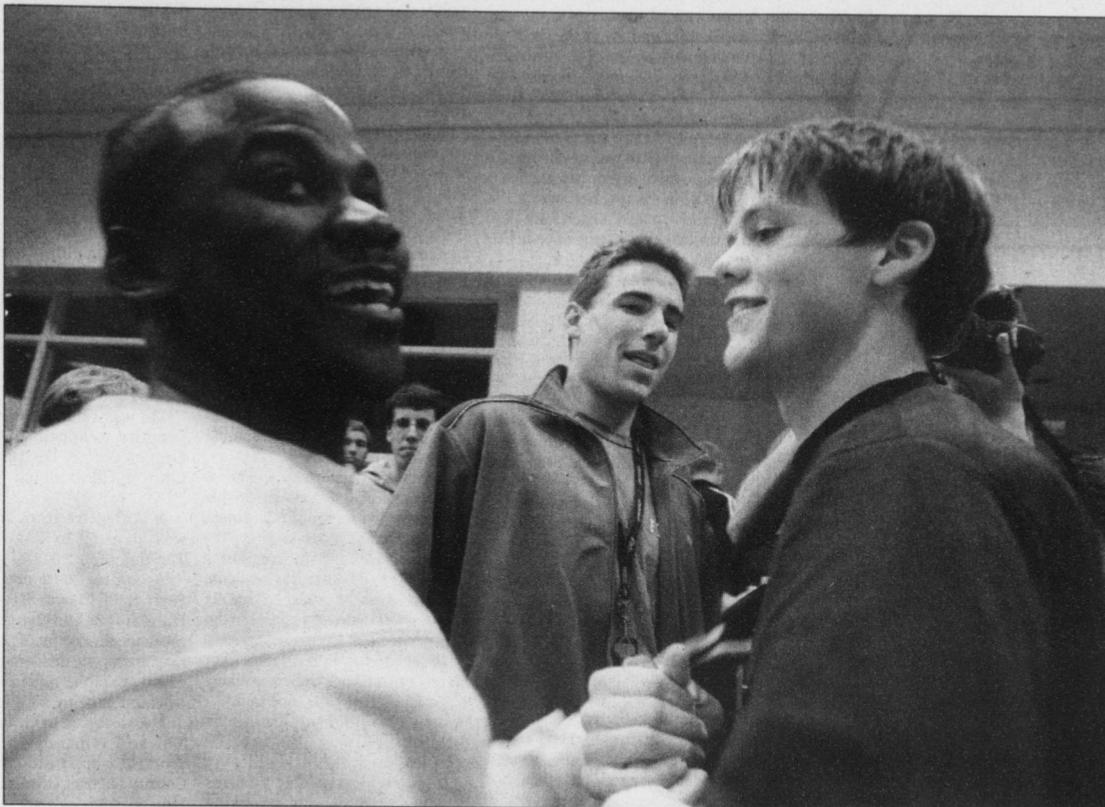
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2005 STUDENT ELECTIONS



Seke Ballard (left) and Seth Dearmin shake hands after the announcement that they will continue in a runoff election for student body president. Dearmin received 40 percent of the vote while Ballard garnered 27 percent. The two candidates will continue campaigning until the Feb. 15 vote.

Dearmin, Ballard remain

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT RESULTS

- **SETH DEARMIN***
2,789 votes, 40%
- **SEKE BALLARD***
1,902 votes, 27%
- **TOM JENSEN**
1,249 votes, 18%
- **LEIGHA BLACKWELL**
1,006 votes, 14%

* denotes runoff candidates

BY KATIE HOFFMANN AND CATHERINE ROBBS
STAFF WRITERS

In an outcome surprising to many onlookers in Carroll Hall on Tuesday night, Seth Dearmin and Seke Ballard learned that their candidacy for student body president would be extended for a week.

Despite the momentum gathered early in the campaign by controversial candidate Tom Jensen, tied with Dearmin with the most endorsements from campus organizations, Dearmin and Ballard emerged steadily in the lead.

Dearmin received 40 percent of the votes and Ballard grabbed 27 percent of the votes, catapulting the two candidates into a runoff election that will take place next Tuesday. A runoff election is required when no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote.

"It's an amazing feeling," Dearmin said, amid cheering supporters. "It's a testament to the hard-working people of my campaign."

Ballard was equally excited to hear the news. "I lost all tact and class," he said. "I just got up and screamed with no inhibitions."

With 7,264 votes, this election elicited the highest turnout in campus history, said Heather Sidden, chairwoman of the Board of Elections.

Despite his six endorsements, Jensen garnered 1,249 votes — 18 percent of the total — placing him in third. "I think the breadth of my endorsements show I am a substantial candidate," he said. "To some extent I think this is a popularity contest."

Jensen's endorsements included UNC Young

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Johnson coasts to CAA win

Garners 72 percent of vote in race against Holderness

BY ERIN ZUREICK
STAFF WRITER

After a year riddled by controversy and contention, the Carolina Athletic Association has a new leader waiting in the wings.

And though he's been involved in the association throughout the turbulence, he's also got plans to reform CAA from the inside out.

CAA President-elect Justin Johnson coasted to victory Tuesday night, bringing in 4,414 votes — 72 percent — of the 6,123 votes cast for the office. His opponent, Hayes Holderness, garnered 25 percent.

The race was more competitive than in the past, as it was the first race in the last two years during which more than one candidate campaigned for the position.

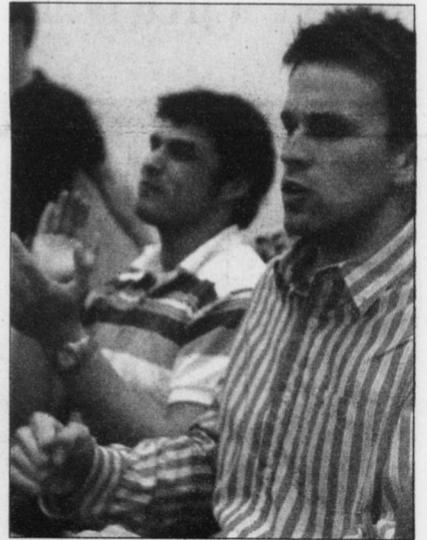
"I was anxious to get the election over with," Johnson said. "It's been exhausting these last few weeks."

Johnson gained support from campus organizations early on in his campaign, receiving endorse-

CAA RESULTS

- **JUSTIN JOHNSON**
4414 votes, 72%
- **HAYES HOLDERNES**
1558 votes, 25%

SEE CAA, PAGE 4



Justin Johnson responds to the news of his victory in the race for president of the Carolina Athletic Association. Johnson won with 72 percent of the vote.

Brady to sit at GPSF's helm

Wins 93 percent of votes for post

BY SHARI FELD
STAFF WRITER

Although more than 10,000 graduate and professional students attend the University, 501 cast their ballots Tuesday to elect Mike Brady president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation.

Brady, who ran unopposed for the position, said he was still excited when his victory was announced Tuesday night.

"It's great," he said. "It's a relief, even though I wasn't expecting any surprises. But it's still nice to hear."

Brady garnered 92.8 percent of the 540 votes cast. Last year, 541 students voted for the position.

Since no other candidates were vying for the position, Brady said, he was worried that turnout would

SEE GPSF, PAGE 4

Write-ins lock senior class

BY STEPHANIE NEWTON
STAFF WRITER

Both Rashad McCants and Raymond Felton now can add another statistic to their athlete profiles: stealing what could have been a deciding victory from the election of senior class officials.

Of the 1,845 total votes that seniors submitted for class president and vice president Tuesday, 16 write-in candidates, including four members of the men's basketball team, were added to the mix. Neither tandem officially on the ballot for senior class president and vice president garnered the 50 percent majority required to be elected.

Senior class president and vice president hopefuls Madison Perry and Whit Walker received 915 votes, amassing 49.59 percent of the vote, and their opponents, Bobby Whisnant Jr. and Jenny Peddycord, totaled 914 votes, yielding 49.54 percent of the vote.

The candidates now face seven more days of extended campaigning in a final push to make their voices heard before next Tuesday's runoff election.

"I didn't expect it to be that close," Peddycord said. "We were really looking forward to who would win the office."

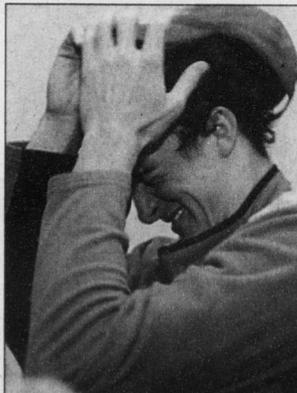
Perry tried to lighten the air with a more humorous outlook.

"I was looking forward to getting on with my schoolwork," he said.

With new procedures and guidelines to follow for this stage of the game — such as the allotment of more campaign funds from the Board of Elections — the candidates will spend the next week working diligently to revamp their strategies and re-energize their platforms.

"I've just got a million things running through my head," Walker said.

Perry echoed his partner's sentiments. "Whit and I are taking this seri-



Madison Perry (left) and his opponents, Bobby Whisnant Jr. and Jenny Peddycord, react to the announcement that there will be a runoff for senior class leadership.

SENIOR CLASS RESULTS

- **PERRY, WALKER**
915 votes, 49.5935%*
- **WHISNANT, PEDDYCORD**
914 votes, 49.5393%*

* denotes runoff candidates

ously, and we will continue to take it seriously next week," he said.

Taking a similar stance, Peddycord expressed concern with the way that the student body perceives class elections.

"I think people don't take student government seriously," she said. "We've done our research to know what the office entails."

Peddycord said the first words she will utter to her campaign staff are "quantity" and "quality."



Bobby Whisnant Jr. and Jenny Peddycord react to the announcement that there will be a runoff for senior class leadership.

"We really need to reach out to the community that hasn't been reached," she said, noting the importance of garnering support and increasing recognition among groups that didn't hear about the Whisnant-Peddycord ticket.

"We have our heart totally in this office," she added.

Whisnant said he isn't sure what else the duo can do to persuade voters. "What are we going to do that we haven't done so far?" he said.

But when it comes to determining what new campaign efforts will entail, Whisnant said he draws a blank.

"I think that's what perplexes me," he said.

In the coming days, Whisnant said he wants to bring his staff up to date and

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ONLINE

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 - Potential cap on malpractice awards debated
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Former Libertarian presidential candidate speaks at UNC **PAGE 4**



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The No. 2 Tar Heels look to pass a major road test and down their hated rivals **PAGE 12**

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