

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Bates, Baer-Sugar early leaders

### Baer-Sugar charged with overspending

by Jim Roberts  
Staff Writer

A leaflet delivered late Tuesday night to certain dormitories implicitly charged DTH editorship co-candidates, Don Baer and Harriet Sugar with campaign overspending.

The leaflet correctly states that the spending limit for an editor candidate is \$200. This, according to an elections law amendment, is to include not only campaign expenditures by the candidate, his staff and his associates, but gifts as well.

At question is a four-page flier distributed by Baer and Sugar.

The leaflet attacking their finances, distributed Tuesday, said the "fair market value for such a publication ranges from \$250-\$300."

Baer and Sugar said they paid \$64.48 to Dickson Press in Fayetteville for 5,000 copies. Student Graphics was paid \$29.12 for the page lay-outs.

A Daily Tar Heel reporter checked with the printer, Skip Dickson, Monday and confirmed that the price given Baer and Sugar was his "straight business price."

A section of the amendment to the elections law states "If goods or services are given gratuitously or excessively below normal costs, the Elections Board Chairman shall go to at least three firms that make like products and services and get estimates. The average cost shall be deemed the actual cost."

The leaflet, written by Ed Furr, president of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies, concludes: "The DTH editorship should not be for sale."

Baer and Sugar said, "We certainly have not tried to buy the editorship, and we are well within the spending limit."



Two students cast their ballots at the Y-Court during heavy voting in yesterday's campus-wide elections

## Grades rise in past decade

### A's, B's easier to come by here

by Bruce Henderson  
Staff Writer

Following a nationwide trend, grades of "A" and "B" are easier to come by at UNC than they were several years ago.

At UNC, the number of A's given each year has doubled in the decade from 1962 to 1972. Between the fall semesters of 1967 and 1974, the average undergraduate cumulative GPA rose from 2.388 to 2.693.

A 3.0 GPA is no longer good enough to make the dean's list at UNC. Beginning last fall, at least a 3.2 average is needed, based on a full 15-hour course load.

A national survey of 197 colleges has shown that grade point averages have risen an average of .404 percentage points, or about half a letter grade, from 1960 to 1973.

Depending on whose analysis you

consider, rising grades are a product of better quality students, rising student competition, relaxation of grading standards or changing student attitudes.

"Any conclusions till now have been raw guesses, with perhaps a kernel of agreement," Dr. James R. Gaskin, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said.

Gaskin said "honest and realistic marking" is sorely needed at UNC, but added that previous studies and recommendations have done little to change grading practices. Young teachers "may be most guilty of lax grading," he said.

"We're bringing teachers from schools where this is already happening, so instead of being a settling influence, they're making it worse," he said.

The College of Arts and Sciences drew up a proposal early last fall, he said, to give

exceptional students a written "mark of distinction" on their transcript. This would indicate work above the "A" average.

Faculty members rejected the idea, however, and the debate has tentatively ended.

One faculty member who disagreed with Gaskin's idea was Dr. William W. Smith, director of undergraduate studies for the math department.

"I think the idea of a higher grade is an absurd idea," he said. "It would just continue the higher grading scale. We don't like the idea of a mark of distinction, either. It is just half a new grade, in a way."

Smith agreed with Gaskin that the University needs to "restore the true value of the grades." Grade inflation has been officially discussed in the math department, he said, but no conclusions have been reached.

"Some of my colleagues have rejected the grading scale completely," he said, "giving nothing but A's, and I guess that is their prerogative. It's unfortunate we just can't stick with the (original) grades."

Richard G. Cashwell, director of undergraduate admissions, attributed the grading surge to the influx of women students and to upgraded admissions standards.

"There are a lot more women now," he said, "and they are generally more conscientious than men — that's certainly a factor. The competition for admission has changed quite a lot, too; students here are probably better than in past years."

Dr. Lillian Lehman, University registrar, agreed that the quality of Carolina students now is higher, and said student attitudes are playing a part in the higher averages.

"I would say we are picking the top of the high school class — about the upper 15 per cent," she said.

"Attitude is important," Lehman said. "Students seem to have settled down some since the '60s," with its student activism.

Art Professor John M. Schnorrenberg, who has taught here since 1959, disagreed that grades are being handed out too freely.

"Students are better than they used to be," he said, "that's why grades are higher. They are better trained in writing; on the whole, they work harder."

### Ellis, Campbell likely candidates in runoffs

by Art Eisenstadt  
and Jim Roberts  
Staff Writers

Voters came to the polls Wednesday in surprisingly high numbers for campus-wide student elections.

With about half the precincts reported, Bill Bates led the presidential race with Jamie Ellis and Tim Dugan running a close battle for second position for a runoff expected for early next week.

Co-candidates Don Baer and Harriet Sugar were pulling into a firm lead in the race for the Daily Tar Heel editorship.

Neither of the front runners were close to winning the 50 per cent majority necessary to be elected on the first ballot, however.

At press time, ballots in the other campus races, including the Residence Hall Association, Carolina Athletic Association, Association of Women Students, Graduate and Professional Students Association, Campus Governing Council and Undergraduate Court were just beginning to be counted in some precincts.

About half of the 19 ballot boxes had not been unlocked.

With 10 of the 19 polls reported, Bates led with 1156 votes. Ellis followed with 826 votes. Bates' votes came largely from Granville and Scott Residence College.

Following were Tim Dugan with 787 votes, Joe Knight with 684, Jerry Askew with 383, Lance Woodring with 193, Keith Edwards with 134 and Ray Stanford with 38.

Bates also controlled the votes in Morrison while Ellis took the Union and the Y-Court. Knight won the most votes in James Dorm.

With nine of 19 precincts reporting, Baer and Sugar were leading the editors race with 1,293 votes.

Following Baer and Sugar, in order of vote totals, were Cole C. Campbell with 939, Elliott Warnock with 785, Tom Wright with 449 and Bernie Day with 172.

Baer and Sugar won all but one of the nine precincts reporting.

In the Granville Towers district, the co-candidates received 374 votes, compared to 131 for Warnock and 129 for Campbell, their next leading challengers.

Only in the Y-Court precinct, which includes voters from Old East, Old West and Carr dormitories and off-campus voters, did Baer and Sugar trail, with 171 votes behind Campbell's 176.

At press time the status of the entire editorial race was in doubt due to alleged

campaign spending violations by certain candidates.

In the only completed Campus Governing Council race, the co-candidates George Baco and Brad Lamb led Mike Dixon with vote totals of 318 to 204.

In the race for chairman of the Association of Women Students, Deborah "Cricket" Usery collected 333 votes from three districts. She ran unopposed.

The two proposed referenda concerning dorm social fees were invalidated by the Elections Board when it was discovered ballots were given to voters in off-campus districts. Only on-campus residents should have voted on the referenda as they pertain only to dorm residents.

In the race for Carolina Athletic Association chairman, Rob Friedman led Marshall Reid, 271-94, with only 2 of 19 precincts reporting.

Lars Nance and Jay Levin, running unopposed for RHA co-chairpersons, accumulated 147 votes in two precincts. Early indications show a heavy write-in vote for the position, for a number of candidates, but the total was no serious threat to Nance and Levin.

Election Board members and poll tenders reported turnouts exceeding 50 per cent in many on-campus and off-campus precincts. Some districts, such as the James dormitory, reportedly had better than a 60 per cent turnout.

In the Union precinct, where off-campus and graduate students could vote, there were frequent lines in front of the poll during the day.

Election Board members forecasted a total turnout ranging between 25 and 50 per cent for the entire campus.

### Faculty award ballots available

Applications are still available at the Union and other campus locations for students and faculty to nominate full-time faculty members for eight awards recognizing excellence in undergraduate teaching.

Voting for the Tanner, AMOCO and Salgo has been slow. Prof. Joel Schwartz, a member of the Student-Faculty Committee on Distinguished Teaching Awards, said only about 150 applications are coming in per week, as compared to 250 last year.

The last applications can be submitted is March 3.

## Spread U.S. wealth—Harris

by Joel Brinkley  
Staff Writer

America's intensely concentrated economic wealth has overwhelmed its founding political system, Democratic presidential hopeful Fred Harris told the Chapel Hill chapter of the N.C. Civil Liberties Union (NCCLU) Wednesday night.

The former Oklahoma Senator told an enthusiastic audience of over 200 that economic inequities are responsible for most of the political and social ills facing the nation today.

Harris, the first 1976 presidential candidate to visit Chapel Hill, was the main speaker at NCCLU's annual meeting held at the Community Church on Purefoy Road.

"Jefferson's idea of a democracy was not just political participation by all the citizens," Harris said, "but economic participation as well." Much of the nation's money is concentrated in huge corporate holdings, he said.

"Who put up all the money that Nixon's men were carrying around in grocery bags?" Harris asked. "They had so much cash that they had to put some hundred-dollar bills through the shredder to keep anyone from seeing the serial numbers. 'Some of America's finest corporations put up that money. Corporations like American Airlines, Gulf Oil and Phillips Petroleum. They gave the money so they could continue to receive privileges from the government in the form of beneficial tax laws and anti-trust laws that aren't enforced."

"Lawrence Rockefeller, who gave a large sum of money to Nixon's campaign, said he called up the President right after the '72 election, got him on the phone and asked him not to enforce the anti-trust laws against his company, Eastern Airlines. And the laws weren't enforced. Yet Rockefeller said there was no connection between that and his contribution to the campaign. Most of us couldn't even have gotten Nixon on the phone."

Harris, 44, was an Oklahoma state Senator for eight years, chairman of the Democratic National Committee for two years and U.S. Senator from 1964 to 1972. He served as vice-chairman of the Kerner Commission, which studied the causes of riots in U.S. cities.

He said he and former New York Mayor John Lindsay toured the cities studied by the Commission three years after the Commission issued its report and found the



Former Sen. Fred Harris

cities to be "three years worse." He cited a column by New York Times columnist Tom Wicker that described the plight of some Washington D.C. inner-city residents.

"Fifty per cent of the residents of a 14 square-block area of Washington are using heroin," Harris said. "Children living there

have absolutely no chance to receive a decent education. These people are trapped almost as surely as if they were in jail."

Harris thinks increased citizen participation in social processes can help break up the nation's financial inequities.

"Tenants should control housing," he said, "and patients should control health-care." Further, Harris said, "having a job should be a personal enforceable civil right. This is more in line with what Jefferson meant by citizens' participatory rights."

Harris believes citizens should have a larger voice in the formulation of American foreign policy which is now controlled by "an elite political group," headed by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

"It was tremendously irresponsible of Kissinger to suggest that we might go to war with the Middle East over oil," he said. "It would make more sense to go to war with Canada. They cut off our oil too, and if we went to war with them our supply lines would be closer."

"Besides, if we land the Marines in the Middle East, they are going to run into a lot of our own sophisticated military hardware that we sold to the Arabs."

## State ERA forces still pushing ratification

by Sandra Millers  
Staff Writer

They're at it again. North Carolina supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment are gearing up for a second try at ratification of the controversial, one-sentence proposed addition to the Constitution.

It reads simply, "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Commonly referred to as the ERA, that one sentence, which has been a focal point of national legislative debate for over half a century, is now stalled in committee in the General Assembly awaiting public hearings scheduled to begin next week.

Banded about in each session of Congress for 49 years before finally passing both houses, the proposed 27th amendment is now tangled up in the required process of ratification by two-thirds of the 50 state legislatures. The latest official tally shows 34 states down and four more to go before the March 1979 cutoff date.

The Equal Rights Coalition, a recently-formed

statewide association of 13 pro-ERA groups, hopes North Carolina will be one of the decisive four. National ERA observers as well as viewing the North Carolina debate as crucial to final ratification of the amendment, since it is considered one of only four where the ERA is expected to pass. Without ratification from those four states this year, the loss in momentum could become the coup d'grace for the ERA.

### News analysis

So far, however, despite the pro-ERA push from the more urban sectors of the state, legislative response in Raleigh has retained a distinctly provincial flavor. And undecided representatives, frustrated with propaganda blitzes from both camps, need look no further down the road than Morganton to justify an anti-ERA stance. Retired political titan Sam Ervin has long expressed the opinion that women's rights are already constitutionally guaranteed under the "equal

protection" clause of the 14th Amendment.

Grassroots opposition to feminist demands for the ERA has likewise been unusually keen in North Carolina, the state which delayed ratification of the 1920 women's suffrage amendment until 1971. Little wonder that only two years later the North Carolina General Assembly defeated the ERA by a narrow margin of 27-23. That tally followed a heated debate which ended with seven pressured legislators changing their votes during the final seconds before roll call.

Now under scrutiny in the House Constitutional Amendments Committee, chaired by ERA opponent Rep. A. Hartwell Campbell, D-Wilson, the bill is moving into its seventh shaky week of consideration in Raleigh and promises to continue its slow pace. The next events on the agenda are pro and con public hearings scheduled for March 4 and 11, respectively.

Among the information Campbell's committee must weigh is a catalog prepared by the Legislative Services Office which lists over 200 state laws that could be affected by ERA approval.

Many of these modifications would be simply a

matter of semantics: words such as "female," "wife" and "woman," for example, would have to go. More substantial changes would be necessary in the state's rape statutes, however.

Meanwhile, state ERA proponents are utilizing the final weeks before formal floor debate to polish their strategy of low-key campaigning, a deliberate departure from what Campbell has termed the "circus-like" atmosphere of the 1973 ERA debate.

Streamlined organization and extensive lobbying efforts alone may be enough to tilt this session's vote count in favor of ratification, but results of last fall's elections will add more fuel to the ERA fire. November balloting sent three more women to the General Assembly, bringing the combined total in both houses to 15. In addition, a number of anti-ERA legislators didn't return to Raleigh after Christmas — all of which tends to cast a more liberal hue over the 1975 General Assembly.

Without a doubt, the fight for ratification in North Carolina will be a vigorous one and crucial, not only to the state, but to the nation. And the final outcome is still anybody's guess.