

DTH/Larry Childress

Ray Jones on his way to a preliminary victory

Referendums alter rules, gauge views

From staff reports

Students voted to make several changes in the Student Constitution and responded to opinion-poll referendums on Tuesday's ballot.

All results are unofficial, pending Elections Board verification today.

Students voted 2,518-934 to allow student groups to petition the Campus Governing Council for funds to lobby on issues that "directly affect students" at local, state and national levels.

The referendum amends the Student Constitution, which prohibited the allocation of funds for activities, services or events of a political or religious nature.

The bill is intended to allow lobbying on issues such as tuition rates and the drinking age, said Student Body President Patricia Wallace, one of the bill's authors. "We can't even get the funds to call Raleigh or send buses to lobby on an issue," Wallace said.

Bill Peaslee (Dist. 9) said the referendum would not have great effect, because it would be nearly impossible to get the required two-thirds majority in the CGC. "Even on an issue like the drinking age, there are different views," he said. "Christian groups would oppose the issue even being talked about in the CGC, making it very hard to get that kind of a majority."

Students voted 2,560-1,130 in favor of University divestment from companies that do business in South Africa.

Dale McKinley, a member of the UNC Anti-apartheid Support Group which sponsored the referendum, said he was pleased with the results.

"I think it shows that students who voted as representatives of the whole student body have overwhelming support (for the referendum)," McKinley said.

Group member Marguerite Arnold said: "This will help us legitimize our fight even further. . . . Apartheid is not separate from (students') daily lives."

McKinley said the group would take the referendum results to Chancellor Christopher C. Fordham III and petition him to contact the Board of Trustees in support of the referendum.

Herman Bennett, another member of the group, said student votes were not necessarily an indication of what the administration will do.

"We have to move beyond operating just under the Board of Trustees,"

Bennett said.

"By continuing to allow our investments to remain in South Africa, we are directly and indirectly assisting in the oppression, exploitation and the denial of human dignity."

The UNC Anti-apartheid Support Group will continue educating people about the issue and will raise money for relief funds in South Africa, said Mark Mays, a member of the group.

Students expressed overall dissatisfaction with the mandatory meal plan proposals put forth by the Board of Trustees and with the ARA food service.

The results were 3,614-395 in opposition to the \$100 mandatory meal plan; 3,660-155 against the proposed \$25 per semester meal plan increases; and 2,757-775 against a proposed full room and board plan if Chase Hall does not operate at a profit.

Students also voted 3,211-479 against renewing ARA's food service contract, which expires in March.

Longest said the administration could no longer ignore the complaints

of students as it did after a similar referendum last year. "After two years in a row, it is no longer a small group of students," he said. "It's a student voice."

Students voted 1,982-1,236 in favor of removing dormitory enhancement funds from the University housing department and placing them under student control in the Student Activities Fund Organization.

The referendum said that a \$4 enhancement fee included in each dorm resident's rent should go to SAFO so it would not revert back to the housing department if it were not spent.

The \$4 had been divided, with \$2.50 going to the housing department and \$1.50 going into a general enhancement pool that is overseen by the Enhancement Committee, which includes RHA members, an area director and a consultant from business and operations.

Because the enhancement fund is part of students' dorm rent, the transfer would have to be approved by the state, housing officials have said.

The referendum to give the CGC speaker an annual stipend passed 1,498-1,403.

Students defeated a referendum 1,185-1,482 that would "extend stipend alteration policies" to the offices of CGC speaker, student body treasurer and attorney general.

Wallace said the vote meant that the officers' stipends no longer could be changed during their terms in office. She said the only time the CGC would consider changing an officer's stipend would be if the budget was tight, and they never cut anyone's this past term.

Students voted 1,970-1,346 to change the name of the CGC to Student Congress. Students also voted 1,982-1,236 to delete an obsolete clause in the Student Constitution that said no more than 55 percent of Elections Board members could belong to one campus party. Campus parties no longer exist.

Staff writers Jo Fleischer, Denise Johnson, Teresa Kriegsmann, Liz Saylor and Kim Weaver contributed to this story.

Emergency 911 line cut out of service

By KATHERINE WOOD
Staff Writer

Orange County residents were unable to reach the county's 911 emergency phone line Tuesday morning because a construction crew severed two underground cables operating the line.

The service line, controlled by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co., was cut by a road crew working on the U.S. 40 extension, Chapel Hill Police Planner Keith Lohmann said Tuesday.

The Chapel Hill Police Department, the Carboro Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff's Department served as alternate bases to handle emergency calls until the cables operating the 911 number could be repaired.

"The road crew working on I-40 accidentally cut two of our cables north of Chapel Hill where the interstate will cross N.C. 86," said Gene Upchurch, a Southern Bell public relations representative in Raleigh. The cables were cut at 7:45 a.m., he said.

Radio stations advised residents to use their local police department number as an alternative to 911 if necessary.

Lohmann said the Chapel Hill Police Department had received only a few calls Tuesday morning because of the disabled line.

Rerouting emergency calls, however, did add an extra burden to local police work, as did a traffic jam at the intersection of Elliott Road and East Franklin Street Monday evening.

The traffic congestion resulted from repair efforts by an Orange Water and Sewer Authority work crew, according to police reports.

"The existing water line on Elliott Road had been giving us problems for

the last couple of years," said John Greene of OWASA's engineering department. "The crew was connecting a water-line replacement to the East Franklin Street water line."

Greene said the crew had left only one lane open on East Franklin Street and needed help to direct traffic during the 5 p.m. rush hour.

The water line is now operating at full capacity, he said, and the only remaining task is to repave the part of East Franklin Street that the OWASA crew shattered.

RHA

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election, saying that the 828-277 result is invalid because non-seniors had voted for senior class officers.

"We're appealing because there was no way of checking if only juniors voted," he said.

Miskavage said she and Courtney also were appealing on the grounds that *The Phoenix* did not include coverage of their campaign in its election issue.

Lillie said the Elections Board would look into the matter and decide about a re-election within the next day or so.

Venable said, "I'm rather frustrated that our opponents are finding it necessary to contest a race in which the margin of victory was so decisive."

He said although the nature of the election was disappointing, he and Killough were ready to start working for the senior class immediately.

Pavao received 3,444 votes for CAA president. He said his first step in his second term would be to put together a new CAA cabinet.

"I'm looking particularly for rising

sophomores and juniors who are intense and creative and want a lot of leeway and freedom in getting things done," he said.

Pavao said applications for CAA positions would be available at the Student Union desk on Monday.

"I'm looking forward to another year, and I would like to thank especially this year's staff," he said. "They put the CAA back on the map."

Staff writers Rachel Orr and Kim Weaver contributed to this story.

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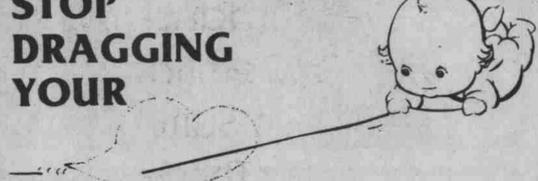
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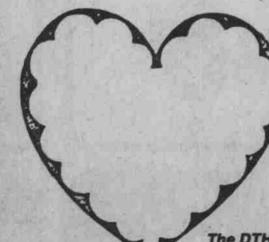
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