

Brown leads race for Democratic Party chairmanship

By TAMMY BLACKARD
Staff Writer

Washington attorney Ronald Brown, 47, claimed victory last week in his bid for chairman of the national Democratic Party, but his apparent win has riled some Democrats, especially those in the South.

Brown's opponents have protested his strong ties to the liberal wing of the party, claiming the ties will divide the party at a time when it is struggling to unite.

Alabama Democratic Party leader John Baker said he would leave the national party, if it were possible, after Brown's chief rival pulled out of the four-candidate race for the Democratic National Committee (DNC) chairmanship.

Louisiana Democratic Party chairman Jim Brady said his differences with Brown were strictly philosophical.

"I think we need to take a hard look at how we haven't been doing very well in the South," Brady said. "He believes we should be away from

the middle — that's the perception anyway. My gripe is his alignment causes some problems for the Democrats' unification."

Brown, a former aide to the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., would be the first black elected chairman of a major U.S. political party.

Brown received the endorsement of the AFL-CIO and the support of Kennedy, Jackson and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo.

His chief rival, Rick Wiener, Michigan Democratic Party chairman, ended his campaign Wednesday and endorsed Brown. Two other candidates are still in the race, former Reps. Jim Jones of Okalahoma and James Stanton of Ohio, but Brown is now considered to have the most support.

The DNC will meet in Washington on Feb. 10 to officially elect the new chairman.

Current DNC chairman Paul Kirk Jr. decided not to seek re-election

after serving a four-year term.

Kirk's election was also opposed four years ago by Southern Democrats because of his ties to Kennedy.

"Kirk did a good job, but when he was first proposed, he was seen as a Kennedy man," said William Keech, UNC political science professor. "Eventually Kirk won over his opposition. Sometimes people surprise observers."

"I think Brown's election could be damaging to the Democratic party in the South, but I don't think the Democrats will get help from the South in the near future anyway. Brown may represent a pragmatic view of the Democrats' situation, and he may be able to articulate that," Keech said.

Brown has a lot of experience in Washington and is well tuned to political realism, Keech said, and he may appeal to a broad mass of voters.

"It may be a superficial inference to assume that it will be bad news for whites and the majority in the Democratic party," he said. "That

isn't necessarily so."

According to party insiders, four DNC members from North Carolina supported Brown even before his victory was predicted — former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt; Jeanette Council of Fayetteville; N.C. Sen. Russell Walker, D-Randolph; and Durham Mayor Wilbur "Wib" Gulley.

The other four DNC members from North Carolina have not publicly committed to any candidate.

"I think since the party is made up of such a diverse group of people, we couldn't have picked one that would satisfy everyone," Council said.

Gantt said he thinks Brown is obviously qualified for the job.

"He wants to involve everyone in the party," Gantt said. "The philosophical view of a chairman is not necessarily important — it's the candidates' views that shape the party's. A chairman just has to be a good organizer to pull people

together."

Rep. David Price, D-N.C., has endorsed Brown, while Sen. Terry Sanford has expressed concern about the prospective new chairman. The N.C. senator met with Brown in Atlanta two weeks ago, but a spokesman for Sanford said he does not have an "official reaction" to Brown's chairmanship.

Brown wants to lead the entire party, said Karin Walsler, a staff assistant for Friends of Ron Brown.

"He wants to build the party at the state and local levels to give local leaders better resources," Walsler said. "He also wants to work with the Census Bureau to help with redistricting and reapportionment. . . Mr. Brown has definite goals for the party."

The Democrats will be better positioned for the presidential election in 1992 if they band together, she said.

A former vice chairman of the party, Brown has held many top party posts. He served as the national

convention manager for Jackson last year. He has also worked for Kennedy as general counsel and staff director of the Senate Judiciary Committee. He was deputy campaign manager for Kennedy's unsuccessful bid for the 1980 presidential nomination.

After the 1988 Democratic Convention, he served as senior adviser to the Dukakis presidential campaign. Brown is now a Washington lobbyist.

Brown graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont, where he was the only black student in his freshman class. He became a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity when the members disobeyed the fraternity's charter and initiated him as the first black member. The national headquarters revoked the group's charter, but Middlebury responded by barring any fraternity with racial barriers.

Brown received his law degree from St. John's University in New York.

Superintendent proposes reassignment

By ELIZABETH SHERROD
Staff Writer

Some sixth- and ninth-grade students in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools may be shifted to different schools next year if the school board accepts a proposal presented by Superintendent Gerry House at its meeting last week.

The plan is designed to help alleviate overcrowding in elementary and junior high schools.

The proposal includes assigning rising sixth-graders from Frank Porter Graham Elementary School to Grey Culbreth Junior High School and assigning rising sixth graders from Elizabeth Seawell Elementary School and Estes Hills Elementary School to Guy B. Phillips Junior High School.

Some sixth-graders at Glenwood Elementary School also will go to Phillips Junior High School, and rising ninth-graders who would have attended Phillips Junior High School will be assigned to Chapel Hill Senior High School.

Students who live in the Colonial Heights and Iron Woods neighborhoods and are enrolled in Carrboro Elementary School will be reassigned to Estes Hills Elementary School, Carrboro Elementary School Principal Randy Marshall said.

Marshall said that last year rising sixth-graders were transferred to Grey Culbreth Junior High School.

"These changes are necessary due to an increasing number of elementary school children," Marshall said.

To help alleviate this problem, Carrboro Elementary School is beginning a \$1.3 million construction project that will include a library and gymnasium.

Beth Anslly, co-president of Carrboro Elementary School PTA, said House considered alternate approaches, such as mobile classrooms, double shifts and year-round schools, before making a formal proposal.

Recommendations from principals, teachers, staff and PTAs were reviewed before a final decision was made, she said.

Parents are not happy about the proposed reassigning of students, but no one was in favor of double shifts or year-round school, she said.

"I would hate to have my children

moved, but we are overcrowded," Anslly said. "If they are going to redistrict, there needs to be a permanent plan so that parents can see a positive end in sight."

School board chairman Theodore Parrish said that after hearing the recommendations, the school board might accept all of the changes, except transferring ninth-graders from Phillips Junior High School to Chapel Hill Senior High School. "Ninth-graders have never been moved before," Parrish said.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board will make a final decision concerning the proposal in a meeting scheduled for Feb. 23. Approved changes will be effective for the 1989-90 school year.

Conference reviews Cuban missile crisis

From Associated Press reports

MOSCOW — A Cuban official has disclosed that 270,000 Soviet and Cuban troops were ready to go to war with the United States during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis and that 100,000 casualties were expected, former U.S. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara said Sunday.

"A Soviet general confirmed for the first time that one-third of his country's nuclear warheads designed to strike the United States were in Cuba at the time. However, he and another Soviet official said the warheads had not been mounted on missile launchers and were not ready for firing.

The revelations came during a review of the Cuban missile crisis at a conference over the weekend at a trade union center in southwest Moscow.

Soviets and Americans have met before to discuss the Soviet deployment of nuclear missiles in Cuba and the U.S. response: a blockade of the island and a demand for the rockets' removal.

But this was the first joint meeting with Cuban officials who guided their country through the crisis. Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev eventually withdrew the missiles in exchange for President Kennedy's pledge not to invade Cuba.

At a news conference wrapping up the conference Sunday, McNamara said the figures on Cuba's war readiness and casualty estimate were provided by Jorge Risquet, a member of Cuba's ruling Politburo.

"They say they had armed 270,000 men. They were determined to fight

to the death of every man, and they believed there would be 100,000 Cuban and Soviet casualties," McNamara told reporters.

It was not clear whether the 100,000 casualty estimate included deaths and injuries and whether it referred to losses among soldiers and civilians.

Other American officials said privately the Cubans had said the casualty count could have reached 800,000. Cuba's population at the time was 8 million.

McNamara said that of the troops, 40,000 were Soviet, four times higher than U.S. intelligence estimates at the time.

Risquet cited the figures to show his country seriously believed that a U.S. invasion of his island was imminent. McNamara said no such invasion was ever contemplated, but speaking of the Cubans, he added: "If I had been in their shoes, I would have believed the same thing."

American officials have said they were never sure whether any Soviet nuclear warheads had actually reached Cuba but that they assumed they had.

Col. Gen. Dmitri A. Volkogonov, director of the Defense Ministry's Institute of Military History, said that at the time of the crisis, 20 Soviet nuclear warheads were in Cuba. Another 20 warheads were headed to the island aboard a Soviet ship that was caught in the U.S. naval blockade, he said.

Volkogonov said he got the figures from military archives.

He made the remarks in a closed session of the conference Saturday,

and they were reported to The Associated Press on Sunday by Raymond Garthoff, a State Department official at the time of the crisis.

Garthoff, now a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, said Volkogonov reported 20 nuclear missiles were on Soviet territory targeted at the United States.

Coates

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city, said Frederic Schroeder, dean of students. "He and his wife shared a long-standing love for government of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and particularly for the student government of the University," he said. "I think the book itself is such a rich history of the development of student government . . . it's the kind of legacy that will be an ongoing one in the future."

Student Body President Kevin Martin said Coates appreciated the value of student government, "but more importantly, he tried to show other people the value of student government."

Martin said that as far as he knows, Coates' book is the only one that has been written about a college student government. Coates understood the important tradition of UNC student government, Martin said.

The fact that Coates, who was so important to UNC and to North Carolina, was interested in writing about student government is an

honor, Martin said.

"He's really given student government a legacy to hand down," Martin said. "He was a friend to many people, but to students in particular."

His interest in student government started when he was an undergraduate member of the Philanthropic Society. "He perceived of student government as a real form of government worth studying and writing about," Sanders said.

Schroeder said the book is "just a first-rate history, guidebook, and I think he would use the word 'textbook.'"

Coates' legacy to student government also lives through the Albert and Gladys Coates Award, presented each year to an outstanding Student Congress member.

Coates is survived by his wife and a sister, Ethel Coates of Durham.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the Albert Coates Law Center Fund at the UNC-CH School of Law.



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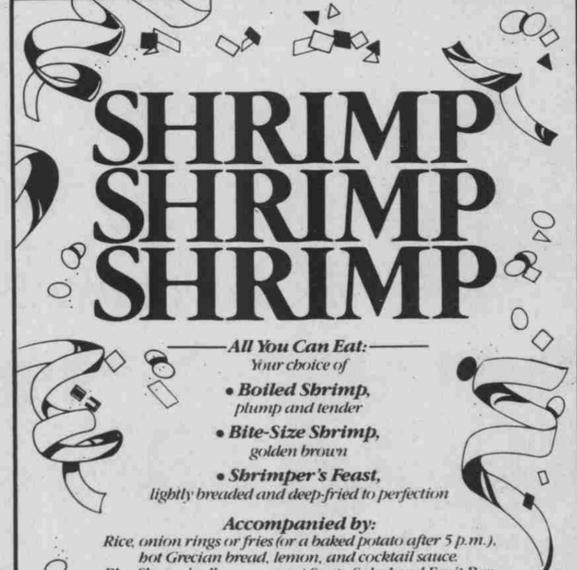
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SHONEY'S

Troops now selling Girl Scout cookies

By LYNN GOSWICK
Staff Writer

It's that time again.

From now until Feb. 4, those delicious Girl Scout cookies you've loved for years are on sale and available from Chapel Hill/Carrboro Girl Scout Troop 62.

For \$2 a box, students can buy any of seven varieties of cookies: Shortbread, Caramel deLites, Chocolate Creme Sandwich, Lemon Pastry Creams, Peanut Butter Patties, Thin Mint and Peanut Butter Sandwich.

Because of University policy, which prohibits door-to-door selling on campus, students who want to order cookies should call cookie chairwoman Karen Brusseau at 933-5752, said Ruth Burnette, field director for Orange County Girl Scouts.

After placing an order with Brusseau, students will be given information about where and when to pick up their cookies, she said. The approximate date for cookie delivery is Feb. 20.

Those who miss the deadline to order cookies will have a second chance to buy a box from March 1 to March 4 at University Mall.

Girls who participate in the cookie sale receive 25 cents for each box they sell. The scout troops use this money to buy supplies and to send scouts on trips to places such as the Juliette Low Center in Savannah, Ga., Burnette said.

Julie Gammill, campus coordinator for Carolina Campus Girl Scouts, said they will sell cookies Feb. 20-21 in the Pit. Campus scouts have ordered 50 extra cases to sell to students who do not order cookies in advance or who would like to pick up extra boxes.

Campus Girl Scouts also sell each box of cookies for \$2, and proceeds will go toward Campus Girl Scout programs.

Cookie sales are the financial foundation of Girl Scout activities, Gammill said.

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