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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

Eaddy, Taylor face runoff

BY BRANDON LARRABEE
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A runoff between presidential candidates Jotaka Eaddy and Katie Taylor has been scheduled for next week after both candidates failed to garner a majority of the vote in this week's Student Government elections.

Eaddy, a liberal arts junior, garnered 1,343 votes, just more than 80 votes short of the required 50.1 percent. Taylor, a liberal arts junior, won 590 votes in the elections, which were held Wednesday and Thursday.

Chemistry sophomore Mark Hartney came in third with 519 votes, followed by liberal arts junior Mike Scott with 353.

Within an hour, after election results were announced, though, the SG Elections Commission was investigating charges that someone had sent a mass e-mail on Taylor's behalf to students in the College of Engineering.

According to the Elections Commission, Russell Quattlebaum, whom commissioners said was Taylor's boyfriend, sent a mass e-mail advocating Taylor's election.

"Remember to vote the 16th and 17th for KATIE TAYLOR," the e-mail said. "The only candidate that campaigned in Engineering."

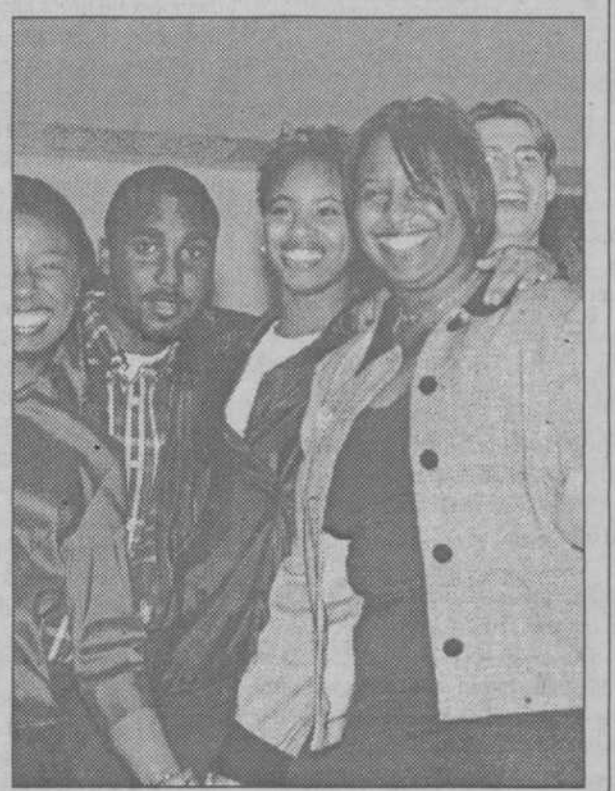
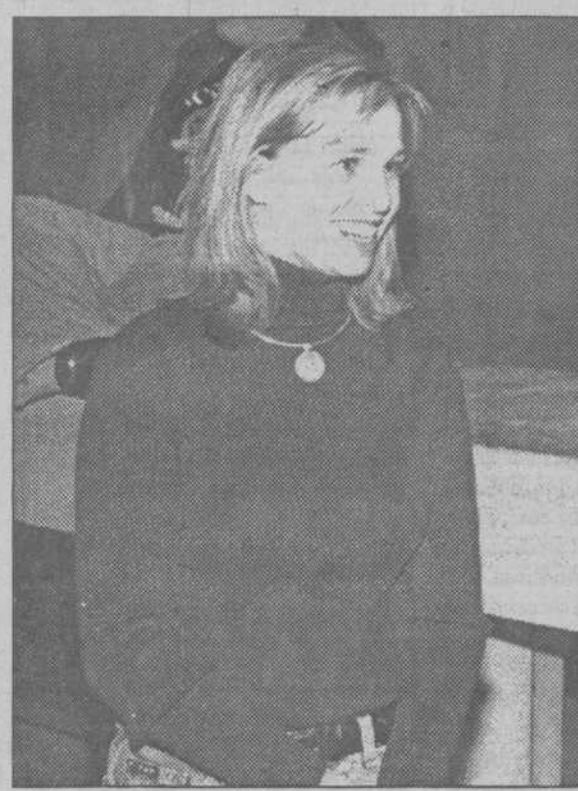
However, the e-mail disavows any connection to the Taylor campaign.

"I am not a member of her staff, and am only e-mailing this to inform you of the elections," the e-mail said. The e-mail went on to remind readers that the election was online, and gave the Web address of the page where students could vote.

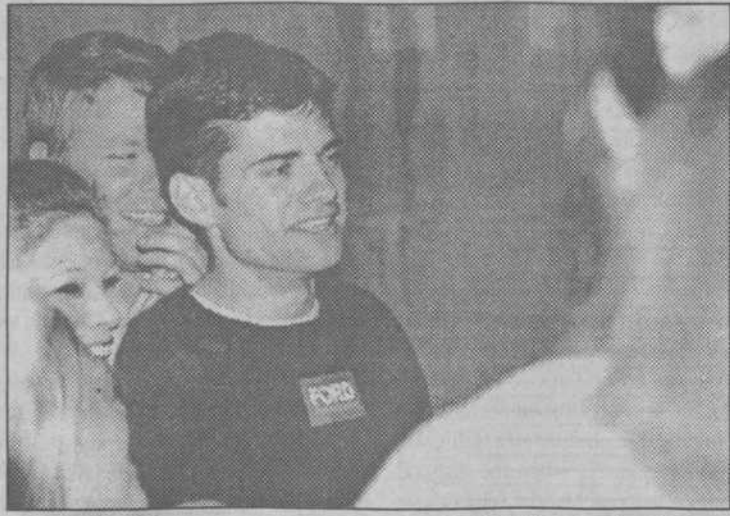
As of Thursday, the commission was considering possible actions on several charges related to the incident.

Taylor denied any wrongdoing connected with her staff.

"That was not anyone on my staff ...



Katie Taylor, left, and Jotaka Eaddy will hit the campaign trail next week for the Student Government runoff Wednesday and Thursday. Students can vote online for the runoff as they did for the regular election, from 9 a.m. Wednesday to 5 p.m. Thursday.



JACQUELYN POSTON THE GAMECOCK

Friends congratulate SG Vice President-elect Corey Ford after hearing of his victory shortly after 9:30 p.m. Thursday.

Ford elected vice president

BY PATRICK RATHBUN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Corey Ford, a liberal arts sophomore, won the nomination for the vice presidential position in Student Government, garnering 1,421 votes Thursday night.

After his victory was announced, Ford said he felt great.

"I feel awesome," he said. "This is an unbelievable feeling."

Ford then said the difference in his campaign lay in the "coalition of support that we had among the groups here on campus."

"We really wanted to get a whole bunch of student organizations behind us, and we had a good grassroots effort on election day," he said.

Ford said his biggest priority in office is to get students involved with SG.

"The way we [get students involved] is to keep going back to the student organizations, holding forums to get the students to come out and voice their concerns," he said. "Hopefully, we can spur that interest in them and we can increase student activism here on campus."

Vice presidential candidate and so-

cial work graduate student Elliot Smith, who received 564 votes, came in second in the race.

"The people have spoken," he said. "People couldn't have made a bad choice in this campaign."

Sophomore Dan Dixon, who finished third with 346 votes, said he thought that all the candidates did well in their campaigns.

"I think we went out and did great campaigns," he said. "Corey Ford came out on top. You win some, you lose some."

International studies sophomore Tom Winslow, who finished fourth in the race with 282 votes, expressed a similar view.

"The best man won," he said. "I respect Corey a lot."

Smith said he's hopeful that Ford will be successful in office.

"I'm hoping that he'll follow through with all his promises," Smith said. "If he's going to institute the things he proposed in his candidacy, then he'll do an excellent job as vice president."

Winslow also said he had high

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and I did not give anyone prior authority to do that," Taylor said.

"I do not in any way endorse that. I would take it back if I could, but I can't," she said.

She added that sending another e-mail to correct the problem would also be in violation of SG elections codes.

Commissioners were considering whether Taylor had foreknowledge of the event, or whether she knew about the e-mail before telling the commission.

Taylor already has two elections infractions. Since infractions aren't erased after the first election, three more

would lead to her being disqualified.

Candidates who won a chance to participate in the runoff said they were pleased.

"I'm just so emotional right now," Eaddy said, crying. "We fought a good fight."

Eaddy said she was encouraged by the increased voter turnout. More than 2,800 students voted in the presidential race, about 600 more than in last year's election.

"I'm just glad a lot more students voted," Eaddy said. "I think students looked at the issues and they voted according to the issues."

Taylor said she had mixed feelings. "I'm excited and nervous at the same time," she said.

Taylor also said she was pleased with the increased turnout.

"Obviously, with the increased number of votes, the turnout increased, so I think that's a great thing," she said.

Both candidates said they would campaign harder in the next week.

"Basically, I'm just going to go out and campaign harder," Taylor said. "A lot of people didn't know about the voting."

RUNOFF SEE PAGE 2

Shah wins treasurer

BY KENLEY YOUNG
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Chemical engineering sophomore Ricky Shah was elected Student Government treasurer Thursday night by a margin of 635 votes.

Shah received 1,592 votes; his opponent, business junior Tony Holcak, garnered 957 votes.

Shah ran on a platform stressing university safety and promoting campus diversity. Shah also said he wants to "create a budget that caters to the needs and wants of the entire university," including a revamped e-mail system.

"I'm looking forward to a new year," Shah said. "This is kind of a shock right now."

Shah attributed his victory to hard work and personal campaigning.

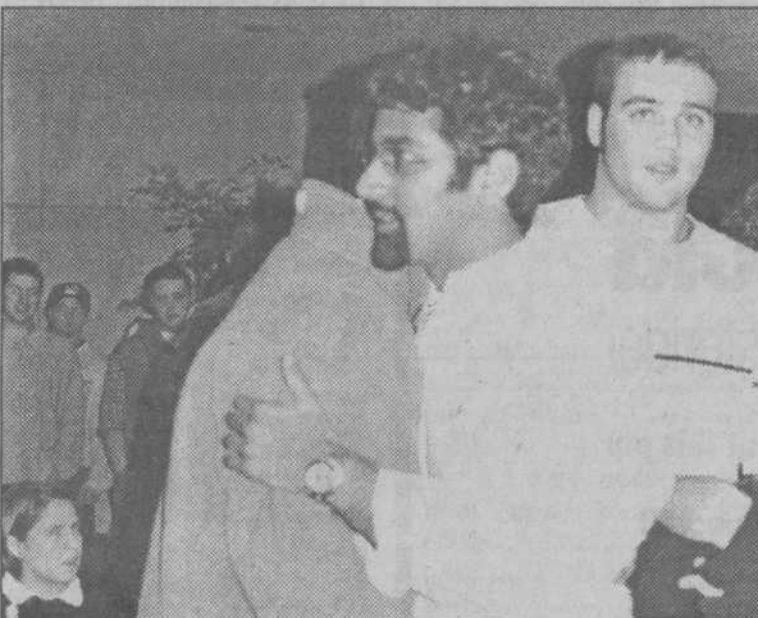
"I think the last two days made a difference because I did a lot of campaigning," he said. "I was on the street five to six hours a day talking to people, and I think that made a difference."

Shah said he wants to get settled in by building on what current SG Treasurer Elizabeth Fordham has accomplished.

"I think she did a good job in terms of her day-to-day activities," Shah said. "Plus, she has the experience of a year in office."

Fordham said that if Shah is to be successful, he must function well with the rest of the SG.

"I don't think that experience is necessary for this job, although I don't think



AMY GOULDING PHOTO EDITOR

Ricky Shah, center, hugs opponent Tony Holcak on Thursday night after Shah was announced as the new SG treasurer.

it can hurt you," she said. "I hope he [Shah] and I can work well together so he can perform well in office."

Some of the keys to performing well, Fordham said, include cooperation, leadership and a healthy work ethic.

"I think he [Shah] needs to be able to work well with the finance committee, as well as be a leader in the office and really make himself known within Student Government," Fordham said.

According to Shah, his priorities as treasurer are "to make Student Government more accessible, increase student involvement and make the budgeting

process as fair and efficient as possible for all constituents."

Shah said he was pleased with the way elections were handled this year.

"With online voting this year, students could just roll out of bed and vote if they wanted to," he said. "And I think, overall, [the campaign process] was a big success."

He also said he's open to any advice his opponent can offer.

"Tony [Holcak] did a great job," Shah said. "We were both great candidates. I

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Maurice's no longer partner of USC

BY PATRICK RATHBUN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

USC has confirmed a recent decision to discontinue its business relationship with Maurice's restaurants.

The decision was made by Host Communications, which handles USC sporting events' marketing, advertising and radio and television rights.

Although several news agencies have reported that the decision was based on political issues, USC officials involved with the decision have said this is inaccurate.

USC's Director of Public Affairs Russ McKinney said the decision was based solely on business issues.

"Because [Maurice's owner] Mr. Bessinger has been so vocal in his support of the Confederate flag, and he's been critical of [USC's] president and the university for their position, we have received complaints because of associations with him," McKinney said. "The decision by Host [Communications] was based directly

MAURICE'S SEE PAGE 2

SENATE WINNERS

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Rebecca Ann Payne	189
Becky Floyd	179
Lauren Vaughn	176
Chris Odom	175
Kristen Heatherly	164
Jennifer Poon	151

APPLIED PROFESSIONS

Leigh Edmonds	98
Jeb Bush	88
Rick Comisky	83

LIBERAL ARTS

Brian Hunter	296
Charaka C. Cook	273
Faiyaz Dossaji	265
Austin Brown	259
Chrissy Stauffer	249
Sara Mareno	237
Jessica CM Lentini	229
Nathan A. Brown	212

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Tiffany Elser	302
Hydrick Harden	279
Jessica Murphy	274
Justin R. Brown	270
Danny Cooper	270
Tranaka Oglesby	254
Shereef El-Ibiary	251

Source: Elections Commission

ENGINEERING

Kimberly Gilchrist	136
Katie Lengel	130
C. Tyson Nettles	128

JOURNALISM/CLIS

Melissa Fletcher	135
Elise Tyndall	97
Brook Bristow	89

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Allison Whitworth	63
Brian D. Phillips	58

SCHOOL OF LAW

Michael Kozlerek	30
Kenny Hanson	28

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Rob Beatty	28
James R. Shennan	23

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Genesis Reed	10
Jacqueline Snoddy	7

PHARMACY

Kevin E. Cogsdill	59
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Doug Wilson	39
Adam Musgrave	21

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INSIDE



Gamecocks end 9-game losing streak

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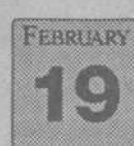
DATEBOOK

FRIDAY



• Baseball, Delaware State, 3 p.m. (home)

SATURDAY



• Round Table Gaming Society, noon to 11:45 p.m., RH

ONLINE POLL RESULTS



Is USC funneling too much money into the Master Plan?

Look for the poll results in the Feb. 28 edition of *The Gamecock*.