Ballot Box Theft Stalls UA, Class Elections

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Two men tried to take the ballot box. UA Floor Leader Hans C. Godfrey '93 grabbed the box from them. According to Godfrey, they used force in their attempt to take the ballot box.

Natalie Parasharuma '95, one of two campus police working at the polling booth at 5 p.m., said, "Two of us were working there when four or five guys came over."

"Three of them blocked us in the booth. Two of the guys started running with it, and took it toward Building 1," Parasharuma said.

A crowd of people followed the ballot box toward Building 1, but did not catch the thieves. Campus Police found the box about one hour later at Belux. The box was unopened, and empty.

"Right after this happened, people went kind of haywire," Parasharuma said. "A lot of people were working at Walker came over and told me the same thing had happened."

Called UA, Campus Police

Parasharuma called Chitaley at the UA Office of Student Affairs earlier after the theft occurred. "We were supposed to report if anything went wrong. They were pretty shocked," she said.

Although Chitaley claimed that Campus Police were able to identify four of the eyewitnesses to the theft, Parasharuma said they had not asked the police for the names. "I don't think they've been contacted, but I think they know who the people look like," Chitaley said.

Chitaley stressed that the two students working in Lobby 7 did all they could to prevent the theft. "They acted in the best way they could to prevent the theft. They acted in the best way they could to prevent the theft," Parasharuma added.

"A couple hours later, I started getting phone calls from people that I was identified at the scene.... I spoke with [Associate] Dean [for Residence and Campus Activities James R.] Tewhey today. He told me that first of all, the Committee on Discipline would most probably do no more than levy sanctions against the people who were directly responsible for taking the box," Parasharuma added that while he does not condemn what the group did, "I can't say that I can have that reason to go and actually do myself."

"It just seems that this whole experience has taught me that reason the people involved took the box is because the UA is so focused on its own sense of power and authority that it can't sit in touch with the students," Chitaley said.

Discipline is possible

Arthur C. Smith, dean for undergraduate education and student discipline, is uniformly receptive to the idea of residence-based advising. "I'm not sure the climate in living groups, is uniformly receptive," Smith added. "I'm not sure the climate in living groups, is uniformly receptive to the idea of residence-based advising," he said.

Students currently involved with residence-based advising admitted there could be some difficulties. "I think there could be problems, but if there is leadership in the house willing to present what they can do, to give it a chance, I think it will work," said Kathy E. Howe '93, an associate advisor in Next House. Howe said she thought convincing faculty to participate would not be a problem. "It's definitely a better situation for faculty.... I think they'd welcome the change.... it's a situation where all your advisees are in the same dorm," she said.

Institute Announces New Freshman Advising Plan

Advising, from Page 1

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The Tech News Hotline 263-1561

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There were no new developments in the investigation of the ballot box theft. "They did not catch the thieves. Campus Police found the box about one hour later at Belux. The box was unopened, and empty."

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