

Immediate Release

UMD News Service
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Duluth-- Minnesota Senator Eugene McCarthy was the first choice for president among UMD students when they took part in the recent National Collegiate Presidential Primary.

UMD was among 1,470 colleges taking part in the survey sponsored by the Univac Division of Sperry Rand Corp. and Time Magazine. The UMD Student Association sponsored the UMD survey.

In the survey, students were asked to list their first, second and third choices for president from a field of 14 candidates. They were also queried on preferences for handling military action in Vietnam, bombing of North Vietnam and the urban crisis.

At UMD Sen. McCarthy received 31.82 % of the first place votes, followed by former Vice President Richard Nixon with 17.23 % and New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller with 13.83 %. A total of 1056 first-place votes were cast by UMD students.

The survey was taken during student elections April 8-10, before President Johnson withdrew from the presidential campaign, and before Vice President Humphrey threw his hat into the presidential primary contest.

Nationally, McCarthy also received the largest number of first choice votes, closely followed by New York Senator Robert Kennedy, Nixon and Rockefeller.

At UMD, McCarthy also received the largest number of second choice votes, with Rockefeller receiving the second largest number.

On the course of military action in Vietnam, 44.63% of the UMD students voting preferred phased reduction of military activity. In declining preference the other choices were "all out" effort (24.39 %), immediate withdrawal (11.11 %), maintaining current level (9.94 %) and increasing the level of activity (9.94 %).

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The UMD preference in regard to U.S. bombing of North Vietnam was suspension of bombing, 39.13 %; intensify bombing, 26.15 %; cessation of bombing, 20.81 %; maintain the current level, 9.30 % and use of nuclear weapons, 4.60 %.

On the topic of the urban crisis, 40.79 % of the UMD students thought education should receive the highest priority in government spending; 36.55 % believed it should be job training; 13.27 % believed riot control, 8.66 % chose housing and .72 % voted for increased subsidies.