

SBP Candidates square off on cultural center

by Shirley Hunter

Once again, it is time for Student Body Presidential elections. The race is underway, campaign promises have been made and the politicking has begun. This year, there are six candidates.

Jimmy Greene, a junior political science major from Lenoir, said he wanted more student input in administrative decisions. A bi-weekly public forum allowing students to air their complaints, is a major idea in his platform. He said he would not stop with the forums.

"I would make sure the ideas go to the right people," he said. Greene also considered a minority cultural center as a major issue for the next school year. He said the center should be located downstairs in the Frank Porter Graham Student Union for more space allowance.

"Having a minority cultural center, instead of just a black cultural center will educate the campus on all cultures, he said.

On the South African issue, Greene said he supported divestment, but not total divestment. He said some businesses, such as hospitals and schools would actually be hurt by divestment. These businesses are trying to help in South Africa, according to him. He did not support any businesses that held apartheid or racist ideals.

Greene also supported a revival of Chapel Thrill and better security measures on campus. He supported better campus lighting, and a revamp of the Campus Watch program.

Greene has worked in the Campus Governing Council for two years. He worked on the Rules and Judiciary Committee and the Ethics Committee. He is, at the present, acting speaker of the CGC following the resignation of Wyatt Closs.

Bryan Hassel, a sophomore history major from Nashville, Tenn., also wants students to be involved with the administration. He advocated setting up a special committee to handle students' problems. "A lot of the problems on campus are just small things," he said. "If you have one group designated to help, a lot of these problems can be solved."

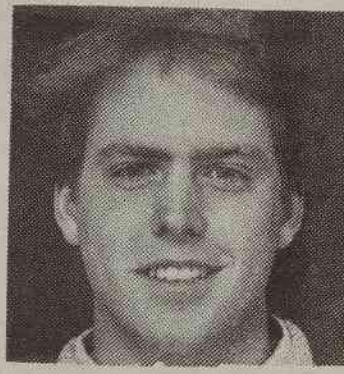
"It (the committee) would be a task force designed to go out to the students." Hassel is in favor of a minority cultural center. "I would have liked to have seen a black cultural center," he said, "but, now, blacks should take a leadership role." "The cultural center could include other minorities."

Hassel supported divestment in South Africa and the UNITAS project, which would integrate floors of a campus dorm. He said most of the people who will sign up for the UNITAS project are already well-



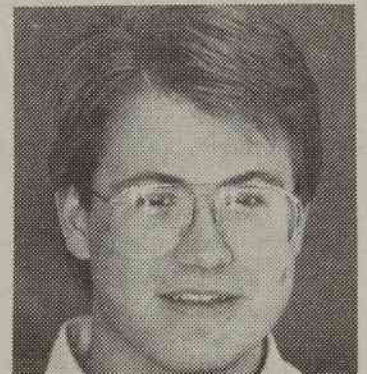
Jimmy Greene, SBP Candidate

photo by Tami Foust



Bryan Hassell, SBP Candidate

photo by Tami Foust



Ryke Longest, SBP Candidate

photo by Tami Foust



Jack Zemp, SBP Candidate

photo by Tami Foust



Billy Warden, SBP Candidate

photo by Tami Foust



David Brady, SRP Candidate

photo by Tami Foust

adjusted, but there are still some things that they could learn about each other.

The meal plan is also a major concern for Hassel. "There's something missing between food services and students, when food service is losing money," he said.

"The main thing is not the specific issues," he continued. "I'm saying we need a new framework of student government—student empowerment. I'm saying we need to change the whole way Suite C is run."

Hassel has mainly worked outside of student government. The main part of his experience lies in his involvement with the George Gamble-Campus Y issues last semester. He was a member of a group that rallied against raising the drinking age.

Ryke Longest, a junior English major from Raleigh, wants to get UNC alumni in the decision making process. "Parents and alumni have a lot more power than they think," he said. He wants to get the alumni involved in the parking problem, among other things. If the administration will not listen to the students, maybe it will listen to the alumni, he said. In addition to getting alumni involved, Longest proposed getting students involved, also. He said the problem of the administration ignoring the wishes of students can be best exemplified by the firing of George Gamble last semester.

He pointed to the meal plan as another prime example of the administration going against the students. "I want to let the trustees see what it's like to go to ARA," he said. "I want to try to make the trustees aware that there is a problem."

Longest also supported a minority cultural center. "There's a poor social atmosphere here for black

faculty members and students," he said.

He proposed that a tabloid written by the Black Ink staff writers be sent out to guidance officers in high schools to help recruit minorities. "I try to think of new ideas, but realistic ideas. I try not to make promises I cannot keep," he said.

Longest has worked as Student Body treasurer. He worked on the University Relations Committee and the Food Services Advisory Committee. He was executive assistant to current Student Body President, Patricia Wallace, but has since resigned this position.

Jack Zemp, a junior history major from Camden, S.C., said student government has become sluggish. It's time a new, but experienced face comes and sees how the situation can be improved." Zemp wants to put control of ARA back into the hands of the University. He even suggests that the students run their own services pointing to similar programs at other schools where such programs have been successful. "There's no reason why we should stay with a declining food service," he said. He also wants to revitalize the Campus Watch programs. Official signs warning people of the program could be used to deter criminals, he said. It would be similar to the community watch programs in neighborhoods.

A minority cultural center is also a main issue for Zemp. He said such a center catering to all minorities would make UNC-CH more secular, educate people about different cultures and help minority recruitment. Answering the question of why the center should not just cater to blacks, Zemp said, "I'm not trying to put water on anyone's fire, but trying to make other fires burn brighter."

Zemp advocates a campus-wide

freeze on the legal drinking age, whereby students under the age of 21 could drink on campus. He also wants to re-institute Chapel Thrill. His experience includes being the current governor of Hinton James, a member of the Residence Hall Association governor's board, a member of a campus alcohol committee, and the Area Coordinator for the Hinton James orientation.

David Brady, a sophomore political science and history major from Rocky Mount, has also declared candidacy. He could not be reached for an interview, but has put forth a platform. Among the issues mentioned in a recent *Daily Tar Heel* article, was the institution of a "Beat the Meal Plan Co-op." Under such a plan, students who did not want to spend the whole \$100 on a meal plan would be matched up with students who wanted to spend more than that. Under the system, students could sell their meal plans as soon as they were purchased. Brady also says he wants to study parking problems, and that he wants to set up a policy whereby professors would be asked to use the same textbook for at least two years. This last action would make more used books available.

Brady has been involved in the Campus Y, been a district representative in the Campus Governing Council and has worked on the CGC budget process.

Another candidate, Wade Lewis, a sophomore speech communications major from St. Pauls, N.C., has been put in the forefront of the news. It was rumored that he overspent his campaign budget of \$420, mostly because of his posters. He was forced to withdraw from the race.

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