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# The Daily Tar Heel

87th year of editorial freedom

## letters to the editor

### CGC action condemned as undemocratic

To the editor:  
On Feb. 5 a referendum guaranteeing that 15 percent of graduate student activity fees would be administered by the Graduate and Professional Student Federation passed by the necessary two-thirds majority. I was quite astonished to read that the Campus Governing Council approved a counter-referendum Tuesday night which would delete the new amendment "CGC action could cancel effect of grad referendum," (DTH, Feb. 6). However well-intentioned CGC officials may have been, such a measure does not seem compatible with democratic principles.

The explanation offered by the CGC that more polling places were allocated to graduate students than to off-campus undergraduates does not strike me as a serious problem, especially since Election Board Chairman Scott Simpson has said he considered the election to be fair. If the CGC wishes to do something constructive about the election process, I suggest they revise the bylaw which necessitated keeping the polls closed till 11 Tuesday morning. There are students who have jobs following morning classes, and therefore have no opportunity to vote.

I urge the CGC to reflect on its ill-considered decision. Even if the CGC has a legal right to submit its proposal to a simple majority vote when the original referendum required the approval of two-thirds of the voters, such an action certainly isn't morally justified. In the event that the CGC's proposal is submitted to a vote, I think all students should follow J.B. Kelly's example. He voted against last night's proposal in spite of personal opposition to the 15 percent amendment. You're not voting on a budget amendment anymore, but on a matter of conscience.

Richard Nunan  
Department of philosophy

To the editor:  
So much for the democratic process. Now that the voters have passed the graduate referendum, the Campus Governing Council, in its wisdom, has decided that we really didn't vote as we were supposed to. As a result, they will do our thinking for us and reverse the outcome. I assume that we will keep doing it until we get it right.

If these elected officials have so little regard for the process of democracy, perhaps the University administration should consider doing away with the whole concept of student self-government.

It sounds as though Kathy Lamb is a graduate of the Richard Nixon school of participatory government. If the mob fails to do as we think they should, we have the obligation to show them the way.

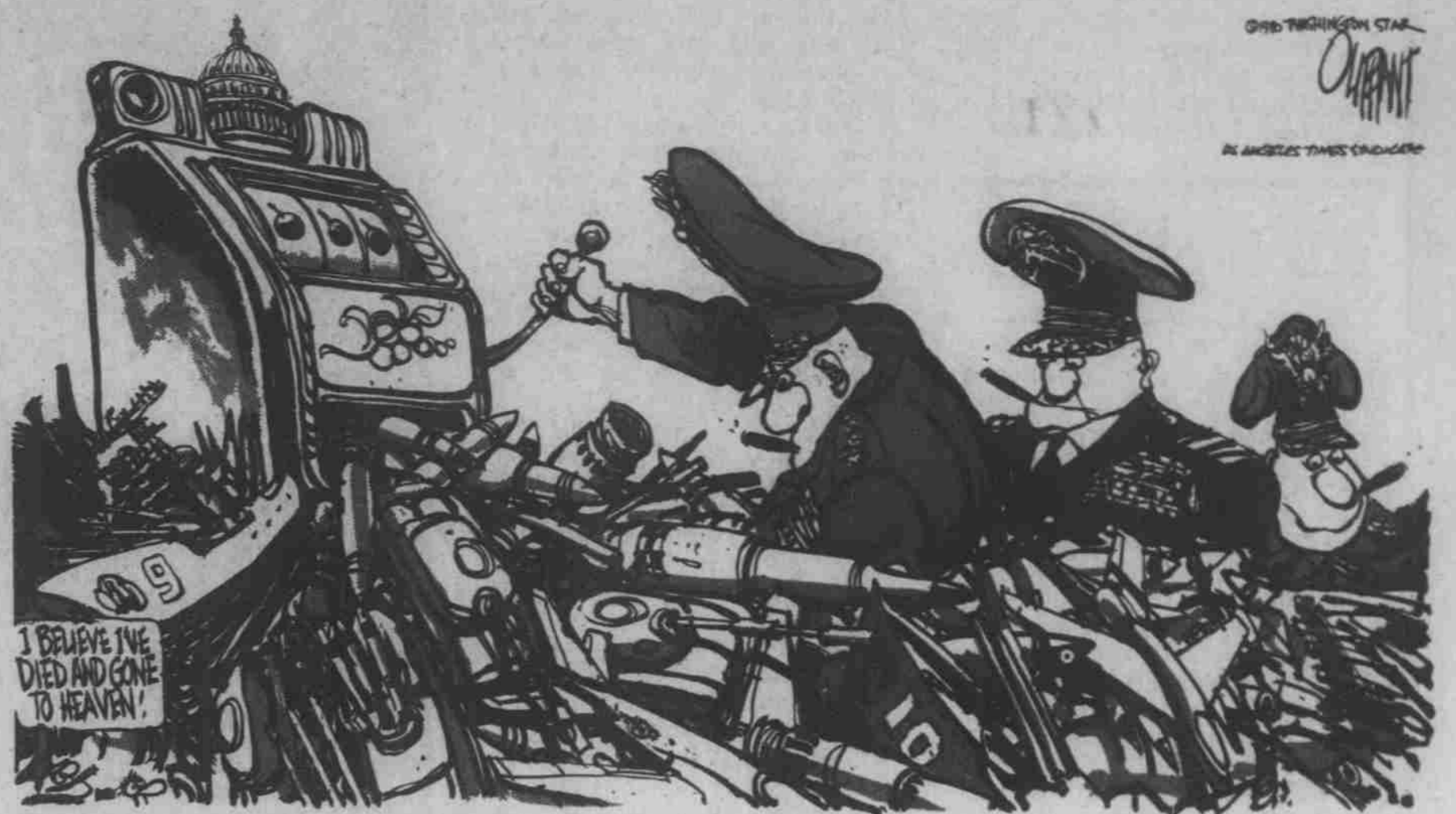
Student Body President J.B. Kelly is to be commended for his vote against this scurrilous move. I hope he has the courage to veto what amounts to little more than official ballot-box stuffing.

Paul D. Naylor  
Durham

To the editor:  
The political maneuvering of the Campus Governing Council in regard to the Graduate and Professional Student Federation referendum is fascinating, to say the least.

Once the results of the 1976 election were known, wouldn't it have been wonderful if President Gerald Ford had overruled the electoral process and then challenged Jimmy Carter to a best two-out-of-three runoff? Better yet, best three-out-of-five. Ah, yes, the wonders of a democracy never cease to amaze me.

Robert Reddersen  
Department of radio, television and motion pictures



## For president, Saunders

It might be that the snow has covered what we believe to be the most important concern in the campaign for student body president this year, or perhaps the three candidates all have chosen to talk of somewhat smaller issues and thus have approached the larger picture only obliquely. Regardless, Kevin Garrity, Bob Saunders and Clive Stafford Smith all are good candidates capable of directing the complex organization that operates out of Suite C. But one candidate, Bob Saunders, emerges as best qualified to deal with the urgent concern that none of them has said enough about: The fact that this election coincides with other events in such a way that 1980 provides a unique opportunity to begin a renewed era of student responsibility at the University.

The selection of a new chancellor and athletic director means a chance for Student Government to acquire a previously unheard-of rapport with many aspects of the administration. The J.B. Kelly presidency, which has removed some of the tarnish that had accumulated on the credibility of Student Government, provides a solid foundation that, of the three candidates, Saunders is best equipped to build upon.

Saunders has demonstrated consistently that he has the ability to take advantage of the opportunities open to the next student body president. He has run on his record of leadership both in and out of Student Government—a record much more extensive than those of either of his opponents. But even more convincing is the pragmatic, effective manner in which Saunders has conducted the business of the organizations he has led.

Saunders has served as Student Government coordinator for the 16 chancellor's committees, which are composed of students and faculty and report to the chancellor on specific issues. Both Saunders and his opponents, as well as many Student Government staff members have praised the work of these groups and deemed their development an important catalyst behind the recent increased communications between South Building and students. Saunders' role in coordinating the committees is strong evidence of his claim to a practical kind of experience. His leadership background also includes service as Student Government Elections Board chairman and campus affairs coordinator, as well as chairman of radio station WXYC's board of directors, lieutenant governor of the North Carolina Student Legislature and as a member of the Food Service Advisory Committee.

The issues of this campaign are complex. All three candidates are knowledgeable on the Long report, which recommends a University office for minority affairs; the Thornton report, which recommends curriculum changes in the General College; proposed student health fee increases; and the food service problem. But on many of these and other issues, anyone who has inquired recently to Student Government for information probably has been referred to Bob Saunders. His superior knowledge of the issues, as well as his experience in dealing with the sometimes intricate mechanisms of Student Government and the University, gives him the edge over his opponents in the process of learning how to be student body president.

Garrity also possesses a great deal of knowledge and experience both in and out of Student Government, most notably as university services coordinator and as a member of the Student Health Service Administrative Board. But Garrity's ideas on operating Student Government are more vague than those of Saunders, and his knowledge and experience less deep.

Stafford Smith brings to the race for student body president refreshing idealism and genuine originality. His membership and involvement in a spectrum of groups ranging from the Bridge Club to the Black Student Movement give him a broad perspective of student needs and concerns. But the short one-year term of the office requires a president with more leadership experience than Stafford Smith has demonstrated.

Both Stafford Smith and Garrity have much to contribute to Student Government. But Saunders' proven sure-footed leadership gives him an essential quality that Student Government now needs.

## Leadership, motivation vital issues

By KEVIN GARRITY

The student body president is the elected representative of the entire student body. Constitutionally, it is the president's responsibility to represent students' interests, desires and ideas to the faculty, administration, other schools, the University Board of Trustees and the UNC Board of Governors. My own perception of the office includes the maintenance of a high-quality, motivated staff to ensure that while I may be involved in a single issue, all areas of student concern will be addressed.

The next student body president will have a rare opportunity to direct student input into new areas of policy making. Four areas of immediate concern are: implementing the recommendations of the Long report dealing with minority and disadvantaged students; ensuring a student voice in curriculum changes; controlling the increase in Student Health Service fees; and providing an improved food service for students.

More specifically, I would like to see a voting student member on the Educational Policy Committee, an office of minority affairs, greater student input on town boards (the Planning Board, for example), the chancellor's committees and a more secure campus by the funding of an escort service and the addition of more lights on campus.

One recurring complaint against Student Government is that the student body simply doesn't know what Student Government is doing. Students should be



Kevin Garrity

given the opportunity to react to Student Government policies and plans so that Student Government more closely can reflect student desires. If elected, I intend to meet regularly with dorm senates and area executive councils throughout the year in a continuing campaign. There should be no distance between Suite C and the student body at large.

Student Government has expanded to include more than 100 students working in Suite C. An effective and interested staff requires the motivation of a strong and dynamic leader. For this reason, leadership is also an important issue in this campaign. From the experience I've gained in both the Student Consumer Action Union and Student Government, I'm confident in my ability to lead, motivate and effectively work with other students and administrators. This, added to the things I'd like to see accomplished during my administration, makes me think that I'm the best candidate for the job.

Kevin Garrity, a junior history major from Deal, N.J., is a candidate for student body president in student body elections next week.

## Experience and vision necessary

By BOB SAUNDERS

Student elections often are burdened with shopworn clichés like the classic, "Let's put the student back into Student Government." If the candidate fails to understand the concepts behind the clever phrases, only the clichés remain.

Most candidates feel obligated to say, "I have the most experience." My work with administrators, the University Board of Trustees and numerous chancellor's committees has provided me with practical experience. This group composes the same audience which faces the student body president.

Many candidates talk about their abilities to motivate and inspire. As a freshman, I organized the campus elections as Elections Board chairman. I continued in Student Government my sophomore year as campus-affairs coordinator.

This year, I worked in J.B. Kelly's administration as the coordinator of 60 student members on the 16 chancellor's committees, including food service, student health, Student Stores and the status of minorities and disadvantaged. My experience has not been limited to inside Suite C; I currently am serving as the lieutenant governor of the N.C. Student Legislature and as chairperson of the board of directors of WXYC.

In the academic area, the Thornton report recommends a more restrictive General College curriculum by increasing the number of required courses. Instead

## 'DTH' ignorant on 'Down Home'

To the editor:

When dealing with any affair that relates to blacks, *The Daily Tar Heel* seldom fails to show its asininity. While it could not give prominence to its so-called "preview article," "Black history portrayed," (DTH, Feb. 1), on *Down Home* (Editor David Stacks said the article was prominently placed), it could give prominence to its "review" of last Saturday's production ("Singing redeems 'Home,'" Feb. 4).

Before there is any misunderstanding, let me say that my students and I are able to accept intelligent criticism. We were and are fully aware of any merits and weaknesses of *Down Home*.

Evidently, Bob Royalty and Arts Editor Laura Elliott think it is not necessary to have any knowledge of what he is to review before he reviews it. Elliott says that she does not seek news but waits for it to be sent to her. Question: Why, then, did she send Royalty to review *Down Home*? Elliott also says that she cannot read minds—but a mere reading of the program should have kept Royalty from writing that *Down Home* is "a show written by Professor Lee Greene."

*Down Home* is a production which my students and I wrote. It is an extracurricular activity which grows out of English 84, Black American Literature, and is designed to portray the historical context in which various black American art forms have their genesis. Participation in the productions we do is open to any student. There are no auditions and thus no competition for parts. The primary purposes for Productions 84 are to give students in the course a better understanding of the backgrounds to the literature and to provide an outlet (which does not exist at UNC) for these students to express and nurture whatever interests and talents they may have in the arts. It is not our intent to produce a slick, so-called Broadway play, though we maintain professionalism throughout our

activities.

In his review, Royalty accurately points out that in the main the technical aspects of the production were terrible. Credit for this goes to the Carolina Union, whose technicians were unable to follow both written and verbal directions. The Carolina Union does not allow our own technicians to handle these aspects of our productions.

Royalty's other comments about *Down Home* do more to reveal his ignorance of the black American and the production itself than to evaluate any of the production's merits or demerits.

It is obvious from his review that Royalty has no accurate knowledge about the Middle Passage or the Great Black Migration; it is obvious that he does not understand (yet is a victim of) the X-paradigm. Apparently, he knows nothing about black American slave songs and their double-entendre quality and is unaware that the world considers these songs this country's only original contribution to world art forms. In essence, he knows absolutely nothing about the black Americans and especially black American arts.

Royalty's review, then, is written out of unadulterated ignorance or pure malice—or both. I do not write this letter because I take seriously any judgment Royalty makes about *Down Home*. I have read enough *DTH* reviews to have better sense than to do that. Royalty states that in essence *Down Home* was "a ridiculous treatment of a serious theme." For those of you who did not see the production and who have any sense of objectivity, I ask only one question to put the review and the reviewer in the proper perspective: Why would 800 black people (and others in the audience) give a standing ovation to 65 students if indeed those students had just spent two hours rendering "a ridiculous treatment of a serious theme," about black American history through the arts?

To Royalty, I say: "Walk Him Up!" If ever he is able to understand what this

means, then he will be almost qualified to comment on the black Americana.

Lee Green  
Associate professor of English

To the editor:

In Bob Royalty's review "Singing redeems 'Home,'" (DTH, Feb. 4), he describes *Down Home* as dubious, ridiculous, inadequate and nebulous. We would like to use the same adjectives to describe Royalty's review of the production.

First of all, where was the plot denied? How were the dramatic monologues "inadequate"? Why was the North-South argument too long? How did it detract from the excellence of the production? How did slaves appear dressed like ghosts or klansmen?

Obviously, Royalty was not prepared for what he had the opportunity to experience. Anyone with any knowledge of black American history who witnessed *Down Home* has to admit that it did portray that history. For example, Royalty described one portion of the production as a "ridiculous treatment of a serious theme." Well, maybe it was ridiculous, to that portion of the audience who laughed—or to Royalty. But to those who sympathized or understood, it must have been just the opposite: a serious treatment of a serious theme.

Royalty also claims that "the dramatic continuity of the play was dubious at best," and that some sort of plot was hinted at only to be denied. Had Royalty been a more astute listener and observer, perhaps he would more readily have recognized that the songs he claimed "popped up out of nowhere" actually contributed to the continuity that he failed to grasp.

Orlando Dobbin  
832 James

Stan Reid  
539 James

## Perspective and unity needed

By C. STAFFORD SMITH

I am running for student body president because there are several issues concerning all of us that must be resolved. I believe that I have the ideas—workable ideas—that will enable us to do just that this year.

We need a new food service. National companies have indicated their willingness to compete on campus, and recourse to student opinion through a referendum will force the issue. Servomation's contract includes a 60-day termination clause.

We need to eliminate the division between the north and south parts of campus. Among the suggestions that I have put forward to help alleviate this is a free campus-belt bus service, which would be similar to the service at Duke.

Our education must be made more personal. My proposals include classes in the dorms, like those taught currently in Henderson and Scott residence colleges, a reduced student/faculty ratio in advising and diverse one-hour interest classes. Also, the Thornton curriculum report must be brought to a referendum so that we can avoid the adoption of this unnecessarily arbitrary proposal.

My policies for 1980 are designed to help to unify the entire campus—north and south, black and white, Greek and non-Greek. These proposals call for such measures as classes in the South Campus dorms, Student Government action to ensure the fulfillment of the Long report and Greek participation in sponsoring extracurricular activities.



Bob Saunders

of this approach, we need to strengthen the advising system and preserve the freedom of choice for students.

In the area of the food service, the University is studying operations at other universities. One provision being considered, a mandatory meal plan for freshmen, is an option with which I totally disagree.

In order to increase the advisory capacity of the University, we need to construct new administrative structures in order to enhance the minority presence. From my work with the committee on the status of minorities and the disadvantaged, I am convinced of the need for an office of supportive services in order to ensure the firm implementation of the Long report.

The role of the student body president is to provide a collective voice for students in the decision-making processes of the University. We need someone who can combine the necessary vision with practical experience. Consider the issues. Consider the experience. Vote.

Bob Saunders, a junior economics major from High Point, is a candidate for student body president in student body elections next week.



Clive A. Stafford Smith

My experience with the Educational Policy Committee has given me a firm grasp of the way to run Student Government, so I shall be able to perpetuate the gains made by the present administration. Beyond that, the diversity of my involvement on campus is a great asset. Having been active with the attorney general's staff, *The Daily Tar Heel*, the Black Student Movement and the Campus Y, I hope I have the necessary overall perspective that I would not have acquired had I limited myself simply to government-related committees.

As president I will do my very best to give an energetic, purposeful lead. However, (please excuse an overworked metaphor from my rowing days with the Crew Club) if we are to accomplish anything, we must pull together. The true power of the presidency lies in the mobilization of everyone who is interested in the firm stands that we will take in the upcoming year.

Clive A. Stafford Smith, a junior political science and American studies major from Cambridge, England, is a candidate for student body president in student body elections next week.