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The Daily Tar Heel

89th year of editorial freedom

Fee finagle

For the past three years, students have been required to pay fee increases to cover the rising operational costs of the Student Health Service. The SHS Administrative Advisory Board's unanimous approval of an \$8 increase Tuesday, bringing the fee to \$142, raises serious questions on the uses of the SHS.

By basing their information on University-controlled studies, an adequate and objective evaluation of students' needs and the possibility for alternate sources of revenue were once again postponed.

Last year, a \$4 per year increase was approved, following increases of \$20 and \$35 the two previous years. In the presentation of the 1983 budget, SHS director Judith Cowan projected a deficit of more than \$300,000 if a fee increase were not approved. Because an \$8 per year increase would generate about one-half of what was needed, Cowan correctly proposed the expenditure of more than \$159,000 from a surplus which has stood untouched for several years.

Clearly money is needed. Yet, before assigning the burden to the students, administrators must conduct a thorough evaluation of what students want in a health service. An effort to assess this need was completed this summer when the Office of Student Affairs surveyed one-sixth of the student body on student health care now provided.

But in dealing with a service that operates with a \$3 million budget, a more comprehensive study is needed. Students must be given the opportunity to state specifically what they need in a health service. Students should decide whether to avoid fee increases or to cut several specialty clinics with low user rates.

Another solution to the problem may be to find alternate sources of revenue as suggested by consultant Paul Rupprecht of the American College Health Association. He and members of Student Government suggest the billing of third parties for inpatient care. Because a majority of UNC students are insured with their families, the health care would be paid by the student's health insurance instead of the SHS fee revenues.

Cowan and other administrators have recognized the need for such comprehensive studies, but maintain that time is needed for the evaluations. Yet, when dealing with the payment by students for student services, the time for those studies is before the fee increase, and not after.

Missiles muddle

The wave of anti-nuclear demonstrations that engulfed European capitals last weekend signaled a growing distance between the United States and Europe over the issue of nuclear missiles. Although NATO has not yet altered its plans for deploying medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe, the Reagan administration must demonstrate a new understanding of European nuclear fears if those plans are to succeed.

The protests, which numbered more than 150,000 people in both London and Rome, were directed against the planned installation of U.S. cruise and Pershing II missiles in the European theatre by 1983. In 1979, NATO agreed to the missiles' deployment in order to counter the Soviets new SS-20 missiles in Eastern Europe.

Most military analysts agree the U.S. missiles are required to balance the nuclear advantage the Soviets now hold over Western Europe. The Reagan administration, however, has failed to communicate this need to most Europeans.

Reagan's anti-Soviet rhetoric and demands for increased military strength have not convinced European allies that the United States is interested in peace and arms limitations. Meanwhile, the Soviets are actively encouraging European fears that the introduction of theatre nuclear weapons are part of a U.S. strategy to fight a nuclear war in Europe rather than America. Reagan's recent statements about limited nuclear warfare do little to refute this.

The European anti-nuclear movement is a powerful political force with a broad base of support. Already, its popular activity has made the Netherlands' and Belgium's acceptance of the missiles unlikely. The governments in Britain, Germany and Italy also face considerable pressure from opposition groups as well as within their own parties.

If the United States is to reverse this tide, it must convince its NATO allies that it is serious about nuclear arms controls and limitations before the actual deployment of the missiles in 1983. Limitation talks with the Soviets will reduce the dangerous level of European nuclear arms as well as dampen European criticism. Without such U.S. commitment, it is hard to blame the Europeans for their anti-nuclear opposition.

The Bottom Line

Procrastinators' plight

Quick! Hurry! Before it's too, er ... early?

That's what the Tuscon Procrastinator's Club — after finding itself in a rare predicament — is being forced to say these days.

Because of the 2-cent postal-rate increase effective Nov. 1, the procrastinators say they will have to mail their Christmas cards earlier than they expected.

But they aren't mailing cards for Christmas 1981, mind you. The procrastinators have yet to mail last year's cards.

The cards will be mailed on Oct. 31, said Stuart Gellman, founder of the Tuscon chapter. And the chapter has found itself rushed to meet that deadline, so people won't think the cards are early instead of late.

"It would really be bad for the movement if people thought we were mailing this year's cards," Gellman said. "We better get on the ball, so people don't think we're early instead of late."

Trek's end

Vulcan fans unite!
Only you can save the life of Mr.

Spock, the half-human, half-vulcan first officer of the Starship Enterprise. Rumor has it that Spock, played by Leonard Nimoy, will be killed off in the new \$10 million motion picture "Star Trek II." The movie is scheduled for release next month.

The move is illogical to the more than 10 million Star Trek fans. One trade paper said that in killing Spock, the producers of the movie are jeopardizing \$28 million in revenue because fans would not go see the movie twice.

The death of Spock seems to be the result of Nimoy's frustration with being identified as an emotionless, logical creature. To drive home the point, Nimoy's autobiography was entitled "I Am Not Spock."

Currently the script has Spock going out in a blaze of glory, saving the Enterprise from sure destruction, but being bombarded by radiation in the effort. His last words to Captain Kirk are "I will always be with you, my friend."

Star Trek fans have mounted an effort to save Spock, but even sympathy from the show's creator Gene Roddenberry does not seem to be saving him. Spock has reached the end of his five-year mission.

And that's the bottom line.

American military forces weakened by volunteer structure

By JONATHAN RICH

Following the final U.S. disengagement from Vietnam in January 1973, the draft in this country was formally abolished. Since that time the United States military has sought to achieve what never before had been attempted — the maintenance of a standing army of more than 2 million men through an All-Volunteer Force.

The AVF has been vigorously attacked and defended on various military, political and moral grounds. The debate has heightened with recent reports of the armed services' personnel deficiencies — this at a time when the Reagan administration seeks an enormous expansion in the military program. Unfortunately, the debate has centered almost exclusively on the merits of the present system versus the draft. The problem is not so much with a volunteer system but the market philosophy on which it is based.

Despite conflicting reports, it is hard to deny that the all-volunteer force faces serious shortfalls. From a military perspective, the armed forces are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain their desired level of numbers or quality. As recruiting stations consistently fall short of their quotas, many have been forced to accept recruits who fall on or below the lowest acceptable standards.

On the average, one out of three service entrants does not complete his initial enlistment obligations, due to lack of aptitude, discontent or discipline problems. The desertion rate is now double that of the pre-Vietnam draft era. These problems have been compounded by a steady decline in the general quality of military recruits over the past decade. Less than half of all male recruits have high school diplomas, while the college-educated recruit has become virtually non-existent. Average aptitude levels have sunk so low that training manuals must now be prepared in comic-book form.

Perhaps the greatest dilemma confronting the AVF is the racial and social distribution of its soldiers. While blacks made up 11.8 percent of army personnel in 1964, they now comprise almost one third of its manpower. Similarly, the total minority content of the army's enlisted ranks reached 41 percent in 1981. While the percentage is less in other branches of the military, today's armed forces are characterized by a predominantly white officer corps leading a disproportionately minority enlisted force.

Recent studies demonstrate that while black soldiers are fairly representative of their race as a whole, white soldiers are coming from the least-educated segments of white society. In addition to its racial imbalance, the army is comprised of an unrepresentative segment of white youth. From the broad social and racial representation of the WWII era, the military has evolved into a system that draws heavily on minorities and lower-class whites.

Such an army contradicts the ideals of national service and sacrifice on which any military should be based. National defense and security are burdens that must be carried by all segments of the population, not just those who are forced into the army for economic reasons. If the predominantly white, upper-class government in Washington decides to declare war, black and lower-class youths should not be asked to bear the brunt of the decision.

The 1970 Gates Commission Report, which established the basis for the AVF, was underpinned by a marketplace philosophy. It is this philosophy, and its reliance on supply and demand variables that are largely responsible for the military's various shortfalls.

From the beginning, the primary emphasis of the volunteer force has been on pay and other economic incentives. Faced with a high military attrition rate, especially among technically-trained soldiers, both Carter and Reagan raised military pay scales. Although pay is certainly an important factor, it will not reverse the current manpower shortage.

The military can never compete with the marketplace and steadily rising civilian wages. Higher pay is much more likely to motivate less-qualified men to join the armed services than the college-bound youth that the military hopes to recruit. Increased monetary benefits have also been ineffective in convincing soldiers to reenlist. Retention rates were higher during the pre-Vietnam era, even though real career force pay was less.

What Reagan and other market enthusiasts must recognize is that the concept of a national military is incompatible with supply and demand economics. The army is not like other businesses, but requires special training, cohesiveness and morale. By stressing the self-serving aspects of the army — such as pay, travel and technical training — the military has lost its other incentives and strengths, such as its appeal to patriotism, duty and national service.

This mercenary approach to recruitment has not succeeded in drawing higher-educated middle-class youth, who are as interested in prestige and career satisfaction as pay. Meanwhile, many men who are initially drawn by the flashy travel posters and promises of on-the-job training suffer disillusionment when confronted with army reality. Unrealistic expectations and the resultant discontent are primary causes for the high turnover rate in today's military.

Given the obvious inadequacy of the volunteer army on moral as well as military grounds, it is not surprising that the draft has once again become a definite possibility. Registration for 19- and 20-year-olds was instituted under Carter, while several bills for compulsory conscription have been proposed in Congress over the past year.

There are, however, alternatives to the highly controversial and questionable return to a draft. While recognizing the lack of easy solutions, the military must reorient its recruitment toward a program that stresses educational benefits and national duty rather than pure self interest.

Instead of the Pentagon's proposed cash bonuses to higher quality recruits, Reagan should expand his plans to implement another GI bill. By promising college education benefits after a two- or three-year military term, the government would attract more white and middle class youth.

As an alternative to the current career-oriented term of four years, this dual track would enable men to receive military training as well as continue with other careers. They would also swell the now seriously depleted ranks of the army reserves.

Such actions possibly would improve the level of racial and social distribution, as well as the overall quality of the military. With a more representative, voluntary service the U.S. government is also less likely to engage this country in an unjustified foreign war. Until then, the voluntary service remains an inadequate and unacceptable force for a nation that prides itself on its representative and egalitarian nature.

Jonathan Rich, a junior history and political science major from Quogue, N.Y., is associate editor for The Daily Tar Heel.

The draft



Draft represents government infringement of individual rights

By MARK LANGSTON

Amidst all the recent controversy concerning the increased defense budget, the AWACS sale, the MX missile, and other related issues, one major question has been left untouched. While President Ronald Reagan promised in his campaign to end draft registration, support has been quietly gathering in Washington for the reinstatement of the draft itself. Such reinstatement would be a sad mistake. It is time for President Reagan to put an end to the draft once and for all.

For too long, the government repeatedly has let our defense go unattended to the point that a draft seemed the only way to restore them to health. Then, invoking some pretense of a "national emergency," the government proceeded to violate the rights of millions of Americans by forcing them into the armed forces or extremely low-paying civilian menial labor. All this was done under the labels of "civic duty," "serving one's country" and "patriotism." As Samuel Johnson said, "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." Joining the armed forces may be honorable, but there is no honor in being forced into a kill-or-be-killed situation by your own government.

Despite the fact support for the draft has stubbornly endured for years in a country dedicated to the preservation of freedom, the draft violates a great number of long-cherished American principles and several parts of the Constitution itself.

First of all, the draft is a form of taxation without representation. The majority of those drafted are only slightly older than 18, and therefore have not had the opportunity to vote in such a way as to have any real political impact. The draft itself is actually a form of taxation, not monetary but physical. By drafting those who have had the least opportunity to be politically active, the government is imposing a form of taxation without representation. Such practices were a major cause of the American Revolution, and if not justified then, it can hardly be justified now.

The draft also gives the government too much power. It allows the government to undertake any military action without having popular support. This is not to say that the government should not do whatever is necessary to protect U.S. interests and to promote free democracy. But if the only way it can persuade citizens to join the fight is to threaten them with jail, then the government has hailed to prove to the public that its actions are justified. It makes no sense to try to preserve our freedom by taking it away from us.

Unfortunately, that is exactly what the draft does. The 13th Amendment states clearly that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude ... shall exist within the United States..." The draft can be understood no other way than involuntary servitude. It forces people to interrupt their careers and risk their lives for a cause in which they may

not believe. It makes slaves of people in the sense that it forces them to live and work under unfavorable conditions.

In the words of Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., the draft "(reasserts) the state's godlike prerogative of owning the lives of its young ... Conscription in any form is objectionable because ... it imposes more totalitarian controls over law-abiding citizen."

A drafted citizen loses partially his rights to free speech, assembly, fair trial, protection from search and seizure, and from cruel and unusual punishment. While national defense may require certain sacrifices be freely made, the government has no legal right to force such losses of liberty upon anyone but a convicted criminal, and certainly not upon its own citizens.

The morality of conscription has been long debated. Back in 1814, when British troops were actually fighting us on our own soil, a draft bill was proposed in the House of Representatives. Daniel Webster fought it vehemently, thundering, "The Constitution is libeled, foully libeled. Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained, that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly and wickedness of Government may engage it?" Congress rejected the draft bill even as the British marched on Washington.

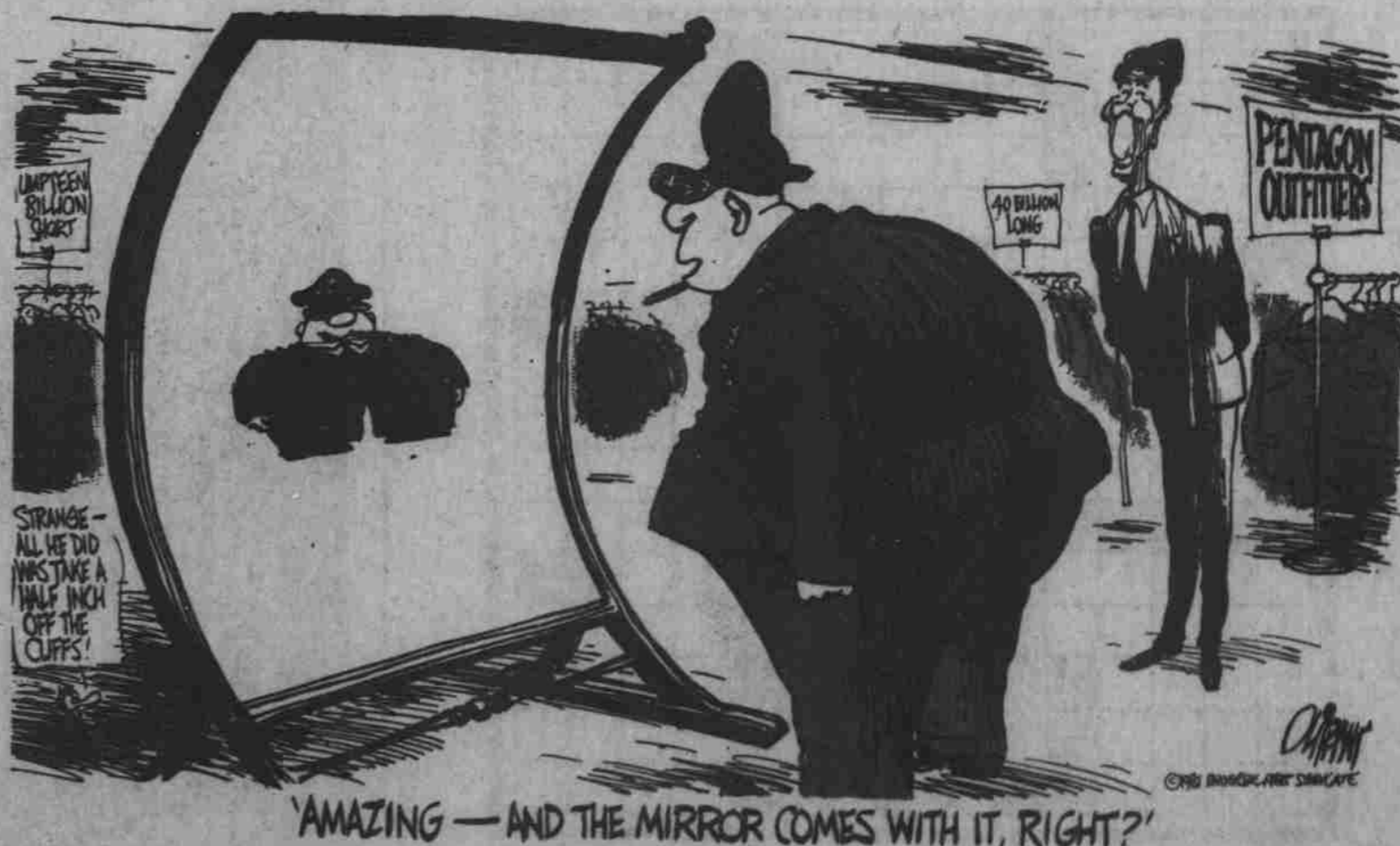
Not only is the draft unconstitutional, it is actually damaging to this nation's defenses. In an age where armies rely less on the combat soldier than the military technician, a large standing army is virtually worthless. What is needed are more career soldiers, better equipment for them, and training that won't be wasted. A draft provides none of these things.

Too many soldiers will serve their years, receive the expensive training, and leave, fleeing to the civilian job market to escape military pay scales so low that some soldiers are actually receiving food stamps. As for intelligence levels of inductees, new studies have shown volunteers score higher on mental aptitude tests and have more college education than draftees, a far cry from one uniformed senator's belief that "the army is filled with a bunch of dummies."

The cost itself of a draft is enough reason to not support it. Registering everyone at age 18 and drafting only 50,000 per year would cost an extra \$25-40 billion every year. By spending only part of that amount on pay raises, re-enlistment benefits, and improved upkeep of equipment, the government would be able to keep the armed forces all-volunteer, at less expense and better efficiency.

America's armed forces may need drastic help to upgrade them to a safe level, but a draft can add nothing to our security. It is time for the issue to be raised once more so it can be buried forever with such antiquities as slavery and divine right of kings.

Mark Langston is a freshman political science major from Greensboro.



"AMAZING — AND THE MIRROR COMES WITH IT, RIGHT?"