

The Daily Tar Heel

90th year of editorial freedom

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Audit control

The establishment of a student Audit Board in 1932 underscored the desire for a student-run financial system free of administration control. That same desire — for students to oversee the spending of student money — still exists today.

But in the last two years political haggling and absence of cooperation had rendered the student function ineffective.

Addressing these problems Wednesday night, the Campus Governing Council approved by-law changes that provide fair compromise and should put an end to the board's problems.

Fifty years ago, when the idea for the Audit Board originated, the goal was to inform students of how their money was spent. The Audit Board oversees the operations of the Student Activities Fund Office, the bank for all organizations using student fees. The accounts include everything from the operations of Student Government to the social expenditures of campus dormitories.

In the past two years, however, the student-run system has been a victim of feuds between board members, Student Government officials and the administration. Because board members were appointed by the president, members began questioning the right of political appointees to have access to check the books of organizations. Last year Audit Board members in effect broke from Student Government by writing their own by-laws and claiming they had the right to appoint their members.

The result was a mess: the Norberg administration was battling an uncooperative SAFO office, the Audit Board was refusing to meet with newly appointed members and questions arose as to whom was in control. President Scott Norberg said he repeatedly tried to get information from SAFO under the Audit Board laws but was repeatedly turned down. The board did not publicly meet from April to November 1981, Norberg said.

The lack of an effective policy in the overseeing of student fees only increased the possibility of the administration taking over the operation. At issue was whether students could handle their own fees; the problems indicated perhaps they could not. Both Audit Board members and administration officials then proposed the entire student finance system under the administration.

Student Government officials rejected these proposals and began to work to improve the system. The new by-laws provide for Audit Board members to recommend three candidates for every open position on the Audit Board. The student body president then chooses one of these to recommend to the CGC for approval, helping to eliminate the political appointments. In the future any changes in Audit Board by-laws would first have to come from the Audit Board members themselves.

Wednesday's changes in the audit board by-laws help continue the spirit behind the establishment of a student-run finance system. Dean of Men Fred H. Weaver wrote in 1946, "My idea is to do everything possible to strengthen student self-governance and to awaken in our student leaders an awareness of the duties and responsibilities as well as the privileges and freedom of self government."

The new agreement is a fair compromise, giving the Audit Board, the president and the CGC a voice in the auditing process. Most important, the agreement assures that students will continue to control student money.

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

As the old administration is replaced by the new, ideas change

By KEN MINGIS

Almost one year has passed since Scott Norberg was sworn in as Student Body President, winning office by a mere 28 votes. His victory was small, but it now is apparent that his administration has gone further than most in enabling students to play a more active role in the affairs and decisions that affect them at UNC. While policy has been the Norberg administration's strong point, service has been its Achilles' heel. Programs such as the tutorial service and academic advising have been allowed to drift into obscurity, a fact noted repeatedly during the recent presidential campaign.

It is this service side of Student Government that most directly affects students, and it is here that Norberg's successor, Mike Vandenberg, will have to rebuild Student Government credibility. Today, when students are asked, "what has Student Government done for you?" the most common reply is some vague reference to Chapel Thrill or calendar changes. Missing are programs that students can list as having had a direct affect on them.

In dealing with policy issues, Norberg's administration accomplished a lot for students. The theme running through his term of office — that students should be allowed more responsibility — has become a reality in several important areas: the passage of a referendum that effectively puts the Audit Board under student control, the creation of a course by students dealing with race relations and the complex planning that has made this year's Chapel Thrill concert a reality. In each case Norberg was able to convince either the admin-

istration or the student body that an increased student voice was needed in university-related decisions. Reviewing the Audit Board referendum, which was passed overwhelmingly by the student body, it is obvious that Norberg felt a strong need to clarify the board's duties and composition. At the time, some students and administrators complained that it was a "power grab" by Student Government. In a way, they were right.

Norberg himself admits that his goal was to make the Audit Board, charged with overseeing the appropriation of student fees, more responsive to student needs. It was a move that, while controversial, gave students the responsibility to regularly audit the operations of the Student Activities Fee Office. At very few universities do students have similar power.

From an academic perspective, it was during Norberg's year in office that members of the University relations committee were able to design and im-

plement a course on race relations. Again, few universities provide students with the opportunity to design their own courses. The committee did so in a responsible manner and the course stands a real chance of being expanded into a full three-hour credit class in the near future.

In addition to increasing student re-

By JONATHAN TALCOTT

Mike Vandenberg has begun to mold his administration with a fair though imperfect personnel selection process and with a solid idea of what he would like to do once he assembles his cabinet.

During the last week, Vandenberg has appointed six executive assistants and begun to interview and choose students for various committee positions. By selecting executive assistants without using an application process, Vandenberg has partially ignored the call for a more open Student Government.

Vandenberg has said that he did not use applications because he felt he needed someone to begin the process of accepting applications for other executive branch positions.

He said that the way he chose his executive assistants would not hurt Student Government's reputation because he and his staff had made other efforts to ensure that all other positions were filled fairly.

Vandenberg explained how he attempted to recruit a diverse group of students. "We bought ads in *The Daily Tar Heel*, we printed up flyers; we put a notice in the campus calendar. "I need a core of people to get that message across to people on campus. I feel that we have gone a step further than Scott (Norberg)."

Both former student body presidents Scott Norberg and Bob Saunders used selection processes slightly different from Vandenberg's.

"We used an informal application process," Norberg said. "I think that an (official) application process is a better way to do it. (But) the feeling of my transition team, my executive assistants and I was that it's practically impossible to choose someone to do work and to handle a large amount of responsibility when you have never worked with them before."

"I took applications in conjunction with my executive assistants," Saunders said. However, he only had three executive assistants working with him. Neither Saunders nor Norberg bought ads in the *DTH* or printed flyers.

If Vandenberg had opened up the selection of his executive assistants to the application process, he would have truly opened Student Government to the campus as a whole and eliminated the consistent complaint that Student Government is just a club. This is not to say that Vandenberg has made poor selections for his six top aides. The group is both diverse and qualified. At least three of the aides, Donald Beeson, Tony Lathrop and Sally Hadden have extensive executive branch experience. Jonathan Reckford has worked in the legislative branch of Student Government; and though Leslie Takahashi and Melanie Wilson lack experience, Vandenberg said they were both very enthusiastic and hard working. One half of the group of executive assistants worked on the campaign for Vandenberg.

Still, if Vandenberg had opened even this level of Student Government up to applications, students could see the merits of all potential applicants for the job. Politics is supposed to be the art of dealing with people. The public at large will never really know what kind of people Vandenberg chose to deal with most closely. The executive assistants in his administration will be particularly important because they will be the ones reporting to Vandenberg on the operations of the different committees. In the

previous administration, the cabinet heads reported directly to Norberg.

Without an application process, the student reaction to executive assistant selections comes after the fact. Also, people who continued to work within the executive branch during the campaign season may be overlooked. Only Lathrop continued working in Suite C after the campaigns began.

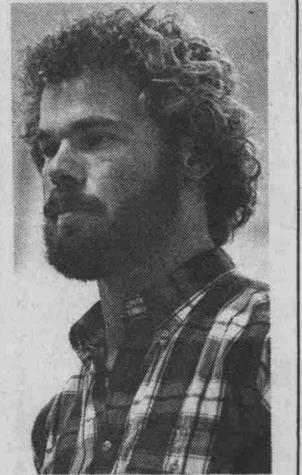
And without an application process, Vandenberg can still be accused of favoritism or of perpetuating the Chi Psi "conspiracy" (two of his six executive assistants are Chi Psis). It would be unfortunate if such claims of executive favoritism were allowed to hurt Vandenberg's efforts to implement some of his plans.

Vandenberg already has set his sights on the major tasks of his new administration. "My two highest priorities will be an Academic Advising program and an employment service," Vandenberg said. The new president stressed he would like to see his administration differ from others in recent years. "I am hoping to spend a lot less time on current issues and more time on new problems that need to be addressed," Vandenberg said. "I want to change our focus from one of maintenance to one of change."

Vandenberg said that he and his aides would start working on the academic advising service and the student employment service by the end of this week. His executive assistants will begin to research the materials collected in Suite C on both topics. "As soon as we finish with selecting personnel, we will start working on academic advising," said Reckford, who will be



Scott Norberg



Mike Vandenberg

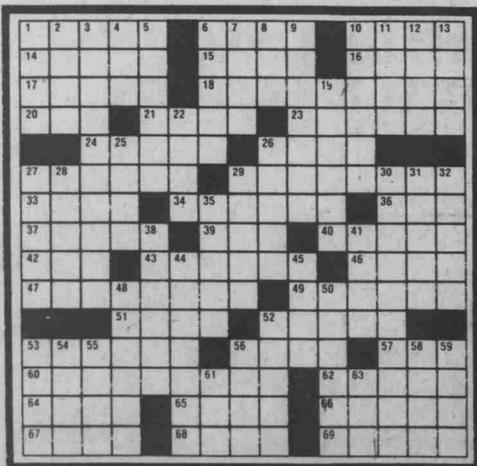
THE Daily Crossword

By Albert L. Misenko

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| ACROSS | 29 Personality quality | 51 To be: Fr. knot | 22 Ties the knot |
| 1 Wasp weapon | 33 Soon | 52 Homage | 25 Forearm bone |
| 6 Profound | 34 Greet | 53 Embarrasses | 26 Make butter |
| 10 Cudgals | 36 Swiss river | 57 Harem room | 27 Colorful parrot |
| 14 Abalone | 37 Kiel or Erie | 60 Scenic views | 28 Pointless cigar |
| 15 Golliwogg | 39 Drinking place | 62 — boom | 30 City in Texas |
| 16 Adored object | 40 Ballroom dance | 64 Asian land | 31 Charm |
| 17 Money of India | 42 Collection of sayings | 65 Chess or checkers | 32 Got up |
| 18 Holy spirit | 43 Oak fruits | 66 Local dialect | 35 Dwelling |
| 20 Golf peg | 46 Raised platform | 67 Fishing devices | 38 More recent |
| 21 Struck with wonder | 47 Prosperous | 68 Watches | 41 Jewish month |
| 23 Completed | 49 Spring on the hind legs | 69 Worship | 44 Waist bouquet |
| 24 Clever tricks | | | 45 Catch sight of |
| 26 Wheedle | | | 48 Sour fruits |
| 27 Guided wrongly | | | 50 Kremlin's land |
| | | | 52 Medical patients |
| | | | 53 Whirl |
| | | | 54 Long-eared mammal |
| | | | 55 Med. subj. |
| | | | 56 Arrived |
| | | | 58 Fashion name |
| | | | 59 Summit |
| | | | 61 Merry month |
| | | | 63 Singular |

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

FIFE VALSE ARIL
ADEN AVAIL DIARE
CLEVELAND INDIAN
TELEVISION RILLED
BLIST BITS
CAROLE TENT ROB
ATOP TRADE ARE
KANSASCITYROYAL
ELD TOTES DOLT
DEO HAUS PRONES
HEARS CHAIR
GREEN BROILING
MILWAUKEEBREWERY
ESSE TASTE SIRE
NEED ANTEN SNOW



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overseeing academic affairs.

For future goals and tasks not considered current issues, Vandenberg has presented several new ideas: a student member on the Admissions Committee of the University, a program for helping students closed out of University housing find an apartment and a review of the present exam period.

Vandenberg's personnel selection of cabinet-level positions shows his willingness to stand behind his pledge of openness in student government though is method of appointing executive assistants may leave him open to criticism. With the help of his newly selected aides and cabinet heads, he should be able to tackle some of the problems that have plagued students in the past as well as look to future tasks.

Jonathan Talcott, a sophomore history and English major from Litchfield, Conn. is an editorial assistant for *The Daily Tar Heel*.

Letters to the editor

Raising drinking age no answer

To the editor:
Raising the drinking age, as recommended by the Governor's Crime Commission, seems quite appealing to those concerned with public safety. The Com-

mission, however, typical of most bureaucracies, sees only the immediate advantages, not the long haul.

Alcohol is simply a substance that can be used or abused. Our society allows the

use of it, like so many other privileges, by responsible adults. Persons aged 18 to 21 are considered legal adults: they can vote, fight for their country, are totally responsible for their own actions, livelihoods,

etc.; yet, because a few members of their age group abuse the privilege, the Commission wishes to ban the privilege for the entire group. If this same logic were applied to all of society, then prohibition would be the obvious answer. If it were applied to our free enterprise system, which is abused to the limit by an unscrupulous few, then Communism would have every right to flourish.

The idea still seems to exist today, that, if something doesn't go right, then pass a law against it. Society doesn't seem to learn that its problems will never be solved in the courtroom or jailhouse: slapping on fines, throwing "evil" people in jail and discarding the key — carryovers from the middle ages — only suppress the problems for a period of time. Doing so is analogous to curing cancer with aspirin. People, of course, must be protected against violent criminals; but, misdemeanors, especially victimless crimes, can be handled much more discreetly. Society must get its problems out in the open and begin to tackle them from there, not hide them under books of legalities.

To close, and so I won't be accused of not contributing a possible solution to the imminent dilemma: have drinking establishments install breathalyzers at the exits. While this will not completely solve the problem, it will at least give unwary drinkers some idea of their coordinate ability.

Phillip Carrier
616 Ehringhaus Hall



DOONESBURY



by Garry Trudeau