# The Daily Tar Heel

90th year of editorial freedom

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### 19, not 21

Before you know it, you may not be able to walk into Spanky's, sit down and order a beer. That's because the movement to increase the drinking age in the state is getting so strong that there's a definite possibility that the drinking age for beer and wine may be raised to 21. To do so would be an overreaction to the drunk driving problem that may make the problem worse, not better.

Gov. Jim Hunt has proposed a number of changes in the state's drinking laws, some reasonable, some not. One proposal is to raise the drinking age for beer and wine to 19. That would help to accomplish Hunt's goal of keeping beer and wine out of high schools and away from less mature drivers. Those who argue that it is a double standard to be a legal adult at 18 and not be able to buy beer and wine should remember that drinking is a privilege, not a right. Few people would argue that 18-year-olds should have the right to buy liquor.

Raising the drinking age for beer and wine to 21, however, would be an overreaction to the current antidrunk driving trend. Changing the beer and wine drinking age to 21 does not necessarily mean that fewer people will drive drunk. Studies have shown that when the drinking age was raised in some states, Massachusetts for example, the number of driving under the influence arrests went up. That was the result of people under 21 driving to bordering states to purchase alcoholic beverages that they could not buy in their state.

Another reason why the beer and wine drinking age should not be raised to 21 is because of the number of enforcement problems it would create for the police. With a large number of 18- to 20-year-olds at numerous North Carolina universities and military installations, raising the beer and wine drinking age to 21 would almost be an invitation to break the law. Police and Alcoholic Beverage Control officials now concerned with stopping 18- to 20-year-olds from drinking liquor would face an even tougher task: preventing anyone under 21 from drinking alcohol. Given the resources and manpower available now, such enforcement would be nearly impossible.

Raising the beer and wine drinking age to 19 makes sense. Raising it to 21, however, would create a whole host of additional problems without necessarily decreasing the problem of drunken driving. But without more political pressure from 18- to 20-year-olds, there's a good chance your representative may vote to keep you out of your favorite local pub.

#### The Bottom Line

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," President John F. Kennedy said. And out of respect for JFK, liberty and the American Way, we at the Daily Tar Heel are going to do our part. We're closing up the rag. No more editorials, basketball stories, or even The Bottom Line. We at the DTH are putting on our khakis and going into the air force supply business. Howard G. Reinheardt, Chief of Systems at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, wrote us the other day. He has asked us if we could send back his weapons and office supplies form, SF 129, filled in with what destructive tools of doom

we can provide. Well, sir, what can you use? How about something from DTH group 13, guided missile warheads? Maybe some explosive rockets or land mines to wipe out the commies and preserve peace? Throw out those typewriters, we can give you stuff from group 58, Communication Detection and Coherent Radiation equipment. The latest in radar and teletype. So don't go into the DTH to complain - we might be practicing with our 30mm guns or our gun launchers.

Now you know our typewriters are just a front for clandestine operations. And that's (Boom!) the bottom line.

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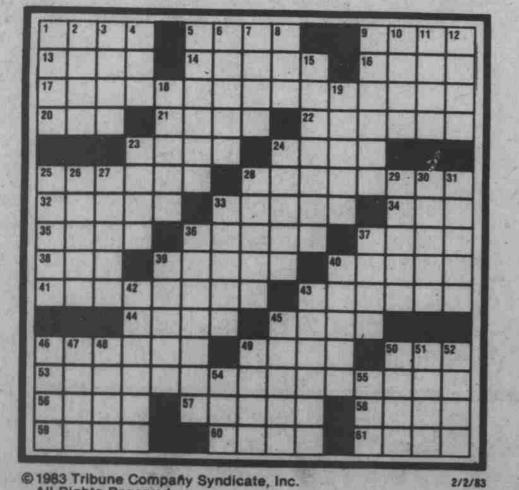
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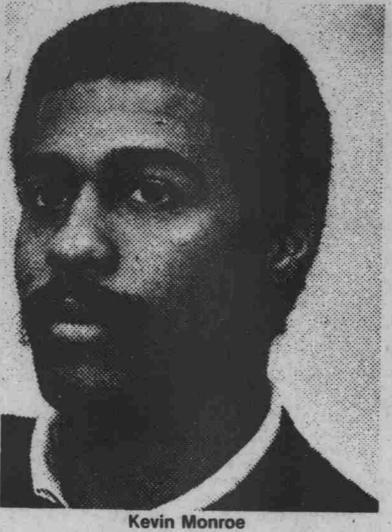
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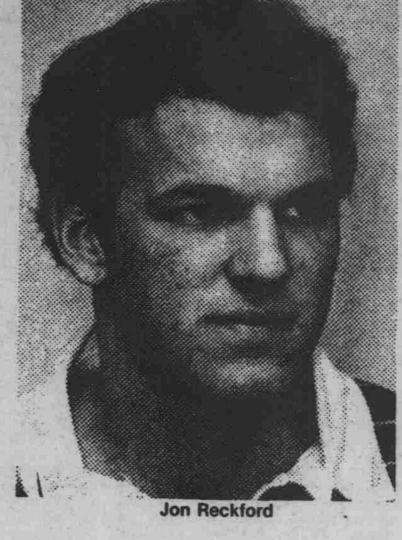
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### All the candidates' people

#### By LIZ LUCAS

A student body presidential candidate does not just appear from out of the blue, even at Carolina. On the contrary, hours of hard work and planning by student workers go into a campaign, building the candidate's image and selling that image to the public.

Planning campaign strategy is perhaps the most important part of an election, agree Sam Mitchell, campaign manager for Kevin Monroe; Bonnie Fass, campaign manager for Jon Reckford; and Randy Walker. "minister to the people" for Hugh Reckshun.

"Last year I used to think it was silly to have all these people out working (for the candidates) and the candidates going out and trying to meet everyone, but I've realized that campaigning is a really important part in having Student Government work well once the president is chosen," Fass said. "The people who have met and supported the candidate will have more confidence in him once he's elected into office," she said.

Both Mitchell and Fass said that their candidates began laying the foundation of their campaigns in December before Christmas break.

"We began talking about policy ideas a long time ago," Mitchell said. "The actual network of campaign workers began to form before Christmas, but it's really just pulling together now."

Reckford's campaign story reads much the same. "We began planning late last semester when Jon (Reckford) decided what he wanted to emphasize, and we began getting organized before we went home for break," Fass said. "It's hard even now to say how many people are working for Jon - the network keeps building, growing, as he's more exposed."

Reckshun, on the other hand, did not decide to run for student body president until after returning from Christmas break, Walker said. "We just decided we needed a joke candidate for a joke office," he said.

Though Walker is not recruiting a large network of people to work for Reckshun, support for Reckshun has increased since the formal announcement of his candidacy, Walker said. "There's been a ground swell of grass root enthusiasm since Hugh (Reckshun) declared his

Each of the campaign managers agreed that budgeting time was important, yet the amount of time spent working per week on each campaign varied greatly.

Walker, for example, said he and the two others working on Reckshun's campaign had spent two-and-a-half to three hours a day over the last week campaigning.

Mitchell said he expects to spend all of his time when he is not in class over the next two weeks campaigning in some form: phoning people, attending the forums, and working personally with Monroe.

Fass, however, said that campaigning took much less time than she expected. "If everything works well, it (campaigning) doesn't take too much of my time there's a lot of planning for Jon to go around person to person in the dorms and a lot of phoning around, though," she said, adding that she planned to go to all the forums to provide constructive criticism for Reckford. "It's awfully nice, even so, to know it only lasts a month," she said.

Other workers recruited for campaigning usually spend less time actively campaigning than the campaign managers, but are still an integral part of the campaign

Recruits generally are the ones to do the legwork of the campaign, including putting up posters, handing out pamphlets at forums, and going door-to-door trying to sell their candidates.

Recruiting workers has been more difficult this year than in the past, said Mitchell.

"It seems this year people haven't been as interested or excited in campaigning," he said. "It's been hard to find people to work compared to when I worked on (Scott) Norberg's campaign."

Fass disagreed.

"It's not that difficult (to find campaign workers)," she said. "It's become a tradition to have fun campaigning - everyone just gets gung ho for a couple of

Workers are recruited for various reasons, usually

because they feel strongly about their candidate. "It's not a social thing," Fass said. "Once they (those working for Reckford) hear him talk and hear his ideas,

they want to get him elected." Mitchell agreed that the campaign workers for Monroe, also, were not just friends of the candidate. "Everyone working for him is convinced he'd do a

tremendous job as student body president - they have confidence in him," Mitchell said. The campaign managers agreed that the issues sur-

rounding this year's race have kept the usual tension of the student body presidential race down.

"Sometimes you almost want one big issue to get things going - that's been the hard part of getting people motivated due to the lack of issues," Fass said.

Even much of the Campus Governing Council is remaining neutral because of the lack of big issues, Mit-

"A lot of people are staying out of the election, especially from the CGC. Few (of the CGC members) are committed to one candidate," he said.

"It's just not a very intense campaign - not a lot has gone on," Mitchell said. "Both campaigns have to pick up. Most people haven't heard a lot about either candi-

Even Reckshun's campaign crew feels the election lacks the usual intense issues.

"In this particular election he (Reckshun) has a chance of getting a lot of votes because it's a dull election - he especially has a chance to get a lot of bagger votes," Walker said.

Other than motivating people to work when the issues of the race are not very moving, none of the campaign managers has encountered any major organizational Mitchell, who has worked on several campus cam-

paigns in the past, said that organizing the campaign was much easier than any other he had worked on.

"The biggest problem we've faced is dealing with the huge masses of Hugh's supporters," agreed Walker.

And Fass, who has never worked on any campus campaign until now, said she had expected much more work. "It has even been easier than I thought it would be to get people to commit themselves to work for Jon early in the

Liz Lucas, a sophomore journalism major from Whitakers, N.C., is assistant University editor for The Daily Tar Heel.

# Picking a candidate: think about it

#### By JOHN DRESCHER

Now that the candidate forums have started and the rhetoric is flying from one end of campus to another, it's time to get serious about evaluating candidates. As a two-time veteran of campus campaigns, I have been blessed with the opportunity to hear more than my fair share of speeches and door-to-door sales pitches.

I also have heard some interesting reasons why students vote the way they do. Some vote primarily on the basis of thoughtful opinions; some vote based on remarkably astute character and personality judgments; some vote based on purely personal whims. There obviously are many methods to evaluate a can-

didate and each person does it a bit differently. I always have looked for some nebulous mixture between a candidate's stand on the issues and his personal characteristics. If you are debating for whom to vote in this year's races, here are a few informal guidelines that you may want to consider. The issues. Elections often aren't that different from

barside conversations: be wary of the sweet-talking type who promises too much. Remember, candidates are only in office for eight months, a large part of which is spent in becoming familiar with the job. The candidate who promises the world is going to be a big disappointment if Instead, pick out what you feel to be the two or three

most important issues of the race. Do some research on the issues, talk to an insider and see how the candidates stack up against your opinions. In the forums and in door-to-door campaigning, check out how much time the candidate spends on the important issues. Check to see if the candidate has done his homework. Does he talk in specifics, addressing issues and proposing solutions, or does he offer a series of vague, circular arguments that leave one wondering what he said? Answering questions. It is especially illuminating to

observe how a candidate answers questions. Concise,

straightforward answers show a mental sharpness that will be important to the candidate when elected. I also always have given points to the candidate who was willing to offer unpopular opinions at forums, especially to special interest groups (Residence Hall Association, Pan-Hellenic Council, Black Student Movement, etc.) that want candidates to promise them the world in trade for their endorsement. Taking a true stand on the issues shows a strength of conviction and realistic view of office. If a candidate can't stand up to a campus organization, how can he stand up to the chancellor or the athletic director?

Endorsements. While we're on the topic of endorsements, I humbly recommend that one not pay too much attention to them (except, of course, The Daily Tar Heel's, which are sent from heaven). Endorsements are based far more on politicking and personal contacts than issues and ability to motivate. Instead, look for the reasons why a candidate was endorsed: they may not have anything to do with what you are looking for in a candidate. In all honesty, the same goes for the DTH endorsements: the reasoning is more important than the endorsement.

The intangibles. Issues certainly are important. But a winning candidate must be able to implement his policies or else he will have little success in office. That's why the ability to motivate or the personality factor also is im-

In campus politics more than state or national politics, the personality factor becomes more important. Remember, campus politicos that win an election must then work with people that, unlike big-time politics, are usually volunteering their services. If they don't enjoy their jobs, they'll just leave. The office holder can determine whether his workers will enjoy their jobs or not. Ask yourself: Would you like to work for that can-

Of course, that does not mean you have to like a candidate to vote for him, or that you should vote for the one you like best. There are other aspects to the personality factor than likability. For one, check out how the candidate handles pressure. This is especially important in the student body president and Daily Tar Heel editor races, because the candidates elected are going to be getting a lot of it over the next year. Is the candidate cool, calm and thoughtful under the duress that comes with a hot and crowded forum? Or is he an emotional, rude jerk that cuts off questions and argues over petty points with his competitor? In my first major forum at Connor dormitory last year, I was overwhelmed by the size of the crowd and the intenseness of the environment. I was the emotional, rude jerk that cut off questions and argued over petty points with my competitor. Competitiveness is an admirable quality, but not when it interferes with rational thought. To this day, everyone in Henderson Residence College thinks I'm an immature jerk. I lost that polling site; I wouldn't have voted for me

The last part of the personality factor involves integrity and respect. No one wants to work for a conniving office-holder who's willing to underhandedly twist arms to get things done. Sometimes it's best to judge a candidate for what he doesn't say: check to see if the candidate uses negative campaigning. If a candidate and his workers really believe in the candidate, there's no need to even discuss his opponent. And that includes his workers, because a candidate usually sets the tone for how his campaign will be conducted.

Of course, it's easy for me to say all these things now. A year ago I was promising that, if elected, the DTH would become the best paper south of The Washington Post. Despite the unavoidable overstatements, I do think that campus elections are worth having and that there are good reasons for judging one candidate over another.

John Drescher, a senior journalism and history major

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Control Data helps keep apartheid policy alive

To the editor:

Thursday the Control Data corporation was recruiting on UNC's campus. This computer firm is one of the 300 U.S. corporations operating in the Republic of South Africa, and it is also one of the 11 corporations in South Africa that UNC owns stock in. I feel the students here should know how Control Data is helping maintain the apartheid form of government there.

In October 1977, Control Data said that "no U.S. company would advance its activities to lend support to the abridgement of human rights anywhere." In September 1981, Roger Wheeler of Control Data said that they are selective in choosing their customers as to prevent

Control Data products from being used for repressive purposes.

These statements are hard to believe, for in 1979, in defiance of U.S. Department of Commerce regulations, they sold a sophisticated computer system to the South African police which enables the police to implement the notorious pass laws — the cornerstone of the apartheid system. Another Control Data computer is being used in the Randburg municipality, located on a "homeland," to solve problems of control. If Control Data was truly concerned about their products being used for repressive purposes, they would stop selling supplies to the South African government and would pull out of South Africa.

But this will not happen soon. Control Data Chairman William Norris said they would not even consider withdrawing from South Africa. At a corporate annual meeting last April only 2.7 percent of those present voted to discontinue sales to South Africa.

Outside pressure must be used to get Control Data and other U.S. corporations to leave South Africa. If UNC students support the divestment referendum that will come up for a vote soon, the first step toward the sale of all UNC stock in corporations in South Africa will be

> Erica J. Caldwell Chapel Hill

#### Letters?

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes letters to the editor and contributions of columns for the editorial page.

Such contributions should be typed, triple-spaced, on a 60-space line, and are subject to editing.

Column writers should include their majors and hometowns: each letter should include the writer's name, address and telephone number.