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# The Daily Tar Heel

92nd year of editorial freedom

## Meeting the need for a meeting

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's upcoming visit to Washington — scheduled to include meetings with President Reagan, Secretary of State Schultz and, as announced yesterday, Walter Mondale — has met with varied degrees of skepticism and optimism.

The rash of interpretations Gromyko's visit has produced is certainly not unjustified considering the timing of the talks (at a crucial stage in Reagan's reelection bid) and the chilly relations that have persisted between the two superpowers over the past few years.

No one so far, including the Reagan administration, has predicted any major policy breakthroughs to come out of the Gromyko-Reagan meeting. But the fact that the two are meeting at all carries the telling implication that Moscow sees a Republican victory in November as inevitable. Thus Soviet officials figure it to be in their best interest to achieve a better dialogue with the man they expect to have to deal with the next four years.

Yet, as Mondale loves to point out, this will be Reagan's first meeting with a high-placed Soviet official. In fact, Reagan will be the first president since Hoover not to have met with the Soviet's top man. Mondale calls the situation "pathetic." So why don't the Russians wait a little longer, hoping for a Mondale victory and a potentially softer line coming out of the White House?

Although Moscow understands Gromyko's visit might be viewed as a significant shift in its policy toward the

United States (one with a positive reflection on Reagan's policies), it really isn't. Both countries want to be viewed as the innocent victim in this cold war struggle, so the Soviets had to accept the White House invitation or run the risk of being seen as insincere in their commitment to arms control and world peace.

Also, Russia is eager to begin arms-control talks on new American space-based nuclear weapons, an area in which it feels the United States maintains technological superiority.

As one intelligence analyst put it, "The Soviets would just as soon prepare the ground for resuming talks now, rather than waiting until next year."

"Prepare the ground" appears to be the most realistic phrase, considering the wide gap that now exists between the two countries on the issue of arms control. Reagan certainly realizes this and reflects it with his cautious statements about Gromyko's visit. He said he would not seek a detailed agreement but would mainly try to clear the air of "suspicion and hostility."

But Reagan must do more than that if he is to convince the American voters of his commitment to better relations with the Soviet Union. He must demonstrate in no uncertain terms his desire for a true arms-control agreement in order to reconcile his recent campaign rhetoric with his hard-line policies of the past few years.

Not an easy trick.

## The Bottom Line

The end of the month comes around, your money is getting low and you have a craving for a steak dinner that Lenoir Hall can't accommodate. What do you do?

The answer might lie in a road trip to Nashville, Tenn. That's where Mario Ferrari saw four disheveled men picking through the garbage behind his restaurant, Mario's, on Saturday. Ferrari ordered each of the men a \$150 steak dinner and had it served to them at their own table outside — complete with a white linen tablecloth, engraved china and a single red rose.

"I found these men going through the garbage back here looking for food," Ferrari said. "I thought, 'my God, how terrible,' they deserved a good meal."

"We are self-confessed winos," said one of the four, Roy Hodges. "Make no mistake."

While many Carolina students can and probably would even proudly say the same thing, if money is low, it might be hard to make it to Nashville. Maybe the same thing would work at La Residence.

### Never graduated?

The author of *The Official Preppy Handbook*, Lisa Birnbach, has a new book

out capitalizing on America's infatuation with the pre-working-world, upwardly-mobile set. This time Lisa uses her prowess of condensing complex and often trivial material into generalistic, but intrinsically interesting, truisms to fill a book about the lighter side of college life.

During her research, Birnbach visited 186 campuses, attended frat parties, student council meetings and graduations and "ate dorm and cafeteria food every single day."

What she found out is that our generation is more conservative, less promiscuous and more job-oriented than when she went to school in the mid-1970s

Lisa cleverly calls her second book *Lisa Birnbach's College Book* and says she has tried to deal with "the kind of stuff I really wanted to know" when she was studying college handbooks.

"Wanted to know?" — who's she kidding? The woman's obviously still going to college (at least in her mind, anyway). Her book would be more accurately termed a self-analysis than an objective report. Just kidding, of course, but you have to wonder about anyone still willing to eat cuisine a la Swine Room every day after the kind of bundle she made on her first book. And that's the bottom line.

## Students want their MTV

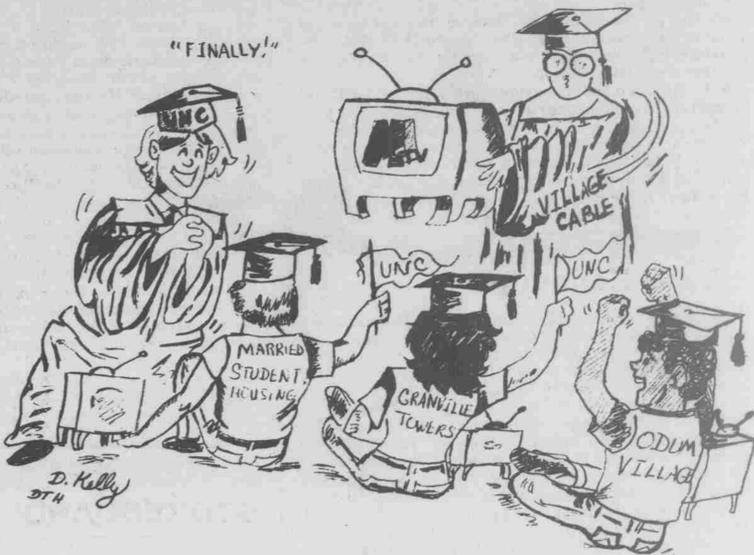
By JOHN WILSON

The students are begging for cable in the dorms, the cable company loves the idea and the University would undoubtedly benefit from it. Still, after six years of Chapel Hill's own cold war, no contract has ever been worked out. That CNN, MTV, ESPN and STV are not now available to on-campus students is inexcusable, yet understandable when those empowered with making such a decision are brought into light.

First and foremost is Director of Housing Wayne Kuncel, who says he wants to wait for certain things before he can justify raising housing fees to cover the cost of such "low priority entertainment." Last spring, Kuncel said that the installation of Village Cable, presently the only source of a complete cable package for the campus, was impossible for at least a year because his housing figures for '84-'85 had been submitted and because no "formal proposal" concerning cable and its financing had ever made its way to his desk. Then on Thursday Kuncel said, "The students were talking to the cable company when they should have been talking to the University." I don't know if Kuncel wants cable or not, but I'm not sure anybody now at UNC will not see cable before he graduates if Kuncel chairs the "soon to be formed" committee that is to "investigate the possibility of providing this campus with cable."

Not only did 1,200 University-housed students sign last year's STV/RHA petition saying they were willing to have up to \$5 added to their yearly housing contracts to cover cable TV installation in their common rooms, but the results were presented in person to Kuncel and Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance Farris Womack, RHA President Mark Dalton and myself. In addition, the Campus Governing Council, responding to the overwhelming student mandate, passed a resolution "urging the University to actively pursue the installation of cable TV in campus dorms." Was that not formal enough?

Kuncel's contention that the students went to the cable company when they should have been talking to the administration is incorrect. Those of us actively involved in seeking cable waited until we had adequate information on the matter before mentioning it to Village Cable and even before circulating the petition. In a meeting with Womack in October, STV Development Director Tim Sullivan and I were directed to Gordon Rutherford, UNC's chief planning architect, to examine the project from the technical point of view. After we met with Womack two more times to tell him the results, and students passed the funding of STV by 4-to-1 on Feb. 14, the prospect of cable in the dorms was beginning to look good again after being buried by a short-lived committee chaired by Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs James Cansler five years ago. Sullivan and I were overwhelmed in late February by Rutherford's news that Womack had given the project a high priority. As we met with Rutherford, Telecommunications Manager Steve Harward and Electricity Superintendent Wade Davis, it became obvious that UNC's regulation that all cable be underground could easily be met in the South Campus dorms of Hinton-James, Craige, Ehringhaus and Morri-



Cable: The impossible dream?

son with the conduit space already available. Seeing the blueprints' promise, Sullivan, Rutherford and I smiled, while Davis and Harward, whose jobs it would be to supervise the 300-yard link from Village Cable's closest point to the front doors of these dorms, anticipated what appeared to be an imminent task.

Rutherford said that from the planning end the project was so simple that only the cost for the installation, liberally quoted by Harward to be between \$10,000 and \$50,000, was preventing completion of the entire job by August.

But the students had already voiced their support in the petition! In addition, when STV first sought Village Cable's assistance in showing tapes on the public access channel, Channel 11, last September, owner Jim Heavner and manager Lu Stevens said they wanted to provide the campus with cable, and even bear some of the expense! Why can't the University and Village Cable negotiate a contract now? Students have already done the research and probably would even provide some of the muscle to pull the cable through the empty conduit under Manning Drive to their eagerly awaiting dormmates. The scene would resemble the hammering of the golden spike that completed the transcontinental railroad, if it could just happen.

Now, we must go back to committee for another five years for thorough consideration of all possibilities. One is the campus computer and cable-link project, which has in four years managed to cover all of two buildings on the campus. Even Womack and Rutherford admit the network will expand only as money trickles in from unknown sources over the next five to 10 years.

The argument that it would be unfair for South Campus to get cable hook-up while North Campus waits is an uninformed, bureaucratic cop-out. Hooking up South Campus to Village Cable first makes sense: It would require less conduit, be cheaper by floors and provide a good way to break through the red tape so that cable could soon expand to North Campus. Cable is possible: Examples of successful cable contracts include privately owned Granville Towers and Odum Village, the University's married students housing, which happens to be next door to Craige.

Thus we return to Housing Director Kuncel. He says we went to Village Cable when we should have come to the University. He is wrong. He claims a "formal proposal" was never placed on his desk, yet he knew of the petition results and the CGC resolution well before he finalized his '84-'85 housing figures. To him and his newly formed committee I wish the best of luck, and after a year and a half of being involved in the research of the issue, I feel qualified to offer this advice: Work out an acceptable formula for cost-sharing between students, Village Cable and even the University, if it can find the resources. Present the proposal to Village Cable as soon as possible so they can schedule the project. Raise the housing fees of the students who will be receiving the cable before the '85-'86 deadline. And, finally keep in mind that it's not that big a deal to pull off and that it's going to happen eventually. The question is "When?"

John Wilson, a senior biology major from Edgemont, N.C., is programming director of Student Television.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Showing true colors?

To the editor:

I thought that, after the Sept. 10 senatorial debate, I had heard it all. However, Lisa D. Jacobs' letter to the editor headed "Hinton running dirty campaign of his own" (DTH, Sept. 12) left me stunned. I can think of several adjectives for her opinions, but "naive" will do for now. I would challenge, therefore, her decrying of "unsupported charges of racism" against the Senator and attempt to prove to her, as she begs, that Jesse Helms is indeed astoundingly bigoted.

Senator Helms has proven himself time and time again to be a threat to all under-represented persons, blacks in particular. A perfect example is his opposition to the extension of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. This legislation is described by the United Nations 1965 Yearbook on Human Rights as "the most comprehensive legislation yet passed to promote the purpose of the Fifteenth Amendment." That amendment, by the way, provides that the "right of

citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State of account of race, color, or previous servitude." Yet Helms, following the footsteps of that famed civil rights activist, Sen. Sam Ervin, asked Gov. Jim Hunt what is more important: protecting the Constitution or "protecting the ... people of America?" I think it can be safely assumed that he was referring only to white Americans at the time.

Helms racist views, publicly aired for the first time in his 1960s segregationist editorials on WRAL-TV, haven't changed one bit. Note the Senator's refusal to hire even one black for his campaign staff until this year, when it became politically expedient. This happened not because qualified blacks didn't exist, but instead because Senator Helms cannot accept the fact that they are qualified. Jacobs also defends Helms' smearing of Martin Luther King Jr. Helms may be anti-Communist, but to use discredited documents and repudiate King's

principle biographer, Professor David Garrow, is going a little far in the name of conservatism, I think. Most people who followed the Congressional action would agree that it was not so much Dr. King's beliefs but his race that got him into trouble with Helms. And who can forget Jesse's famous statement that "... irresponsibility among Negroes (is a) fact of life which must be faced."

Proof enough? I expect to see Jacobs' disavowal of Helms shortly. The man is not only a foe of blacks across the nation, but also continues to publicize this fact in an attempt to trigger white paranoia in North Carolina. Let's send Jesse Helms back to the farm for good.

Ed Tharrington  
Chapel Hill

### Don't tolerate gays

To the editor:

In his letter, Merrill M. Mason ("Tolerate Gays" DTH, Sept. 12) states that he desires to see those of "divergent sexual orientations" be completely tolerated. I say that gays should not be tolerated at all. Mason mentioned God without, it seems, considering what God says about gays in His Word. In Romans 1:18-32, there is an explanation of why people are gay: They have turned from worshipping God; they

do not have fellowship with Him. Verses 29-31 also give a list of characteristics of those who do not serve the Lord.

Gays have turned from natural sexual desires to unnatural sexual desires. They have taken a beautiful gift from God (sex) and perverted it into a selfish tool which leads to their destruction. The reason for this is because they have turned from God. How many more AIDS cases will it take to get gays to turn from their perverted actions? God is a loving God, but He is also true to His Word.

If my arm is cancerous, what is the most loving thing that I can do for my whole body? I should minister to the arm with medication and try to get healed. However, if this approach does not solve the problem (heal the arm), then the most loving thing that I can do for my whole body is to cut off the arm. View society as the body and gays as the cancer. They should be ministered to, helped, and worked with to help them overcome their sickness. They should not be tolerated, however, if this does not work. We should not allow the gay cancer to spread to the rest of society. This is not bigotry or prejudice. It is done out of love for fellow man. We should not shut our eyes to the problem; we should deal with the problem. The judgment of God has been rendered. We should not ignore it because it tends to step on someone's toes. If people do not want their toes stepped on, then they should get in line. Let us help gays out of the closet so that they can live in the sunlight. Let us not shun what God has said. Likewise, let us not tolerate gays.

J. Thomas Jackson  
Chapel Hill

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