

# The Daily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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## Editorials

### A quiet departure

George Gamble, as he prepared to leave a University job from which he was so rudely dismissed, remarked last week that, "The administration has new students who not only don't know who George Gamble is, or was, they may not even know what the Campus Y is." Indeed, Gamble's last days as associate director of the Y weren't marked by the student outrage that followed his initial firing almost a year before.

That's when officials in the Division of Student Affairs told Gamble to leave, without giving him — or the many students who felt Gamble was an able administrator — a specific

reason for the dismissal. Gamble's superiors objected to protests demanding such reasons be known; they pointed to a clause in his contract that allowed them to fire Gamble virtually "at-will."

Since then, there's been much ill will between Gamble and Student Affairs, and students and Student Affairs. But the controversy might yet yield positive results: Perhaps University officials will at least consider student opinion before summarily firing a University employee whose job involves considerable contact with students. And maybe they'll recognize the indignity of "at-will" clauses.

### Credit union a credible idea

During an era when funding a college education is becoming increasingly difficult, students and their parents need to be able to turn to the University for help. Traditionally, "help" has come solely in the form of dollars.

The Office of Financial Aid is investigating ways to offer broader financial planning services to assist students. Student Government's proposed campus credit union could serve as a tremendous complement to that process — a complement that could yield profits for all students.

Todd Hart, Student Government executive assistant, noted that students from any economic background could potentially benefit. Needy students could have an alternative source for loan applications, perhaps at a more manageable interest rate. Students from middle class backgrounds that just miss qualifying for federal support could borrow tuition money to pay the

University upfront, then repay the credit union in monthly increments throughout the semester. More affluent students may find this a safe, appealing investment that provides assistance for fellow students.

Receiving information on debt management and financial planning is not the only potential student involvement. Hart said that properly trained students could assist other students chart out their college finances. The work experience would be invaluable.

A campus survey conducted last week shows student response to be eager and impressive. Hart said that 42 percent of the 357 respondents were interested in investing in the union. About 125 students gave specific amounts they would be willing to pump into the venture — a whopping \$150,000.

Just imagine if this possibility were opened to all students — or alumni.

### Era of uncertainty for the Court

The highest court in the land sails into uncertain waters today as the U.S. Supreme Court starts its new year with a controversial leader at the helm, William Rehnquist. What kind of chief justice will Rehnquist be, and in what directions will he lead the High Court?

The answer, as even Justice William Brennan told The New York Times Magazine recently, won't be easy to come by. Brennan said he didn't know if the country was about to experience momentous change as Rehnquist stepped into Warren Burger's shoes, although "a conservative has been replaced by another conservative."

"[I]n an institution this small," he continued, "personalities play an

important role. . . . How those people get along, how they relate, what ideas they have, how flexible or intractable they are, are all of enormous significance."

Which is reason to worry about the new leadership role of Rehnquist, a man whom law professors across the country have accused of breach of ethics and a man who has repeatedly offered shaky denials about a questionable past, a past that indicates racial intolerance. Unfortunately, Rehnquist's confirmation hearings failed to fully address many of these important questions. Starting today, Rehnquist is afforded the opportunity to dispel those criticisms.

## Tar Heel Forum

### Cobey: Stands on record

In the 4th Congressional District, which includes Orange County, Republican incumbent Bill Cobey is seeking his second term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Cobey, former UNC athletic director, discussed major campaign issues with The Daily Tar Heel last week.

**What campaign issue is most important to you?**

"The fact that I have kept my commitment to the people of the 4th District. The first commitment I made was to be an active and accessible congressman."

"I was one of the advocates of work to put a stop to a study of high-level nuclear waste site in our district. . . . I was also active in getting the funds restored for law enforcement around Jordan Lake . . . and funding for group homes for cerebral palsy victims."

"There was a proposed 60 percent cut in Agricultural Extension and I led the forces up here to make sure those funds were restored. The time when farmers are in trouble and need all the help they can get is not the time to cut its (the Extension's) funding."

"Congressional records show I was present for votes 98 percent of the time. That's one of the highest records in the House of Representatives."

"A second commitment was to work to reduce the deficit and balance the budget. I've also worked to maintain economic prosperity and promote jobs in our area of North Carolina. One thing I've done is work to keep the deficit down and that's an important vote for small business. I've also been trying to protect the Small Business Administration from elimination because that's an important advocacy agency. I worked to protect (programs which provide) venture capital for small business."

"I think it's important when it came time for House committee appointments that I got myself placed on the Science and Technology Committee, which are areas so important to the District. I also got placed on the Small Business Committee."

**What issues have you found students to be most concerned about?**

"I find that students are concerned with about the same things my constituents in general are concerned about. They're concerned about the federal deficit, they're concerned about the economy, they're concerned about human rights. The students of today are very sophisticated."

"They're also concerned about student loans and student aid. We're out there trying to make the system better, to ensure (that) those (who) need the funds will receive or continue to receive them, while eliminating the burden on the system of those who can afford to pay."

**What are the greatest differences between**



you and opponent David Price?

"He has no public record, first of all, whereas I've voted nearly a thousand times and my record is there for all to see. He did make some statements when he was a Democratic Party official, he opposed President Reagan's tax cuts in 1981. And early this year, he said he would support a tax increase. I not only oppose a tax increase, I supported Ronald Reagan's tax cuts in 1984. Basically, my opposition has not been very specific on issues. He talks in very general terms."

**You voted to sustain President Reagan's veto on economic sanctions against South Africa. Could you explain your position?**

"First of all, I find apartheid to be totally repugnant. I just don't think that the House of Representatives and the Senate should get so deeply involved in foreign relations. The Constitution says the responsibility for that goes to the President and I think we should respect that."

"Second of all, we have been a force for good. The American companies have helped ease the situation for blacks, both socially and economically in South Africa. The moderate black leaders oppose sanctions. The estimate is that 600,000 blacks could lose their jobs with sanctions."

"I think it's correct, as the President said this week, to only have investment with companies that follow the Sullivan Principles. It's wrong to cut and run. To destroy the economy is to hurt the very people struggling for equality."

"If we look at our own civil rights struggle in this country, I think if somebody had suggested that sanctions from foreign countries would be the right thing to do in that instance, that civil rights leaders would have cried out against it."

**What do you think of the current tax reform legislation?**

"I voted for it. It's a bold step and it offers a potential of greater economic growth in the future. The short run is a little risky and I don't think we know how it is going to affect the economy."

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— Bill Cobey

"On the negative side, I think it was absolutely wrong to (include certain provisions and exemptions). Some transitional rules are needed, . . . but some are just plain abuses of power up here. There was something in there to do with a few stadiums, like the Tampa stadium got a special favor. I think the Merrill Lynch building is in there too, and the Gallo Brothers Wine received a special exemption."

**You vote very closely with Reagan administration policies. Are there issues on which you disagree with the president?**

"I fought him over the trade bill. I don't think some of our easy trade policies are very fair to our own exporters, who have to face unfair trade policies abroad."

"You're right, though. They rated me as supporting him (Reagan) 80 percent of the time in 1985. That was tops in North Carolina."

**Combating drug abuse is a popular campaign issue this year. What are your views on the president's drug policy?**

"I voted for the drug legislation that came out of the House. I'd like to see mandatory testing, but I think the president would like to go further than I would."

"I would like (mandatory testing) to be done where you believe there's cause for it to be true. There are exceptions, such as public safety and health, where you might want more widespread testing. I want to be restrained in the area of mandatory testing. That may be Big Brother government."

"(Drug abuse) is a complicated issue. The more I look at it, the more it seems to go back to the breakup of the family, a lot of hurt, which leads to drug abuse. We've got to have a balanced approach. The key is to bring what I would identify as four different institutions into play: the church, community groups, government and schools. They've all got something to do. And we've all got to try to see that parents and relatives spend more time with children, more loving time."

Bill Cobey was interviewed by Editorial Writer Kathy Nanney.

### Price: We need effective leadership

David Price, a political science professor at Duke University, is the Democratic candidate for the 4th Congressional District seat. He discussed major campaign issues with The Daily Tar Heel last week.

**Which issue do you consider most important in your campaign?**

"There is no single issue. This is a very diverse district; areas in the eastern part are primarily agricultural. Therefore, the decline of the farm economy during this administration is a prime issue. Areas in the western part of the district are largely dominated by textiles, so the decline of this country's trade position is a major issue. Here in the central part of the district, we're concerned about the competitiveness of our high-tech industries, about the quality and the pace of economic development, about renewing our commitment to public education, so all those are major issues."

"What cuts through all those issues, I believe, is the question of what kind of leadership you want to have in the Congress. We have a member in Congress now who's often voted wrong, I believe, on issues of importance to this district. In this campaign he seems to tend to throw labels around and deal in stereotypes. I think what the people in this district want is an effective kind of leadership, a representative, who reflects the openness and diversity of the district and the kind of person who takes to public policy."

**Which issue will affect students the most?**

"The first thing that comes to mind is student loans. I have administered student loans myself. As director of graduate studies and political science at Duke, I understand how those programs work. I also understand that for the most part they're well-administered and there aren't nearly enough funds to go around. I think proposals to cut student loans are terribly shortsighted. They should be regarded as an investment in our future. We've come awfully close to enabling kids to aspire to an education, regardless of the economic circumstances, and I don't think we should default on that commitment."

"I think students are extremely sensitive about the whole range of personal liberties and the threat from the far right to restrict those liberties. My position on the various constitutional amendments, be they anti-abortion or school prayer, has been very sensitive to that; the necessity to preserve personal choice."

"I find students these days are very sensitive to questions of foreign policy also. Students today are not just focused narrowly on themselves. I spoke here a couple of weeks ago for the Young Democrats and I've not spoken anywhere where there was a broader range of questions raised. . . . I wish all voters had that same degree of interest in a whole range of issues."



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— David Price

**The House of Representatives has overruled President Reagan's veto of a bill imposing economic sanctions on South Africa. Cobey supported the veto. How do you feel about this?**

"I disagree with Mr. Cobey very strongly on that. Our policy of passivity with regard to South Africa has not worked. I do not think sanctions are a 'quick fix.' If they will make a difference, then I think we must apply those sanctions and put some pressure on that government to dismantle the apartheid system."

**On what other issues do you and Cobey disagree?**

"There are many differences. There is no race in North Carolina this year that offers a clearer choice. One of our differences has to do with the rate of military spending. I support a steady and sustainable level of military spending. Mr. Cobey has backed the highest proposed increases in Star Wars year after year and has gone against the majority of both Democrats and Republicans."

"Former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger has said there's no way to wisely and efficiently spend those kinds of increases. Yet Mr. Cobey's been willing to vote for excessive increases in that spending. That has promoted an unrealistic view of Star Wars as a failsafe defense system. I think the way Star Wars can best work is by giving us bargaining leverage in an attempt to reach an arms control agreement with the Soviets."

**How do you feel about the tax reform?**

"I have backed the tax reform throughout the campaign. I think it's an important step forward. It lowers tax rates, it closes up productive loopholes and it makes sure that wealthy corporations and individuals don't escape taxation. I think it makes our taxes fair for four out of five taxpayers."

"Mr. Cobey voted against tax reform in the House and he refused President Reagan's pleas to keep tax reform alive. He did announce one week before the final vote was taken that he was for tax reform after all, so he did vote for the reform two weeks

ago. I had a news conference when he announced his vote and I presented him with a football, saying: 'Well, Bill, we're now on the one-yard line. Take the ball and run with it.' My point was that we needed leadership throughout the whole battle, not a last-minute declaration of allegiance with the vote."

**As far as campaigning goes, where do you draw the line between stating political differences and negative campaigning?**

"We've seen a lot of the wrong kind of campaigning in this state, courtesy of Jesse Helms and the Congressional Club, but we mustn't necessarily conclude that politics is all sweetness and light. There are differences that . . . ought to be discussed straightforwardly and honestly . . . I don't think records ought to be distorted and I don't think people ought to be attacked personally, but I do think we (candidates) ought to have a vigorous debate on the issues."

**What do you think qualifies you most to represent the 4th District?**

"I don't think it would take me a couple of years to learn how to be a Congressman, I think I'm ready right now to do an effective job. For one thing I've worked in Washington, I've been a legislative aid in the Senate and I know how the process works. I was the lead staff person writing the Radiation Protection Act and for four years I've taught and studied the Congress and written several books on the Congress. I also understand education and education policies."

"In addition, I have solid political experience. I've worked at the precinct level, the county level, I've served at the state level as chairman of the N.C. Democratic Party and I served at the national level as the director of the National Commission on Presidential Selection. So, all that adds up, I think, to giving me a good knowledge of the district, a good knowledge of the issues and a good knowledge of Washington. That's why I believe I'm ready to go to work right now."

David Price was interviewed by Editorial Assistant Nicki Weisensee.

#### The Daily Tar Heel

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