

The Daily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

Small victories for human rights

While the media ponder attempts to "salvage" the Reykjavik summit during this week's U.S.-Soviet talks in Vienna, small victories are being won in the background of both meetings. During the Iceland talks, citizens from the United States, Britain and Israel protested human rights violations, challenging Soviets face to face. When Mikhail Shirman asked Soviet officials to allow his sister to depart for Israel, permission was granted. In front of the cameras, Kremlin officials may have had little choice.

Soviet Jews have been especially persecuted because they are often easy to identify by their names and the cards citizens must carry stating their ethnic backgrounds. The National Council on Soviet Jewry estimates that of the 2.5 million Jews in the Soviet Union, 400,000 are trying to emigrate. Last year, only 1,140 were allowed to leave.

For Soviet citizens of any religious or racial background, leaving is nearly impossible. Obtaining an exit visa takes approximately 35 steps, including signatures from all past and present employers. A request for a visa usually means the loss of one's job, and most applications are refused or unanswered.

Kremlin officials are trying to improve their poor image. After November's Reagan-Gorbachev summit, Soviets promised to issue more exit visas in order to unite divided

families. But of the 117 split families with members who have applied to leave the Soviet Union, only four citizens have been granted an exit visa. In Vienna Wednesday, Soviet diplomats promised that their agencies will now rule on visa requests within one month. But there is an exception for "special cases," including room for many refusals. In this category are those privy to state secrets, those involved in unresolved property issues and those charged with a crime.

The promises are only a partial victory for those fighting for the rights of Soviet citizens, those who must continue applying pressure on the Kremlin. But there have been victories. Anatoly Shcharansky was released after the Geneva summit. Armand Hammer, an 88-year-old business tycoon, convinced the Soviets to allow David Goldfarb to accompany him to the United States.

Human Rights Week begins Sunday. Participants will attempt to inform students about human rights abuses, but awareness is a first step. Efforts at the summits show that abusers of freedom dislike attention. Students, journalists and businessmen such as Hammer must continue petitioning on behalf of the persecuted, constantly reminding the free world of their plight.

For if Americans forget, the last hope for the persecuted will likely fade.

Ticket policy pampers athletes

There are two foes facing those students who have bought parking permits for the Eringhaus parking lot: the athletic department and the traffic office. The mentality and expectations of each are unreasonable.

Hundreds of athletes must converge daily at Eringhaus to eat at the training table. Currently, athletes are given *carte blanche* to park their cars at the hall between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. According to an "understanding" between the traffic office and the athletic department, the lot is not ticketed during those hours, which coincide with the training table's hours.

But what about those who have paid dearly to park at Eringhaus? The current ticketing policy, while it may serve admirably the athletes who must attend Eringhaus' training table, is a disservice for Eringhaus permit holders. Drivers owning Eringhaus

permits who try to find a space during lunchtime are often out of luck and must park elsewhere. And when these unfortunate have to pay fines for parking illegally in other lots, they are being forced to perpetually pay for their parking rights.

The non-ticketing policy is an easily abused privilege. At some time between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., not only are most athletes probably on campus anyway, but are within easy walking distance to Eringhaus. If any special parking privilege is to be extended to athletes who don't have the necessary permit, it should be those who have no other method to reach Eringhaus.

Other students depend on a variety of methods to reach campus, including riding a bicycle, taking a bus or forming a carpool. Those who have paid for a parking permit can park in their lots. Why should athletes be any different?

Tar Heel Forum

Knowledge combats freedom abuses

The authors are co-chairs for the Committee for Human Rights Week

Imagine all the people
 Living life in peace.
 You may say I'm a dreamer
 But I'm not the only one
 I hope someday you'll join us
 and the world will live as one.

Archie/Vanderberry Guest Writers

of political prisoner Nelson Mandela, speaking on her personal experiences growing up under the apartheid system in South Africa. Two UNICEF films will also be shown in the Union.

Central and South America will be Tuesday's focus. The role of women in traditional Latin American society and the abuses of human rights in El Salvador and Chile will be described in movies and discussions. Joyce Hormon, widow of Charles Hormon will describe events leading up to the 1973 Pinochet Revolution in Chile and her efforts to find out about her husband's death. Hormon was killed during revolution and Mrs. Hormon's struggle to obtain information about his death is the basis of the movie, "Missing."

On Wednesday, we look at the United States and the human rights violations here. The day includes a program on date rape and the right of women to say "no" and be heard, and debate on capital punishment between Ron Stephen, Durham County District Attorney and Roger Smith, a Raleigh lawyer.

The theme of this year's Human Rights Week is education, helping others be more informed. We believe it helps explain the need for a Human Rights Week at all. If people were more aware of the human rights violations occurring around them, people would try to end these violations. Through this week, we hope to educate the campus about these abuses. Only by being informed can we know how to respond, and educating students here is the best beginning.

Armed with knowledge of human rights violations we believe the students would work to do away with persecution, discrimination and other abuses. But we must put aside differences in politics and religion to work together. Human rights can be fought for by capitalists and communists, Christians and non-Christians, whites, blacks and other races.

This is an optimistic and simplistic view. We realize this fact. But if people only work towards the goal of a world where all rights are upheld, with time and dedication, there will be success. To quote another song, "We are young despite the years, we are concerned. We have hope despite the time."

Rob Vanderberry is a sophomore RTVMP major from Chesapeake, Va. Richard Archie is a sophomore Economics/Political Science major from Washington, N.C.

Red tape

To the editor:
 Have you ever tried to get money from Student Government? While the process seems simple, getting results is a different matter. Our group, the International Association of Students in Business and Commerce, or AIESEC, has been plagued by Student Government red tape. Through bureaucracy, one of our members has been denied the chance to participate in a worldwide computerized matching of students and jobs. AIESEC members worked hard for six months to earn this chance, and when we selected a member to represent us, her application was denied by our national office because Student Government had neglected to mail her processing fee.

When AIESEC first requested a Student Activities Fund Office account, we felt that the University's system would help us get back on our feet financially and stand behind our goals. It appears that they have done the opposite. We requested funds in March, and because of various delays, our bill was not approved until Sept. 17. Our problems were just beginning. It took three weeks for the bill to be signed and our account to be opened. And we have yet to see our money, except for \$22 in stamps.

We don't feel we are to blame for this delay. As finance director, I have done everything according to procedure to make our request as reasonable and easy to approve as possible. I feel that AIESEC has been misled by the Finance Committee as to the length of this process and by the Student Body Treasurer as to the availability of our money for approved expenditures.

A combination of procrastination, failure to keep office hours and lack of information about processes is keeping Student Government from helping meet the needs of this campus. Had we known of the delays and confusion, we would have stayed in our office down the hall and left Student Government alone.

In six months, we could have put energy into fundraising projects and paid our bills on our own. We are currently in



The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comment. For style and clarity, we ask that you observe the following guidelines for letters to the editor and columns:

- All letters/columns must be signed by the author(s). Limit of two signatures per letter or column.
- Students who submit letters/columns should also include their name, year in school, major and phone number. Professors and other University employees should include their title and department.
- All letters/columns must be typed. (For easier editing, we ask that they be double-spaced on a 60-space line.)
- The Daily Tar Heel reserves the right to edit letters and columns for style, grammar and accuracy.

debt to the phone company, our status on the national level is in jeopardy because of unmet deadlines, and worse, a member has lost the chance of a lifetime. Our normal functions such as newsletters, marketing calls, and campus projects have been halted. Even though I have faith in the goals of Student Government, their own bureaucracy gets in the way of meeting some of these goals.

ANN E. BUNGE
 Sophomore
 Business Administration

Cheap thrills

To the editor:
 I was offended and disturbed by your sensationalist Halloween expose of three unsolved murders of Chapel Hill women ("Very real chills from the Hill", Oct. 30). The article itself was a pointless but at least subdued recounting of the facts in each case, but the Omnibus editor's presentation of the piece —

complete with gleaming butcher knife on the cover and a ghoulish cartoon of the Grim Reaper — exploits women's horror of assault for a cheap "hair-raising" Halloween thrill. Halloween is a holiday. Violence against women is a crime no less real and devastating to its victims today than it was 20 years ago when Suellen Evans "fell to the ground dead, her clothes covered with blood." If you cannot deal seriously with the reality of rape, murder and assault of women, don't deal with it at all.

CINDY HAHAMOVITCH
 Graduate
 History

Not just merit

To the editor:
 I would like to clear up a few things regarding Lisa Blighton's Oct. 28 letter. First, I must concede that Stephanie Alshwede is intelligent, open-minded and hard-working. But

her merits did not construct her victory.

Unknowingly, Alshwede had many factions working for her and against Keith Poston. The Anti-Apartheid Support Group, our campus' most tactical organization, rallied door to door in Carmichael Residence Hall, where Poston lives, in order to prevent his attainment of the Student Congress seat.

The campus is well aware of Poston's conservative ideologies, so liberals will do just about anything to keep him out of any representative body. Alshwede probably gained many votes on her merits, but not the number necessary to defeat Poston.

She may thank unknown liberals for her victory. Blighton may wish to call Keith Poston's disgust "sour grapes," but I and many others who have been here longer than three months consider Keith's excuse damn good reasoning.

WILLIAM TAYLOR
 Sophomore
 Political Science

THE WEEK

A collection of notable quotes for the week ending Nov. 7, 1986

the House and had gained a majority in the Senate.

STATE/ LOCAL

"Whatever else it is, it's great to be a Democrat. . . . And when the Democratic Party is on the move, North Carolina is on the move."
 Terry Sanford, jubilant after having won the Senate race against the incumbent senator, Jim Broyles.

"I don't know how we could have done a better job. . . . We didn't have coattails to pull on."
 Rep. Bill Cobey, in his congratulations for David Price, who will take over Cobey's 4th Congressional District seat.

"The SAT makes it all too easy. But I'm not saying we should drop the tests."
 Chancellor Christopher Fordham's reaction to a suggestion in a study recently released by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The study suggested that if colleges do not use scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test in the admissions process, then the test should not be required.

"If there was a Reagan revolution, it's over."
 Former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill after election returns showed the Democratic Party had retained control of

"I've seen the brutish side of humanity, but I've seen the other side too. . . . It gives me hope for humanity."
 — Byron Jganach, on how being a N.C. Central Prison inmate has changed his perspectives.

AND SO FORTH

"What about that 95-yard pass you threw from behind your back while falling to the ground?"
 "Well, it was okay. I can't take credit for that either."
 UNC football player Lee Gliarmis, posing as both interviewer and quarterback Mark Maye. Gliarmis highlighted Coach Dick Crum's weekly press conference with an uncommonly good stand-up routine.

"It's a chance to meet nice guys. Most guys are taken or they're gay or they're hung up on their mothers or they're married and don't say."
 Stephanie Wolff, of Cary, on why she likes the Cary Winn Dixie's Singles Night — a chance to mingle and mix among the melons.

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The Daily Tar Heel

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