

The Daily Tar Heel

95th year of editorial freedom

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Loudest voice always wins

On Oct. 6, students voted nearly 5 to 1 to increase student fees by \$5 for funding a phone-in registration system. Because less than 10 percent of fee-paying students voted, the proposal could not be instituted as a constitutional change.

However, the administration, with the support of student leaders, is now recommending the fee hike. If the Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors approve the proposal, then the \$5 raise will be implemented, and the new registration system installed.

This raises the question: If the administration can raise student fees regardless of a failed referendum, why was the student body asked to vote on the issue?

If a change in student fees is to be initiated by the students, the 10 percent voter minimum must be reached for the student constitution to be changed. Then, the administration must approve the changes. However, if the administration wants to alter student fees, it can do so without any student input.

Because the administration is initiating this fee hike, the referendum

board opinion

becomes nothing more than a student opinion poll. In this case, it is fortunate that student opinion jibes with the administration's actions.

This situation raises two problems. Some campus organizations are constitutionally guaranteed a fixed percentage of student funds — the Carolina Union, for example, gets one-third of all student fees. If the fees are raised without changing the constitution, the Union gets one-third of the \$5 increase. Thus, not all of the \$5 will really go toward the new drop-add system. This problem is fixed either by changing the constitutional percentages through a referendum, or by separating the \$5 charge from the rest of student fees.

The second problem is more serious. This scenario illustrates how easy it is for the administration to change student fees without considering student opinion. The referendum process gives the illusion that students control their fees, but in reality the administration has the final word. In this case, the student and administrative voices were in unison. But, should the administration decide in the future to further alter student fees, its voice will always be the louder of the two.

Flag of reform flies in Beijing

The promise of China, a promise born during the Communist takeover of 1949, has remained as yet unfulfilled. The excesses of Maoism, which retarded the nation's growth, and its belated entry into the world community postponed China's flowering until an uncertain date.

Also of importance in this regard was the conservatism that replaced Mao's radicalism in the years after his death, a conservatism that in some respects reached to the nation's feudal tradition. In so doing, it blended the worst ingredients of that tradition with the exaggerated hierarchy so characteristic of vanguard parties, and produced an overweight, excessively interventionist bureaucracy.

That conservatism, which was rocked in the past year by social unrest and dissent from within the party, may have received its death blow. This potential revolution was signaled by acting party head and prime minister Zhao Ziyang Sunday, when he opened the 13th party congress in Beijing by calling for radical reform as the only means of rescuing China from its economic woes.

Ziyang appears to have finally subverted, or simply overridden, the hard-liners who impeded his earlier attempts at change, for his two and a half-hour speech resoundingly emphasized the need for the integration of capitalist practices into the economy. More surprisingly, Ziyang

called for a reduction in the state's control of the means of production, and for a reliance on the free market as the best tool to set prices.

Ziyang levied familiar criticism at the party bureaucracy, deeming it bloated and inefficient, and called for its restructuring. His proposal for such a change, however, was far more revolutionary than his criticism, as he called for the establishment of a civil service system requiring an examination, and the creation of a state administrative college.

Certainly one might dismiss Ziyang's speech as merely an expression of wishes that will forever be unfulfilled. But Ziyang is now in a position of considerable power. More importantly, the reforms he proposes are realistic and yet contain the seeds for explosive economic growth.

The limited forays the Chinese have made into entrepreneurial capitalism have met with resounding success. As the number of such forays increase, so too will the number of failures. And Ziyang seems to be committed to the foundations of socialism. But if he is successful in his attempt to diminish the party's role in Chinese society, and if the state yields part of its power to the private sector, China may finally discover the full power of its existence, and socialism may, for the first time, truly succeed as an economic way of life. — James Surowiecki

non sequitur

Say Meeska-, Mooska-, Mousketeer

Seniors, seniors: It's almost time for graduation.

Well, not really — but you're probably apprehensive about the thought by now, anyway. It must be wretched to dig out that suit and tie or that business dress from the bowels of your closet, dust off the old resume and head for a power lunch with a prospective employer.

But who says you have to enter the real world, when the World of Disney awaits!

The news from Lake Buena Vista, Fla., is that the Disney talent scouts are christening Tour '88 early this year. As they breeze through 10 major cities in a three-month extravaganza, their quest is for the most sickeningly perky, happy, bouncy people alive.

Spin wheels over your assorted syllabi, road trip to the Atlanta Civic Center (Room 201, 395 Piedmont Ave.) on Oct. 30 and launch your career as a Mousketeer.

Sing and dance in the live shows of the magic Kingdom, the Epcot Center, or the Walt Disney World Villages. Who could ask for more?

And the job benefits — they're amazing. Life, health and dental benefits; vacations and sick days; relocation assistance; it's a

festival!

Not to mention the obvious joys of working in Walt Disney World. For example:

- wearing a wool body suit and a 50-pound paper mache mouse mask, in 110-degree weather;

- posing for pictures with sobbing, runny-nosed children, their faces and hands pink with sunburn and cotton candy;

- dealing with tourists clad in floral print shirts, who have spent the day standing in line and paying a month's wages for taffy and soda pop;

- or hearing "It's a Small World After All" sung up to five times an hour.

Walt Disney World has a wild night life, too. In your off hours, you can go to a luau in the Polynesian Village, go see Michael Jackson in Capt. Eo or get drunk on Tom Sawyer Island.

Truly a dream land. If you miss the scouts in Atlanta, they'll be back in the South on Dec. 5, in the Tupperware Convention Center in Orlando.

And while you're there, find out who disfigures all of the bushes into little mice and elephants, and tell him to stick to mowing the lawn.

Readers' Forum

South African oppression persists

Dena Sawyer
Guest Writer

Would you support Glenn Miller, leader of the White Patriot Party, for president? Would you trust him to educate your children? Would you invite him into your home? Most people on this campus, without the slightest hesitation, would cry out a decisive "no!" Living under the cruel and biased ideals of such a person would threaten our existing freedom.

However, doesn't it seem hypocritical that the first public university in this democratic nation chooses not only to support, but to benefit from, actions based on the same concept of white supremacy that Miller advocates? When the University decided to invest its money in South Africa, a moral statement was branded on the foreheads of each person associated with this institution: "We support the humiliating and inhumane actions of the white minority government of South Africa as long as financial profit is the result." What an embarrassment to us, and what an even greater tragedy for the native South Africans struggling against apartheid. This embarrassment exists as long as the University has any ties with South Africa; divestment must be final, not a fairy tale.

Is our university so concerned with dollar figures that death figures are overlooked? I am not denying that money is an essential part of our university, but must we sacrifice morals and the lives of many innocent South Africans to obtain this money? The University's investments in U.S. corporations in South Africa account for 4.5 percent of UNC's total endowment. This \$5 million is used for educational purposes such as fellowships, scholarships and the purchasing of departmental capital that is very beneficial to the

University. However, what pride can be taken in the money that first must develop in a country that imprisons children, abuses women and deprives people of their basic human rights on the basis of their skin color?

The UNC Endowment Board has attempted to eradicate this feeling through its suspicious announcement of plans to divest funds held in companies operating in South Africa. This alternative, some argue, serves only to destroy the native South African further due to a loss of financial revenue. What a ludicrous statement! Do you not believe that since these people are willing to risk imprisonment, mental torture and possible death in their fight against apartheid that the simple loss of a job would be a welcome answer?

We have at UNC a group that realizes the horrible situation in South Africa and thus fights at home the battle against apartheid. For our brothers and sisters who are slowly dying in their disease-ridden society, Action Against Apartheid donates time, energy and emotion — three of our most valuable resources — to speaking out against the board for its self-centered financial investments. This group should not be condemned for their actions but praised for them. Their concern and compassion guides their motives, not money or ignorance. Although their actions, at times, reach an extreme (i.e., shanty towns), their awareness of the

desperate situation in South Africa necessitates such dramatic actions.

These dramatic actions have, however, proven to be somewhat successful in the embittered battle between morals and money at UNC, even though the board claims otherwise. The announcement of divestiture is only a small step toward moral redemption for this university. In South Africa the people know only of a loss of revenue, however obscure. However, here at home, we are humiliated by the reasoning for the divestment. For the board to plan divestment for purely financial reasons paints a degrading picture of the students and the institution we pride ourselves in. This is not enough; it's time to accept the mistakes that have been made. How long will we let the board dictate our moral standards? How long will we wait for final and complete divestment? How long is too long?

It is time to awaken the board to the sentiments of the University as a whole; the majority must speak. We must cease to contribute to the social decay of the South African natives and their country. Let's save the reputation of our beloved University, our reputation, and, most importantly, the lives of the black South Africans by demanding that all ties between this distinguished institution and the socially corrupt government of South Africa be severed completely. We cannot settle for the plans for divestment; the suffering of the South Africans cannot wait!

Dena Sawyer is a freshman pre-law major from Manteo.

Numbers are just numbers

To the editor:

It is not necessary for a DTH editorial to reach out to Little Rock, Ark., for an image of racism and segregation, ("Help students make the grade," Oct. 26). The racial ratio at Chapel Hill today is directly related to the fact that the public schools of North Carolina were also segregated "three decades" ago.

Finding academically qualified black students is not the problem. There are more than a dozen predominantly black colleges in North Carolina filled with students qualified to study at Chapel Hill. That they don't choose to do so is rooted in North Carolina's history of slavery, segregation and racism.

There was a time when the University had no interest in black athletes. Luckily, that has changed. Today we have no trouble finding black students qualified to keep the name of this university on the front of the nation's sports pages. If there was the will to do so, this University could make itself as attractive to young black scholars as it is to young black athletes. The only thing is missing is the commitment.

To improve the racial statistics of this campus, we must first improve the racial atmosphere. That requires an acknowledgment that there is a problem, and that the problem is not merely statistical.

ROBERT HINTON
Visiting Lecturer
Afro-American Studies/
History

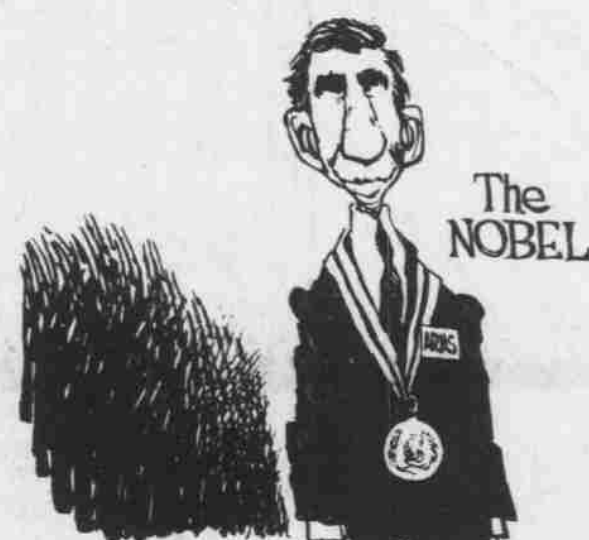
Something in those reviews

To the editor:

Since it seems to be customary this year to criticize the critiques of local concerts, let me jump into the fray by noting a number of errors in your James Taylor review ("Chapel Hill's Sweet Baby James rocks

WALTON

Central American Peace Prizes:



concert audience," Oct. 21). Taylor is a native of Boston, not Chapel Hill, no matter how much we may wish. His opening song, "Something in the Way She Moves," is not a mid-70s work. It was included on the album *James Taylor* released on the Beatles' Apple label on Dec. 8, 1968, in Britain, and on Feb. 17, 1969, in the United States. In fact, George Harrison lifted the lyrics for his own song "Something" that was a Beatles hit later in 1969. And I'm sure that Chubby Checker would have something to say about your crediting "The Twist" to Chuck Berry.

I would recommend in the future having someone more well-informed about music covering concerts for the DTH, although with schlockmeisters like Bon Jovi, Whitesnake and Heart dominating the charts, that in itself may be a difficult task.

CHARLES HELD
Carrboro

Put classes in perspective

To the editor:

Attention seniors graduating with a liberal arts degree: If you haven't fulfilled your social

science perspective, start looking at summer school. Why, you ask, looking at the long list of classes that satisfy the requirement? Of the 63 classes listed, only 16 are offered next semester.

Now think, of 3,326 seniors, just how many of us need one of those 16 classes? A little more data: of the 16 classes, eight are offered only at 2 p.m., so if you need to take a class in your major at that time, you're down to eight possibilities. Of course, if you're interested in Psychology 24 (child development), Psychology 28 (personality) or Psychology 33 (social psychology), you're in luck; they're offered at most any time. However, if you're a psychology major, or if psychology doesn't ring your chimes, you're left with some very scarce options, as the remaining 13 classes have only one section.

Somehow it doesn't seem right that a university the size of Carolina can offer only 25 percent of the social science perspectives the semester before graduation. Did someone just not realize how few are being offered, or is this a standard percentage? Maybe it would be possible to open some more classes, or broaden the perspective a little? As this is doubtful, it looks like we'll be

fighting it out for the big 16, or we'll be seeing you in summer school.

STACEY JONASZ
Senior
Journalism

CAROL OSBORNE
Senior
Political Science/Psychology

Letters policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments, ideas and criticisms. We ask only that you follow a few simple guidelines in exchange for access to this unique public forum:

- All letters and columns must be signed by the author, with a limit of two signatures per letter or column.

- When submitting letters or columns, students should include the following: name, year in school, major, phone number and the date submitted. Other members of the University community should give similar information.

- All letters must be typed, double-spaced on a 60-space line, for ease of editing. A maximum of 250 words is optimal.

CGLA gives valuable education, support

To the editor:

The Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association has every right to receive student fees. It is an energetic, active, valid student organization with the purpose of educating the student body about homosexuality and the issues that lesbians and gays must face. Its purpose is also to lend support to lesbian and gay students who are going through the often painful process of coming out.

I am not surprised that two Student Congress representatives are circulating a petition to place CGLA funding on a referendum. Over the centuries, lesbians and gay men have been executed, castrated, burned at the stake, thrown in jail, gassed in concentration camps, refused custody of our children and other atrocities too numerous to mention. The fact that two people who are ignorant to lesbian/gay issues are trying to deny the validity of an organization that represents over 10

percent of the student body is little more than irritating in comparison to the larger injustices we have fought against and won.

In response to David McNeill's assertion that we are all in the closet, I should mention that many CGLA members are our parents, employers, classmates and friends. Its members have marched in Durham for the Pride March '86 and '87. We have marched in Washington, D.C., and I was arrested at the Supreme Court with 850 lesbians and gays to protest the court's decision to uphold the doctrine of "crimes against nature," better known as sodomy laws. So much for closeted CGLA members.

As for H.F. Watts' assertion that the CGLA promotes the spread of AIDS, I need only to invite him to our office to look through our AIDS education material. The CGLA does more than any other student organization to actively promote

safe sex education, counseling and networking with larger health education projects.

Contrary to Watts' statement that homosexuality is immoral for all religious beliefs, homosexuals are embraced as valuable people in certain denominations such as Quakers, Unitarians, Universalists, many Buddhists and other Eastern religions, as well as a growing number of caring people in mainstream Christian religions.

As for sodomy, I practice it safely all the time and defy any law or court to dictate my sexual behavior. However, the CGLA does not promote any sexual act or behavior. It is an educational organization and should be regarded as such. My opinions are personal and do not necessarily reflect those of the CGLA.

STEVE SULLIVAN
Evening College