

# Opinion

## CAA strives to improve basketball ticket distribution

No, no, no. You've got it all wrong. I am referring to the recent change in the basketball ticket distribution policy. Let me explain exactly what the new policy is and why it is being implemented.

First, we have a problem. The problem is students break in line with their friends at basketball distribution. Joe Student goes down to the Smith Center, waits in line all day, and at 5:30 p.m. six of his friends come and cut in line with him — meaning all the people behind him just got bumped six places back. Now you and I both know this is unfair — and you can probably imagine how angry students get when this happens at an N.C. State or Duke game distribution.

So, we are trying to fix this problem by implementing a very

**Carol Geer**  
Guest Writer

simple policy. Most importantly, you can still pick up two tickets if you have your and someone else's student I.D., registration and athletic pass.

Historically, students begin getting in line sometime early Sunday morning. What will happen starting at the N.C. State distribution Jan. 15 is that sometime between 6 a.m. and noon, the Carolina Athletic Association will go down to the Smith Center and give the people in line a card with a number on it. Those people may then go home and come back to the Smith Center at 5 p.m. for a number-check. Now, let's say, for example, the CAA

goes down to the Smith Center at 8 a.m. Sunday morning. There are 200 people in line. We will give these people cards with numbers on them from one to 200. Those people can go home and come back at 5 p.m. More people will come get in line at the Smith Center after 8 a.m. In a few hours, the CAA comes back down to the Smith Center and now there are 300 different people in line. We give those 300 people cards numbered 201 to 500, and these people can leave and come back at 5 p.m. We will continue to do this every few hours until we have given out 1,000 numbers. After 1,000 numbers are given out (which is approximately the lower level if everyone picks up two tickets), people can still come down to the Smith Center and wait in line for ticket

distribution as they always would. The first person without a number will be number 1,001 in line.

At 5 p.m. (and no later), those people who got numbers earlier will come back and get in line. The CAA will check the numbers at 5 p.m. If someone who has a number is not there at 5 p.m., he loses his place in line and must go to the very end of the line, behind those people who do not have numbers. Are you still with me?

At 6 p.m., the ticket windows will open. A CAA representative will let those people holding numbers go in first. As they go up to the ticket window they will turn in their number. After the number-holders have gotten tickets, the CAA representative will let the people with no numbers get their tickets.

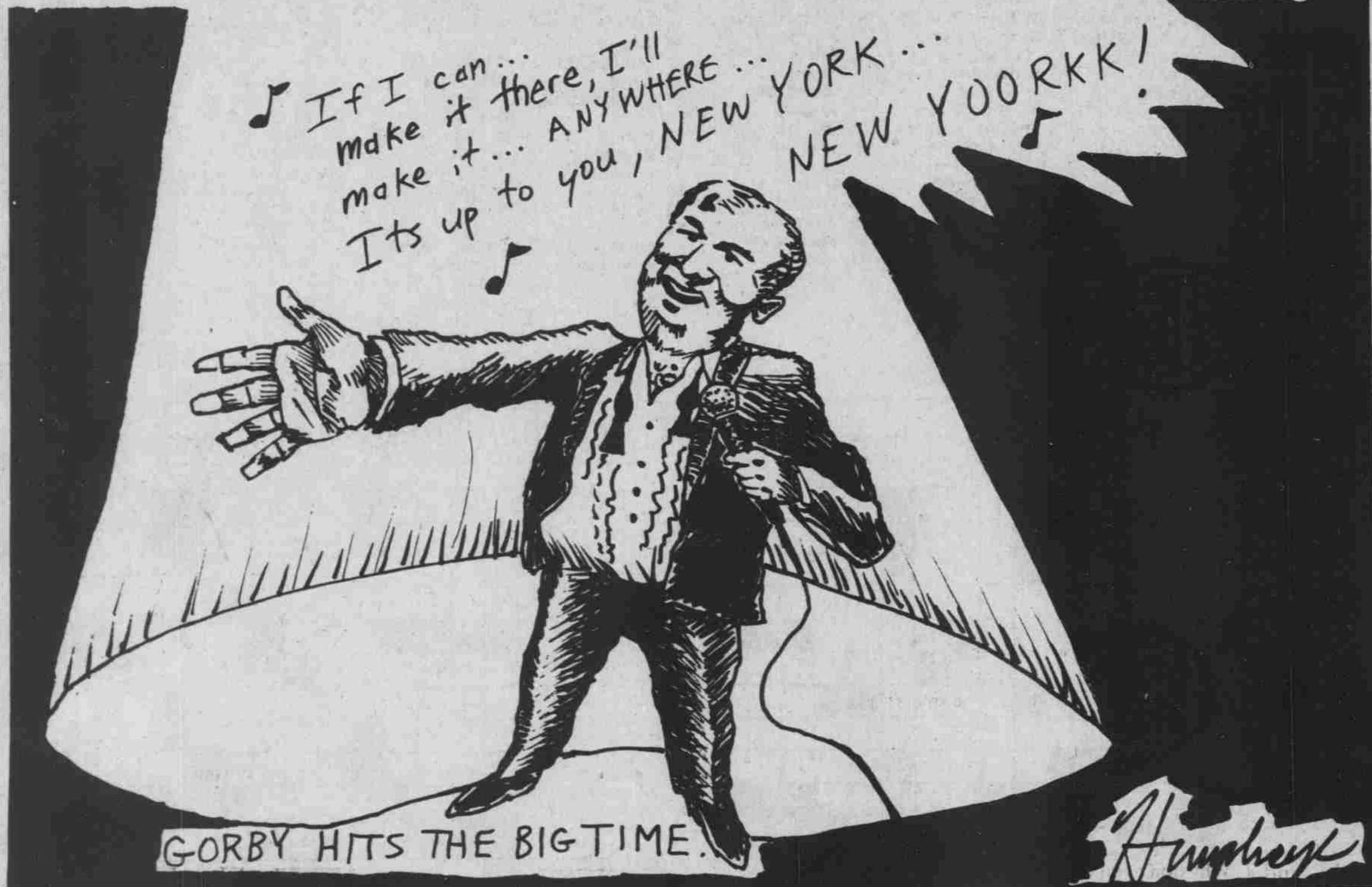
Now, let's think about this for a minute. First, it is no longer easy to break in line. You don't know when the CAA will give out the numbers so you can't have someone hold a place for you. Second, with this policy, no one should have to wait in line all day Sunday. Wouldn't you rather do something else Sunday than wait in line all day? Third, please understand this — you do not have to have a number to get a ticket. We are only giving out 1,000 numbers; we have approximately 5,500 seats.

This sounds very complicated, but don't worry, the CAA is the only one who has to deal with the complexity of it. All you have to do is go to distribution at whatever time of the day you would normally would — this policy in no way changes your chances of getting a ticket, it just

eliminates line-cutting. If you are among the first 1,000 in line, you will get a number sometime after 6 a.m. Sunday. You come back at 5 p.m. for a number-check and wait until 6 p.m. for distribution. If you don't get a number, you can still get a ticket. But the people holding numbers will be let in to get their tickets before those without numbers.

We hope we are solving a problem. This is new. It may not work, but we think it will, so give it a chance. If it doesn't work, we'll scrap it and go back to the drawing board. Please remember that we make these changes to make the system better for you.

Carol Geer, a senior psychology major from New York, is the CAA president.



## Christmastime specials as God intended them

Yes, it's that time of the year again. You know: Yuletide, ho ho ho, Santa Claus, egg nog, reindeer. It's enough to make a cynical college student sick. Somewhere between puberty and Chapel Hill, Christmas lost its magic. Somehow, it's just not the same. But before we get too depressed, let's remember, there is still one refuge left for those of us who would like to be young at heart. Yes, you're right: the Christmas special.

Now, of course, I'm not talking about "Perry Como's Christmas in Hawaii" or the "Kenny Rogers' Country Christmas." What I mean are the shows we all know and love. The shows that are as much a part of our childhood as Schoolhouse Rock or mood rings.

Most of them are classics. A few of them are stupid. But all of them are fun. So I proudly present my "Christmas Special Ranking."

**Justin McGuire**  
Asst. Univ. Editor

**1. How the Grinch Stole Christmas**  
The classic of classics, the Grinch still remains dear to most of our hearts. Almost everyone I know watches it with nearly fanatical devotion. Classic moments and characters abound. Cindy Lou Who, who was no more than two. Max the dog. Roast beast. And let's not forget the song, "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch."

Your brain is full of spiders. You've got garlic in your soul! Mr. Grinch! I wouldn't touch you with a thirty-nine and one-half-foot pole.

Let Bono try to write lyrics like that!

**3. A Charlie Brown Christmas**  
Like most of the Peanuts holiday specials (except the Arbor Day one), this one is great. It's got style. It's got class. It's got Dolly Madison commercials. A must for true Christmas special aficionados.

**4. Santa Claus is Coming to Town**  
The definitive story of St. Nick, as far as I'm concerned. Also exiled to syndication by those network humbugs. You've got to love any show with a character named Burger Meister Meisterburger. Other highlights include the Winter Warlock singing "One Foot in Front of the Other."

**5. Rudolph**  
A reindeer, an elf, a big red nose and an abominable snow monster. How could it miss? Actually, I don't like this one as much as I did when I was a kid, but ol' Rudy will always have a place in my heart. I would recommend this one strongly, if only to hear Yukon Cornelius sing "Silver and Gold."

**6. Frosty the Snowman**  
Frosty never did that much for me. I always thought the plot was kind of inane and the kids rather annoying. Frosty himself is kind of a wuss. Sort of a frozen George Bush. It does have its moments though. I'm just kind of hard pressed to think of them.

**7. The Night Before Christmas**  
Yeah, yeah, the lame one with the mice and the big clock. I never really thought much of this one. The plot is idiotic and the songs are stupid. Compared to the other ones, this show deserves a big thumbs down. Of course, none of this has prevented me from watching it 12 times.

I feel better already. Maybe Christmas isn't so bad after all. I think I'll go buy a giant turkey. Merry Christmas to all and to all a good example period.

Justin McGuire is a junior journalism and political science major from Rochester, N.Y.

## Southern heritage isn't necessarily racist

"Oh, I wish I was in the land of cotton, old times there are not forgotten. Look away, look away, look away, Dixieland. In Dixieland I'll take my stand, to live and die in Dixie."

How anyone can find anything racist in this song is beyond me. The song represents a way of life that was destroyed by Sherman's march to the sea. Many Southerners lost their homes, their land and their dignity by Reconstruction. This song is about the pain that was experienced during this time, and anyone that sees this

**Jeanne Riddick**  
Guest Writer

which can challenge even the best examples of Northern culture. The problem is that many people do not take the time to investigate Southern art, dance or music.

I also disagree with Kam Lee's opinion ("Confederacy not worth praising," Dec. 5) that the South has nothing to take pride in except the fact that we lost the war. I am very proud of my Southern ancestry. "Dixie" and the Stars and Bars are a part of that heritage whether you are white, black or of any race. There was life before slavery in the South,

and there has been life in the post-bellum South. An entire segment of our society cannot be condemned for the economic steps it took. There are economic policies all over the world that are unjust and slavery is one of them. I am not justifying any such means for economic profit. The South, however, was not slavery alone.

Jeanne Riddick is a senior biology major from Blanch.

## Trustees' duties include cultural education

As a black alumnus and graduate student of the University, I feel a need to respond to UNC trustee John Pope's letter ("No apologies for asking tough questions," Nov. 30) concerning the BCC.

His initial comment suggested that those students (he assumes they would be black) "who want a BCC would want to attend a black university." This comment left me amused at his ability to hold such a high position while blatantly displaying his ignorance. Does this mean that if a student wanted to study Chinese while majoring in pre-med, UNC could not facilitate him and that he would have to attend a Chinese university? I think not. Possibly if UNC was not a public institution but

**Sibby Anderson**  
Guest Writer

our program attendance has been non-black!

The question of "re-segregation" is ill-founded, yet typical of our white patriarchal society. That is like stating if a non-white, non-Anglo Saxon and/or non-male takes pride in his/her history or culture then he/she is engaging in segregation.

Recognizing the differences among people's historicity is vital; ignoring those differences is racist.

Finally, Pope refers to his duty as a member of the Board of Trustees to "... question, to challenge proposals, to make sure that the University's policies are followed." He adds that the cost to run the center is too high. Can a price tag be placed on a student's education? Agreed, the

center should not depend solely on the University, but in these primary stages it is imperative that the University commit itself to building a strong foundation. Also, let me expand on Mr. Pope's duties — he should question the University's commitment to minority recruitment and retention, constantly challenge the educational quality and accessibility of all departmental programming for students and make sure all students receive quality education and equal opportunities.

Sibby Anderson, a graduate student in speech communications from Greenville, is a former president of the Black Student Movement.

## Pondering the honor code during finals

For more than 100 years, the honor system has been intact as the standard for behavior on campus, evolving from the conflict between administrators and students over the regulation of student behavior. Over time, the current system developed so the student body, the faculty and the administration agree on and respect the same underlying principle, the responsible exercise of freedom. Protecting the integrity of the University, then, is the responsibility of each individual within the community.

The concept of being "on your honor" certainly has different connotations for everyone. To me, the basic premise of the honor system manifests itself in terms of respect. It is out of the respect that I hold for myself, my peers, my instructors and my institution that I do not slight the integrity of my work or interfere with the educational opportunities of others.

As students, we have the right to

**David Fountain**  
Guest Writer

expect from our instructors that the material they present in class is a valid reflection of their understanding of the subject matter. By the same token, instructors have the right to expect that the work which students submit for review is an accurate representation of their understanding of the material. However, each semester some students use unauthorized aid on examinations or plagiarize papers in an attempt to secure a better grade. Since this type of behavior undermines the University's mission, disciplinary action must be taken. In the spirit of student self-governance, the chancellor has delegated the authority for the adjudication of disciplinary matters to the judicial branch of Student Government.

Fifty-two undergraduate students have been charged with violations of the Code of Student Conduct since the end of March, all of which have resulted in or will result in a hearing before the undergraduate court. Because academic violations strike at the very core of an academic institution's purpose, the University community has determined suspension for at least a semester and an F in the course in which the violation occurred should be the normal sanction for such offenses. With such high stakes, each defendant can attest to the anxiety that an undergraduate court hearing causes. It is my impression that most defendants are decent

people who reacted abnormally under the pressure of academic stress.

During this final exam period, remember to keep your grades in perspective. Grades are intended to mark your comprehension of a subject, and your academic transcript should reflect that. Too often, grades become a rung on the ladder to success. The desire to succeed makes it easy to forget the long-term consequences of a momentary lapse in judgment, but it does not change those consequences. Keep that in mind as you sign the Honor Code pledge on each of your exams, and realize that your signature reflects not only the integrity of your work on that exam, but also the integrity of your character.

David Fountain, a senior English major from Greensboro, is the undergraduate student attorney general.

## Why hinder good deeds with abstract concerns?

In response to Matt Bivens' editorial Thursday ("The right cause, the wrong way," Nov. 8) on the Voter Charity Drive, I ask, why knock good will?

The Voter Charity Drive is a philanthropic effort of the senior class to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. Not only is Make-A-Wish a "non-political" charity, but the senior class is a sponsor which has no personal stake in the campus elections. The charity drive affords no opportunity to bias the election in favor of one candidate against another.

This is not a political issue for the candidates to use in the election, but rather an issue of good will. Bivens' argument against the drive is a philosophical one — he says it would turn the voting process into a "business venture." Since when is a non-profit organization a business venture? He believes it is unethical to connect philanthropic fund raising to campus elections.

The charity drive may increase voter turnout, but this is not its purpose. The drive will not physically pull uninformed voters to the polls (although this is a common practice for many candidates). At most, this may positively encourage these same students to consider voting for the first time. Is this so bad? They will have the same opportunity to learn about the issues as the rest of the electorate.

Regardless, let's not lose sight of

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the true purpose of the charity drive. It's not to create incentive for voters, but rather to make a dream come true for a child who is afflicted with a tragic, life-threatening illness. The money raised from the voter turnout would be merely a by-product of an action that all students not only have a right to do, but, as a member of the UNC student body, should feel obligated to do. The charity drive has the potential to unite the community; the University and the student body, for a charitable cause. This project has very real benefits for a wonderful charity; why let an abstract argument stand in the way? In a world where self-interest predominates, it's nice to see a truly altruistic effort. Let's not knock good will. Instead of criticizing the Voter Charity Drive, let's work to make it a success.

Jeff Hoffman is a senior psychology major from Rockville, Md. Cindi Liston is a senior political science and French major from Charlotte.