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The Daily Tar Heel

97th year of editorial freedom

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A fuzzy picture Students should focus on cable issue

board

opinion

When students decide about adding cable to the residence

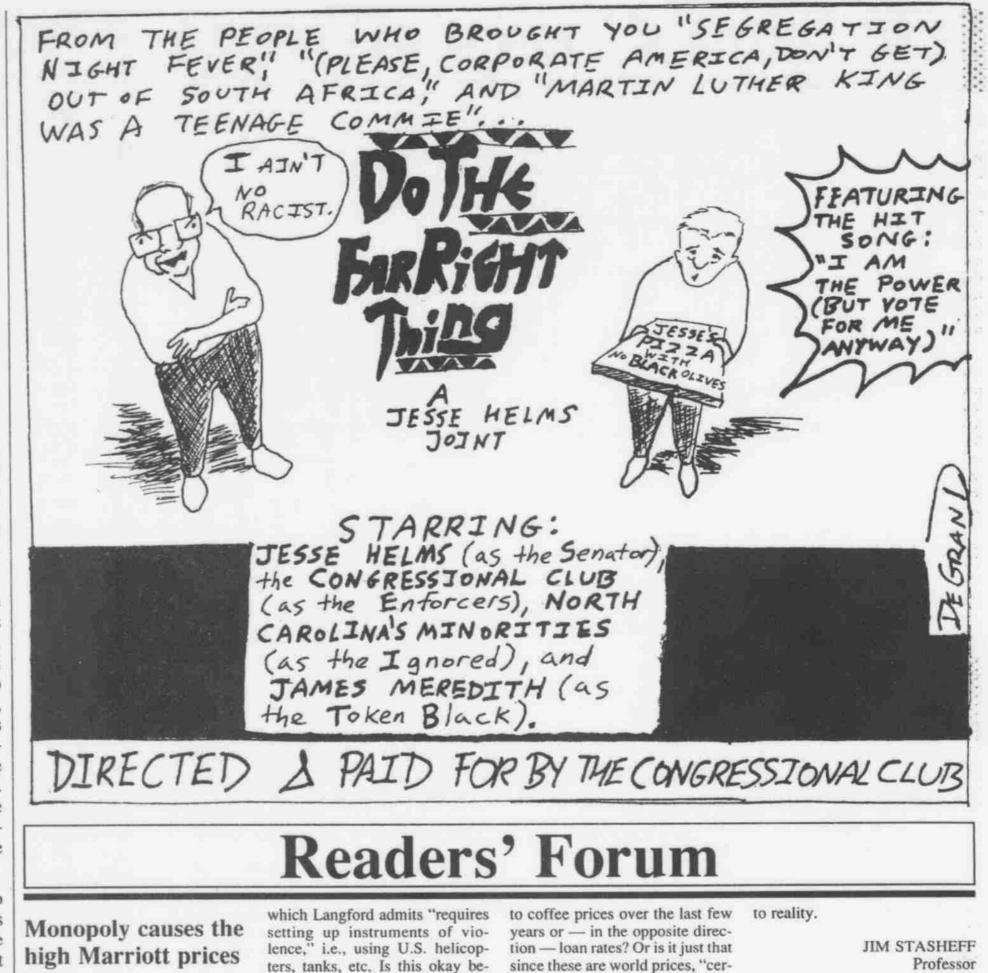
halls, they may find their control too remote to give the matter a fair viewing. Watching UNC basketball games on ESPN or the latest movie on HBO sounds appealing until the \$30 per semester cost comes into the picture. Although the hookup would include the more valuable services of video, data and telephone lines, the housing department and the Residence Hall Association need to take a closer look at housing's budget before these additional costs are channeled to the students' room rent.

Due to utility rate increases, the housing department plans to increase room rent by up to \$100 next semester, which is almost a 14 percent hike from this year. That makes the \$30 per semester for cable difficult to digest, especially considering that the cost will remain fixed for 10 years, until the University owns the system. As cable is hardly a necessity, and as all residents do not have televisions, that's quite a bit to ask. Before residents vote on such a proposal, they should have the chance to request that the housing department try to cut corners. RHA does not assist in the housing budget process. Although the housing department presents the association with the finished product, the cost categories are vague and too high in certain areas, according to RHA President Liz Jackson. While drastic cuts probably are not necessary — certainly much of the money is needed for facility improvements - re-

evaluating such costs as salaries might make a difference. At this point, there are few checks on the department's budget, and students need proof that housing operates as frugally as the rest of the University before agreeing to accept yet another financial burden.

If cost questions can be resolved, the extras that would come with the cable lines could be an important addition to UNC. Aside from access to movies and MASH reruns, the hookup procedure will also include video, data and telephone lines, services students will need in future years more than cable. Once data lines are installed, students with computers can tie into the University's computer system. Because this is a growing trend at college campuses, students should consider placing the lines now before the prices become exorbitant.

The issues behind the cable hookup involve much more than whether students want ESPN. The financial burden for the next 10 years should be weighed against the benefits of data lines in the residence halls. The housing department needs to



Letters policy

review and possibly revamp parts of its budget to ensure that what students already paid does not go to waste. If rent does increase as dramatically as predicted, students may decide to look off campus for living arrangements — a concern the housing department must address. An RHA forum this Thursday will address students' questions before they vote on Feb. 20. Students need to tune into the issues before turning out to vote.

Sophomores: You should vote because

you don't get enough respect anyway. Prove

your responsibility and maturity by voting. The

outcome of the elections affect you as much as

referendums and positions listed above, but

senior class officers elections should be an

added incentive for you to vote. Yes, they do

serve primarily as fund-raisers for the class and

the University, but they are also the same folks

who secure a graduation speaker, senior dis-

counts with area merchants and senior blocks at

matter because you'll be out of here in three

Seniors: You may think that voting doesn't

months. Wrong. Sen-

iors have seen it all: the

Alumni Center, the

selection of a new chan-

cellor, the Black Cul-

tural Center's struggle

for finding a home and

increases in tuition,

student fees and hous-

ing costs. Your senior-

Juniors: Of course you get to vote for the

any other group on this campus.

games and concerts.

letter ("U.S. can help democracy in Nicaragua," Feb. 2) a model of technique: distortion and selective

I found R. Everett Langford's

To the editor:

vision. In regard to his "facts:" 1) Langford forgets or ignores the fact that the current government in Nicaragua was elected by the people, in an election that was at least as free and open as that in neighboring El Salvador. On the other hand, he seems to have no problem with a country such as El Salvador where a ruthless military attempts to control the people,

Sandinistas have chosen the wrong brand, i.e., Soviet?

in the United States, while the are absolved??

cause they are using weapons made

2) There is no U.S. conspiracy to control the Third World since the Japanese (e.g. Sony and Toyota) are well represented (in nations that are not good markets for manufactured goods!). Moreover, "there are some raw materials, chiefly agricultural products" which are subject to the prevailing world price - and hence fairly stable with respect to cost/value. Has Langford really paid attention

Finally, in his last paragraph, Langford abandons his approxi-

visions; the people of Nicaragua

will provide yet another fact in

their upcoming vote. Keep tuned

tain people in the United States"

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes mation of the facts. It is hard to reader comments and criticisms. picture a government keeping its people at bay by providing them When writing letters to the editor, please follow these guidelines: with arms as is done in Nicaragua as it is hard to see extermination of All letters must be dated and Miskito Indians being carried out

signed by the author(s), with a by negotiation and reconciliation. limit of two signatures per letter. Fortunately, neither Langford nor I need rely on our selective

The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity. Remember, brevity is the soul of wit.

Mathematics

Informed decisions Students' futures depend on their votes

Campus elections are next week. Will you vote? Do you know who's running? Do you even care?

Student apathy toward elections is nothing new at UNC. Two years ago, students voted on a referendum to implement a telephone registration system like the one now used at N.C. State University. It sounded like a great ideano more paper preregistration, no more waiting in long drop-add lines at Woolen Gym. This referendum passed with a majority of votes, but it really failed. According to our student constitution, the referendum did not count because not enough students voted. Unfortunately, UNC students lost out because of apathy and downright laziness.

Because spring elec-

tions attract more student interest, the number of voters in next meet the minimum UNC students' historic lack of concern toward elections, voter turnout will probably be low.

There's more to this issue than your patriotic responsibility to vote; your future depends on the outcome of these elections. Consider the quality of your morning newspaper, the efficiency of ticket distributions, residence hall rents and how your student fees are spent. Campus elections affect all students' day-today lives, and each class has significant reasons for voting.

Freshmen: You did not get the chance to vote for campus leaders who were here when you came to UNC. As Jeffrey Beall pointed out earlier this year, you were not allowed to vote for the Student Recreation Center either. But now you can vote for who and what will affect both your class and students who will follow you: referendums, the Student Congress members who allocate your student fees, Residence Hall Association president, residence hall

There's more to this week's elections should issue than students' requirement. But with patriotic responsibility to vote.

> ity may save the elections because you can appreciate the importance of strong student leaders in the battle for students' rights.

Graduate and professional students: your diverse group comprises a needy and surprisingly large percentage of the student body. For your interests to be addressed, your voice must be heard. Teaching assistant salaries and training, child care, health insurance and other issues related to your group may be ignored if you do not stand up and fight for them. That fight starts with voting.

But you can't cast a ballot for another week. Until then, find other ways to get involved in the elections. Try to attend at least one election forum this week. If you can't, at least read up on what happens in the forums. Talk to the candidates. Press them on the issues that concern you. Carefully read endorsements and candidates' platforms. It's more than your duty, it's your future. - Julie Gammill

Campus Election Platforms'90 **Demp Bradford**

CAA president

As a candidate for Carolina Athletic Association (CAA) president, I have three major objectives in my platform. These objectives are a new ticket distribution policy, increased support of non-revenue sports and increased student knowledge concerning the Student Recreation Center (SRC).

If I am elected I would like to establish a ticket distribution policy which reflects the wishes of the student body. In doing this, I will form a ticket distribution committee consisting of one student from each residence area and two off-campus students. This committee will discuss the current policy and the views of the students of this policy and will also look at policies from other universities. The next process would be to take the ideas in which the committee feels best suit the wishes of the students and are feasible and present them to the students in forums. The consensus ideas of the students will be used to form the new policy. The students will be notified of the policy and information sessions will be held to answer any questions in which they may have. Once the policy is set, there will be no change.

An increase in support for non-revenue sports is necessary for the University to field teams of championship caliber in the future. We have many championship teams which do not receive enough student support. One reason is that students are not notified in advance of nonrevenue events. I would like to work with The Daily Tar Heel in establishing better advertisement. One way is a weekly calendar of events posted on the cover of Monday's DTH. I would like to see larger articles in the coverage of non-revenue sports. Secondly, I would like to place a sports events board near the pit area which will be changed weekly to notify students well in advance of the events. The third part is the establishment of a non-revenue spirit committee, similar to the spirit committee used for football and basketball. This committee will work with advertising, special events at events and means of greater student support.

The students on campus are not informed of events surrounding the SRC. In the future, I plan to advertise any event surrounding the SRC three days in advance. This will give students enough time to schedule the events surrounding the SRC into their schedule. It is vital that the students be able to voice their views and suggestions about the SRC so that they will be happy with the facility.

If I am elected, I will be elected to serve and represent the students. My ticket distribution policy committee is designed to give the students direct input to a policy which directly affects them. The participants in non-revenue sports deserve the support of the students. If students are more aware of these events then there will be an increase in attendance.

The SRC is a controversial issue on campus. To improve those relationships, students must be included in events and be notified fully of the events surrounding the SRC. The facts must be laid out. They will be notified of all of these events if I am elected. I will have published office hours and my door will always be open to student criticism and comments.

Demp Bradford is a sophomore sports management major from Eden.

Lisa Frye CAA president

Straightforward, seasoned, sound leadership: these are the strengths I have as candidate for Carolina Athletic Association (CAA) president. Straightforward in my goals, my methods and in voicing student opinion to the administration, seasoned by a year of experience in ticket matters, Homecoming planning and dealing with the Athletic Department and offering sound leadership by combining knowledge and experience in athletics with an eagerness to continually try innovative ideas and to actively solicit student opinion.

In the past year I have served as its president, the CAA has made important strides in improving athletic services to the students. Carolina Fever has had a positive, noticeable impact on support for non-revenue sports. The new student seating arrangement in the Smith Center, along with the new stand-up-and-cheer attitude of the students, has certainly contributed to the remarkable change in the atmosphere in the arena this season. More people participated in the expanded homecoming events this year than ever before. Yet there is still much left to be done, and that is why the CAA needs creative, vigorous leadership now more than ever. I am ready to meet that challenge by making effective, necessary changes and by focusing most heavily on the following areas.

races and backgrounds. I will meet with representatives of student organizations (as well as the faculty, administration, alumni and community) in late February to set a more diverse schedule --- and to divide up the sponsorship - of homecoming events. To be truly successful, homecoming week should be planned and sponsored by all sorts of groups and organizations, not just the CAA. For example, I will investigate working with other student groups and with the Union to sponsor"Rampage Union Blast," an all-night party in the Union including events like a marathon dance competition

in publications in the fall.

An Expanded Carolina Fever: Now that the Fever has made an impact on specific nonrevenue sports, I will work to make Fever a permanent fixture at all sorts of non-revenue events. I will also work with the leaders of Fever and the non-revenue coaches to organize special events for the teams. Just as we sponsor pep rallies, make balloon arches and put out pom-poms for football and basketball games, we can do similar events for non-revenue teams.

I have only discussed a few of the areas in which I hope to improve CAA services. There

government, Carolina Athletic Association president, student body president and Daily Tar Heel editors.

It's going to be a weird week on the editorial page. As we move into the last week before the election, the DTH will print platforms and letters of endorsement for campus-wide candidates, as well as endorsements by the editorial board. While this gives the page less variety and makes it much grayer than usual, these can be among the most important of all editorial pages.

On Thursday, the DTH editorial board will endorse candidates for Residence Hall Association president and Carolina Athletic Association president, and on Friday, we will endorse candidates for student body president and DTH editors. These endorsements are based on interviews with the candidates as well as reviews of their campaign material and inter-

the last word views with present or past office-holders. We base our endorsements on the creativity and feasibility of candidates' platforms, their experience, and their ability to communicate and motivate others as best we can measure. Candidates went through extensive interviews on Saturday, in which all were subjected to intense questioning on almost all points of their platforms, and we thank them for their cooperation.

Running all this information will, of course, leave little space for other letters to the editor. Please continue to write, and we will try to catch up on letters early next week. Until then, we hope you'll carefully consider the many opinions given here - next Tuesday, they will be extremely important. - Sharon Kebschull

A More Diverse Homecoming: While the CAA has expanded Homecoming enormously in the past two years, we need to offer more events which will appeal to students of all in Great Hall, all-night bowling and movies and a DJ in the Cabaret.

I will also advocate expanding homecoming by using the Franklin Street Extravaganza to raise money for a needy cause within the University, such as the library fund. Using that event to give something back to the University would be a worthwhile project and might motivate faculty and alumni to get more involved in at least one aspect of homecoming. A Responsive Ticket Policy: No ticket policy is perfect, but students should demand that a policy respond most effectively to their needs. I will start — and in fact, have already begun a tradition of polling students at one of the last ticket distributions on how satisfied they are with the policy and what changes they suggest. The CAA will adjust the policy according to this feedback and conduct fall information sessions to educate students about any changes in the policy. The CAA will also make the

printed policy more visible at registration and

are, of course, other crucial needs which the CAA president must meet as well, like organizing fundraising projects which will enable the CAA to improve it programming and services, ensuring that CAA events are publicized widely, especially to the graduate and professional student population and continuing to hold open sessions for students, faculty and staff concerning the design and planning of the Student Recreation Center. I am prepared to meet those challenges. After a year of listening to student needs, and working with our staff to meet those needs, I have learned - mostly by trial and error - how the CAA must be run in order to serve and represent the student body well. Now I need your vote to put that experience to work. So when you pick up that ballot on Feb. 20, vote for straightforward, seasoned, sound leadership of the CAA. Vote Lisa Frye.

Lisa Frye is a junior history major from Conover.