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Financing seems to rule presidential bids

The political landscape appears to have changed dramatically, yet remains the same.

In October a female GOP presidential hopeful announced her withdrawal from the presidential race. Elizabeth Dole, a native Carolinian, gave low funding as a primary reason for her to discontinued her campaign bid.

RUNGANO NYAJEKA
Managing Editor

Though it was too early in the race to determine whether "voting" Belles should commit their vote to Dole, this occurrence was an

injustice to voters.

Compared to other presidential candidates, the odds financially are overwhelming. George W. Bush's campaign has raised more than \$60 million, thereby shattering political fund-raising records, and successful entrepreneur Steve Forbes has unlimited \$\$\$ resources. Both Bush and Forbes have access to large private fortunes and have preexisting networks of political supporters: Thus the bottom line remains money.

The idea that a qualified person must involuntarily rule out herself or himself due to lack of funds, limits voters' choice whatever candidate is left in the race.

An independent candidate who may have solutions to some of the societal issues will be ruled out because she or he doesn't have inherited resources for gathering enough financial support. The lack of money should not be the only reason a presidential candidate drop out of the race.

If money and not the issues is the prerequisite for a successful presidential bid we are all in serious trouble.

STUDENT OPINION POLL:

Bellespeak

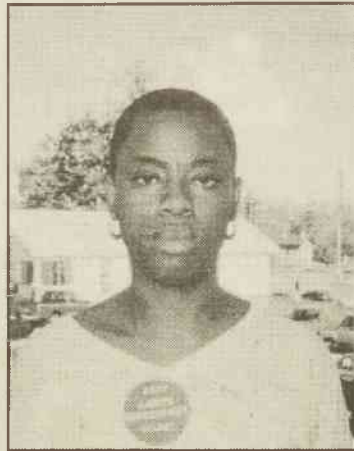
What would be a good reason for presidential candidates to drop out of a race?

Photos by Marie Smith, Chief Photographer



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HOME STATE: WASH D.C.

A good reason for a presidential candidate to drop out a race should be due to a very bad illness where he or she could not or possibly be able to serve. Money should not be the reason because he or she can lobby others to support themselves



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The only reason a candidate should consider or dropping out of presidential campaign race is for personal illness. Not having enough money is a good reason or if you think you will not win. Once committed to running, you should stay in the race.



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Financial instability is a reason for dropping out of the presidential race. One cannot adequately maintain a high position in the polls without sufficient funds for campaigning.

THE BENNETT BANNER

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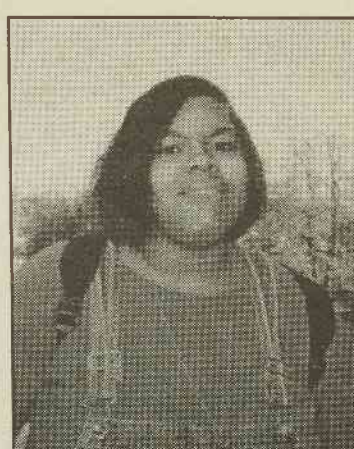


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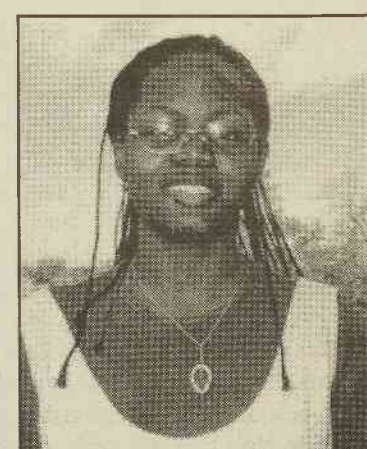
CHRISTY GREEN
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I don't think that a person or presidential candidate should go to the poor house for a country that you are not sure supports you.



BRITNEY SMITH
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A good excuse to drop out of a presidential election race would be if one's moral code is controversial with the population.



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The amount of money raised by one's political opponent is not a good enough reason to drop out of a race. A personal or family crisis would be a good enough reason. To give up because of money or lack of it is not a good enough excuse.