# - EDITORIAL -

# Time out for Helms/Hunt

With only two months to go until elections, North Carolina's senatorial candidates seem to be getting increasingly unscrupulous in their personal attacks. The negative aura that permeates many of their paid political television commercials almost totally pervaded their second on-the-air debate Sunday evening. It detracted greatly from whatever reason or logic their questions and comments contained.

Granted, Gov. Jim Hunt did challenge Sen. Jesse Helms to agree to a moratorium on negativism, a challenge Helms sidestepped. However, Hunt seems to have the little boy attitude of "if you won't quit, I won't either."

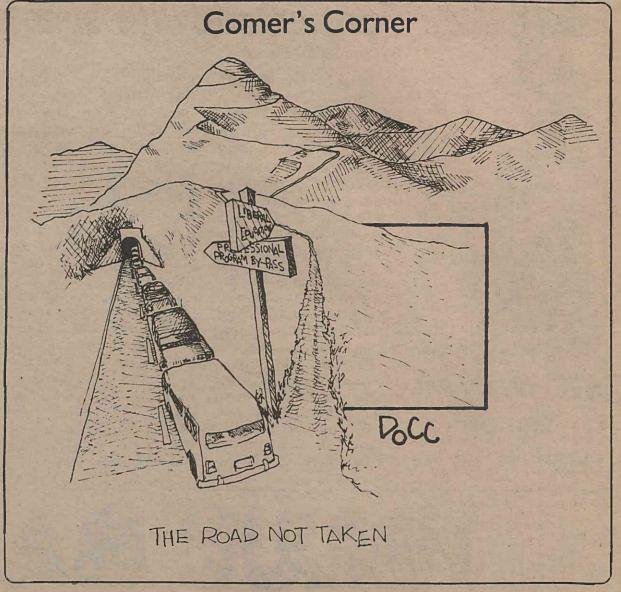
The huge sums spent paying for their campaigns, (\$8.8 million by Helms; \$3.9 million by Hunt), the largest in U.S. senatorial campaign history, could surely be better spent promoting themselves some other way. We would rather vote for a candidate who used \$2 million to help build a hospital for sick children, for example, rather than for one who spent \$2 million to make us sick with his sour television ads.

It's time for Hunt and Helms to call for a mutual time-out in their war of words. They need to use this time to revaluate their tactics and strategies.

We, the citizens of North Carolina, expect a lot of our leaders; and one of the things we expect is for them, if they are men, to be gentlemen. Both candidates claim they want to relate to each other as gentlemen. We think it's about time they started doing so.



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## **LETTERS**

#### Students should register

Dear Editor,

This is a very important election year! The Student Government Association, the College Democrats, the College Republicans, the Political Science Association and other concerned individuals are joining together to promote student voter registration on our campus. As educated college students, we feel it is our duty to be concerned about the low rate of voter registration in our country. We realize how important it is to take an interest in the issues of our time. Of the approximately 24 million people in the United States, age 18-24, eligible to vote, only 6 million are registered. This 25% rate is the lowest of any group in the country. If students do not vote, their concerns are not heard, and their opinions are not respected by politicans.

On Sept. 18, UNCA has planned a voter registration kickoff meeting. Registers will be on campus from 10-4:00 p.m., Sept. 25-26. In this non-partisan effort, we need your help in registering as many students as poscible.

Students are urged to come to this meeting on Sept. 18, 8:00 p.m. in room 37, Highsmith University Center. We need you to get involved! Do it - Sept. 18!

Cordially yours,
Student Government Association
The Political Science Association
The College Democrats
The College Republicans of UNCA

### **Policies**

THE BLUE BANNER welcomes letters to the editor. We will consider letters for publication on the basis of interest, timeliness, tastefulness and space. Letters should be typed double-spaced, or printed legibly. They should not exceed 400 words. Letters should be signed with the writer's name followed by his or her year in school, major, or other relationship to UNCA. Please include a telephone number to aid in verification.

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