

CGC must pass court reform bill

Student Government may seem to most students to be a worthless bureaucracy, but tonight the Campus Governing Council will decide the fate of an important part of both Student Government and students' lives here at Carolina.

The judicial reform bill—prepared through many meetings and compromises over several years—will have its chance tonight to be passed by the council to be placed before the student body in a referendum.

The proposed bill is certainly not perfect but it is so much better than the present system that it would be foolish for the council to delay placing court reforms before the student body for approval.

If the council delays passage of the bill, it is in effect responsible for the continuing inequities of the present system.

The bill would eliminate the "automatic Fs" given students convicted of academic violations under the current system. It also would end the expelling of graduate students convicted of academic violations.

The proposed bill is also better than the present system because all penalties and punishments are defined.

The document has a statement on student rights of privacy and expression.

As for procedure, the bill changes the elective districts so that they are the same as the CTC districts. This change will provide for a much more manageable election as well as take away some of the confusion from the races for office.

One of the most significant changes made in the bill is the provision that includes students on the appeals board. The present board is composed of three faculty members, allowing no student representation in final decisions on automatic Fs and other penalties that affect students' lives vitally. The appeals board proposed in the bill before the CGC would have 50 per cent student composition.

One of the hardest decisions in writing the bill was whether a provision for minority courts should be made and if so what form these should take. Through many, many meetings with representatives of minorities, a compromise was worked out that provides for minority courts.

Although many criticisms have been made of this bill by various people in and out of Student Government, they are not worth the time it would take to deliberate, compromise and have meetings to come up with a totally acceptable document.

There is no need for a Student Bill of Rights, as suggested by CGC member Bill Snodgrass, because students are protected, like every other citizen, by the Constitution's Bill of Rights.

More deliberation to perfect the court system at UNC is deterrent to the real goal—to get rid of the present unfair, inefficient and outdated court system and in its stead set up a system that will serve the students. Any further delay is not serving the students' interests. The CGC should pass the judicial reform bill tonight.

Ford Runge

Judicial reform deserves a chance

Guest Opinion

(Editor's note: Ford Runge is student body president.)

Student government, like all supposedly democratic forms, has difficulty doing exactly what it is supposed to do—represent students. The reasons for these difficulties are of no particular interest to those who rarely come into contact with student government's functions.

One function of student government which affects students more directly than any other is the campus judiciary system—the Honor Court. This system affects students' welfare, their academic standing, and even whether or not they will remain in school. Because the judiciary system affects so many students, often adversely, it is worthy of our attention.

The honor code is hypocritical, selectively enforced, and unrealistic. Too many aspects of a judiciary system which should be controlled by students now lie in the hands of faculty and administrative agencies. The present judiciary system is outmoded, disorganized, and inefficient.

The Judicial Reform Bill (40 pages in its entirety) outlines a system which specifies offenses under the honor code. This specification would help to take much of the hypocrisy, selective enforcement, and lack of realism out of present procedures. In addition, the bill places more responsibility in the hands of students where it belongs.

The Judicial Reform Bill has other significant advantages over the present system:

1. It eliminates the automatic "F." Last year 80% of the cases coming before the honor court were academic violations. If a verdict of guilty was given, the student received an automatic "F" in the course. Graduate students similarly charged and convicted are expelled. The judicial reform bill eliminates these provisions.

2. A change in the records policy. Under the present system, all violations of the honor code go on the back of the permanent academic record, and may be viewed by State and Federal investigative agencies. The proposed bill provides that after the active

period of discipline is over, all record of violation or discipline will be removed from the student's academic record.

3. Student representation on policy-making boards. The judicial reform bill provides for a Committee on Student Conduct, which would replace the present all-faculty committee on Student Discipline. The Committee on Student Conduct would be comprised of 50% students.

4. Entire enforcement control of the University drug policy and the disruptions policy to the student courts. Under the present system, these policies are enforced by an administration-faculty-student hearing board. Again, the judicial reform bill places more responsibility in the hands of students.

5. Appeal to other students. Under the present system, a student who appeals his case beyond the lower court must go before a board of three faculty members. The bill provides an all-student appeals board.

The Judicial Reform Bill has its detractors. It is, however, the work of several years of drafting, meetings, and compromise. Like so many good proposals, it is now in danger of falling prey to more drafting, more meetings, and more time wasted as student government spins its wheels, and shows its unresponsiveness for all to see.

Meanwhile the inefficiency and hypocrisy of the old system continues. The court continues to decide who will fail a course, who will be expelled, and who will be allowed to stay in school.

Tonight the Campus Governing Council will vote on whether or not to bring this bill before the student body in referendum. If it votes to do so, it will be the first time that the bill has escaped from meetings where a few tinker with its substance, and placed for judgment in the hands of all the students who will be most immediately affected by its provisions. I believe that it deserves that chance. I wish every student could examine the bill, and decide for themselves which system they would like to see determine whether or not they will come back to Chapel Hill in the fall.

Tim Sims

Stop the wagon; I want to get off

The furor is dying down. Just like all the experts said it would, it's dying down. Some real groovy smut was unearthed and slung; editorialists, cartoonists, news commentators, the various Senate committees, John Dean (whose own backyard got a little unearthed), and Seth Efron (who doesn't have a backyard) have all tirelessly kept up various kinds of pressure.

Students demonstrated, motorists honked, petitions were signed, people from serious to silly held forth at cocktail parties, intellectually effete snobs in the dark corners of the Pine Room sneered into their coffee and belched forth inanities through their cigarette smoke.

But friends. Come now. He's still there. He's climbing in the charts once more, he's even working on some important legislation which some of you have been wanting. Environmental

protection, energy conservation, campaign financing (get that one?), and so on.

Are you getting tired of wanting him out so bad it drives you to Alka-Seltzer? Does the futility of your rallies, your petitions, and your talk become wearisome to you?

Ah, youth. How soon they forget their high ideals and their lofty convictions. Students, you see, according to the charts, have dropped off drastically in their efforts to move for impeachment.

Does it get to you that you're just another predictable element on the charts of those who make charts? When they graph your whims in black and white—does it make you mad?

Am I making you mad by sneering at you from this column? I hope like hell I am. Because after you get over it, I want you to read the rest of this article. It goes

like this:

Jumping on bandwagons may be your thing. If it is, or if you just do it because in the emotional high of the moment you can't control yourself, you'd better slap yourself—hard—next time you see one come by.

Or perhaps you are the type who examines all the evidence you have access to, considers carefully upon a position, then counts the cost of taking a stand, then takes a stand and has the moral fortitude to stick it out until the battle is over.

You sacrifice for what you believe, you work hard for it—it doesn't stay in your mind or just get aired to your acquaintances.

If you fall in the second category, I'm not talking to you. You're alright—solid. Yeah, that's right. I'm judging. If you did anything less than what was just described in the second type individual, you are a bandwagon-hopper, an emotional-high-popper, a whim on Samuel Grafton's Youth

Information Chart, a kid, be you 18 or 30.

Still mad? Good. Listen: Convictions are not games you play. They are not ideas you hold in your head or conversations you have with your friends. They are not even overt acts like signing a petition (which, after all, doesn't take a whole lot of effort?) or attending a rally. Convictions are not things you have, they are the way you live.

Please. None of this pseudo-psychological crap about learning to be responsible by struggling with things too big for you, or, all experiences are good, etc. You're all big girls and boys now—you don't learn by crawling through the mazes anymore. Or, if you do, Skinner have mercy on your souls.

You want to be a sporadic whim on old Sam Grafton's chart, all your life? Nah, you don't want to do that. So next time a bandwagon comes along, be a thinker, a considerer, a responsible choice maker. Thanks, and good night.

Letters to the editor

Mac Frampton left reader in tears

To the editor:

The Mac Frampton Triumvirate may be good enough to make "The Lawrence Welk Show." I knew something was going to be wrong when they walked on stage in color-coordinated velvet suits. Frampton himself, had a voice like Dick Clark, and when he spoke of Gilbert O'Sullivan as one of today's musical geniuses, it's no wonder there was laughter in the audience. I'll never forget how he introduced his bass player: "Here's a guy who's been a lot of places and done a lot of things. But the thing he does best is play that bass. Meet Doug Smith!" In an orange glitter suit nonetheless. Their muzak was the most unoriginal, trite, television-styled crap I've ever heard. I'd rather listen to the King Family. The sights and sounds so roused me that I was forced to leave Memorial Hall with tears in my eyes and hysterical laughs in my throat.

Stuart Troutman
2512 Granville South

Save America; get involved now

To the editor:

Many people prophesize doom for the American way of life. Others assert its righteousness and pray for its longevity. Many of the above and many others have come to believe that we in America face a grave crisis or series of crises, unprecedented

in our history.

It would seem probable that such a situation does exist, especially in view of the current economic situation, the effect it may have on the confidence of the American people in their government, the rising rate of crime and so on. That much in our country needs changing is obvious, but what is possibly the most depressing aspect of American government is that it is not changing, that it is largely unresponsive from the local level to the federal. The important question to ask is: How can we change the nature of our governmental agencies and political institutions? One means is to seek total socio-political revolution. But very few people are doing that any more. Another is to "work through the system." This immediately brings to mind the image of a coat and tie, 8-5, five days a week. Would it not be better to combine a little of both of these concepts?

The possibility to effect such a combination is quite available to many people, and especially to students. How? One specific way is to attend meeting of the Chapel Hill and Carrboro town councils regularly. Why? Because the local, community-oriented political process is precisely what has been neglected by the members of thousands of communities all over the nation, and it is imperative that the instruments of local government be made responsive to and accountable to the people whom they serve.

It is foolish to expect that any organ of government can act in the interest of its

constituents if those constituents do not make their voices heard individually and collectively. With the problems that we face today it is absurd to remain inactive in the affairs of local government.

One final point: there are countless local, regional and national issues with which to deal. But at present the issue and concept of perhaps the most fundamental concern to every American may be the struggle to come to grips with the true meaning, original and present, of the American revolution, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Gerry Chapman
C-9 Carolina Apartments

Punishment used against the poor

To the editor:

The Norwood Car Center Exxon station at 136 W. Franklin Street has effectively decided that they will no longer sell gasoline to students.

This fact emerged Monday when I pulled into the station to get gas. Signs on the pumps indicated that gas would be sold to "long-term customers only."

Since I have often patronized their now inoperative self-service pumps, I felt justified in asking for service. I was refused. The manager said that "long-term" meant 5 years or more. Since very few students remain in Chapel Hill for that length of time, the implication is that no students will be sold gas here.

I feel that this policy is flagrantly discriminatory and urge all students, faculty and staff to boycott this station until their policies change. It is the few retailers like this who alienate the students toward all Chapel Hill merchants.

Daniel R. Koenigshofer
3 Wyrick St.

Reader urges student boycott

To the editor:

I would like to applaud Joan Hockenbury's letter of Jan. 21 concerning capital punishment in North Carolina. This is a matter of great concern to me.

Capital punishment in North Carolina throughout North Carolina's history has been used almost exclusively against the poor, the black, and the uneducated. How does a state have the right to sit in judgement upon someone and sentence him to death when premeditated killing is a crime whether it is done by a citizen or by the state?

If Jesse Helms could express as much concern over the taking of a mature citizen's life as he has over the abortion of an unborn fetus, I would have some hope for our state. As it is now, North Carolina is known as the "Hangman State" because of our crudely enforced use of Capital Punishment.

I, too, urge all people to voice their opposition to capital punishment to their legislators and to Gov. Holshouser. Do it now before it is too late for one of the twenty-one people on Death Row in North Carolina.

Diane Spaugh
656 Ehringhaus

Plenty of good music in area

To the editor:

David Jamison wrote a letter to the editor concerning the lack of good music here on campus. I am of the opinion that Mr. Jamison is a bit close-minded. There is an abundance of good music around Chapel Hill. What we don't have are the big Top 40 names and the expensive and noisy light shows.

There are several very good musicians who perform every weekend in various places around town. People like John Santa, Decatur Jones, Jim Gibbs (and Frank), Carol Ponder and Mike Cross (and at least a dozen more very fine musicians) put out a lot of effort to insure good music for folks to listen to. We also have a more than competent music department with many good musicians performing within the department.

I realize I can't change Mr. Jamison's taste, or the lack of it, in music, but there is an alternative. He could transfer to Western Carolina or Appalachian State. I hear they have some really "neat" and "swell" concerts there which may be just what he's looking for.

Mike Clark
201 Carr



1 phone; 2 bills

To the editor:

This letter concerns the almost unparalleled incompetence and stupidity my roommate and I have encountered with the Chapel Hill Telephone Company since October, 1973. Although we have only one telephone in our apartment, we receive two phone bills for that one phone each month, one listing the phone in my name, the other in my roommate's name. So, every month we trek down to the office on Franklin Street and inform the "service representatives" of our plight. After we pay the bill listed in my name and receive assurance that the duplicate bill should be ignored, we return home. Inevitably, a few days later, we receive notification that our telephone will be

disconnected if our phone bill is not paid. Of course, it has been paid, but not in duplicate. So once again we go down and tell the "service representatives" what happened and our phone is safe until the next month, when the whole cycle starts over.

We offer the above as one reason why we shall celebrate the day the University sells the telephone company. We suggest they sell it to someone in Antarctica, and start over in Chapel Hill with a more efficient system, like carrier pigeons.

Steve Allred
Marc Davis
E-16 Estes Park
Carrboro