

# The Daily Tar Heel

96th year of editorial freedom

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**Editor's note: The Daily Tar Heel editorial board — the editor, the associate editors and four editorial writers — voted 4-3 to endorse Dukakis for president and 4-3 to endorse Jordan for governor.**

## Michael Dukakis for president

Disappointing is a good word to describe the campaign, the candidates, the rhetoric and the runaround of the 1988 presidential race. The nasty tone of the political advertising and the look-pretty, say-nothing approach to debating forced voters to spend too much time listening to politicians say far too little.

Unlike the candidates, constituents can't waffle: when they cast their votes on Tuesday, they must choose, based on the promises and the records of Republican candidate George Bush and Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis. In both areas, Dukakis is the best choice.

With his work as vice president, Bush has experience on his side. But he seems to have held a series of top positions without making much of an impression in any of them. Bush doesn't seem to have done anything terrible; sometimes he doesn't seem to have done anything at all.

Some credit Bush with foreign policy experience, citing his service as U.N. ambassador, CIA director and ambassador to China. But the one notable example of his foreign policy judgment — his choice to remain silent about the Iran-contra arms for hostages deal — contributed to a national embarrassment.

Bush says he wants to be known as the Education President. The thousands of college students who were denied financial aid when the Reagan-Bush administration slashed its way through federal grant and loan programs probably chuckled when they heard that statement. If Bush supports Pell Grants and other federally-funded student aid programs, what was he doing while Reagan made cutbacks in educational spending?

Even Bush's campaign promises —

## Bob Jordan for governor

The gubernatorial race of 1988 represents a hard choice between some soft candidates. Both Democrat Bob Jordan and Republican Jim Martin have a lot of flash that never seems to generate any heat. The result is that neither candidate has had to answer tough questions on the state's future, and the issues have been allowed to go largely unaddressed. One issue that neither candidate has been able to ignore, however, is education, and education is the reason that Jordan should be the next governor of North Carolina.

North Carolina has one of the worst secondary educational systems in the country, with consistently low scores on national tests. This situation puts young North Carolinians at a disadvantage, both in the job market and in competition for scholarships and college placement. The poor quality of education is also a discouragement to companies planning to relocate their businesses and their employees' families here. Paradoxically, the state's higher educational institutions rank as some of the best in the land, but saddling these institutions and employers with suspect graduates can only cause difficulties. A governor committed to education is imperative.

As lieutenant governor, Jordan has a record of positive educational reforms and initiatives. He helped pass the School Facilities Act, a long-term, \$3.2 billion construction plan, which for the first time uses state money in school construction. He also helped raise teacher salaries, far more than Martin's proposals would have allowed.

Jordan's support was instrumental for the Basic Education Plan, an eight-year, \$800 million commitment to the quality of secondary education in the state. Martin originally opposed this

he supports college savings bonds designed to help middle-income parents save for their children's college education — demonstrate a bias toward upper-income levels. The bond proposal conveniently ignores the children whose parents are unable or unwilling to save money for college.

Dukakis has demonstrated more willingness to commit time, energy and funds to educational programs. As governor of Massachusetts, he supported increases in state scholarships and in teacher salaries.

Dukakis has proposed a loan plan for college students that would allow them to pay off the loans through deductions from their paychecks after they graduate and begin making money — the greater the income, the higher the deduction.

Also, Dukakis has called for a commitment of \$25 million in seed grants for the fight against illiteracy. His desire to address this problem should be of special concern to North Carolinians, whose state ranks 43rd in the nation in literacy levels.

Dukakis' support of gun control and his commitment to addressing social problems such as the inadequate day-care system are commendable. And Bush's harping on the pollution of Boston Harbor is misleading; Dukakis inherited the polluted bay from his Republican predecessor. His environmental record earned him a "B" from the non-partisan League of Conservation Voters; Bush rated only a "D-plus."

Calling either candidate an excellent choice would be a mistake. Both suffer from a lack of innovative proposals, and both have a disturbing tendency to snipe at each other instead of addressing real issues. But a choice must be made, and one is clearly better. Vote Dukakis for president.

program, in the belief that business tax incentives were more important.

The only reform Martin can claim is the Career Ladder Plan, a peer-evaluation program that puts existing teachers on a differentiated pay scale. Whatever its mass political appeal, the program does not attract potential teachers to the field, and some suggest that it causes internal difficulties and jealousies.

Many voters, despite these differences, still have reservations about Jordan being governor, reservations that are not wholly unfounded. Jordan's impolitic manner on the campaign trail has alienated many voters, especially minorities, whom he deserted, and the "redneck vote in eastern North Carolina," which he inauspiciously courted. These campaign blunders raise doubts about Jordan's ability to lead and to inspire the confidence needed to be an effective governor.

Students, however, must remember that the governor directly affects many aspects of this University, from its state funding to the composition of the Board of Trustees. John Pope — the trustee who has questioned the need for a Black Cultural Center, complained that UNC has too many female students and generally displayed a shockingly insensitive attitude toward the University's educational mission — is a strong supporter of Martin. Pope's term as a trustee is over in 1989, and the governor in office could re-appoint him. Such an ill-advised gesture would be much more likely under Martin's leadership than Jordan's.

A governor with proven concerns about education will greatly benefit the University, the students and the state. Bob Jordan, for all his shortcomings, would be that governor.

## It's time again for that revolution thing

Tomorrow, time will go plodding along, the Beatles will still be broken up and I still won't be able to grow a beard — and there's not a damn thing any of us can do to change any of that. What we can do is this voting thing.

A little over 200 years ago, a bunch of radicals in America came up with the keen idea of fighting the British Empire. After pulling off what we call the American Revolution, our ancestral liberals decided that the best people to govern their baby bureaucracy were the people themselves.

Indeed, each election in America is a revolution, and each citizen's weapon is his or her vote. Due to the sacrifices of those who came before us, we can alter or affirm our country's direction through voting. It takes only a few minutes, but its impact is seen in awesome ways. Make no mistake — voting is as powerful as the mightiest revolution.

Yet look at the statistics: more than 75 percent of people our age, 18 to 24, typically do not vote; half of all Americans who can vote usually do not; and the lowest turnout in 40 years is predicted for tomorrow's national election.

Maybe the races that were decided by a notoriously scant number of votes do not convince everyone of their importance. John F. Kennedy was elected over Richard Nixon in 1960 by slightly more than 100,000 votes out of roughly 70 million cast.

Voting's individualistic nature should not lessen our understanding of its importance. The argument that "my vote does not matter" is like saying that one's presence at a basketball game won't add to the crowd's spirit. (If everyone took that attitude, then it would be up to the Rams Club to cheer the Tar Heels to victory.)

### Stuart Hathaway I Spy

It is important to remember that this is a presidential race, not a popularity contest. Likability has little place in our decision. As a friend of mine pointed out, when we board planes we don't insist on interviewing the pilots to make sure they have good personalities; we don't ask surgeons to tell us jokes before they save our lives. We are electing someone to run the United States, not someone to replace David Letterman. Go for the issues.

After examining the issues that are important to me, I am enthusiastically supporting Mike Dukakis for president. He is a man of ability and integrity, and he brings this to bear in his consideration of every issue and in the management of his campaign.

But unlike basketball, we are the players in the elections, not the spectators. We decide who wins and loses. An election is a critical event that depends as much upon collective action as any enterprise.

But, you say, why vote? This whole government thing doesn't effect me. In fact, it permeates every aspect of our lives. From national security to the minimum drinking age to the protection of civil liberties to the existence of this University, government is all around us, although we frequently take for granted its presence.

But, you say, more informed people ought to decide who should be president? Rather than fall back on this cop-out, we can get hold of some bountiful last-minute information and decide personally who we want to be president.

Though gaining momentum, Dukakis is behind in the polls. While they by no means necessarily reflect what will happen tomorrow, polls have served one purpose — to show that Dukakis has maintained his integrity throughout this campaign. His opponent, George Bush, began the most negative attacks in recent elections and has given lip-service to popular issues. He has wrapped himself up in an American flag and thrown up smokescreens to blind voters to the real crises facing this nation. Dukakis has refused to engage in such campaigning. What the polls reflect is that a man who will do anything to be president is ahead, while a man of values and principles is behind.

It has been predicted that millions of potential voters won't bother to vote tomorrow; many will participate in the symbolic action of not voting. Swell. But those that don't vote must be ready to accept the consequences of their nonaction. This washing of hands to avoid responsibility is self-destructive, and the fate of our nation for the next four years will be martyred on a cross of acquiescence. Neither candidate plays a riff on our inspiration-sensitive heart strings? Well, as the wrestler-philosopher Rick Flair is fond of saying, "Whether you like it or whether you don't like it, take a good look at it, because it's the best that's going today (Ahwoooooo)!"

What gets you mad? What are you happy about? If you desire a change or wish continuity in any issue of national, state or personal importance, vote to see it happen. We empower ourselves to do this. Only in America.

Stuart Hathaway is a junior political science and history major from Charlotte.

## Readers' Forum

### Say yes to bonds

Editor's note: the author is the chairman of Orange County Citizens for the November 8 bonds.

To the editor:

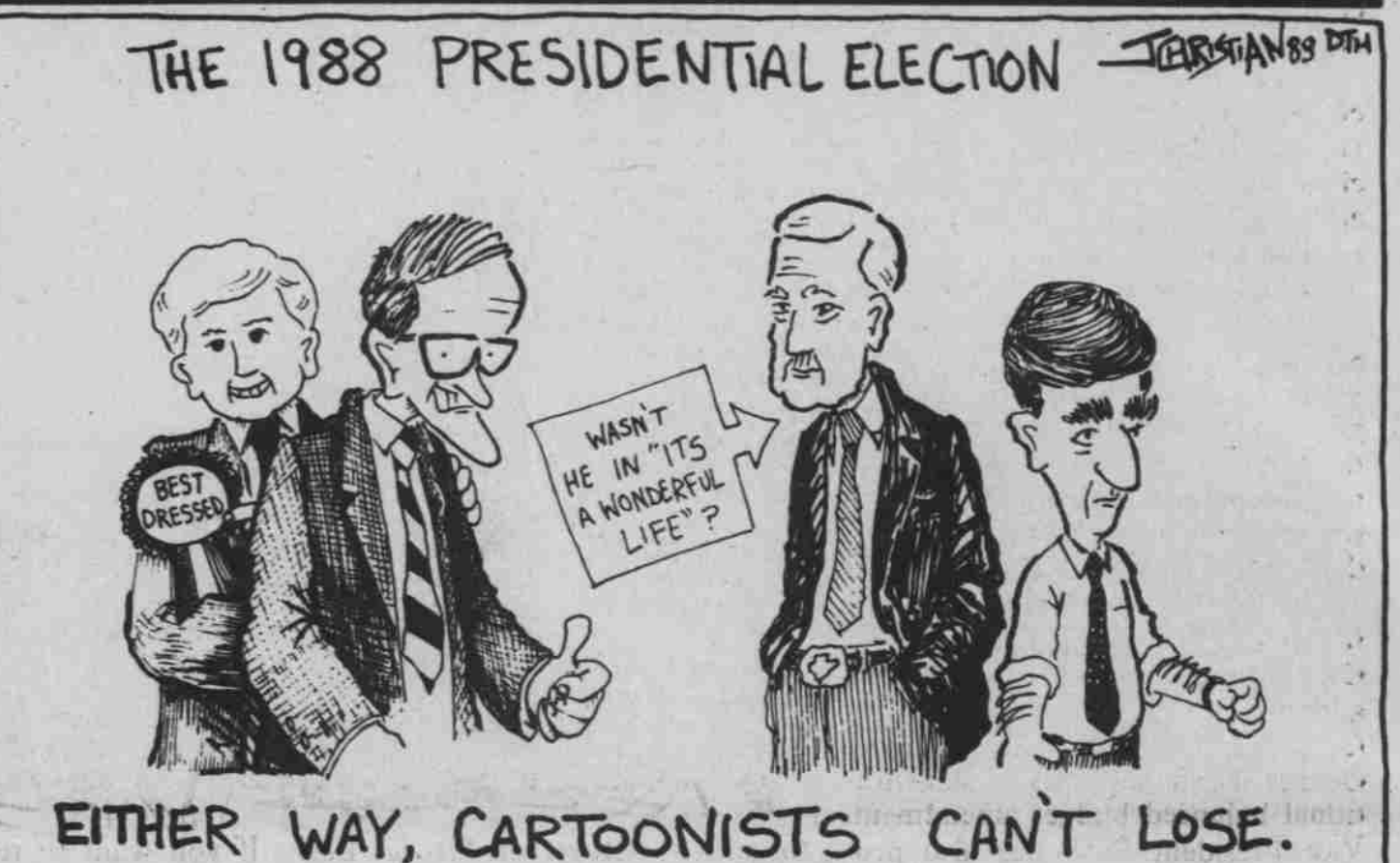
I write in support of the three bond issues to come before Orange County voters on November 8. The need is urgent and the bonds represent a conservative, business-like approach to their funding.

The two school systems in Orange County need our help. Rapid growth in the number of students enrolled in our schools has them bursting at the seams. In addition, further reductions in class size, mandated by the progressive North Carolina Basic Education Program, cannot be met with current facilities. The other two bond issues, which are earmarked for county buildings and water resources, are offered to the voters after careful examination by a citizens' panel to assure that only priority items are included.

The voters can vote up or down on each of the three components — schools, county buildings and water resources. The whole package represents a tax increase of about \$31 per year per \$100,000 of property valuation. With an increasing tax base the tax burden relative to these bonds will be lighter in future years. A modest investment now will have a substantial positive impact on the future of our county.

I encourage all Orange County citizens to join their neighbors in support of these important initiatives.

CHARLES FOSKEY  
Chapel Hill



### Choose Republicans

To the editor:

This Tuesday, Nov. 8, we will again be given the opportunity to do what many people in the world are fighting and dying to do — elect our representatives in government. Sadly enough, in our age group, 18-24, only about one in three people eligible will actually cast a ballot. What a privilege we are squandering!

In race after race, many people have said that the campaigns were too negative. We as citizens must look beyond the "packaging" of the candidates to the men and women themselves. It is your responsibility as a voter to research the candidates' positions and choose one to support based on their and your ideology.

I am supporting George Bush, Jim Martin, Jim Gardner, Tom Fetzer, Max Reece and Bob Crump in this

election. These are choices made after listening to all the candidates from both parties in the news and in person. The opportunities have been numerous to hear these individuals, and I wish that more UNC students had cared enough to listen.

I urge you to support these candidates because I feel confident that they will serve you well in Raleigh and in Washington. I believe that the stands they have taken on the issues and their records of achievement make them worthy to receive my vote.

I hope you will agree with me and cast your ballots in a similar manner for these qualified individuals. Most of all, I hope that you will take the time to become informed, make some decisions, and exercise your opportunity to vote Tuesday.

RANDALL McBRIDE  
Senior  
Biology/Chemistry

### Rand is on our side

To the editor:

Members of the UNC-CH community should be strongly supportive of Tony Rand's candidacy for Lt. Governor. Rand is a Chapel Hill graduate with many long-standing ties of loyalty and affection for this institution. His understanding of the state appropriations processes and the appointive powers he would exercise as lieutenant governor will ensure the enactment of proposals to strengthen UNC recently put forward by Chancellor Hardin and President Spangler. The election of his opponent ensures only protracted squabbling between the Democratic controlled Senate and the office of the lieutenant governor. Tony Rand is on our side.

STIRLING HAIG  
Department  
Romance Languages

## Broken feet, bloody limbs and witch hunts

### Week in Quotes

"We wanted someone that would portray the same image as Carolina Dining Service. Domino's has a quality image that we thought was up to the University." — Bill Dux, director of Carolina Dining Services, on the decision to let students put Domino's pizzas on their meal cards.

"It felt super to get another shutout." — Evelien Spee, UNC field hockey goalkeeper, on the Tar Heels' defeating Maryland 3-0 to win the ACC tournament.

"People are poking their noses in here (Lenoir) at noon and walking away." — Thomas Shetley, director of auxiliary services for Carolina Dining Services, on the firm's loss of money due to the lack of adequate seating in the campus cafeterias.

"If they are upset with us for going out and showing support for our candidates, well, that's politics, especially in the Pit." — Bill Taylor, chairman of the College Republicans, on the CRs' visibility at the Young Democrats rally in the Pit for gubernatorial candidate Bob Jordan. The YDs claim that the CRs broke an agreement not to disrupt the rally.

"I was not given an active sentence because this is a witch hunt." — CIA protester Graham Entwistle, on the discrepancy between his sentence and that of fellow protester Dale McKinley. Entwistle was given 72 hours of community service and a 21-day suspended sentence, while McKinley received a 21-day prison term.

"I'm delighted to represent the University. My goal is to make the University look good and make them want to come back." — Libby Barbee, one of the three students chosen to be receptionists for the crew of "Good Morning, America" during their stay in Chapel Hill. UNC was one site of the show's week-long series "Charles Gibson Across America: The Vote and the Voter."

"Did you order the CIA atrocities?" — Inquired by CIA protesters in front of Lenoir and Hanes Halls as they held out platters of "bloody limbs" to passersby.

"If we have to wait until 1992 before we get a new building, we will be out in the hall." — Margo Crawford, Black Cultural Center director, on the BCC's dire need for more space than is available at the Center's present site in the Student Union.

"I like where I am." — Chancellor Paul Hardin, on whether his appearance on the taped portion of the "Good Morning, America" broadcast would entice him to abandon the University and pursue a career in television.

"I don't think any of us knew he was really hurt, including him, because he's so big and strong." — UNC basketball forward Steve Bucknall, on the team's surprise at J.R. Reid's injury. Reid is suffering from a stress fracture in his left foot and will be forced to sit out the first six to eight weeks of the season.

Compiled by associate editor Laura Pearlman.