

# Liaison position to join students, administration

By TERRI CANADAY  
Staff Writer

A new Student Congress liaison will create a communication bridge between students and the administration, said Speaker Gene Davis, who has appointed Jonathan Martin (Dist. 8) to the position.

Davis said he created the new position to remedy what he believes to be a "relatively low level of communication between the student body and the administration."

"The position of liaison to the administration will allow for two things: an increased flow of information, thus bridging this communication gap, and a watchdog over the administration in order to protect, defend and advocate for the student body."

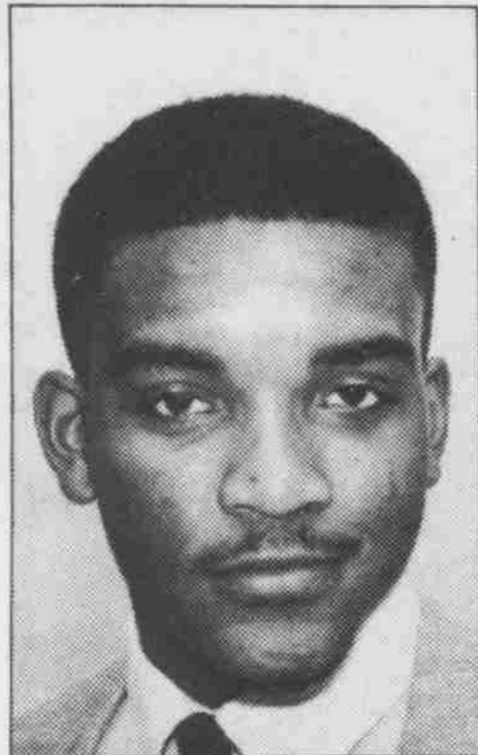
Davis said he chose Martin because: "He's a charming individual whose interpersonal communications skills allow him to work successfully with administrators as well as his constituency."

The new position is necessary, Martin said. "Gene Davis is so busy fighting for what the student body wants and the administration is so busy fighting for what they want, they don't have much time for negotiation."

Martin has no set duties, but he has outlined his fundamental goals as establishing a relationship with the administrative council, making the students aware of what Student Congress is doing and acting as a "buffer zone" between student government and the administration.

Martin explained that most students are only aware of major issues. "The student body doesn't realize the amount of material covered in the meetings of the legislative branch," he said. "All the bills and all the resolutions affect the whole student body."

Martin is still working to inform the administration of his position and



Jonathan Martin

plans. Donald Boulton, vice chancellor and dean of Student Affairs, said Friday that he had not been informed about the position's creation.

Dennis O'Connor, provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs, had been approached by Martin and said he thought the creation of the liaison position was a great idea. But he said he hoped the position "wasn't born out of necessity." For the few years that he has been working as a vice chancellor at UNC, he said he felt the interaction between the student government and the administration had been good. But, he said, the appointment of a liaison "can't help but help."

Students seem to agree with the appointment. Barb Kistenmacher, a junior from Maryland, said: "I don't see how they survived this long without it. When dealing with two different groups of people, there is an unavoidable communication gap, no matter how slight."

# Early rock influences Messablues sound

News Flash: Elvis is alive!

Faithful followers say they have been listening to him all over the Triangle and he can be heard this Friday night at The Cave in Chapel Hill.

Funny, no one has actually seen him. But three area men who call themselves Messablues are promising to speak, or at least sing, his words. They stop short of calling themselves a channel for the rock 'n' roll stars of the '50s, but they've been known to carry the tunes of the Night Hawks, Muddy Waters and B.B. King.

In a recent interview, the band enthusiastically shared their inspirations with the public.

"We call it 'Rockabilly' music," said lead vocalist and guitar player John Arthrus. "The Thunderbirds, early Elvis, Delbert McCClinton, that kind of style of the '50s is what we really like. I guess it is sort of nostalgia."

The musicians of Messablues are in their mid-30s, so this early rock 'n' roll is what they grew up with, Arthrus said.

This childhood exposure to rock 'n' roll apparently stuck with the members. "I'm really not too keen on the newer music, although I'm not trying to knock it down," he said.

## Jessica Yates Band Profile

Bass player Perry Sessoms is not only inspired by the older music, but energized by it as well. "I like playing rhythm and blues," he said. "It's something happening for a bass player."

Rockabilly is not only fun, Sessoms said, but it is "in." "You can see it in all the commercials these days... it'll never die," he said.

Steve Arthrus, drummer and John's first cousin, further explained the group's philosophy. "All the music we have today is based on what these guys in the late '50s did, so why not do the real thing?" he said.

While Messablues is not exactly a household name, residents of Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill may be familiar with the group. It plays at local clubs and private parties regularly.

No commercial recording of the band has been produced yet.

Although none of the members consider their music-playing a full-time job, all of them have considered it a

career before.

John and Steve Arthrus were involved in the Silvertones, which John called a "'60s-type band." John also played in a "top-40" band called Bits and Pieces, and Steve played with country band Rocking Horse for a while. "But we wanted to get together and play the stuff we liked," John said.

Steve, who has been playing professionally since he was 11 years old, agreed. "I've played a big variety of music — heavy metal as well — but every kind of music I like traces back to what I grew up with: rockabilly."

Sessoms has been a professional musician since he was 10 years old and has been involved with several country bands, particularly when he lived in Nashville, Tenn.

Ironically, Sessoms said he is not an avid country music fan. "I really don't like country that much," he said. "It's too boring to play. Rhythm and blues keeps you busy."

The music does seem to keep the 4-year-old group busy, in more ways than one. Both John and Steve Arthrus have families, and all three members have other jobs. "We would all love to do a

full-time band, but it's really impossible," Steve said.

But Steve said he wouldn't mind expanding the group's work, especially in the area of doing opening acts for other bands. "We've played with a bit of 'big times' like Mason Ruffner, who is opening for Ringo Starr, and Mark Wenner, who plays with the Night Hawks," he said. "We'd like to do more because the exposure is good."

While a world tour isn't an immediate goal for the group, Messablues is not without its fans. The band usually plays at places like La Terrazza and The Cave in Chapel Hill.

Steve said he is happy with students' reactions to the band and its music. "I'm starting to see a growing trend for going back to the '50s music, and it's great to see college students showing up and getting into it."

John agreed. "Students seem to like it a whole lot because it's really danceable."

Messablues will play Friday, Sept. 8 at The Cave. For more information, call 968-9308.

# Automobile accident kills UNC student

Carolyn Jean Lam, a senior from Oxford, died at 1:45 a.m. Aug. 25 in a one-car accident.

Lam, 22, lived in Chapel Hill at B-12 Kingswood Apts.

She was traveling south on State Road 1302 just north of Oxford when she misjudged a sharp right-hand curve before the intersection with State Road

1300, said Highway Patrol Trooper M.L. Dupree, the investigating officer.

Her car went into a ditch and turned sideways. The car flipped onto the shoulder, throwing Lam from the driver's seat, and then back onto the road, where it landed on its wheels on top of her body.

Lam was not wearing a seatbelt and was thrown through the driver's win-

dow, the only broken glass in the car, while the car was in the air.

"If she had been wearing a seatbelt, chances are she wouldn't have sustained any injuries except for minor bruises," Dupree said. "The car was not crushed."

Although the car was traveling around the 55 mph speed limit, a light rain was falling and Lam was unfamil-

iar with the area.

Lam planned to enroll this fall in her last semester toward a bachelor's degree in industrial relations. Lam transferred to UNC in August 1987 after two years at Louisburg College, a junior college in Louisburg. Lam was active in the University Band as well as in bands at Louisburg and at J.F. Webb High School in Oxford.

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## BOT

said BOT member Robert Eubanks.

In response to Hardin's recommendation that community cost-of-living factors be included in determining a base rate of pay, Pope said, "They're not going to pay state employees more in Chapel Hill than state employees in Winston-Salem. It's just not going to happen."

Pope said the proposal was not politically realistic.

Implementation of the proposal may be difficult, said BOT member Robert

Strickland. A plan of action will have to be worked out by the board, he said.

BOT Chairman Earl "Phil" Phillips said he was disappointed in Pope's reaction. "I'm not content to be in the top 10 percent. Why be complacent? Why not shoot for the top?"

The University needs to gain fiscal autonomy so it can appropriately use the money it receives, said BOT member William Darity. "I do not want the University of North Carolina to bow to (any other university)."

Student Body President Brien Lewis said that the report was a sound starting point and that he supported the chancellor's call for control over tuition money. "I don't think students should be singled out as a revenue source when the state needs some extra bucks."

Gaining financial control is a long way off, Lewis said. "It probably won't happen while any of us are here."

Lewis said although tuition could be raised if the University gains financial

independence, the proposed program will handle monetary matters more efficiently. "If we stick with the current system, we're screwed."

By determining financial matters through independent campuses, student concerns have a better chance of being addressed, he said.

Student Congress Speaker Gene Davis said he was concerned that tuition would be raised if the University gained greater financial autonomy. "He (Hardin) is willing to raise tuition. He stated in his inaugural address that he believed tuition should be raised. 'The people of North Carolina are willing to suffer a little to provide for higher education.'"

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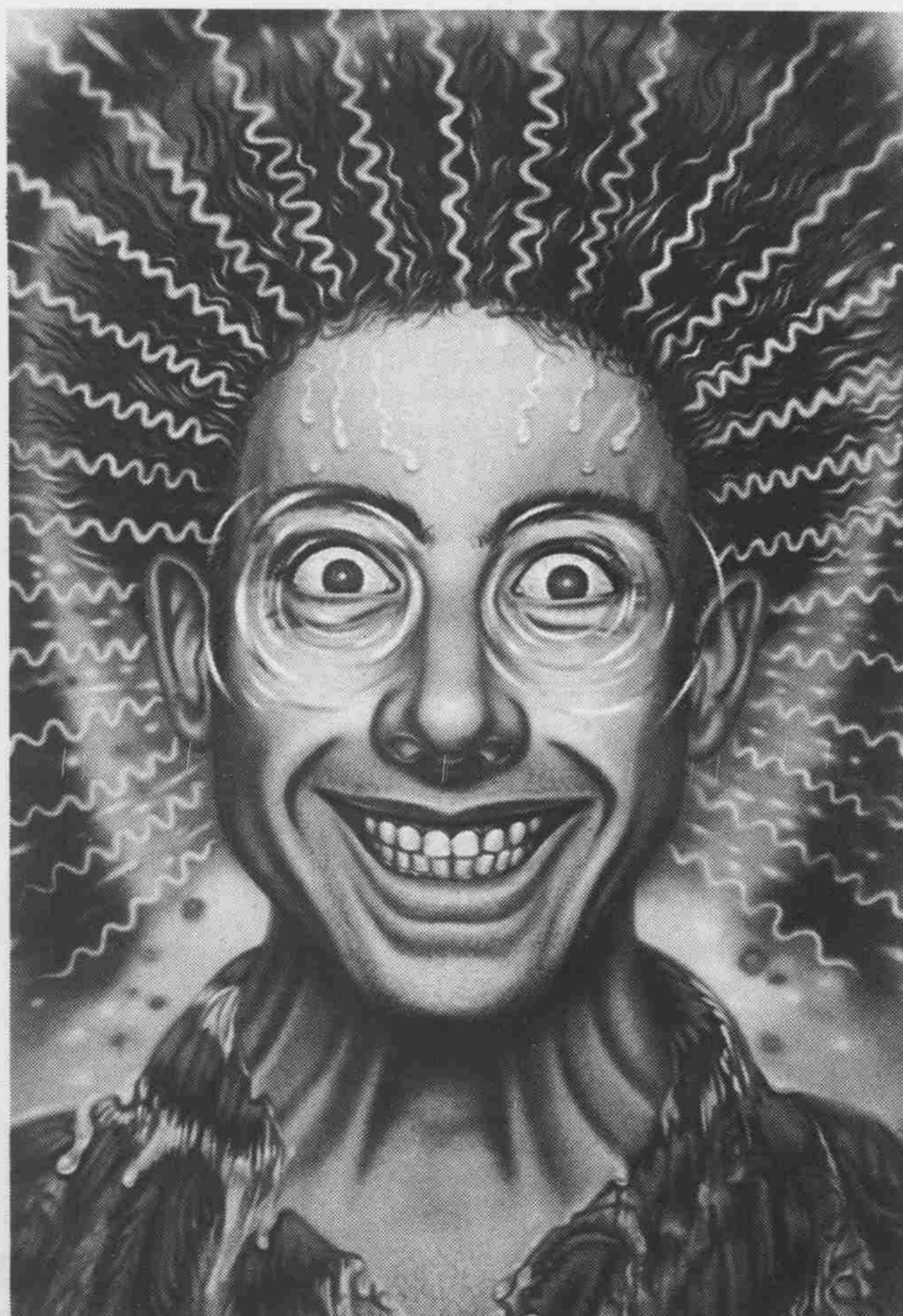
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