

the Seahawk

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Seahawk Viewpoints

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Preserve your memories; a reflection before graduation

LINNIESARAH HELPERN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"The best four years of your life"; it is a phrase you will hear over and over again as you make your way through your chosen institution of higher education. Once upon a time, these seven words were meant to represent the tumultuous teen years of high school. Then, as a university diploma became necessary to accomplish anything, the four years spent at college suddenly became "the best of your life." If I have learned one thing since I arrived here as a silly 18-year-old, it is this; college was not the best four years of my life.

Don't misunderstand me; your time spent at UNCW will be absolutely amazing. College is not only the perfect place to learn the skills you need to move on in life, but it is the only time it will be acceptable for you to start a party on Friday afternoon and end it right before an 8 a.m. appointment on Monday. You will learn, you will love, and you will leave a completely changed person. I know I have.

Thanks to a few wonderful professors here, I have decided to pursue a career in teaching at the college level. Thanks to the classes here, I have learned more useful (and useless) infor-

mation than I ever thought possible. Thanks to my friends here, I have learned that some people truly do support and love you no matter what. Some I am confident will be a part of my life for years to come; others I know I will be hugging goodbye for the last time on graduation day. But one thing is for certain. I am a better person for all of it.

So when I say that college is not the best four years of your life, it because no one knows where those years may be. They could very well be your years spent here. They could have been the time you spent in high school as well. But they could also be waiting for you 20 years down the road when you least expect them. Don't spend your years in college trying to make them the best. Simply try to live and enjoy them to the fullest.

On graduation day, as I stand with my friends and watch us all prepare to move on or away, I will fondly remember all the times I spent with them at UNCW. I will cry as I watch them accept their diplomas. And I will wonder nervously at what may lie ahead for all of us. I do know one thing: these may not have been the best four years of my life, but the years coming have a lot to live up to.

Hamas government defending suicide bombers

AMANDA HUTCHESON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

After a suicide bomber killed nine civilians in Tel Aviv Monday, April 17, Hamas government officials defended the behavior.

Sami Abu Suhri was quoted by Human Rights Watch as saying, "The operation is a natural reaction to continued Israeli crimes against our people," and, "The Palestinian people are in a state of self defense and have every right to use all means to defend themselves."

Wasfi Kabha, minister for prisoners' affairs, was quoted by Human Rights Watch as saying the attack occurred "in the framework of legitimate right of resistance against Israeli violations and crimes."

Musa Abu Marzuk, senior member of Hamas's political bureau, was quoted by Human Rights Watch as saying the attack was "a natural response to the Israeli aggression on our people."

Vigilante justice is illegal, and for a reason. Suicide bombers killing innocent civilians

should be condemned by their government, not defended and excused. Fighting between two countries does not excuse killing civilians and Palestine's government should not excuse it either. If the official party response is, "Oh well, people will be people, maybe they're right to kill each other," then that party has no right being in office. The government should (ideally) improve the lives of its citizens, reduce conflict with other countries, and keep the country it governs safe for its citizens. Of course, this is not always accomplished, but it should at least be the official ideal.

Killing civilians should not be justified, and Hamas should not justify it. If Hamas is to be treated with any credibility by the governments of the rest of the world, then the country should act like a legitimate government. It is in Palestine's best interests, as well as Israel's, for Hamas to take a stand against suicide bombings and act to diminish them. Saying Palestinians "have every right" is not excusable.

SEAHAWK STAFF OPINION

Golddigger booed at spring concert

It's been apparent that a majority, or at least loud minorities, of UNCW students were unhappy with the idea of having Kanye West as the spring concert performer. The student body and the general public showed little interest in the event. The floor seats and bleachers weren't even filled to capacity.

West brought a less-than-professional performance and the audience gave him an appropriate reaction that involved a plethora of "boo's." The lack of participation and the negative feedback showed what UNCW thought about West; most of the people and UNCW student body voiced serious disapproval.

It would seem this particular instance of low ticket sales isn't a result of any concert trends in America. If students realize that a good musical talent is coming to a venue near them, they will rush for tickets. It's all a matter of demand; if the tickets are in demand they will sell out. These tickets didn't sell quickly; they hardly sold at all.

The truth of the matter was that West acted like a prima donna and as though the public owed him for his performance. One would think the money spent to bring him here would have been enough.

When a "musical talent" is paid at least \$100,000 for a one-night performance, one should expect the price to include a professional act. It wasn't enough that he kept crowds waiting for over an hour, but his behavior bordered on absurd.

While Kanye West was on his well-planned ego trip, he stopped by UNCW to tell us how his new light and camera technicians couldn't fulfill his wishes. He literally stopped mid-song on multiple occasions to complain about his road crew.

While West grumbled on stage about being slighted during Grammy season, the audience started to thin as people left in disgust. To prove that he deserved awards for his originality and depth of vision, he sampled beats he had written and rapped to songs by Jay-Z and Twista.

Kanye West got better treatment than he deserved from ACE and UNCW. Students should be applauded for showing him the kind of reaction that his behavior warranted. Hopefully ACE and the university will pay more attention to those they choose for the big spring concerts. Gold diggers shouldn't be on the roster.