

The Daily Tar Heel

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Vote again for Jim Copland

One day before campus runoff elections, one of the two remaining candidates for student body president stands far above the other in experience and substance — Jim Copland.

Copland's experience with previous student governments in a variety of capacities has given him important insight into the needs of the student population and the avenues through which things can be done.

Under Matt Heyd, the highly respected student body president of two years ago, Copland effectively lobbied in Raleigh on behalf of UNC students. He knows the process and is well-equipped to deal with the future concerns of the position.

Copland has presented his intent to run the executive suite with a hands-on approach but realizes his limitations. He knows he can't do and be all things to

all people.

While he has the most extensive knowledge of the University and its political structure, he plans to form several delegatory committees to act as liaisons. He will address pertinent issues by sending liaisons to the Chapel Hill Town Council and to the North Carolina General Assembly.

Copland clearly has mapped out and defended an all-encompassing platform. He plans on using his position on the Board of Trustees to be a strong voice for student concerns. Given his quick mind, his impressive oratorical and negotiating skills, and his uncompromising devotion to the University, Copland is the best advocate the student body could have.



Reason gets another chance

It's morning in Student Congress.

Out of 37 seats, 23 will bring new blood. Five more will be filled with a special election, while the same number of incumbents retain seats.

That's right — only five representatives return to a new congress that will aim to regain respect and legitimacy. The 75th congress has an excellent opportunity to rebuild itself after the two-year slump of childish behavior instigated and inspired by former Speaker Tim Moore.

Of the myriad committees and boards affiliated with Student Congress, the one most responsible for the lost respect is the Finance Committee. The roll call of this committee includes infamous names like Charlton Allen, Kevin Hunter and Chris Tuck. They are responsible for alienating Bisexuals, Gay Men, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity, the Black Student Movement, supporters of the Rape-Free Zone and about every other campus group except the Young Republicans and Campus Crusade for Christ.

After an election that emphasized the importance of fair student-fee allocation, it's crucial that the new congress make this its top priority. Congress must consider how the University can benefit from every student organization, no matter how small or unique.

Several of congress' new members addressed the fee issue in questionnaires for The Daily Tar Heel and showed they understand priorities.

For example, Sneha Shah, Dist. 19, wrote: "Funds need to be given to groups who have a working agenda and truly do encourage education of the general student body in terms of culture, sexuality and awareness. Minority groups on campus need congress' support for increased multiculturalism, especially those who are fighting for a specific cause, such as a course of a faculty member."

Andrew Ballen, Dist. 15, agreed that groups aiming to enhance the educational experience deserve funding, but he made an important qualification: "Religious mores and political ideology do not fit well into this equation. ... We have at UNC the rare opportunity to learn about people that run the gamut of social, moral and political beliefs."

Ruth Campbell, Dist. 22, also has the right idea: "... education and a promotion of diversity can give students further reaching benefits which will aid them in the working environment and beyond. Organizations such as B-GLAD, the BSM and the Feminist Alliance promote such diversity and education."

Several new members have suggested an audit of congressional funding, which, after years of questionable practices, would be worthwhile. Nevertheless, the time has come for renewed optimism about student government. The new congress has a chance to make the student body proud.

With any luck, they'll seize the day.

Condom sense

It's a dangerous world for kids today.

The presence of guns and violence in schools and among teen-agers is becoming increasingly commonplace. Hard drugs are available everywhere. There are myriad temptations and hazards to drag our nation's youth away from noble pursuits and cut short their dreams and aspirations. The pitfalls between puberty and adulthood seem to grow more numerous and deeper every year. The deadliest, from which many teen-agers will never return, is AIDS.

This danger sadly has been forgotten by those in Chapel Hill who oppose the notion of distributing condoms to students at Chapel Hill High School. If the school system had access to 50-cent pieces of latex that would in large part protect teen-agers from knives and bursts of automatic weapon fire, every parent would be beating down the school board's door demanding immediate distribution.

If the school had a box of magic Monopoly cards that read "Get out of a drunk driving accident free of injury" and refused to distribute them, citizens would burn in effigy every member of the school board.

It makes absolutely no sense then that parents don't want their children to have easy access to protection from acquired immune deficiency syndrome and other sexually transmitted diseases. The taboo of sexuality has clouded many otherwise rational and caring minds in this community.

"But if kids have condoms, they'll have sex," comes the rejoinder. This faulty logic flows easily from the lips of anyone who hasn't been a teenager in the last 15 years. The truth of the situation is that many youths are sexually active.

Education about human sexuality must be expanded in the schools, and abstinence should be strongly encouraged. But the community can't take these steps and proceed to don blinders to reality. The appeal of desire, curiosity and mystery that shroud sexuality in the eyes of youth are very powerful.

As a result, teen-agers are having sex. And sexuality can be extremely dangerous, especially to relatively uninformed youth.

The community should eagerly protect its younger citizens from the ravages of violence and tragedy in every way possible. AIDS is a terrible tragedy and is subject to easy prevention.

Fifty cents and a piece of latex.

Condoms should be in vending machines in bathrooms at the high school and distributed free to those students who will ask for them from their guidance counselor. Chapel Hill must help accept modern reality and alleviate danger rather than becoming one more hazard standing between teen-agers and their healthy arrival at the threshold of adulthood.



Ringling Brothers congress needs a new act

It seems P.T. Barnum has found a happy home at UNC, and Sen. Jesse Helms wasn't all wrong when he called Chapel Hill a zoo. There certainly were three rings going at the Student Congress meeting last Wednesday, anyway. Thankfully, however, the animal trainers kept the vicious lions at bay. Or were they just jackasses? I always get the two confused.

You see, if some members of the Finance Committee and other far-right representatives had had their way Wednesday, the only kind of groups funded by your student fees would be — as Rep. Andrew Cohen said — the Sailing and Juggling clubs. And although these organizations do contribute to the diversity that makes this campus so exciting, they do little to provide the support, education and programming necessary to serve the vast array of students attending UNC.

Yet it is precisely the organizations responsible for making UNC more livable for all students that receive the most scrutiny from this small band of political grandstanders. If they hadn't been stopped by the majority of principled Congress members, these ultra-

conservative politicos would have redefined the Student Code to classify most every campus minority organization as politically partisan.

According to the Student Code, politically partisan organizations only can receive funding from congress with a two-thirds majority vote. With the sizable conservative contingent in congress, this redefinition would essentially defund any and all minority groups that ever take a stand supporting a cause or principle that the Student Congress deemed political.

Many of the groups that would have been affected by the change have shoe-string budgets. Yet the same Finance Committee that was so concerned about funding these so-called "political" groups was the same committee asking for approval of a more than \$3,000 budget for the Sailing Club. And (Go



Doug Ferguson
To A Different Beat

figure!) the chairman of that committee happens to be a member of the Sailing Club himself, as is Charlton Allen, another Finance Committee member.

Is this integrity in action? The fearsome foursome who appears to be the main impetus behind the anti-progressive agenda are Finance Committee Chairman Chris Tuck, Charlton Allen, Darren Allen (Yes, they are brothers) and Eric Pratt. And although they are usually joined by at least six others in opposing funding for these so-called "political" groups, they are the voices most often heard raising objections to impede legislation that could benefit minorities on campus.

Luckily, this small group of trouble-makers is outnumbered by well-meaning representatives, such as Cohen, Jennifer Lloyd and the new members sworn in Wednesday. Let's hope it stays that way. But the representatives who are truly looking out for the best interest of students can't do it alone. We must keep tabs on congress, as well.

That is why I devised a little bill of my own to keep student government in line. Take a look, and see what you think.

WHEREAS, A vocal minority of Student Congress members consistently acts to impede the efficient operation of student self-governance; and
WHEREAS, Said members forward individual political agendas at the expense of effective and dignified government; and
WHEREAS, The Student Congress of UNC-Chapel Hill is the only student organization in the UNC system charged with the honor and responsibility of allocating student fees; and
WHEREAS, Abuse of and disrespect for this responsibility could result in the loss of this right to self-governance;
THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT BODY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL THAT:

Article I. Introducing superfluous legislation or impeding other legislation through political grandstanding and with a blatant disregard for the spirit of the Student Code shall be grounds for expulsion from Student Congress.

Article II. Members already found guilty of such actions shall be held accountable through a recall vote by members of the Student Body. Said members include, but are not limited to: Charlton Allen, Darren Allen, Eric Pratt and Chris Tuck.

Doug Ferguson is a senior journalism major from Charlotte.

READERS' FORUM

Half-baked news story requires apologies

To the editor:

I am writing because your article about the Columbia Street Bakery has prompted me to make three apologies. The first is to the employees and management of Columbia Street, for giving the Chapel Hill and UNC communities the impression, through my quotations in the aforementioned article, that the bakery is in some danger of closing. It is not.

Secondly, to Ninth Street Bakery for directing any negative publicity and/or hounding reports to their establishment during a busy work day from anything I might have said.

Finally, I must apologize to Maile Carpenter, the author of this article, for giving her the impression that anything that I said (in an unsolicited phone interview) was up for misquotation, misrepresentation and placement out of context so that she could write the kind of sensationalistic article that resulted. I also am sorry that she could not find enough information to make a real story — perhaps she could not because I would not give up a confidential phone list upon her request — and that she was forced into bald-faced construction of an inaccurate article. I sincerely hope that this kind of misdirected writing does not affect the campus' perception of either Ms. Carpenter's abilities or of the DTH as a news vehicle.

DOUG MATTHEWS
Sophomore
Religious Studies

Call for evolution debate will remain unheeded

To the editor:

Mike Kruger's call for faculty members to present the merits of evolution theory to him and the world in a debate with creationist Dr. Duane T. Gish (DTH, Feb. 11) is unusual, considering that Mr. Kruger's mind apparently already is made up on this issue. To be an objective spectator at such a debate

would require freeing oneself of any preconceived notions which might color one's interpretations of the evidence that comes to light. The tone of Mr. Kruger's letter suggests that he is the type of person who has faith in his convictions, and the gist of being faithful is maintaining confidence in your beliefs in the face of sometimes overwhelming contradictory evidence. I applaud Mr. Kruger for issuing his challenge, though should it ever be met, what you and I might in the end deem an even exchange of ideas would probably come off as a slam-dunk Gish victory to Mr. Kruger.

TOBY ALLEN
Graduate
Chemistry

True-blue fans have plane fare for anti-Woody-ites

To the editor:

As two young men who grew up Tar Heel born and bred, we were deeply distraught, disturbed and dismayed by Mr. Sander's and Mr. Monaghan's drive (Who the hell are they, anyway?) in the Feb. 11 edition of the Reader's Forum. As far as we're concerned, the two of you have yet to earn a spot in Blue Heaven. What is all this flummery about turning off Woody to hear the pagan ESPN commentator? Did you two have unhappy childhoods?

Raised as all true Tar Heel fans should be, we grew up turning off Billy Packer and Dick Vitale so that we might enjoy the enthusiasm and knowledge that Woody brings to each Carolina sporting event. Not only is Woody more knowledgeable about the Heels than any other commentator, he also does his homework, coming to every game with an uncanny supply of information about our opponents. If we want to hear Dick Vitale, we can go to any number of used car lots to hear such inane gibberish. The former Demon Deacon Packer, who is as pompous as Vitale is bald, is a little, spiteful man who is as professional as Mr. Cash.

Have you two clowns been to any of the football games? Have you seen the

student section point to the press box and chant, "Woody! Woody! Woody?" We're not simply extolling the virtues of an award-winning sportscaster, we're paying homage to a man who holds as much empathy for the men in blue as the students. He hurts when the Heels are defeated and is euphoric when the Heels march to victory. Woody exclaims, "Miracles don't just happen in Chapel Hill, they usually happen!" Would you get this quality of rhetoric from Packer and Dicky V?

If you two don't like to listen to Woody, Delta's ready when you are. We'll have you back in Cleveland by sundown. Meanwhile Vic and Jay will be at Bub O' Malley's watching the game and listening to Woody.

JAY STONE
Sophomore
Psychology/
Speech Communication

VIC ROUSE
Senior
Business

Debate proposal has a 'Gish-y' smell about it

To the editor:

Mike Kruger wrote a letter to the editor of The Daily Tar Heel puzzled as to why no science professor would debate Dr. Duane T. Gish when he comes to promote creationism. It is not "inexplicable" at all why no professors are willing to debate Dr. Gish. It's completely understandable. Dr. Gish is infamous in scientific circles as a well-polished showman and as one that will crucify anyone who "debates" him. I put the word "debate" in quotations because these spectacles are not discussions of evidence, but rather dog-and-pony shows designed to ridicule science.

Most scientists spend their time doing research, not practicing to compete with a professional showman.

BARBRA ANNE AMENDE
Graduate
Geology

The Daily Tar Heel

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