

The Daily Tar Heel

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Room for everyone

During the past week, students and University officials attended two forums in Lenoir Hall's North Dining Room during which they debated the merits of banning smoking in the entire building.

The forum moderator seemed resigned to the fact that regardless of what decision University Auxiliary Services makes, they will lose some customers. What she failed to realize was that the room in which she was sitting could be part of a compromise with which both smokers and nonsmokers could live.

In their rush to jump on the smoke-banning bandwagon that seems to be overtaking the campus, auxiliary services representatives should not forget that they are not limited to the two polar options of either banning smoking entirely or keeping the present policy.

The present policy does seem inadequate — it allows smoking in an area that is poorly ventilated and too close to nonsmoking tables. The result: a cloud of smoke looming over the entire hall.

But instead of exiling smokers to a life of using the world outside of Lenoir as their ashtray, University officials should consider a more creative option: using part of the North Dining Hall or the area near the back of the basement of Lenoir as the smoking area. Both spaces are separate enough from the rest of the eating areas to be legitimately called smoking

sections, unlike the so-called area that currently exists.

If they chose the North Dining Hall option, University officials could designate half the room as the smoking section and leave the other half for nonsmokers who enjoy eating in that room. Granted, smokers would have to vacate the area when Carolina Dining Services was having one of their many catered events there. But the University should make an effort to accommodate all students when possible, and it's better for smokers to have an area part of the time than none of the time.

The two forums did show that most students, if not administrators, are willing to be accommodating to their smoking peers. Scott Meyers, the Carolina Dining Services operations director, said CDS had not had any real complaints from students about the present policy. And only two nonsmoking students showed up to complain at the forums.

There is no truly good place to smoke. But the reality on a campus of this size and diversity is that there will be lots of people who do. Nonsmokers should be tolerant of smoking when it is not overly obtrusive, and the University and CDS should, like any restaurant, try to please all of their customers. The possibility of pleasing most everyone at Lenoir is very real.

Looking for cash in all the wrong places

UNC-CH is a learning institution for the children of state residents and, at the same time, a natural resource for the entire state. Despite their small numbers, out-of-state students are key to the University's continuing success.

The N.C. Senate Appropriations Committee currently is considering a bill that would charge out-of-state students the entire cost of their education — a total of at least \$9,000 a year. Out-of-state students currently pay about 80 percent of their education costs — or about \$7,400.

What legislators don't seem to understand is that out-of-state students — despite making up a small percentage of the student body — are invaluable to the diversity, national prestige and continuing growth of the University and the state.

UNC-CH administrators argue, quite wisely, that raising out-of-state tuition jeopardizes the school's competitiveness. But it's not just a matter of national prestige.

According to UNC-system officials, more than 40 percent of out-of-state students remain in North

Carolina after graduation — earning a living and giving back to the state that helped subsidize their education. During their time at the University, out-of-state students help provide the kind of cultural, socioeconomic and geographic diversity for which school administrators strive.

Gov. Jim Hunt has proposed raising tuition 3 percent next year and 3.3 percent the following year — a much fairer recommendation. The UNC system needs funding, and some sort of tuition increase is almost inevitable.

A small tuition hike, such as Hunt's proposal, that poured into the University coffers and not into the pork barrel General Fund, would benefit the University. But forcing out-of-state students to pay their entire educational costs would hurt the University more than it helped the state's financial well-being.

Raising out-of-state tuition will not help alleviate the burden for in-state students or N.C. taxpayers.

Instead, the proposed hike would diminish the overall quality of the University — for all students and citizens.

One day more

Student Body President John Moody has found the salve for the twice-annual epidemic of exam-cram brain paralysis.

Another reading day. Since cramming a semester's worth of material into one reading day is virtually impossible, Moody has sent the University's administration a proposal to incorporate another reading day into the University calendar.

In the past, reading days have fallen on the day after regular classes end. While this 24-hour study period can produce one above-average grade, the fact that another exam crops up the next day sends some students sliding back down the curve.

Students who use Reading Day to study for their first exam are out of luck when that free day is over. Moody's proposal will allow students with a horrific exam schedule to relax — and cut down their Vivarin intake by a third.

An extra reading day could complicate holiday and break scheduling, but increased study time is worth the minor inconvenience. Since reading days

are not set within the UNC system, many N.C. universities have adopted extra time for exam preparation.

Our administration should be thankful that Moody's proposal only asks for one extra day — some Ivy Leaguers garner an entire week for last minute brownnosing.

Although Moody's proposal will be reviewed by Provost Richard McCormick's Instructional Personnel Committee at the group's April 15 meeting, Chancellor Paul Hardin has the deciding vote. After McCormick's committee sends the chancellor what should be a supportive recommendation, Hardin's John Hancock is the seal students need to save them from that "F"amiliar cram grade.

The proposal's only flaw is the starting date. Since the 1993-94 University calendar already has been set in stone, the policy can't be implemented until at least 1994.

Moody's proposal won't help current upperclassmen, but future exam-takers will appreciate his foresight.



Come Monday ... I'll be watching The Game

All I want for graduation is an NCAA championship.

Well, a job certainly would be nice too ... Nevertheless, I don't think this is too much to ask for. I really have to thank the men's basketball team for my early birthday present: Dook's defeat (excuse me, that wasn't a defeat, that was a rout, a slaughter ...) in the last home game of my college career was oh, so sweet. I still don't think I've recovered.

It's time to go for the really big one this time. Just think, all you have to do to get rid of me is win two more games. My parents would really appreciate it because they're convinced I'm staying in school until we win this championship. (Well, I'm not actually sure that my mother, the die-hard Wolfpack fan, wouldn't prefer me to become a professional student. ACC loyalty means nothing here. Kind of the way we all feel about that colony New Jersey has set up in Durham.)

We're due. I can feel it. Haven't I been here since the last championship? Well, no, not really, despite what my roommate says.

I haven't even been to Franklin Street to celebrate anything yet because I know the minute I show up there it'll all be over. Everyone has their little rituals: Some people don't shave; some people don't wash their socks. I don't go to Franklin Street. If I go to celebrate, we'll

lose the next game. That's the way my life works. So I'm just staying away, keeping my fingers crossed, muttering little prayers under my breath ...

It actually might be a good thing that our women's team isn't in it anymore, because the mere thought of a matched set of NCAA championships is just a little too exciting, and my brain might overload.

Generally, I'm not a big sports fan; my formative years were spent in the dance studio, not on the soccer field. I'm certainly not going to go out of my way to search for boxing or handball or three-handed bottle-tossing or whatever else happens to be on ESPN at the time.

Basketball is different. Basketball is more than just a sport. Basketball is like a religion.

Admittedly, I'm a little biased here. I grew up in ACC country, and we get basketball right along with mother's milk. You can't escape if you want to.

Still, I'm not going to go searching for basketball, not when I'm graduating in a month and a half and still haven't found a job, not when my academic



Alisa DeMao
Life Under Seige

career is a perpetual hell week, not when I'm trying to recover from too much time and energy spent being a campus activist. I have too much to do and too much to whine about how busy I am.

That's why I'm so grateful to network television.

Network television basically has grabbed me by the shirt and screamed into my ear, "IT'S TIME FOR THE N.C.-DOUBLE-A, DAMMIT!"

I love the NCAA tournament. Despite the fact that, much to my roommate's disgust, I'm far more likely to choose my teams on what their uniforms look like (I can see all you sports connoisseurs out there rolling your eyes) than on any knowledge of the teams themselves, I can sit for hours watching this stuff. It doesn't hurt that I go to a University with a kick-ass basketball program.

So, everything else in my life stops Saturday at noon. The women's games start then, and I am there: three days of basketball-filled bliss. The television goes on, the tortilla chips and beer come out, and anybody who wants to see me will just have to come over and watch the games.

After all, graduation is riding on this.

Alisa DeMao is an 11th-year senior journalism and political science major from Garner who remembers celebrating in 1982. (No, not really.)

READERS' FORUM

And now ... a word from his Highness, the Dean

Editor's note: The following letter was submitted as an open letter to the student body.

To the editor:
I would like to thank each of you for your tremendous support of the Tar Heel basketball program throughout this year. Your enthusiasm has been a positive force for the team.

As the Tar Heels head to New Orleans this weekend, I would like to encourage all Carolina fans to show their support for our team in a positive manner. This University has always been known for its "class" while cheering on its teams. I know this image will be enhanced this weekend also. During the excitement, I am sure all students will exercise good judgment in showing support for the Tar Heels so that we fully display what it means to be a "Tar Heel."

Hope our team will play well and give you folks many reasons for cheering!

DEAN SMITH
Head Basketball Coach

Rebuttals sans manners change very few minds

To the editor:
For two nights I have attended the lectures on issues in higher education. The one clear piece of knowledge I have gained is that rudeness only hurts a person's arguments.

On Monday evening, a person in the middle of the auditorium persistently interrupted Dr. Schlesinger by shouting rude comments at him. The person in question may have had a valid point. However, her way of expressing opposition discredited her stance. Since she did not ask Dr. Schlesinger questions at the designated place and in turn, like others with a point of contention, the audience was left to conclude only that she must have nothing valuable to say and no way to support her comments.

Rudeness is not a quality exclusive to the more liberal political camp, as we saw Tuesday night. One of the main speakers, Dinesh D'Souza, himself resorted to rude comments rather than cogent points. D'Souza tried to illustrate his arguments with "amusing jokes."

To prove that women's studies classes have nothing to offer universities, he said the only thing he learned in a women's studies course was that a phallic symbol was something longer than it was wide and that he could never look at his school's clock tower the same way again.

Community thankful for Greek Week projects

To the editor:
Last week was Greek Week at UNC-CH. This conjures for many of us the picture of wild and irresponsible behavior. Let me give you quite another image.

Charles House is a senior citizens' day-care center located in Carboro serving Carboro, Chapel Hill and all of Orange County.

With a minimum amount of persuasion from our staff, the Greek Week Committee made Charles House a recipient of some of their activities. This means we were given a generous check for financial support for our program.

More important, I think, was the clean-up/fix-up day at Charles House. Last Saturday at 9:30 a.m., 45 young men and women arrived at Charles House with a load of lumber. With this they constructed a trellis over one of our decks.

This is a handsome addition to the property, and it will bring joy to those who sit beneath its shade on warm summer days. The students then washed all of our windows, inside and out, scrubbed baseboards and shampooed our sixteen upholstered lounge chairs. Outside, they raked and cleaned winter debris, spaded and began to plant the garden, and washed and waxed our van. Many of the students stayed until late in the afternoon.

This means they missed the important basketball game except for the radio on the deck railing which was difficult to hear over the pounding of the nails.

Charles House is immensely grateful for these services. But even more, we are proud of these young people demonstrating good citizenship in its truest form, which is service. We hope the whole community will share in this pride.

GEORGIA NELSON
President, Charles House Association

JOAN PETIT
Sophomore
English/Women's Studies

EVELYN FURSE
Senior
Public Policy Analysis

Blue Jeans Day makes a comeback on campus

(Editor's note: This letter was submitted on behalf of the student group SO MAD by one of the groups members.)

To the editor:
There are a lot of campus traditions that the Student Organized Movement Against Discrimination would like to see end, including the annual attempt to defund B-GLAD, anti-gay letters in The Daily Tar Heel, homophobia rationalized by religion, sexism defined as chivalry and the embarrassing antics of the Student Congress Finance Committee.

However, there is one tradition that we hate to see die: Blue Jeans Day.

Blue Jeans Day is traditionally sponsored by B-GLAD during Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week. It is a day when people show support for the lesbian and gay community simply by wearing a pair of jeans.

It is also a learning opportunity for the unsuspecting homophobe who dons the usual Levi's and then faces comments and snickers before rushing home to change. If only for a moment, these people may experience the glares and persecution suffered daily by lesbians and gays.

B-GLAD voted to end the tradition this year, calling it "too antagonistic." We at SO MAD are sponsoring Blue Jeans Day this Friday because we want to antagonize campus homophobes. We also want to give everybody else the chance to demonstrate support for their

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