

# The Daily Tar Heel

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A century of editorial freedom

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## A Face-Saving Solution

The deadline has passed, and the UN Housekeepers Association and the University administration now stand at a stalemate.

Earlier this month, the housekeepers held a press conference and issued a list of demands—some reasonable, some obviously misdirected—with the threat of a possible strike or sick-out if their demands were not met.

In response, the administration released a statement to the press that addressed each demand and explained why the University would not be meeting the housekeepers' demands.

The deadline for meeting the demands passed Friday with no action from University officials, and the housekeepers now are mulling their options.

It never should have come to this. Chancellor Paul Hardin or other administration officials should have made the effort to meet with the disgruntled housekeepers long before. The two sides should have met face-to-face rather than further antagonizing each other by having their discussions through the media.

The administration should meet with the housekeepers to listen to their concerns. The dissatisfaction and problems simply won't magi-

cally go away.

A good employer puts his employees first. Even if the University does not have the authority to adopt or implement a better pay schedule, the administration should better communicate with the housekeepers so they can work together to lobby the General Assembly for higher salaries for the underpaid housekeepers.

But members of the Housekeepers Association also must be more careful in making their demands and threats of a strike. Misdirected demands, such as calling for an end to "the patronizing policy of distributing turkeys as the holiday bonus for housekeepers"—a program founded and sponsored by well-intentioned students, faculty and staff, not the University—only takes away from the housekeepers' cause and alienates the very people who are their biggest supporters.

Now that the deadline has passed, University administrators can meet with the housekeepers without losing face. They should do so immediately.

Maybe by actually communicating, the administration and the housekeepers will see that they are on the same side.

## End of Apartheid

Last Thursday signaled the death of apartheid in South Africa and the beginning of a new era of democracy for the country.

The political transition was not a smooth one. The formal negotiations involved many political parties that endured two years of intense bargaining.

However, the end result of their efforts is a laudable democratic agreement promising liberties to all South Africans. These include freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of movement and the freedom of political activity. The new constitution also replaces the country's black townships with nine new provinces that will send representatives to the Senate, but ultimately be bound under South African law.

This change could not be more dramatic. The old system of white domination denied blacks their fundamental rights and segregated them from whites both geographically and culturally.

The new constitution makes any form of racial discrimination illegal and will grant citizenship to all South Africans regardless of color.

The new order will take effect after people vote in the first multiracial elections this April. Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, is favored to win the presidency, making him the first black South African to hold that office.

Such an outcome would be a far cry from the days when college students of our generation petitioned for Mandela's release from more than a quarter century of imprisonment.

It is a blessing that Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk have realized their mutual interests and common vision for a free, peaceful and just land.

Their cooperative efforts and political wrestling has won them and South Africa a foundation for a new country that can renounce its racist past and embrace equal rights for all its citizens.

Their work deserves praise, and as they embark on the daunting task of establishing a new constitution, they should be guaranteed international assistance.

Many obstacles still lie in the path to a peaceful and democratic nation, but President de Klerk has promised to prevent dissidents, including the Inkatha Freedom Party and white separatists from the Afrikaner fringe, from disrupting the pact.

Apartheid is history. But a tumultuous election and a shaky first few months in government lie ahead, and there is still much to do toward reforming South African politics. This new South Africa needs as much support from the world as it can get.

## Tar Heel Quotables

"You're making a terrible mistake to say it is a disrespect for you for us to change the policy, when we have to go out and face the public."

**WALTER DAVIS, UNC Board of Trustees member**  
In response to student concerns about the board's intention to revoke the 24-hour pilot visitation program

"The University is not here to teach us morals. The University is not here to teach us character. The University is here to teach us academics."

**JAN DAVIS, Residence Hall Association president**  
On why the BOT should not repeal the visitation policy

"What will happen is we will just walk, and we won't tell anyone, the press or the administration."

**LARRY FARRAN, member of the Housekeepers Association Steering Committee**  
On a possible housekeepers' strike

"I think the idea of discussing whether a magazine is political is diving into questions

of free speech and questions of censorship of ideas and thoughts."

**Student Congress Rep. JOEY STANSBURY, Dist. 11**  
On why The Carolina Review should get student funding

"The Carolina Review is definitely politically partisan. It mocks other organizations, student government, staff members and the students themselves."

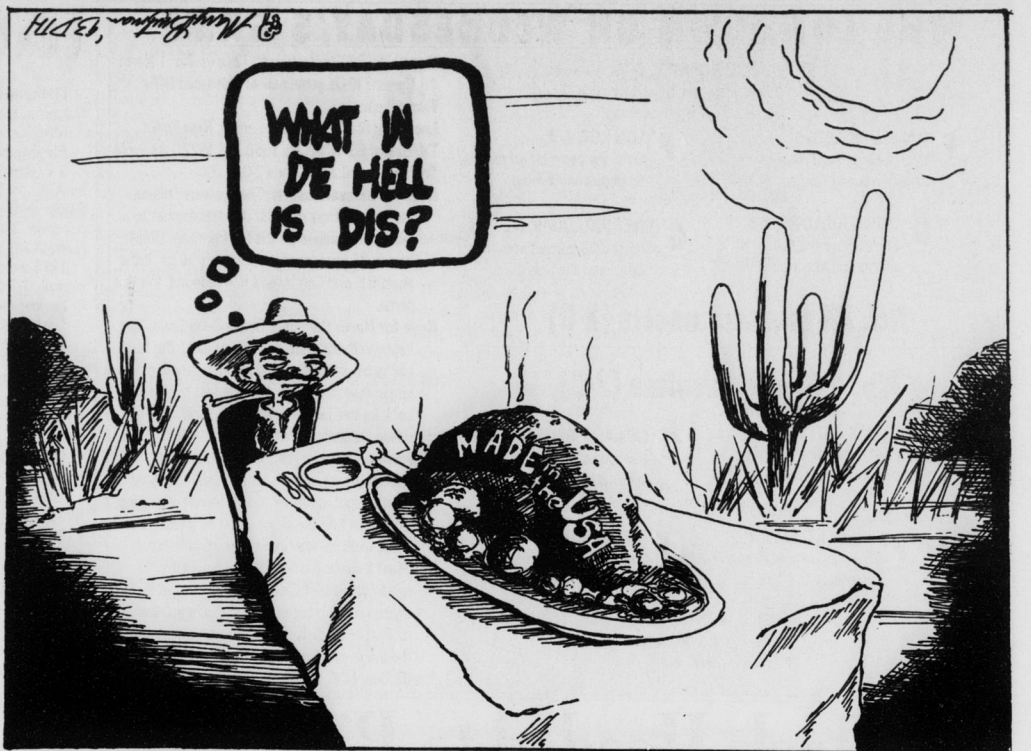
**SNEHA SHAN, congress speaker pro tempore**  
On why the Review should not receive funding

"It was a great feeling to have all the seniors on the field."

**MIA HAMM, UNC women's soccer player**  
On the game Sunday in which the team won its eighth consecutive NCAA championship

"When he missed it, I think everybody in the gym knew he was coming out."

**DONALD WILLIAMS, UNC basketball player**  
On Jerry Stackhouse's ill-advised reverse slam attempt



## School Demonstrates Real Value of Education

In the past few years, there has been much concern about our school's lack of funding. And certainly UNC's budgetary woes and the attendant slide in the various rankings are worthy of substantial concern, although hopefully the sterling Bicentennial Campaign fundraising effort and the sale of bonds will go a long way toward alleviating the problem.

It was with such matters in mind that I recently read about a black shack dweller in South Africa who created a high school for 10,000 pupils on a budget of less than a dime!

Allow me to recount the astonishing tale of the "Chicken Farm School," which certainly sheds a different light on our budgetary woes.

The school is located just outside Johannesburg. From afar, it looks just like a derelict poultry farm, which is exactly what it was when a squatter named Mzwandile Khumalo annexed it in 1989.

Khumalo marched through shack land like a Pied Piper with a makeshift megaphone, calling the multitudes forth. Next thing, there was an almighty hammering and sawing going on, and a school arose from the feeder bins. Four years later, Khumalo is the "Honorable Owner" as the plaque on the wall puts it, of a complex of seven schools. Six of these are housed in chicken coops. The seventh, Black Forest High, was formerly the stables.

The complex now has classrooms, 250 staff members including carpenters and 10,000 stu-

dents, each paying \$8 a year and bringing in empty bottles to collect the deposits. Today the schools receive a small state grant that amounts to 15 percent of their running expenses and pays for the teachers' salaries of \$90 a month.

Old bus seats make the classroom chairs.

The school gates are welded scrap-iron, and the administrative quarter, formerly the farm house, is incongruously decorated with blockmounted Cosmopolitan covers—donated, of course. They take anything and find a use for it.

Officially, each of the schools has its own headmaster and Latin motto, but unofficially everyone calls the whole collection Chicken Farm School and perceives Khumalo as the boss. And a strict boss at that.

Rules are simple: arrive on time and stay to learn. The gates close at 8 a.m., and that's it. If you aren't in, then you don't get in at all. And as for strikes and boycotts that are so prevalent in black schools in South Africa... those are things of another world.



ALAN HARTDEGEN

OUT OF AFRICA

Khumalo doesn't believe in waiting for governments to sort things out or even to give you permission to sort things out yourself. You simply go ahead and worry afterwards about officials and consent.

And in that way, the land that the schools occupy was eventually officially expropriated and handed over to the community.

When asked his views on education, Khumalo said it was essential to introduce relevant living skills early on, instead of focusing on academic subjects that produce mainly white-collar workers.

He also said that "a child must remember his culture, but what happened in 1652 (the date when the Dutch first arrived in the country) is not as important as where the new technology is going." And the children are taught in English "so that they become international."

What this man has achieved is truly remarkable. For his efforts, he was presented with an "Unconventional Hero" award worth \$3,500. God alone knows what he'll be able to do with that.

This little tale is not intended to make light of UNC's financial woes—it certainly has more lofty intentions than the chicken farm—but rather to add a vastly different perspective to them.

Alan Hartdegen is a junior economics and political science major from Johannesburg, South Africa.

## Chancellor Hopes Students Believe in Board's Intention

Editor's note: The following is an open letter to UNC students from Chancellor Paul Hardin.

DEAR STUDENTS:  
I understand your disappointment in the decision of the Board of Trustees last Friday to rescind and reconsider the recently inaugurated open visitation trial period in six of our 29 dorms. This letter is prompted by press reports that some students are considering various forms of protest.

As you know, I urged the trustees not to rescind the trial period.

I did so because I liked the safeguards built into the trial and because I respect you, and I take at face value your assurances that your quest for open visitation is not "all about sex" but is all about your desire, as young adults, to be trusted to manage your private lives with responsible maturity and as few rules as possible.

I suggest, respectfully, that you and I also should take at face value the stated intention of the trustees to re-examine the issue with open minds and with the aid of a committee that will include students.

I hope you will work with the committee, soon to be appointed by BOT Chairman John Harris and will refrain from attacking either the sincerity or authority of the board.

The trustees have expressed disappointment in the administration over procedure. They assure us of their respect for the students.

Although I support the right of peaceable protest, I hope you will take advantage of that good will rather than risk losing it just as new deliberations begin.

Some of the trustees and many letter writers, particularly those in my approximate age group, have expressed opposition, not only to the lack of broad advance discussion of the visitation trial, but also to the substance of the trial program, fearing that more liberal policies might encourage promiscuous behavior. Let me take a stab at explaining the intensity of that negative response.

Many people of my generation have found great happiness in reserving sex for marriage and making that ultimate physical expression part of a total, loving commitment to a lifetime partner.

They — we — hope that members of your generation will not carelessly pass up the opportunity to nourish that kind of enduring, exclusive relationship.

I also express the hope, as a man, that the men of Carolina will respect the women they date. I worry especially about acquaintance rape, a serious problem most often related to excessive use of alcohol (and probably not related directly to official visiting hours in dormitories).

It is a privilege, to share with all of our students, faculty and staff the experience of being at the nation's first state university. I wish for all great health and happiness at this season of Thanksgiving.

Paul Hardin  
CHANCELLOR



## READERS' FORUM

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticism. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 400 words and must be typed, double-spaced, dated and signed by no more than two people. Students should include their year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff should include their title, department and phone number. The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity.

## Hardin's Meaning Muddled By 'Newspeak' Associations

TO THE EDITOR:  
I was dismayed to read that Chancellor Paul Hardin lapsed into Orwellian Newspeak at the Faculty Council meeting Nov. 12.

The Daily Tar Heel quotes Chancellor Hardin as saying, "We want to avoid groupthink.... Groupthink is when opinions of certain members of the faculty shouldn't be attributed to the group" ("Chancellor Urges End to Ticket Argument," Nov. 15).

Never mind that the chancellor appears to have said the opposite of what he intended; the point is that groupthink sounds as if it comes from Newspeak, the fictional language invented by George Orwell.

In Orwell's "Nineteen Eighty-Four," a repressive government uses Newspeak as a tool to crush intellectual freedom and destroy the memory of history.

If Chancellor Hardin said what is attributed to him, he should be reminded that words such as groupthink serve to muddle rather than to clarify his meaning and that such words have disturbing associations — associations that are particularly unfortunate during the 200th anniversary of the founding of the University.

Chris Moseley  
GRADUATE STUDENT  
MATHEMATICS

## DTH Should Check All Facts Before Passing Judgment

TO THE EDITOR:  
I was delighted to read the article by Chris Gioia in last week's issue of The Daily Tar Heel "Merger of Two Departments Successful, Students Say."

While I was acting chair of the Department of Radio, Television and Motion Pictures last year, our External Advisory Committee recommended the merger of RTVMP with the Department of Speech Communication.

It did so because it was obvious that such a step would ultimately result in one of the finest departments of Communication Studies in the country.

There was a great deal of negative reaction

from students and alumni of RTVMP, and I do believe that most now realize that the disciplines served by the former department are being preserved and nurtured in the new department.

Certainly can understand how the loss of the RTVMP department saddened those individuals, but I still feel that the decision made was in the best interests of future generations of students and faculty involved in the disciplines served by RTVMP.

The main reason for this letter is to remind the editor that The Daily Tar Heel vilified me and the college administration during the yearlong examination of the Department of Radio, Television and Motion Pictures that resulted in the formation of the Department of Communication Studies.

It is a reminder that before a newspaper of excellence publishes adolescent cartoons depicting "hatchet men" and repeatedly prints negative statements, the staff had best check all the facts pertaining to motives and possible ramifications of a departmental review.

I trust that case of RTVMP and the new communication studies department will stand as an object lesson for future staff of The Daily Tar Heel.

Lawrence Gilbert  
PROFESSOR  
BIOLOGY

## Carolina Athletic Association Forced Unfair Ticket Choice

TO THE EDITOR:

To put it mildly, the Carolina Athletic Association did not make my week start off very well. I woke up early enough Monday morning to get to the ticket window before 8 a.m. to get leftover Clemson and Butler basketball tickets.

However, when my turn at the window came up, I was told that I would not be able to get any tickets because I did not have my athletic pass.

No problem, except for one thing — my athletic pass was sitting in a box next to him in the warm ticket booth with the other football block tickets.

He basically told me that I had chosen football over basketball and that I "should have woken up on Saturday."

First of all, there should not have to be a choice between the sports that I would like to support.

Second, I was out of town Saturday and was unable to make it out to the ticket window.

Third, I had all of the needed paperwork required to get a ticket on the same side of the window without getting a ticket.

Fourth, the "gentlemen" on the CAA staff that "helped" me were very rude in their handling of the situation.

I just do not understand the logic behind screwing over the students that they are supposed to be helping and then being rude to them in the process.

I guess it is easy for the CAA employees to take their lower-level tickets for granted because they do not have to camp out for them.

Dan Greenberg  
SENIOR  
CHEMISTRY

