

Student Health programs provide quality service, care

As we begin a new school year, I look with great satisfaction on two major campus initiatives which will positively effect the health of our students and of our community.

First is the decision to support health insurance as a benefit for graduate students working for the University. The establishment of this program represents the combined efforts of many: administrators, including vice chancellors, the provost and the chancellor; student effort organized through student government and the Graduate and Professional Student Federation; numerous members of the staff; and, in addition, members of the Legislature who supported the University in its wish to positively enhance academic programs by supporting graduate student recruitment while providing a needed benefit for an underserved group. Student Health will continue to administer the program which these students will join.

Second is the renewed initiative to look at the role of substance use and abuse on this campus. The chancellor has taken a clear lead in this issue with his appointment of a broadly representative task force to study the issue and bring forward recommendations. This action is augmented by his recent letter to alumni calling attention to the existent problem and the potential role of alumni in promoting a positive change in the rites of passage so prevalent now in America's colleges and universities. Student Health has developed major initiatives in substance abuse prevention and treatment and will continue to play its appropriate role in what must be a total community effort.

With the expected increase in the use of Student Health associated with insurance changes and with the arrival of new students on campus, this would seem an ideal time to review the services that Student Health offers.

Basic or core services covered by the Student Health fee include:

Unlimited professional visits to all primary care services including Clinical Medicine, Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy. (Most office gynecology is carried out in the Clinical Medicine Section as a primary care offering.)

Basic psychological services offerings, including psychological evaluation, brief intervention and treatment, initial medication evaluation, immediate follow-up and referral if indicated.

Health educational offerings including contraceptive counseling, confidential HIV testing, substance abuse evaluation, initial treatment and referral if indicated.

Evaluation, treatment and referral are also offered if indicated for eating disorders.

There are also visits to nurse practitioners in the OB-GYN clinic, whose practice is limited to GYN problems.

Several specialty services are offered within the Student Health facility. These are often contracted with physicians on the faculty of the School of Medicine and are not covered fully by your health fee. Included are:

Orthopedics — Timothy Taft, M.D.

Ear, Nose and Throat — Kim Jones, M.D.

Dermatology — Robert Briggaman, M.D. and Associates

Obstetrics and Gynecology — UNC Department of Obstetrics and Gynecol-

ogy, Wendy Hansen, M.D., coordinator

JUDITH COWAN
GUEST COLUMNIST

We are pleased to have these quality offerings within Student Health where they are readily accessible and offered at less than would be charged if the same personnel were seen outside Student Health.

Further offerings by Student Health require additional charges for utilization. These include:

Laboratory and X-ray — offered at significantly discounted prices to students.

Pharmacy Services — Student Health operates a well-staffed, well-stocked pharmacy which provides medication to students at a 35 percent to 40 percent savings as compared to average prescription prices across the country.

Hospitalization — Student Health operates a licensed acute care hospital facility.

24 hour Urgent Care — Student Health is open 24 hours a day with physician extenders on duty and physicians immediately available for case consultation and direct evaluation if needed.

With this array of services and others designed particularly for students and the University community, Student Health can meet about 90 percent of the service needs of utilizing students. To ensure maximum coverage, the Student Group Insurance Plan has been directly integrated with the services fully covered by your health fee. All services carried out within Student Health are fully covered by the supplemental insurance plan with no deductible charge. An exception is the use of the pharmacy. Drugs are covered at 80 percent after a \$100 deductible. Services coordinated with outside agencies such as OB/GYN and UNC Hospitals may require additional copay from the student.

The coverage in the Student Health Group Insurance Plan is exceptionally broad and cost effective. The \$704 premium includes \$50 toward catastrophic coverage, which brings covered expenses to a \$1,000,000 level. It is because most medical problems can be taken care of at Student Health that this excellent, low cost plan can be offered. The Student Health Advisory Board has direct input into coverage, and the plan has been remarkably stable in the past ten years.

The insurance is good anywhere in the world but, if the student is in the area, it requires the student to go Student Health for initial evaluation if the situation is not emergent or life threatening. Student Health is highly interested in students receiving appropriate care and will not delay referral when indicated. Outside care, however, cannot be covered at 100 percent as is care offered within Student Health.

Students Health welcomes new students and new enrollees to the Student Group Insurance Plan. Quality of care will always be the major goal of Student Health. Our 10 years of accreditation by the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Health Care Organization is an external sign of this commitment. We continue to pursue our mission: "Serving a Special Community with Quality Care at a Reasonable Cost."

Dr. Judith Cowan is the director of the Student Health Service.

Student government makes food service a top priority

During the summer your student government has been busy advocating for students. We have worked to make sure that students are always included and that the administration realizes they are here to serve the students.

Though we have had many successes and made significant improvements on this campus, one area I would like to highlight is food service. In the past it has not met our needs or been responsive. It has served poor quality food with below average service.

You may have noticed all the balloons hanging on the banister of Lenoir Dining Hall last week and probably wondered what all the fuss was about. I am sure you assumed, "It's the beginning of the year and administrators are working to hype a new and improved Carolina dining experience."

But this year is different. No longer does the administration push their new vendors and ideas for food service. Food services has been turned over to the hands of the students. We will decide how food service ought to happen at UNC. It should be our decision.

This summer was spent planning the changes to Lenoir and Chase Hall. After a lengthy bidding process, students and administrators decided to renew their contract with Marriott Corp. We know that students have a general apprehension, and maybe fear of Marriott. The students who served on the committee which made this decision will assure you this was the best choice of available options.

Our other option was a vendor who had been thrown off campus by a student referendum back in the 1980s. This vendor's offer was incompatible with students needs and not sufficiently flexible. Students helped set the terms of the contract and students will now comprise a majority of the Food Service Board of Directors, the body overseeing food service on this campus.

Students were not satisfied merely to sit in a committee meeting watching as top-notch administrators decided what we would eat, how much it would cost, where we would eat and during what hours we would do it.

Instead, students have taken hold of the reins and made decisions that will not only affect us this year, but will affect on-campus dining for years to come. This is thanks to the many students in student government working hard to bring campus dining where it belongs — in the hands of the students.

The Food Service Task Force, set up last year by the Cunningham-Swan administration, surveyed hundreds of students at UNC on issues involving campus dining.

They traveled to Boston to examine other universities' dining services and discovered what most of us already knew — that our food service did not match up. The University has hired a national food service consultant as well as architecture and food service design firms. We have also hired an executive chef to oversee the meal preparation in Lenoir, and he is awesome.

Students and student government have the power to make positive change at our university. The administration listens to us when we express our voice. It is student government's job to seek out stu-

dent issues and concerns and advocate on students' behalf.

This summer we have been hard at work advocating for students and making change.

When several students and I went on a tour of the basement of Lenoir this summer, we suggested knocking out the dividing walls and putting in new floors. We also recommended that Carolina Dining Service and Auxiliary Services spend money to brighten the place up to make it a more appealing dining experience and they did it.

If you have not been downstairs in Lenoir, I encourage you to do so. The appearance and food quality has improved significantly.

Later, when CDS proposed getting rid of The Cutting Board, we suggested that they not, and they didn't. When CDS told students about their plan to get rid of the Firehouse Grill and add a fast-food Chinese venue, we endorsed it, and they put it in.

Additionally, South Campus dining has expanded with the addition of BW-3 wings, pizza and a Korean-style salad bar in Chase.

There will also soon be a bank of ATMs outside of Chase to serve the students on South Campus. There is also a Taco Bell in Union Station. Now, we know that Taco Bell is not a "weight watchers delight," but it is good old fashioned cheap college food.

To solve what has been one of the greatest problems with food service on campus — the service — CDS employees have undergone intensive customer service training. Students made these changes happen, and we thank the administration for being so responsive.

Most importantly, last week when students were complaining about the lack of mobility in their meal plans and that they were frustrated with the inflexibility of meal equivalency, we pushed and got the equivalency plan back. Yes, this means you now can get any \$4.50 worth of a la carte food and count it as a meal.

Currently UNC-Chapel Hill is one of the only universities which has no mandatory meal plan and no mandatory minimum balance. In order for us to continue to avoid these things, CDS must be financially successful.

If CDS fails to turn a profit, we will all be forced to pay through a fee increase or mandatory meal plans. Please eat at Lenoir, Chase and Union Station often. We've worked hard to improve on-campus food service. I think you will notice the difference.

If you have any concerns, ideas or suggestions about campus dining, please feel free to call Scott Hammack or Jen Kim, the executive branch Student Services Committee co-chairmen, at 962-4994 or stop by Suite C of the Union.

Student government is dedicated to improving the lives of students.

Please call on us to help you.

Aaron Nelson is a senior philosophy major from Raleigh and student body president.



AARON NELSON
GUEST COLUMNIST

At UNC School of Law, excellence 'on the move'

I write in response to the Aug. 23 editorial, "Briefing the law school." The editorial asks: "What is happening over at UNC School of Law?" One answer is major construction. Literally and symbolically, our new wing represents the law school's bold effort to build for the future — of our students, the state and the world. New facilities are the outward manifestation of a school that is really "on the move," building on a tradition of excellence through times of financial stringency to accomplish important goals. Let me cite a few examples from the last 12 months:

Earlier this month, the UNC School of Law joined The New York Times Magazine and a handful of other winners in receiving the American Bar Association's "Oscar," the coveted Silver Gavel Award, for its video production "Loyalty on Trial" and the resulting contribution to public education about the law.

Law faculty received national awards recognizing the best legal book published in 1995 and the year's pre-eminent article on bankruptcy law. I served as president of the Association of American Law Schools, legal education's learned society, representing 160 law schools around the nation. Other faculty colleagues received a Fulbright Fellowship and Kenan leave to work with colleagues in Eritrea and South Africa, helped develop a workshop on the moral foundations of tort law to be co-sponsored by the National Humanities Center, organized the first UNC Banking Institute for leading lawyers and bankers and guided law reform as chairman of the N.C. General Statutes Commission.

A UNC law school graduate was chosen to serve in the coveted position of judicial clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist (one of a small handful of recent graduates to serve the Supreme Court each year), while more than 20 of his classmates will clerk with other leading judges.

The law school received two major foundation grants: one to support curriculum development in alternative dispute resolution and the other to create a seminar on judicial sentencing for judges and law students, using case files from actual North Carolina cases.

UNC law students advanced to the national finals in the Jessup Cup (international law), client counseling and the Frederick Douglass moot court competitions and won the International Space Law Competition in Oslo, Norway. Others published a handbook on the rights of women in North Carolina, helped present a conference on representation of juveniles and organized a symposium on worker's rights.

These accomplishments evidence the excellence and vitality of this outstanding law school. They reflect hard work and ingenuity using very limited financial resources. The law school is well aware — as is the University — of the fiscal constraints under which all of us labor. We do not need U.S. News & World Report to remind us that the law school ranked 101 out of 170 law schools nationally in financial support. That rank is an improvement from its rating on fiscal resources in 1994 (when it was rated 115th), and reflects continuing strides in building strong private support (the law school community raised more than \$13 million in the recent Bicenten-

nial Campaign, and receives annual gifts from 31.6 percent of its alumni — a level that significantly exceeds most other public law schools).

We have also worked closely with our students to develop a consensus for fee and tuition hikes when absolutely necessary. In effect, we have built a three-way partnership involving state support, private giving and student funding, but always with careful consultation among our student community. This teamwork helped secure funding for our building renovation. It has the momentum to do much more.

Now to U.S. News & World Report. The magazine's 1996 ranking methodology considered five major factors: reputation among academics, reputation among practitioners, student selectivity, placement success and financial resources. While placement success and financial resources are not factors considered by U.S. News & World Report in rating most other types of academic programs, they carry significant weight where law school ratings are concerned.

As noted above, UNC's reputation appropriately places it in the top 20 law schools. It ranks in the top 25 on student selectivity. It ranks in the top one-quarter to one-third of law schools in placement success, although U.S. News & World Report's methodology has had major flaws that work to UNC's disadvantage.

For example, the magazine gives weight to starting salaries, favoring schools whose graduates opt for corporate practice in major urban centers like New York and Chicago rather than the mix of corporate, small firm, public service and nontraditional jobs elected by many UNC graduates.

In 1994, UNC took major steps to redesign its placement program in light of the tightening legal job market, adopting an employer-focused job development strategy and hiring a director with legal practice experience. The results of these changes are bearing fruit, but lag time in reporting has meant that they are not yet reflected in U.S. News & World Report rankings.

The real dilemma — and a key factor in protecting UNC's long-standing reputation — relates to limitations in financial resources. Some would say that quick fixes are possible, specifically a quick fix in the form of a major tuition increase. The law school community began conversation about this topic last spring. The Student Bar Association and I co-sponsored a two-hour student town meeting to discuss all aspects of the U.S. News & World Report rankings.

Students expressed decidedly differing views about the advisability of further tuition increases, particularly in light of those that have just been imposed, and the impact of tuition and student debt on access to law school and viable job options. Faculty, too, began collective discussion of this subject, as did the law school's alumni board. The law school continues to raise significant private funds through gifts from alumni and friends, and will benefit from the recent financial support provided by the state.

Judith W. Wegner is dean of the School of Law.

University Mail chooses outsourcing alternative

TO THE EDITOR:

Of the 51 functional service areas to be evaluated by the Outsourcing Steering Committee, two belong to University Mail Services. We CHOSE to contract the preparation of our international mail because it is labor intensive. We CHOSE to outsource the sorting of our domestic mail because the cost of the equipment necessary to do it is prohibitive and the space requirements are not available. We still control most aspects of these services (billing, preparation, etc.). I can't speak for the other 49 services, but in this case, it was simply a management decision.

Tommy Brickhouse
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
UNIVERSITY MAIL SERVICES

Bookstore, fluoridation represent communist plot

TO THE EDITOR:

I must heartily agree with J.E. William's letter entitled "Textbook store? More like hub of leftist political ideas" in the Aug. 29 edition of The Daily Tar Heel. There is no doubt that the Maoist ilk are attempting to subvert our great nation through the propaganda spewed forth at "Internationalist Books."

Do you realize that fluoridation is the most monstrously conceived and dangerous communist plot we have ever had to face? Do you realize that in addition to fluoridated water, there are studies underway to fluoridate salt, flour, fruit juices, soup, sugar, milk, ice cream? I, for one, can no longer sit back and allow communist infiltration, communist indoctrination, communist subversion and the international communist conspiracy to sap and impurify all of our precious bodily fluids.

God willing, we will prevail in peace

and freedom from fear and in true health through the purity and essence of our natural fluids.

David T. Chen
GRADUATE STUDENT
COMPUTER SCIENCE

Winston-Salem history began long before R.J.R.

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing this letter in response to the article by Wendy Goodman ("Tobacco rules anger, unite gubernatorial candidates," Aug. 26).

Miss Goodman needs to do a little better historical research before writing her articles. In the first line of her story, the author states that Winston-Salem was named after cigarettes. Winston-Salem was actually named after two different cities, Winston and Salem. Salem was founded in the mid-to-late 1700s by Moravian settlers from Pennsylvania and Winston was established later. The two cities decided to join together to make the city Winston-Salem in the 1800s. These events occurred long before Richard Joshua Reynolds and his company were born. The brands of cigarettes were named in "honor" of the city in which they were created.

Chris Miller
GRADUATE STUDENT
NUTRITION

Real surprise: Student Stores buys wrong books

TO THE EDITOR:

When I ordered my course texts through Internationalist Books, I did so with the intention of supporting a valuable community resource and exposing my students to the Internationalist's wide variety of alternative discourses and politics.

When I learned that Student Stores



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. Bring letters to the DTH office at Suite 104, Carolina Union, mail them to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 or e-mail forum to: dth@unc.edu.

had scouted the Internationalist and placed the texts I had ordered on their shelves as well. I thought, "Oh well, there goes that old free market magic; the big guy is dumping on the little guy yet again." I didn't like this turn of events, but I wasn't surprised, either.

But I was surprised in my classroom today when I discovered that Student Stores had placed the WRONG book on their shelves. I learned this as I was teaching, when I asked the class to turn to a certain page in the book I assumed they had. But the book most of my students had in their hands was the wrong edition, the one that Student Stores decided to tell them was the book I had ordered. So, as a result of Student Store's combined rapacity and stupidity, I was unable to teach my class the way I had prepped it. Yeah, I was just a little angry.

To recap: Student Stores misrepresented my course list to my students, who thus purchased a text that is entirely useless in my class. As a result, they needlessly spent their money on something they don't need, and my teaching was hampered. Meanwhile, Student Stores is taking away business from people who are involved in the community, were

very helpful to me when I ordered my books and got the order right in the first place.

If Student Stores is going to be rapacious, they should at least have the good sense not to be stupid.

Adam McKible
INSTRUCTOR
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Article misleading: FSU dealings not unethical

TO THE EDITOR:

As an alumnus and fan of Florida State University, I would like to correct a misconception in your Aug. 29 story about the selling of home games by Wake Forest and Maryland ("Schools rewarded for sacrificing home games"). The story notes that those schools sold their home games "to the Seminoles" and implies that FSU initiated the arrangements and paid the other schools for the games.

In fact, the officials of the Citrus Bowl in Orlando and of Joe Robbie Stadium in Miami initiated the contacts and it is they who are paying for the games.

Wake's and Maryland's Athletic Di-

rectors contacted FSU's Athletic Director to make sure there was no objection to the moves, and obviously, there would not be. But the fact is that FSU did not buy these games or give any money to Wake or Maryland. These games are business arrangements between Wake, Maryland and the stadiums in which the games will be played.

I must admit to a certain resentment at the way this story is portrayed in the media (not only The Daily Tar Heel), as it usually implies that FSU has sought some unfair advantage here and has done something unethical. While I understand the irritation felt by Atlantic Coast Conference coaches and fans about these arrangements, I suggest that it would more logically be directed at Wake and Maryland than at FSU.

Jim Morgan
INTERNET READER

Cartoon wrongly portrays NORML, president says

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing in response to the editorial cartoon of Aug. 29 ("Why NORML accomplishes little"). It is this type of misrepresentation and stereotype that makes it difficult for The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws to function. Since the cartoonist is obviously biased and has done little research, I would like to clear up a few points in hopes of preventing a campuswide reputation that we are "potheads with the munchies."

The Carolina chapter of NORML is now entering its third year of existence in Chapel Hill.

Our mission statement as a nonprofit, nonpolitical organization is to educate Chapel Hill and surrounding communities about all aspects of marijuana and its uses. If the cartoonist had made an effort to learn about NORML, he or she would have approached us and found out many

of the "little" things we have accomplished. For example, the 1996 Carolina GREENfest last April drew a crowd of well over 1,000 people and raised over \$1,000 for our organization.

This makes us one of the wealthier student groups that does not receive University funding.

Likewise, the cartoonist might be interested to know that in response to a letter writing campaign, Rep. Fred Heineman, R-N.C., voiced his support of providing medical marijuana to terminally ill patients with a doctor's prescription.

We are working now to gain signatures for a petition urging Heineman to co-sponsor House Bill 2618, introduced by Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., which would give doctors the right to prescribe marijuana to patients suffering from terminal or crippling diseases such as HIV, cancer, glaucoma and cystic fibrosis. Marijuana has proven to be an effective, low-cost treatment for these ailments where chemical medication has fallen short.

The nature of our organization, educating about a controlled substance, makes us face countless obstacles due to the stigma attached to marijuana in our society.

The tasteless representation of NORML portrayed in this cartoon makes it harder for us to achieve anything and is a clear depiction of an uninformed mind. The cartoon is an unfair stab at the reputations of all those who believe they have the right to choose what they put in their bodies.

I would like to invite the cartoonist and everyone else to our first meeting Sept. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in 209 Manning Hall. If you have any desire to know the truth, come and learn; we'll have plenty of pizza.

Brendan Moore
POLITICAL SCIENCE
PRESIDENT, CAROLINA NORML 1995-96