

The Daily Tar Heel

Opinions of The Daily Tar Heel are expressed in its editorials. All unsigned editorials are written by the editor. Letters and columns reflect only the personal views of their contributors.

SCOTT GOODFELLOW, EDITOR

Yes, We're All Activists

Carolina has long been proud for having one of the most active student bodies of any school in the South.

We often complain that we have far too much pressure placed upon us from people outside the University. We frequently feel that many of those in the State truly feel that we are all anti-war demonstrators with sandals.

But this, we know, is not true. What is true is that the Carolina student is interested in what is going on around his campus and outside of his campus.

Over at Duke, students do not have the pressures of a conservative populace, but they somehow manage to lead a far duller campus life.

Today Student Government elections are being held. The thing to do will be to vote. No, there will not be cries of poll mobbing or wild demonstrations at the voting boxes. But a high percentage of the student body will vote.

Perhaps it is the lack of fan-

fare over this election which makes us feel that the voters' choice will be decisive, that there are real reasons why a person is planning to vote for one candidate and not another.

These are not high school elections. Some of the people whom students elect today will carry the image of the University to the state over television, radio and newspapers during the coming year.

And the state will listen.

Some of the people whom you will decide upon today are fully capable of making many changes in student living and learning concepts within the coming year. The DTH has already endorsed Bob Travis and Jed Dietz because we felt they fit most securely into this category.

It is up to you to make your choice, not only in the top two positions, but in all of them. The results may mean an awful lot.

Personally Speaking

No, It's Not Politics

This editorial is written in the personal "I" rather than the editorial "We."

I have come under a great deal of personal criticism in the past few days for endorsing candidates in today's election. It is probably difficult not to see political motives in the endorsement.

Such, however, is not the case.

Four weeks ago I decided that a student newspaper is not worth the paper it is printed on if it doesn't enter into every important issue which the campus faces. My choice in the election was meticulously kept to myself until this weekend, whereupon I told those

involved. None of the abhorred "political deals" was involved.

The demands of directing the actions of the *Daily Tar Heel* have kept most students from meeting me in this campaign, so it is difficult for most to know my sincerity.

Political dealings in the aftermath of my entrance into the endorsement of candidates, though few, are irrelevant to my concern that I made the right decision.

The decision remains, and I think it is a good one. My word that your DTH has not been used in this campaign is the greatest assurance I can offer.

Go G.A.! Do Nothing!

If the General Assembly dawdles for another two weeks, North Carolina will go on daylight savings time at the end of April.

Thus, ironically, by total inaction, the State will take a great step forward.

No longer will it be possible to fly from Washington to Atlanta with lunch in Raleigh and get the overpowering feeling while you're here that everything is behind time. No longer will one be able to fly to Richmond and arrive twenty minutes before he left.

Working men coming home in the evenings will find that their sunlight hours will seem much longer, and daylight will give them more time for leisure.

The main opposition for the time change comes from drive-in movie owners, who claim that their business will be totally ruined, and from those who claim school children will go to school in the dark in October. While we sincerely doubt the latter case to the extent that emotion has pushed it, the former may be partially true. However we've never noticed a particular lack of drive-ins in the major parts of the country where daylight savings time has been in vogue for years.

Farmers have fortunately lifted most of their opposition. The cows certainly do not care if their feeding time is actually 6 by the clock

Wonderful Color World

The Wonderful World of Color! The DTH is delighted to welcome color to our pages, especially in the form of a picture of the basketball team.

Unfortunately the mechanics of printing color forces us to run only four pages when printing a picture of four colors. But we think it is well worth it.

Mike McGee

Token Responsibility Should Go

For a long time we here at Carolina have characterized that "other school" over in Durham as a conservative bastion of normalcy. Alas, it is so — but something almost happened there that could have had some important effects on student-administration relations not only at Duke, but at many universities.

The event which almost blew the whole thing up was the resignation of Joe Schwab as President of the Men's Student Government Association. The precipitating factor for Schwab's resignation was that the administration "refused to adopt an MSGA resolution regarding the participation of living groups in establishing their own social regulations." The commons rooms (social rooms in the dorms) at Duke are open to female visitors at certain very arbitrary hours at present. The dorm rooms are open at even more arbitrary hours.

The MSGA wants each dormitory to be able to decide

for itself when it wants the commons rooms and living areas to be opened to women. What the administration does at present, so the argument goes, is to remove all decisions from the hands of students which might require any intelligence or maturity to handle. Such a course of action is an unreasoned insult, Schwab says, and the inflexibility of arbitrary social and academic restrictions inhibits the growth of the university and all those associated with it.

Steve Johnson, writing an editorial in *Duke Chronicle*, agrees. "Something must be done to make a more equitable place for students in the decision-making process of the university."

"The sooner the university can pull itself out of the past, give its students enough privacy and autonomy that they can live without constant frustration, the sooner we can all get back to our real aim

of intellectual discovery." The university administration must be made more responsive to student opinions on matters that are essentially student concerns, he concludes.

Joe Schwab resigned because the administration has not been dealing with the student government and leaders in good faith.

"Student leaders have consistently been forced to take on the role of humble petitioners rather than that of self-respecting and concerned participants in the decision-making process," said a letter to the administration signed by sixty students. "The administration has consistently stated that we do have a meaningful part to play in determining university policy. Experience has shown us that this is not in fact so."

"We therefore believe that rule by fiat of the deans is illegitimate and need not be accepted by the student body." Strong words. And they were

about ready to act on them, too. There is a phenomenon at Duke known as the "open-open", where by applying ahead of time the dorm may be entirely opened to female visitors for a certain specified length of time, usually several hours.

What the students want is to be able to vote among themselves to open the dorms for visitation whenever they want to do so. Of course, there are the usual restrictions about leaving the room doors open, etc.

When the request for this right was submitted to the dean, the answer came back quickly: no. The administration said that they would make the rules in this place.

Immediately plans were made for a demonstration to protest the arbitrary restrictions. Faculty wives (a lot of the faculty sides at least nominally with the students) and other females were going to sit in the men's dormitories in defiance of the regulations. Students would break the rules they thought unfair.

It is said that *Time Magazine*, *United Press*, and *Ramarts Magazine* were all set to move in and cover the event and the situation.

Then the demonstration was called off. *Time* was told not to bother. It was decided that a demonstration would alienate too many people, Schwab said. Also the administration had announced that any student violating the visitation rules would be suspended from the University.

It ended there. They say

wait a while and see what happens. We will.

What relevance does this story have for Carolina? A lot. The student government and students all over campus have been talking for years about liberalization of the rules structure and more student self-determination. But it's been all talk and no action. Coeds still have to be in at midnight on week days (at Duke it's 2 A.M.) and the dorms are still sacrosanct from the presence of women—all of whom would presumably do something bad if they could just get inside a men's dorm.

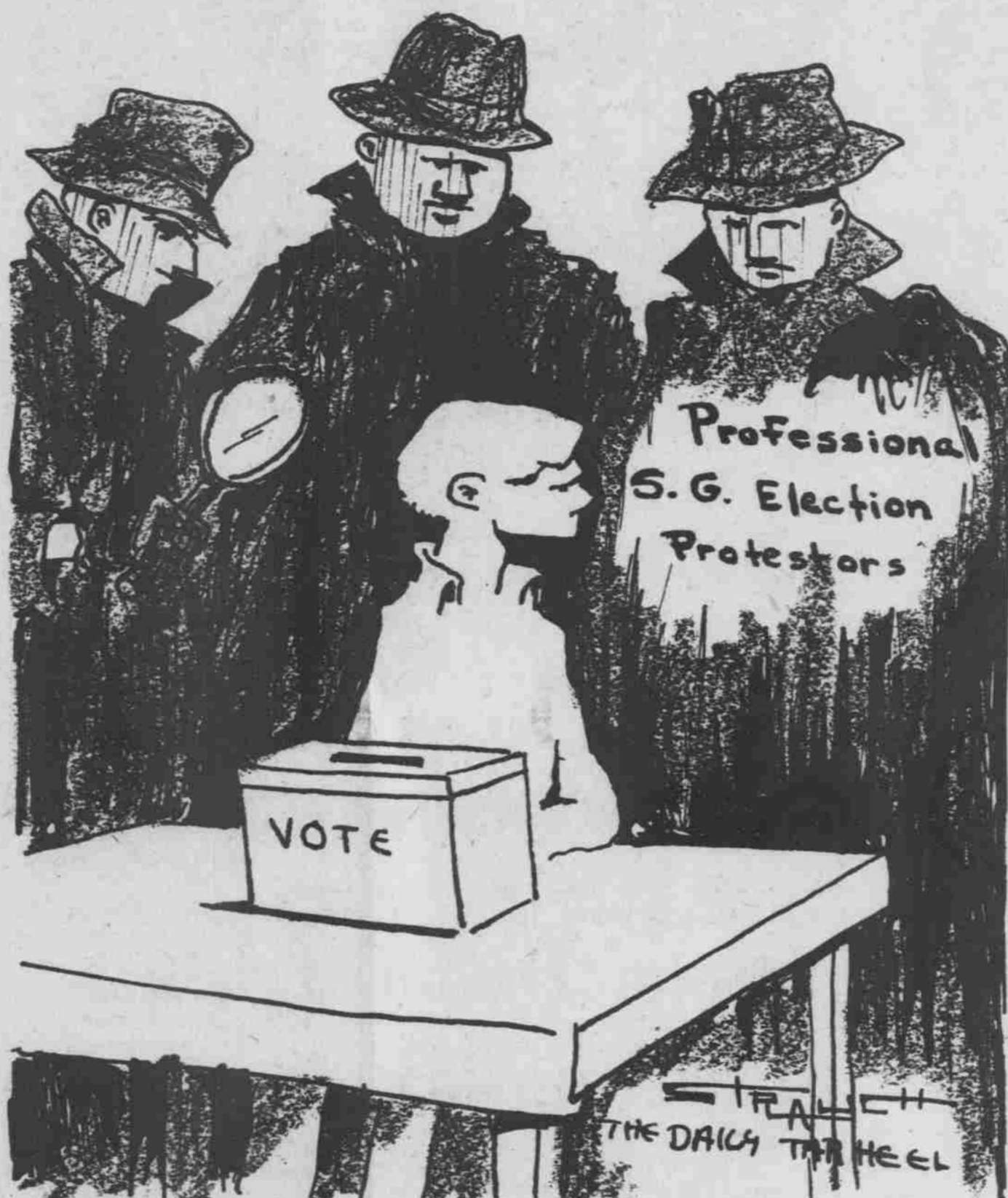
No one questions the absolute rule of the administration. We humbly petition and are summarily rejected. We are conditioned to believe that we are irresponsible boys and girls.

A sense of responsibility is basic to intellectual discovery. People who don't go to college are normally thrown out on their own, and make many of their own rules, soon after high school. Why should we be denied the same basic rights?

We're just postponing the releasing from absolute parental authority for four more years. Four vital years, when many of our lasting attitudes and beliefs are being formed. Does it have to remain this way?

Here is a function which the Residence Colleges here could possibly perform. Perhaps they would seem more real if they had some responsibilities.

'Don't mind us.'



Davie Is Very Much Alive

Davie residence college is not "sinking" (DTH, March 14) nor will it ever as long as it can provide its residents with the benefits inherent in the development of a residence college.

The article in the DTH, in quoting an individual who has been "antiresidence college" since its inception, was grossly misrepresentative of the feeling of Davie residents toward maintaining a residence college. The article was erroneous regarding several matters. There are no plans to conduct a referendum to decide whether Davie Residence College should be maintained. This was offered only as a suggestion to determine sentiment regarding the residence college. Such a referendum would be totally worthless since any yes-or-no vote would necessarily be unenlightened in regard to the prospects and potentialities of Davie College.

An informal survey in the college indicated considerable and enthusiastic support for the maintenance of Davie College despite the problems that Davie has that other residence colleges do not have. It is the smallest residence college on campus with an estimated 400 residents and it has, in its first years of existence, been plagued with problems resulting from factors such as: lack of co-operation with the administration in regard to social facilities and apathy originating from the large percentage of seniors and fraternity members who live in Davie and are characteristically inactive in matters of residence hall activity.

These obstacles can be, and in fact are being surmounted

by the efforts of a few individuals who see present and potential worth in Davie College and are initiating vital reforms to fulfill its potential in becoming an important and vital member in the family of residence colleges. We feel that an existence of only one year is not an adequate length of time upon which to base a decision of whether a residence college is successful or unsuccessful. If this were the case many other residence colleges might have folded after their first years had it not been for their larger populations and greater financial resources which allowed them to recover from early failures to develop overwhelmingly successful programs.

While other residence colleges have "quantity", Davie has the qualities of: tradition (being the oldest residence area and containing many Carolina landmarks); location in regard to the main campus and the business district; and excellent living conditions which make the area first choice in regard to residence preference.

These inherent assets are being joined with tangible proposals and prospects that are now being initiated: the conversion of the basement of Battle-Vance-Pettigrew into a first class social room which will follow the example of a German Rathskeller, the inclusion of Smith Residence hall into Davie College (which will lend more people, financial and physical support, and, best of all, girls), the creation of social rooms in all Davie Residence Halls, and the new policy of assigning more sophomores to live in the area than ever before and thereby lending the constructive enthusiasm characteristic of underclassmen. These

proposals, pending only the final approval of the administration (except the policy regarding sophomores, which has already been approved) promises to make Davie the most attractive and unique residence college on campus.

There is no doubt that with a growing campus the residence college system will become increasingly important and vital to the welfare and growth of the Carolina student through the realization of its basic principles of keener identification on the part of the student with his residence area and through the idea that individual houses can accomplish more collectively than individually (especially in matters of social and academic functions and administration policy). Davie Residence college wants to be and will be an influencing factor in realizing the potential of the residence college system.

- Ed Bristol, Chief Justice, Davie College
- Ken Starling, Legislator, MD V
- Bruce Jolly, Legislator, MD V
- Martin Lancaster, Davie College Headmaster
- Vance Furr, President, BVP
- Norman Wood, President, Old East
- Joanne Porter, Smith

The proposed social room discussed in the above article is now a reality. The proposal was enthusiastically approved and endorsed by Dean of Men William G. Long as "probably the most unique and attractive social facilities on campus". The approval of the Davie College social room in B.V.P. came too late however to include in the foregoing article. Ed Bristol

James Hudson, Jr.

Greatest Social Gift Is Free Expression

Freedom is a rather overworked word today, yet it strikes me that so few people really think about the meaning of the word or whether there is a greater freedom than the one the word connotes popularly.

Popularly, freedom is a vague sort of ability to determine one's own destiny, and in the United States freedom is equated with democracy. But to my mind, there is a limited sort of freedom. Freedom to me is lack of any kind of restraining force. But total freedom is impossible, for there are always restraining forces such as responsibility, consideration for others, mores, social and economic pressures, etc., and no person can be totally free. Taking these forces into consideration, I come to the conclusion that the ultimate freedom, the freedom that concerns the individual the most, is the freedom of self-expression, either through the artistic media or through passionate self-involvement in external affairs.

The freedom of the artist is a greater freedom than the freedom of the masses, and the freedom of Christ is the greatest freedom of all.

Freedom in the United States is equated with democracy, yet any student of history knows that some of the formulators of our ideas of freedom regarded democracy as the tyranny of the mob, and so I regard it. We are slaves to the desires of the majority. If one does not agree with the majority, one is wrong. To regard the majority as necessarily right seems highly illogical to me. This method denies individual expression as valid. One can not be free in a society which looks down upon eccentricity.

Americans like to boast of economic and social freedom, emphasizing social mobility. But one can not be free if one is bound to the productive system. We spend our lives grasping for gold. We are trapped by the production-consumption ideals of our society. The man sought up in the competitive "rat race" has no freedom. The man forced to the conformity of a business suit has no freedom. Our present system is extremely ethnocentric, fearful, and repressive of truly free dissent. And do not think that following the latest fad of checkered pants or double-breasted blazers can be counted as individual expression. Fads are as much the products of Madison Avenue as they are of fertile imaginations, and there is nothing less individual-oriented than Madison Avenue. Until the individual is released to pursue sincere expression of feelings and thoughts, he is

a slave to his society.

So the problem before us is to free the individual from unnecessary restraining forces. In this case, these forces are attitudes toward life and its goals, attitudes toward what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. As I have mentioned, we are production-consumption oriented. This must be changed if we are to be free. And at last it is possible to change this orientation which has been with us for so long. With the coming of a technological age, it is within man's grasp to free himself. Not only are machines doing our physical labor for us, but they are also doing our ordinary brainwork for us, as witnessed by the computers. This leaves man free to utilize his unique gift, creative imagination.

To what end shall we use our newly-found freedom? Instead of channeling our freedom into the meaningless chaos of a Daytona Beach, let us strive to express ourselves either artistically or compassionately. We should devote ourselves to encouraging each individual to use man's newly-found freedom in personal and meaningful expression, for only in personal expression is the individual free, and only through personal expression can the individual find himself and thus bring meaning to his life. A life of stagnant production for production's sake is meaningless. We must shift from production-consumption to expression. We must work toward producing artists and people of compassion as well as automobiles. This change in the conventional role of man will effectively fight growing conformity and will bring freedom.

Vincent van Gogh, one of the freest of men and greatest of expressionists, leaves us some relevant thoughts:

"It is a loss to drop some notions, impressed on us in childhood, that maintaining a certain rank, or certain conventions is the most important things? I myself do not even think about whether I lose by it nor not. I know only by experience that those conventions and ideas do not hold true, and often are hopelessly, fatally, wrong. I come to the conclusion that I do not know anything, but at the same time that this life is such a mystery that the system of 'conventionality' is certainly too narrow. So that has lost its credit with me."

In short — one must of course give Society its due, but at the same time feel absolutely free, . . . and that my own conscience is the compass which shows me the way. . . ."