

The Daily Tar Heel

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Friday, February 19, 1971
Tom Gooding, Editor

Grads, undergrads need to cooperate

The Graduate Student Federation has established itself as a representative organization for graduate students on this campus. Graduate Student government has had a slow and tedious development. Starting with the Graduate Student Association (GSA), which rapidly folded from a lack of participation, the movement developed into the Graduate Student Coordinating Committee (GSCC).

The GSCC obtained preliminary

funds and recognition from last year's Student Legislature. This year GSCC has drafted a constitution and conducted a referendum that showed overwhelming support among graduate students for a separate government.

Then the federation was formed. Tuesday night they held an organizational meeting with representatives of more than 80 per cent of the graduate students attending.

Graduate students have long been a mammoth apathetic mass on the UNC campus. However, that apathy was not caused by any lack of concern among graduate students.

The undergraduate domination of both Student Government and Student Legislature forced those bodies into a preoccupation with issues and policies that were irrelevant to graduate students.

Graduate students now have an organization to work on the problems and issues that confront them primarily in their academic departments.

Walter Badgett, newly elected president of the GSF, has already extended an offer of cooperation to undergraduate student organizations.

We hope these groups will work together in furthering the interests of their respective constituents.

Letters to the editor

Leadership poor at Carolina

To The Editor:

Lately there has been a rash of car thefts on the UNC campus. There are indications (rather, it is perfectly obvious) that the thieves are the campus police, aided by their accomplices, the various towing services around town. Foreign cars are preferred (they are sometimes easier to drag sideways out of a parking slot if need be.) Student cars are particularly vulnerable, since the cops know that students generally lack the funds, time and knowledge to fight the towing policy in court—the University knows it is trading on thin legal ice anyway in authorizing mass towing. Someday the cops are going to drag away the car of a bright, aggressive, wealthy young lawyer who will break the ice, and the cops will be thereby embarrassed and may lose their collective shirt.

The parking situation in Chapel Hill is monumentally bad. Yet what is done about it? They waste thousands of dollars on a survey by some consultants from South Carolina who tell them nothing they didn't already know. Then they round up a bunch of indigent ne'er-do-well cretins, give them guns, ticket pads, and overpowered air-conditioned white cars, and turn them loose on us all. What are the results? Improved parking? No appreciable "improvement." Bicycles replacing cars for local commuting? Not when cyclists must take their lives in their hands on narrow, crowded, pot-holed streets. Do the cops themselves set a good example by driving and parking legally? HA!

I mention this as one of the more blatant examples of the deterioration in the administration of public affairs on campus and in town. Other examples are 1. The stranglehold on the community maintained by local merchants and banks, whose only concern for students is to relieve them of their money. 2. The loss of campus eating facilities where one could get a decent, low-cost meal. 3. The shady dealings of Tom Shetley's Student Store. 4. Drugs. The Tar Heel reported recently that the only University drug policy is that administered by the Chapel Hill Police Department, and we've seen what happens when Lindy and his merry men descend on Hinton James Dormitory. 5. The student affairs funding rip-off by the Administration. 6. Etc, etc, etc.

The main fault as I see it lies in the quality of authority—the University

Administration, local governments, and the police. Too much emphasis is placed on maintenance of status quo, too much time and money is wasted in the wrong places, and practically all planning is done on a short-term, stop-gap basis. Local officials, probably because of the national policy shift towards what in this country passes for conservatism, are becoming more and more stubborn, secretive, self-serving, suspicious and stupid. The one notable exception is Mayor Howard Lee. He seems to be genuinely concerned with the betterment of the community but he is only one man, alone, and with limited authority to act. And I suspect he has to contend with a lot of foot-dragging among those who are supposed to assist him.

One problem is that the deterioration takes place gradually, just a small step at a time, and most of us need something dramatic to spur us into action. Another is complacency. Having gotten rid of Fiber Industries we breathe a sigh of relief and say, "That can never happen again." How can we be sure? Still another problem is that the large transient population sit back and say, "I can stand anything for the few years I'll be here." And then there's the fact that you can find places one hell of a lot worse off than Chapel Hill. Still, these are flimsy excuses for not trying to make things better. There should be some way of rendering a resounding vote of NO CONFIDENCE in such detrimental authorities as Joe Eagles, Tom Shetley, Lindy Pendergrass, and a whole host of planners, managers, cops, flunkies, and do-nothings who would turn the southern part of heaven into the southern part of hell, dragging us down to their miserable level.

What can be done to improve things? No system can work efficiently without feedback and the local administrative systems are badly in need of feedback loops. The feedback must come from the objects of the administration, namely us. We need an ombudsman, or several of them—people who can channel our feelings, desires, complaints, etc. back to the officials concerned. Mayor Lee created such a position for the town, but the chap who held it had very little authority and only worked part-time for low pay. Very few people knew of him and I wonder if the position even exists any more.

It seems to me that establishing at least two ombudsmen's offices, one in the University and one in the community, would be a step in the right direction. No change is likely to occur spontaneously. It's up to us.

W.S. Berryhill Jr.
Rt. 4, Chapel Hill

UNC Boat Club in need of money

To The Editor:

As you no doubt know, club sports at UNC must prove themselves intrinsically capable of high athletic merit before they can achieve major university recognition, whether financial or merely popular. Despite the modicum of coverage the DTH has given to the most fledgling of club sports (i.e. the rowing or Boat Club), few students and faculty are aware, for example, that it is the U.N.C. Boat Club that is depicted on the cover of the Student Directory and that this club has accomplishments and obstacles that are prodigious. Rather than bore the disinterested student body with details, I enclose instead a letter from a member of the club who is a student at the Duke Med-School. This particular oarsman (Curt N. Rausch) has devised a plan whereby the Boat Club can earn badly-needed finances to cover the spring racing campaign. In this campaign, this club of shunned athletes will be representing UNC in contests with U. Va., Notre Dame and Villanova, for example. I think the letter is indicative of the commitment that these students have made and that administrators, faculty and students should take note: "Dear Oarsman: "As you know, the UNC Boat Club is

in rather desperate financial straits. In an effort to raise money everything from begging (Homer Rice was not at all impressed) to selling our sisters (my mother was not in favor of this) has been suggested. All this has necessitated some rather strange measures on our part. The latest of these is a proposed blood drive that has all the indications of getting off the ground if we can get up enough energy to drag our bodies over to Mr. Duke's House of Healing. At the moment, Duke Hospital is paying twenty dollars for a unit of red stuff regardless of blood type...

"At the moment it looks as if we will be able to go over to Duke en masse on Sundays in order to provide them with blood for surgery on the following Mondays... Hopefully this whole flurry of movement will produce some action. A dozen or so donors will make the venture worthwhile, and I already have a few irate alumni lined-up who indicate they will write of Homer to ascertain why Carolina athletes have to sell their blood in order to participate in a sport...

"See you at the phlebotomist.

(signed)

"Curt N. Rausch" more unfortunate than amusing. Why should Carolina athletes have to sell their blood in order to participate in a sport?

I. Beverly Lane

Tar Heel left out an award of week

To The Editor:

You forgot the "WHAT'S MINE IS MINE; WHAT'S YOURS IS NEGOTIABLE AWARD" to Student Legislature for being upset that its consent is not necessary in order for the graduate students to gain control over their own funds; and to The Daily Tar Heel for feeling the same way.

Paul Gilchrist
Durham

Trade unions offer way to end war

To The Editor:

"One, two, three...many Vietnams," as one speaker reminded us at the anti-war rally last Thursday, used to be the vision of Che and Lin Piao. Now America's warlords are fulfilling that vision in the name of getting out of the first Vietnam.

Last week, while the rest of the world heard about a new escalation of the war in Indochina, America's so-called "free press" withheld the story of what our "democratically-elected" leaders were up to in Laos. While American munitions, voted for by dove and hawk alike, were being used by our puppets in Saigon and Pnompenh to slaughter Asian peasants, the American people, who have fought this war and paid for it, were suffering increasing unemployment, declining health services, a more dangerous environment, as well as death and disfigurement in their places of work.

The wealth created by the American worker which used to alleviate her or his situation is being used to further the international interests of the American bosses. They get the means to conduct these imperialist wars by robbing us not only of our wealth, but of our lives and health—on the battlefield, in the workplace, and in our polluted cities.

And they befuddle our minds so that we cannot see these hard facts. The deluge us with "news" and spectacles.

They divide us—students from workers, young from old, black from white, female from male. We are filled with doubt, confusion, and pessimism while they fill the Indochinese with lead.

What is to be done? Do we once again March to Washington? To chant, to parade, to protest? Do we fill the papers with ads full of moral outrage and heroic signatures? Do we work to elect more "peace-candidates" who will seek to limit the war? And do we do these things over and over again when the Administration and the military cynically walk over,

around, and through limits like the Cooper-Church amendment? Do we look to electoral politics for the solution? Is our most important task the defeat of Nixon in '72? But didn't we work to defeat Johnson in '68? And Goldwater in '64? Do we engage in suicidal spectacles like the one being proposed by Rennie Davis for Washington in May? Or shall we say to hell with everything and turn on to drugs?

American students and intellectuals might begin to move against a war which offends their sensibilities. American workers are fighting rear-guard actions to preserve their jobs, their health, their homes, the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the schools they teach in and send their children to. If they are black or female, they often have to fight to get some of these things before they can fight to keep them. Appeals to workers' moral conscience from privileged students and university professors will strike them as quite hollow. Students and teachers must begin to educate themselves to the fact that they are intellectual workers who have a key role in the capitalist system, that they contribute to the slaughter not only of Indochinese peasants but of their fellow American workers as well. They must see that their struggle is with these Americans against the enemy of all people—monopoly capital.

Concretely, and immediately, these thoughts imply that students and professors must begin to understand the necessity that they organize as workers, that is into trade unions. Before we can support and take part in the struggles of others we must engage our own oppressors. In North Carolina organizing trade unions is still a very radical act. It certainly will require a greater change of consciousness than the "trashing" psychotherapy espoused by some radicals. In our trade unions, and in their impact on other unions, we can pose the greatest threat to the source of power of America's war-makers and most effectively make it too costly for them to pursue imperial wars abroad and repression at home.

This sounds like a very roundabout way to end the war, but we can't just stop the war in Vietnam, or in Cambodia, or in Laos, or in the ghettos of Wilmington, or in the coalmines of Appalachia. If we haven't learnt that lesson from the past two years, what have we learnt?

Peadar MacTear

Best writing found on traffic signs?

To The Editor:

While teaching his introductory poetry class in Greenlaw the other day, an English instructor ceased his discussion of prosody for a moment to quote what he has termed, "one of the finest, most elegant lines of poetry in the English language." The line is very short, he said. He has written it on all of his notebooks (to remind himself of its beauty).

"Walk with light!" he quoted, and then repeated softly, blissfully to himself, "Walk with light"... Now isn't that a wonderful thing to say to someone?"

The class, of course, agreed that it was, and wished to know the author of this high, though simple, poetry. "I suppose it's anonymous," said the instructor. "It's written on a sign at an intersection of Franklin Street."

Brad Stuart

Prof. Dixon right about Vietnam war

To The Editor:

John Dixon is absolutely right about Southeast Asia. We've got to do something. I'm not a member of the university, but I'll help in any way I can. Inaction is complicity.

Philip D. Harvey

"I ASSURE YOU...WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF EXPANDING THIS WAR IN INDOCHINA!"



Bob Chapman

Stores group did good job in formulating check policy

The Chancellor's Student Stores Advisory Committee is to be commended for its formulation of a new policy dealing with bad checks at the Student Stores on the UNC campus.

Although members of the committee bent over backward to be fair in letting a student know of a bad check written by him, at the same time it formulated an effective policy which should alleviate losses to the Stores and punish those who would maliciously write bad checks.

Credit should be given to two student members of the committee, Steve LaTour and Gerry Cohen, who were instrumental in calling for a revision and in the actual writing of the new policy.

Two weeks ago warrants were issued to 10 UNC students for passing bad checks, the first time in anyone's memory the University has taken such action. Although each was supposed to have been sent three notices by the Student Stores, an investigation of six cases by LaTour showed that half had received no notice while the other half received but one.

Alarmed by the tragedy of six students when no one was clearly at

fault (or everyone was at fault), LaTour and Cohen met with Chancellor Sitterson to ask for the revision of the bad check policy.

In the special meeting called by the Chancellor, Cohen submitted a seven-point proposal which, after several revisions and corrections, was passed unanimously by the Advisory Committee.

According to the new policy, when a check is returned for the second time from a bank, a notice is sent by U.S. mail to the offender.

After one week, another letter is sent, this time by certified mail, return receipt and address verification requested.

After three more business days, the student either makes the check good or the general manager of the Student Stores is instructed to turn the matter over to the University attorney for possible prosecution.

A four dollar charge will be levied on checks held longer than a week and an two dollar charge will be placed on checks held less than seven days. Three violations may result in the revocation of check cashing privileges at the stores.

An extra measure was written into the policy to assure the student is aware he has written a bad check. Upon notice of the first warning, a Student Government bad check commission (should one be re-established by the Student Legislature) is notified. After the second notice is sent the Office of Student Affairs will warn the student of the consequences of non-payment.

"It is the declared policy of the Student Stores to ensure fairness to all students while protecting the community from those who willfully violate University policy or State law," the policy reads.

The policy, which got the approval of the Chancellor Thursday, will go into effect upon the establishment of the bad check commission by Student Government.

Hopefully, problems formerly encountered by Student Stores will be alleviated. When the stores lose money the students lose too, since the stores contribute some \$155,000 toward student scholarships.

