

The Daily Tar Heel

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Harry Bryan, Editor

Tuesday, November 23, 1971

Course evaluation needed for UNC

Zeta Beta Tau fraternity and Pi Beta Phi sorority have a plan for a 350-page course evaluation booklet that could be distributed by March in time for fall preregistration.

Their idea is a good one, and, as the two cochairmen of the project pointed out in Monday's Daily Tar Heel, a thorough course evaluation would benefit both students and faculty members.

Students trying to decide which courses to take would have the opportunity to find out what other students who had taken a given course had thought of it.

And through the evaluation, department heads would get feedback from students on what they thought of given professors.

But more important — much more important — professors themselves would receive feedback about their courses. And with the massive classes now being taught on this campus, such information would indeed prove beneficial to all concerned.

When a professor is teaching a class with 100 or more students — more than 1,000 in some — it is practically impossible for him to really know what students think of it. Certainly, he can get some

indication if students flock to his course every year, but even then he doesn't know if it is because he is a good instructor, because the course structure is good, because the course is easy or because it is required.

The horrendously large classes make it almost impossible for an instructor to get to know his students and find out what they feel could be done to improve the course.

However, through an evaluation such as the one now planned they would get the feedback that is a necessity if improvement is to take place.

The only thing that could hinder the Zeta Beta Tau's and Pi Beta Phi's would be a large number of professors refusing to hand out to their classes the questionnaires that have been prepared.

However, if professors are concerned about improving their courses and if they want Carolina courses to appeal and relate to students, they will participate. And the same goes for students and department heads.

A really thorough course evaluation has been needed all too long. This one cannot be allowed to fall through.

Next year St. Nick wears a swim suit

Many Americans are concerned that stores and corporations are beginning their Christmas advertising earlier each year. The display ads are reaching print one to two weeks before Thanksgiving.

The city of Raleigh, however, has found an innovative solution to beating Christmas advertisers to the punch. In seasonal spirit, Raleigh held its Christmas parade last Saturday.

It was a great day for a parade — the Fourth of July parade, that is. The sun was shining down. People were in shirtsleeves. The weatherman pessimistically ruled out all chance of snow.

Not too many parade watchers were fooled.

The kids weren't fooled. Santa's ho-ho-ho's sounded more like ugh-ugh-ugh's. To a merry old soul dressed in North Pole attire, getting kids into the Christmas

spirit before Thanksgiving seems a bit dull.

The oldtimers weren't fooled. Everybody knows Yuletide thoughts come after the Thanksgiving Day football games. Why, in the old days, you didn't figure out how to pay for the Christmas presents until you had figured turkey, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie expenses.

The turkeys were fooled least of all. Heck, they're still running for their lives from the Swift and Armour neck stretchers. The more clever turkeys are eating great quantities of PCB contaminated feed and marching on Ralph Nader's office.

But come Hell or high water, Raleigh was going to get the jump on advertisers. And their logic is sound. To keep ahead, think ahead.

"In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it. . . ."

Keith Weatherly

N.C. needs two strong parties

This week-end the North Carolina Republicans held their annual convention in Charlotte. There was the usual amount of backslapping, cigar chewing and joviality which accompanies any political function, but the party regulars were a bit more serious than any time in recent history.

This year marks the beginning of a new era for the Republican party in N.C. politics. They have enthusiastic young leadership and a large bank balance; assets that should spell a great future for any party. Republicans in this state are hungry. Not since reconstruction days have they wielded any political clout, but the tide seems to be turning. Candidates have confidence that they can win under the Republican banner; therefore more capable, dedicated workers are joining the party than ever before.

North Carolina has been strictly a one-party state for a hundred years and finally we may get the privilege of having two viable parties in our state.

Much of the success of the "new" Republican party is due to their ex-party chairman, Jim Holshouser. Mr. Holshouser, party chairman since 1966, stepped down this year to run for governor. He brought the party from the role of an "also-ran" to a position of remarkable strength in these few years. To top all his previous state political achievements he helped steer North Carolina toward a victory for the Republican presidential nominee for the first time in forty years. In national politics, at least, North Carolina is a bona fide two-party state.

An impressive number of young people took an active role in the state

convention. There were at least twelve counties having a delegate from the UNC student body alone. The Republican party is quickly becoming the party of the young in North Carolina.

Jim Holshouser is thirty-seven years old while the newly elected chairman, Frank Rouse, is only thirty-three. All across the state young people are holding positions of responsibility within the party. The Republican party has not been entrenched in the state for years and therefore is very flexible and offers more opportunities for advancement to young people. The current gripe of the radical is that he cannot work within the system. Nonsense! Both political parties are eager to get young people into their ranks. Those who cry that working within the established system does no good are most often those who have never tried. Young people must realize that change can indeed be produced through "channels," but not without work.

There is often the observation that "old people" control the political structure. This may be so but it is because they worked years and years to gain their positions. Work must be done on the precinct and county level, before any young person is going to exert policy changes on either party. Often these lower levels of the political ladder go begging every year for people to take jobs of responsibility. Anyone, young or old, who wants to make changes in our political process must care enough to get involved.

The young voter in North Carolina must realize the critical need for a strong two-party system. It is time to stop voting for a particular party only because your parents and grandparents did so. The only way to bring truly responsive government into this state is to have two parties that are in strong competition for elective jobs. Until recently this has not been the case. The winners of the

Democratic primaries were automatically elected. This is not healthy for any government.

The only way that the parties will produce capable, responsive candidates is through the knowledge that if they fail to do so they will be defeated. New voters must recognize the decay of our state politics and take positive steps to revitalize the whole system. It can be done.

There was much talk at the Republican convention of the thousands of new voters who will be eligible to vote for the first time next year. Both parties will be making conscious efforts to capture this vote which will elevate the 18-20 year olds to a new position of power. Compromises will be made and youthful candidates will appear offering great enticements to young people. In this first election, above all others, we must prove that we are capable of assuming our new responsibilities as voters.

Letters to the editor

Bible offers remedy to war

To the editor:

Richard Farmer's claim (DTH 17th Nov) that the Bible has caused wars is naive. Wars have been fought in the name of Christianity but were not caused by the Bible, which tells us to love our enemies and do good to our persecutors. Popes, kings and politicians have disregarded the Bible and used Christianity as an emotional banner to rally their Biblically illiterate subjects to fight. The Bible exposes the root cause of war (James 4v1&2) and offers man the remedy.

Ignorance and prejudice stamp the comments about the Bible's origins and reliability. How does he know that the Biblical authors "certainly did not think of themselves as prophets?" All we know of their thoughts is in the Bible where they claim to be prophets. Saying that our Bible bears little relation to the original shows that he has not read any scholarly work on Biblical textual criticism. There are thousands of extant Biblical manuscripts and they show that we have an essentially complete and reliable record of the original text. The care taken by the Jews to preserve the

Old Testament text is well known. Textual critics admit that "the evidence for the text of the New Testament is better than for any other ancient book." (RSV preface). Knowledge of Biblical languages is excellent and enables us to accurately translate the text. Ancient Near Eastern studies show the accuracy of Biblical statements and history.

Christianity has 'harmed and perverted society' only when its adherents have ignored the Bible. Society has benefited when Christians have lived by the Bible.

Mr. Farmer should take his own advice and be guided by reason not emotional prejudice. He should read the Bible and study its origins before dismissing it as futile. Personally, I have found that far from having no answers, in many cases it provides not the best, but the only answer to life's problems.

Ernest C. Lucas
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Israel a tool for imperialism

To the editor:

Mr. Weatherly's recent assessment of the Middle East situation has been assailed by responses divorced from any truth as far as the Middle East is concerned. Mr. Weatherly's denouncement of Israel as "imperialistic" is only part of the story. Israel has been conveniently used since its establishment, used as a tool for major powers in imperialistic actions. The 1956 Suez War is a case in point. Perceiving themselves "threatened" by the canal's nationalization, Britain and France enlisted Israel to play the role that has been envisioned by her "mentors/protectors" since her establishment. That role is that of a threat in the heart of Arab countries, hindering secure economic progress and national independence of major power domination.

The arguments advanced by Mr. Gabin (DTH Nov. 22) and others (DTH Nov. 20 "Israel Pleading for Lasting Peace") that these lands were needed and acquired for security and survival are unfounded. The ideal of secure borders is a myth created as a pretext for more and more aggrandizement and expansion in the name of "self-defense," and in flagrant violation of the UN Charter. We have allegedly concluded as a lesson from Nazi Germany and World War II that the civilized world is to follow the principle that "right makes right," as opposed to

barbaric and destructive principles like "Might makes Right." We have to decide if we have really progressed.

Professor Levontin (of Law) at Hebrew University, quoted in the London Times of March 2, 1971, tells us borders are secured when, "... those living on the other side do not have ... motivation to infringe them."

The crucial questions become (as they have always been) the continued imperialistic and repressive tendencies of the Israeli regime. Of prime concern is the Palestine issue. The Palestinians whose ancestors settled the land 3,000 B.C. have as much right to live in Palestine as Mrs. Meir (born in the Ukraine, brought up in Wisconsin), the Prime Minister of Israel in the occupied Palestinian territories, whose inhabitants were uprooted, stripped of property, disenfranchised, and dispersed to make room for the returning "Zionists."

Lasting Peace is around the corner as is claimed if the Israelis and their weapons suppliers recognize two fundamental needs: the right of the Palestinians to exercise their full civil rights with repatriation or compensation, and the total withdrawal of Israel from the 1967 occupied Arab territories, both principles being inherent in the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the UN. The only alternative is more suffering and tragedy, more fuel being added to the flames of war.

Only recognition of the rights of Palestinians (Christian as well as Moslem) will restore peace to the cradle of religions and Land of Peace.

It is now for Israel to decide.
Mahmoud Yassin
Carr Dorm

Abzug's topic: representation

To the editor:

To answer some of Mr. Weatherly's comments on Bella Abzug's speech, I first remind him that her main theme was insufficient representation in the U.S. government (and power structure in general); in such a discussion lack of female representation and rights, and involvement in a war opposed by over 70 percent of the people must be included. But she also included other kinds of group discrimination and other policies not popularly supported.

As for her remarks concerning Mr. Nixon, I would be interested to know how her statement asserting the increase of bombing and civilian deaths since he took office shows that she is "reaching the conclusion" that our "Republican executive" is ending the war. And can you show me that decrying the fact that all citizens are not making equal sacrifices to his economic program is the same as complaining about "sacrifices the country must make?" Her main complaint was with the inequity of the program's enforcement, causing some segments of the population to make most of the sacrifices while other segments continue to operate virtually untouched.

And she did suggest ways to solve problems stemming from an unrepresentative government. She urged, for example, our nomination and supporting candidates from all walks of society, so that all would be represented in Congress in proportion to their numbers. Or don't you think that a truly representative legislature is a "practical alternative" to one that is not?

Finally, her support of aid to Israel is not inconsistent with her Viet Nam stance because we are helping Israel maintain physical survival, not fighting to extend our own political ideology there. And what "Western European country" has heard her neighbors literally threaten to push her into the sea?

Many will follow Bella Abzug in seeking representation for all — and some of us, Mr. Weatherly, are not even "bra-less!"

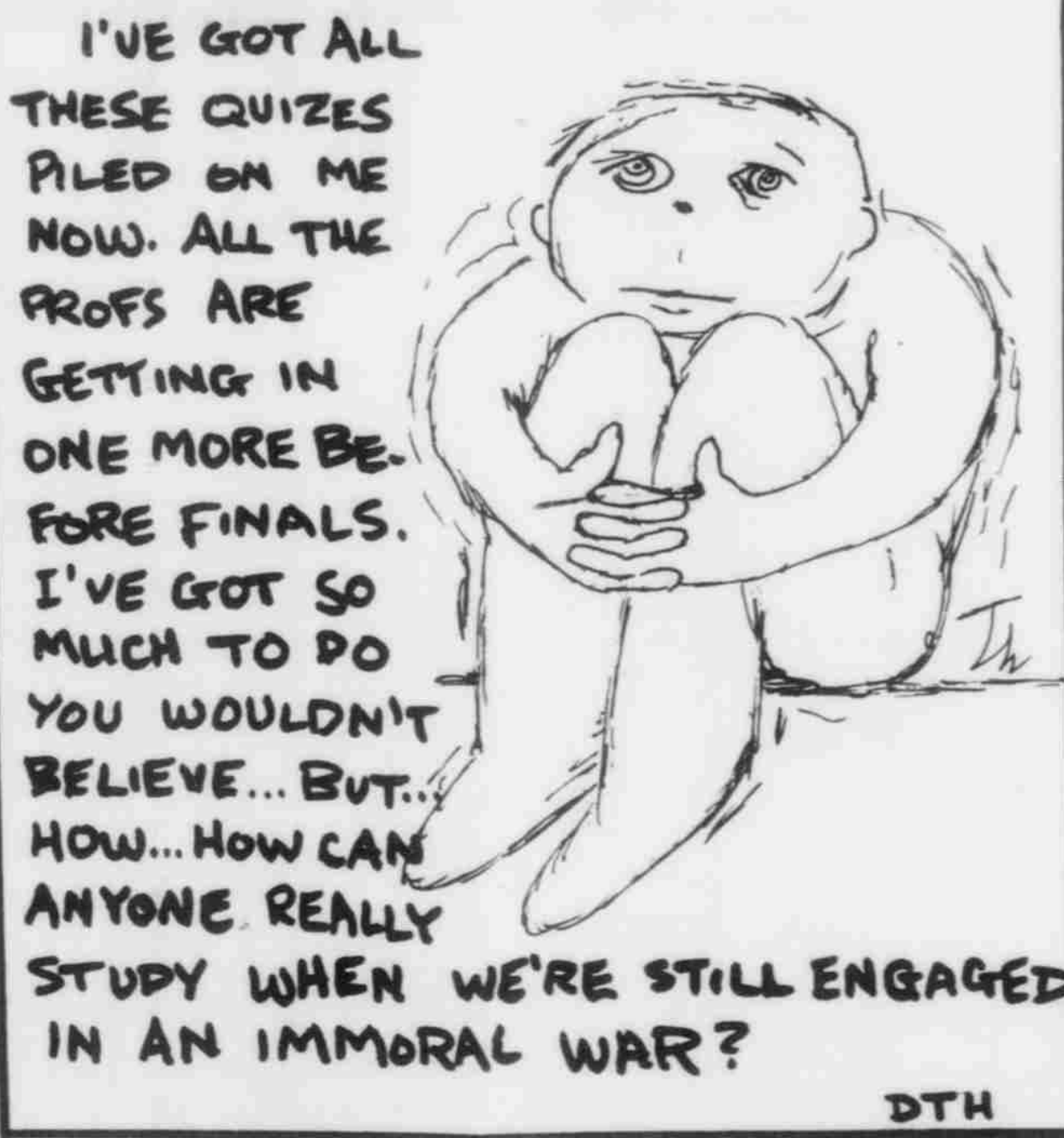
Roxanne Grossman
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Letters to the editor

The Daily Tar Heel accepts letters to the editor, provided they are typed on a 60-space line and limited to a maximum of 300 words. All letters must be signed and the address and phone number of the writer must be included.

The paper reserves the right to edit all letters for libelous statements and good taste.

Address letters to Associate Editor, The Daily Tar Heel, in care of the Student Union.



Ken Ripley

A new menu for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving dinner is usually good and plentiful, but it is getting dull.

Every year we get the same thing — stuffed turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie and whatever else Mom finds to put on the table. Some people like to add some corn, no doubt in memory of the Indians, and there are those who prefer a nice dish of sweet potatoes with marshmallows on top.

The head of the household begins the ritual feast by saying some appropriate Thanksgiving grace — sometimes a ten minute period during which everyone drools over their empty plates and blesses Mom's cooking — and then with great flourishes cuts off huge slices of turkey.

Between the parades in the morning and the football game in the afternoon, the whole thing is getting monotonous. But the ritual, however, is no doubt here to stay.

If we can't change the format, we can at least come up with some different meals for the table, food more

appropriate to the spirit of the times. Thanksgiving should be at least as symbolic as it is fattening. Families on food stamps have been doing this all along, with the added advantage of not getting fat, but we could do better.

President Nixon could set the pace, for example, by eating a Chinese dinner. Vice President Agnew, if he is too fond of turkey, could possibly serve a side dish of mashed peas and all the political gravy he can get. Secretary of State Rogers might serve chicken soup, and Secretary of the Treasury Connally could survive quite nicely on green salad and plenty of bread. J. Edgar Hoover could dine on grasshoppers and other fried bugs, while Melvin Laird could keep his dinner secret. Attorney General Mitchell could eat sugared grass, and his wife could eat her words.

Following the example of our national leaders, the rest of us can equally enliven our meals. For the rich and the aspiring rich, the main course could be stuffed

shirt fresh from the banquet table, while those not-so-rich could serve Cornish Hen and dream.

Followers of KKK Imperial Wizard Robert Shelton could easily add some hot cross buns to their menu, a tiny gesture, while militant blacks could feast on some of Uncle Tom's Instant Panther meat, carefully roasted in Chicago. Indians can always look forward to some Teepee Tenderloin cut from a selected bull provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

For the Republicans there are fresh elephant patties chosen from carefully bred White House stock, and Democrats can always feast on their ass. Third party politicians and their followers should enjoy helpings of American Dream stew, simmered in a melting pot and garnished with liberal sprinklings of pixie dust and seasoned with conservative grains of salt.

No hippie meal is complete at Thanksgiving without Relief Rolls, provided free by America's middle class. Automobile executives could serve side

dishes of lemons grown in Detroit, and economists dare not forget to serve hot food to help thaw out in this frozen winter. For most Americans there is the dietetic Pinched Penny casserole which can be purchased only in job markets.

High school dropouts can always have simoleon pie for dessert, which tastes best home made, and those in college who don't like study would enjoy the taste of High-C, admittedly only an average drink, but it is cheap.

For the football fan, there is leg of quarterback and Touchdown Sausage, a mixture of blood and guts wrapped in a pigskin and best served in front of television.

No meal, however, especially one served in the home of a college student, is complete without the traditional plum pudding. No matter what other food we like or where we prefer to eat, the plum pudding is essential for the true enjoyment of Thanksgiving — the ultimate test of a perfect meal.

After all, the proof is in the pudding.

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