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The Daily Tar Heel

88th year of editorial freedom

The final verdict

After eight long months, it appears now that the Zeta Psi incident of Dec. 2 has played itself out. More than a week ago, *The Daily Tar Heel* recommended that the Honor Court pursue and intensify its investigation of the Zetas, not knowing that prosecution of one fraternity brother had already concluded and that the case against other brothers and the entire fraternity was already closed.

Student Attorney General Louis Bledsoe finally agreed to speak publicly and responded in a *DTH* column and news story that no further action could be taken because the evidence in the case did not satisfy certain offenses as defined in the *Instrument of Student Judicial Governance*.

The *DTH* has not seen the evidence and thus cannot judge its content; we assume and are convinced that the Honor Court ran a thorough and exhaustive investigation. Yet, the end result of these efforts must have left the University community unconvinced that justice was done. The court's recommendation of expulsion for only one of those involved seems to make the Honor Court's effectiveness in this case questionable. But if this inability to build a substantial case hampered justice, Chancellor Christopher C. Fordham's reduction of this sentence from expulsion to suspension, must have further defeated it.

Fordham's explanation

When asked to explain his decision, Fordham declined, but did cite the extensive and tireless work of those who investigated the case as impressive, saying, "People were all giving of themselves to do the right thing." Fordham's action then, is that much more inexplicable, for he thwarted these attempts "to do the right thing."

He has suggested that public ridicule should be considered in reckoning the final punishment of the Zetas. "There is a lot of suffering in that public embarrassment," he said. "None of that gets figured on the bottom line, but it's all there." Maybe. Maybe not. In any case, the codes that govern student conduct make no mention of public embarrassment as adequate punishment. And it is the law with which we are concerned.

Perhaps Fordham felt the University could save face by not expelling the student, or that he did the student and the University a favor by showing compassion. In fact, a University shamed by the Zeta Psi party has only earned more humiliation for not taking stronger action against the violators of its codes. While *The Daily Tar Heel* appreciates compassion, it respects decent behavior and justice, too.

The code of conduct

Coming out of all this is the need for a Campus Code that clearly spells out the illegality of parties such as the one the Zetas threw. The attorney general's office compiled an enormous amount of evidence during the entire process, but apparently was hindered by loopholes in the Campus Code. Statutes that seemed to apply perfectly to the case always contained a brief clause that disqualified their use. According to the code of student conduct, expulsion, suspension or lesser sanctions may result from, among other offenses, "intentionally inflicting injury upon a person or intentionally placing a person in fear of imminent physical injury or danger." This was the offense for which the student was suspended by the chancellor, but the code is sufficiently nebulous and full of loopholes to prevent this charge from being applied to the whole fraternity.

Bledsoe maintained that simply not enough evidence exists for the entire fraternity to be charged under the current Campus Code, even though Section II.E.2. explicitly states that "the knowing failure of any organized group to exercise preventive measures relative to violations of the code by their members shall constitute a group offense." Knowing what we do about the nature of the Zeta party and the blatant violations of decency there, it appears highly unlikely that the event could have occurred if the majority of members had taken "preventive measures." Still, Bledsoe maintains that enough evidence could not be gathered given the code as it now reads. If that is so, then certainly some revision of these "laws" seems in order.

Bledsoe agrees that in light of this case some measures could be taken to strengthen the code and make it applicable to events like the Zeta Psi party.

Even though Carolina does not emerge from this incident with an untarnished image, some solace can be taken in Bledsoe's assurance that he will not let this matter rest. The Campus Code is complex and the attorney general's office and the Honor Court no doubt understand its subtleties and implications better than average students or *The Daily Tar Heel*. But this is one case the Committee on Student Conduct should study carefully. The laws should be clear and specific and capable of dealing with the kind of behavior that took place on Dec. 2. Maybe next time, if there has to be a next time, the attorney general will have a stronger and broader case against violators, a case that, even given the chancellor's final say, will make it impossible for him to thwart justice.

Get in line

For many of us on campus, Woolen Gymnasium is generally associated with waiting in line for something. During registration, students have to wait in line to get into the gym and then wait in line to drop or add or do whatever they need to do. In fact, they usually have to wait in line to get out of the place.

Today, though, there ought to be a short queue in Woolen Gym, and the students in it will be after something a good deal more important than an Anthro 41 card. Voter registration is being held in the gym between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. today and again Sept. 29. Those who aren't registered or who need to change their registration from another state or county should get in line.

People under 25, roughly of college age, typically vote less than people between 25 and 64. Moreover, people all over the South vote less than folks from other regions of the country, so we are right at the bottom of the demographic apathy curve. A university community like Chapel Hill ought to be able to make a dent in those percentages.

Student Government is even planning a mock presidential election in conjunction with the Sept. 29 registration in an effort to drum up business. Give the registrars in Woolen something to do; stand in line for something worthwhile.

On the road, stalking the perfect gimmick

By DAVID POOLE

As you read this, I am probably sitting in my car, on my way into campus, waiting for the jerk in front of me to turn.

By the time you get this far, we will have been at that stoplight for several minutes. The car in front of me will most likely be all bugged up, but the owner will be extra cautious because I'm in a hurry. He'll wait until the road is clear for three miles up ahead before he makes his turn.

At about this point, I will be screaming obscenities at the person sitting in the car that is sitting in front of me, but I won't be blowing my horn. That is the quickest way I know to make someone mad, and the guy in front of me is probably 6-foot-8 and can bench press Vermont.

And even though I am writing this column several days in advance, I can say with relative assurance that once that guy moves and I get to campus, every parking space in the free world will be filled and I'll be late for class. Again.

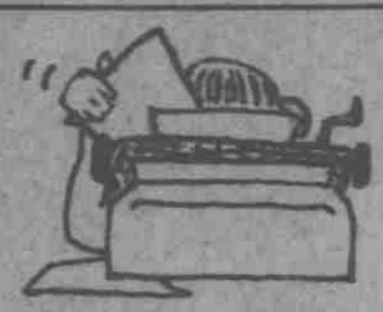
In statistics, they've probably got some confusing term for the way my luck runs. I call it life. Life in the turn lane.

That's a pretty Woody Allenish way to open a column, but everybody's got to have a gimmick. At least that's what I've always been told.

There are a lot of things in this world that just bug the living daylight out of me, and I know that I can't be the only person around bugged by these things. Like why every bug in the world wants to commit suicide on my windshield. Or why they stopped making red M&Ms.

Once I realized that, I really felt better about the whole thing. It helps to know that others are suffering from the heartbreak of having just two pennies when

Life in the turn lane



their order costs \$3.03, and that I'm not the only one who counts the number of times I yell, "Shut up, Howard," while watching Monday Night Football.

I hope that I won't come off sounding like I'm trying to preach my beliefs to anyone. I hope that I can make you laugh. I hope that I can at least take your minds off the boring economics lecture or microbiology class for a minute or two. I hope I don't write many more sniveling paragraphs like this one.

Some of you folks might remember a guy named Don Woodard, who wrote a column called "Paradox Lost" for this newspaper two years ago. I thought the joker was pretty good at this sort of thing.

But a friend of Woodard's told me the other day that this talented guy has worked since he graduated from this hallowed institution, for CBS as a stagehand on *The Price is Right*. He is one of the guys who helps the hysterical housewives come on down. Maybe I should have been an engineer.

Woodard had a gimmick. He was a funny guy. Shoot, anybody can do it that way.

I get to class late again, but no one notices. I slip gracefully into the back of the room. As I begin to sit, the professor inquires, "Poole?"

"Here!" I reply.

"Whew, made it again," I fool myself.

"Mr. Poole," the professor snidely retorts, "I called roll 10 minutes ago."

"Oh," I mumbled.

Meanwhile, four people slip in the door unnoticed while my professor ridicules me. I watch them sit down and get the roll sheet and sign in like they'd been there the whole time.

And somewhere the guy who was in the car in front of me reaches his destination.

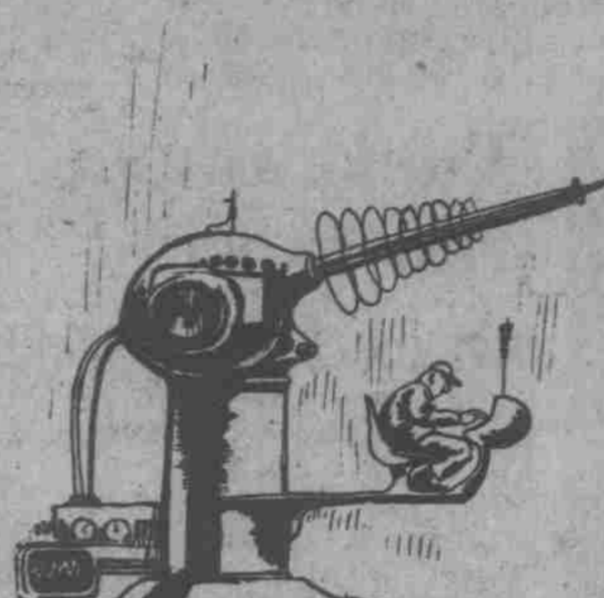
Does anybody know where I can get a used gimmick?

David Poole, a senior journalism major from Gastonia, is assistant sports editor for *The Daily Tar Heel*.

letters to the editor

'Tar Heel' financial problems clarified

THE BATTLE OF ANTI-MISSILE TECHNOLOGY



THE SOVIET PARTICLE BEAM WEAPON



THE AMERICAN 3-POUND WRENCH SOCKET

AMERICAN INGENUITY

To the editor:

Recent articles in *The Daily Tar Heel* may have caused concern within the student body that the portion of their student activities fees allocated to the *DTH* may have been mismanaged. Specifically, they may be concerned that the inaudibility of the *DTH* books and the current litigation with the N.C. Employment Security Commission indicates a misuse or fraudulent use of student funds. This is not the case, and clarification of these events is needed.

Last year the *DTH* began to implement an accounting system that was independent of the Student Activities Fund Office. During this transitional period, the new system was formed by a gradual shift of functions from SAFO to the *DTH*. This shift during the fiscal year made it difficult for our auditors to apply standard audit tests to the transactions. It should be noted that this audit was performed at the request of the *DTH* Board of Directors. In previous years, our books were audited during the audit of SAFO's books. Because we had implemented a system independent of SAFO, we saw the need to hire our own auditors.

During the summer we have worked with our auditors—Touche, Ross and Co.—to construct an accounting system that would satisfy both the University administration and Student Government that there are sufficient internal controls to ensure the proper use of student funds. This system is very near completion.

The suit filed by the Employment Security Commission did not arise from negligence on the part of the previous *DTH* business manager. Rather, the Employment Security Commission has ruled that *DTH* employees are not state employees, and as a result we must pay an assessment for back taxes from the past five years. *The Daily Tar Heel* does not agree with the assessment and is contesting it at this time.

Mark Kadlec
DTH business manager

Minority Affairs

To the editor:

The soon-to-be-established position of vice chancellor for University Affairs represents a new challenge to UNC-CH's educational commitment. It challenges the University to enhance minority presence in an historically discriminatory system.

This task will not be met if past tendencies are maintained. The vice chancellor cannot be an ineffective, systematized perpetrator of present minority-affairs practices. He must advocate necessary improvements and be willing to deter from the present norms that necessitate his very existence.

Committee report after report has attested to the inadequacies in the University's past and present minority-affairs practices. Installation of a vice chancellor who fits neatly into the system, one not willing to administer stiff directives for increasing minority enrollment, hiring and retaining of

minority faculty, one not willing to mandate UNC-CH's commitment to all citizens of North Carolina will further strengthen disillusionment, discontent and questions of academic integrity associated with the University.

Before acceptance of the vice chancellor by those whom the position is primarily designed to serve, the legitimacy of the commitment must be established. If and only if a strong vice chancellor with strong facilities to discharge his duties is chosen, will effective steps toward equality be taken.

Black Student Movement Chairperson Mark Canady has recommended Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences Hayden B. Renwick for the vice chancellor position. During my association with UNC-CH, I have seen the University from many perspectives: those of the student, the disadvantaged and the minority. Renwick's expressed and genuine commitment to the needs of each of these is unquestionable. He has risked his professional and physical neck to better this University. Renwick's refusal to be a silent corroborator can only supplement the qualities attributable to an associate dean who has been heralded by all races, by students and administrators, locally and nationally. In many minds, no one can fill the position as can Renwick.

William J. Bynum,
former BSM chairperson

Correction

To the editor:

In the past week and a half, there have been at least three articles in this paper concerning the Campus Governing Council meeting held Sept. 9. Statements concerning this meeting were incorrect. One example of such an error

was taking my reply to a question from a CGC member out of context. Not only was the reported quote, "I think I read something about them in the paper," taken out of context from what I actually said, but my answer was not in reference to muddled election laws as reported in Monday's editorial, "The Zoo" (*DTH*, Sept. 15). Instead, it referred to the GPSF referendum court case.

Such mistakes as this one will occur, but I hope that in the future such occurrences can be greatly reduced. This reduction is possible with more accurate and attentive reporting, and through better correspondence between Student Government as a whole and *The Daily Tar Heel*. Both of these organizations are for the purpose of serving the student body. Thus, they should work together whenever possible instead of working against each other.

Gregg James
Elections Board chairman

Indian Circle insulted

To the editor:

The Carolina Indian Circle is a prominent organization on the UNC campus, composed of University students with Native American backgrounds. Members include undergraduates, graduates, alumni, faculty and staff. The graduate areas of study include medicine, law, pharmacy, public health, physical therapy and education.

As a prominent organization of the University, the members felt the Campus Calendar announcement in *The Daily Tar Heel* (Sept. 16), that "the Carolina Indian Circle was to have a 'buffalo picking'" was an intentionally malicious insult on the American native

race. It is neither reasonable nor logical to infer the print as erroneous. "Buffalo" is not similar to the word "buffalo" by sight, sound or meaning. Buffalo is a meat that has no prominence in North Carolina, but its relationship to Indians can imply an intentional practical joke on the part of the writer. Such a joke is neither reasonable nor acceptable to a respectable newspaper. Citizens are protected by law from detriment of character in print. Therefore, the act was illegal in nature as well as racially insulting.

As an act of good faith, the members of the Carolina Indian Circle feel the attack on our racial heritage by the intentional practical joke should be required in a written apology to the organization.

Joseph Bell
Chief
Carolina Indian Circle

Editor's note: Campus Calendar notices are printed as originally submitted. The Sept. 16 announcement was apparently submitted as a joke. *The DTH* intended no insult in printing it and regrets the insult inferred.

Letters?

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes letters to the editor and contributions of columns for the editorial page.

Such contributions should be typed, triple-spaced, on a 60-space line, and are subject to editing.

Column writers should include their majors and hometowns; each letter should include the writer's name, address and telephone number.

Stop complaining; register to vote today

By GERRY COHEN

There's a lot of talk about the presidential and gubernatorial elections, but those who don't register to vote by Oct. 6 will only be able to talk.

Voters will have the widest choice among presidential candidates this fall in decades. Besides President Carter, Ronald Reagan and John Anderson, there are Barry Commoner of the Citizens Party and Ed Clark of the Libertarian Party.

For Carrboro residents, there are other critical choices closer to home. A Nov. 4 referendum on the transit system will decide whether Carrboro will increase its subsidy and thus the level of bus service. Those wanting more bus service would be wise to register soon.

There has been a lot of confusion about eligibility to register and vote in Chapel Hill. Last year, the N.C. Supreme Court upheld the right of students to vote in Chapel Hill, greatly liberalizing the old law. But the

Supreme Court noted that its ruling does not mean all students can automatically vote here; it means that they can become residents without discrimination because of their student status.

The court held that dorms and apartments are as eligible as voting residences as houses. But students must show the same kind of intent and evidence of residency as other prospective voters.

Residency is a three-part test. First, a voter must have a living place in Chapel Hill. That's an easy test to meet. Second, he must intend to make Chapel Hill his home now and for an indefinite period of time in the future. The court said that a student could be a resident of Chapel Hill even if he planned to leave upon graduation, as long as he currently considered Chapel Hill home.

What does this legal gobbledegook mean? Essentially, if a student is from Charlotte and plans to go back there when he graduates, he is still a Charlotte resident. If he definitely doesn't plan to go back to Charlotte, then he has given up his former residence there and can vote here. It's the undecided person who makes life difficult for registrars.

The third test is one of evidence substantiating the voter's claim to residency. Does he have a local address

on his checking account? Does he have that address on his driver's license? Don't get me wrong, it's not a test a person has to score 100 percent on. But if the student shows an out-of-state driver's license, the registrar will inform him that he has 60 days to get an N.C. license. That's not much of a burden, and N.C. licenses are cheaper than most states' anyway.

Students shouldn't be intimidated by questioning because the registrars are neither pro- nor anti-student. Students who feel they are residents and who know how much more local decisions by Chapel Hill and Carrboro affect them than decisions made by the city council in, say, Charlotte or Detroit should get in line to register. But registration shouldn't be taken as a joke either.

Students at UNC have voted more heavily than those at other schools. A study in 1972 show that Chapel Hill registration among UNC students varied from 10 percent among freshmen to 50 percent among graduate students. This gradually increasing percentage makes a lot of sense. The longer a person has been away from home, the more he realizes he isn't going back.

Gerry Cohen is a member of the Chapel Hill Transportation Board.