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The Daily Tar Heel

88th year of editorial freedom

The classifieds

A personal world replete with adventure, romance

By THOMAS JESSIMAN

Wad. One of the longest running hopeless dialogues involved Blond Joe and Eunie. It took place over Halloween last fall.

EUNIE—The anticipation is driving me bananas! We must meet. Name the place and time. You bring the glasses, I'll bring the wine. Joe.

Let the music play

Wearing black dresses and tuxedos, members of the N.C. Symphony brought their cause to Carolina Wednesday night. They carried not instruments, but signs. They left their audience not with the beauty of their music, but with a clarification of their position. Symphony members went on strike less than a week ago because they felt the organization was neither growing nor paying as it should. It's a simple case, an irrefutable case.

Members of the 73-piece orchestra work 40 weeks a year for roughly \$14,000. They ask for moderate wage increases and a four- to six-week expansion of the playing season, which stops during the summer and leaves the musicians without a guaranteed income during that 12-week period. The symphony's Board of Trustees maintains that it cannot afford to meet the demands of the strikers.

N.C. state law requires that the symphony operate on a balanced budget. About 47 percent of the annual \$2.6 million budget comes from state taxpayers. In return, the orchestra plays for hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren, providing for many of them their only exposure to classical music. Through its numerous concerts, the symphony treats North Carolinians to some of the best music in the country. And according to one Ohio newspaper, much of that state's industry was being lured to North Carolina partly because of the cultural program offered here. It seems to us that the symphony's requests are reasonable and justified.

It would be nice to believe that the arts were above such worldly concerns as money, but the simple facts of life dictate that these people, who have spent years studying and perfecting their trade, must be able to make a decent living from their work. Considering that much of the proposed increase could be generated by revenues from summer concerts, it is difficult to fathom how the trustees could allow such a small percentage of the total budget to result in a strike.

However, the end result of the strike could be positive. Perhaps when people realize the extremity of the situation, they will be inclined to increase contributions and further alleviate any financial worries.

Since negotiations between the musicians and the trustees began, the strikers have shown a willingness to compromise. But Wednesday night in front of Memorial Hall, with clouds threatening rain and the crowd dispersing, one musician said, "It's up to them to bring us back to the table and end the strike." The "them" he was referring to was the trustees. But the strike hurts not "them" but us. It deprives this state of a fundamental part of its rich and inspiring cultural heritage. We gladly add our voices to those that oppose an unnecessary delay in resolving this matter by urging the state and the trustees to invest in the future of arts in North Carolina.

Food and drink

Consumer groups, including the Chapel Hill chapter of Common Cause, are attempting this fall to hoist the issue of the state's food tax from the depths to which it was sunk by the last General Assembly. Former state Sen. McNeill Smith, who is chairman of North Carolinians to Repeal the Food Tax, spoke against the tax here earlier this month to the annual meeting of Common Cause. By making the 4 percent tax an issue in the fall campaign, the groups hope to set it up for repeal in the next session of the legislature. It's not a new idea, but it is a sound one; the repeal of the food tax is long overdue.

Because the poor spend relatively more of their income on food, an undue share of the food tax falls on them. The average North Carolina family spends 25 percent of its disposable income on food, and a family living on the minimum wage uses about 41 percent of its income for food. Students, who generally must set aside a large portion of their budgets for groceries, are in the same category. As inflation raises food prices, those figures are likely to rise—as will the burden on the food tax on those with low incomes.

Still, a bill to repeal the food tax must be accompanied by measures creating other sources of revenue for the state. The food tax brought in \$13 million last year, a sum the state cannot afford to lose.

One source of additional revenue could be the tax on cigarettes, which at 2 cent per pack is the nation's lowest. However, a higher cigarette tax cannot replace the funds brought in by the food tax, and any attempt to raise it will draw the wrath of the state's tobacco lobby. Growers do not want our tax to rise above Virginia's 2½ cent tax, and it is doubtful that any tobacco tax measure could survive their opposition.

Another means to increase revenue is simply to create a higher personal income tax bracket at the top of the existing scale. Of course, most politicians would fall into the higher bracket. The General Assembly will not be inclined to raise its own taxes, but might be persuaded to do so by a consumer group campaign.

Repeal would not have to be complete or immediate to provide relief for the state's low income families and individuals. By reducing the state's food tax, however gradually, the state could make its tax structure that much more progressive.

The Bottom Line

Changing times
These are times that try men's roles.

The job market is tight, and it's tough to find an honest way to make a living. Take Larry Hinson of Gastonia, for instance. He's been trained as a machinist, a medical record-keeper and a husband. Having failed to find work in the first two occupations, he's decided to hire out his skills in the third. Hinson, who is divorced, advertised in the *Gastonia Gazette* Monday as a "Surrogate husband for hire," listing his specialties as chores, shopping, repairs, baby-sitting and pet-petting.

Responses ranged from crank calls to an interrogation Hinson suspects was by a police officer checking for violations of vice laws. Sadly, he had no takers.

"I'm just a fellow, hit by the recession, trying to make a living in a decent, honorable way," Hinson said. He decided to try the husband-for-hire tack after seeing a television news story about a woman working as a surrogate wife.

Hinson said his five-year experience as a husband had left him with a lot of household skills, "except maybe ironing and cooking." He planned to charge only \$10 an hour.

One woman did seem interested in hiring Hinson, but he turned her down. "A lady wanted me to do ironing for her," Hinson said. "I was afraid I might scorch something."

So, it appears that Hinson's fate is in the hands of Gastonia's housewives. At \$10 an hour, he's a bargain—even if he can't type.

And that's the bottom line.

The world of the classifieds can be awfully strange. The blond lacrosse player lives there, roaming up and down the personals column, though he's sometimes spotted near the Old Well or in Econ 24. Buddy Curry, the star linebacker, used to make his appearance almost every Friday, with hundreds of Anns and Leslies and James wishing him good luck in the Saturday game. One day Ken the Stud even proposed to Ann the Fox—the response the next day, much to everyone's relief, was affirmative.

It is a world of happy birthdays, of desperate pleas for basketball tickets, and most times raw, undisguised sex. Water polo players make not so subtle passes at a ravishing blonde. Pooky thanks Spooky for firing off rockets. Alice the Palace thanks Fifth Floor Granville for renewing her faith in MAN-kind.

In the midst of all that intrigue, the discerning reader can sometimes spot the beginning of a romance. Take the case of the Man in Orange. Each week the Man in Orange went to his Thursday class in sign language and saw the woman of his dreams. Perhaps he sat next to her in class and watched her taking notes. After class he probably walked behind her and then stepped in front to hold the door. She might have thanked him, smiled and kept walking. Obviously, he needed a better tactic.

TO THE BROWN EYED GIRL in sign language on Thursday. You have the best hands I've ever read. Let's talk some time. The man in orange.

That personal ran Nov. 19 last year. No doubt after that, the Man in Orange read the classifieds religiously. Finally, after another class had passed, perhaps with some strange looks from both parties, he received an answer.

TO THE MAN IN ORANGE. I'm so flattered! I would love to talk some time. The girl with brown eyes.

After that, the Man in Orange and the Brown-eyed Girl faded into obscurity. Most likely they, like thousands of other successful, contented "personals" writers, finally met and found something to talk about; the personals were no longer needed.

However, not all adventures in the classifieds have happy endings. The star-crossed romantics sometimes spend months lost amidst the ads for cheap birthday cakes and happy anniversary notes to Ju-Ju or Billy

HELP. Last Thurs. 12 noon. I was walking towards Franklin from Old East. You were walking from Franklin by the corner of Old East with others. You have black hair, nice build, wearing a dark green top, carrying small leather (?) purse. I have blond hair, was wearing a light blue suit. We exchanged only smiles, but I MUST meet you. Please call 9-9- or 9-9- and leave message for Joe.

Blond Joe must have known it was a long shot. After all, there was no guarantee the girl with black hair even read the personals. Every time the phone rang he must have been the first to answer it, his face sinking when the voice was that of a man or woman he recognized. He placed the personal Oct. 24 and exactly a week later came the reply:

BLOND JOE in the light blue suit, I noticed you too! Yes my purse was leather. Would like to exchange more than smiles, but am sort of shy. Are you going to Ellett's Next costume party tonight? I am. Maybe we'll meet there. Eunie.

It wasn't a bad reply at all—at least now he had a name. No doubt, his suspense was heightened by the prospect of a costume party. If Blond Joe recognized her he would have little trouble breaking the ice. The only hitch was that he had to assume Eunie's personal had come from the same woman he passed on the walkway. But then, that risk was all part of the game.

No mention of Blond Joe and Eunie appeared in the column during the next few days and we assumed they had gone the way of the Man in Orange and the Brown-eyed Girl and probably discovered love and happiness via the personals. But it was not to be. Nov. 5 brought the bad news:

BLOND JOE: I didn't see you Wednesday night. Oh well. Hope to see you on campus soon. I'll be looking. Do you have a favorite lunch spot? Eunie.

So, they had missed. Perhaps their costumes had been too clever. Maybe Blond Joe had bailed out at the last moment—after all, it's not the bold and brazen who live by the personals. Maybe Blond Joe had arrived late and entered just as Eunie was leaving. At any rate, Eunie had thrown the ball back to Blond Joe and he was quick to act. Four days later he struck again:

letters to the editor

Opinions misrepresented in 'DTH' article

To the editor:
The *Daily Tar Heel* has displayed a laudable sense of fairness of late in its news coverage. Unfortunately, in the heart of the election campaign, this fairness is beginning to fade away. The tendency to blur the distinction between news and editorial functions is apparent.

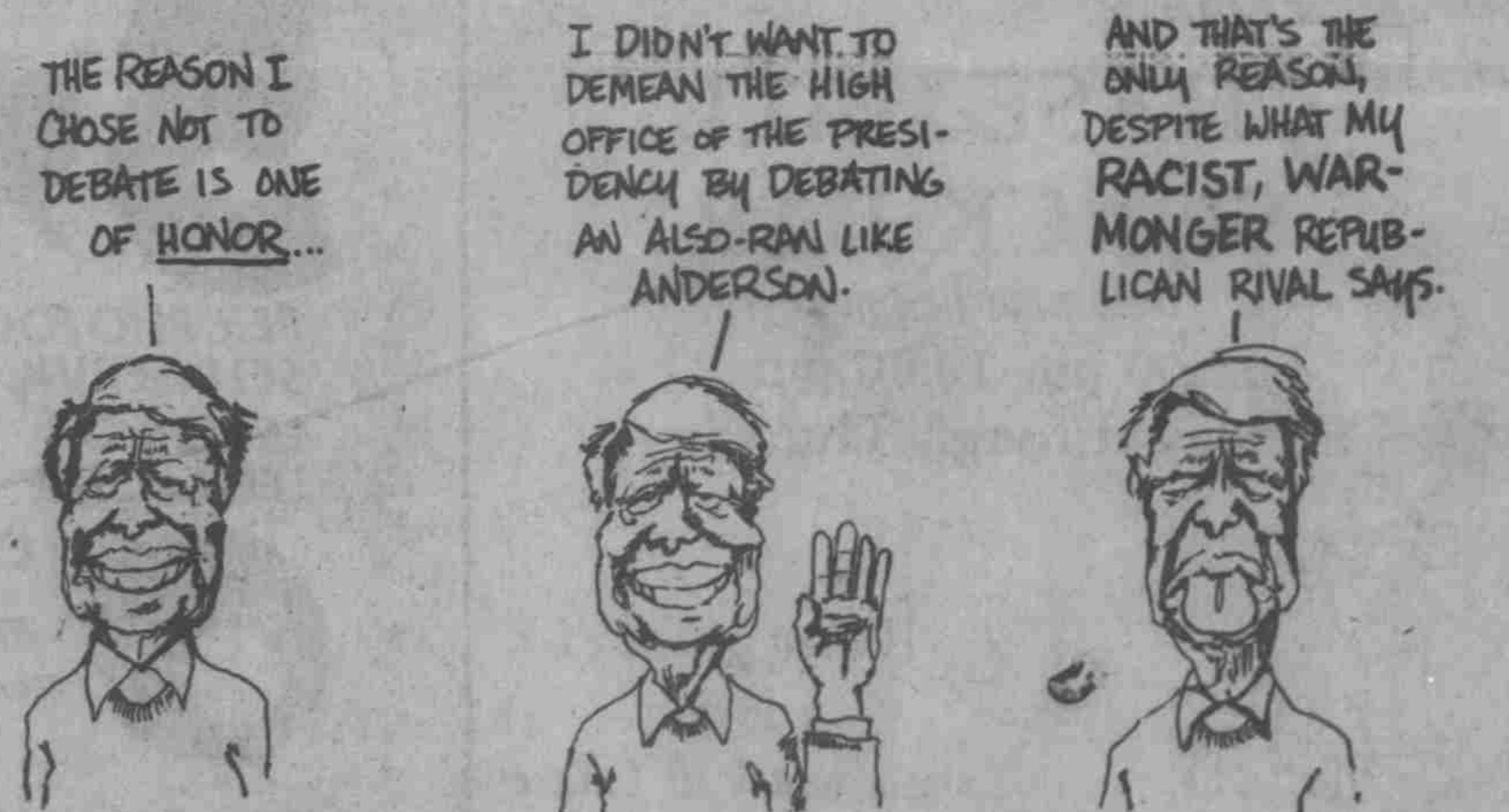
The *DTH* recently reported, for example, that a survey of UNC students showed they favored President Carter over Ronald Reagan. However, the margin of error for any poll (however scientific) is unlikely to be less than the 1.7 percent margin between the two candidates. In such cases it is only proper to report that the race is really a "dead heat" and any apparent lead may be illusory.

Much more serious was the blatantly biased article, "Debate Reactions favor Anderson," (*DTH*, Sept. 23), purporting to gauge student opinion about the Reagan/Anderson debate. "Many" students were said to have concluded that Anderson had defeated Reagan soundly. In fact, only five students were quoted and only three actually criticized Reagan. Three students can hardly be considered as representative of an enrollment of 20,000. In addition, two of the students were self-described Anderson backers, but no Reagan supporters were quoted.

The *DTH* reporters in question may have interviewed "many" students who were not quoted, but they should have provided some documentation of their methods and results. At any large university it is likely that "many" students could be found who support everything from the CWP to the KKK. Therefore, any "surveys" of selected populations are about as useful as Carter's 1976 campaign promises. To pass off such a selective survey as "news" is a disservice to students of all political persuasions who count on the *DTH* for information as well as advocacy.

Ray Warren
Law School
Foxcroft parking

To the editor:
This letter is in response to the article, "Parking rules questioned," (*DTH*, Sept. 19) on the Foxcroft parking



situation. I am a resident of Foxcroft Apartments. I want to present another picture of the parking situation here. Having just moved here in June from Los Angeles, Calif., where I attended UCLA, I am happy to have two assigned parking spaces with parking stickers to assure that I can use them. In Los Angeles, for higher rent, I got one covered space only; any extra cars I owned (or that my roommate owns) were my problem! Is it reasonable to ask any apartment complex to provide unlimited parking facilities for as many cars as the residents can come up with? Of course not.

apartment has one space close to the building, for convenience, and one space farther away. Thus, no two spaces are side-by-side. Visitor parking is in short supply, here as everywhere else in Chapel Hill. Extra, unnumbered spaces have been marked everywhere possible in accordance with fire access codes and trash pick-up restraints. An empty lot has been graveled, and high-powered lights ordered from Duke Power Co. for it, just to help ease the problem. The owner volunteered to do this—I have heard few grateful remarks from student residents. I doubt that student residents are a necessity for the Foxcroft Apartments; if problems with student residents become too great, perhaps a change in policy would allow families with children (and fewer cars, probably) to occupy the apartments students now inhabit. I feel little sympathy for students

because they can afford cars and yet complain because all of their cars cannot be parked in front of their apartments. The bus stops at the Foxcroft entrance and goes right to campus—does anyone ride it? Of course, they could always live elsewhere, where parking is free and abundant.

Sandra Glantz
Chapel Hill

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.

Pro-lifers: a firm belief in the right to life

By CHRIS KREMER

The editors of *The Daily Tar Heel* indicate that they are uninformed about the nature of abortion in America with regard to the editorial "A step backward," (*DTH*, Sept. 19) criticizing the Supreme Court decision to approve the cutoff of federal funds for abortions. The editors think poor women will be forced to suffer at the hands of back-street abortionists. They do not consider the fact that back-street abortionists charge considerably higher fees than legal abortionists. If they cannot afford it, how can poor women be expected to suffer and die while attempting to abort? Instead, they will give birth to thousands of babies who otherwise might have been butchered at taxpayers' expense.

Despite their use of high-sounding rhetoric, pro-abortionists such as *DTH* editors do not have the best interests of the poor at heart. A frequent argument in favor of tax-funded abortions justifies it on an economic basis: It is cheaper for the government to pay for the killing of unborn babies than to bear the cost of

supporting poor children on welfare. Poor people themselves reject this callous placing of dollars above lives; according to a 1979 UNC poll, only 17 percent of them favor state-funded abortions in North Carolina. Black leaders such as the Rev. Jesse Jackson have condemned abortion for the poor as genocide whereby the children of the poor must die to eliminate poverty.

The majority of Americans clearly resent being taxed to pay for abortions according to a CBS/*New York Times* poll taken in 1978. Fifty-five percent of those

of the purse to Congress. If the Supreme Court had struck down the Hyde Amendment, which limits funding for abortions, a constitutional crisis would have resulted.

Pro-lifers did win a major victory with the high court ruling. However, contrary to what the editorial claims, we are far from pleased with the present situation. Abortion is still legal throughout all nine months of pregnancy in the United States, not just the first six months, and there are almost 2 million abortions performed every year. With every abortion an innocent human life is intentionally destroyed (yes, life begins before birth). We cannot be satisfied until legal protection of everyone's right to life is restored without regard to age, health or condition of physical dependency. Ours is a winning cause; already 19 states of 34 needed have called for a Constitutional Convention on the Human Life Amendment that would protect all human life from conception on.

Response

polled opposed federally funded abortions. Pro-abortionists know that the figures are against them and that they have no chance to win their case in the legislature of elected officials. Therefore, they take the abortion-funding issue to the judiciary, which has no business telling the federal government how to spend its money. The Constitution expressly delegates the power

Chris Kremer, a junior French and Italian major from Chapel Hill, is chairman of Carolina Students for Life.