

The Daily Tar Heel

90th year of editorial freedom

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Committee chaos

"Last year, I felt some committees were not as effective, and I feel in part responsible, but on some committees, students tended to politicize their role. They pulled out in caucuses which may be an effective strategy for the legislature, but not here."

Vice Chancellor Donald A. Boulton
April 1981

"I think it is a definite lack of communication. We don't know about anything, what the administration is doing or thinking unless we go find out for ourselves."

Mike Vandenberg
April 1981, when he served as a member of the
Food Service Advisory Committee

When the chancellor committees were created, it was hoped they would provide a much-needed link between students, faculty members and administrators — a non-political link with students separated from Student Government. If things went according to plan, a roomful of well-informed committee members would meet regularly to discuss campus issues.

Some were well-informed and did meet regularly. But most weren't and didn't. The committees' roles were never adequately defined; goals and deadlines, never set. As a result, meetings often were nothing more than meaningless discussion. Administrators could adopt important policy decisions while sidestepping the committees until the final formal policy was written.

"The chancellor committees are a way the different people can get together and wrestle out their problems," Chancellor Christopher C. Fordham III said recently.

In the past they have. They've provided channels for policy evaluation in areas such as Student Stores, Parking and Transportation and Student Health Services. An average of four students on each committee serve a one-year term. Selected by the Student Body President, they must be approved by Boulton and Fordham.

But effective committees have been the exception, not the rule. Because they serve only an advisory capacity, the administrators are not bound to channel policy decisions through them. In an increasing number of instances, they haven't.

In 1981, a once-active Housing Advisory Board was avoided by the administration as rent increases were adopted. The next year the permanent tripling policy was adopted by the University. Housing Advisory Board members did not see it until after the formal policy was written, according to student committee members.

And then there's food service. Three years ago members of the Food Service Advisory Committee worked with members of the administration in deciding who would replace the current campus food service. Next, they began a year-long study of food service renovations.

But last spring, all that changed. An administration plan for food service renovations was shoved through the committee. Written by three administration members of the FSAC, the plan was presented as the all-or-nothing solution. Students on the committee were forced to vote on a plan without having adequate time to study it.

What started as an effective way for students to enhance University policy has deteriorated. Administrators are able to use the committees only when they want to, pointing to them as the answer for student evaluation.

Both student leaders and administrators agree that something must be done about the failing committees. They blame the problems largely on scheduling conflicts, time constraints and a lack of communication.

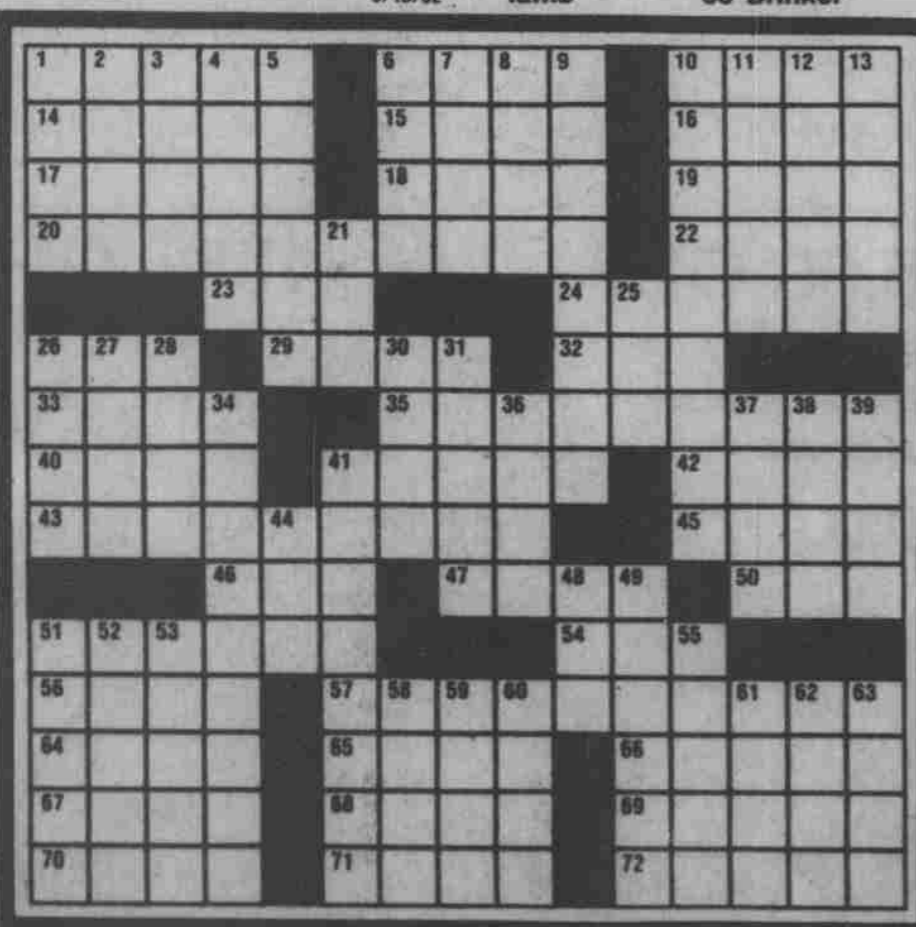
Changes such as a two-year term for students and written agenda issued at the beginning of each year will help. However, before the committees live up to their design as a primary way students, faculty and administrators can work together, administrators and student government leaders must define the purpose of the committees as a whole. Only then can the individual committees be effective in addressing future goals and policy changes.

THE Daily Crossword By Marion Moeser

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ALAN PARSE BEDS
RUST ILLAD IDEE
TIMOTHY CROFTIME
ALBA LEWIS OITTEA
FADE BUS
MODAL DIER MAP
OPEC ARABAT ADD
TIMEONONSHANDS
ONO REPEAT MELT
RES TILES MOTES
BESSE BRADS HAM
WILTHI METOSPARE
BILHA DETER ALEE
SOON OWNERS REST



PITTSBURGH

America's City of Steel lacks luster

By KEN MINGIS

The University of Pittsburgh is a good 10-hour drive from Chapel Hill, but more than just miles separate UNC and Pitt; the people are of an entirely different mentality there. It's not apparent at first — Pittsburgh the city is, in some ways, awe-inspiring, especially for a laid-back Southerner like me. But nothing could have prepared me beforehand for the people I encountered.

Lured by the promise of a great football game and an even better road-trip, I left Thursday morning with a group of 11 other guys. The trip through still-green Appalachian mountains gave little warning of the violence Pittsburgh was to show us.

Game time was set for 9 p.m. in Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium. The city sits on a point, the place where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers meet to form the Ohio River. Situated in southwestern Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh is nestled in a valley behind a tall ridge. You can't see it from far away, so the first glimpse of the city is a shocker. Interstate 79 tunnels underneath that last ridge and dumps you into the middle of the city. One minute you're rolling down the road at 60 mph; the next, you're on top of a bridge spanning the Monongahela River. Pittsburgh lies dead ahead.

Even at 6 p.m. the city exudes a certain charm. With skyscrapers thrown up onto a small point, surrounded by the three rivers, it's beautiful; at night, with the lights reflecting in the water, it is even more so. But the beauty hides a violence, an underlying anger that lives in some of the people we saw that night. Behind the facade of that big, modern city lie frustration and coldness.

I've grown up in North Carolina and heard the phrase "Damn Yankees" all my life. It's an easy way for Southerners to condemn anyone living north of the Mason-Dixon line, but it rarely holds true. Still, after some of the things I saw that night, the thought crossed my mind more than once.

Like most ACC sports fans, I'm used to a little inter-school rivalry; State fans screaming obscenities at UNC fans — that sort of thing. It's part of the

game in these parts; in fact, it's almost expected. But in Pittsburgh they feel even stronger about their team; strong enough to fight about it.

No, no UNC fan that I know of got into any fight with a Pitt fan, but the potential was there. It hung over the entire game and over the city afterward. Thursday night marked the first time I've ever been to a football game and really been scared about the other fans. All the way to the stadium, we were jeered. That's OK, we jeered back and wore Carolina blue. But we were also threatened.

The first time I knew something wasn't right, that this wasn't the safe South, was when I headed for my seat. I caught a couple of elbows in the chest, a few shoves into other people and heard more than a few grumbling comments about "mother—ing Carolina fans." It didn't occur to me until I sat down that the pushing and shoving was not accidental.

The game started, we cheered. UNC scored a field goal, we cheered. Then the fights broke out. Maybe it was because they sold beer during the game and people were a little more ready to rumble. But it is still strange to look across a stadium and see three men beating up on someone, throwing him between a row of seats and then stomping on him. Hey, guys, this is supposed to be a football game.

About 10 minutes later and 10 feet away, the same thing happened. Two 20-year-old thugs started scrapping with another fan. During the fight, I would swear one of them yanked out a patch of hair from that guy's scalp. It sounded like Velcro ripping. The last I saw of him, he was wandering up the steps, bleeding. No cops were around to break it up. Nobody else tried.

For the second half, I moved down to where everyone else in the group was sitting. (I had been sitting with one other Tar Heel fan at nosebleed level during the first half.) But with fights going on, I figured there was safety in numbers. After Pitt scored their touchdown, the game went downhill. Every time UNC looked like they might score, we went crazy. So did the Pitt fans. Bottles flew through the air about as much as Rod Elkins' pass attempts. They were aimed at us (the bottles, not the passes). All along, Pitt fans kept telling us that if UNC won, we had better leave the stadium as quietly as possible. Even then, they said we'd probably get into a fight.

That idea also occurred to a grey-haired Tar Heel fan sitting a few rows behind us. He passed down a note warning us to be careful. It said:

Tar Heel,
Don't let them bait you into a fight!! Too many. With the final score Pitt 7, UNC 6, it didn't really matter. But I've still got that note.

After the game, we went back to Pitt University, a school with 28,000 students, to find something to eat. The campus itself is not in the middle of the city, but on the outskirts, two or three miles from downtown. But the fact we were in Pittsburgh was brought home one last time that night.

We made our way to "Dirty O's," a Hector-like greasy spoon in the middle of campus. It was 2:15 a.m. A crowd was already there by then, not to eat, but to gawk. A fight had broken out about 30 minutes before between two men. One of them had jumped in his car and run over the other one, breaking both of his legs. Somehow in the process, he hit two bystanders. They got caught under the car and were dragged down the street until the driver stopped. We never were sure whether anyone was killed. The police on the scene had big German Shepherd attack dogs and we didn't bother to ask. But the ambulance drove away slowly; no flashing lights, no hurry.

Needless to say, this all occurred after a day-long drive. We were tired and ready to believe the worst about Pittsburgh, the people and the North in general. I decided then that I did not want to wait until Saturday before heading back to Chapel Hill: I was ready to leave the next day. Not surprising, five others were ready to go too.

After a seven-hour sleep, a safer mid-day stroll across campus to buy souvenirs and a visit to the 36-story building that overlooks the university and the city, we left. We had been in Pittsburgh for 20 hours, had been only to the game and the school and had seen very few Pittsburgh residents. It may not have been enough time to objectively see the city, but it was enough to get some feeling about the people we saw.

And I didn't like it.

Ken Mingis, a senior journalism and political science major from Raleigh, is associate editor of The Daily Tar Heel.

On finding a column topic

By SCOTT BOLEJACK

It happened again. I suppose that after four years, I should have expected a relapse. Late Tuesday night and, as it turned out, early Wednesday morning, I found myself unable to come up with a column topic.

Oh, I had plenty of ideas all right. I thought about writing a column on the desperate plight of the grass here at the University. Every time I take a stroll around campus, I find new stretches of land laid barren by heavy pedestrian travel.

I had to give up on this idea, however, when I realized that none of you low life who habitually trample the grass are going to pay any attention to an environmental softie like me. That's O.K. When the grounds are eventually reduced to a Dust Bowl, we can always rename the campus the University of Arizona at Chapel Hill.

I considered giving you a long, thoughtful dissertation on the current situation in the Middle East — just to let you know who I think is right and who I think is wrong and why I think they're right and wrong.

But after reviewing the newspapers and magazines for the past couple of weeks, I realized that by now you must surely be tired of hearing about Lebanon and

Jerusalem and Arafat and Begin. Besides, the only people who can really do anything about the situation are those directly involved and they're so bull-headed and unyielding that the situation will probably drag on for years.

I was going to write a response column to a letter to the editor that appeared in yesterday's *Daily Tar Heel*. It seems one Gary McConnell ("Anything goes" *DTH*, Sept. 15) was concerned that the *DTH* editorial page was becoming an open forum where readers could say anything about anything. McConnell was referring, in particular, to a letter in Tuesday's *DTH* ("Something stirring" *DTH*, Sept. 14) in which Jean Hayes preached a small sermon on the imminent demise of the human race and the need for all of mankind to seek salvation.

Originally I thought McConnell had a point. Maybe the *DTH* was getting out of line. I began to formulate a column which would give the *DTH* a slap on the hand and tell it to get its act together. But as I researched the subject by looking over *DTH*'s from the '40s, '50s and '60s, I realized that the edit page of the paper has always been an open forum and deserving-ly so. Where else but on the editorial page can students comment on things which concern them?

With this revelation in mind, I was only mildly disappointed that another column idea had gone down the drain. I was pleas-

ed to discover that just because McConnell took offense at what Hayes wrote, it does not mean that she should not be able to have her views published. Furthermore, if McConnell would like to write back and tell us his favorite color or perhaps his shoe size, that's fine too. If there's room in the paper, we may just print it.

Moving along. It got to be about 12:30 a.m. Wednesday and I still had no column topic.

I thought about writing a fiery piece on how Warren County residents are getting screwed by the Hunt administration. But let's face it. It's a moot question. PCBs will be dumped in Warren County and there's really nothing that residents there can do about it. The Hunt administration has everything in place and the people of Warren County are just going to have to live with it... or, perhaps, die with it. I just hope Hunt and our legislators can sleep at night.

I also thought about writing a column on the new cooking policy here at the University. But let's face it. That's a moot question too. The University, under fire (no pun intended) from the state, has simply outlived high heat appliances. And that's something students will have to get used to.

Besides, as long as there are those of you who insist on trying to fry your dorm rooms, the cooking policy seems like the only viable alternative. It's just too bad

that the many have to pay for the mistakes of the few.

I also considered doing a puff piece for the Playmaker's Repertory Company, encouraging all of you to take advantage of the sensational student pass and praising the merits of the Company itself.

But such a column would bother my conscience. I bought a season's pass to the PRC performances last year and while the selections of plays was outstanding, the acting was just that — acting. I no more thought I was enraptured in a real situation than I would if I sat down to watch one of the TV network offerings.

I thought about doing a column on how the 5th-ranked football team in the country could plummet to the No. 11 spot after losing to the No. 1 team by only one point. But then I realized that the polls are nothing more than some coach's or sports-writer's opinion and as far as polls go, former president Harry Truman proved how worthless they are sometime ago.

I considered and rejected all these ideas until 2:30 or so Wednesday morning. By that time I was so tired and so frustrated that I didn't care whether I wrote a column or not. I went to bed telling myself that I'd find some way to fill a few inches of the paper. I did.

Scott Bolejack, a senior journalism and religion major from Germantown, is an editorial assistant of The Daily Tar Heel.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New service offers job listings

To the editor:

Financial aid grants and loans are godsend to many students; however, recent financial aid cuts force many students to find alternative sources of income. For increasing numbers of students, on or off financial aid, staying in school means a job to help meet school expenses. The result is a scramble for part-time employment. Therefore, the UNC-CH Student Government is working to lessen the confusion resulting from students' search for employment opportunities.

The Student Part-Time Employment Service (SPTES) was created to coordinate job opportunities on and off campus.

Nine hundred area employers were contacted through the Vice Chancellor's Of-

fice and the Chapel Hill Chamber of Commerce. Employers list job openings with SPTES. Students seeking jobs are allowed to look through the Job Directory which lists all current openings. There has been a great response from both employers and students.

Unfortunately, there is still some confusion to clear up.

1: Jobs are not handed out on silver trays. Perseverance and patience are required from the student. For students willing to make the effort, there are jobs available.

2: If students receive any kind of financial aid based on need and their job provides more than the need, there is a possibility some money will have to be

repaid on the loan. If a student has any questions concerning his/her financial aid and the effect of employment on it, then they should contact the Financial Aid Office in Pettigrew Hall.

3: Any enrolled UNC-CH student may use the SPTES. However, if they receive financial aid, they must inform the Financial Aid Office when they are hired.

For further information, contact Paul Parker at the SPTES, 962-0131 or Charlotte Fischer, Scholarships, Aid, Student Stores, 962-5201.

Paul Parker
Director, SPTES

Charlotte Fischer
Scholarships, Aid, Student Stores

No true religion

To the editor:

If there is anything stirring in Jean Hayes' letter "Something stirring" (*DTH*, Sept. 14), it is the frightening myopia of some members of some religious faiths who consistently refuse to admit the existence of religious beliefs other than their own. Christianity in all its forms may be the dominant religion of this nation, but more than two-thirds of the world's peoples follow religions in which the Christian Jesus is neither messiah nor savior. For these people — Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, Taoists, Moslems (Islamic), Shintoists and various polytheists — there is no such thing as the notion that "Jesus Christ is the only propitiation for sin."

Jesus, John, Peter and Paul are, to them, irrelevant and meaningless. I am appalled that anyone can really believe that his or her religion is the only truth. We are here at college to broaden our horizons, not to narrow them. My God is not the sort to stand at the gates of heaven excluding those who don't follow a particular set of exclusionary policies regarding standards of admission to paradise. I thought only God made those decisions.

And what of those who profess no religion at all but who lead ethical lives and just don't happen to label their actions? Perhaps they are the ones who are, after

all, "pure in heart" because they go on about the business of acting in a humane way and they don't go about pompously boring the rest of the world with endless tirades — all words!

Perhaps we need to worry less about "freedom of religion" and more about "freedom from religion" for those who wish it. Almost every one of the world's major faiths preaches tolerance, but I see far too few of their followers practicing this virtue. Let those who are Christians remember the words of the one they follow: "Judge not, lest ye be judged."

S.M. Pappas
Chapel Hill

A lack of concern

To the editor:

I write to express concern about a lack of concern and response from the student body. Over the past few years, the student election process has been an issue of major importance and controversy. However, despite several announcements in the *DTH* and personal appearances at forums, I have received only 10 applications with which to fill 15 positions on the Elections Board. Campus election laws require that at least two of these positions be filled by graduate students and at this time none have applied.

I have another concern which needs to be addressed: There is an election to fill two vacant GCG seats, districts 6 and 22. District 6 is comprised of the graduate schools of medicine and nursing. District 22 is an off-campus undergraduate district including Kingswood, Royal Park and the Villages apartments. This election will be held Oct. 5 and few people have expressed interest in the positions (none in the graduate district).

The deadline for submitting applications for the Elections Board has been extended to Sept. 17 and the deadline for filing petitions in the CGC races is 5 p.m. Sept. 24. Applications are available in Suite C and potential CGC candidates should see me for information.

Stan Evans
Elections Board Chairman

