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Ohe Baily Tar Heel

90th year of editorial freedom

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Occupational hazards

Just as coal miners frequently get black lung, physicians and professors also have occupational hazards associated with their profession: alcoholism and drug abuse. And just as the miners' health hazard is treated as a disease, the physicians' and professors' problems should be treated as a physical ailment and not as a mental defect.

The medical profession is especially vulnerable to alcohol and drug abuse. Physicians frequently must work long hours under intense pressure, knowing that their failures may mean they will not get a second chance. In an attempt to deal with both personal problems and a demanding job, some physicians turn to alcohol and drugs. Estimates range from 5 to 12 percent of the nation's 480,000 physicians will become seriously impaired at some point of their careers.

Unlike other professions, physicians usually have easy access to drugs. Speaking to Parade magazine, one doctor said, "The availability of drugs is incredible. The pharmaceutical companies send samples in the mail.... Other doctors read their mail. I used to lock my door and eat mine."

While extensive research has been done on physicians' alcoholism and drug abuse, far less is known about professors with drinking problems. At a conference of university professors last weekend in Chapel Hill, most professors agreed alcoholism among professors is more common than the public believes. When asked who suspected a colleague had a drinking problem, more than half of the professors raised their hand. Already a highly competitive profession, teaching at the university level may become more so with current budget cuts, and more professors may turn to alcohol to deal with stress.

Both alcoholics and drug abusers, often because of feelings of guilt and inadequacy, frequently deny their problems at first. Those reactions are results of the basic American mindset to treat alcohol and drug addiction as moral issues. But they are not. They are bio-chemical, genetic diseases that should be treated as such. Before programs are set up to help physicians and professors with an addiction, it's first necessary to understand drug and alcohol abuse for the problems they are.

Snowmobile

I cried for the children

By ANN PETERS

"If I am not for myself, who is for me? and when I am for myself, what am I? and if not now, when?

- Jewish philosopher and scholar Hillel

I woke up. I cried for the children. Never had I questioned Israel's actions. Its motives were my motives.

I am a Jew, and as Jew I believed Israel could do no wrong. Yet as the days of Beirut wandered into weeks of death, as wars and invasions do, I realized politics and religion do not mix.

I had always remembered the terrorism directed toward the Israelis and the Jews, some originating from Lebanon, most from the Palestine Liberation Organization. Any nation would tire of its children's murders. Perhaps the PLO pushed Israel to the brink. Perhaps it was inevitable with an enemy within range of homes, families, crops.

I support Israel and would fight for it to remain a state. I consider it a Jewish homeland. But I cannot remain silent and condone its leadership's actions in Lebanon.

Humans are fallible. Yet Israel's mistakes cost lives. They did in Beirut for two days - Sept. 16 and 17.

I supported the removal of the PLO forces from the Israeli borders. I have not changed my mind. But I cannot condone the savage murders of the two-day free-for-all in the Sabra and Chatila refugee camps. The massacre left more than 700 dead, littering the streets with tangled, mutilated and ravaged bodies. Investigations of the inci-

dent remain incomplete. It is known that Israelis did not fire guns on the refugees during those two days. Yet reports note that Israeli soldiers were within view and earshot of these atrocities.

Newsweek's Oct. 4 cover brought a message home. On the Israeli flag was a dove, its olive branch still within its mouth. But the beautiful bird of peace lay in a strangely contorted position - feathers fallen, claws curled in pain, blood from its neck dripped on the Jewish star. The headline read "Israel in Torment."

I agree. We resist and hedge over revealing our dismay about Israeli policy to others outside the Jewish community. Jews fear that any criticism of Israel and its government's policies fuel anti-Semitism.

But I wonder if Israeli troops realized the magnitude of their inaction during the massacre; if they realized what was happening in the camps.

"If I am not for myself who is for me? ...

Israel is a tiny newborn, just 34 years as a nation, in the midst of hostile nations. Paranoia seems characteristic of its citizens and Jews in the Diaspora. Secure borders are essential. So when the Israeli army invaded Beirut June 6 to move the PLO strongholds from Lebanon, I agreed.

In the past, PLO terrorists had traveled too easily from Lebanon to Israel with devastating results - Maalot, Misgav-Am, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem - all incidents of terrorist attacks on the innocent, especially the children. Since 1965, 1,392 Israeli civilians have died in guerrilla attacks. Thousands more have been injured.

Israel's survival as a nation has been threatened before. Wars in 1948, 1953, 1967, 1978. Terrorist attacks are a part of daily life. And just Monday, Iran challenged Israel's right to sit in the U.N. General Assembly. It followed on the heels of a letter of reservation signed by 43 nations which alleged Israel was "not a peace-loving nation."

It is a precarious position most American Jews are thrown into, as if they are on a cliff with tides crashing behind and a sheer drop in front. My role is to defend Israel as a nation and fight for it to remain one. But blinding myself to senseless deaths is forgetting events which I have always been told to remember - the senseless deaths of scores of individuals of any religion or nationality.

... and when I am for myself, what am I? ...

Novelist Amos Oz wrote, "Israel is in the middle of a struggle for its very soul." The question: how far Israel and its policies should go to secure borders. Does the present government believe Israel's goals overshadow its responsibility to the deaths of the innocent?

My criticism of the Israeli government is not criticism of the right of Israel to exist. Awareness that Jews are of different minds when discussing Israeli politics is necessary. But Israel's existence should never be questioned.

Ann Peters, a senior journalism and political science major from Miami, Fla., is managing editor of The Daily Tar Heel.



Leaving school

By RITA KOSTECKE

My roommate withdrew from school yesterday. Now, my only company is a black frame bed and an empty white mattress. It's the first time since orientation that I've had a room to myself, but somehow, dinner doesn't seem the same without M*A*S*H blaring from her battered TV set.

Sure she drank a bit during Orientation Week, and sure I caught her crying over the phone to her parents once, but I never thought she was really unhappy. That is until I walked in on her friend yelling "I won't let you mess up your life like this, dammit!" Like what? I snuck a look over to her side of the room. Had she been caught mugging little old ladies for lunch money? Maybe hijacking a bus to University Mall? I snuck another peek. My roommate was mumbling hesitantly, "Can't you understand me? I'm not happy here."

Last week, multimillionaire John Z. DeLorean gambled to save his failing car company, but this time it wasn't in the cards. The FBI was there to call the bluff and DeLorean was arrested at the Lost Angeles airport. He was later charged with trying to buy 220 pounds of cocaine valued at \$23 million.

DeLorean's friends already are calling the arrest a "set up." DeLorean had stumbled into a major FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration investigation. But his comrades mostly were just surprised the car dealer had lost a gamble. At General Motors, the automobile engineer rose to head most of the North American car and truck operations in just a short time. He took gambles regularly, drastically changing car design to increase sales. The trouble all started when he created the DeLorean, gambling that the stainless steel sports car could compete with other luxury sports cars.

In the end, DeLorean, personally worth an estimated \$28 million, could not raise \$500,000 cash needed to post his \$5 million bond. He was arrested on the same day a Cleveland financier had tried to contact him with news that he would bail out DeLorean's company.

But somehow it's still hard to feel sorry for DeLorean. As assistant U.S. Attorney James Walsh, who is investigating the case, said, "One doesn't create industry on the backs of cocaine users and heroin addicts." Ambition and ego drive are accepted commodities in today's business world, but not when it means expensive dreams must be backed by drug deals.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR **Investigation elicits changes**

To the editor:

Student Government recently completed its investigation into the towing of student cars on football Saturdays. The questions initially investigated included: Why were students not notified prior to possible towing? Why were spaces granted to the athletic department during the summer without any student comment? Should students have been refunded any costs they incurred as a result of the towing?

As a result of our investigation, the University administration has required that temporary signs be placed in athletic department parking lots until permanent ones can be erected. Furthermore, the University Police has, and will continue to have, on file, descriptive information as well as the location of towed cars. Finally, the athletic department has agreed to reimburse any student who incurred cost as a result of the towing.

Student Government was still somewhat distressed, however, that student fees were possibly used to tow student cars. We continued the investigation and subsequently requested and received the following gains from the administration:

In the future, students will be involved in parking decisions prior to their enactment.

· Permanent and easily visible signs will be erected in all areas subject to game-day towing.

 Students whose cars are towed will be properly notified as to the location of their cars following towing.

 Responsibilities within the University will be more clearly defined in terms of management of alumni parking.

In regard to the use of student fees to tow student cars, the UNC athletic department provided helpful documentation. The information suggests that even though money used by the athletic department is derived from a general source including student fees, gate receipts, etc., actual student fees were not used to tow student cars. In actuality, funds earmarked for towing are not derived directly from student fees but are derived from the overall athletic department funds.

Student Government will continue to look out for student interests in this and other related matters. Please contact us if we may be of any assistance to you. Thank you.

Terry Bowman Chairman, Student Government Parking & Transportation Committee

Get turned on

To the editor:

It seems as if we have been deluged recently with news of one political scandal or another. The people and places are not important. Both parties are involved and the incidents have taken place all over North Carolina. I guess neither party has a monopoly on honesty.

I have been active in politics for several years. In this time have met my share of men and women who were the epitome of dishonest, power-hungry, scheming politicians. I have also met men and women who were honest, concerned and dedicated to the people they served. Often, I'm sad to say, it seemed that the former outnumbered the latter. During those times, and recently, when so many public officials have been involved in illegal acts, I've been tempted to get out of politics. To let the crooks fight it out among themselves. Something, however, kept me in. I think that something could only be described as a sense of duty, of patriotism. I know that patriotism is not as popular today as it once was. Many people find it hard to feel good about America anymore. Well, I'm not one of those people. I do feel good about America, about North Carolina. I'm concerned about our government. We all should be. Its up to us to elect good men and women to office. How can we hope for any better when so few of us seem to care?

Registration pros

To the editor:

I would like to make a few points in response to the letter "We should question draft sign up" (The Daily Tar Heel, Oct. 19) written by Bill Cecil-Fronsman, the Democratic Socialist who disagreed with your recent editorial on draft registration "Register now" (DTH, Oct. 14).

First, concerning the merits of registration: It is known that registration would reduce the amount of time needed to raise an army in an emergency by about two weeks. This is crucial from a tactical point of view. That time would be critical in an event such as a Warsaw Pact movement into Western Europe. With their numerically superior armies, Pact troops could conceivably overrun NATO forces before we could prepare forces in defense. Draft registration is a relatively inexpensive way to maintain this extra degree of preparedness.

Second, draft registration, in contrast to what alarmists like Cecil-Fronsman would like us to believe, is not at all the same as a draft, nor is it intended to condition Americans for an imminent draft program. Furthermore, actual U.S. draft policy (as opposed to registration policy) does allow for conscientious objection. Registering does not mean that one is signing up for some kind of impending unjust war.

Finally, I object to Cecil-Fronsman's portrayal of the military as an "institution whose function is to slaughter people." The stated as well as actual purpose of our armed forces is to, through preparedness, protect our society and all of its freedoms from potential enemies so that even people like him can openly express themselves, regardless of how unpopular their views may be.

> Dan Rabil 528 Ehringhaus

Tylenol, aspirin not same

To the editor:

The lead paragraph of the story, "Off the shelf - Tylenol scare boosts generic sales" (DTH, Oct. 21) may have been misleading to some readers. The statement, "the recent capsule scare has boosted store-brand (generic) aspirin sales," suggests that store-brand aspirin is an appropriate substitute for Tylenol and Extra Strength Tylenol products.

While it is true that both acetaminophen (the generic name of the active ingredient in all Tylenol products) and aspirin may be used for pain relief, the two drugs are not interchangeable. Many people cannot use aspirin due to allergy or the presence of blood clotting disorders or peptic ulcer. Children under 16 who contract chicken pox or flu-like illnesses should not be given aspirin; in these children, aspirin use has been associated with the occurrence of Reye syndrome, a life-threatening disease. In addition, a number of individuals prefer to use acetaminophen since it causes less stomach upset than aspirin.

Although there is no evidence to indicate that any Tylenol tablets have been contaminated, anyone wishing to use a product equivalent to Tylenol should choose one containing 325 milligrams of acetaminophen (500 mg for "extra strength") as the only active ingredient. These products have such brand names as Datril, Datril 500 and Aspirin-Free Arthritis Pain Formula. Many chain pharmacies market acetaminophen tablets under their own, store-brand name. Acetaminophen tablets may also be available by the generic name alone. The pharmacist is the best person to ask for assistance in choosing an appropriate product.

Her friend stabbed the air with her finger, "So you're just gonna drop out." "Not for good, I'll go back next fall."

"Hah! Once you drop out, you'll never go back!"

I stared at the page before me. My eyes refused to focus. Two years ago, it was windy and wet in Chicago. Two years ago, I was curled up on my bed in a dorm room. Two years ago, I, too, withdrew from college.

Surprisingly few of my friends gave me support. Despite their cynical comments on how much they hated being in school, they were all grimly determined to do. their four years and get a job. Dropping out was evil. Dropping out was drugs, communes and flower power. Ah, you'll never come back. Wasting your time. Quitter.

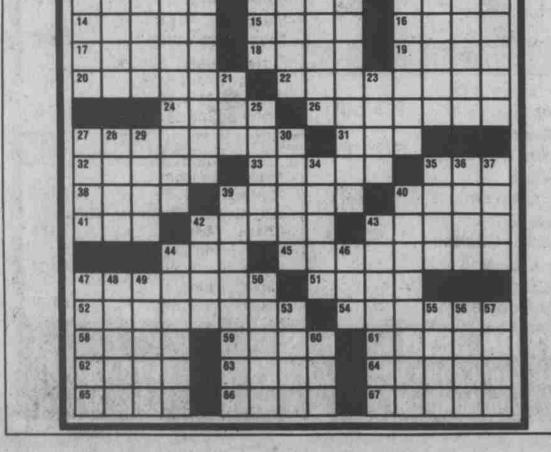
And, at the time, I felt all that. It wasn't a decision I made without thinking. But after several weeks of late-night parties and more than one class spent in a semi-stupor, and after several weeks of complaining about my courses, my teachers and my new friends, I began to wonder why I was at school in the first place. I had always believed that when I got to college my life would fall into place. I'd know who I was and what I wanted to become. Somehow, that didn't happen.

Call it delayed adolescence. Call it unrealistic expectations. Call it an inability to adjust. Call it whatever you want to; I knew I wasn't ready to be in college.

How many freshmen really are? How many freshmen (or sophomores or juniors ...) see college as nothing more than high school with the rules removed? No parents to set curfew, no administration to enforce attendance, no one to check whether you're doing your homework. Hey, blow it off. Who cares? Why'm I in college? Well, everybody goes to college.

That wasn't a good enough reason.

I spent the first half of my time off working in a restaurant, the other half working for a bank. I learned about people who'd never finished elementary school, and I learned about people who were on their way to becoming corporate vice presidents. I learned to get up at 6 every morning. I learned to work five days a week, eight hours a day. I learned to work overtime. I learned a lot - more than I had ever learned as one of the "best and the brightest" or as the "hope of the future." Searching for a job taught me a lot about patience. My first employee evaluation taught me a lot about humility. My first promotion taught me a lot about pride. A waste of my time? I hardly think so: After a year of punching a time clock, I learned to appreciate the freedom of choice I had in college. After a year of listening to dissatisfied co-workers, I realized how important those choices really were. My roommate withdrew from school yesterday. She'll come back. And, when she does, it'll be because she knows why, not just because she's supposed to.



Whether we march in Warren County, block the entrance to a military base or simply go door-to-door for a local candidate, we need to get involved.

I'm still in politics, and I'm glad, because I know that if honest, dedicated people don't become involved, only those people with base motives will be there. And that would be a great loss for us all. Rather than being turned off by the recent examples of elected officials, get turned on to making a difference. We owe it to ourselves.

Cynthia Knapp Chapel Hill

Carrboro

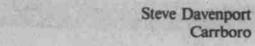
Supreme arbiter

To the editor:

Robert O. Eades

Carrboro

In regard to Sherrod Banks' letter "Character assessment" (DTH, Oct. 25): It is indeed most comforting to learn that the Black Student Movement has assumed the burden of being the supreme arbiter of guilt on this campus.



Rita Kostecke, a freshman journalism and political science major from Raleigh, is a copy editor for The Daily Tar Heel.