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The Daily Tar Heel

92nd year of editorial freedom

Ask a question, avoid a suspension

By SARAH RAPER

As we near the sixth week of classes, I've noticed that the daily boxes in my calendar book are suddenly teeming. Unfortunately, close inspection reveals more reminders about class assignments than social plans. I'm looking at a few graded homeworks, maybe a paper, a few quizzes and my first midterm within the next week.

During Orientation, I told about 800 freshmen how important it was to find out what sources they were allowed to use in their classes and how to give credit for material obtained from those sources. I told them that it was their responsibility to question faculty members about sources and attribution until they understood exactly what was expected.

It's good advice. I hope they've followed it and I hope other students will, too. Looking at my schedule, I've got a little checking up to do myself.

But I'm going to do it even if it means raising my hand in a large lecture class or stopping by to see my professors during their office hours.

I'm going to do it because this fall and last spring as Undergraduate Court Chair, I've talked to students who didn't know, or didn't think or didn't bother, and now they've been suspended for cheating.

Some of them waited until the last night before a paper was due, got in a bind, jumbled their notes completely and took credit for ideas or expressions which they knew were not their own. A likely story, you may say suspiciously. But I argue that the chaotic situation which can lead to a problem is not uncommon in my room the night before a paper is due. Most students in this situation would consider alternatives — calling the professor to ask for help in citing sources correctly or to ask for an extension, or simply turning in the paper late and accepting the consequences.

Some of the students we heard, however, decided that getting their papers in order wasn't worth the risk



of a late penalty. Now, I think, they would gladly take a late penalty on one paper instead of the sanction they received for plagiarism — a semester at home, an F in the course and a loss of credit for all other courses they were taking that semester.

Plagiarism, intentionally using material without citing its source, accounts for 23 percent of the cheating cases the Court heard last year. The majority of our cases, as you might expect, involve students cheating during examinations. But 24 cases out of a total 77 cheating cases we heard last year involved students charged with receiving unauthorized aid on out-of-class assignments — problem sets, homework, take-home quizzes and computer programs.

In some classes the professor says its OK to work with classmates on assignments, and in others, the professor says absolutely no outside help of any kind. It's important that professors set their own rules so that students can get the most out of their classes. But because the ground rules vary from class to class, it's

also important that students question each professor closely.

Sometimes departments offer course guidelines for students. For example, the Computer Science department distributes its own two-page Honor Code supplement. Students are permitted to collaborate on programs up to a certain point — locating program bugs, discussing what an assignment asks for — but "any use of any other person's algorithm, disk, card deck, etc., is a violation." The guidelines seem clear enough but there's still some confusion if the 18 computer science cases the Court heard last year are any indication. Some cases involved obvious violations of the guidelines, but others involved more subtle situations — tutors or roommates who had already taken the course — which could probably have been cleared up in the beginning had the students asked their professors and teaching assistants clarifying questions instead of merely hoping what they were doing was within the limits.

Our Honor System provides lots of benefits to the UNC community,

probably the most important of which is an atmosphere of trust. We as students also have lots of responsibilities. Perhaps, our most important responsibility is to understand our Honor System and what is expected of us as students, and then to comply with the rules.

Sometimes that means following the rules even when no one else in class follows them or going out of our way to find out exactly what a professor means when he says we can get help on an assignment. There are books available like the *Freshman Guide to English* to help students properly document sources and any faculty member can help students understand when documentation is necessary.

The guidelines are there, not always as obvious as we might like, but uncovered easily with a few questions. Ask away and maybe we, on the Undergraduate Court and Attorney General's Staff, won't be as busy this year.

Sarah Raper, a senior journalism and languages major from Fayetteville, is chairman of the Honor Court.

Give us a mike, give us a man

There is something missing from North Carolina football this season, and it's not just a game in the win column. Gone is the enthusiasm in Kenan Stadium. To get it back, we'd like to see the return of the mikeman.

There is no mikeman now because, as Donald Boulton, vice chancellor of student affairs, puts it, this season will be used to determine what the University wants in a mikeman, and how to find someone who fits qualifications "other than just luck." He wants to avoid a repeat of last year's less-than-wise choice of Kenny Ward, whose offensive behavior led to a mid-season dismissal.

We're not convinced, however, that the Ward debacle was reason enough to forego mikeman tryouts this year. There is no reason to halt a tradition like the mikeman because of one bad experience.

Because of Boulton's decision, UNC is going to endure a season without enthusiasm to find out what it needs to have enthusiasm. And if the conclusion is reached that a mikeman is not the answer, the position may be abolished forever.

Anyone who sat in the student section during the UNC-Navy game two weeks ago is well aware of the impact former mikeman Greg "Lump" Lunsford had on the crowd. For the few minutes Lump was leading cheers, being in the student section was fun. The electricity, the enthusiasm that should be a part of Tar

Heel football was there. But when Lump left, so did the energy he brought with him. The cheerleaders, unfortunately, just can't inspire the same enthusiasm a quality mikeman like Lump can.

But surely there is someone on campus who can generate Lump-like spirit in a crowd with his tasteful antics and sheer enthusiasm. While there are bound to be difficulties in choosing a suitable mikeman, the task is not impossible.

The old system, under which the mikeman was chosen by cheerleaders, band members and administration officials, didn't work. We suggest instead that a panel composed mostly of students, but with the band, the cheerleaders and the faculty also represented, choose the mikeman. The tryouts should be split into two rounds, with the top three or four candidates to be screened in interviews with the judges between rounds.

No system, of course, would be perfect. It is impossible to place an objective value on something as subjective as an ability to promote spirit. A specific set of qualities that every mikeman must have would be impossible to devise. The process of choosing someone for the job is necessarily one of hit-and-miss, but the screening process we have suggested would increase accuracy.

The mikeman shouldn't have been abolished because of one miss.

Bring back the mikeman.

Beyond the smokescreen

Surgeon General's Warning: Smoking by pregnant women may result in fetal injury, premature birth and low birth weight.

That warning and three others contained in a bill approved by the Senate Wednesday represent a positive move by the federal government toward educating the public about health risks and how to reduce them.

Passed by the House of Representatives two and a half weeks ago, the bill now needs only to be signed by President Reagan to become law. The new warnings, which would be put on cigarette packs and advertisements on a rotating basis, would be specific about dangers, such as emphysema, lung cancer and heart disease, that cigarette smokers face, and would replace the vaguer warning now in effect: "The Surgeon General has determined that cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health."

The Senate's decision probably will not be too popular with a lot of people in North Carolina, but what opponents should realize is that the warnings are not designed to purposely hurt the tobacco grower and workers in related industries. The legislation is aimed at helping consumers identify a product that has been proven time and again to be hazardous to people's health. As Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, a major proponent of the new labels, puts it: "The issue at stake is not whether the government should tell people how to live their lives. This does not prevent any citizen from using tobacco. It will, however, allow them to make a more informed choice."

Apparently, most people realize that. Senators passed the bill unanimously, and even the Tobacco Institute grudgingly accepted it by not actively lobbying against it. Now, it's up to Reagan.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Attempting to dislodge a judicial complaint

To the editor:

In order to be fair to the people who are innocently involved, I think a response is needed to Robin Thompson's letter to the editor ("Is 'the lodge' operating an old boy network?", DTH, Sept. 26) concerning my appointments to the Student Supreme Court. I expect and appreciate criticisms and opposing opinions — they come with the job. The only thing that I ask is that they be fair and honest. What I don't like, however, is for people to unjustly attack those who give their time freely to work for the rest of the student body. The people who work with me receive precious little recognition as it is and, frankly, they don't need or deserve the hassle.

The "facts" which were presented by Thompson are misleading and inaccurate. The first complaint concerned a "four-month" delay in making the appointments. It is true that I held interviews in April. It is also true that there were no positions open at that time. Members of the Student Supreme Court remain as such as long as they are enrolled students at Carolina, or until they resign. The reason that I had interviews in April was to have a pool of applicants from which to choose in the event that positions became

available. Two positions did become available after graduation; one opened up this fall. During the summer, however, the appointees were not here and could not be approved by the CGC. When school started, the appointees were informed and after each had accepted the appointment their names were submitted to the council. I fail to see where the process was delayed and I'm not sure it could have been any faster.

Thompson also asked what formerly serving in the Legislative or Executive branches of Student Government would have to do with being qualified for serving on the Supreme Court. It has a lot to do with it. Most cases which are taken to the Student Supreme Court involve one of the branches of Student Government. To be able to fully understand the case and render an informed decision, some knowledge of these branches would be crucial. An important point to be made is that though past experience is a plus, it should not be and was not the only criteria involved in making a decision. Some other things which are taken into consideration are having a reasonable understanding of the Student Constitution; demonstrated leadership, responsibility, and level-headedness; philosophy of how

the Court should operate and how the laws should be interpreted; time commitments; and, an ability to work with others.

A final accusation implied that I had selected one of the Court members because he was in the same fraternity of which I am currently a member (though he and I were never members at the same time). The fact is that I will neither select nor deny anyone for a position on that basis — it has no relevance. What is relevant is the person's qualifications. We are truly lucky that such a qualified group did apply and I will gladly let their records speak for themselves. Had any of the people lacked visible qualifications, then maybe some of these questions would be appropriate.

The Student Supreme Court is the one campus organization which must stay above the corrupting influence of petty politics and biases. This campus must have confidence in its Court and in order to do so it is important that the real facts be presented.

I just wanted you to know.

Paul Parker
Student Body President

DTH editorials this week

Monday: The new U-bus route, which bypasses Teague, Parker and Avery residence halls, is inconvenient and dangerous, and students and administrators need to find a way to restore bus service to the area as quickly as possible. The convenience of commuters working in the hospital area shouldn't come at the expense of all service to mid-campus residents.

Tuesday: Sen. Jesse Helms and Gov. Jim Hunt Sunday night demonstrated yet another time that they can't speak substantively in a debate about any of the issues important to North Carolina. Both men substituted accusations for answers and skirted anything of real importance. Neither candidate has shown the ability to expound a concrete vision for the future of North Carolina or the nation. There is one more scheduled debate, but we suggest they cancel it and free up valuable time for something more informative — like *Hee Haw*.

Wednesday: There is a good chance that future graduations at UNC will take place in the Student Activities Center. Because the SAC probably won't be completely ready next May, it looks like the Class of '85 will graduate in Kenan — we suggest that commencement remain there. A spectacle such as graduation can only be experienced in a setting such as Kenan. What we give up in the way of comfort (i.e. SAC's cushioned seats and imperviousness to bad weather), we make up in the majesty of an outdoor ceremony.

Thursday: The negative reactions from the Russians and Mondale to Reagan's U.N. address probably have more to do with the campaign than with Reagan's speech. Reagan sounded a conciliatory tone toward the Soviets that neither Moscow or Mondale likes to hear with the election so close. Reagan basically said what they've asked to hear all along, but they don't want to give anyone the impression that Reagan has abandoned his past anti-Soviet tirade. We welcome Reagan's more conciliatory tone and hope it continues.

World and nation

"Please don't ask me any questions. You can do that the next time you meet me. You can ask me a thousand questions then if you want."

— Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, deflecting reporters' questions about his talks with Secretary of State George P. Shultz Wednesday. A senior State Department official said the talks got off to a "good start." Gromyko is scheduled to meet President Reagan at the White House today.

"Anyone that's ever had their kitchen done over knows that it never gets done as soon as you wish it would."

— President Reagan, explaining Sunday why security measures had

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not been completed at the U.S. Embassy in East Beirut prior to a truck-bomb attack last week which killed 14 people, including two U.S. servicemen.

State

"The Democrat's only hope is that the American people have short memories and forget the years 1977 to 1980."

— Former U.S. Rep. Eugene Johnston of Greensboro, commenting on Ronald Reagan's 2-to-1 lead over Democrat Walter Mondale in a special N.C. Gallup Poll.

"I think the issue of abortion is a matter between a woman, her God and her doctor. I cannot allow rich women to have abortions at will and the very poor cannot have that choice."

— Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rufus Edmisten, discussing the future of the state's \$1.3 million-a-year fund to finance abortions for the poor.

"Tom was doing the two things he loved most — flying and trying to help somebody."

— Mike Major, assignment editor at WFMY-TV in Greensboro, commenting on the death of Tom

Haroski, helicopter pilot for the station, who was killed while attempting to save a construction worker trapped on a water tower in Kernersville.

Campus

"I think it's possibly the most important piece of legislation we will have this session."

— CGC member Bill Barlow, commenting on a measure passed by the council to remove nearly \$13,000 from the UNC Trust Funds Office. The measure was taken in protest over the Board of Trustees refusal to remove University investment money from stocks in corporations that do business in the Republic of South Africa. The money removed by the CGC will be placed in the Self Help Credit Union of Durham, an organization that helps finance worker-owned cooperatives.

Sports

"Kansas has a good offense, and there will probably be a lot of scoring. I may have to go talk with Dean (Smith) and go into four corners in the last few minutes, if we can stay with them."

— Head football coach Dick Crum at his press conference Tuesday, talking about the problems the Tar Heels could have Saturday.

"It looks like Perkins will come in and make more than Mark (Aguirre) or Rolando (Blackman). The players know that. They also know that they are busting their cans in two-a-days and the rookie isn't."

— Dallas Maverick coach Dick Motta on former UNC basketball standout Sam Perkins who still hasn't signed a contract with the club.

Opinions from Charlotte Observer

Monday: Congress could make better use of the \$100 million the House has approved to build two jetties to make Oregon Inlet safer for navigation. The jetties might temporarily help commercial fishermen, but history has shown that efforts to stabilize beaches and inlets of the Outer Banks to be more expensive than effective. Nature tends to baffle man's best efforts to impose stability on the unstable environment of the Outer Banks.

Tuesday: While both Jim Hunt and Jesse Helms have engaged in "negative" tactics in their Senate campaign, a clear difference has emerged in the styles of the two men. Helms, apparently recognizing the futility of attacking the record of the popular governor, has dredged up superficial inconsistencies in Hunt's statements and policies. The Helms camp has also tried to inaccurately paint Hunt as a "Mondale liberal." But Hunt has attacked the meat of the Helms record — the senator's votes against Social Security, against environmental protection and for tax breaks for big corporations.

Wednesday: Ronald Reagan, in the finest moment of his presidency, offered the world fresh hope for nuclear arms control during his speech to the United Nations General Assembly. Reagan laid down the boldest and most creative proposals of any American president to break down the barriers of fear and mistrust between the United States and the Soviet Union. If the Soviets respond positively, there is little chance Reagan will return to his "evil empire" rhetoric.

Thursday: At least one of Ronald Reagan's efforts to eliminate waste in social programs seems to be working. The Job Training Partnership Act, which replaced the Comprehensive Training and Employment Act, is placing 70 percent of its participants in jobs, compared to the 30 percent rate established by the old program. The key to the new program's success is that it provides more money to actual job training and less to administrators.



GOOD GOD, VIVIAN... THESE AIR FARE WARS ARE REALLY GETTING SERIOUS.