

## Kaleidoscope

## 1984 Yackety Yack is a book worth waiting for

By Peggie Porter  
Kaleidoscope Editor

If you happen to stroll through the publications suite here in the Carolina Union, and you aren't completely mesmerized by the Daily Tar Heel's posted rules for classified advertisers, you might glance in the *Yackety Yack* office. Expecting to see an empty room, since the staff just put out the long (440 pages) and long awaited 1984 yearbook.

But you'd be surprised. The 1985 staff, made up mostly of '84 veterans and the like, are hard at work on the next installment of Carolina-in-Pictures, and they promise it will be better than ever. The office is now made up mostly of a tabletop filing system, and the unmistakable sound of WXYC filters out from under the darkroom door. These guys just never quit.

For those of us who can remember back that far, the 1984 *Yackety Yack* is an achievement of such magnitude that we get lost in it. It's helpful to read the preface before even trying to skim through. The somewhat amorphous section headings ("Life in Motion," "The Vital Ingredient") are clarified here.

Onward. Section One, "Documenting the Environment," takes us first on a quick tour of North Carolina. Familiar landmarks like the Cape Hatteras lighthouse and downtown Charlotte are juxtaposed with other, equally North Carolinian touchstones: a crowd of partiers on the beach, a waterfall. It isn't the place of the UNC yearbook to attract tourists to the state, but some of the pictures in the North Carolina section could serve as a brochure for one of those "from the mountains to the sea" travel agencies.

Others aren't as flattering. Photos of the Ku Klux Klan marching in military dress don't evoke the proudest response from the average Tar Heel, but that's part of North Carolina too. The *Yack* doesn't judge except by what it chooses to print. Ward Callum's black and white shot of a wrinkled woman on the edge of a sparse iron bedstead is lonesome and sad, especially across from

photos of an abandoned car and a country church. And what could be called the Carnival Page — showing flimsy looking Ferris wheels and cardboard burlesque stages reveals a facet of a state composed mostly of small towns and country far from Carowinds.

"Documenting the Environment" narrows into photos of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and campus itself. One especially provocative page illustrates the trash surplus in Chapel Hill: a sign protesting a proposed dump placed next to pictures of old newspapers blowing off a church's steps and a gargantuan pile of stuffed Hefty bags bordering frat court prove the old "thousand word" adage true once again. These pix need to be sent to whoever it is that decided the campus doesn't need any trash cans between the Pit and Franklin Street.

Fittingly, the last pages in this section show a process that changed the environment for most of us: the conversion of Davis Library from an on (and on) going construction project into the mammoth center of higher education it is today. 1984 letters to the Editor of the DTH concerning the behavior of undergrads in what is ostensibly a graduate facility round out the section with a laugh.

"Life In Motion," according to the Preface, "attempts to focus more closely on the dynamics of student life . . . as our lives are in a constant state of flux the task of accurately representing our lives become increasingly difficult." This is an ambiguous section heading and some of the photographs here could just as easily have been found in the first section. Herein lies the biggest problem of the 1984 *Yack*, or any *Yack* trying to subdivide a school year with 20,000 students and as many interpretations of the Carolina Experience in mind. Next year's will probably have a different problem with the dictionary theme; the large, fuzzy categories will become several hundred much smaller categories.

"Life In Motion" gives us a spread entitled "Life In The Pit" which documents some of the more exotic lunchtime antics of 1984. That

doesn't include "Religious Options," later in the book, which features the most outrageous Pit preacher ever. The photographs in this section, as elsewhere, are subtly clustered by theme. One page shows people at their most vulnerable and absurd (that's right, watching soap operas) across from a page of the world these escapists are trying to escape . . . the world of laundromats and dirty laundry. Maybe I'm pushing the interpretation, but that's what photographs are all about.

"Athletic Endeavors" shows us the ultimate life-in-motion of the Carolina jock. Although photographs of Michael Jordan, body aloft, tongue out, remind us of a happier time, the section is basically a tribute to the finest athletic program in the ACC. Bryce Lankard's commentary on basketball mania ties it all together, and the pictures get your heart pounding just like the real thing. However, a two page black and white spread is certainly not enough for the four time national champion women's soccer dynasty. We may be a basketball school, but there are other sports deserving of the yearbook's attention.

"Persuasions" documents the musical and political guests Carolina enjoyed during the 1983-84 school year. These photographs, bordered in black, are stiller and more profound than the sports pics, especially on the pages depicting Shirley Chisholm gesturing to make a point in the Carolina Coffee Shop (maybe explaining how to spell Chisholm?) and the sober countenances of Fritz Mondale and Yolanda King. Interestingly, the staff spelled almost all the musician and band names right, but missed a few others and unforgivably screwed up on Carolina's own Playmaker's Repertory Company. We at the *Tar Heel* know that the *Yack* can't be as precise as we are, but we know an excellent copy editor they might try . . .

Perhaps the most innovative section of the book is called "The Vital Ingredient," which the preface says "highlights the mass of humanity that makes this institution work." The inevitable individual portraits are

featured here, but they surround portraits of another kind, pictures that capture people perhaps at their best, certainly at their zaniest.

These photographs were taken in the studio at the *Yack* office. They are backed sparsely in white, the better to highlight their subjects, and many contain interesting props and captions. Our own Tom Conlon grins over a "Glenn Miller for Governor" sign although he does not and never did support the candidate. Others ride bikes, eat pretzels, spray champagne from just-popped bottles, and generally steal the show from the posed pics around them. We're not finding fault with formal pictures. The two modes complement each other perfectly.

"Alternative Lifestyles" should strike a familiar chord with all students. Here are photos of the various and sundry abodes one can habitate and habituate during one's career here at UNC-CH. If your house or dorm room isn't here, one like it surely is (whose sink full of dirty dishes is that, anyway?). And lifestyle after lifestyle is depicted. Sometimes you have to squint to see just what those people are doing — or smoking — or flashing — but that makes it all the more fun. The *Tar Heel* offers prizes for anyone who can pick out a Greek Life picture without any beer in it at all, and for all the people who notice the guy throwing up in the background.

Some of the funniest group photos are found here. The TEPs, for instance, couldn't get it together for a group shot so enterprising photographer Bryce Lankard snapped one of their framed composite next to a TV showing cartoons. Lonely looking, but funny. Of course, we can't see any of their faces in the composite, but if we wanted to do that we'd go over to the house anyway, right?

The final section, "Extending the

Limits," is a brief and concise wrap-up for a project so colossal that ten years from now you'll be noticing pictures you never saw before. Special awards and their recipients are listed here, along with some of the biggest events of the year — the bikini contest at the Pi Kappa Phi Burnout, with at least one onlooker as celebrated as the contestants; Gary Hart's appearance at Carmichael, SpringFest on Connor Beach, and of course, the biggest of the big events for any Carolina student. I'll give you three guesses.

Layout, all done by Lankard, whose official title is Associate Editor for Photography, Copy, Design and Production, is never busy, always interesting. Some photos need a whole page, and get it, while others' strength lies in their grouping. Certainly prettiest of all are the color pictures that bleed off the page in all directions, with related pictures grouped on top of them.

The copy in the book comes few and far between, maybe a little too much so for us newspaper folk, but again, that'll change next year with the definitions. The Preface, of course, is a must.

The small corps of photographers carried a huge burden. Seven of them, apart from Lankard, Assistant Photo Editor Ward Callum, and various donors of individual photos, pulled off a monumental task. Remember that next time you cponder why on earth the 1984 *Yack* came out halfway through 1985.

The 1984 *Yackety Yack* is a roaring success. Any staff member will tell you that the purpose of the book is not to capture each and every student or event on campus but "to convey a collective experience . . . we have . . . sought to show the totality, hoping that each individual will find his or her pace within that whole." We think they done good.

## UNC Drug/alcohol outreach program created for students

By THOMAS MILLS

On March 11, 1985, the UNC-CH Drug/Alcohol Outreach Program opened its doors. Located in room 228 of the Carolina Union, the program is the first of its kind at UNC-Chapel Hill, which until that time had offered no help for students, faculty or staff with alcohol problems. The program provides professional and peer counseling and information to anyone concerned with alcohol or drug addiction.

My brother Fetzter Mills and I started the program. Both of us are UNC-CH students, and we saw the need for such a service at the University. I felt it was ludicrous that a community of 22,000 young people had no facilities to deal with drug and alcohol problems.

We started the program with the help of Student Body President Patricia Wallace. Under her direction, student government sold \$300 worth of doughnuts for the service. Later, the Campus Governing Council allocated \$1100 to keep the

outreach program alive in the 1985-86 school year. By May 1985, twenty students had sought help or information through the UNC-CH Drug/Alcohol Outreach Program.

This summer has been an organizational period for the program. Peer counseling training was provided for interested students, starting with a meeting on July 18. Additional training will be offered in September with an orientation meeting Sep-

tember 5. This meeting is open to anyone interested in becoming a peer counselor.

For more information come by Room 228 of the Union or contact me, Thomas Mills at 967-7643.

Thomas Mills is co-founder of the UNC-CH Alcohol/Drug Outreach Program.

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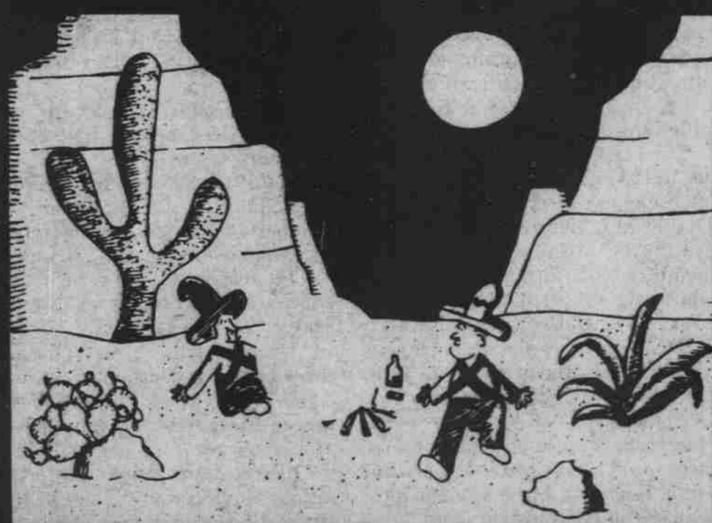
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