

The Daily Tar Heel

93rd year of editorial freedom

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Legisnomenclature

They're trying to change their name — but not to "CGC Lion."

Not since those common grocery store commercials of a few years back has a name-change merited so much attention and received so little. Except maybe when "service" became "plan" in regard to on-campus meals.

Anyway, the Campus Governing Council approved a referendum by Speaker Wyatt Closs on Wednesday that, if passed by the student body in the February election, would rechristen the council as "Student Congress."

The idea is a good one. Student awareness of the council and its duties are poor enough without the burden of a name that few can identify with the legislative branch of Student Government. Student Congress gets the point across and, being just two words, doesn't lend itself to cryptic abbreviation. Unless our headline space is too narrow.

But, as David Brady (Dist. 12) said, "Student Congress is, like, so blah." Hits the nail on the head. What this campus needs is some spirited debate among students about such important issues as . . . alternative names. We'll throw out a few to get things started.

A cometary on our age

Man's quest to satisfy his insatiable desire to explore the unknown, to uncover historic legends, has been splashed all over headlines recently. Although some kind of "age of explorers" may have hit a peak during the days of Columbus and Magellan, modern-day discoverers are finding gold mines of valuable information and history in all spheres of life.

Treasure hunter Mel Fischer last month salvaged \$400 million in sunken treasure off the Florida coast, as well as a wealth of memories for everyone who as a kid dreamed they were swashbuckling heroes on the high seas with chests of gold and jewels. Earlier this week, a team of French and American oceanographers culminated a search of the murky north Atlantic by finding the *Titanic* — thus closing the book on what was perhaps the greatest mystery of this century — only to pay homage to the 1,500 victims by leaving their icy cold gravesite undisturbed.

These explorations have not been contained to our planet, either. Scientists Wednesday released the first pictures of Giacobini-Zinner. No, this isn't the result of some Italian-German collaboration. It's a comet, the first one to be seen up close and personal (well, only 5,000 miles from the comet's nucleus, if you call that close).

Representative Council: Just two words, but this one is better if abbreviated, with RC signifying so much. Such as Roll Call, a member-by-member vote that the council has often used to put representatives on the spot; they usually kept former member Doug Berger on a roll.

Then there's the jingle "Me and My RC," a proud campaign anthem for when the name-change referendum's time nears: "What's good enough for other councils, ain't good enough for me and my RC."

Upstairs 226: The council's actions in Room 226 of the Student Union on Wednesday nights can be just as entertaining as anything on East Franklin Street.

Representatives Enacting Acknowledged Documents: Merely acknowledged, that is. The acronym, READ, might remind council members of what they're supposed to do with the bills, long before voting on them.

Finally, **SC of the Hill:** Only a hint of the congressional in "the Hill," but since it was good enough for The Happy Store . . .

Remember when Captain Kirk and the rest of the crew of the *Enterprise* would rocket through some kind of galactic turbulence, everyone hanging on for dear life? That's probably what the International Cometary Explorer, a half-ton wonder of a spacecraft, went through Wednesday as it whizzed through G-Z's tail at a cool 46,000 mph. ICE, originally designed to explore the sun, was reprogrammed by National Aeronautic and Space Administration scientists to make this pass. The mission confirmed a lot of conclusions about comets made from ground-based observations made by astronomers and aroused new questions about their nature.

This mission is sure to arouse even more excitement for the arrival of Halley's comet, which will make its closest pass to the Earth in April. A fleet of satellites is fast-approaching Halley's comet, but none of them are American. NASA claims it ran out of funds in 1981, when construction of a satellite needed to begin to be ready on time. So while billions of dollars is going into defense systems that will be obsolete before they are finished, we are letting a piece of history fly right by us.

Oh, well, that's an entirely different tail.

Throckmorton has eyes, but he cannot see

To the editors:

In the past week, since the *DTH*'s printing of the now-infamous Nietzsche quote, "God is dead," I have seen response after response and not one has prompted me to anger. That was until I had to read the babblings on of one Ken Throckmorton ("Christians must fight the good fight, 'DTH,'" Sept. 11), who believes that all of us Christians should begin a war on funding for the *DTH*. Such foolishness cannot go unanswered.

Throckmorton states, and this is the clincher of his idioyncy, "When you (the *DTH*) print a quote on the front page in big, bold letters, you are making a statement that reflects your attitudes about life, attitudes that you hope others will think are

novel or true, and will take on as their own philosophy." Ken, I don't know where you got this from, but you are obviously a fool. You do not understand the purpose of a daily quote or of a newspaper itself.

The daily quote is simply that — a daily quote, food for thought. To say that it is a statement of *DTH* doctrine and belief and to propose that it is the atheistic battle cry of *DTH* legions out to destroy the spiritual world is ridiculous.

The purpose of a newspaper, beyond reporting the news, is to provide a forum for ideas — a means by which anybody — members of the *DTH* staff, other students, or irrational students like yourself — can express their views. Surely the fact that the *DTH* printed

your column in such grand style proves this point.

You claim that the *DTH* wants "students to believe that things are the way (the *DTH*) says they are." Nietzsche said "God is dead," not the *DTH*, Ken.

You compare this Nietzsche quote dilemma to "missionaries (in this case, us UNC Christians) being buried up to their necks in sand, and then told to reject Christ or die by a spear to the head." C'mon, Ken. You insist that our spiritual lives are in danger, but if a century-old philosopher's three-word word, which I'm sure we've all heard before, is going to destroy our lives, then what kind of Christians do you think we are? Obviously weak ones. I am a Christian, firm in my

beliefs. Did I feel my spiritual life threatened in any way by the Nietzsche quote? No. Did I see it as an attempt by some scheming atheistic journalists to wage war on Christianity? Are you kidding? And lastly, does anyone really feel that because Friedrich Nietzsche felt that the power of religious morals would be non-existent in the ideal individual philosophy, that we should do away with our student newspaper here in 1985 — a newspaper that provides all students with a chance to express their views as they see fit? I hope not.

Throckmorton, he gave you eyes, yet you cannot see.

Dave Bernath
Chapel Hill

Card games

To the editors:

For years, the UNC card section has performed a variety of stunts at home football games in Kenan Stadium. Not only can we be proud of how impressive the section looks when it spells out "Go to Hell State," but we should remember that it is one of the few card sections still active today. To keep this tradition alive and to keep the UNC card section looking great, student cooperation is a must.

If you find yourself sitting in Section 17 tomorrow, you should remain in your seat at the end of the second quarter. By this point, a packet of four brightly colored cards should have found their way to you. After you've greeted Bob, the mikeman, he will proceed with detailed instructions on how to hold the big cards, which stunt you'll be doing, etc. Finally, we should all remember not to throw the big cards. These laminated cards can really hurt someone if they fly in the back of some unsuspecting Tar Heel fan. So please be considerate and don't ruin anyone else's good time. With your cooperation and some good old school spirit we can keep the card section a living tradition at Carolina.

Pat Callaway
UNC Card Section

Don't blame us

To the editors:

When I joined Students For America last year, I was under the impression that it was a group of people that espoused Judeo-Christian values and worked for them in a consistent, democratic manner.

I now question this assertion. SFA chapter members had no input concerning the dismissal of one of the officers for his support of the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association. The decision was made entirely from the national office without consulting any of the members or calling for a vote on the issue. How the vote would have turned out is immaterial; the point is that the local SFA should not be blamed for the national office's action, especially in light of the fact that at least one other officer resigned in protest to the action. I personally expressed misgivings to David Fazio about the nature of the dismissal. Please understand, then, that it was not the SFA chapter here that operated with "dual morality," but the national office and its members.

Charles Balan
Chapel Hill



So Arne says to Dave, 'I've got this idea . . .'

To the editors:

Ah, controversy. Last year, *The Daily Tar Heel* had no trouble looking for controversy. Between Frank Winstead, Doug Berger and Reverend Jed, the campus got into about as big an uproar as it will ever get. But now, a year later, Reverend Jed isn't preaching in the Pit, campus elections are over and Frank Winstead is — well, I don't know what Frank is doing these days.

So there really wasn't anything really controversial happening around campus. And no controversy means that *DTH* editorial writers have nothing to write about, and no controversy means no letters to the editors for the *DTH*. That's when Arne and Dave had a great idea: create a controversy of their own!

What a great idea! *DTH* editorial writers would have something to

write about, the Back Page would be filled with a bunch of letters, and most importantly, everyone would be talking about Arne and Dave and the *DTH*. What a great idea, Arne and Dave said to each other as they shook hands. Just imagine, the whole campus talking about us!

So they began searching for a quote to run at the bottom of the front page, a quote that would be sure to stir the masses. Oh they looked at hundreds; such classics as "Black holes are filled with peanut butter" (the light sticks to the roof of the hole), or "Opus eats mackerel quiche," or "Madonna is a good singer." But in the end they chose one of Nietzsche's all-time favorites: "God is dead."

With that quote, Arne and Dave felt they had a sure hit. Just look at what happened to the Beatles when John said they were more popular than Jesus. People burned

records and did all sorts of nasty things. Can you imagine people burning *DTH*'s in the Pit and doing all sorts of nasty things? Arne asked Dave. Boy, that'd be great! Dave exclaimed. And people with petitions and *Ghostbusters*-style T-shirts; you know, pictures of the *DTH* with a red circle and slash. Arne and Dave knew that people would be talking about this for months!

Well, I congratulate the *DTH* for its ingenuity. They set out to create a controversy, and by golly, they succeeded in grand fashion. The letters page will be crammed for months — maybe all the way up to election time! Keep up the good work, and I hope you guys have already figured out how to top this.

Thomas W. O'Brien
Carboro

First Amendment hypocrisy befalls GIANT

To the editors:

I have several problems with Ken Throckmorton's column attacking the *DTH* ("Christians must fight the good fight, 'DTH,'" Sept. 11).

Point 1: Your beef is with the editors, not the *DTH* in general. Attacking the paper is akin to attacking Nietzsche's descendants.

Point 2: By attacking the paper, you are attacking the First Amendment — the same amendment that gives you the right to practice religion. It shouldn't be necessary to attack freedom of expression to

prove you don't practice "easy Christianity."

Point 3: Saying there is no middle ground in religious beliefs is ludicrous. Many if not most people are unsure of God's existence, or have been at some point. There are many differences as well in Christians' beliefs. Most, hopefully, are strong enough in their faith to allow other people's opinions to be heard.

Point 4: As Throckmorton himself said, "God is not taken seriously anymore." If someone doesn't take God seriously, then God is not a

force in their life; because of this, God is indeed dead to him or her. Perhaps you would accomplish more by talking to and trying to help someone in need instead of trying to destroy a newspaper that printed a three-word quote from a long-dead philosopher.

And by the way, I do think that all this is much less serious than running a spear through someone's head.

Russ Clegg
Bolin Heights Apts.

Throckmorton deals students losing hand

By STUART TONKINSON

It's the season when the nuts are falling from the trees. And in Chapel Hill, all the nuts seem to congregate in the Pit.

Ken Throckmorton says he doesn't like the idea of being forced to pay for a newspaper that presents views he doesn't agree with. How charming. This is a capitalist society, isn't it? Capitalism says that consumers should consume only those goods they want. Why should students be forced to subsidize an activity that they say threatens their world view?

Let's look at Throckmorton's (and other students') reasons for wanting to end constitutional funding of *The Daily Tar Heel*. Let's look at how self-defeating, immature and empty such a gesture would be. Let's make a stand for reason, resisting the emotional ignorance we should have left behind in grade school.

Throckmorton says students should be able to decide whether they want to pay for a student newspaper or not. He wants this option because the present *DTH* editors printed what he considers objectionable material.

With a little bit of thought, it is apparent how absurd this demand is. In the first place, any constitutional change this year will not take effect until the 1986-87 school year, long after the present editors will have become *DTH* history. In other words, Throckmorton's proposal will have the effect, not of punishing the editors responsible for the offending material, but a *DTH* administration completely innocent of any wrongdoing.

In the second place, such a proposal seems to assume that students have no other control over the *DTH*. Throckmorton neglects the fact that the *DTH* editor is elected by the entire student body — Christians, atheists, fascists, socialists, etc. No experience is necessary to be *DTH* editor; any student can run. How much more sensible a recourse this is. Student elections allow concerned students to ask candidates point

blank what material the *DTH* will print in the coming year.

The *DTH* has no control over these elections, directly or indirectly — just last year, the candidate endorsed by the *DTH* lost a stunning defeat to the present editors. In fact, Throckmorton himself could run and be elected editor of the very paper he wants to castrate.

Furthermore, by cursorily glancing through an issue of the *DTH*, Throckmorton might notice that a number of news pages are paid for in advertising. The Back Page lacks advertising (at

'If a college education means anything, it means testing your beliefs, challenging your assumptions'

least of the paid sort). The student fees that Throckmorton wants to do away with must help defray a large portion of the costs of providing students with an open forum. When Throckmorton wrote his column ("Christians must fight the good fight, 'DTH,'" Sept. 11) for Wednesday's paper, he wrote that it was "to be published in its entirety on September 10, 1985." Well, Ken, sorry we couldn't oblige you as to printing it on the requested day, but we did get it in as soon as possible. Not that we have any obligation, constitutional or otherwise, to print anything we receive from students. That's a service we provide to every member of this University community. We print anything, however tasteless or offensive. If somebody felt motivated enough to take pen to paper, we print that, even though every day there are staff-written articles that don't run because of space limitations.

Which brings up another point. Students sometimes attack the *DTH* as being run by a clique of journalism majors. This is simply not true. Any student willing to put the time, effort and blood into the *DTH* can join the staff. There are no prejudices regarding race, sex, religion, sexual preference, political beliefs, undergraduate or graduate standing, etc. When students attack the *DTH*, they're attacking themselves.

It again, is the students', to make of it what they will. This destructive urge must have been the same that motivated the Goths to sack Rome or the Jews to laugh at Christ's sufferings. Feeling inferior, the natural reaction of the ignorant is to strive after feelings of superiority. In this instance, students seem to want to show that they can exercise life or death power over student institutions.

There are students who recognize that silencing the *DTH* is hardly a way of strengthening the united student voice. These people, who make up the vast majority of the student body, recognize that if a college education means anything, it means testing your beliefs, challenging your assumptions, growing as members of a free society. Tuesday night, Tammy Bakker asked a nationwide audience at a PTL Club show why newspapers never printed the good news. Similarly, Ken Throckmorton might ask why the *DTH* prints material he finds offensive. A society that does not allow challenges to its world view is a society that will inevitably become stagnant and bankrupt, morally and intellectually.

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The Daily Tar Heel

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