

The Daily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

Recognize cultural roots of rape

Rape is not a woman's problem. Women do not rape. Women do not make up the majority of the audience at an X-rated movie depicting forced intercourse. Women are not the main purchasers of magazines portraying naked women in bondage.

No, it is men who buy such magazines. It is men who attend such movies. And it is men who commit rapes.

Rape is not like most crimes; it is the result of a man's thirst for power and dominance, a thirst encouraged by cultural attitudes that assert the supremacy of the male will. Rape is a major social problem; the fact that every year a week needs to be set aside to promote rape awareness is deplorable. Fear of rape can drive women to lead lives filled with insecurity. For women to regain their rightful sense of security, the social attitudes that foster rape must be challenged and changed.

The rapist is not just a crazed deviant with an excess of testosterone. He is a guy on his fourth date with the same girl who insists that she "put out"; he is a fraternity member at a mixer who gets a girl drunk, takes her upstairs to his room, undresses her and forces her to have sex without her permission; he is the one who takes a woman out to an exquisite restaurant, expecting her to reimburse him sexually later that night.

Offer teachers extra incentives

One of the plagues facing the state's educational system is a coming shortage of teachers, which a new proposal for the General Assembly's consideration is intended to solve. A closer look reveals that although the proposal would certainly tempt potential teachers, it is only a piecemeal solution to the underlying faults of our educational system.

The plan is offered by the Public School Forum of North Carolina, a consortium of businessmen, educators and politicians. Central to the plan is the Teaching Fellows Program, which offers \$20,000 scholarships to students who are entering college and considering a teaching career. These "scholarships" are actually loans which recipients must repay by teaching for four years at a N.C. public school. But the program will provide concrete incentive for students to become teachers — incentive that is now lacking.

The program is expected to provide 1,200 new teachers for North Carolina after four years. Similar incentives for those already teaching or in college will help curb the bite the state will feel in 1992, when North Carolina is expected to need 12,000 more teachers than at the present. Nationwide, a shortage of 1.5 million teachers is expected over the next eight years.

There are few obvious causes for these shortages. An oft-cited reason is that teachers are not paid as well as professionals in the private sector and a career in education is anathema to those seeking financial rewards. Another reason is that as the baby-boomer generation continues to bear children, the students are beginning to vastly

When men like these commit rape, it is not because they are men — there is nothing about being a man that causes one to have an uncontrollable sexual appetite. The origin of a rapist lies in an assortment of images and attitudes that teach men to be dominant, and women, submissive. The rapist perceives these images to mean that women are not real people, but sexual objects, possessions to be had.

On MTV, heavy-metal videos show men in leather and chains lording over groups of voluptuous, yet unintelligent women. In Hollywood, it seems a movie cannot be made without an obligatory shot of the lead actress' breasts. Sports Illustrated annually publishes a swimsuit issue that does not celebrate the thrill of competition, but the lust of superficial sexual desire. The gist of these messages is simple: Women exist so that men can screw them.

The solution to rape includes more than heavier sentences for convicted offenders or self-defense programs for women. Programs like these ignore the responsibility society has for the attitudes of men who believe sex is a right they can use and abuse. Ending the threat of rape means molding social beliefs so that sex will be recognized as something to be shared, not taken.

outnumber the teachers.

Although these proposals are designed to attract more students to teaching, they only attempt to cure the symptoms of this educational mess, not eradicate its causes. According to 1980 U.S. Census figures, 22 million Americans are functionally illiterate. In North Carolina, the number is about 900,000. Even many students passed by the public schools lack the expected skills of a high school graduate: A University of Texas study discovered that 84 percent of all colleges and universities surveyed have remedial reading and writing programs.

The way teachers are taught is another problem. In most primary schools, where a teacher is expected to teach several disciplines, the teacher cannot be an expert in all the material. Teachers who have not kept up with the advances in their material are in fact learning as they go along — the blind leading the blind. To counter this depreciation of up-to-date instructors, a handful of states have adopted the safeguard of periodically testing their teachers.

At UNC, education majors cannot seek a double major, which could help negate this problem. It should seem only sensible that teachers be expected to be an erudite source in their fields.

These proposals for the consideration of the General Assembly are a good starting point in improving the state's education system. But if the proposals offered by the Public School Forum are to have any lasting effect, some other changes in education must come. Increasing salaries for qualified teachers and allowing them a more liberal pursuit of expertise would be good starting points.

He only eats renewable resources

There are six million stories in the big city. This is one of the bottom-line strangest.

New York City. Choked by pollution. Run by corporate corruption. Home of freaks, playground for muggers, Disneyland for perverts.

New York City. Haven for daisy eaters. Unh-huh, that's daisy, as in flower. And eat, as in consume. Here are the facts, just the facts.

On the afternoon of 2 April, nineteen hundred and eighty-six, Steve Brill, alias "Wildman," a 37-year-old caucasian male, was observed eating daisies in Central Park, in the presence of two park rangers. Said rangers promptly apprehended suspect. Suspect was handcuffed, transported to police station and booked. Charge: criminal mischief.

Suspect, who was tour guide in said park, had been observed eating said flower species on several occasions during park tours. Suspect even encouraged tour groups to eat said flower species. Said rangers repeatedly warned suspect to cease and desist eating said flower species.

The Bottom Line

Suspect admits eating said flower species in addition to other organisms possessing cellulose cell walls, alias "plants." "We picked dandelions and a few other common weeds," suspect said last week. "We ate a few high-bush cranberries . . . a little bit of water mint . . ."

Suspect says he's not a criminal. Says he only eats renewable resources. Says he's "just trying to get people into nature, to show them they can touch things and smell things and taste them."

Suspect even claims to have recipes using said flower species and other said organisms containing said cellulose cell walls.

Who knows how many "Wildmen" remain? Honest New Yorkers should run for their lives. Or at least to Jersey.

E.B.

Tar Heel Forum

'Blue Jeans Day' a time for honesty

Jim Duley
 Guest Writer

Being gay or lesbian can be a wonderful, delightful, exhilarating, happy and generally positive experience. It can mean being proud of oneself and one's lifestyle. It can mean having camaraderie with beautiful gay brothers and lesbian sisters. It can mean being on the cutting edge of a movement to allow people to practice their natural desires — to love and live without the interference of bigots and chauvinists.

However, it can also mean facing discrimination. It can mean being kicked out of one's apartment or being harassed by roommates. It can mean rejection by parents and loss of a job. Because of the fear that leading an openly gay life could be sheer hell, many gay people have hid in the "closet"; and, as the name implies, this place can be dark, lonely and confining. Hiding "in the closet" does not just mean total secrecy about one's gayness. It also means not being able to be honest about oneself. It means constant fear of being detected.

During the week of April 7-11, the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association celebrates the

Ninth Annual Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week. During the first such week, in March of 1978, the cube was repeatedly defaced as if to silence gays' voices and halt the celebration. In an effort to prevent this from happening the following year, CGLA members camped out in the Pit and were met by club-wielding fraternity brothers. Year after year, banners advertising the event have been destroyed and posters have been torn from bulletin boards all over campus. However, the harassment of CGLA members and friends and the constant theft and destruction of CGLA property (i.e. University property) has only increased our determination.

Because of this determination, CGLA proclaims Friday, April 11 to be Blue Jeans Day. On that day, gays and "straights" alike are asked to wear their blue jeans in affirmation of gayness

and gay people. Gay men and lesbian women should view this day as a time to be singin' and swingin' and gettin' merry — like Christmas. It's a time to say to hell with the world — I am who I am! For straight people it's a time to experience some of the anxieties that gay people face every day. More importantly though, it's a chance for you to make a statement in affirmation and acceptance of your fellow students, faculty, parents, co-workers and friends.

So, to all our brothers and sisters — straights and gays alike — we say, put on those jeans. Yes, that old pair with the rip in the knee. Yes, the ones you've been wearing for three days running. Yes, the ones with the ketchup stains and the iron burns. Yes, the Gloria Vanderbilts, Chics, Levis, Lees, Wranglers and the K-Mart Specials.

Friday's the day — wear those blue jeans, and wear 'em like you mean it!

Jim Duley is a junior English and linguistics major from Cary.

Clearing the air

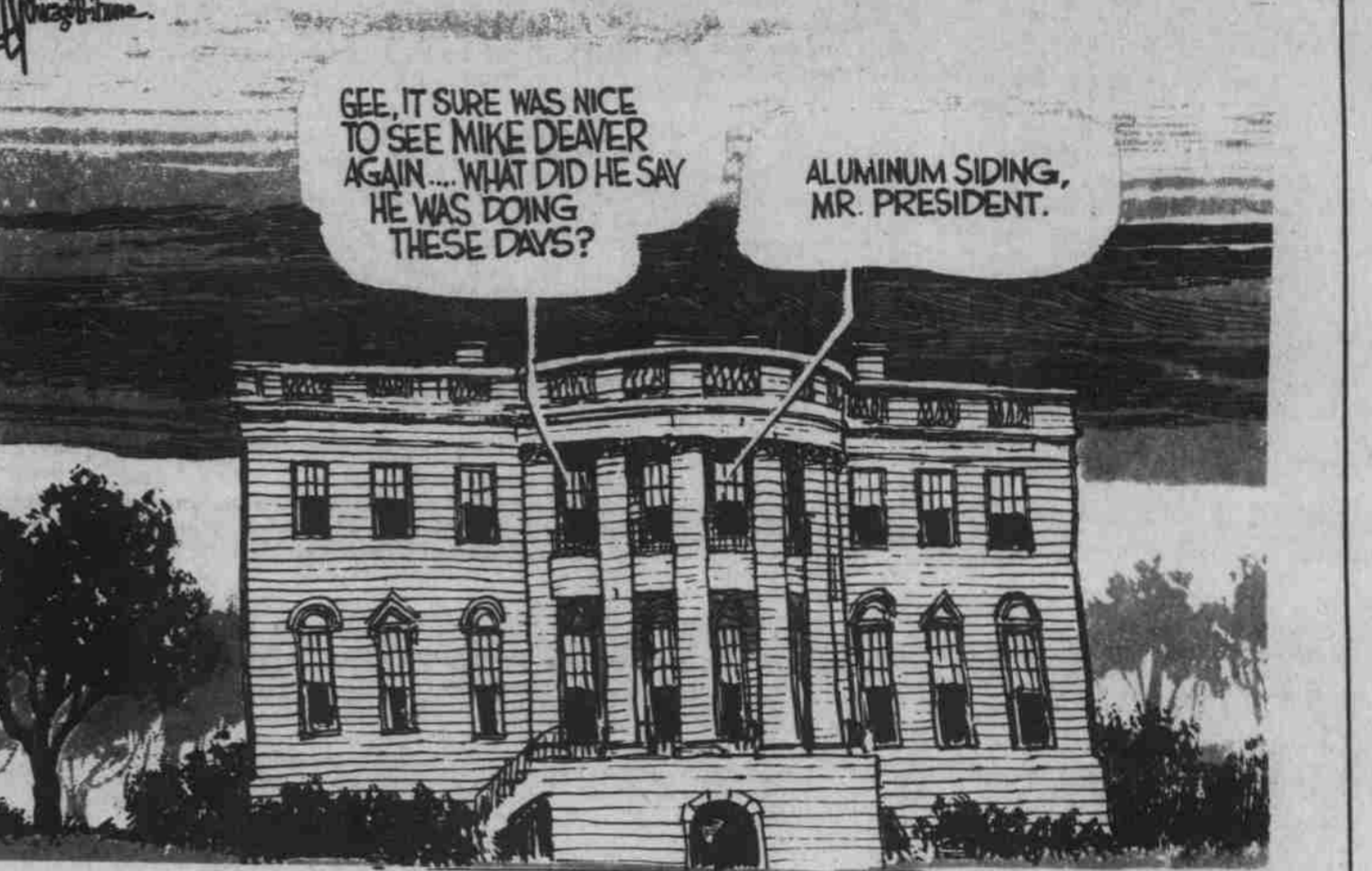
To the editor:

This is an open letter to the members of the UNC Anti-Apartheid Support Group. I know for a fact that I was not alone in being angered and offended during your pro-divestment rally in the Pit on April 7. During the recent debate over the shanties, the wall and the whole divestment issue, I, members of Students for America and the UNC College Republicans have taken constant abuse from you and your leaders over our stand against divestment. You refuse to accept the fact that we, like you, are against apartheid. We simply have a different view of how a positive change could occur.

Since I first voiced my opinion against divestment, I have been labeled a racist, a reactionary, a fascist and a hypocrite, just to name a few. I know for a fact that neither I nor any member of SFA or College Republicans have once questioned your commitment to see an end to apartheid. We neither vandalized your shantytown nor denigrated your character, publicly or privately. Your words, both in print and spoken in the Pit, are inexcusable. Your very own actions discredit your movement. You call the Endowment Board a "bunch of rich white people," you criticize the University for sending a "white overseer" to order around "the poor black man" who tore down your shanties, and you accuse the Republicans of wanting to "return to the good ol' days of plantations."

Then, after all of this race-baiting, you have the audacity to proclaim us as racists. If you want to create hostilities between blacks and whites on this campus, then keep up the good work. But if your goal is to truly help the situation of blacks here and in South Africa, then I suggest that you reevaluate your methods. Those "rich white people" of the Endowment Board help many of us, myself included, to attend this school. Those "white overseers" of the physical plant help keep our campus beautiful. You chanted "Hell no, we won't go!" during your rally on Monday. Well, that's exactly my response to you: Hell no, I won't go back to the hatred that you seem to strive for. Black/white relations have come a long way in this country and on this campus. Sure, we still have a long way to go. But with hypocrites like you, the struggle could go on forever, if you allow it to. Why do you want to foster anger and hatred? We are not blacks and whites and Indians and Asians; we are classmates, we are friends and, most importantly, we are people.

Maybe if you could ever realize that, we could work together for some real changes. If you could for once accept the fact that someone could disagree with your methods (divestment) and still agree on the problem (apartheid), then maybe, just maybe, we could really make a difference in South Africa!



Keith Poston
 Chairman
 Students for America

'Show' up today

To the editor:

Stepping to the good side. That's what members of the Mu Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity will do at 5 p.m. today in Great Hall. They saw that the system had failed someone, and they are "stepping" in to help. Likewise, my next-door neighbor stepped in to help. She discovered a fund-raising campaign after discovering the military would not pay for treatment that could put my mother's cancer into remission. The military, which normally pays for my family's medical services, wouldn't pay for mom's cancer treatment because it said the treatment was experimental. Meanwhile, insurance companies recognize the treatment and pay their patients' costs.

The cost of the treatment is estimated at \$80,000 — more than my family can afford. Regardless of the expense, this treatment could give mom a life free of cancer! It has already been determined to be the best treatment for her. That the military won't pay confirms the belief that it doesn't provide the best care for its dependants, who include some UNC students and their parents.

Mom is working to change some military regulations. She is not only fighting for her life, but for many others' lives. She's

Letters to the Editor

written to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who can reverse the military's decision.

Mom cannot wait; her cancer will not wait.

Why should you help? Why should you go to the stepshow and give a donation? Because you want to. My neighbor, the Alphas and others have stepped in to help show that people still care. I hope you do, too.

Luchina Fisher
 Sophomore
 Journalism

Men victims too

To the editor:

Women are generally concerned about being victims of crime, especially rape. Men, on the other hand, usually manifest little concern for the possibility of being victimized. Examination of crime victimization rates suggests that the level of concern of at least one of these groups may be inappropriate.

The statistics below are from Criminal Victimization in the United States (1981), Crime in the United States (1984) and Statistical Abstract of the United States (1986). All are available from the BA/SS Reference Desk in Davis Library. For people age 20 to 24, the number of crime victims per 1,000 per year are:

- Less violent crimes: males, 54.5; females, 31.7; male-female ratio, 1.72.
 - More violent crimes: males, 36.3; females, 14.9; ratio, 2.44.
 - Homicide: males, 0.183; females, 0.064; ratio, 2.87.
- "More violent crimes" is my

term for rapes and assaults causing serious injuries such as broken bones, plus assaults with weapons and robberies causing injury. "Less violent crimes" is my term for assaults in which no weapon is used and in which the victim receives no more than minor injuries (bruises, for example), plus robberies causing no injury.

A college man is much more likely to be victimized by violent crime than a woman is. Notice that the more serious the crime, the more likely that a man will be the victim. The rate of rape victimization for women aged 20 to 24 is 3.7 per 1,000 women per year.

People should be informed about the risk of being crime victims and take appropriate actions to protect themselves.

Lee Collins
 Graduate
 Geology

Letters policy

• Every writer must include his or her phone number, year in school and major. Also, if the writer holds a position in an organization relevant to the letter or column, he or she should include that position.

• We maintain a limit of two signatures per letter or column.

• Letters should be typed, double-spaced, on a 60-space line (set your margins on 12 and 72 — that's the easiest).

• The Daily Tar Heel reserves the right to edit for style, taste, grammar and accuracy.

ARA services itself at others' expense

Editor's note: This column focuses on a student report urging UNC not to renew ARA's contract. ARA Director Connie Branch was offered equal space to respond, but he declined.

Campus food services form an integral part of any university community. They are especially important to students, who are the ones who pay for the food and eat it. Students have a right to exercise decisive influence over the choice of campus food services. University administrators have a responsibility to listen to their voices and act accordingly.

Monday, that voice spoke out. A report recommending the replacement of the current food service contractor, ARA, was issued by a broad-based coalition including the executive branch of Student Government, the Student Congress, the Black Student Movement, the Residence Hall Association and the Labor Support Group. This report notes that ARA has failed in two important areas — in providing a satisfactory and acceptable food service; and in fulfilling its contractual obligations to the University regarding treatment of its employees.

Student dissatisfaction is widespread and deeply felt. In a recent referendum, students voted by nearly seven to one against renewal of ARA's contract. The Student Congress voted 17 to 1 to "strongly encourage the UNC administration not to renew ARA's contract." In a statistically accurate poll conducted in November, only one in five students agreed that ARA gives good value for the money. Only 13 percent of the students rated ARA's food as being of "high or highest quality." Forty-five percent

M. Bewig/B. Hassel
 Guest Writers

said the food was of "low or very low quality."

Students are acting on their dissatisfaction by voting with their feet and their dollar. As the report stated, students elect to spend a very small portion of their food dollar at ARA. Major student groups united to express this opposition to ARA. ARA's contention that student unhappiness with the food service is due solely to opposition with the meal plan (with which ARA claims it had nothing to do) is an insult to the intelligence and integrity of every UNC student. We know how good food tastes, we know what reasonable prices ought to be, and we know that ARA has failed to provide either.

ARA has abused its employees as well. ARA has violated its contract in numerous ways. The contract requires that ARA provide its employees pay and promotion schedules and a grievance procedure. ARA did the first only after five years had elapsed, and has provided only an insufficient grievance procedure.

ARA has had ample time and money to provide acceptable food service to this University. It has had a monopoly for five years. Though it pleads poverty, ARA is in fact a multinational corporation with more than \$3 billion in annual revenues, whose clients have included the Los

Angeles Olympics, the Department of Defense and North Sea Oil Companies. Though ARA has claimed to have lost money here, its 1983 annual report touted increased revenues of \$10 million due to several new accounts, including UNC's.

ARA has changed its management, but not its policies of benign neglect. Current food services manager Connie Branch claims that many of ARA's problems have been remedied. In fact, little evidence exists to support this. It was only two months ago (in Branch's tenure) that cashiers' chairs were taken away. The chairs were returned, and contractually required pay/promotion schedules were provided only when ARA was exposed by faculty and students. Good intentions or no, Connie Branch hasn't activated the employee handbook to give the employees an effective grievance procedure. Several students have recently reported being served bad meat, and prices have certainly gone down.

Despite the fact that ARA has enormous corporate resources, a University-mandated subsidy, an on-campus monopoly and a poorly paid workforce, it has proven itself incapable of providing an acceptable campus food service. If ARA has not done so in the past five years, it surely will not in the next five. A five-year trial is long enough. ARA must be replaced.

Matt Bewig is a graduate student in history from St. Louis. Bryan Hassel, a sophomore history major from Nashville, is student body president.