

The Daily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

Reach out and touch history

The man considered by many to be UNC's most outstanding professor ever — Chancellor Emeritus William Aycock — delivered an inspiring and educational speech Sunday about a fellow UNC great, Frank Porter Graham. But Aycock's "class," meeting in Memorial Hall during University Day ceremonies, attracted sparse student attendance. It was a sad sight.

Are UNC students losing touch with the tradition fermented on this storied campus? Such a conclusion cannot be derived strictly by observing Sunday's turnout. After all, the Redskins and Cowboys kicked off just as Chancellor Christopher Fordham stepped to the podium.

The audience for Sunday's ceremonies drew about a dozen students, excluding student musicians participating. It was the second major campus event that succumbed to weekend football and baseball in student participation. The Frank Porter Graham Conference on Crisis in American Liberalism featured two days with some of the University's greatest minds — journalist Tom Wicker and historian William Leuchtenberg, for example. Regardless of personal opinions about their political bent, these men presented scintillating insights. Their rare intellects lured a paltry student turnout of about a dozen.

Several reasons have been presented

as to why student participation at such functions wanes: The University is so large that its sense of community has been lost; or, that students don't realize they are welcome; or, that today's students are simply apathetic. The latter would be the easiest option to take, but it is certainly not the leading contributor. A basket in the DTH office overflowing with letters to the editor that disproves that notion.

Herbert Bodman, professor of history, suggests one way to foster a sense of history. "Dr. Frank," a 40-minute documentary on the career of Graham, former Consolidated University president and U.S. Senator, was unveiled at the conference Friday. Bodman proposes that the film be shown at freshman orientation to introduce students to prominent molders of University heritage. That kind of presentation would wow any Carolina newcomer.

Enhancement of that sense of history can also start with current Tar Heels. For example, members of honorary or service organizations could appear en masse at these occasions. These groups would enjoy not only increased visibility, but also a rare educational experience.

This message is not an admonition of students. Rather, it is a challenge to discover and explore the historical value of this campus.

A covert conflict?

In Reykjavik, Iceland, the leaders of the two most powerful nations on earth have met, each offering a vision of world peace, yet both unable to reach an agreement on how to bring it about. Meanwhile, a myriad of struggles in the "lesser" countries of the world — the flashpoints of the U.S.-Soviet conflict — continue. Likewise the attitudes that perpetuate such conflict.

During a weekend sweep through the Carolinas, George Bush offered his two cents' worth on the Nicaraguan aspect of U.S.-Soviet "disagreements." The vice president denied that the U.S. covertly directs arms-supply missions to the Soviet-allied country after what The Washington Post termed a "hurried strategy session among his aides." What about U.S. involvement in the affair, particularly that of the CIA? "To the best of my knowledge, this man [Gomez] is not working for the United States government" was the best the vice president could offer.

One still wonders about U.S. activity in the region, given Gomez' earlier

statements that he had kept Bush and an aide informed of the mission's progress. And Eugene Hasenfus, the sole survivor of an arms-supply plane shot down last week, has identified Gomez as a CIA employee and the mission as CIA-directed.

If Hasenfus' allegations are true, it means the CIA is overstepping the Congressional Contra-aid agenda — again. Between 1981 and 1984, the agency, in a flagrant disregard for accountability to the American people, funneled \$100.5 million in covert aid to Contras based in Honduras, then refused to allow the General Accounting Office to audit the money once its efforts were uncovered.

Americans need stronger guarantees from the Reagan administration that the CIA or any other governmental branch will never again make the Nicaraguan war effort its own fiefdom, especially in light of recent events. Quiet diplomacy may have its place in Reykjavik, but here at home, Americans have a right to know their country's involvement in a foreign war.

Union violence

To the editor:
 Recently, my girlfriend and I were the victims of a racial assault — not in Raleigh or Durham, but here in Chapel Hill. It took place in the middle of our campus, at the Student Union.

Without warning or provocation, I was struck in the head from behind as I was leaning into my girlfriend's car. The crowd in the parking lot suddenly became angry and violent. Every time I faced the attackers, they dashed into the mob, only to run back to strike my head when I turned away. Girls yelled insults and racial slurs to encourage the ugly spectacle. The men even hit my girlfriend a couple of times before I could get her back into the car. All the while, even while pushing her into the car, the pummeling continued.

Fortunately, we escaped. Our dignity was lost, but our physical injuries will heal. My girlfriend's car was dented and scratched from their fists and beer bottles — a reminder that racial violence does not care how liberal you are, just what color your skin is.

I do not know who the attackers were, although the police do have a couple of descriptions. I only know that the attackers were guests of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity party at the Union. The police said that this was not an isolated incident nor a new one. Often when a large party is held at the Union with students from other campuses, innocent Carolina students get hurt. I do not pretend to have a solution to the problem, but perhaps a reader might.

Phi Beta Sigma expressed regret for the incident and did try to investigate the matter. However, they came up with no answers or the attackers. The important thing is that they recognized that something happened which cannot be allowed. I hope that they and other users of Great Hall will work together to prevent future incidents. After all, it could have been much worse — someone could have easily been killed. Effective measures have to be enacted that ensure both the use of the Student Union and student safety.

As for that violent and hateful crowd, there are more constructive ways to vent racial frustration. Have a sit-in and let me sit with you, circulate a petition and I'll lend you my name, have a march and make room for me to walk beside you, hold a rally and I'll join my voice with yours. But if you resort to violence, just beat me as you would any other white person.

BILL FOX
 Senior
 Biology

Give to get

To the editor:
 At the risk of being branded a raving bigot, which I am not, or being grouped with SFA, an organization I detest, I want to respond to Latonya Broome's letter ("Concern for Carolina minorities should begin at home," Oct. 8).

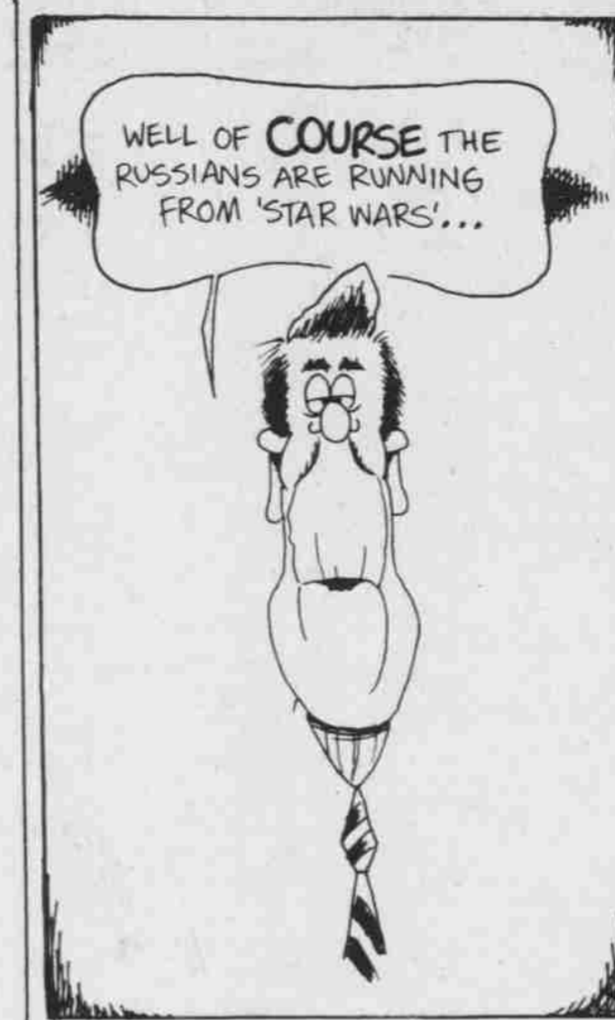
Your first point — that blacks don't have fraternity or sorority houses at Carolina: I was here for three semesters and having a very good time before I stepped into a fraternity house. I have never been inside a sorority house.

Your second point — there is no Black Cultural Center. Last year, several candidates for student body president suggested a minority cultural center and the BSM did not seem too pleased. You've got to give a little to get a little. You should try being one of the unrecognized, unknown minorities: we don't exist.

Your third point — there is no Troll's or Henderson Street or He's Not Here for black students: I am not a "cowboy," but I still enjoy going to Troll's with my friends. Get together with your friends and try it. Clubs and bars tend to take the shape of the people who frequent them.

I thought that the aim of integration was to integrate, not segregate people into the separate but equal system you seem to be asking for. I agree that blacks (specifically) and minorities (generally) are screwed all over this campus, but a little more integration and a little less peaceful co-existence would help the situation a lot. I wonder if at times we don't unnecessarily increase the racial barriers. Truth is, the

Tar Heel Forum



Editorial cartoons do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel's editorial board. The cartoons express the opinion of the cartoonist.

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comment. For style and clarity, we ask that you observe the following guidelines for letters to the editor and columns:

■ All letters/columns must be signed by the author(s). Limit of two signatures per letter or column.

■ Students who submit letters/columns should also include their name, year in school, major and phone number. Professors and other University employees should include their title and department.

■ All letters/columns must be typed. (For easier editing, we ask that they be double-spaced on a 60-space line.)

■ The Daily Tar Heel reserves the right to edit letters and columns for style, grammar and accuracy.

administration and student leaders aren't going to have much effect until students (both minority and non-minority) start doing more to help the situation.

GEORGE ALSINA
 Junior
 Math

Nuclear fright

The author is a member of Students Taking Action for Nuclear Disarmament (STAND).

To the editor:
 Joe Rizzolo here, to talk about everything. I think the Universe is a heck of a thing in all its glory. When I think about how big space is and our place in it, it blows my mind. Life and the mysteries surrounding our world fascinate the heck out of me. I'm filled with wonder about this life of ours. Our world has beautiful things in it, but it's easy to see that we're in real bad shape in lots of ways.

Nobody wants a nuclear war. But there's a lot of disagreement on how to go about peace. Some people think we need some new nuclear weapons to keep a balance with the Soviet Union. Some think we need to build a system (Star Wars) to shield people from nuclear weapons.

Other people think that we don't need much, if any, new nuclear weapons. We already have way more than we need to destroy each other, and both the United States and the Soviet Union know it. Some people (myself included) think that we can't rely on a Star Wars system to work; too many warheads would get by. The system would increase the risk of a war by merely having it and the Soviet Union will escalate their arsenal to try to overwhelm a defense system. So, in theory Star Wars may seem okay, but in reality many believe there are serious problems with it.

When it comes down to it, we don't really trust the Soviets,

but they don't really trust us either. Many, including myself, believe that the answer is in working together for the mutual goal of survival — and safe and equal disarmament. Many think that we could really reduce the nuclear weapons if we get the mind to do it. I guess we couldn't go to zero because of the risk of nuclear threats from whomever.

A lot of people believe we can have a lot better world going for us. I do too. Not perfect, but a lot better.

I'm just a guy feeling a love and wonder for our world, the people here and the people I know.

Most people could tell you that love and friendship are probably the most important things we've got going here. Just imagine all the positive things that could come out of that, considering all the stuff we need to improve.

Well, I hope that came off right.

JOE RIZZOLO
 Senior
 RTVMP

Sausage mania: the real reason for Dookie success

To the editor:
 I would like to address one important point that Foster Brown made in his Oct. 3rd column "Where's the Spirit?" Mr. Brown wrote that if the students at Carolina want to show more spirit, they should turn their heads toward Durham and take note of the Duke Guys.

Brown is quite correct in his basic observation, that Carolina students are generally quieter than Duke students and that Tar Heels need to show more spirit. However, Brown and the general masses are confused as to why the Duke Guys are so rowdy. It is not because they are so gung-ho, head-over-(Tar)-heels about their teams. The real reason Dookies are so crazy and wild is because of sausage. Let me explain.

We all know that Duke Guys love sausage. We know this because whenever there is a strong wind blowing out of Durham we smell sausage. We also know that before the basketball games at Cameron Indoor Stadium all the Dookies camp out. At first glance, the most people think the Duke Guys do this to get a good seat.

How wrong you are if you think this. The Duke Guys camp out for the free sausage! Yes, before every home game free sausage is served, and everybody comes to eat, drink, compare links, swap recipes, make biscuits and in general have a good ol' sausagefest.

How does this lead to the craziness during the game, you ask? It seems that right before the game starts, probably by some Coach K. ploy, all the sausage runs out — gone, finished, consumed, not another link in sight. The Duke Guys lose control. They scream, they cuss, they pound their feet, their faces turn blue and white, and they generally experience a gigantic convulsion. They even try to channel all this aggression by throwing assorted materials at an opposing player rumored to have eaten the last piece of sausage.

Coach K., sensing another offensive tactic (remember he did coach at Army) gets on the PA system and tells the pork-crazed crowd that it was not the opposing player who ate the last piece of sausage, but an official, and particularly the official named Lenny Wertz (what a great sausage name).

Spontaneously, the Duke Guys stand up and start chanting in four-part harmony that old favorite stadium cheer, "A-hole, A-hole," all the while pointing at poor Wertz.

The doors are then locked in order that no one escapes to get more sausage, and the game begins. Thus, a lunatic crowd suffering from sausage withdrawal is let loose for the eyes of a TV nation to watch and admire. Al McGuire so admired them that he called them a zoo. He honored the Dookies by coming dressed up as a lion tamer and throwing peanuts at the animals, I mean Duke students. But we know better: it wasn't peanuts he threw, but tiny, cleverly disguised pieces of pork.

Thus, now we know the real reason Duke fans are so crazy, and in order to increase the SAC's noise level I suggest the following: Before every home game, school officials give out a limited number of Goebels to raise spirit. Wait, did I say Goebels? Well... ah... maybe or maybe not.

MARCUS JIMISON
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The Daily Tar Heel

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