

The Daily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

No questions cause for concern

At a University where students are supposedly taught to think for themselves, it is amazing that some students failed to question the origin of a petition presented by a Moonie-sponsored organization.

According to its representatives, CAUSA is an association of staunch anti-communists of diverse religious backgrounds. The group's goal, members say, is to inform citizens of the steady decline in the nation's moral and religious fiber. Some of those members were in the Pit last week, obtaining signatures for an anti-communist petition.

But the information CAUSA members did not volunteer was that the organization was founded by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

CAUSA's members deny any direct affiliation to the Unification Church. Their spokesman acknowledges that they receive funds through "businesses in the Unification movement," and a Unification member has said the "Moonies" are volunteering to work with CAUSA. Of course, Moon, money and manpower aside, there are few links between CAUSA and the Unification Church.

It is not so much a matter of the Moonies themselves as it is a matter of deception through silence. The Unification Church and organizations

founded by the church certainly have a right to petition in the Pit. But suspicion rises when petitioners are reluctant to identify their group and its affiliations. UNC students should cry "foul" if they know members of any organization — religious, political or fraternal — are gathering signatures without identifying themselves.

But last week, many students volunteered names, addresses and phone numbers without question. Signing may have seemed the easiest way to be rid of a persistent petitioner. A signature may have seemed kinder than refusing such a courteous request. And the content was undeniably appealing. Everyone can find something to cheer in a statement which advocates "a God-centered morality in America," "freedom for all" and opposition to "atheistic communism."

The statement was noble. It was also vague, which typifies CAUSA's reaction on the petition's purpose. Group spokesmen have said they may send educational material to signees and use the petitions to show support for values important to America.

CAUSA forced no one to sign, but it did benefit from naivete, a lack of caution and inquisitiveness. Signees aware of the source and purpose of the petition cannot be faulted. Signees who failed to investigate can start checking their mailboxes.

Good policy to pick up

Drop/Add for the spring semester is seven weeks away. This reminder is not designed to dampen a frigid Friday, but rather it is a note about a process made more judicious by a newly adopted policy.

Officials in the College of Arts and Sciences and the General College agreed to recommend on a large scale an already successful, small-scale idea. Any student that does not attend one of the first two classes in a semester would be automatically dropped from the course. Reasonable provisions are allowed for students who are sick or legitimately absent: All that is required is approval by the department chairman.

Simply stated, this policy can solve a lot of problems. For a student desperately needing, say, a 10 a.m. Economics 10 class, this policy will weed out students planning to drop a little quicker, freeing up seats faster than the current system. Faculty

members are provided an accurate picture earlier in the semester of the number of students that will enroll in their class.

William Graves, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, described the plan as "an attempt to speed up the process where it seems justified to do so." The justification to employ the policy at all has already been established.

In an effort to register students in its ever-popular introductory course, the psychology department employed this idea on a trial basis for the past three semesters. Mark Appelbaum, professor of psychology and administrator of the department's program, said about 175 seats were made available.

This policy does not issue a mandate ordering students to go to class. What it does require is a minimal commitment from students seriously interested in a specific course. It is just.

Tar Heel Forum

Don't forget Soviet abuses of rights

The efforts of recent column writers regarding Human Rights Week, as well as all the other people who worked to make this week a reality, should be applauded. Human rights concern all of us, and I commend them in their efforts to make Human Rights an important and talked about issue here at UNC.

However, I must confess I was shocked and dismayed to hear of the intentional omission of the Soviet Union and other communist countries from Human Rights Week. This week is supposed to address all cases of human rights abuses — am I correct? If so, how can one possibly justify leaving out countries with some of the worst human rights records in the world — that is, the Soviet Union and the communist bloc nations.

Reasons given for leaving out the Soviet Union are more appalling than the act itself. First, some Human Rights Week organizers say there is already so much media coverage and "propaganda" against the Soviets that covering them would in essence be overkill; second, they say that only a handful of groups questioned why Human Rights Week excluded abuses by the Soviet Union.

In response to the first point — maybe they and I read different newspapers and magazines, but I have found very little, if any, media coverage of the human rights abuses in the Soviet Union, either in its own country or countries such as Afghanistan or Poland.

While we were sitting in lecture halls this week, listening to charges against the United States, thousands of Afghans were probably slaughtered by the Soviet Army; yet the Campus Y is silent. And while many UNC students were busy studying chemistry and physics this week, one of the world's most distinguished physicists, Andrei Sakharov, remained exiled in Gorky, near Moscow.

If anything is true, it's that media have attempted to gloss over Soviet human rights violations to facilitate arms control talks. If overexposure and media hype are the real reasons Human Rights Week omitted the



Keith Poston
 Guest Writer

Soviet Union, then how can its organizers justify even mentioning South Africa this week, much less making it their lead focus? If any issue has suffered from media overexposure, it's apartheid. Now, I agree that apartheid should be a vital part of Human Rights Week — I only chose South Africa to point out the folly of the exclusion of the Soviet Union in the week's events.

The organizers' second reason for not including the Soviet Union — that only three groups approached them about the exclusion — is an invalid excuse to ignore the Soviet government's systematic denial of equal rights to its citizens. These rights include the right to think, write, publish and work freely, in addition to the right of

citizens to emigrate if they so choose. Are the week's organizers afraid they might be labeled Reagan supporters, or (God forbid) conservatives if they spoke out against the Soviet Union?

I am no less a conservative because I care about world hunger and human rights abuses in Chile, nor are you any less liberal for being concerned about human rights abuses by the Soviets.

This brings us to the real question: Are the week's organizers really concerned about Human Rights Week, or are did they simply want to appear concerned about human rights?

Human rights is not a partisan issue! You are no less a liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican, by being concerned about human rights — you are only more human. After all, isn't that what this week was really all about?

Keith Poston is a sophomore political science major from Fayetteville.

Another level

To the editor:
 Amber Pratt, let me express my regret that your career as a barfly has been disappointing ("No reply at all," letter, Nov. 12). Please allow me to make some suggestions that might help remedy the situation. First, try meeting males at the Union, the library, in class, the Pit, dorm mixers, religious meetings, political meetings or absolutely anywhere except bars. This way you are less likely to end up with winners of beer-guzzling or burping contests.

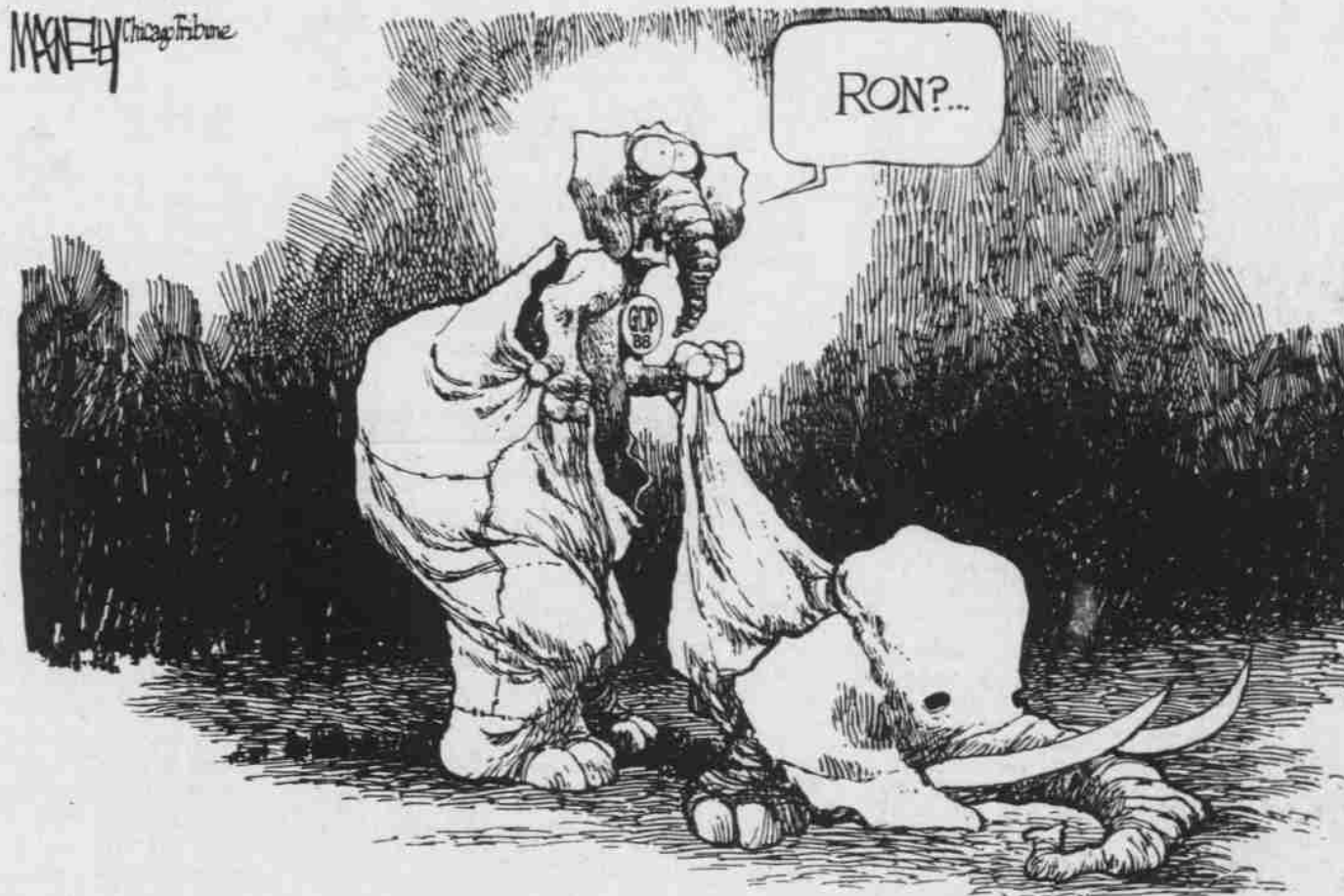
I believe that water seeks its own level, and my advice to you is to look for men in other places than the bottom of sewage pools. If, heaven forbid, you actually like the people who slither around in Chapel Hill bars, then I suggest that you should be the one to call the guys you have in mind. It's a dirty, dirty job, but someone has to do it.

MICHAEL BROYLES
 Senior
 Statistics

Stately behavior

To the editor:
 We are tired of all these sorry little people writing letters to the editor about a lack of school spirit. People who lack spirit at games are only showing their maturity. They are practicing for their future reigns as Yuppies and UNC alumni.

We were appalled to see such childish behavior exhibited Saturday by those demonstrative fans at Clemson. Didn't it look bland with everything in



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.

orange and white? You couldn't tell the spectators from the team members. Why should we risk taking away the class of Kenan Stadium by displaying banners and turning it into a zoo like the students at Clemson?

And, we ask, why should people at this university support athletes who steal parking

places from those poor, defenseless Ehringhaus residents?

We admire those people who are able to dress for our game with class, style and maturity. We salute the ladies in those beautiful dresses and high-heeled shoes, sporting freshly permed hair, exquisite pearls and 14k gold chains. And who among us could not respect

those men in their button-down shirts and ties, Hawaiian print shorts, athletic socks and Nike high-tops?

WANDA COKER
 Sophomore
 Sociology

WENDY THOMAS
 Sophomore
 Sociology

THE WEEK

A collection of notable quotes for the week ending Nov. 14, 1986

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

"The White House is in charge of the executive branch, and they have issued a statement that all questions shall be answered by the White House. . . . I don't particularly enjoy it. I like to say what I think about something."

— Secretary of State George Shultz, after rumors circulated that he was ordered to keep quiet about the connection between the release of former hostage David Jacobson and an arms deal with Iran.

"When the economy tightened up, people looked for jobs that would earn a lot of money. Now, because the economy has loosened up and everyone's a little more relaxed, the pendulum is swinging back. With liberal arts, you get an education for life and learning, not just for getting a job."

— Joseph Duffey, chancellor of the University of Massachusetts, regarding

STATE/LOCAL

"It might not be so bad. It's a lot easier to throw a grenade than it is to catch one."

— Sen. Jesse Helms on how he felt about being a member of the minority party in the U.S. Senate.

"Any drafts of the report that I may prepare presumably also would be instantly available to the press, as soon as those various drafts were removed from the typewriter of my secretary."

— UNC President C.D. Spangler's affidavit expresses why he disagrees with the N.C. Press Association and the Raleigh News and Observer over whether documents concerning UNC system athletic policies should be considered public documents. The NCPA and the N & O are suing the UNC

system to gain access to the documents.

"We have stated all along that, if student opinion was against this proposal, then we would not implement it."

— Assistant Housing Director Sylvester Taylor, in announcing that the Department of University Housing would reject a proposal to guarantee housing for sophomores. The proposal received very little support from the student body.

AND SO FORTH

"That was the driest junk I ever saw."

— Jesse Bolling, 85, of Pueblo, Col., on the work of Geoffrey Chaucer. She didn't graduate from high school in 1920 because she refused to read The Canterbury Tales. School officials recently awarded her a diploma as a birthday gift.

"We're used to thinking about these things in two dimensions. You think: 'Gee, is it the high-density regions that are connected, or is it the low-density? Is it like white polka dots on a black background or black polka dots on a white background? You fool yourself.'"

— Dr. Richard Gott of Princeton, one of the scientists who are now saying the universe is arranged like a sponge — not like a soap bubble, not like a meatball.

Compiled by Associate Editor Dewey Messer, a senior journalism major from Whittier.

The Daily Tar Heel

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