

# The Daily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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## Editorials

### Preserve valuable student views

Chancellor Christopher Fordham's revision of the policy on student appointments to advisory committees is little more than clever maintenance of the status quo. The changes will be of marginal worth, considering that nominees can be rejected without explanation.

The former policy calls for administrators overseeing advisory committees to justify any rejections. Not so with the new policy, which allows the student body president to nominate one-and-a-half times as many students as there are committee vacancies.

When Fordham and other administrators narrow the field of acceptable representatives, they need not explain why one nominee was chosen over another. The new approach could prove harmful, especially if rejections tend to be based on the nominee's personality. Because the personal traits of nominees differ, it would soon become impossible to distinguish which idiosyncracies are favorable and which are taboo.

Fordham has thus fortified the administration's role in the process. Being able to reject without substantial documentation any nominee who is deemed nonconformist, the committees can maintain a pleasant discourse free of vehement dissent.

But what if the prevailing opinion among students conflicts with that of

the administration? On those occasions, controversial student sentiments would in no way threaten to override the opinion of faculty members, who constitute a majority in committee membership. Rather, such representation would foster enlightened debate and discussion of the issues, which cannot be faulted.

The advisory committees are crucial, elementary forums for expressing student concerns about University affairs. Student appointees have the duty and opportunity to inject much-needed student perspectives into the University's management. It follows that the student body should be allowed to choose its own representatives rather than accept the administration's selection guidelines.

Selection by the student body is most easily accomplished by proxy. The student body president has the time and resources to interview applicants and make nominations. The committee chairmen cannot hope to know as many students, or to devote as much time to interviewing applicants.

The chancellor has not satisfactorily dealt with this point, even in allowing Hassel to submit a pool of nominees. Indeed, the new policy is no different from the old: Nominations are offered, and if they aren't acceptable, the committee asks for more.

### Politics no place for grudge

After tough campaigning by Gov. Jim Martin, some N.C. General Assembly members are warning that the relationship between Martin and the Democratic legislature may be strained. The warning sounds like an excuse for political pettiness.

Martin did actively campaign for party members he recruited to run against some General Assembly Democrats. In his effort to strengthen Republican representation in the Legislature, he ran television ads encouraging voters to replace Democratic legislators. Martin also attacked the tight Democratic control in the state House and Senate, calling party leaders the "Gang of Eight."

The governor lost his gamble; the Republicans lost four General Assembly seats. Some Democrats are angry.

For example, Martin recruited a Republican candidate and made five campaign appearances in an unsuccessful attempt to unseat state Sen. Aaron W. Pyler. Pyler, chairman of a powerful budget committee, accused

Martin of trying to eliminate him and asked how a governor could do such a thing and still expect to work with the legislature. Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan has said the governor made an "unprecedented effort" to unseat legislative leaders.

Martin's opponents are in fact saying politicians will find it difficult to set aside grudges for the state's good. Differences are expected. But when personal anger is an excuse for a poor working relationship, voters should get angry.

Martin is expected to be foremost a governor, but he is also a Republican Party leader. It should be no surprise to Democrats he campaigned for Republicans. Martin has made no secret his hope to use his influence and popularity to increase Republican strength in state government.

Democratic governors have regularly campaigned on behalf of their party's candidates. To begrudge Martin's efforts on behalf of his party bears no benefit for this state.

## Tar Heel Forum

### Symbolism fits intellectual pygmies

I have been looking for a myth or symbol that could help me understand Ronald Reagan and his administration. People need symbols to help them make sense out of things that otherwise don't make any sense at all.

For example, not too many people can make sense out of a bunch of criminals and mercenaries brought together, paid and directed by the CIA to commit acts of terror against the people of Nicaragua. But by using the symbol of "freedom fighters," President Reagan and his people convinced a whole lot of folks that we had to support those boys' killing and raping down in Nicaragua.

So, like President Reagan, I needed a symbol, and I found one that's been so useful I thought I should share it with other Daily Tar Heel readers. Some of them might find it as useful as I have.

Theologian Mary Daly tells a story in one of her books about Copper Woman. I think it's a story from the Vancouver Island Indians. Well, Copper Woman was lonesome and wanted some company, someone to talk to and hang out with, so to speak. So Copper Woman took the tears and mucus that ran from her eyes and nose and shaped them into a little male figure, and she called this little person "Snot Boy."

But Snot Boy wasn't too bright. He was incomplete — sort of half-baked, you might say. And because of his incompleteness, he really wasn't much fun to hang out with and never amounted to much. His thinking was incomplete, and he just couldn't see beyond his own little incomplete world view. Snot Boy lacked empathy and compassion, and I guess what you might call passion.

Well, Daly doesn't tell what happened to Snot Boy, but she implies that he is alive and well in all the incomplete, half-baked men around today. You know the ones she's talking about: like those men who make a big fuss about not making deals with terrorists for Americans being held hostage,

MINI-MAGAZINE

OKAY, RON... HOW DO YOU GET US OUT OF THIS ONE?

HEY, NO SWEAT. SEE THOSE TWO DUMB MULLAWS OVER THERE?

WELL, I JUST TRADED THEM A ROOMFUL OF LEFTOVER F-14 PARTS FOR THIS FLYING CARPET...



John Cook  
 Guest Writer

who then turn around and trade U.S. arms for the hostages.

And I guess she's talking about all those half-baked men who make such a stir about a "war on terrorists" while funding a bunch of them down in Nicaragua and calling them freedom fighters. I reckon she's even talking about all the half-baked women who do that kind of thing. I guess if there are Snot Boys, there are probably also Snot Girls.

So this Snot Boy symbol has really helped me understand and explain Reagan. I mean, he really does seem to be incomplete and half-baked. And maybe it's not Teflon that makes it so hard to stick the blame for such

boo-boo's as the Iranian hostage deal, the Libyan "disinformation program" or the botched Iceland summit (that wasn't a summit) on him. Have you ever thought about that?

I have a 65 year-old friend who found his own symbol for Reagan and his deeds. The way he puts it, Reagan is a "moral pygmy." Now, I don't know whether I could make that judgment, even though it is appealing. I might be more likely to conclude that he is an intellectual pygmy.

Anyway, I hope other readers find this Snot Boy symbol useful. It has helped me an awful lot and I thought I should pass it on.

John Cook is a graduate student in city and regional planning from Chapel Hill.

### Ticket athletes

To the editor:

Although athletic department officials deny there is a parking problem at Ehringhaus, we beg to differ! Many athletes who live in neighboring dorms can park without fear of being ticketed between 11:15 a.m. and 2 p.m.

This flood of extra cars forces legitimate K-permit holders to resort to illegal spaces (fire lanes, handicapped spaces, or other parking lots), effectively rendering a \$90.00 permit useless during these hours. Since K-lot is monitored 29 percent less than other lots, the permit could be changed to cost 29 percent less, or \$63.90.

A more logical alternative would be to ticket Ehringhaus spaces just like any other lot. Since most athletes who eat at the training table live on South Campus, it should be no great inconvenience for them to make the short walk to Ehringhaus. It would be considered ridiculous for Ehringhaus residents to park at Morrison in order to eat at Chase Hall!

Athletes who live off campus should already have permits to park in commuter lots on campus during morning classes, so why shouldn't they leave their cars there during training table hours, rather than move them to E-haus lot?

Obviously, exceptions could be made in special cases, such as injured athletes, but the vast majority have no reason or right to park at Ehringhaus. We don't mind athletes and coaching staff having some special privileges, as long as it doesn't infringe on the rights of other students.

BILL MOORE  
 Senior  
 Pharmacy  
 BRYAN MIKELS  
 Junior  
 Economics

### Infringement

To the editor:

I am writing in response to Amy Pritchard and Nancy Page's letter concerning the Ehringhaus parking situation ("Not all games," Nov. 13). I disagree with them on several counts. They contend that "being allowed to park for lunch seems but a small reward." Let's face it, our athletes are growing boys and girls. They don't just eat lunch, they eat breakfast, lunch and dinner. Let's revise the three-hour lunch time parking problem to a seven-hour problem.

They also feel The Daily Tar Heel wrongly directed the blame at just athletes. They feel that coaches, doctors, physical therapists and managers are also benefitting from this deal. The reason we do not direct our attack on these people is because they possess an all campus parking permit, and are parked legally.



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.

### Exemplify UNC's accessibility

The author is student body president.

To the editor:

You hear a lot about Carolina's high academic standards, its nationally-ranked athletic teams and its beautiful campus. But there's one characteristic that makes all these benefits possible: the University's accessibility. One of the great things about UNC's excellent faculty, exciting extra-curriculars and magnificent setting is that all of them are available to a wide sector of our population.

The access we pride ourselves on should never be taken for granted. The entire University must not only be on the lookout for threats to the accessibility we now enjoy, but also for opportunities to increase it in areas where it is lacking.

In this spring's state legislative session, we are likely to see both. On one hand, there will be an effort to pass a tuition increase for students, a move that would clearly undermine UNC's accessibility. With the cost of books, room and board all rising, a tuition hike would prevent many qualified students from attending school.

On the other hand, the legislation has an opportunity to allocate funds to remove architectural barriers to handicapped individuals. Such an appropriation would be a crit-

ical factor in increasing the University's accessibility. Since 1982, the General Assembly has provided no funds for this purpose. This spring is our chance to reverse this trend and open the doors of UNC to all.

As students, we need to start now if we hope to have influence on either of these issues. Students, in combination with the whole community, can have a great effect on what goes on in Raleigh.

Last summer, student government at UNC teamed up with other schools in the state to lobby against tuition hikes. In the final appropriation, in-state students faced no tuition increases for the current academic year. The key to achieving this kind of success again is for students to get organized now and exercise their vote.

This week, student government is beginning this process by with a petition drive on these two issues. Our goal is to make students and others aware of the need to act on our concerns next spring. Furthermore, a large number of signatures will demonstrate the importance of these issues to students. Please look for our petition in the Pit this week, and show your access to UNC.

BRYAN HASSEL  
 History  
 Junior

### The Daily Tar Heel

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