The Baily Tar Heel

94th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

Fewer classes - at a price?

As each school year opens, students search for any excuse to escape unair-conditioned Chapel Hill dorm rooms and the oppressive August heat. That in itself is a good argument for delaying the start of school a week.

UNC students may be cautiously optimistic following an administration announcement to shorten the school year. The goal of the policy is to shorten the current 18-week semester to 17 weeks, the minimum allowed in North Carolina. The 1987-88 school year will begin the last week in August as opposed to the usual third-weekin-August kickoff date.

UNC Faculty Council Chairman George Kennedy proposed the shorter year because the "current length of the school year may interfere with students'summer employment." Kennedy also said a shorter year will not interfere with faculty conventions held in the late summer and fall.

In addition to the shorter term, exam week will be shortened from nine days to eight, meaning six exams will be scheduled for the final two days. But University officials say the exams scheduled on those days will be in classes with "the most unpopular times," meaning only folks with those late afternoon classes need worry. As always, any student with two or more exams within a 24-hour period will be able to reschedule them.

To be honest, this policy sounds good. Some students - especially those with summer internships lasting a specified number of weeks - are pushed to leave work earlier than fellow interns. To them, the new policy will certainly be a welcome change. The promise that no days will be cut from breaks or added to the end of the year is a sign of thoughtfulness on

But the most pressing question on students' minds is, "Will the amount of material covered in classes remain the same?" If the answer is yes (as it is likely to be), students may find themselves covering the same amount of material with less time to do so.

The results could vary: Students may relish the extra time off and adjust to the more intense courseloads; or they may wish for an extra week to finish War and Peace or Physics Made Easy. And knowing professors, many of whom have taught the same classes and material for years, don't expect the reading assignments on the syllabus to shorten as the semester does.

After considering this plan, a couple of other questions also arise. Will students, with less time to work with, reduce the number of campus festivities? Hopefully not. Will the state repeat past actions by asking for yet another tuition hike? Stay tuned.

Policy deserves a dunce cap

U.S. Education Secretary William Bennett has been known to preach about education's virtues. He is often times condescending, but the goal behind the "back-to-basics" approach he espouses cannot be refuted.

That makes his defense of President Reagan's education budget unfathomable. How can someone presumed to be an ardent advocate of education supportive a plan to cut \$5.5 billion in federal outlays for education?

Testifying before two Senate committees Wednesday, Bennett was assaulted with a barrage of criticisms from both Democrats and Republicans over the budget. The cuts, if approved, would axe higher education aid almost in half, from \$8.2 billion to \$4.5 billion. One million students currently receiving Pell Grants would be cut from the program.

"I wish you were as strong an advocate for education as Secretary Weinberger is for defense," a Democratic senator warned. One Republican senator, John Danforth of Missouri, was more direct in saying that Bennett's stance on federal higher education aid was "absolutely wrong." So why does Bennett support the

cuts? Sen. Lowell Weicker, R-Conn., seemed to strike a raw nerve in Bennett when he said, "Don't blame Gramm-Rudman-Hollings for your budget. It's a question of Administration principles." Bennett tried unsuccessfully all day to talk his way around the budget balancing plan, reverting to the old standby lines about "the administration has been at the forefront . . ."

Mr. Bennett, give us a break. This administration's education policy is one big hypocrisy. Administration officials beckon education leaders to beef up standards, facilities, programs before yanking essential monies out of their coffers. Talk of a better educated American work force is preceded by cutting grants and loans that often determine whether a student enters a college classroom.

Increased foreign competition and the infusion of technology into our everyday lives makes federal support of education pivotal. The Reagan administration must adopt another school of thought.

the council's part.

play?

traffic ingress report. It is our only hope that the Educational Foundation, Inc. will soon recognize the injustice of what it is attempting for the mere convenience of a few

To the editor:

I am tired of being assaulted

everything: vitamins, dietary hay fever, birth control, etc.

need to worry?

don't cure anything, only make it a little more bearable. They have their side effects too, coated or not.

If we're all as tired of pill commercials as I think we are,

Tar Heel Forum

Bulldozing residents

To the editor:

Several measures have been proposed by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. of Raleigh upon the request of the Educational Foundation, Inc. (a UNC affiliate) to control traffic resulting from major events at the Dean E. Smith Center. Most notably, Kimley-Horn has suggested that three roads be constructed allowing heavy traffic to flow from the parking lots surrounding the SAC through Odom Village and out to Mason Farm Road and Manning Drive.

Naturally, the roads would require the destruction of several student-family apartment buildings as well as muchwooded landscape. Kimley-Horn has suggested that all of these recommendations be acted upon immediately. Surveying crews have been here already.

To whom do we, the residents of Odum Village ask for help in preserving this pleasant and peaceful community within the campus? Where shall the over 400 applicants on the Odum Village waiting list apply for decent and affordable quarters so close to the main campus and professional schools, (yet not violated by heavy traffic flow)?

We have even heard mention of a four-lane street through our complex. Where may we safely allow our children to

We have little time to act. However, if we have your support, please voice it on this page or in writing to Dr. Farris W. Womack, Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance, 211 South Building, UNC Campus; or Mr. Moyer G. Smith, Associate Athletic Director, Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 2446, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514. Both men have been supplied with Kimley-Horn's complete

wealthy enough to park in F and FR lots.

> MARIO CRUZ Chairman Board of Alderman Odum Village

Pill persuasion

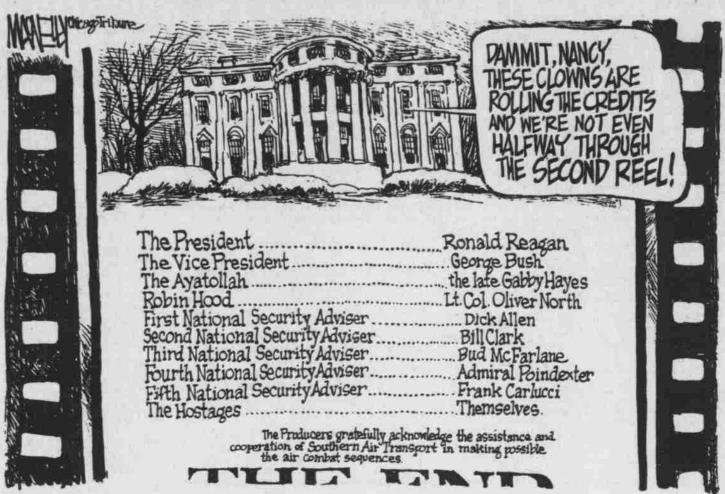
Is your head spinning from watching TV? Well, surely at least one pill was advertised that would remedy the situation.

by advertisements for pills. This time of year, there are more commercials for pills than cars. There are pills for just about

supplements, headaches, arthritis, sore muscles, colds, Manufacturers are trying to

keep us healthy, you say. Didn't your mother tell you that if you eat right and don't go out in the rain without a raincoat or umbrella that you wouldn't As for cold remedies, they

we have two choices: Change our habits



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

■ 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

sleeping, etc. - to a healthier style.

Take a megadose of Extra Strength Tylenol.

> **CURTIS HEDGEPETH** Sophomore Psychology

Cutting cost

To the editor:

The school year will be shorter! Many students read the article describing the decision with as much concentration as if the headline had read "UNC tuition cut in half."

However, the reasons this decision may have been made are hidden behind the fact that the University currently has one extra week of academics

Why should the student's year be hampered by inadequate services of the University, its inability to clear student financial accounts and print grades for the new type of diplomas? This situation could be remedied but not by making the students cram 18 weeks of studies into 17 weeks. The oneweek difference does not seem like very much, but we all know that there are quite a number of classes which cover close to 100 pages (if not more) of text

in one week. Second, are there so many conventions scheduled in mid-August that faculty members would miss out on many great discoveries if they failed to attend the convention in some resort hotel in Atlanta or New York?

Since school will be one week shorter, it would seem that power bills for University dorms would decrease. But has there been mention of even a small cutback in dorm rent, let alone a cut in the cost of

I like not having to wait in drop-add lines until a week later and having a slightly longer summer. But when it comes to short-changing my education and my wallet, think the University's officials are hitting below the belt.

> G. WAYNE GOODWIN Sophomore Politial Science/History

Attack ill-founded

To the editor:

We respect the fact that every student at this University does not love Coach Dean Smith the way 99 percent of the student body does. But sometimes there is an attack so ill-founded that we'll jump out of our comfortable seats in the Dean Dome, the campus' resident worship center, to defend Smith.

In The Daily Tar Heel, a UNC fan using logic that reminds one of Billy Packer asserts that Smith's ability as a coach has deteriorated ("Coach critique," Jan. 14). His argument basically is that the failure of the UNC basketball team to win the NCAA title since 1982 is due to the fact that Smith, out of complacency, no longer properly motivates the team, and that we choke against inferior teams.

Never mind the fact that college basketball has true parity today, and winning the tournament every year is virtually impossible. Never mind that teams like Louisville, Houston, Kentucky and Georgetown have had no more luck in dominating college basketball with a similar amount of talent. Over the last four years, has

Carolina's failure to win the NCAA title been due to suspect coaching or unmotivated play? Let's examine what happened those four years. In 1983, Georgia, in one of the best performances in the school's history, shot between 70 and 80 percent, mostly from the outside, in a close Carolina loss. In 1984, Carolina was unable to really find someone who could perform at the level of injured freshman point guard Kenny Smith and, in the tournament, lost to a fired-up, wellcoached Bobby Knight team (which we all know suffers from a lack of talent).

In 1985, we were picked fourth in the conference. Consequently, Carolina, who recently has rarely "reached down and found that extra lift that would vault them to victory," beat teams rated higher

than our players all year long. The team surprised everyone by tying for first place in the regular season and almost winning the ACC tournament over a superior Georgia Tech team. In the NCAA tournament, Steve Hale was knocked out with one of the cheapest shots in college basketball. Having no time to adjust to the loss, UNC eventually lost to Villanova (an inferior team?), the tournament champion.

Last year, struck by injuries, Carolina, supposedly suffering from the "Fat Cat" syndrome, overcame a 13-point deficit late in the second half against Louisville. Unfortunately, some highly controversial calls in a poorly officiated game went against Carolina, and Louisville went on to win the championship.

And now, some impatient and spoiled fans don't realize that Carolina has recently lacked some tournament luck and that other teams are just as talented. They overlook these less obvious problems and go for the throat. They conclude that Smith is not among the coaching elites, or even in the top five. Well, who's above him?

Using the logic of Smith's critics, consider the recent tournament success of some other coaches with similar programs. Denny Crum, until last year, had not won the NCAA title since 1980. Joe B. Hall only won in 1979. Bobby Knight's last championship was in 1981. Norm Sloan won way back in 1974. Dana Kirk, Lefty Driesell, George Ravelling, Digger Phelps, Dale Brown and Jim Boeheim have never won. That's a lot of "fat cats" who have no more recent success than our coach. Who are the five that are better than Smith?

GABE MONTERO Sophomore Computer Science

SHELTON BROWN Junior **Economics**

The Daily Tar Heel

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A collection of notable quotes for the week ending Jan. 16, 1987

NATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL

"We have a big problem when someone makes a statement about needing to raise money or his life will end."

David Lane, president and general manager of WFAA-TV, a station which broadcasts the messages of evangelist Oral Roberts. Two of those programs this month have included pleas for money in which Roberts says God will "call him home" if \$18 million is not raised.

"I've got me thermal underwear on. Not very macho, is it?."

A police officer guarding the entrance to London's Downing Street, reacting to the record-breaking cold gripping Europe. More than 100 deaths have been attributed to the cold.

"Righteousness has been locked up . . . the Statue of Liberty has blown out her torch and sat down.'

The Rev. Timothy McDonald of Atlanta's First Iconium Baptist Church, discussing the nation's racial problems at a memorial service for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

STATE/ LOCAL

"I stuck my head right in on top of them. I asked them would they leave and they said no."

University Police Maj. Charles Mauer, testifying during the district court trial of 12 UNC students charged with criminal trespass. The students, who last semester refused to leave a shanty erected in front of South Building, were acquitted because Mauer asked, but did not order, the group to leave before making the arrest.

"Right now, I can be in touch with a lot of different things, but I can't take one thing and sink my teeth into it."

UNC Student Body President Bryan Hassel, explaining why he will not run for a second term. Hassel, a junior, said he wants to concentrate on specific projects.

"(Also) the faculty has several conventions scheduled during August that interfere with our current fall semester. I encouraged a shorter year so that the faculty could attend

George Kennedy, chairman of the UNC Faculty Council, who proposed a revised school year schedule, accepted this week by University administration.

"Drug testing is a fad. Abuse is significant, but the drug tests are only inconveniencing the majority.

Les Garner, assistant professor in the UNC School of Business Administration, commenting on the increasing number of recruiters which require or are planning to implement drug testing.

AND SO FORTH

"The problem is that most of the women in the world could have made the list. The whole trouble is, we only had room for 10."

Mr. Blackwell, a dress designer who desires to be known only by his professional name, discussing his 27th annual list of worst-dressed women.

Compiled by Associate Editor Kathy Nanney, a senior journalism major from Hendersonville.