

The Daily Tar Heel

95th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

Lab Theater needs support

The Lab Theater is the only student acted, directed and produced drama organization on campus. Founded in 1946, it has grown from sporadic productions a few times a year to a full-time production schedule of seven shows each semester. It is also the only outlet on campus for student playwrights to have their work produced. From Shakespeare to Stoppard, the Lab consistently provides a variety of plays for the University. It is an experimental student theater, and while not all of its productions sparkle with brilliance, the important thing is that they are done at all.

The Lab does this at no charge to the public. Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus of sorts working here.

But now it is time for the public to start doing the gift giving. There is no reason for a Lab show to play to a full house of 40 people or so, and then receive only 5 or 6 dollars in total contributions afterwards. The audience is taking the organization's generosity for granted, a trend which must be reversed. A movie costs \$5 surely just a dollar per person would be easy to cough up for an evening's entertainment at a Lab show.

And that dollar apiece would help

The real American hero(ine)

She's been on the front page of USA Today twice this past week. She similarly graced Wednesday's News and Observer, in color, nonetheless. Knight-Ridder News Service referred to her as smiling "prettily" and "blonded and permed and speaking pertly." And David Letterman has even come up with a list of her top ten turns. She's Fawn Hall, and she's America's newest sweetheart.

Hall, of course, is Lt. Col. Oliver North's personal secretary, as well as being a part-time model. The beautiful 27-year-old was catapulted into the national spotlight last weekend when Laurence Walsh, the special prosecutor in the Iran-contra affair, granted her immunity from prosecution.

Hall did not keep silent about her boss, either. She reportedly told investigators she and the rugged North had shredded National Security Council documents and that she had changed the text of four NSC memos.

What Hall said, though, has increasingly become less important than the way she looks. She is, to say the least, very easy on the eyes, and her high cheekbones and tear-filled eyes have made her very easy on the eyes in newspapers across the nation. She has

enormously. This year the Lab received \$1,000 from the Department of Dramatic Art. However, because of the larger number of shows being staged and the increasing complexity of production, this money does not cover all costs. Consistent donations are needed, however small, to continue providing an opportunity for undergraduates to become involved in dramatic productions and see them at no cost.

This year is the first that the Student Congress has officially recognized the Lab as a student organization. This means that it is eligible for funding next year. Without question, the congress should grant this funding, be it \$100 or a thousand. The congress supports a number of creative organizations, including two literary magazines, STV, and the Fine Arts Festival. The Lab, as the major student drama organization, should also be included on this list.

In the meantime, the people who attend the productions must increase their support to help the Lab develop. Those who have been to a show have heard this before, but it is worth repeating "the change in your pockets will make a difference."

— B.McC.

probably gotten more men interested in Intranscam than the Tower Commission ever could have.

Most intriguing has been the reaction of the media. The television cameras have found a ready target in Hall's charming smile, while the print media's prose has reached new excesses. Perhaps the best line in all the coverage was, "Wearing a full-length blue tweed coat — and looking not at all traditionally tweedy."

For the most part the press coverage has been harmless. After months of nothing but old men who refused to say anything, the appearance of a stunning young mystery woman who was willing to spill the beans must have seemed a godsend for the reporters.

The media glut has been out of proportion to Hall's importance, but such are the vagaries of a free press. If there is anything worrisome about Hall's sudden fame, it is that her beauty will obscure her revelations. Her new-found glamor has served to divert attention from the growing crisis in the Reagan administration.

But when Hall is old news, Intranscam will be still in the headlines, and that's one thing President Reagan cannot forget. — J.S.

editor's note

Range of change on edit page

Now that the back page is coming together a little bit, I'd like to explain some of its new features so that the reader won't be unduly surprised when he subtly flips the DTH over during his 8 o'clock class in a maneuver to get to the crossword. The three major changes:

■ **Signed and "board opinion" editorials.** The decision to run signed editorials came after a long discussion among the six writers and me about reader interest. We decided that the signatures will make the editorials more reachable. Rather than read a conclusion designed to represent the vague, faceless opinion of an entity called "The Daily Tar Heel," the reader can see that the edit was written by a fellow student.

The board opinions come in when issues crop up that are significant enough to warrant input from several people. These edits will represent the DTH's view in the form of a consensus among the editorial staff. The board meets every Sunday to discuss potential opinions, and during the week as needed. Although we've established quorum in voting on whether an issue warrants a board opinion, we haven't had any real discussion yet.

The policy on edit style will be to write in the objective tense, because using "we" would imply that the DTH edit writers are dictating how everyone else should think.

The objective ensures that an edit stands as an informed opinion on an issue, rather than an unyielding stance. It seems that the reader will be more open to an idea if he isn't receiving a didactic "we think this, so you should, too" message. Although the signed policy isn't kosher journalistically, it's fitting for a college newspaper because the media and the audience are all on the same level.

■ **Non sequitur.** This feature will appear every Tuesday and Thursday in the bottom left corner. By giving it a general albeit nonsensical title, we hope that it'll provide a space for writers to put those stray ideas just too obscure to put in an edit. We don't want to restrict this column to humor, because it's hard to be funny on deadline. It's important to have some off-the-wall things on the page occasionally, and we have people burning to write just that sort of copy.

■ **Scrambled eggs.** Two staff members, Grant Parsons, edit writer, and Jo Fleischer, assistant university editor, entered a weekly column that'll contain observances of the campus. It'll run every Friday on the bottom right side of the page, complete with the all-new "eggs" logo. The obvious question is the name. It comes from the column's random arrangement of descriptions, which the writers have taken to calling "eggs." — J.G.

Readers' Forum

Annual Burnout is Carolina tradition

To the editor:

It appears that Chapel Hill tradition is headed for the axe. The Phi Kappa Phi Burnout, which has become as much a part of spring in Carolina as warm weather, is about to be snuffed by the Chapel Hill Town Council. The reason is the typical Chapel Hill residents' complaint of loud, drunken college students disturbing their quiet village.

I will not argue against the fact that the event causes some annoyance in the Finley Golf Course area. However, is it really so bad for these people that they cannot stand one afternoon of mild discomfort (if any exists) in order for this fund-raising event to continue? It is remarkable that this

"disturbance," which has been going on for ten years now, is suddenly so horrible that it cannot be overlooked for one day.

It is almost as if residents of Chapel Hill are thinking they live somewhere else, a place where there is no university or students. I am not justifying behavior which is intrusive on people's rights, but the people who have chosen to live here must learn to give a little if they are to enjoy this town. The students in this University have always had to give in to the residents' wishes. It is time that the effort in living peacefully in this cohabitation is shared by the Chapel Hill residents.

The arguments raised in opposition to

Burnout are a fact of Chapel Hill and always have been. This is primarily a college town which depends upon the University in many ways. I would like to stress that students mean no disrespect to year-long residents, but they must realize that for three-fourths of the year we are also considered residents. Therefore, as residents, why should we be prevented from having fun at a charitable and recreational activity at the end of the year?

T. JOHN POLICASTRO
 Sophomore
 Business Administration

Conservatives, go home

To the editor:

Keith Poston, Rich Spargo and whoever else has or wishes to join the latest anti-civil rights Students for America front group should leave UNC (CGLA Funds Opposed by Group Letter, Feb. 24). Since their "Christian" convictions compel them to judge so that they may be judged, the final verdict is obvious. Carolina is a public institution, not as they would have it a right-wing fundamentalist private school. Poston, Spargo et al should transfer to Jerry Falwell's Liberty Baptist College in Virginia. They deserve each other.

Perhaps Spargo doesn't understand that his three-year failure to delude the CGLA has fared so poorly because many people happen to disagree with him. Some of us prefer a society based on equal rights and resources for all people.

Please, Keith, Rick and whoever else threatened to withhold their student fees until the CGLA is thrown penniless back into the closet don't pay. Leave! (And pray for us, hear?)

ASHLEY OSMENT
 Senior
 History

Reagan fights for rights

To the editor:

When I read Wednesday's article in the DTH (Group holds vigil to begin fast) concerning the Carolina Committee on Central America, I almost became nauseous. You people fail to realize that in most, if not all, communist countries citizens not are allowed to protest their government's actions publicly without fear of imprisonment. So don't you see, the very thing the Reagan administration is striving for in Central America, as well as other areas of the world, is the right for people to be able to stand up and express their opinions in public without fear of government oppression. That's what democracy is all about.

As of now, there are approximately 30 truly free countries remaining in the world. That leaves well over 100 which are



ruled by communistic or some other oppressive-style government. When you get right down to it, you people want all the amenities of freedom but you're not prepared to stand up and fight for it.

In 50 to 75 years when there are few, if any, free countries remaining, our grandchildren and great-grandchildren will look back on Reagan as not just a president but a national hero as well: a man willing to make the sacrifices to obtain freedom. And when communist tanks come rolling across the Rio-Grande, they will have no one to blame but the spineless liberals of the mid to late 20th Century.

GEORGE DOWDY
 Senior
 Economics

Let fans be obnoxious

To the editor:

In response to David Hall's article (Crowd Apathy, Feb. 19) and to the letters of Jim McQuiston, Greg Faucette, and Jeffrey Taylor on the same date, I would like to say the following: hogwash. Oh, there is no doubt that there is an embarrassing lack of fan support in the Smith Center. The reason is, however, that students are not allowed to cheer unless they do it with "proper" decorum. I submit that the blame for the crowd's apathy at the Smith Center rests not

on the shoulders of the students, not on the shoulders of the alumni, but squarely on the shoulders of the Smith Center powers that be.

Question: What place of public assembly in North Carolina is patrolled by walkie-talkie armed ushers whose mission it seems is to quell any signs of possible subversive behavior before it can be noticed? Give up? The Smith Center. At every game this year I have witnessed the following. First of all, the summary confiscation of any and all signs students bring in to hold up for the TV cameras. The reason for the confiscations? "It's policy," answered one of the ushers when I questioned him. Well, I guess we must have our standards.

The second incident of note occurred when the fans began to chant an obscenity at a questionable call by an official. This time the cheerleaders joined the ushers and Major "Y" in motioning for the crowd to stop its all too vocal protest. They did. The message is that we are to sit down and politely watch as the Big Blue Machine chews up and spits out the opposition. As a result, one witnesses true crowd support only when the game is in doubt, or when there is a championship on the line (the Clemson game, for example).

College students have a right to be irrelevant, obnoxious, immature, creative and loud. If not now, when? We are supposed to produce noise only when the sign says "noise," to give each other "high fives,"

also as instructed, and to cheer the same innocuous cheers until we are blue in the face (if not in our hearts). Some people might ask if we have to sink to the level of the Duke fans to get some real support generated for what we all hope will be a national championship team. I would answer that the Duke students have set the standard for fan support for the country. Sink to their level, hell! Let's do a little climbing.

JOHN SHIELDS
 Senior
 History/Biology

Letters policy

■ All letters and columns must be signed by the author, with a limit of two signatures per letter or column. Students should submit name, year in school, major and phone number. Other members of the University community should provide relevant information.

■ All letters must be typed, double-spaced on a 60-space line, for ease of editing. A maximum of 250 words is optimal.

■ The DTH reserves the right to edit for clarity, vulgarity, disparity and verbosity.

Big turnout doesn't make protest

Tuesday, the Pit About 35 people have been standing in a line facing Lenior for about half an hour, demonstrating for peace in Nicaragua. Fewer were here earlier, and they have grown in numbers by convincing friends walking by to come and stand with them.

The sign in front of them says, "Join us for a 24-hour fast and/or vigil (12 to 1 today) for peace in Nicaragua." One girl leaves the crowd to talk to a friend.

"Are you in a hurry? We need you to stand here."

"Well, yes I've got a . . . I can come back. How long are you going to be here?"

The girl looks confused for a moment as she goes back to join the line. "Um . . . an hour."

Earlier the people in line were standing close together, but they're spaced farther apart now to take up more space. Most of them try to look angry, but a few talk with the people standing next to them. One person smokes.

Another girl calls to a friend, "What are you doing at one?"

"Absolutely nothing."

She motions for him to come join the line. He balks for a moment, then he ceremoniously walks the three steps into the Pit and takes a place in line. He takes a sign describing the practices of the U.S. Army in South America during the last 25 years.

Another holds a sign saying, "It's 1987. Do you know where your Army is?" Part of the Army is in the crowd. Seeing someone taking notes, he comes over and wants to tell his side. He wears a U.S. Army camouflage jacket with a patch that says

Scrambled eggs



"Jungle expert."

He's spent a year with the Army in Central America in 1984 ("mostly doing intelligence work," he says). He says he can't talk about most of it because it's classified, but says the people he met were almost always glad to see him.

"I've never been hugged so much in my life," he says. "They just wanted to say 'thanks for being here.'"

Over by the Union, a Student Television crew videotapes a WRAL crew videotaping Susan Dahlin and Rick Williams for "PM Magazine."

The next day, reports in the paper will say the demonstration was successful because so many people turned out to protest.

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Last week, snow removal Students brave enough to attend class last week were less hampered by the roads than they were by the campus' brickpaths. Careful observers noted a disturbing set of snow removal priorities on the campus.

Brickpath shoveling, or scraping, seemed to start around South Building, extending only to the north. By late last Tuesday the only walkways cleared were the ones leading

from parking lots near Olde Campus to administration buildings and a few classrooms.

The same pattern was followed last Wednesday, except walkways from staff parking lots and class building steps were cleared by evening.

Also, walkways leading to the Smith Center were cleared by gametime Wednesday, allowing fans to park and walk to the game at their leisure. Several South Campus dorm residents were not afforded the same courtesy.

But the brickpaths used by students to get to and from class, notably the ones crisscrossing the South Lawn, were not cleared until the sun had done most of the labor-intensive work. It's clear students are a heartier breed more able to risk life and limb on the ice.

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Wednesday, South Lawn Aside from the predominant flora and fauna now beginning to erupt with the spring temperature, a new form of campus wildlife was spotted last week. A bunny rabbit was seen hopping across the South Lawn in the evening. The small fuzzy brown creature is a welcome addition to our campus, unless it takes up the squirrelish habit of pushing up bricks on the sidewalks to trip unsuspecting humans.

Scrambled eggs, a nutritional part of your complete breakfast.