

The Daily Tar Heel

95th year of editorial freedom

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Editorials

Parking plans net trouble

John McEnroe would be mortified. Eight South Campus tennis courts may be scrapped and replaced by a parking lot, according to a proposal by the UNC athletic department and the Rams Club.

The Hinton James courts are in better condition than any others at UNC, and are the most widely used on campus. If the University approves the proposal to destroy them, South Campus students, who comprise over half of all UNC dormitory residents, would lose the bulk of the tennis courts convenient to their area of campus.

The \$450,000 proposal provides for constructing two additional courts next to the ones behind Cobb Residence Hall. Cramming more tennis courts into that area would take up student parking space, which is already scarce.

The proposed lot would accommodate Rams Club members who want personal parking spaces when they attend athletic events at the Smith Center.

But the Smith Center is already surrounded by parking areas specifically for its illustrious financial

supporters, and a parking deck is also being built to provide more spaces for them.

With the present parking system, Rams Club members are allocated specific spaces based on the amount of money they contribute to the University. And if alumni don't show up for games, no one else can use their spaces. That includes other alumni who were promised spaces and haven't gotten them yet, as well as students and faculty members who must park near the hospital or walk from campus.

Instead of designating a numbered slot for an alumnus to park, the University could assign parking areas based on rank — allowing the largest contributors to park in the area closest to the Smith Center, the next highest contributors to park in the next closest lot, and so on — with a provision that right before game time, other alumni would be allowed to fill empty spaces.

University officials are looking for a plan to ease parking woes of alumni contributors while suiting the interests of students. They say they are still in the information gathering process, and are looking at other options. Surely they can find a better way to appease the desires of the Rams Club without forcing the students to make an unneeded and unfair sacrifice.

A lesson on the Town Council

In the past couple of months, the Chapel Hill Town Council has shown that it knows enough about students and their allegedly rowdy ways to ban Burnout and change the noise ordinance. Unfortunately, the town council's in-depth knowledge is not matched by student knowledge of city government. To alleviate this gap, the following town council primer has been prepared:

First, it's key for students to register to vote in Chapel Hill. Council members, like any other politicians, take people seriously who can remove them from office. There are several sites around Chapel Hill where one can register, including the municipal building and public library. Or if exam pressure prevents students from registering now, they can wait until fall semester drop/add, when student government plans to have a voter registration table at the drop/add site.

Second, students could attend town council meetings, which are held the second, third and fourth Monday of every month. Perhaps student government could appoint a liaison to monitor the town council and muster student support at meetings that

involve student interests, such as the one held Monday night concerning the noise ordinance.

Finally, if students are ambitious enough, they could run for mayor and for town council. This year, as in every odd-numbered year, four of the eight seats and the mayoral position are open for re-election.

In 1985, the last time mayoral and town council elections were held, the margin of victory in the mayoral race was 455 votes, or about the half the number of people who live on Olde Campus. This margin was 7 percent of the total turnout.

The town council election is an "at-large" contest, meaning that voters may vote for up to four different candidates out of the field. In 1985, the winning totals of the four elected town council members ranged between 2,786 and 4,272, totals small enough for students to significantly affect the outcome.

Students don't need to storm the Municipal Building to get noticed. The only thing necessary is a systematic effort that would harness student numbers to influence Chapel Hill's government. — C.C.

non sequitur

The 'Hail to the Chief' quiz

Sept. 16, 1986. Pete du Pont, former governor of Delaware, declares his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination. This seemingly innocent announcement marks the beginning of Campaign '88, over two years before the general election.

The marathon process by which this nation elects presidents confirms the great non sequitur rule of politics: the longer the process by which a candidate is chosen, the more likely the candidate will be mediocre or worse.

Consider the following list. These men are the five presidents who have served in the lifetime of most UNC undergrads. Just as a harmless exercise, try and pick the one who has done the most good (or least harm) to the country. (Answer at bottom).

A) Lyndon Johnson Texas wheeler-dealer who became multi-millionaire on congressman's salary. Increased American involvement in Vietnam on a false pretext, leading to his decision not to seek a second term in 1968.

B) Richard Nixon Set up ping-pong matches between the United States and China while plotting to undermine Constitution. Can be expected from a graduate of Duke Law School.

C) Gerald Ford Thrust into office following Nixon's resignation, Ford set a

record by falling down the stairs on four separate continents. Will be mostly remembered for launching Chevy Chase's career.

D) Jimmy Carter In only significant military engagement of career, Carter lost a skirmish to a crazed rabbit who attacked his fishing boat. His lack of will caused The Disco Crisis of 1977, leading to disastrous foreign infiltration by the Bee Gees.

E) Ronald Reagan As part of hands-off leadership style, gave lieutenant colonels unprecedented authority to conduct foreign affairs. Believer in strong family values, which explains why he dumped Jane Wyman for Nancy and why he has such wonderful children.

The correct answer is C, Gerald Ford. Sadly enough, by not screwing up like his four competitors, Ford wins the non sequitur award as the best president of our lifetimes.

Each of these five men were elected after a lengthy and exhaustive process. Forget the junior high civics books with their paean to the democratic process. The presidential campaign has been transformed somewhere along the line into a multi-year made-for-TV spectacular, designed to entertain rather than select. Perhaps the president's theme song should be changed from "Hail to the Chief" to "Send in the Clowns."

Readers' Forum

This time will never come again

Richard Marvill
 Guest Writer

Seniors, our time has come at last. On May 10, under our beautiful blue heaven, years of midterms, all-nighters, dull readings, long papers and longer lectures will finally come to a stop. And for some, like myself, it's been a couple more years than the customary four. But that will only make graduation all the more sweet.

As I spend my last month as a Carolina student I discover that when one is about to enter college, nobody warns quite emphatically enough that almost no experience will create as much change. We don't leave the same person we came in as.

When I arrived in 1981, I fell in love with the campus and Chapel Hill. Since then, the spirit that is Carolina, rising perhaps from the very earth on which it stands, has permeated every part of me. And though Carolina is, I suppose, a major university, I have never considered it so. For being so large, it exhibits a remarkable illusion of smallness.

In its heart, there is the depth of the campus. Classrooms and libraries, laboratories and stages. Venable Hall stands as an aching maze of halls that could only house scientific research. The legend that is Old East is the cornerstone of Carolina's history. And Davis Library, which, if entered, seems to trap you and inject you with the desire to fill your head with knowledge.

Serving as endpoints, or beginning points, for this hub are two domed and majestic edifices — the Smith Center, where stars are born, and Morehead Planetarium, where stars are discovered. Add to all of this an atmosphere of warmth and friendliness and you get the feeling that this place is home.

There is so much in my five and a half years here that has added a little more blue

to my blood.

The people: Here I have met those who will become my lifelong friends and one who will be my lifelong companion. With all, I have shared part of myself, and they with me, and all of us with our campus.

I have witnessed the legacies of Nietzsche, Frank Winstead, Lump, Wacko and Billy Warden.

The place: Here I have walked the same brick paths as Thomas Wolfe; would that I could truly follow in his footsteps. And here I have taken part in the biggest celebration this town has ever seen. The moment when Michael Jordan hit The Shot is forever frozen in my mind. The party on Franklin Street was a delicious mixture of Budweiser and blue paint. Nothing could be finer.

And yet, as much as I have loved Carolina, I have hated it.

For it is here that we enroll in a four-year, no credit course — Life 101. Exams are rarely objective; failures are many; rewards few. It is not only the most important course of all, but the most challenging and demanding. It is what changes everyone who passes through. It is only when the course is nearly completed that it is understood. Perhaps only much later before it is appreciated.

And there is a lot I won't miss come May 10.

I will not miss blue books, computer sheets or essay questions. Nor will I miss trying to find somewhere to park on this

campus. The money the traffic office collects for a day's worth of parking tickets could easily have paid my tuition for a year.

I will not miss the Carolina Dining Service, which will always be the Pine Room no matter what they call it. I will not miss Drop/Add. Nor will I miss Bynum Hall or being ripped off at the bookstore. And finally, above all else, I will not miss standing in line.

But all the struggling, all the obstacles and all the pain only seem to make this place more special when they are overcome. While I spend my final days here, I will recall much more than I will miss when it's over.

Sliding down a sidewalk thick with ice, riding a cafeteria tray. Hearing a James Taylor concert at Carmichael. Watching the girls of summer. Catching a baseball game on a breezy spring afternoon. Staying up all night with good friends. Enjoying the harmony and humor of the Clef Hangers. Seeing Mark Maye find the open receiver for a touchdown. Feeling pride and love that all this and more is a part of my Carolina.

There is much that I have regretted doing, and more that I regret not doing, but it's been a great ride. I have learned a lot, but only a small fraction from lectures. Of course, now that I have figured out how things work, I must be going.

This Mother's Day I'll wear that blue gown with a satisfied smile. But when it's all over, if you should catch me with tears in my eyes, it's because I'll know then: That although it's been sweet, this time will never come again.

Richard Marvill is a senior journalism and psychology major who, from now on, is from Chapel Hill.

Attend concert for SASF

To the editor:
 Tonight from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at He's Not Here, the South African Scholarship Fund (SASF) will host a benefit concert featuring the Pressure Boys, the Smoking Phones and Billy Warden and the Floating Children. On behalf of the entire SASF committee, we invite you to attend.

The SASF is a Campus Y committee first organized in the spring of 1986 to establish a scholarship fund for financially disadvantaged black South African students. Our goal is \$100,000, an amount sufficient to enable six South African blacks to attend the more adequately funded "white" universities. Thanks to the generosity of UNC faculty, staff, students, alumni and others, we now have \$54,000.

Obviously, we still have a ways to go, but maybe not so far as it seems. When the scholarship fund was established, the Board of Trustees agreed to match every contribution we received up to the \$100,000 limit. Thus, when you come to He's Not Here and pay the \$2 cover charge, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that in effect you've contributed \$4; rarely will a dollar count for so much.

A good cause and a good time; everyone can identify with at least one. However, this Thursday, you can have them both. Your contributions will not only benefit the recipients in South Africa and help foster peaceful change through education, but also your attendance will show that the University of North Carolina is concerned about South Africa and is actively involved in helping to end apartheid.

Once again, we enthusiastically invite you to join with us in making a statement against apartheid and for education and equality in South Africa. We can make a difference; attend the South African Scholarship Fund's benefit concert, bring your friends, and have a



good time in the name of a good cause.

RICHARD HOILE
 Senior
 Political Science

DANIEL KRESS
 Graduate
 Economics

Springtime ramblings

To the editor:
 The random thoughts of an in-state sophomore male student at Carolina from The Dick Young Sporting News School of Journalism: The anti-call waiting editorial ("Hang up on call waiting," April 3) shows the conservative, old-fashioned and anti-progressive bent of The Daily Tar Heel staff. Last year, the DTH came out against the pristine sound of the compact disc player in favor of scratchy, hissy records. This year you have come out against not missing any calls in lieu of missing calls. Sure, one may be momentarily inconvenienced by being put on hold, but so what? Common courtesy holds that no one holds another for more than ten seconds, tops. If

your friends put you on hold any longer, the fault is with them, and not the technology. The editorial would have been better served if it had been against discourtesy on the phone, not against call-waiting. . . . The mayor and town of Chapel Hill seem to have a collective attitude problem. They ignore the fact there would be no town here if it were not for the University and, heaven forbid, the students. I urge all students to register to vote in the Chapel Hill area and to exercise their right to displace public officials. . . . There is nothing better than a cold beer, good music, good friends and being outside in the sun. . . . College is awesome. It's also a great incentive to study. I have to get at least good enough grades so they'll let me come back next semester and enjoy college again. . . . Let's get the government off everybody's back. Let's have the 65 speed limit law, let's have an 18- or 19-year-old drinking age, let's allow the church to teach religion and the schools to teach everything else, with no overlap of responsibilities. Let's make farmers compete in the real marketplace and stop subsidizing idle fields, bad debt and tobacco growing. There are

many more important and fairer places to spend money, like on education and scientific research and maybe even let people keep a little more of what they earn or at least get the government out of hock. Let's keep America great; let's get rid of all artificial turf on all playing surfaces everywhere. Let's grow some grass on the main quad and on other dust bowl areas on campus. Let's quit complaining about brick paths and start walking on the ones we have now so we won't need any more paths later on. Let's get the truth out of Ollie North and the other high ranking officials and lock 'em up where they belong. Let's all go see the Tar Heel lax and baseball teams play and sneak in your favorite brew with your best babe or dude. Let's all question authority every chance we get to try to make this campus, this country, this world a better place to live. Break the status quo and start a new standard. . . . I'll be proud if this elicits tons of response. . . . I love the spring.

DAVID K. WILLIAMS JR.
 Sophomore
 Economics

Think before you speak, or drop the issue

To the editor:
 John Hood's column ("CGLA funding is student tyranny," April 15) shows the same ignorant, speak-before-you-think hypocrisy of Rick Spargo's letter ("Southern man bids farewell to liberalism," April 13). However, Hood's logic is not just ill-founded, it is backward.

Hood states, "When the Student Congress decides to fund a certain organization, it is forcing students to support views they may or may not agree with. Don't let anyone simply revel in the triumph of majority rule. Surely (the) advocates of civil liberty understand the danger a majority can pose to a minority, and the necessity for a constitutional safeguard of liberty."

Hood, the only mentality being "forced" on people like you and Spargo is the mentality of tolerance. Look it up. Every self-proclaimed Christian (or humanitarian) should pay close attention to such a word. Tolerance does not mean accepting hate-filled tyranny; it means simply tolerating differences of opinion and yes, religious and

sexual beliefs. One has the right (or should) to practice homosexuality or atheism or even Satan-worshipping, but not, of course, if it infringes on another's rights. I do not mean the "rights" you and Spargo speak of; I mean, a devil worshipper does not have the right to kidnap children for human sacrifices. It goes along the line of, "The freedom of speech does not give one the right to shout 'Fire' in a crowded movie theater."

Mr. Hood, you call anyone who is a CGLA-funding advocate a child of Hitler or the like. Please define that sentence you had used earlier, "Don't let anyone simply revel in the triumph of majority rule." Do I sense the babbling of a child of the man whose intolerance for a different religion was only surpassed by his intolerance for an alternative sexual lifestyle? I thought so. . . .

You understand the need for protecting the minority from oppression by the majority, but you see no comparison to the majority of heterosexuals possibly oppress-

ing the minority (homosexuals) by defunding their support group. Should we defund the Rape Action Project (if it is funded) for the benefit of the percentage of men on campus capable of rape? I think your problem, and the problem of those petitioning students, is that you believe you are inherently right in your beliefs. Is homosexuality a sin, a universal taboo? Is a homosexual capable of changing this behaviour, if he/she wanted to? I would suggest, since you are at UNC to learn, that you do some checking up on these things. You will probably be surprised.

Please, everyone, let's drop this issue and get on with something I think may be more important in the long run — getting along with your fellow human beings.

JANE ALEXANDER
 Freshman
 Business