

The Daily Tar Heel

96th year of editorial freedom

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UNICEF needs cash, not carrots

There are children dying in the world as you read this sentence. Another child will die before you finish reading this one. Yes, these statements are designed to shock you, to move you to action.

They are similar to the ones that your parents used to throw around. "Eat your carrots. Don't you know there are children starving in Africa?" Typical responses included a detailed plan to send the carrots — more than anyone could possibly eat — in zip-lock bags to those who so desperately needed them. But no matter what the plan, we all ended up eating those carrots.

The fact of the matter is that we did want to help. This problem, as with other world issues, was simply too large to address on an individual scale. There had to be a way to bring it down to a level that was manageable. Now, students have a chance to help those who need it *there* through individual actions *here*.

UNICEF Week, sponsored by the Campus Y's UNICEF committee, ends tomorrow. The money collected this week on campus, along with funds raised from the committee's holiday card sales last winter, will go directly to aid children in the Third World.

UNICEF — the United Nations Children's Fund — focuses on education and immunization to help save the world's children. The United Nations has set a goal of immunizing

all children by the year 1990. The goal, once thought impossible, is within reach through consistent efforts. It now saves more than 1.3 million lives a year.

But three million children still die every year from dehydration caused by diarrheal disease. A new technique developed in the last two decades, oral rehydration, is a simple and cost-effective means to curb the problem. While 600,000 children are now being saved with this method, this is not enough. With further education, as many as seven million more could be saved.

We all used to take around those bright orange cardboard boxes on Halloween, collecting money for UNICEF, as well as candy for ourselves. It seemed a part of the holiday, somehow justifying our huge bounty at the end of the night.

Over the past two nights, committee members — without the costumes — have canvassed residence halls for donations in a similar way. They have collected more than \$250 so far, and will be coming around again tonight and tomorrow. In addition, the group will be in the Pit all day Thursday, spelling out UNICEF on the floor of the Pit using double-sided tape. They are asking students to fill in the letters with any spare change they have.

It sure beats filling zip-lock bags with carrots. — **Bill Yelverton**

Winning the war against bricks

Have you ever been to N.C. State University? If so, have you noticed that everything is brick, concrete and asphalt — even the ground? Have you noticed that it's very ugly? Little to no grass, vegetation or any other sort of plant life grows between the bricks.

Now, contrast the red-orange-brown of State to the luscious green of Carolina. Think of McCorkle Place with its rolling, fresh green lawn and stately trees. Think of the arboretum with its abundance of beautiful vegetation. Now, think of what Carolina would look like if it were paved over in brick. That's right: it would look like State.

UNC officials don't want our campus to look like a brickyard. To stop the tide of bricks, the University is reseeding and fertilizing campus grounds — especially the dirt paths that form because students do not use existing brick walkways. When dirt paths stay long enough, the University puts brick over them. The more dirt, the more bricks. The more like State.

Most UNC students are happy to be surrounded by an attractive campus, with plenty of green lawns on which to sunbathe, throw Frisbees or just take naps. But if they don't stop making dirt paths that inevitably become brick paths, those green lawns won't last long.

It's true that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. It's also true that most brick paths at UNC seem determined to defy this simple fact, winding all over campus before arriving at any destination.

But if students left for class just a few minutes sooner, they could take time to wander on the brick walkways — and stay off the dirt paths. This would not only save the University money — officials spend \$42,000 to \$43,000 annually on reseeding — but would also help to preserve the beauty of the campus.

According to a recent report, the UNC Physical Plant needs an additional \$11 million for each of the next 10 years to catch up on its repair and renovation projects. No one seems to know where this money will come from. Interestingly enough, the funds for reseeding and all landscaping projects are included in the Physical Plant's operating fund.

By using the brick paths, students could save the University thousands of dollars per year — dollars that could be used to fund much-needed renovation projects for other parts of the University.

This is a chance for you to do something to improve your environment. It's quite simple: keep off the grass. — **Amy Hamilton**

The Daily Tar Heel

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This existence is real life? Hardly

Ian Williams

Wednesday's Child

Well, here we are in college, still very young and impressionable. Two decades ago most of us weren't even on the planet yet, 16 years ago we were still waking up in an embarrassingly wet bed, and 10 years ago we were really pissed off when we missed Bernadette spin her arms on another tawdry episode of Zoom.

But now we sit in little circles and discuss our pertinent feelings on God, romance, sex, nature and philosophy, and the worst part of it is that we believe everything we're saying! It's awfully easy to pseudo-intellectualize ourselves into little balls of college play-doh, in a vain attempt to "find ourselves." Lord knows, if I found myself, I'd put myself right back.

College, for most people, is still a playground — where else could you have this lifestyle without parental restraint, taxes, insurance or any problems of the real world? Some people will never be as happy as they are now.

Yet imagine if college were the real world, and everything we do day-to-day here would carry on to the rest of our lives. We could live in the dorm forever! Think of it: Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas unwrapping, visits from the relatives — we could raise children and grow old and happy, all under the auspices of University housing. Of course, these Thanksgiving dinners would be cooked without the aid

of the dreaded Open Coil Heaters, but I'm sure a microwaved Butterball turkey has an aura all its own. And all the kids would grow up without Satan's Wire, the illegal two-pronged zipcord. They would live a life of peace, happiness and three-pronged spreaders.

To get a job, we wouldn't need qualifications or skills; we would simply *rush* them like a fraternity or a sorority. We would wear nametags with our name and hometown on them and waltz around to each company, talking about what high school we went to and what good books we've read lately. The big bid night would come, and all the cute people would get to be doctors and lawyers, while all the ugly ones would end up as plumbers and toll booth operators.

Then, everybody would have these wonderful mixers — the accountants and nurses would go on drunken hay rides, the dentists and actresses would have a pledge formal with a cool band — topped off by a wonderfully disgusting initiation for all.

Have you ever felt uncomfortable

talking to someone who was a hell of a lot smarter than you? In this new world, people themselves would have prerequisites. As a man, you would approach a lovely young lady and ask her out for dinner. "I'm sorry," she would reply sternly, "you need to take Psych 10 before you come to any of my dinners." Perhaps you could sit in and audit the relationship before she finally let you in. Personally, I know you have to take Drama 35 to talk to my mother.

So once you've established a relationship, why not take it pass/fail? What would be better in a romance than to be free of evaluation? Our sexual performance, sensitivity and affection would be rated in the simplest binary fashion. And if things got rough, we could fill out the appropriate forms, take them to Hanes Hall and drop the relationship. After all, what is divorce but the ultimate act of drop/add?

Well, now that I've thoroughly disgusted myself, I shall go back to my little college world and continue to philosophize myself into a trapezoid. I would go into the TV room and try to find myself, but I don't think Zoom is on anymore.

Ian Williams is a junior music and psychology major from Los Angeles who still hates Eddy Grant, no matter what anybody says.

Readers' Forum

Resolutions can work

To the editor:

As authors of the Student Congress resolutions in support of AIDS education (Small) and increasing the staff of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (Davis) mentioned in Bill Yelverton's editorial of April 8 ("Student congress talk is cheap"), we'd like to take this opportunity to answer a few of his concerns.

Yelverton is correct in his assessment that resolutions unbacked by action are essentially frivolous. This has been a concern of Congress for some time, and in the spirit of professionalism championed by Speaker Neil Riemann and exemplified by the recent revision of the Student Code, we are keenly aware of the efforts necessary in research and implementation of such proposals. We agree that staffers would be of benefit in these efforts. However, in an atmosphere where the majority of congress candidates ran unopposed, we challenge Yelverton to find 27 students on this campus to serve in such a capacity. Diogenes had it easy!

It also seems to escape Yelverton that the formation of committees is not the only way of handling of the problem. In the case of the bill for AIDS education, every student group on campus has been contacted, and those contacts have resulted in seminars and other distribution of information to groups such as Chi Omega sorority and the CGLA. In addition, this resolution has been disseminated by the CGLA to a national network of student organizations where it can serve as a working model for concerned groups at other schools. As the Undergraduate Admissions resolution was passed less than a week ago, we have not yet had time to



Trapper Sam

make a difference, but plans are being made. Yelverton chides congress for inadequate research when he couldn't pick up the phone and ask us what we were doing to try and make these proposals effective.

On a campus where apathy is so pervasive that a 30 percent turnout in a campus election is perceived as a major victory, and the administration is notoriously insensitive to student concerns, Yelverton is right when he asserts that as many people as possible are needed to help make things better. This is difficult to do, even under the best of circumstances. What is very easy to do is sit in one's ivory tower and take uninformed potshots at those who are trying.

GENE DAVIS
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Awareness prevents rape

To the editor:

Rape and sexual assault are widespread problems on this campus and throughout our society. Because the victim's experience is so traumatic, one would expect individuals to inform themselves about this especially devastating crime. Unfortunately, such is not the case: misinformation about the issue abounds, leading people to incorrect and highly damaging assumptions about rapists and rape victims.

One of the most prevalent misconceptions focuses on rape as a crime committed in a dark alley by some demented pervert armed with a gun. While these terrible experiences do occur, they are far less frequent than rape by someone the victim knows: boyfriend, date, neighbor, classmate, co-worker, father, even husband. Particularly for college women, date and acquaintance rape are far

more widespread problems. While this phenomenon is virtually impossible to quantify exactly, figures show that as many as one in three of us will have experienced some form of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault before graduating from this university.

First and foremost, preventing rapes involves changing societal attitudes and values. We must recognize that, by definition, no woman wants to be raped: rape is sex against her will. We must educate men to assume that no always means no and not to take a potential sex partner's consent for granted. Women should be applauded for assertively communicating their feelings about what they want — and do not want — from a relationship or sexual encounter. Finally, when this education fails, society must support the victim and blame the rapist, not the other way around.

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CGLA funding has student support

Mark Donahue
Guest Writer

Once again, it is time to respond to the rantings of the uninformed on the issue of funding for the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association (CGLA). The latest mental casualty is Christopher Morgan, who in his April 11 letter, "Listen to majority views on CGLA," spouted the invariable "conservative" (read *bigoted*) argument that somehow CGLA members have "extorted" student fees from morally upright, virtuous students — such as Morgan — and have used the money for immoral and/or illegal purposes. I intend to argue that this concept of "extortion" is invalid, illogical and deceitful.

Consider, if you will, Morgan's mistaken belief, presumably based on the CGLA referendum results, that a democratic majority of students feel that funding the CGLA is "wrong." This is incorrect. The only definite conclusion that one can draw from the referendum is that 58 percent of the student body opposed funding while 42 percent supported it, thereby nullifying Morgan's portrayal of a "silent minority" of gay support on campus.

Actually, the 2,285 students who voted to support funding for CGLA gave a more unified and concise message than those who opposed funding. Why? Because there was no gauge to determine how students felt about funding for all other funded groups or how many students were voting strictly economics. Note that voters also rejected a \$1.25 increase in student fees by a margin of 2,637 to 2,538, and 1,765 students opposed giving Student Television money for new equipment. However, no one would argue that 1,765 students feel that student-operated television is "wrong." Neither can it be argued that most

religious denomination — who would disagree with you and back it up with scripture.

It is also preposterous to presume, as Morgan does, that educating students on issues of homosexuality is "forcing . . . beliefs upon students." Neither is this the case when professors challenge you in the classroom. If you come to this University expecting not to have your beliefs or attitudes shaken or challenged, then it might be psychologically beneficial for you to transfer to, say, Oral Roberts University or Liberty Baptist College.

Lastly, I must refute Morgan's wrong-headed notion that CGLA has no right to "take" student fees. Firstly, student fees are granted and regulated, not "taken." Secondly, perhaps it has not crossed Morgan's mind that gays and lesbians also pay student fees, and that CGLA is actually receiving money that its members have already dutifully paid in the form of student fees. With 42 percent of the student body supporting funding for CGLA, it could be strongly argued that CGLA is being funded at an abnormally low level in consideration of its broad base of support. Thirdly, I would admonish Christopher Morgan to actually read the 1st and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution so that he may fully understand that freedom of speech and due process are precisely what he is seeking to abolish.

Mark Donahue is a senior political science major from Indian Trail and editor of "Lambda," the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association newsletter.