

Opinion

BOG's business is not SSC

In its meeting last Friday, the UNC Board of Governors unanimously approved a resolution supporting North Carolina's efforts to bring the Superconducting Super Collider to the state. That action leads to one simple question: Why?

In the first place, the BOG should stick to issues directly affecting the university system. The resolution says the super collider, a research project in which protons are smashed into smaller particles in a 53-mile underground tunnel to study the creation of matter, would make the state "the world center for research in physics." But while the jobs and research it could bring to the state are important and would have some effect on the education students receive, those results are indirect.

More importantly, the BOG completely and blatantly overlooked the vast number of concerns voiced by residents who live near the proposed sites of the project, except to say that it "would pose no significant hazards to the health and safety of the citizens of the state."

Residents of Durham, Person and Granville counties have spoken against the proposed sites near their homes in town meetings

with the support of some county commissioners. Their concerns include the effect of the project on water quality, because the sites are near major watersheds, and the amounts of toxic and radioactive waste produced in the tunnel.

But when a BOG member noted that opposition, board member Irwin Belk replied, "Well, you can't make a blind man see, can you?"

That kind of statement and lack of concern for other points of view could make one wonder who the blind man is that Belk spoke of. Certainly the residents' opposition to the project should be only one of many factors in deciding where the project will ultimately go, but it is definitely more important than Belk suggests.

UNC-system officials have the right to an interest in the final location of the super collider, as the proposed locations would be close to both UNC and N.C. State University and would have an effect on their research programs. But they should let North Carolina's politicians play the politics necessary to win the project, and keep their minds on the pressing problems within the system. There is more than enough to keep them busy without taking the time to pass this sort of resolution.

Rape in the sixth grade

In a recent Rhode Island survey of 1,700 sixth- to ninth-graders, 65 percent of the boys and 57 percent of the girls said it is acceptable for a man to force a woman to have sex if they have been dating for more than six months. Eighty-seven percent of the boys and 79 percent of the girls said rape is OK if the man and woman are married.

And almost one-fourth of the boys and one-sixth of the girls said it was acceptable for a man to force a woman to have sex if he has spent a lot of money on her. "A lot," to these students, was less than \$15.

If those numbers seem frightening, good. They should frighten anyone who has seen the massive efforts that have been made in recent years to educate young students about violence against women and all kinds of sexual abuse. The students in this survey, as a matter of fact, were attending the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center's assault awareness program in school.

Why haven't these messages gotten through to the students? While a part of the problem may be that they don't fully understand the emotional impact of sex, there seems to be more of a societal reason for the students' responses. Children are exposed daily to

sex in connection with violence on TV and in movies. And it is that visual exposure, more than any other factor, that is responsible for the message these students have received and believed.

While shows with explicit sex and violence used to be reserved for late-night programming, they are now shown from early afternoon on. With soap operas and the extensive use of prime-time shows as afternoon reruns, students can receive fairly explicit messages from the minute they return from school.

It's hard for college-age students to identify with the sex education these students get; many didn't know what rape really was in sixth grade. But since children are now forced to grow up fast when they're taught about sexual abuse, it seems they should know what rape really means and understand the horrifying problems it creates.

So it's unfortunate and frightening that we must wait for college and college demonstrations to alert students to the implications of this violence. The messages that should be getting through long before college continue to be overshadowed by the impact of a few producers after a quick buck.

Reader's Forum

Republican rhetoric polarizes party

To the editor:

I am a N.C. college-age Republican. I support many of the domestic programs initiated by Republican leaders, and I also back the re-election campaign of Gov. Jim Martin. However, I have recently become concerned over some of the tactics employed by Republicans in addressing communism and communist expansion.

Often these Republicans present world issues as a battle between good (Ronald Reagan and the American conservatives) versus evil (Mikhail Gorbachev, Daniel Ortega and all the other cruel communists). My fear is that the Republicans are saying our relationship with communists will be a never-ending struggle, and armed

conflict is the only way to deal with communism.

For example, the N.C. Federation of College Republicans supports the "Reagan Doctrine" and its belief that "the United States is the only nation capable of preventing the Soviet Union from conquering any more countries, killing any more innocent people and enslaving any more people behind iron curtains."

According to these Republicans, communists are basically out to conquer, to kill and to enslave innocent people. By this vicious name-calling, any atmosphere for communication or healthy dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union is destroyed.

I'm glad we have the freedom in

our country to allow people to express their concerns about our globe. I also find it extremely important that the United States monitor the Soviets and that we not allow them to take over the world militarily.

But much of the literature and rhetoric coming from the Republican Party seems intent on polarizing our world and drawing up battle lines where we're given no option but a confrontation with the Soviets. I hope other young Republicans realize the militant stands influential Republicans in our state take when addressing communism.

DONALD JONAS
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Parking no picnic

To the editor:

The parking restraints at this University have gotten completely out of hand. For a university that claims to be dedicated to service and development of the students, these parking restraints only take away from that development.

Recently, the ticketing period was extended from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This makes libraries and evening classes inaccessible to many off-campus students because they have nowhere to park.

Furthermore, the shift in the Cobb parking lot from student to faculty parking forces residents of surrounding dorms to wind up with permits across campus. This pushes the on-campus student into the off-campus students' lots, reducing the amount of lots available to students.

Still another problem lies in the construction of the new Craige parking lot designed for students. The price of parking permits will have to be raised in order to cover construction costs. This pushes parking permits into the hands of only the rich students who can afford to pay the extremely high prices of the permits.

The only way to get the University to negotiate is to gather enough people together into a force. By massive letter-writing and phone calls to University officials, students may be able to induce a change.

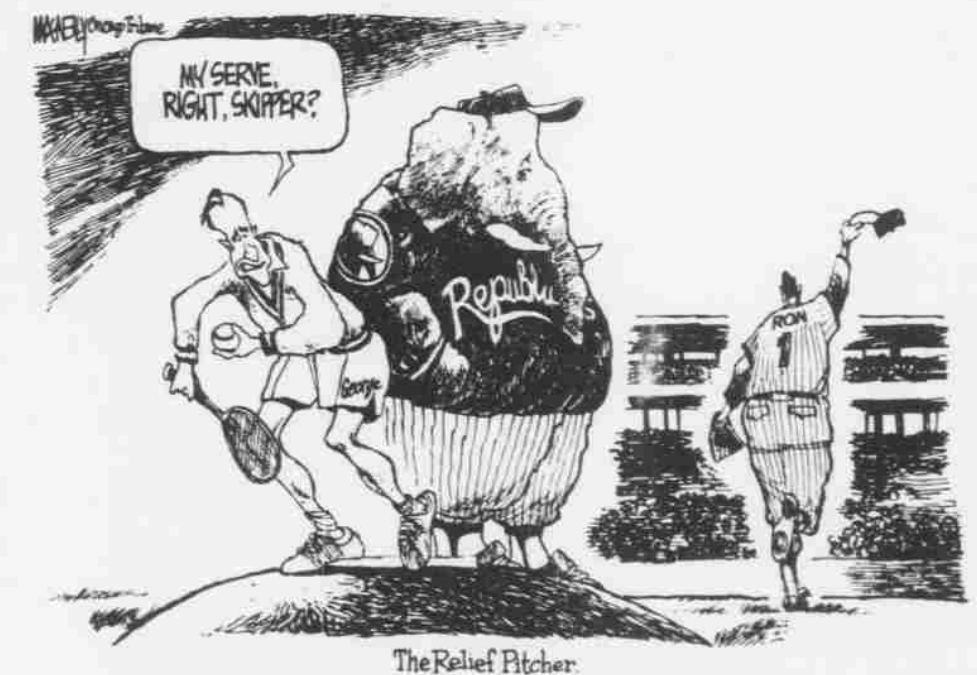
MARTY WELCH
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Public Relations/Speech

Equal rights for Northerners

To the editor:

I would like to express my concern about a problem I feel many "Northerners" can relate to. That problem is Southern police who discriminate against Northerners attending Southern universities. This is a problem that north-of-the-Mason-Dixon-line students such as myself are suffering.

Two weeks ago, I got pulled over



The Relief Pitcher



for going 61 mph in a 55-mph zone. I would understand the ticket if it came without the anti-Northern comments the trooper insisted on giving while looking at my Pennsylvania driver's license.

After he drilled me on what I was doing down here and found I was a student at UNC, he mumbled that being here was "the only thing ya' got going' for ya'." I don't plan on arguing the ticket, but I shouldn't have to give an explanation for why I'm in a part of my own country!

Another brief example came when my moped was stolen over the summer. A Chapel Hill officer refused to come in my house to see

where it had been when it was stolen, reasoning that it was registered in Pennsylvania, not North Carolina. I just hope if it ever becomes something more severe than a traffic ticket or theft I will be provided with equal treatment as those born in Dixie.

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