

# The Daily Tar Heel

96th year of editorial freedom

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## Get out of bed Wednesday

Fall break is over, but students who need a little more time to adjust to the grind will be relieved to know classes are canceled tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The nice midday break is not an excuse to sleep late. It's not a continuation of fall break. Instead, it's an annual event — a holiday!

But it is not a person's birthday that will close down virtually every department on campus; it is a thing's: the University's.

The cornerstone of Old East, the University's first building, was laid on Oct. 12, 1793, just four years after the University was chartered. University Day was first celebrated in 1877.

But the day marks much more than the birthday of an old residence hall. The all-day holiday has been the traditional date for installing new chancellors. Former Chancellor Christopher Fordham was installed on University Day in 1980, and his successor, Paul Hardin, will be installed tomorrow.

The Distinguished Alumnus Awards have been presented to outstanding alumni on University Day since 1971. This year, five very talented and diverse individuals — Edward Bilpuch, Gail Godwin, Richard Knight, Thomas Lambeth and Roger Mudd — will be honored.

## One for all and all for one

If you don't belong to a student organization, especially a fraternity or sorority, then perhaps you haven't noticed. Thousands of campus groups, however, are getting the word from college administrators: "Animal House" is out.

Across the nation for the past several years, the watchword on college campuses has been "organizational responsibility." The term simply means that a group is accountable for actions committed in its house or by its members during functions. The results can be seen in dry rushes, hazing restrictions and guest lists.

This trend became a shock wave, though, when the University of Alabama suspended Sigma Alpha Epsilon, the oldest fraternal chapter of the University and the mother chapter of a strong national affiliation. Last May, four brothers were arrested for selling cocaine, three of them in the house, and the chapter was thrown off campus for two years. After that, the chapter will face two additional years of probation.

The idea behind the suspensions must be that an organization is more than responsible for the behavior of its students, that the group somehow causes that behavior. Otherwise,

But beyond all the awards and presentations, there are some deeper reasons which should motivate students to attend the day's events, such as pride and a sense of identity. Richard Pfaff, secretary of the faculty and the organizer of University Day, said he thought the day would inspire a closeness among students that many feel only at athletic events. He said many students are taking part in this year's celebration in various capacities, and that he hopes their participation will make the student body feel more a part of a historic and memorable occasion.

"I hope people don't come because they feel a sense of responsibility," Pfaff said. "I hope they come because they feel a sense of identity with the University."

For many freshmen, junior transfers and students who've simply skipped the last couple of University Days, this will be their first University Day experience. For most seniors, it will be their last. And for almost all students, it will be their only chance to see the installation of a University chancellor. After all, Hardin is only the seventh chancellor in the University's history.

For all in the University community, University Day should be the must-see of the season. — Sandy Dimsdale

officials would have little reason to punish the entire group along with the individual members.

Luckily, UNC has not been forced to take that sort of action, but should it have to, the mood is ripe. Consider the case of two Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers who were accused of rape last fall. One brother was not even indicted, and the other eventually pleaded guilty to a reduced charge. The chapter, however, bore the stigma of the accusation through tasteless cheers at football games and about campus. Unfortunately, students labeled other students because of a fraternal connection.

"Organizational responsibility" is dangerous because it makes a convenient sword of Damocles to hold over student groups. Worse, the concept could easily be abused, because no clear limits exist; it works strictly by precedent and inclination.

No one denies that standards of behavior are desirable, but they already exist in our society — for individuals. Unless an entire group is responsible for misconduct and is threatening an institution's reputation, colleges should refrain from punishing the hand for its fingers. — David Starnes

## The last voyage, the longest, the best

Brian McCuskey  
 In the Funhouse

The Thomas Wolfe Memorial House didn't open until 1 p.m. on Sunday, so I asked the lady at the Asheville Visitors' Information Center how to kill an hour or so in town.

"Just go on over to the graveyard where the Wolfes are buried," she said. "Go see Tom's grave."

"For an hour?" I asked.  
 "Sure. There's lots of folks buried there. Go on over and browse."

My traveling companion (I'll call her Celia) and I made the short drive to the graveyard. We turned into a driveway marked "Riverside Cemetery," and just beyond that, another sign — "NO OUTLET."

"How reassuring," Celia said.  
 The paved road wound through the sloping wooded hills covered with gravestones. Some graves were straightforward blocks sunk into the ground; others stood upright and were more elaborate, with fancy carved inscriptions or headless statuettes with jagged necks.

Small signs pointed to the graves of Wolfe, O. Henry and Zebulon Vance. Not knowing who Vance was (and feeling like ignorant Yankees) we passed quickly by his grave and looked for O. Henry's, which had trouble finding until another sign reminded us that his real name was W. S. Porter. His was a large heavy block with his name carved clearly into the stone, and a single yellow carnation resting beside it in the grass.

"Let's find Wolfe," Celia said.  
 We walked by a grave marked "David Fisher," and for a strange timeless moment I stood remembering a high school friend of mine with the same name. He was not a close friend, but I played tennis with him at the park near his house, the few times I visited his home. Standing there before the grave, I missed him.

Then the moment passed, the grave once again a stranger's, and I walked on. But a vague ache persisted in my heart, and

I made a mental note to call him up over Christmas break.

The Wolfe family was a cluster of stones resting on a short slope just off the road. Thomas' large stone had the words "A Beloved American Author" carved under his name. His brother Ben was marked by a small stone sunk behind the others. The other brother, Fred, had "Luke of 'Look Homeward, Angel'" inscribed under his name. I wondered what he would think about being remembered for the life his fictional counterpart led, instead of his own.

The most prominent stone was that of Thomas' mother and father, a huge smooth block with W.O. Wolfe's name and dates cut into the stone above Julia Wolfe's. We read the various inscriptions on the stones, several from Wolfe's work.

"Let's go see his house," I said.

Inside the front door of Julia's huge white house we joined a tour group led by a distant family relation, whose name was also Thomas Wolfe. He led us from room to room, explaining the history of the house in the practiced robotic drone of a story told again and again, each inflection and dramatic pause hammered into place by repetition.

I had only known about Wolfe through his fiction, and it was a touch surreal to see his fiction becoming fact as we toured the house, to watch "Dixieland" become the Old Kentucky Home. Here was the sleeping porch young "Eugene"/Tom hated to sleep in. Here was the piano on which "Helen"/Mabel played to the boarders. Here was the bed all of "Eliza's"/Julia's children were born in. Here was the volume of Shakespeare old "Gant"/Wolfe loved to hurl quotes from. Here was the

room "Ben"/Ben died in.  
 This crystallization of fiction into fact was enhanced by framed quotations from "Look Homeward, Angel" hung prominently on the walls in the very places they described.

Also hung on one wall was Thomas Wolfe's diploma from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "You'll be getting one of those pretty soon," said Celia.

"Don't remind me." I tried to imagine the same diploma with my name on it, dusty and hanging in the hallway of some future home, and couldn't.

As the tour neared the end, I noticed that a small hunched man in the group was carrying "Bonfire of the Vanities" by the other Tom Wolfe in his hand, and wearing a smug smile on his face, as if he thought he was being impressively clever. The tour guide also noticed, and kept glancing at the book with an irritated frown.

The tour was over. Tom Wolfe the tour guide politely fielded questions (Celia: "I noticed a book of Christian Science in the library, did...?" T.W. the t.g.: "Mabel had diabetes and was into all that stuff.") and ushered us toward the door.

But before I left, I saw a photo of Julia standing before her husband's grave, the grave that was now hers as well, and in a dizzying moment I watched her disappear from the photo and be replaced by the carved letters of her name, below her husband's.

I felt a rush of sorrow for her, a stern woman resented by her family, whose life was carved into her son's fiction just as her name was now carved on the gravestone.

Then she was back in the photo again, and I left the house.

Brian McCuskey is a senior English major from Los Angeles.

## Readers' Forum

### Umbrellas rain on fan's parade

To the editor:  
 With the price of tickets being what they are, isn't it about time UNC found the courage to stop the flow of umbrellas into football games? Why should a few hundred, or even a few thousand, people be able to make 50,000 other fans uncomfortable? It's been rumored that such a rule is already on the books. Umbrellas are not allowed at N.C. State games. The important folks who sit in our seven million dollar press box don't have to contend with them.

My wife and I have been going to Carolina games since 1945 together and neither of us has ever brought an umbrella to a game. We carry proper rain gear in our car at all times. We wear that, and if we're still not comfortable, we leave.

It would seem that a school which compels the students not to wave their arms in back of the boards at basketball games can find the courage to make a few adults respect the right of other fans to actually see a game in rainy weather.

Can there really be a substitute response to this disgusting bit of permissiveness?

HARRY SHALETT  
 Class of '43  
 Southern Pines

### Team deserves good fans

To the editor:  
 What does Mike Berardino mean he'd rather sit at home dry and drink beverages with his friends while watching football on TV? Apparently he wasn't sitting anywhere near the student section or the south side of Kenan Stadium during



the UNC-Louisville game because if he had been, he would have had a great time.

Although the outcome of the game wasn't quite what anyone expected, neither was the atmosphere. There was more blue, more pompons, more face paint and more cheering for this game (which wasn't even televised) than I have seen in a long time. From the end zone to Carolina, Fever to the rowdy dudes in the upper deck, those who stayed had a blast.

Who cares if the actual attendance was only 25,000? We all proved that we weren't sissies — only the Wicked Witch of the West melts from rain. Oh! But I'm forgetting all of you let's-get-dressed-up-and-passively-watch-our-team-play-while-we-get-sloshed folks who hate to get messy. All of us let's-wear-blue-and-raise-hell-while-we-get-sloshed people didn't mind an afternoon

sprinkling. After awhile, the mikeman even had us cheering for more rain!

Given the lack of school spirit at UNC, I must admit that I was impressed and a little surprised by the number of people who stayed until the final buzzer. And they didn't just sit there: they yelled, screamed and shook their pompons. Now, don't all of you who left feel like wimps?

I suppose it will take some time to link UNC with school spirit. I mean, we've only been working on it for the past 100 years. With this year celebrating the centennial of Tar Heel football, I believe the team has earned the privilege of having spirited fans. We've got to keep it up Oct. 15 when UNC takes on State.

SUZIE SALDI  
 Junior  
 Political science

### Letters policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticisms. When writing letters to the editor, please follow these guidelines:

■ Students should include name, year in school, major, phone number and home town. Other members of the University community should include similar information.

■ All letters must be typed and double-spaced, for ease of editing.

■ Place letters in the box marked "Letters to the Editor" outside the DTH office in the Student Union.

■ The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity. Remember, brevity is the soul of wit.

## Rand's record on sunshine laws distorted

Ripley Rand  
 Guest Writer

In response to Al Hooks' commentary, "Vote for open doors" (Oct. 4), I feel that some clarifications about the records of both lieutenant gubernatorial candidates need to be made. Hooks claims that the "facts are clear" that the Democratic leadership has made no effort to really open up the legislative process and that, as Senate majority leader, Tony Rand has not used his influence to help make meetings and information more accessible. He also charges that Tony Rand is part of the "... Democratic machinery that favors closed door policies and hidden agendas..."

This is once again a distortion of my father's record and is patently untrue. As majority leader in the Senate, and as chairman of the Base Budget Appropriations Committee, Tony Rand has worked hard within the legislative process to see that both the media and the public are well-informed about events in the legislature. In the past session, he gave reporters his phone number in case they had any trouble getting into meetings, and even let a reporter from The News and Observer into an unannounced meeting. He has issued a position paper on how to make the process more open, and more effective as well. His proposal includes the prohibition of secret meetings and "pork barrel" appropriations and a schedule for adopting

the state budget more quickly, with less waste. During his four-year chairmanship of the Base Budget Committee, he led the fight to remove \$200 million in waste while increasing the budget for crucial programs like public education and keeping our environment clean.

Gardner's recent interest in opening the process, on the other hand, hardly reflects his record on the issue. In his races for governor, for example, Gardner repeatedly denied the press access to information and proposed putting restrictions on the press (The News and Observer, Nov. 3, 1968 and May 30, 1972). He also expressed an interest in seeing the First Amendment repealed (May 30, 1972). He has released no position paper stating his goals for opening the legislature. Gardner claims that he, Gov. Jim Martin and the Republican party are committed to opening the governmental process in North Carolina. Nevertheless, one day after arguing in favor of a bill to admit the public and press to meetings of three or more legislators, Martin and more than 40 Republican legislators ejected a reporter from a

meeting to discuss budgetary strategy. "If we make any decisions, we'll let you know," was Martin's response (Greensboro News and Record, June 16, 1988).

Hooks' attempt to cloud my father's record is not the first. My father has repeatedly had to defend himself from a barrage of distortions and lies. His record on all issues, from education to the environment to open government, is one of which we are very proud. It has been, and will continue to be, the focus of our campaign. We do invite a comparison of my father's record to Gardner's, however, and this is why we agreed to two live televised debates, one of which Gardner's campaign backed out of. In the debate televised by the UNC Center for Public Television, Gardner did not choose to discuss the issues that are pertinent to North Carolina, but chose only to smear and distort my father's record once again. My father will continue to talk about his accomplishments in the legislature and his vision for North Carolina as we move toward the 21st century. This is what the campaign ought to be about. It is what our campaign will be about. We can only hope that Gardner will do the same.

Ripley Rand is a senior political science and economics major from Fayetteville.

### The Daily Tar Heel

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