

The Daily Tar Heel

96th year of editorial freedom

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Say 'I do' to married housing

A shadow of doubt has been cast over the future of married student housing at UNC.

A proposal to expand North Carolina Memorial Hospital and to build a road to relieve campus traffic is part of the University's budget request. If the proposal is approved by the N.C. General Assembly, 10 of the 49 buildings that comprise Odum Village would be destroyed to make way for the road. Furthermore, the hospital expansion itself could lead to the complete elimination of Odum Village.

Odum Village now has a waiting list of 400 people. Clearly there is already a substantial demand for married student housing on this campus.

Odum Village provides an ideal environment for married students. First, the location is especially suitable for married students. Not only is it convenient — a less than 20-minute walk from the Pit — but it is removed from traffic and noise of the residence halls.

Secondly, the rent at Odum Village is affordable, at either \$230 or \$260 per month. This is vital for a student trying to support a family and put him- or herself through college.

Thirdly, as anyone who's visited it can attest, Odum Village has a neighborhood-like atmosphere. Such an environment is important for

married student housing. In addition to classes, married students often work at least part-time, and some are raising children. These extra responsibilities put added strains on a new marriage.

These strains can be alleviated if married students can come home to a supportive environment — to a home that looks like a home — not a dorm room or even an apartment. A supportive environment can also be found among a sympathetic community of other married students.

Chancellor Paul Hardin has said NCMH must be allowed to expand and that "married student housing is not the optimal use of that land." But Hardin has also indicated that Odum Village could be relocated, not simply eliminated.

The University must continue to offer married student housing. If the expansion is approved, perhaps a satisfactory new site for Odum Village could be found. But before any final action is taken, a new site should be approved by a representative group of current Odum residents. Odum Village should remain where it is, or at least be moved only after another location has been found that would provide an equally convenient, supportive environment for married students. — **Louis Bissette**

Stealing the right to free press

A Triangle newspaper has lost an important court decision which could set a dangerous precedent for free-distribution papers.

The Independent, which is published every other week in Durham, filed charges against the campaign of Harold Hardison, who was seeking the Democratic Party's nomination for lieutenant governor last spring. A Hardison campaign worker took 7,500 copies of the April 21 issue, in which the Independent printed endorsements. The cover story lambasted Hardison and encouraged readers to vote for his opponent.

But Superior Court Judge Howard Manning Jr. ruled people could pick up as many copies as they pleased because The Independent's front cover clearly says it is free.

Certainly readers of The Independent can get a paper out of the box without depositing a quarter. But The Independent is not free. Hardison's campaign worker took 7,500 copies — no small number — and replacing those copies at the emptied distribution boxes cost The Independent \$20,000.

And who will pick up that tab, as well as the costs for the litigation that followed? The advertisers. It is not their fault the copies were taken, but advertising is the main source of

revenue for newspapers.

But the bottom line at The Independent is not the only thing threatened by the court's decision. There are a lot of newspapers which are distributed for free yet are politically active. You're reading one now.

The Daily Tar Heel is publishing its endorsements for campus offices beginning Thursday. What if Joe Candidate's campaign manager did not like the DTH's endorsements and decided to remove the papers to prevent people from reading the back page?

DTH readers would complain about not having their papers when they got to campus. Advertisers would demand their ads run another day because no one saw the ones they ran on the day the copies were taken. The DTH would have wasted the \$900 or more it takes to print a single day's copy. And the DTH could not sue, because it is "free."

The judge should have considered the long-reaching effects of denying The Independent the \$20,000 reimbursement it asked for. The court's shortsighted decision could seriously hamper the freedom of the press. Disagreeing with a newspaper's opinions does not justify stealing copies so others can't read those opinions and make their own decisions. — **Sandy Dimsdale**

the last word

It's about this hate mail. Since I became sports editor, I've been getting a lot of letters, notes, death threats, etc.

Now, I like letters, but I'm a little worried about the prevailing "Carolina-can-do-no-wrong" attitude among these Tar Heel fans who are so confident that their way is better than my way when it comes to writing about UNC basketball.

For the moment, I'm willing to ignore the fact that a few alumni who called me had trouble with their subject-verb agreements and many of these letter writers (who mysteriously, but consistently, forget to sign their names) have more problems with spelling and grammar than your average high school freshman.

"Their way" involves pretending that everything about UNC basketball is perfect, or at least, anything that is not perfect has no place on the pages of The Daily Tar Heel. It also tends to question my right and/or ability to make negative comments about Tar Heel basketball players and coaches.

Assuming that other misguided readers share this view, I offer one humble suggestion — wake up to the real world. If you know anything about basketball, listen to the following statements without laughing. If you can.

Jeff Lebo has had a tremendous year from the perimeter. His shooting touch is

better than we could have possibly expected.

King Rice is a true force in the half-court offense. Opposing coaches stay awake all night trying to figure a way to stop him.

Scott Williams is Mr. Consistency. When he goes out there, you just know you're in for a 20-point, 10-rebound performance.

The Tar Heels are an incredibly quick team, and they go after rebounds with a vengeance every night.

Well, maybe they're not perfect, you say. But why must I be so harsh?

Well, I'm not really. I say many more good things about the Tar Heels than you might think.

I simply chose to throw away my Carolina-blue colored glasses when I became sports editor. If I see something negative, I write about it. If you don't like it or agree with it, that's fine. After all, the world would be a pretty boring place if we all agreed on everything, wouldn't it?

Try to remember one more thing. The Tar Heel basketball players are big boys now. Nothing I say is going to shatter their lives.

Finally, to answer some of your questions. Yes, I've played organized basketball. Yes, I like the Tar Heels.

But no, I don't think I know a lot about sports.

I know I do. — **Dave Glenn**

Election Forum

A genuine alternative to the mainstream

As a late entry to this election, an appropriate question I must address is that of my reasons for running. My purpose in running for this position is to offer the student body a genuine alternative to the mainstream candidates that I will be running against. As such, I have two main goals that, if I am able to achieve, will make my term a success.

First, as a student at Carolina for the past three years, I have recognized a severe deficiency in the attitude of students, faculty and administrators alike. This is demonstrated by the selfish attitudes that each of these groups have displayed during the recent parking crisis. An effective solution to this problem, and others like it, can only be reached through a sharing of mutual respect and understanding for the needs of each group. As a student

Rod Bell SBP Candidate

leader, I will bring a more positive attitude toward the relations between students and other groups on campus. This is one way in which I am different from the three other candidates.

Secondly, Student Congress has been far too reactionary since I have been at Carolina. Of course, this stems in part from the adversarial relationship that the students currently have with administrators on campus, as I previously discussed. Nonetheless, a combination of accurate foresight and amiable interaction with the University leaders will help students

successfully deal with campus problems before they reach a crisis level. I can provide the new leadership that is necessary to help Carolina students be less reactionary and more progressive.

In conclusion, my lack of experience on Student Congress may be questioned, and rightfully so. However, in contrast to a lack of congressional experience, I am able to bring a strong leadership style to Carolina. I'm an intense individual and am able to use my intensity to provide the students of Carolina with an effective style of leadership, the type of leadership that has not been used in past congresses to reach the goals that I think we can reach.

Rod Bell is a junior political science and economics major from Miami.

Quality of life, education and leadership

One year. That is all the time any student body president has in office. If the year is to be productive, the SBP must have a clear set of goals and the experience and drive to accomplish them. I have developed goals in three areas: quality of life, quality of education and quality of leadership.

Quality of life:

- Bring student parking allocations under student government and fight to protect student parking in all areas.

- Eliminate the \$100 mandatory meal plan and make the food service more desirable for students.

- Advocate student concerns about treatment at Student Health Service.

- Work for a fully developed and constitutionally funded Black Cultural Center.

- Expand SAFE Escort and improve campus lighting.

Quality of education:

- Ensure the implementation of the academic minor and a 24-hour study area.

- Make financial aid a priority for state and national governments and work for more scholarship funding from Student Stores and the bicentennial fund-raising.

Brien Lewis SBP Candidate

We must remove the debt burden from students so that they can benefit from a full college experience. We can set an example by setting up a Student Assistance Fund through which students can help students.

- Relieve the research/teaching conflict by developing a sabbatical program for professors. This will retain and attract top professors and improve the undergraduate classroom experience.

- Work to get TAs the benefits and recognition they deserve and ensure proficiency in spoken English.

Quality of leadership:

- Be visible and accessible to the student body by holding office hours in the Pit and a monthly Pit Forum outlining government activities, initiatives and opportunities.

- Reorganize the executive branch to make it more responsive and efficient. There is no time to waste, yet student government does exactly that by not

involving more people in more projects.

I will bring to the office of SBP broad experience and a fresh perspective. I have served as a Student Congress representative from South Campus and as coordinator of all student members on the chancellor's and vice chancellor's advisory committees. As a result, I know which channels to pursue in the administration and where student government needs to improve.

Last year, less than a quarter of the student body voted in the election. That says to me that students do not see their government as a problem-solver, so when they have problems they do not turn to the resources their government can offer them. I want to change that, but I need your help. I will listen and respond to your concerns, but you must speak.

The SBP is the voice of the student body, but he must also act as its ears. If he doesn't listen, he has no business speaking for you. Please vote on Tuesday and give a strong mandate for action to your student body president.

Brien Lewis is a junior political science major from Toronto, Canada.

A clear vision for student involvement

Together, we can fundamentally change this campus. Trey Loughran understands that we must continue to assert student participation and leadership in all matters of University life. Trey Loughran is committed and uncommonly qualified to meet these goals and recognizes that we can only succeed together.

Trey has unique experience from working with student self-governance at UNC for nearly three years. Trey has been involved in shaping the most critical student issues on campus, co-authoring the current student government proposals to eliminate the mandatory meal plan and defend sophomore parking. As the first student liaison to the Chapel Hill Town Council, Trey has proven his ability to act as the only link between 22,000 students and a governing board — experience that will be instrumental as student body president on UNC's Board of Trustees.

Trey's breadth and depth of experience enables him to bring continuity to student participation in campus affairs. He is firmly committed to the projects student government has worked on this year and continues to pursue, such as the establishment of an academic minor, the 24-hour study area and the student allocation of parking permits.

UNC also needs innovative change, and Trey offers an understanding of what those new directions should be. Academically, both the perspective and advising systems should be re-evaluated and examined for

Trey Loughran SBP Candidate

changes that can best benefit students, both during their time on campus and in their future. Campus security is one area where we need a renewed commitment. Let's work for safety in better lighting and the expansion of SAFE Escort to all parts of the campus and adjacent neighborhoods.

We also need to maintain and open new lines of communication and cooperation within the student body and with the administration of the town. Trey will establish an Off-Campus Outreach Committee addressing the unique needs of more than 15,000 students who live in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

At the same time we are taking these new strides, we should reach out to broader agencies. Trey is committed to creating a State Affairs Committee (StAff) to advocate student concerns on a statewide level on issues such as tuition rates, faculty salaries and construction needs by going directly to state legislators.

Trey's understanding of student life and government has given him a vision for where student involvement needs to go. Unfortunately, students are far too often excluded from the very beginning on projects directly affecting student interests. We can ensure student involvement from

the beginning by initiating projects. Student government should take the lead in planning for the construction of a physical extension to our badly undersized Student Union toward South Road, which would include, in addition to more meeting space, a fully operational Black Cultural Center. For several years there has been talk about constructing a Student Services Building to consolidate much of what is now widely dispersed student and University affairs. If such a project is undertaken, student government needs to ensure students will be included from the start, so it goes where we want it and can best benefit us, the student body.

Trey Loughran makes a personal commitment to be a visible, accessible student body president, one concerned about self-education in all aspects of campus and community life. Trey will work closely with fellow students and campus organizations, because only when we join our hands and stand together will we move forward together. Trey will make every student space a battleground, every current student government project a priority and every issue an opportunity for student advancement. You can make a difference. Vote on February 21.

Trey Loughran is junior economics and political science major from Charleston, S.C.

Accurately representing student opinion

The three underlying goals of any student body president should be letting the students have a say in student government, serving the student body and improving the campus environment. As student body president, I will work toward accomplishing each of these goals to enable UNC to become a better place for the students currently enrolled here and to make the University more attractive to prospective students.

The most pressing problem facing us as students at UNC is the lack of student input in administrative decisions. On many occasions the opinions of students are known but the administration and/or student government continues to act contrary to student opinion. This should not happen. This campus is for the students and the students should decide what goes on here. Utilizing polls, referendums and surveys, as well as regular visits to dorms and student group meetings, will allow me to sit down with the students and find out exactly what their concerns are. I feel I will get more valuable feedback if I go to the students rather than waiting for them to approach me. After determining student opinions and concerns, I will go to the administration and Student Congress and see that these opinions are not only considered, but acted upon. In one specific case, this means working to defund the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association (CGLA). Through last spring's referendum, the students made it clear that they do not want their fees going to fund the

Kevin Sisson SBP Candidate

CGLA, and that is why the CGLA should not be funded. The job of a student body president is to represent not his own wishes, but the wishes of the student body, and thus be deserving of the title student body president.

As a leader of the student body, I plan to utilize committees to address student concerns and see that acceptable solutions are found. I want to see the implementation of a 24-hour study area and an academic minor, and I want to find an equitable solution to the parking problem. My main goal as a leader would be to serve the students by working closely with the administration to see the wishes of students fulfilled.

My final goal as student body president would be to improve the overall campus environment. Specific goals I intend to accomplish are improving security and lighting, installing more courtesy phones, maintaining the quality of teaching at the University and continuing to improve town-campus relations. Other high priority items are improving the quality of food service, including the elimination of the \$100 minimum meal plan, and negotiating with Student Stores for higher buy-back prices on used texts.

A key step in improving the campus

environment is improving race relations. I support constitutional funding of a multicultural center. This building would have areas representing a variety of cultures. Blacks, Asians, Hispanics and American Indians can be represented, but it will not just be for minority interests. There can be representation of Northern culture, Southern culture, different European countries and various religious affiliations. By having all of these cultures represented in one building, all students on campus can benefit. Students can go to the multicultural center and learn about their culture as well as a myriad of other cultures. By being together, participating in social functions, group activities, guest speakers, and by working together, learning about each other, and intermingling, I believe a multi-cultural center would promote the racial interaction that is so desperately needed on this campus. Let's make a multi-cultural center a reality so every student on this campus can benefit.

As student body president I will not be looking to solve the problems of just one group of students on campus; I will be attempting to find solutions that would enhance the college life of each and every student at UNC. On Feb. 21, vote Kevin Sisson for student body president.

Kevin Sisson is a junior business administration major from Deer Park, N.Y.