

The Daily Tar Heel

97th year of editorial freedom

SHARON KEBSCHULL, Editor

JUSTIN MCGUIRE, University Editor
KAREN DUNN, State and National Editor
TOM PARKS, Business Editor
JAMIE ROSENBERG, Sports Editor
MELANIE BLACK, Design Editor
JULIA COON, News Editor
EVAN EILE, Photography Editor

AMY WAJDA, University Editor
JAMES BURROUGHS, Editorial Page Editor
SHEILA LONG, City Editor
CARA BONNETT, Arts and Features Editor
LISA REICHLER, Omnibus Editor
STEVE WILSON, News Editor
PETE CORSON, Cartoon Editor

Big bins Recycling site needs quick approval

Each month, UNC generates 24 tons of newspaper waste and about five tons of glass. Such staggering figures suggest that the University needs a recycling program to make positive use of that waste, and a proposal by the Tar Heel Recycling Program (TARP) and Chapel Hill's solid waste planner offers just that. They created a feasible plan to place a town-operated recycling site on campus for old newspapers and glass bottles, but now they need administrative support. With this much waste being generated every month, the University needs to grant speedy approval to the plan.

Students already operate a successful aluminum recycling plan. Areas such as residence halls adopt small blue bins where aluminum cans can be deposited. A few students then empty the bins and take the cans to one of 10 Orange County drop sites; last semester, they collected about 1,200 pounds of aluminum on campus. Such a system could be used with newsprint and glass, but the potential for large deposits of newsprint and glass demands an improved plan. At least one large and two small bins that would be emptied by the town should be centrally located to collect it all.

A central site would eliminate the problem of accessibility, and the Physical Plant is reviewing site proposals. If suggested campus sites such as the parking lot between Wilson Library and Kenan Labs or the Bell Tower lot become a reality, students won't have to rely on a limited number

board opinion

of willing individuals with transportation. Better yet, if bins were placed in the lot behind Davis Library and Hamilton Hall or near the police station on South Campus, students more easily could drop off bottles or newspapers at their leisure. This would allow more students to assume some of the responsibility of recycling and aid this town's concerted effort to recycle as much as possible.

Obviously, the more collected, the better. The environment already suffers from inadequate recycling of newspaper and glass. Uncrushed glass and newspapers take up the most landfill space of any recyclable goods; recycling them would change that and reduce the industrial and toxic waste that is produced by virgin paper and glass. Students have already shown their concern for the environment through major conferences and community action; this will give more a chance to turn their concerns into action.

The DTH takes particular interest in recycling, as it uses 100 percent recycled paper and wants to support efforts to recycle on campus. However, the sheer volume of newsprint makes it impossible for this publication's staff to maintain recycling sites. The town will help in that maintenance; now the University must make its own commitment. TARP estimates that the revenue collected from the maintenance of the bins, so the University has little to do but approve the site. Faced with this strong student and town initiative, the University should strike now while interest is high and approve a central site.

Fouling out of school Exemptions only hurt student-athletes

The need for extensive reforms in intercollegiate athletics has become an issue of national concern, and while the opportunity exists for UNC to be at the forefront of a sweeping movement, a more stringent approach toward student-athletics first must become a reality here at home. The recent discussion of changes in college athletics nationwide frustrates many officials and die-hard fans reluctant to tame a highly profitable and enjoyable business. Those associated with UNC find it hard to believe that problems exist in the student-athletics of this excellent university, but a recent report by the UNC Board of Governors demonstrates that most system universities continue to jeopardize the education and future of many students for the sake of a winning season.

Although intercollegiate athletics do play an important role within the overall composition of any university, this should by no means supersede the primary goals of education and service. In fall 1989, UNC admitted 13 of its 23 freshman football players and two of its six basketball players as exceptions to the minimum admission standards. Likewise, N.C. State University admitted six athletes with academic records below the standard. This does not provide them with many students capable of surviving a strenuous academic commitment combined with athletics. In the end, the student-athlete often emerges as the loser, betrayed by the institution that claims education as its foremost objective.

All UNC-system athletes admitted in 1989 met the NCAA academic standards as set forth in Proposition 48 — namely a minimum SAT score of 700 and a 2.0 GPA. UNC, however, has traditionally set standards higher than the NCAA, including a minimum SAT score of

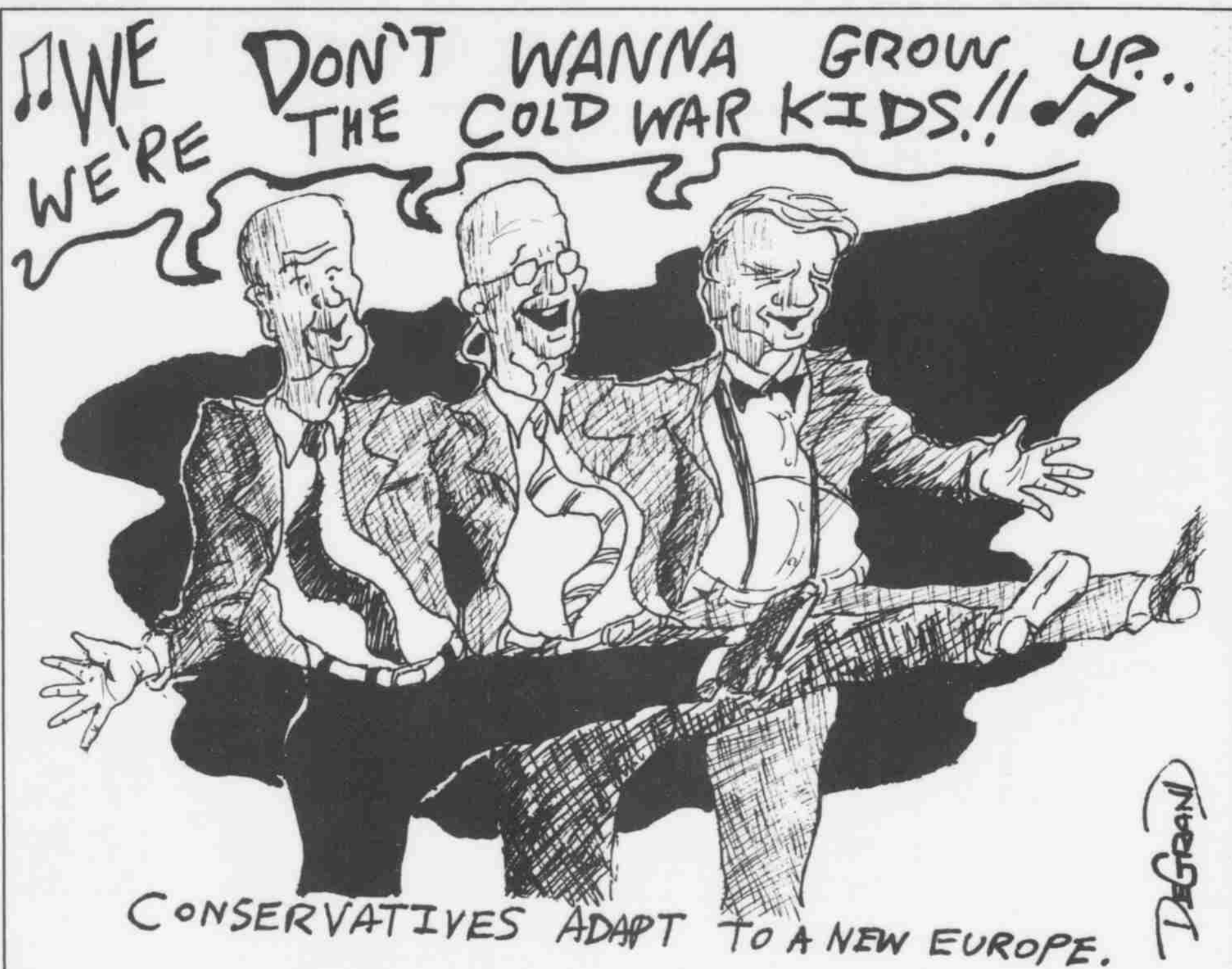
800, and last year NCSU raised its expectations as well. In the past, all system schools have adhered to these standards, but exceptions to the rules are becoming more common at certain universities — and the effects are showing.

Students with poor grades in high school and a sub-800 SAT score will undoubtedly find this university and others like it to be extremely difficult. While many people would argue that the athletic prowess of such students gives them an educational chance they otherwise might not receive, the university, by admitting such obviously underqualified students, instead sets them up for failure. Dismal graduation rates of student-athletes at many schools demonstrate the betrayal of these starry-eyed freshmen.

Of the NCSU student-athletes enrolled in 1983, none of the four basketball players and only 43 percent of the 21 football players graduated after five years; the total freshman class graduated at a rate of 53 percent. At UNC, all three of the basketball players enrolled in 1983 graduated, but only 63 percent of the 27 football players — 18 of whom were exceptions to minimum academic standards — managed to graduate after five years; in comparison, the average class graduation rate was 75 percent.

The situation at UNC is certainly better than at many universities, in that most coaches and athletic officials here believe in the fundamental importance of education and the special opportunity which the ambitious student-athlete can receive from the school. For exactly this reason, the University and the system must continue this tradition and reinstate education as the central purpose of a student-athlete's years at UNC. Only then can we carry the torch of nationwide change. — James Burroughs

UNC must reinstate education as the central purpose of a student- athlete's college years.



Readers' Forum

NMI report intended to prove student force

To the editor:
The problems of non-faculty minority employees have long been ignored at this university. In fact, to our knowledge there has been no expression of student concern on this subject at all. The Network for Minority Issues (NMI) of the Campus Y, representing most organized campus minority groups, recently released a report to accomplish exactly this goal. The report was not intended to be a thorough or exhaustive research report detailing specific recommendations.

Student groups rarely have the time, expertise, resources or energy for such a project, and furthermore, this is not their purpose. Rather, the report was intended to voice student opinion on this topic: to state that student do recognize that there is a problem with the poor treatment of black housekeepers, that they don't endorse university wages that force many maintenance workers to live below the poverty level, and above all, that they are committed to working with the administration to combat institutionalized racism on all levels.

The expectation that NMI should have done "more original

research" is highly unrealistic. In order to warrant the attention of administrators, a research project would require over a year's work (as did the reports used), not to mention money. In its report, NMI used the most recent and pertinent statistics and information available. Both the University and private institutes have conducted extensive research and interviews on this topic in the past two years. The report was not a "mere compilation of other reports," but rather, it made appropriate use of that information that was already available and intended for just these purposes.

As part of its research, NMI did conduct student interviews, and this is plainly stated in the report. Again, these interviews were conducted for the purpose of determining student opinion on this matter and not to make the report more interesting or emotional.

Specific steps of action do need to be taken by students to demonstrate their commitment, and indeed already have been: NMI is in the process of facilitating the training of students from various student groups to advise and represent minority employees in using the grievance procedure as a means of remedying existing problems. But this was neither the focus nor the purpose of NMI's report.

The purpose of NMI's report

was simple. Unfortunately, the University administration has chosen not to prioritize this problem since it has not heard the student voice. One University official, when asked what concerned students could do with respect to the problems of minority employees on this campus, responded that at the student level we could do nothing. The purpose of this report was to prove that we can, and that we will.

SHILPI SOMAYA
Sophomore
Economics/International studies

BANU OGAN
Junior
Biology

Attention candidates

SBP, DTH, CAA president, RHA president and senior class president candidates who want their platforms printed in the DTH next week must turn them in to the letters to the editor box by 5 p.m. today. They must be no more than two typed, double-spaced pages.

All those candidates except for senior class who want to go through DTH endorsement interviews on Saturday must sign up on the sheet outside the DTH office by today at 5 p.m. Candi-

dates also should turn in to the editor's box any campaign material or information they want the editorial board to review before doing the interviews.

Candidates will be asked to present a five-minute platform and answer questions from the editorial board.

Letters of endorsement will be due Sunday at 3 p.m. The DTH will print two letters per candidate for SBP, DTH, CAA and RHA candidates, and one letter per senior class candidate. Letters must be no more than one typed, double-spaced page.

Editorial Policy

The Daily Tar Heel's board opinion editorials are voted on by the board, which is composed of the editor, editorial page editors and assistant editor, and two editorial writers. The opinions reflect the board's majority opinion. Signed editorials do not necessarily reflect the entire board's opinion.

The Daily Tar Heel has three regular staff columnists. Their opinions also do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the board.

The DTH occasionally runs guest writer columns, which are simply long letters to the editor that do not respond to a previous letter, editorial or article.

Honors building has honorable intentions

(Editor's note: The author is the chairman of the Honors Program Advisory Board.)

To the editor:
I am troubled in two ways by the DTH's recent editorial "Honorable Intentions: But a new building is hard to justify," Feb. 2) regarding preliminary proposals for improved honors facilities on campus. I am disappointed that a student newspaper would take such a negative position on a proposal whose sole purpose is to enhance the undergraduate student experience. Furthermore, I am disturbed by the editorial board's confusion regarding the process by which the University plans to meet its facilities needs.

In its editorial, the DTH board in effect asks the question, "Do the more than 1,000 undergraduate student who participate in some aspect of the Honors Program deserve better facilities?" The DTH board says they do not, at least not until the day when "state fiscal constraints" magically evaporate and when, presumably by the same miracle, the land area of North Campus suddenly doubles. Reading this editorial, students must get the idea that there is a single-file line (stretching from South Building to the Legislature) in which all units on campus stand waiting to have their facilities needs addressed. If you're not at the front of the line, the editorial suggests, you don't get anything. The DTH sees the Honors Program as trying to jump the line ahead of other programs that also have serious facilities needs.

Fortunately for everyone, particularly undergraduate students, the process doesn't work the way the DTH editorial board imagines it does. But unfortunately, the editorial board's misunderstanding of the process of facilities planning and funding has prompted it to take a misguided and shortsighted stand on a facility that would benefit thousands and thousands of undergraduates for decades to come and that will not compete in any way with the equally serious space needs of any other group or unit on campus.

First, let's make it clear (which is the editorial does not) what kind of facility is being discussed for the Honors Program and why such a facility is needed. The Honors Office doesn't just "schedule classes," it plans a 120-course curriculum for 600 Honors Program freshmen, sophomores and juniors and for more than 200 other students who take honors courses each year. The Honors Office oversees 50 departmental honors programs throughout the university in which more than 200 students participate each year, handles General College advising for 400 freshmen and

sophomores, collects and distributes information on academic scholarships and fellowships, sponsors (through its students advisory board) the overnight visit to campus of more than 75 outstanding prospective students each spring, administers a program of financial support for outstanding undergraduate research, provides a home for Phi Eta Sigma (the freshman honor society of 300 members), and receives visits and inquiries from hundreds of prospective students and parents each year. That's not all the Honors Program does, but it is enough to refute the DTH's characterization of it as an office that merely counsels and schedules classes.

As Dean Allen put it in an earlier DTH article, based on the number of students served and the number of courses taken, if the Honors Program were an academic department it would be the largest in the College of Arts and Sciences. Furthermore, our honors program reaches a greater proportion of students than any other honors program in the country. Quite simply, no other program on campus benefits as many students in as many ways with as small a staff and as limited a facility.

Over the past three years, the number of students participating in the program has exploded in response to student demand and as Dean Allen has opened the program to more enrolled students, initiated a junior-year honors curriculum and encouraged all students with at least a B average to take honors courses. Even though the number of incoming freshmen invited into the program has been increased by a third, there is still not nearly enough room to accommodate all the students who would like to begin their honors work immediately. At the level of senior honors, 60 percent more students are pursuing graduation "with honors" than was the case only four years ago. The Honors Program is one of the university's most important recruiting tools in helping to attract some of the nation's most gifted students to Carolina.

What kind of facility should these student have? And what kind of a facility did more than 250 students sign a petition last year requesting the University to provide? Certainly one where their four advisers don't have to crowd into the same 8-by-10 foot office. But these students also deserve a facility with seminar rooms devoted not to graduate courses but to undergraduate classes — honors and other classes. They deserve space for meetings, visiting speakers, receptions — the kinds of interactions among students and faculty that extend learning beyond the classroom. An honors

center would not be an honors dorm, and it could be used for a broad range of student activities, not just honors activities.

The DTH editorial implies that such a facility would have to compete with other projects for state funding, even while acknowledging that an honors center would not be built with state funds. If housed in a new building, an honors center would not use state funds and would not compete with any other building project currently under review or envisioned by any group on campus. Fundraising efforts would not conflict with efforts to build support among alumni and other friends of the university for any other project or program. The proposed honors facility is but one aspect of the University's efforts to improve the quality of undergraduate life and facilities. Thus the crowning irony of the editorial is that its opposition to an honors facility is based upon an assumed battle for scarce resources that, in this case, simply doesn't exist! Let me say it again, addressing the pressing and legitimate needs of the 1,000 students each year who benefit from the Honors Program would not affect any other building plans or require the reallocation of a penny of the university's or the states' "finite" resources.

Finally, to compound its confusion, the DTH board even put a proposed honors center on the wrong site! The site suggested by the University's facility planning and design office was not between Manly and Grimes but rather on the barren patch of ground between and behind Grimes and Ruffin, where now even weeds will not grow. Far from detracting from the appearance of this part of campus, a well-designed and properly scaled building would complement surrounding buildings by completing the quadrangle already bounded on the other end by Stacy Residence Hall.

Although the DTH chooses to see facilities planning in general as an endemic conflict between students and "the administration," as in the case of honors we have students, faculty and administrators all working together to improve the undergraduate experience. An honors facility is still in an early stage of consideration. I would hope that as the DTH comes better to understand this process, they will also come to support a proposal that could have enormous benefits for many present and future students.

RICHARD A. SOLOWAY
Professor
History

The Daily Tar Heel

Assistant editors: Diana Florence and Myra Miller, arts and features; Craig Allen, business; Cameron Tew, city; Christy Conroy, Karen Dennis, Clete Neal, Jeff Workman, Doug Zemel, design; Charles Brittain, editorial page; Staci Cox, managing; B. Buckley, JoAnn Rodak and Cameron Young, news; Joseph Muhl, photography; Mark Anderson and Scott Gold, sports; Kari Barlow, state and national; Sarah Cagle, Jason Kelly and Will Spears, university.
Editorial writers: Lynette Blair, Julie Gammill and Jennifer Wing.
University: Marcie Bailey, Debbie Baker, Robert Brown, Chris Helms, Jeff D. Hill, Joey Hill, Stephanie Johnston, Stacey Kaplan, Jason Kelly, Dionne Kelly, Simone Pam, Jennifer Pilla, Myron B. Pitts, Mike Sutton, Nancy Wykle.
City: Steve Adams, Jennifer Dickens, Jennifer Foster, Samantha Gowen, Johanna Henderson, Kim Jaski, Jeff Moyer, Elizabeth Murray, Erik Rogers, Cameron Tew and Christine Thomas.
State and National: Crystal Bernstein, Jennifer Blackwell, Wendy Bounds, Wagner Dotto, Eric Lusk, Alan Martin, Kimberly Maxwell, Glenn O'Neal, Jannette Pippin, Kyle York Spencer, Emilee Van Poucke, Sandy Wall, Chuck Williams.
Business: Heather Clapp, Victoria Davis, Kevin Greene, Lloyd Lagos, David Lloyd, Becky Riddick, Vanessa Shelton.
Arts and features: Cheryl Allen, Lisa Antonucci, Noah Bartolucci, Julie Campbell, Vicki Hyman, Mara Lee, Christina Nifong, Leigh Pressley, Eric Rosen, Hasie Sirisena, Heather Smith, Brian Springer, Bevin Weeks, Laura Williams and Jessica Yates.
Sports: Neil Amato, Mark Anderson, Jason Bates, John Bland, Laurie Dhur, Chris Flalko, Christina Frohock, Scott Gold, Warren Hynes, Doug Hoogervorst, David Kupstas, Bethany Litton, Bobby McCroskey, Brock Page, Natalie Sekicky, Eric Wagnon and Steve Walton.
Photography: Jodi Anderson, Milton Artis, Schuyler Brown, Camille Daniels, Todd Diggs, Steven Exum, Carey Johnson, Sheila Johnston, Stacey Kaplan, Caroline Kincaid, Kathy Michel, Catherine Pinckert, Kristen Skula and Ami Vitale.
Copy Editors: James Benton, Melissa Grant, Angela Hill, Susan Holdslaw, Jennifer Kurpees, Robin Lentz, Lisa Lindsay, Amy McCarter, Walter McNairy, George Quintero, Kristin Scheve, Joe Seagle, Bobby Seelock, Sara Sparks, Chrissy Stidham, Clare Weickert and Bruce Wood.
Cartoonists: George Brooks, Adam Cohen, Pete Corson, Alex De Grand, David Estoye, Greg Humphreys and Mike Sutton.
Production: Stacy Wynn, manager, Brandon Poe, assistant.