

The Daily Tar Heel

98th year of editorial freedom

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Spotlighting the arts

Festival highlights importance of expression

Jesse Helms may be alive and well in North Carolina, but that hasn't slowed down expression of the arts at UNC-CH. Students concerned about art awareness brainstormed to create the first Student Fine Arts Festival, which will happen this week in a theater, gallery and hall near you.

The performing arts committee of the Carolina Union Activities Board came up with this idea last year, and dozens of organizations expressed interest in participating. As a result, since Sunday, almost every performance hall on campus has been buzzing with activity ranging from art exhibits to a cappella singing. This massive collaboration not only gives art-lovers a chance to indulge for a week, but more importantly, it highlights the importance and diversity of the art world — creating awareness of the necessity of free art.

UNC can boast of several highly respected fine-arts departments. The graduate art history and studio programs rank among the national top 10, while the music library collection is one of the most extensive in the United States. But this information often is only publicized among fine-arts majors — the general student body is often unaware of the high caliber programs at UNC. The Student Fine Arts Festival places a complimentary spotlight on these departments and the quality productions that originate from them.

The festival not only shines on the arts, but it also illuminates social, cultural and political issues. Art exhibits traditionally reflect the concerns of the day; they are elastic, and they can spread to all aspects of life. The Ebony Readers plan to dramatize the life and times of Nelson Mandela, a highly prevalent political and social topic today. The Lab Theater performed Chris-

topher Marlowe's "Dr. Faustus" earlier this week, focusing on both gender and spiritual issues. Art is more than appealing to the senses — it has the capability to make strong statements.

Although the festival is still in its infancy, there are several suggestions to consider for next year. More dance performances could be scheduled for the week. Malini Moorthy, originator of the festival idea, recommends adding more culturally diverse programs. Doing this would obviously improve the quality of the festival, as well as join different cultures for one cause. Also, holding more participatory programs, such as discussions on art issues or even dance and art lessons in the Pit, might increase student interest in the festival.

This is not to say that this year's festival is anything close to a disaster. The Union Activities Board has proven that it can easily administer such an extensive program. Although Student Body President Bill Hildebolt campaigned to create an arts council made up of students and representatives of art organizations in order to increase arts awareness, this festival would not have been the same under such a system. The Union committee has more time and is more focused on the arts than Student Government, although government can still get involved by ensuring that such a production occurs for years to come.

The Fine Arts Festival proves that students can work together for a worthy cause rather than for personal gain. Recognizing student organizations for their excellence can only lead to more improved programs in the future; this support is crucial to the survival of free arts. This is a festival for all students — take a seat and enjoy it for a while. — Jennifer Wing

KKK strikes out

Ignoring group may force it to leave

The most exciting news has been released for people of color in this state and those who detest racial and religious hatred: the imperial wizard of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, decided to pack up his bags and leave his Connecticut home behind. Any wild guess as to where his new stake out is? You've got it — North Carolina, the southern part of heaven.

Imperial wizard James W. Farrands just moved to a farm near Sanford. Several weeks ago, he and other Klan members went to Biscoe and handed out copies of the Klansman, the group's newsletter. Some organizations fear that he is trying and will continue to work to unify racists. These organizations feel that he will be successful because the Klan hasn't had a leader in this state for several years.

Of course, the initial response to such news is alarm and concern. The thought of the head hanzo of the "white sheet wearers" residing in this state is not by any means pleasant. But there is no need to blow the situation out of proportion. After all, Farrands has the right to move to any state he desires. Obviously, North Caro-

lina has problems of its own to worry about. In many cities and towns, busing and integration in the schools are still problems. And the state's SAT scores are a concern as well. To be truthful, there is just no time to waste on trivial matters. And Farrands, at this time, is a trivial matter.

If Biscoe is any indication, there is little reason to fear that Farrands will come in and destroy the area. When Farrands and his supporters went to the town, they got a very indifferent reception. True, no one threw things or heckled them, but no one joined their efforts either. The police chief said the town just didn't seem interested. Perhaps that is the best way to deal with this. If we act as if the Farrands of the world do not exist, they have little chance to advance their causes.

After all, who's to say he'll be successful here anyway? The reason he left Connecticut was never disclosed. As distressing as his move may be to some North Carolinians, it may have made an equal number of Connecticut residents happy — those who were glad to be rid of him. — Lynette Blair

Editorial Policy

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



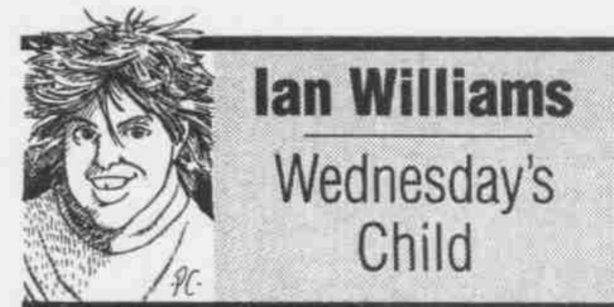
The "How to Write a Column" column

Whether anyone likes it or not, the days are getting longer, the shadows are getting shorter and the weather fluctuations are getting totally out of hand — combine this with enough testosterone and estrogen in the air to power a small southeastern city and you've found yourself right in the middle of April here in the Southern Part of Heaven. Which not only means that there are hordes of barely post-pubescent high school kids out wandering the quad with name tags and drooling parents all searching for the best possible picture angle of the Ol' Well, but that a good many of us old farts are gettin' the hell out of school while the gettin's good.

So here I am on one of the last columns I'll be writing for this paper, and someone out there is going to have to get off his or her keister next year and start columnizing on Wednesdays. If you don't mind having a goofy-looking caricature of you staring everyone in the face in Econ class, if you can cope with metaphorically pulling your pants down in front of campus every week, and you can deal with tons of hate mail from someone whose autistic brother you've offended, then waxing philosophical here on the back page can be pretty fun!

Like anything, though, there are problems you'll run into — sometimes it's hard to tell what everyone will find interesting (a good story about the cruel injustices of Campus Cops testing their virility on our poor college kids makes for interesting reading; my problems with flossing, conversely, do not) and sometimes an idea you'll have will be awesome in real life but look like Adventures in Romper Room when you try to put it on the back of a newspaper. With that in mind, here is a little guide to writing these things, a sort of set of stereo instructions to steer you straight here.

Choose your runway. There are three basic types of column — the Pseudo-Intellectual List, the Meandering Story, and the Other. The "List" can comprise everything from your most hated song lyrics to Fifteen Reasons Why Eggplants Make Better Conversationists than Carolina Guys. Putting things in list form not only makes it look like you know what you're talking about, but it also makes it easier to read on the page for those folks with gerbil-like attention spans. The "Meandering Story" is an irony-filled recollection of some recent event that explains why you're such a tortured artist in the first place, and the "Other" is just that —

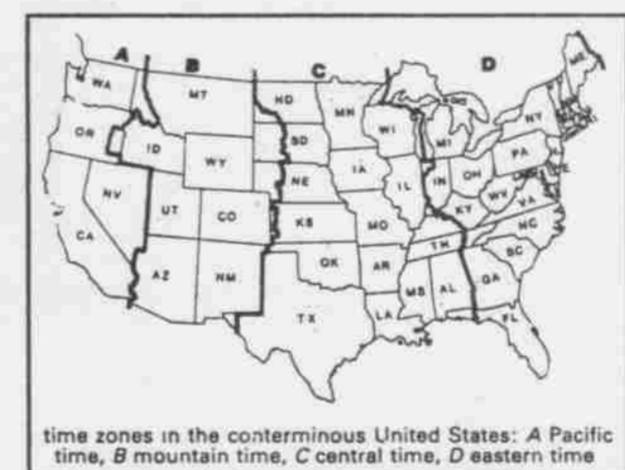


Ian Williams
Wednesday's Child

some weird way to screw up the back page with goofy stuff like fake tests, talking pets and ink blots.

Bein' totally and unadulteratedly wordy. This is another fun thing to do that not only lets you use every word you've ever dreamed of saying in front of 20,000 people (minus a few genitalia-related verbs) but also lets you purge yourself of all the excess verbal bile that builds up in your system. The basic rule is to never use one word when seven would sound stupider. Instead of saying, "so I walked back to Hinton James," say "I traddled, coma-like, back to the penitentiary-influenced testament to 60s architecture that housed my few possessions and my labotomized suitmates." I tell you, it's a wonderful release. If I didn't get to use all those excruciating adjectives and all that anal imagery, I'd be out back with a sawed-off shotgun huntin' squirrels for dinner.

Great Useless Graphics of the 20th Century. Nothing livens up a column more than slapping some artwork down on the page; that and it may offset any negative effects your caricature may have on the words surrounding it. If you find one of the master cartoonists here at the paper in time, you can have a key point in your essay brilliantly drawn out. Even if you don't, do what I do — slip the ol' time zone map up there no matter what you're talking about, and it will look like



time zones in the conterminous United States: A Pacific time, B mountain time, C central time, D eastern time

you got something pretty important to say. Mad about Italics and Bold. If you want something really stressed, and don't want to bother setting the entire scene, just italicize! Italicization gives you a real grimace when you write, and it's kind of wonderfully fruity, so just go with it and italicize until you just can't stand it anymore!!!

And if you really want to impress the ladies, begin each important thought with one of these grade-A extra-large U.S.D.A. choice "drop-caps." Just a few of these here and there and you'll be wearing the Pulitzer sash in no time.

Verily, I say unto thee ... The most important thing about writing these things is to lend biblical importance to everything you say or everyone and their dog will think you are full of crap. Imagine this, if you will:

"Although men have all the titles, are taller, much stronger and seem to dominate the planet in every way, women are in fact the true rulers of everyone's soul, and therefore the universe. Men try to pigeonhole women as emotional, erratic and illogical, but this is just the most pitiful of defense mechanisms for the little insecure boy that lies behind every macho muffedhead. The world itself is emotional, erratic and illogical, and only women have the true means to cope with this Carowinds ride we call life."

Now if you make a huge, gross, sweeping generalization like that, the only way you're going to get away with it is if you sound like you could never dream of being wrong! Another good trick is to lend the same biblical importance to things that really don't deserve it:

"I parked my car in the great amphitheater of parking, where thousands of such battles had taken place — strolling up to the great entrance, every step hanging heavy with my heaving heart, I paused in front of my market Messiah; the electronic doors parted like the Red Sea in front of Moses, and I warily stepped inside. I was in Harris Teeter and I was there to make a bundt cake."

And then comes the strangest part, the Netherworld of the back page, the magical "blurb" section. No one is really sure who writes these things, the columnist, the editors or a mystical leprechaun figure that skips in here singing an ancient song about columnists of yore, but suffice to say that all he wants to get across is that Ian Williams is a senior music and psychology major from Los Angeles!

READERS' FORUM

Anti-abortion misses feasible solutions

To the editors:
Thank goodness that there are people like John Ellis who can give us his well-thought out views on abortion and life ("Anti-abortion arguments justified by life-saving alternatives," April 9). "Bush would understand if he were a woman," is part of what some pro-choicers say, yes, but Ellis nicely deletes the other part which states that since Bush is not a woman and therefore cannot understand the quantum leap that separates the physical and mental states of the men and the women having the children, why should he have the right to make a decision about something which he cannot understand? Because he should not have to make this decision, each individual mother should.

Another well-thought out point in Ellis' column was his opinion which states, "I think the best alternative is to simply keep and nurture the child." Well, unless John Ellis has an unwanted pregnancy, and I could be wrong, why then does he have any more right to dictate the lives of thousands of women whom he does not even know? But "lack of money is a trifle reason" to have an abortion. Who cares if it grows up living an abused, unwanted and/or depressed life?

Maybe education, funding for clinics like Planned Parenthood and a decent child care system

would help to cut down on the number of abortions considerably. However, since the pro-life activists insist on having the government make our individual moral decisions for us and have brought abortion back into politics (which costs money that could be put toward something useful), of the industrialized countries the U.S. ranks last in adequate child care programs, is fifth in education (it is probably lower now) and loses money granted to clinics which help the less fortunate masses.

If you want to save lives, why are you not protesting the death penalty which, in legal terms, is not abortion.

RICK FOSTER
Senior
Biology

Bombs, cigarettes also undeserving of taxes

To the editors:
Jeffrey Simko poses some intriguing questions concerning abortion and his tax dollars ("Mistakes of few not responsibility of all," April 6). His feelings open up a new way of tax payment in America. To illustrate, I'd like to address his questions with some of my own.

For example, I have nothing against the Soviet Union, I didn't create any antagonistic climate between the two superpowers, and I find war reprehensible. Why am I forced to subsidize death-dealing nuclear missiles, life-extinguishing bombs, guns and bul-

lets? Another example: I don't smoke and find the fumes from cigarettes unpleasant. Why are my tax dollars helping support tobacco farmers and their health-destroying, non-nutritive crops? Finally, I am not in college, nor have any children in college. Why am I paying for someone else's learning — especially since the educational system seems to be failing in its endeavor to open and expand young minds? The list goes on and on.

The question is, do we all get to target where our individual taxes go, or is that a right reserved exclusively for anti-abortionists?

SOLOMON GIBSON III
Chapel Hill

Reports roundup facts of incidents

To the editors:
While reading the DTH Monday, I came across a completely unjustified letter to the editors. The letter was in reference to the Campus Police Roundup in which a student was "adamantly opposed to the printing of names and addresses" of students who are arrested ("Names wrongly imprisoned in police reports," April 9). It seems two of the author's friends were arrested for assaulting another student and she felt that releasing their names was wrongfully done, for the charges had not been proven.

The student who was assaulted by her friends was a close friend of mine. They were blatantly violat-

ing the security policy of a dorm. My friend has had to deal with the experience of being assaulted while trying to do her job as a desk attendant.

The fact is, the "Campus Police Roundup" makes no judgment on whether the person is guilty — it merely reports who has been arrested.

If people cannot act responsibly and learn to live by the rules of the University, they will just have to face the embarrassment that results from their actions.

RACHEL DOWLING
Freshman
English

Letters policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticisms. We will attempt to print as many letters to the editor as space permits. When writing letters, please follow these guidelines:

■ All letters must be dated and signed by the author(s), with a limit of two signatures per letter.

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

■ Letters should include the author's year, major, phone number and hometown.

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

■ If you have a title relevant to the topic of the letter, please include it.