

# The Daily Tar Heel

98th year of editorial freedom

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## Wall not all

### Class gives more than a place to sit

For the past several weeks, students have passed by the sitting wall between Saunders and Murphey halls that bears a sign declaring it is the senior gift. No doubt some students have wondered "Is that all?" Well, those that gave seniors the benefit of the doubt were correct in doing so. The wall, which will have landscaped shrubbery and eight trees when completed, is only a small portion of a much greater and more precious gift — the gift of more efficient teaching that will benefit future Carolina students. The Class of 1990 has plans to establish a teaching fellows program.

A problem at the University is that many professors with Ph.D.s are not able to effectively relay the knowledge they have to students. Many students also complain of teaching assistants (TAs) who can't speak clearly or teach effectively. The fellows program, however, will help to alleviate these problems. Beginning in the fall 1995, professors and TAs from any field who show strengths in various methods of teaching will be selected to share their skills with others. For example, some teachers are creative with slides or developing graphs that help to explain a subject more clearly. They will operate through the Center for Teaching and Learning by holding workshops to share their methods with

other teachers. This will allow more educators to communicate effectively in the classroom.

Because of its wide-reaching effects, the program is even better than an endowed chair fellowship. An endowed chair only involves one professor teaching several hundred students. That one professor has the responsibility alone to share his or her knowledge. The fellows program, however, allows one person to share his or her talents with others that can then pass on those ideas to many more students.

Another positive feature of the program is that its effects may serve to correct upcoming problems. Statistics predict that within five to seven years there will be a lack of Ph.D.s nationwide. Better-trained professors will help minimize the effects of this shortage.

Thus, despite appearances, the senior class will be leaving behind a two-fold gift. On the one hand there will be the wall, adding beauty to the University and giving students a spot to sit and bask in the sun between classes. No doubt it will remain as long as the University stands. On the other hand will be the teaching fellows program. And it too will last a long time, giving students the greater gift of effective, forceful teaching. — Lynette Blair

## Age discrimination

### Ignoring older workers hurts everyone

The United States is facing a labor shortage.

While its effects aren't apparent right now, they will be. The baby-boom generation is active in the work force, but its members are growing older. At the same time, the "baby-bust" generation that followed is contributing much smaller numbers to the national labor pool.

The shrinkage is not just a matter of who's entering the work force, but also of who's leaving it. The average age of retirement drops every year, while increasing life expectancy rates are extending the period of active retirement for most people. The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates only one in four men aged 60 and over will be working in the year 2000. But as a recent study by the Commonwealth Fund shows, many don't want to stop. A quarter of retirees, about two million people, say they are unhappy with their situation. Other surveys by the American Association of Retired Persons reveal that a quarter to a half of older workers and retirees would delay retirement if they could work fewer hours.

Statistics show that older workers have valuable problem-solving skills as well as lower absentee rates than their younger counterparts. But many older workers feel unproductive and unwanted because barriers in the business world and the federal government prevent them from working. Retirees are hampered by inflexible work schedules, few re-training programs and restrictions in Social Security, and private pension programs which reduce their benefits if they have outside income. As the percentage of the total population of

the United States aged 60 or over grows every year, our society can not allow these conditions to continue.

Several solutions come to mind. A program by the Xerox division in Rochester, N.Y., allows older production workers to take less strenuous jobs at a salary halfway between their former rate and the new job's wage, thereby providing an alternative to retirement for those who can no longer handle arduous production work and rotating shifts. Also, part-time jobs are important for older workers both because they are less strenuous and because the added income is not enough to reduce Social Security or pension benefits.

Some companies are pioneering more innovative programs. Polaroid, in Cambridge, Mass., is offering "rehearsal retirement," which allows workers to come back at full salary if they don't like the leisure time, as well as a year's salary and tuition to Harvard University or Lesley College for those workers who have been with the company for at least 10 years and want to be re-trained as school teachers. The Travelers, in Hartford, Conn., have a job bank of temporary workers made of retirees from their company and others in the area.

As we go into the 21st century, it is time for business to diversify with more flexible schedules and re-education programs. If it does not, corporate America will be perpetuating a form of discrimination against older workers, as well as wasting a valuable economic resource that it can not afford to ignore. The social and economic health of our nation depends on their actions. — Kelly Thompson

## GOVERNOR RACES 1990



## READERS' FORUM

### CAA did not propose Craige parking deck

To the editors:  
 As president of the Carolina Athletic Association (CAA), I must correct a statement in Mark Anderson's article about the Rams Club ("Critics too quick, too harsh in judging Rams Club," April 19). In his article, Anderson states that "...the CAA, not the (Rams Club), proposed the parking deck on the Hinton James tennis courts." This statement is completely inaccurate.

Last semester, the Rams Club came to leaders of student government, the CAA and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) with idea of putting a parking deck on the current Hinton James tennis courts and rebuilding tennis courts on top of the deck. I, along with Liz Jackson (former RHA president) and Joe Andronaco (former student body vice president) agreed to present the idea to students to see if they supported it. When we found student response to be extremely negative, we informed Moyer Smith of the Educational Foundation and decided with him not to proceed with the idea.

I am pleased that Mr. Smith and the Rams Club respect student opinion enough not to pursue the parking deck idea any further. He took perfectly appropriate action by consulting us for student opinion first. I simply wish to clarify the fact that the Rams Club, not the CAA, proposed this idea.

LISA FRYE  
 Junior  
 History

### Census completed with students' help

To the editors:  
 I would like to thank all of the resident assistants, area directors and assistant area directors who helped the Census Bureau in the just-concluded operation which attempted to count UNC resident students. I realize that this time of the year is a busy one for all students and that RAs have a lot going on all the time, which is why I especially appreciate those who recognized the importance of the census and made the effort to track down their residents for the census enumerators.

BUD HILLER  
 U.S. Census Bureau

### Ethics outweigh gains from animal research

To the editors:  
 The DTH based its recent editorial support for invasive animal research solely on the typical utilitarian argument regarding human benefits, and unfortunately left ethics aside.

If the experiments of the German doctors on human subjects 50 years ago had been allowed to continue, they too would have generated tremendous physiological knowledge and medical benefits. The utilitarian approach compels one to acknowledge the fine contributions of a Josef Mengele. Yet for ethical reasons, and ethical reasons alone, the world community condemned those valuable studies, and much knowledge and progress was and continues to be sacrificed.

In the case of Nazism or slavery we readily empathize with the victims and decry the investigators who stood to benefit, yet in the instance of animal research we prejudicially focus instead on the gains to the benefactors and not on the exploitation of the defenseless and innocent.

It is fine to point out these benefits so long as one also acknowledges that only a small fraction of the costly studies carried out ever get published or otherwise contribute to those eventual benefits. When one is dealing with the routine infliction of suffering and death on such a massive scale (far greater than that very limited German Holocaust) one ought not so cavalierly sweep ethical discussion aside; in fact one should

begin with it. And as we celebrate Earth Week we can be especially cognizant of what happens when we allow human self interest to take such precedence over respect not only for our environment but all its inhabitants.

ROB GLUCK  
 Laboratory Technologist  
 Chapel Hill

### Pharmacist's advice worth extra cost

To the editors:  
 I read with interest the health column about analgesics by Amanda Graves in the DTH ("Variety of painkillers can be aches to consumers," April 11). While I applaud her efforts in providing useful information, some aspects of the column deserve further comment.

A table was provided along with the column, although it was not directly referred to in the article. Comparative costs of over-the-counter analgesics were provided from Food Lion and Rite-Aid. In addition to inaccurate spelling (acetaminophine and ibuprophen), it is interesting to note that neither of these stores have a pharmacist available for consultation. Most Rite-Aid stores have a pharmacy department, but the one on Franklin Street does not.

Over-the-counter products such as the analgesics mentioned in the article are viewed by the Food and Drug Administration as being safe and effective for use by consumers in the management of self-limiting problems without the advice of a physician. Nonetheless, there may be some inherent benefit in seeking the advice of a pharmacist in order to make a rational choice about whether to treat and which product to choose. In such a circumstance, the product may or may not cost a little more. However, it would appear that similar service and advice would not be available from the meat manager at Food Lion or the cashier at Rite-Aid. It is pertinent to suggest that consumers consider consulting a pharmacist when deciding to self-medicate for a minor ailment.

DENNIS WILLIAMS, Pharm.D.  
 Clinical Assistant Professor  
 School of Pharmacy

### Committee collected Native American data

To the editors:  
 Last Wednesday, a packet created to support the immediate hiring of a permanent Native American faculty member was presented to Chancellor Paul Hardin. This packet received praise for being thoroughly researched and well-organized; however, this comprehensive document was overshadowed by the media attention that a rally invites. Thanks to the effort of the Carolina Indian Circle and the Minority and Women's Affairs Committee, Chancellor Paul Hardin had more than television cameras to look at. A document filled not only with information, but also the persuasion of 2,500 students, state and national legislators and other members of academia was in his hand.

When one cares about an issue, one does not look for personal recognition but rather the recognition that a problem exists. I think that the members of the Minority and Women's Affairs Committee under Brien Lewis are perfect examples of people who cared about an issue. These are the people who spent long nights researching, writing letters, filling out requisitions, collecting signatures, making phone calls and attending meetings to ensure that the packet was published. Nobody has recognized their time and effort. I would like to thank Joseph Holt, Quaker Kappel, Stacey Belnavis, Angela Coin, Lynda Bassa, Jimmy Burns, Cedric Woods, Jim Sweet and the rest of the Minority and Women's Affairs Committee for a job well done.

DANA CLINTON LUMSDEN  
 Sophomore  
 Political Science/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.

## Bulls games will be ruined by rivalry or move

I went to my first Durham Bulls game of the season a few nights ago. The Bulls came from behind to beat Kinston 6-4. It was great. OK, so maybe it was a little chilly and I had to switch from cold beer to hot coffee by the top of the seventh. And maybe I don't know the players yet — who to watch and what to watch for. But it's still early in the season. Give it a few weeks.

I've been going over to Durham Athletic Park on warm summer nights for a long time now. Going to a Bulls game is almost a religious experience for me. But I'm not going to pull a George Will and bore you with "baseball mysticism." I don't even like the game all that much. I can't play it to save my life. TV games put me to sleep and I think that people who memorize stats are stupid. But just the same, I like going to Bulls games.

I took my girlfriend to her first ever Bulls game the other night. I saw some friends of mine up in the third base line bleachers, and we climbed up to sit with them. My girlfriend got a disgusted look on her face when she saw their Duke shirts. Some prejudices run deep, but a few innings into the game she realized that it didn't matter. The guys with Duke shirts yelled just as loud at bad calls and base hits as the

### Andy White Guest Writer

guys with Carolina shirts did. And so did the guys with N.C. State shirts.

You see, for three hours each night that the Bulls are in town, it doesn't matter where you go to school. Rivalries are forgotten. You're not there to pull for the Tar Heels, or the Wolfpack, or the Blue Devils. You're there to pull for the Bulls, and for those three short hours we're all on the same side. It's a neat feeling. That's why I like going to Bulls games.

But it doesn't look like I'm going to be able to enjoy the Bulls much longer. Raleigh has wanted a baseball team for years, but has been prevented by a rule limiting how close minor league teams can be to each other. Now it looks like Raleigh is going to get around the rule by building an 8,000-seat stadium in Zebulon for the Class A Mudcats, currently in Columbus, Ga. That will have an effect on the Bulls' draw. And Durham voters just recently defeated a bond issue to build a new baseball park for the Bulls in downtown Durham. Bulls owner Miles

Wolff said before the vote that the future of the Bulls just might depend on the outcome.

So now there's been talk about the Bulls leaving Durham. I hope they don't. But if they do, I suppose I'll go see a few Mudcats games instead each year. It'll be nice to still have a team around, but it won't be the same. A club in rural Wake County is going to have a different pull than a club in downtown Durham. I know I won't get to see as many games, and I doubt that most of my friends at Duke will either. It'll be a different crowd, a different place and a different feeling.

Things are going to change with the Bulls whether they stay in Durham or not. The Mudcats will see to that. And that's a damn shame. I like the way going to a Bulls game feels. I like the Bulls the way they are, where they are. But at least there's still this season. So I'm going to keep going over to Durham Athletic Park on warm summer nights, sit under the lights, drink cold beer and root the Bulls on to victory. You ought to, too, while you still can. See you at the park.

Andy White is a junior Southern Studies major from Wilmington.

### 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.

