

The Daily Tar Heel

98th year of editorial freedom

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Thanks a million

Generosity reflects well on athletic department

The UNC athletic department is performing well on and off the field lately. The football team has already won five times as many games as it did last year. And the Department of Athletics has pledged \$1 million from post-season revenue for academics, giving the University community reason to cheer for heroes at the administrative end of sports as well.

Athletic Director John Swofford and Chancellor Paul Hardin jointly developed the donation plan, which was announced Friday at the Board of Trustees meeting. The plan has been billed as a creative solution to a critical and unusual time of monetary shortage.

Every year for the next five years, the plan takes \$200,000 from profits made at post-season football bowl games and National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball tournaments and puts that money toward academic programs affected by the budget cuts. Although this is far from enough money to solve the University's shortage problems, the donation is a nice gesture from a department that is not obligated to provide any funding for academics.

This is not the first donation the athletic department has made to academics, however. The athletic department has a small history of sharing its wealth with non-sports related programs at the University. In 1989 it donated \$100,000 to UNC's

libraries. The department also implemented a trademark licensing program that allots 75 percent of the revenue generated from the sale of items bearing Carolina logos to academic and need-based scholarships.

Of course, athletics at the University would cease to exist without academic programs. But it can hardly be said that the athletic department has chosen to make its donation to academics in the interest of self-preservation. Though it may appear that financial upheaval is about to crumble the foundation of the University, destruction will not be forestalled by the department's additional \$200,000 annually for a few years.

True, the athletic department might have appeared gluttonous if it used its profits this year to enhance athletic programs while the quality of University libraries and class offerings falters. Gluttony, however, is not a crime, and the athletic department, being financially self-sufficient, is free to do as it wishes with its excess revenue. Thus, its donation to academics appears to be untainted by ulterior motives.

The UNC athletic department is fortunate to be a part of a well-respected institution. And the University is fortunate to have an athletic department that not only produces nationally ranked teams, but that recognizes when the academic departments of the institution need help. — Crystal Bernstein

Hanging in there

Voters endure last campaign week

Politics are such a torment that I would advise every one I love not to mix with them. — Thomas Jefferson

Unfortunately, anyone in America who wants to watch television, listen to the radio or read the newspaper doesn't have much choice but to mix with politics these days. In North Carolina, the situation is particularly sickening; the senatorial race is reaching the level of mudslinging that citizens have come to expect only from a Jesse Helms campaign.

Fear not, only about a week to go. But oh, how long those days will be. The slandering and slurs will reach a fever pitch as candidates try to win over the mythical "undecided" voters. At least that's what everyone says the key to the election is. Some campaigners seem to have a different tactic in mind: using absurd accusations to beat voters into a senseless stupor from which they won't emerge until Thanksgiving at the earliest. Yeah ... that's the ticket!

The new federal budget should add an interesting wrinkle. The plan, which will reduce the budget deficit by \$500 billion over the next five years, has most Repub-

licans as upset with the White House as they are with their opponents. Although an average \$30,000-income household will only pay an increase of \$109, according to the National Taxpayers Union, many GOP candidates are going into tax-hysterics because the rate for people with incomes of \$225,000 will pay \$3572.

These two factors will combine to make the next week especially hectic. And although voters everywhere will be tempted to tune out, turn off and never look at another political announcement again, they cannot afford to. The savings and loan crisis, the prospect of war in the Middle East, abortion and the environment — these are just a few of the issues which will be decided by this election and the people who triumph in it. It's good and fine to complain about politicians who do not represent our beliefs, but we have no right to criticize if we don't share our viewpoints in the first place.

It's almost time for the political posturers to move to the wings, and let the voters take center stage. Let's use it while we have the chance. — Kelly Thompson

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 Daily Tar Heel has three regular staff columnists who write once a week. Their opinions also do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the board.

The Daily Tar Heel

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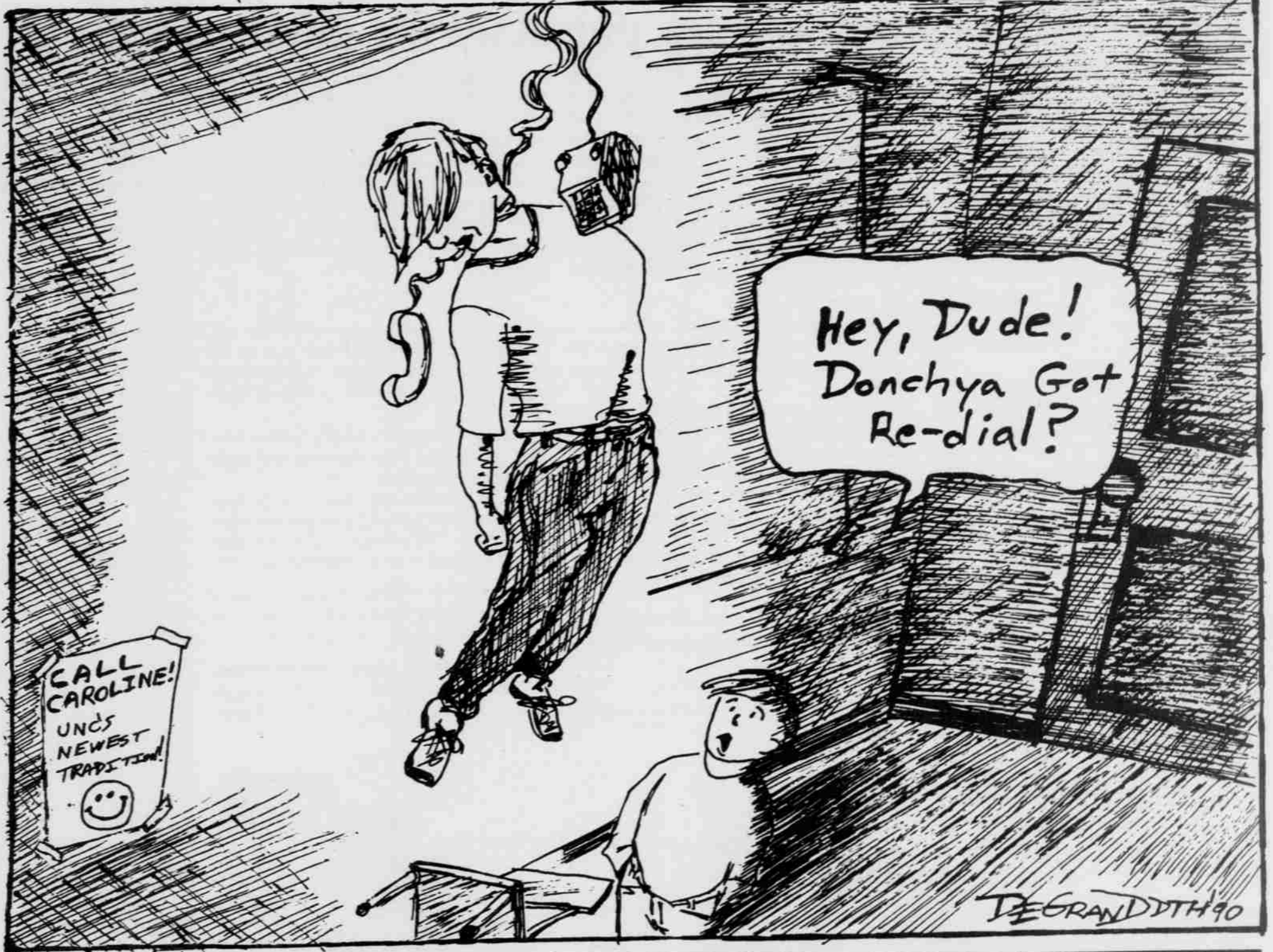
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READERS' FORUM

Construction annoys and awakens student

To the editors: I am incessantly appalled by the amount of seemingly unnecessary construction that goes on in the Olde Campus Area. As an Olde Campus resident, I was awakened at 8:06 a.m. on Oct. 22 by yet another cacophony of construction/maintenance noises outside my window. I usually have the ability to sleep through just about anything, but this is completely ridiculous. After a month and half of waterproofing last year, I had thought that this was over. After weeks of installing air conditioning in Manly and Lewis residence halls that the University really cannot afford without raising our housing bills, I had thought this was over. After weeks of digging in front of Mangum and between Aycock and Lewis residence halls, I had thought that this was over. Besides the fact I did not have to be awake until my 10 a.m. class, some people in my residence hall have exams today in their early-morning classes. Needless to say, this is quite an inappropriate study atmosphere.

Upon inspection, I have discovered that the maintenance workers are repairing some pipes below the asphalt driveway that they so meticulously laid just a few short weeks ago. That means that they are now using an "excavation" machine, which sounds like a jackhammer, to cut the driveway into sections that will be later bulldozed in order to tear up the asphalt and reach the bad pipes. This pipe problem, occurring sometime during the beginning of last week, at least had the courtesy to happen after we were all awake. I would have more patience if the job appeared terribly urgent or an all-day job; but for a job where the workers begin at 8 a.m., dig for 21 minutes, and then leave a quiet block of time 38 minutes long, beginning this early is unwarranted. I empathize with the roof tarring complaints of South Campus residents and think that we should all stand together and let whoever orders these people to start their work so incredibly early in the morning know that we are not just going to "get used to it." This temporary state has already gone too long.

DIANNE B. HELLER
 Sophomore
 Criminal Justice

Columnist too shallow to deal with feminism

To the editors: After weeks of reading John Bland's columns about his imaginary friend Rainbow, we feel the need to speak out in protest. Bland, we do not wish to attack you personally, but simply to register our pity for the deficiencies in your socialization. Obviously the rigid standards of beauty and behavior which have been imposed upon women by society have made an great impression on you. Perhaps you need some assistance in the evolution of your mindset. Women do not exist solely for your visual pleasure. Contrary to popular belief, women do have hair on their legs and were born without makeup. However, the main issue to which we object is not your petty narrow-mindedness, but your blatant denial of equal rights for all people. By making fun of those who strive for equality and justice, you belittle their efforts and erode

the few attempts made on this campus toward progress. Equality is an admirable, not distasteful, pursuit. We realize that feminism is a subject much feared and maligned by those who do not understand its goals. Women who are feminists merely want to free the world of sex discrimination; if this is too radical a philosophy, Bland, perhaps you were born in the wrong century. We realize that Rainbow is only a fictional character, a cheap and easy shot for Bland's Neanderthal sexism, but the joke just isn't funny to those who care about the state of humanity. Maybe Bland's writing talents would be better spent on subjects with which he is more familiar.

Anderson exemplifies qualities of a queen

To the editors: Almost all those in the whole University community, I am sure, feel appalled that the Homecoming Queen, Laura Anderson, received a racist, critical letter. I was pleased to have her and her escort for Homecoming, Peter Henry, as students in one of my classes last year. Both are excellent students and fine persons. I don't know what the qualifications for a Homecoming Queen might be, but if they include attractiveness, intelligence, personality, and generally high standards as a human being, then the students who voted Laura in made a first-class choice. Congratulations, Laura!

MARY CROMER
 Senior
 English

KATHERINE HECK
 Senior
 English

Writing Center offers free help to everyone

To the editors: If you have a paper due and don't know where to begin, don't panic, because the Writing Center is here to help. The Writing Center, part of the Academic Student Services network, offers free writing tutoring to UNC students, faculty and staff. Created in the 1960s, the center was originally used as a supplement for English composition courses. Over the years, however, the center has expanded to assist writers in many disciplines. Last year students in nearly 64 courses received help at the center. Over the academic year, 1,482 tutorials were conducted.

HENRY C. BOREN
 Professor
 History

Saying Helms is "lost" is far from the truth

To the editors: To the DTH artist of the Friday, Oct. 19 political cartoon depicting Sen. Jesse A. Helms as missing, please be informed that I have located him. Helms is employed as senator from North Carolina. Therefore, my search for the "missing senator" led me to Washington, D.C. where most senators can be found. I found him busy serving as the ranking Republican on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, a member of the Committee on Agriculture and a member of the Ethics and the Rules Committee. He has also been very busy negotiating the national deficit situation. You know, for 18 years Helms has maintained a lifetime senator floor attendance record of 96 percent, the highest in Congress. To even suggest that Helms is "out of touch" (as it has been so put) with national problems is foolish because 96 percent of the time

SUSANNAH ZAK
 Graduate student
 Journalism

Letters policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticisms. We attempt to print as many letters to the editors as space permits. When writing letters, please follow these guidelines: If you want your letter published, please sign and date it. No more than two signatures please. All letters must be typed and double-spaced. Please include such vital statistics as your year in school, major, phone number and hometown. If you have a title that is relevant to your letter's subject, please include it. The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity. Remember, brevity is the soul of wit. Place letters in the box marked "Letters to the Editor" outside the DTH office in the Student Union annex.

Volunteers can make SAFE Escort succeed

To the editors: As a member of the SAFE Escort executive committee, I am writing to inform students and faculty of how SAFE operates and how to become involved. In order for the new SAFE to be successful, it is imperative that all members of the UNC community take an active role in promoting and working for safety on campus.

To become a member of SAFE Escort, you must first fill out an application, which can be picked up in the basement of Steele Building, the Union desk, the Black Cultural Center and the Campus Y. All applicants will be screened, interviewed, and trained. This may seem like a cumbersome process; however, we feel that this will ensure the safety and continuity of the members.

SAFE Escort members will provide students and faculty with a safe walk home from anywhere on campus. This service should be respected and taken very seriously by all members of the campus community. The new office will be located in the basement of Cobb Residence Hall. The phone number is 962-SAFE. Paid escorts will work from this office during the hours of midnight to 3 a.m., seven days a week. Unpaid volunteer escorts will be on call at Cobb from 7 p.m. to midnight, Sunday through Thursday. As in the past, volunteer escorts will also be stationed at the Davis and Undergraduate libraries from 7 p.m. until closing, Sunday through Thursday.

But the service cannot begin until there are enough volunteers to operate SAFE. Both paid and volunteer positions are still unfilled. SAFE Escort can be there for you as soon as you are there for SAFE Escort. We need you to help make UNC a safer campus. Please join.

CHRIS MORRIS
 Senior
 Business Administration

Helms can be found debating them on the senate floor

Therefore, please call the search off for the "missing senator". I have found him fulfilling the responsibilities that North Carolina had elected him to do three consecutive times and hopefully again on Nov. 6.

R. HARRIS VAUGHAN III
 Freshman
 Political Science

All tutors undergo formal training conducted by Carol Pinkston, center director, and Paul Crumbley, who will be center director next semester. Tutors also go through an observation period during which they watch veteran tutors put teaching methods to practice. Many tutors have been on the staff for two or three years.

Students should always bring their assignment sheets with them to an appointment. Many students schedule an appointment to discuss the best way to approach a given assignment, and then schedule successive appointments to discuss rough drafts and subsequent revisions. Tutors generally help students analyze their own work and help them understand the most effective way to tackle a paper assignment. Along with general tutoring, the center offers workshops throughout the academic year which focus on various aspects of writing. Still left on this semester's agenda are workshops on the following topics: writing a strong essay exam; the analytic essay; and incorporating source material in research papers. Anyone interested in these workshops should contact the center for details about dates and times offered.

The center also operates the Grammar Hotline, which is an excellent source for finding answers to tricky grammar questions. (i.e., does one write "a" or "an" before M.A.? Call the Grammar Hotline for the answer!)

The center even has computers available for use during tutorials. The Phillips Annex has both IBM compatible and Apple computers, and the walk-in center has an IBM compatible. People who would rather work with a computer-displayed draft of their paper, rather than a hard copy, can bring their diskettes to appointments. They should also bring their preferred wordprocessing software, as the center is not yet connected to the University computer network.

So, now that you know about the fantastic, FREE services available at the Writing Center, you'd be crazy not to take advantage of them. The center's staff wants to help you — so let them!

CHRIS MORRIS
 Senior
 Business Administration