



From the Editor

Just flip through the issue. Scan some headlines. Peek at some photographs. And think back. Did you smile? Reminisce? Remember arguing with your roommate over a topic you just saw?

It's plain. And it's simple. Isn't it?

The growth that the LGBTIQ community at UNC has seen throughout the past few months has been refreshing and rewarding, while full of change and full of challenges.

We saw the Elyse Crystall controversy come to an end, but the lessons learned won't soon leave us. We met new faces and campus leaders for the LGBTIQ community that are going to lead us into the future. We saw the addition of the Program in Sexuality Studies to whet our academic appetite.



Some would argue that most importantly we witnessed wonderful days and weeks filled with community-building and *community-extending* programming — thanks being to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender - Straight Alliance here at UNC.

For this issue, the LAMBDA Team decided to investigate the GLBT-SA's role in two vital aspects of the fight for equality: assessing the climate in which LGBTIQ students live and making these students visible on this campus.

While it would seem impossible for us, as a suborganization of the GLBT-SA, to take an objective look at the group, such was not the case. LAMBDA is filled with new-school and old-school members of the larger LGBTIQ community, which allowed us to take a step back and approach coverage from varying perspectives.

We found that though the group is only in its third year, its members have diversified quickly, allowing the organization to thrive, reach out to the community and become more prominent within the state of North Carolina and throughout the nation. And all of this was due to the organization's fearlessness. It wasn't afraid to tackle such topics like "Being Black and Gay" or to hold a kiss-in — a story that was picked up nationally.

Need more be said? We'll let the following pages speak for themselves. Enjoy them. For you're undoubtedly enjoying rich LGBTIQ history.

In solidarity,
Jermaine Caldwell

*"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."
— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Mission

LAMBDA is UNC-CHAPEL HILL'S LESBIAN-, GAY-, BISEXUAL-, TRANSGENDER-, INTERSEX- AND QUEER-AFFIRMING PUBLICATION, PROVIDING A PROGRESSIVE OUTLET FOR NEWS, ANALYSIS, OPINION AND DIALOGUE. AS SUCH, WE ARE INHERENTLY COMMITTED TO A FEMINIST, ANTI-RACIST AND HISTORICALLY CONSCIOUS PERSPECTIVE IN PURSUIT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL PEOPLE.

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