

Editorials

Enthusiasm?

By Linda Floyd

On March 29th when the Tar Heels won the National Championship, there was hysteria in the air. If you were at Chapel Hill, you were one of the many thousands that gathered to celebrate, and you saw everything from blue paint to toilet paper. It was great to see that kind of school enthusiasm. When our girl's basketball team came in second, did Louisburg College, for the most part, show that much enthusiasm? No. Maybe seventy-five people gathered to welcome them back from Kansas. Most of them were faculty; hardly any students were there. It disappoints me not to see any school enthusiasm.

When either of the basketball teams play, the bleachers are virtually empty. I attended a home

baseball game not too long ago, and do you know how many students were there? Five. I have heard more noise before in a funeral home. Students here at Louisburg College hardly ever vote. The attendance at dances is minimum, and what do most students do with the school newspaper? Throw it away before reading it. A lot of time and energy are put into these activities and students need to take advantage of them.

Come on students at Louisburg College, let's get more involved with school activities. Let's show our competition we have enthusiasm. Cheer for your teams that are playing this spring. Show your pride in Louisburg College because we do have a lot to be proud of!

Editors Bid Adieu

The end of this school year means I will have to give up something I dearly treasure, my position as editor of the *Columns*. This year I saw the *Columns* newspaper transformed from a junior high school print sheet to a real journalistic college newspaper. It could not have been done without our advisor, Lane Harris, and the dedicated staff. I have put a lot of hard work into the last couple of issues, and I would do it over again if it meant a good newspaper would be printed. Being editor taught me a lot of responsibility, a lesson I thought was worth being learned.

I would like to thank Lane Harris for her guidance and inspiring ideas. I would like to thank my assistant editors, Lorraine Walker and Beth Bethune. Lorraine for doing those extra stories that were given to her at the last minute, and Beth for those trips to Henderson to pick up the

papers. I would also like to say thank you to the *Columns* staff for showing they cared enough to put out a real "College" newspaper. I could not have done what I have done this year without these people.

Linda Floyd
Editor

The semester is quickly coming to an end. Just like any important part of our lives, these past two years will be unforgettable.

As Assistant Editor of the *Columns*, I would like to thank Lane Harris, advisor to the newspaper. Lane helped us to improve our newspaper and helped us to believe in what we do with her undying faith. I would also like to thank Linda Floyd, Editor. She is a terrific editor and friend. It was great working with her.

By Lorraine Walker

Letters

Dear Editor,

There is nothing more precious than a baby, so pure, innocent, and sweet. Yet, every year thousands of babies are killed in automobile accidents. One might think, "So what, thousands of adults die in automobile accidents every year." True, but of all infant fatalities, 91% could have been saved if a safety seat had been used.

It's hard to believe that some parents are really morons. Don't they realize that when a 25 pound infant is traveling at a high speed and the car crashes, he hits the dashboard (or windshield) with a force of approximately 400 pounds?

Safety seats aren't cheap. They usually cost about \$60.00. But face it - would you rather give up \$60.00 or your child? Please, give a child a chance. They can't ask you for a safety seat.

If still in doubt, look at this: Starting July 1st, 1982, it will be mandatory for every child four years old and younger to be placed in a safety seat while traveling in an automobile, and that's a law. Failure to abide by this law will result in a court appearance and steep fine.

By Beth Bethune

Be Cool..



JOIN the COLUMNS

Bus Stop Bashing

By Grey Arnold

Have you ever had that feeling that the American court system leaves something to be desired? I've found myself, several times, feeling disgusted because a repeating offender gets off with a trivial sentence. Chances are that person will return soon on some other charge. I didn't believe the courts were strong enough, until the other day. That's when I read about Nancy Joe Burch. Nancy Joe is under aggravated assault charges because she allegedly struck her neighbor, Shirley Lynn Nickolls, on the nose twice with a 2 foot long stick. The problem? Nancy Joe is only six years old. Shirley Lynn is seven.

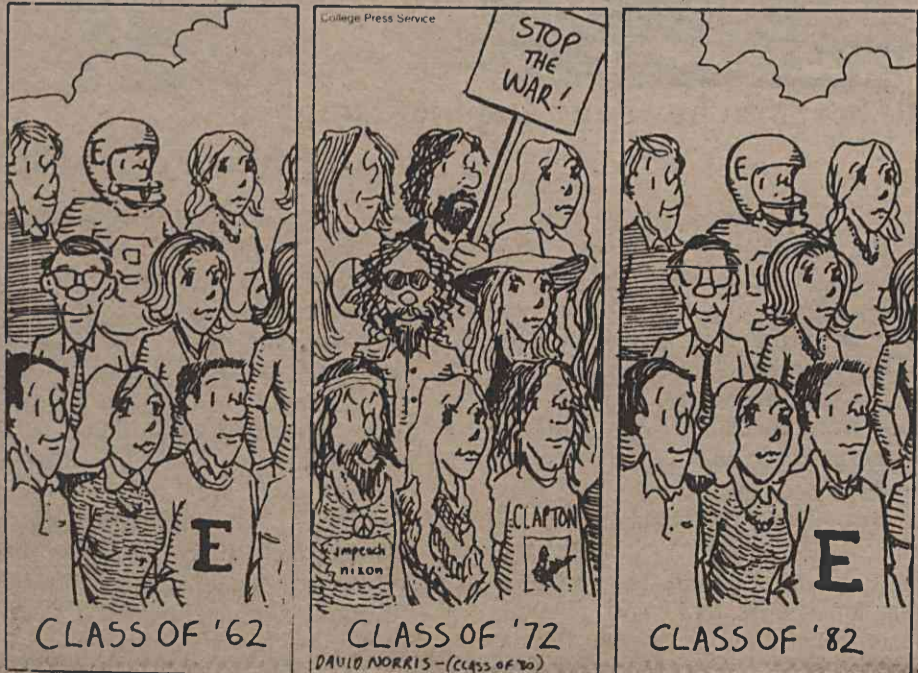
The cartilage in Shirley Lynn's nose was damaged, and when parents of the two children could not work out a solution, Mrs. Nickolls called the sheriff. Nancy Joe and her eleven-year-old male accomplice were arrested, fingerprinted, and booked on assault charges. Circuit court Judge P. A. Green ruled her eligible

for an adult trial with maximum penalties for these charges being a \$10,000 fine and fifteen years in prison.

This is beyond comment. I've never heard of any court ruling more unfair, unjust, and ridiculous. The fact that a six-year-old girl on trial for assault, if found guilty, could spend the developing years of her life behind bars is ludicrous.

Questions should be raised about the justice in this. Could Nancy Joe comprehend the complicated process of her trial? Could she adequately defend herself? Could a jury trial by adults constitute a fair trial by her "peers"?

The issue being brought to trial was not even the girl's decision. The matter is before the courts because the girls' parents can't reach an agreement with one another. The girls themselves have already made up and play together. "I push her on the swing and we talk," Nancy Joe recently stated.



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