the Seahawk

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In regards to Dr. Fuller's letter last week printed in the Seahawk, I have to question where Rosa Fuller happened to get all of her political values. Does Rosa really feel the way that her email portrayed, or have her political ideologies been branded into her by parents, one of whom seems to be an extreme socialist. My point is this: Rosa is now a senior, and her daddy seems to be fighting her battles for her. Was she threatened by the emails? Who knows? But she needs to realize that if she was so willing to insensitively open her mouth about the attacks at such an ill appointed time, she needs to be willing to take the heat that comes from that. To me, it seems that Rosa Fuller seemed to take advantage of her freedom of speech, but now wants that to stop at what she says. Well, too bad. I believe that Rosa's ideals are nothing more than rhetoric, which can hardly be called factual. College is a time to create our own values and ideals, not just preach those that our parents so readily believe in. So Rosa, and Rosa's daddy, if you can't handle the heat, get out of the kitchen and keep your trap shut (oh and that was not a threat).

Brad Hutchens,
Seahawk staff writer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Seahawk welcomes all readers to submit letters to the editor for possible publication. Please send correspondence to 601 S. College Road, UNCW, Wilmington, NC 28403 or by email at editor@theseahawk.org

The Seahawk reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter. Letters that contain libelous or slanderous material will not be considered for publication. All letters must be signed by the author. Letters to the editor are the individual opinions of individuals, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Seahawk staff or the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Letters can be submitted in person at the Seahawk office, via snail mail, through campus mail, or via e-mail at editor@theseahawk.org

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Editorial Viewpoint

Student Media Board vs. WLOZ

Last semester, fliers decorated the bulletin boards around campus asking for support to "Save WLOZ," the campus' student run radio station. The radio station closed down last January and the Student Media Board is ready to vote on its future.

In actuality, most students on the UNCW campus don't know that there was a campus radio station. One important question is, how many people would actually listen WLOZ if it were reinstated? The FM signal it used was not only unlicensed by the FCC, but so weak no one off campus could hear it. Whatever becomes of WLOZ, it will not continue as a broadcast radio station.

The radio station is no the only student media organization facing hardships. *The Seahawk* and *Atlantis* are running short of funds in their budgets.

The Sept 11 terrorist attacks have put the breaks on an economy that began slowing last spring. Low advertising sales and potential start-up costs for new media such as the Film Group and Student Body Television have created concern about the financial situation of the student media. How does the SMB plan to compensate for the lack of funds?

By closing the radio station permanently, $4000 would be free to allocate, but most likely it would go into a savings account. The media board will ask for a $2 increase in fees for each student this semester.

Students have been up at arms about the increases in their fees. With the impending increase in student fees for the construction of the new union and other campus projects, does another $2 really matter?

Student media is an important but under appreciated part of UNCW life. Writing for *The Seahawk* gives students experience in journalism and gets them involved in campus events. It supplies news and features that inform students about the around town and around the world. *Atlantis* allows students to submit their own works: poetry, photos, drawings and stories, and teaches staff about the world of publishing.

The creation of Student Body Television and the Film Club will give students new opportunities for self-expression. In a town based around the film industry like Wilmington is, media organizations such as the Film Club and SBTV are good ways to gain valuable experience.

Student media acts as a laboratory for students interested in pursuing careers in publishing, public relations and advertising in addition to print journalism and photography. Let's hope the media board will receive enough money to fund new media to broaden student horizons even more, into television broadcasting and film.

Guest Commentary

Jessica Chaffin

I am writing in response to an editorial published in the Oct. 18 edition of *The Seahawk*. As a student of Dr. Lisa Pollard, I was shocked that someone would unjustly twist her words, changing them from their original humanitarian approach to something so hateful. Her words did not mean to imply that the United States was at fault for the events of Sept. 11.

Yes, in countries like Iraq and Afghanistan there are thousands of children dying from malnutrition and from the violence that wrenches their countries. Americans, college students especially, need to put this into perspective, because we are the next rulers of this country. It is us that will have to make decisions on foreign policy. The most harmful action that we as students can make at this point in our lives is to turn our heads and fill ourselves with ignorance, not awareness. Responding to violence with more violence is not the answer. The hatred towards America is only going to increase dramatically as more and more Afghani civilians are killed in a blind man-hunt.

Diplomacy and a reevaluation of American foreign policy might help us uncover the reasons behind such a horrible act of genocide. Each bomb that we drop on Afghanistan could feed these starving children, could increase goodwill between countries.

There is a growing communication gap between countries; this onslaught of violence is only widening that gap. Our professors at UNCW are not out to contaminate our views on how the world works. Their job is to educate students on what they know. These people were not just hired off the streets, they are educated and they know what they're talking about. We are all in school to learn, what use will it be to close our minds to knowledge besides wasting space that many children would give anything to have?

The students at UNCW must stand up for what we believe in; we must watch the news, read the papers and educate ourselves on what is going on in the world. We will be the leaders of tomorrow, let us not make the same mistakes again. When the final death tolls come from New York and Washington, there will be many American children without families; do we want the only thing in common between children of two great nations to be that they are all orphans?