

The Seahawk

"Excellence Through Truth and Tradition" Since 1948

MICHA O'BRIEN - Editor-in-Chief
 LINDSEY M. BIRAND - Managing Editor
 ANDREW DALRYMPLE - Advertising Director
 HEATHER GRADY - News Editor
 SARAH WISSEMAN - Staff Writer/Editor

KATE BARNWELL - Special Sections Editor
 WYMEYALLA - Sports Editor
 JAMES FLYNN - Photo Editor
 KEVIN KASBITZ - Advisor
 BRIE DELONCO - Student Coordinator



Walter Whitener, Ken Trages, Douglas Hershman, John Hershman, Todd Thomas, Justin Nemes, Andrew Knight, Natalia Makarsky, John White, Jessica Torres, Jessica Chaffin, Curtis Beck, Carolee Hays, Mike Hershman, Matt Manning, Louise Leathers, Jason Roberts, Danielle Marlett, Susan Chiswick, Allison Smith, Renee Jones, Photographers: Elizabeth Kald, Brent Dizon, Andy Butler, Rachel Potts, Mike Sannes, Christiana Pechlman, Khaled Nisran, Gabe Harmon, videographers: Capri Kallman, Tamara Clavich, Andrew Minola, Kristin Acker, Kameron-Pfeifferman, Amy Swanson, Advertising Staff: Kim Raitz, Bill Simpson, Robby Marshall, Sonny Reinhardt, Distribution: John Wilks, Jeff Givens, Stephanie Webb

The Seahawk is published by the students of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as a source of news for the University and surrounding community. As a branch for free expression, the Seahawk staff will accept no censorship whatsoever. The Seahawk is published for the staff and is not a newspaper of the University. Material for space is accepted on a non-exclusive and non-refundable basis. The Seahawk's Unpublished opinions represent the opinions of our authors and do not constitute an endorsement of the views and are not necessarily representative of the entire The Seahawk staff. Advertising material does not constitute an endorsement of the services by advertisers of the Seahawk staff. The Seahawk is a member of the Associated Colleges Press, Individual and Women's Colleges and the Society of Professional Journalists. The Seahawk utilizes the Tribune Media Service for portions of content. The Seahawk is licensed by the National Collegiate Publisher, Inc. for distribution in printed and electronic editions in 2002. The Seahawk's headquarters: On the web: www.the-seahawk.org

Editorial Viewpoint

A student's right to have more voice in campus elections across the North Carolina system. More students felt left out of a system that historically values the voices of other, more influential constituents over the students actually effected by the decisions.

It's true that our elected officials are overwhelmingly elected by an increasingly greying population. The college demographic: 18-30, year-olds have the lowest voter turnout of any age group. This may not seem immediately relevant to the price of tuition at UNCW, but think about it.

What's the base reason for increasing tuition? Decreasing state support coupled with increasing operating costs. Every year, state support has decreased. Now that the state has a substantial hole in its budget, money will only continue to evaporate as time passes.

Students must exercise their rights as citizens of the state. Voting is obviously a crucial part of those rights. By voting, students can select representatives who sympathize with their financial woes, and students can show North Carolina politicians that they have as much political clout as the older voters.

Voting is the least difficult and time consuming way to influence politicians. Local groups run voter registration in the student

union. Post office boxes are acceptable addresses, and the actual voting takes a minimal amount of time, since the polling place is right down the street for students with a university address.

Writing letters to representatives and actively making voices heard feels futile, but can be one of the most effective methods of bringing changes made. It takes more time, but for those who really feel strongly about the amount of money they are paying for their education, it can really make a difference.

Student involvement in the political process is the only way to make a real difference in the way the state allocates money for higher education. Unfortunately, at UNCW, students don't even care enough about the way their student fees are spent to vote in the Student Government Association's elections. And if students can't even get motivated enough to submit an electronic ballot, how can we expect them to actually drive somewhere to cast their vote in the complicated state Senate races?

The answer isn't an easy one. Perhaps the only way to convince students that they need to be more active in the political process is to keep charging them more money to attend a state-funded school. Then maybe they'll get the message.

SEAHAWK CONTACT INFORMATION:

EDITOR: 910-962-3229 / editor@theseahawk.org
 NEWS: 910-962-7148 / ads@theseahawk.org
 SPORTS: 910-962-7148 / sports@theseahawk.org

LIFESTYLES: 910-962-7148 / arts@theseahawk.org
 ADVERTISING: 962-2789 / ads@theseahawk.org
 FAX: 910-962-7131

Send all inquiries and letters to the editor to the Seahawk, 601 S. College Road, Bruner Student Support Center, Wilmington, N.C. 28403-5624

Drowning our inner child, 25 cents at a time

Aubrey Henretty/Michigan Daily

ANN ARBOR, Mich. - No one ever says, "I want to be a lateral Reserve Service agent when I grow up."

People used to be doctors, lawyers, teachers, firemen and construction workers. We want to be space cadets. We want to cure cancer and be gourmet chefs and live in log cabins in the mountains, to teach the world to sing in perfect harmony, to buy the world a Coke and keep it company. We want to be cooler than we were in middle school.

Most of the world's population lacks adequate medical care. Classrooms are overcrowded. Public defenders are overworked. The space program peaked in the '60s. Last time we checked, there was no correlation between Coca-Cola consumption and world peace. Cancer still wins more often than it loses. Yet good intentions, no matter how great, are not enough.

So many of us start out with good intentions. We set up lawn-wax stands (25 cents for a plastic capful) on the sidewalk with our friend/Neke on the weekends and sell coolers for 10 cents apiece (less than our parents paid for them on sale in the corner store). We make colorful signs and talk about what we want to be when we grow up (inverses and marine biologists, stand-up comedians and truck drivers) and the great things we will invent (flying cars and cherry-flavored cough medicine that actually tastes like cherries). Not as business savvy as the kids down the street with the boom box, and the designer Discs, ours are not more coolies than we sell.

A few of us — the luckiest — get into decent colleges and — the unluckiest — get into overpriced colleges. We are older and no less stary-eyed. Cough syrup is of little consequence to us, we have kids. When we grow up, we tell our friends and families, there will be no more doctors or nurses or postmen or injustice in the world. We have studied great thinkers' thoughts and become brilliant, we can fix everything. Just you wait.

This time, it will work.

So, what happens? Where do all the young visionaries go to die? At what point does the eye-dropper collect cheapen cars ("Mark, interpretively, why does it cost? With all that loud, proud idealism that pervades college campuses nationwide, why do we turn out such sorry CEO-to-soup-kitchen volunteer rates?")

One argument says people go to college to get good (i.e. facilitating the acquisition/maintenance of expert utility vehicles and large (dramatic) jobs. It is for some a stepping stone to the upper-middle class and for others a rain check promising engraved plaques outside brick buildings. Welcome to the Rich Banker Auditoriums. This is America. Take what you can get.

But what about space camp? What about the giant hospital we were going to build in Somalia? The master plan to end international conflict, strife and general unpleasantness? The cough syrup? Most "successful" post-collegiate car-carrying members of the social elite are quick to dismiss our aspirations as childish delusions of grandeur. Impractical if not impossible. In we'll, they say, understand when we are older and wiser and the real world is snapping at our heels. We will leave our lofty ideals out in the garage with our old board games and rusty one-eyed peepers. Our peers will sigh with relief and welcome us to the fold and the country club. Before long, we too will chant, parrotize, dismiss and forget our dreams, standardized we were ever that young and stupid. We will grow up.

Meanwhile, we keep on with our kids and our words, our enthusiasms intact and unscrubbed (or at least minimally scrubbed). We skip our feet and shout, demanding respect from head-patting naysayers who smile and blame college. We bite each other's heels. We don't want to grow up.

WE CAN DRIVE, BUT OUR INSURANCE PREMIUMS ARE ASTRONOMICAL...



WE CAN VOTE, BUT NONE OF THE POLITICIANS SEEM TO CARE ABOUT US...



WE CAN HAVE SEX, BUT RISKING GETTING INFECTED WITH HIV...



WE CAN SMOKE, BUT RISK GETTING LUNG CANCER OR EMPHYSEMA...



WE CAN ATTEND COLLEGE, BUT HAVE TO GO INTO DEBT FOR 20 YEARS TO PAY FOR IT...



... AND THEY WONDER WHY WE DRINK.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Seahawk staff reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the page. Letters should be addressed to the Editor, The Seahawk, 601 S. College Road, Bruner Student Support Center, Wilmington, N.C. 28403-5624. Letters should be accompanied by a return address. Letters should be submitted to the Editor at least two weeks before the issue is published. Letters should be submitted to the Editor at least two weeks before the issue is published. Letters should be submitted to the Editor at least two weeks before the issue is published.