

## Editorial

# Concern shown for new DUI proposals

The new "Safe Roads Act" that North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt submitted to the General Assembly last Tuesday is a bill that has been long needed in this state. And with the public's increasing awareness of the drunken driver, a DUI offense has become something to be intensely concerned about and not shrugged off by offenders. Finally the drunken driver has become socially unacceptable in the state.

Two proposals in the "Safe Driving Act" however, should be considered carefully by legislators before they make a final decision on the bill. One is the section that would raise the legal drinking age for beer and wine from 18 to 19. Will one year really make that much difference? Some say this will get alcohol out of the hands of high school students. What should be considered is that a high school student is usually 18 for less than a year while in school. Also, those underage can find someone who is 19 to buy alcohol for them as easily as they can ask their high school friends. Many of the students under 18 have fake ID's anyway.

Another proposal of the bill that raises many questions is the section that would make tavern owners liable if they sold alcohol to underage or drunken customers who later cause an accident. This seems a terrible burden to tavern owners. For example, what if the underage customer has presented the bartender with a fake ID that the bartender does not realize is fake? Also, most bars have certain times of the day that are the busiest, and bartenders have little time to watch carefully each customer to see if they are drunk. Some people can look sober even though they have blood alcohol content of .10 (the legal amount of intoxication). And some people look incredibly drunk even after two beers. It seems a shame to place the liability with the tavern owners when it is based upon their bartender's judgement of whether or not the person is sober or underage.

Proposals in the bill that allow for stiffer penalties for drivers charged or stopped for DUI seem the most reasonable. Often a stricter punishment makes a crime more formidable. And DUI is a crime. Hopefully, the General Assembly will realize that the punishment should fit the crime and that raising the drinking age and making tavern owners liable for civil damages is not the solution.

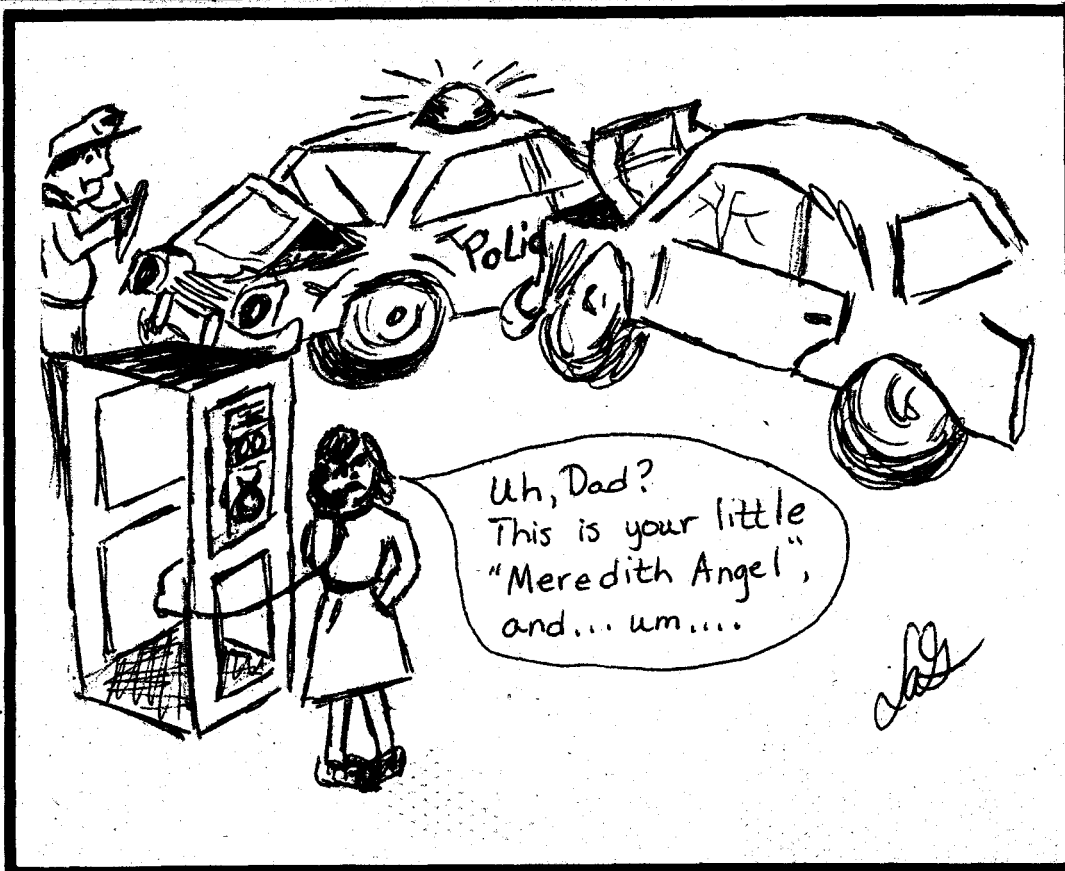
**THE TWIG welcomes letters to the editors and contributions of columns to the editorial pages.**

**All contributions should be typed, double spaced, and are subject to editing.**

**Column writers should include their majors and hometowns; each letter should include the writer's name, address, and telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be printed.**

**Bring letters and columns by THE TWIG office, 107 Barefoot or 223 Faircloth.**

**Speak out and be heard!**



## Letter to students

# Student views requested

Dear Students,

I will begin this semester

writing editorials for *The Twig*. My main goal is to bring about changes, by exposing aspects of student life that we, the students, feel deserve attention. One person can not accomplish this goal; however, if we all take a stand, we can let the administration realize that there are problems that need to be eliminated.

My column next week will deal with the "washer-dryer" situation we have on campus.

I have already spoken to several residents of each dorm to hear how they feel and I urge all of you to contact me, should you have any positive or negative feelings toward this subject. Before anything can get done, we must speak out and let our complaints be heard. If you have any comments you would like to express or have an idea for a column, please contact me in 115 Stringfield or at ext. 271.

Some additional topics I will be exploring this semester in my column are: changing the telephones to the Centrex System, having a basic guide for the appropriate use of electrical outlets, food, the process of I.D.'s, keeping co-ed facilities open longer, establishing a weight room,

having men in the dorms at specified hours, the scheduling of non-campus dinners during regular campus dining hours, the campus church and with your help and ideas I will have additional topics to elaborate on. I do urge you to feel free to express your opinions. Don't pass up this opportunity to express your views. You need not disclose your name unless you would like to be quoted.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Cynthia L. Church

## Rules for Submitting Twig Articles

If your club or organization is interested in submitting an article to *The TWIG*, please follow the directions below:

- 1) Either type double-space OR print on lined notebook paper, skipping every other line. Do not write on the back of a page.
- 2) Count every word in the article and place at the top of the page.
- 3) Leave a phone number of a person who can be contacted if there are any questions.
- 4) Put in a *TWIG* drop envelope. These are located outside the doors of 107 Barefoot, 223 Faircloth, and *The TWIG* office, 2nd floor Cate Center.

*The TWIG* appreciates any articles of interest to the college community.

# THE TWIG

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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27611

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The Twig welcomes comment and will give prompt consideration to any criticisms submitted in writing and signed by the writer.

## Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe*, by Douglas Adams. (Pocket, \$2.95.) Successor to "Hitchhikers Guide."
2. *Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy*, by Douglas Adams. (Pocket, \$2.95.) Companion to the PBS TV series.
3. *The Fate of the Earth*, by Jonathan Schell. (Avon, \$2.50.) Description of a major nuclear war.
4. *Garfield Takes The Cake*, by Jim Davis. (Ballantine, \$4.95.) Fifth book on the famous cartoon cat.
5. *Real Men Don't Eat Quiche*, by Bruce Feirstein. (Pocket, \$3.95.) A hilarious guide to masculinity.
6. *The Hotel New Hampshire*, by John Irving. (Pocket, \$3.95.) Latest novel by the author of "Garp."
7. *Enchanted Broccoli Forest*, by Mollie Katzen. (Ten Speed Press, \$11.95.) Vegetarian recipes.
8. *An Indecent Obsession*, by Colleen McCullough. (Avon, \$3.95.) Ms. McCullough's latest work of fiction.
9. *A Few Minutes With Andy Rooney*, by Andy Rooney. (Warner, \$3.95.) Humorous essays by the TV personality.
10. *Rabbit Is Rich*, by John Updike. (Fawcett, \$3.95.) The saga of Harry Angstrom continues.

Compiled by The Chronicle of Higher Education from information supplied by college stores throughout the country. Dec. 15, 1992.

## New & Recommended

- A Flag for Sunrise*, by Robert Stone. (Ballantine, \$3.95.) A quickly paced political novel set in Latin America.
- GANDHI: A Memoir*, by William L. Shirer. (Washington Square Press, \$3.95.) A vivid portrait of the extraordinary leader.
- Happy to be Here*, by Garrison Keillor. (Penguin, \$4.95.) Stories and comic pieces by one of *The New Yorker's* most popular authors.

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