

# EDITORIALS

## Happy Hours: Just How Happy Did They Make Us?

by Cynthia L. Church  
Co-editor

I know of very few people, if any, that pass up a bargain. Just the other day my suitemate and I went to Kerr Drugs to get her a highlighting pen. Just one. No more. Who needs two?

We approached the shelf where our eyes met the multi-colored florescent pens, examined the sizes, then the prices. When we saw the price tags I noticed a sign reading 2 for \$1.00 What a bargain.

"Hey still. You can get one for \$.50."

Instead of getting one, she bought two — knowing she would probably not use up the ink in one this year or within a lifetime. It's these kinds of bargains that keep grocery stores, clothing manufacturers and other places in business. These reduced prices bring the shoppers in. And why shouldn't they? Everyone loves to save money.

North Carolinians were able to enjoy this price advantage with alcoholic

drinks . . . . That is until the legislature banned happy hours this year. This has raised much controversy among drinkers. Because the discount prices were offered during early evening hours many people would go to bars after work (or during a study break). So what's the problem? Traffic accidents.

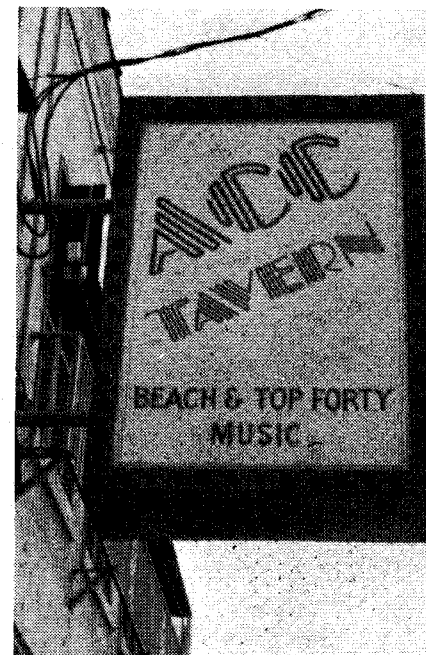
It seems our law enforcers and legislators pulled these two facts together and decided that banning happy hours could decrease traffic accidents and fatalities in North Carolina. I have no problem with the banning of happy hours. I feel it is up to the individual to determine what quantities of alcohol he drinks, if any. But if a person wants to drink four drinks, he will and he'll pay full price. Why should our legislatures decide what price he'll pay?

I feel every watering hole owner should be left to decide what prices can be placed on the alcoholic beverages served there. Or — if not the owner, each brewer should decide whether or not they will permit their beverages to

be sold at a discount. Isn't this how other markets determine prices?

I do realize the dangers happy hours present. Like in the case of my suitemate, it's easy to buy two for the price of one — or purchase another drink free or at half price. There are going to be those who will drive after drinking. But halting happy hours isn't going to stop them from driving while impaired. Those that don't have sense enough not to get behind the wheel are the same ones who don't know when to say "no" to another drink.

Whether or not we have happy hours or drink specials, it is important for us to drink in moderation. And if you are blowing off a weekend and know your plan on getting drunk — don't drive. This year the senior class lost a potential graduate and many of us lost a friend when Jacqueline Edwards was killed by a drunk driver. I've heard people say too many times, "You won't believe what I did while I was drunk last night . . . ." Wouldn't it be horrible to



face yourself in the mirror and admit to killing someone.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor;

Being a resident assistant has its ups and downs. You have to be able to take the good with the bad. Last week I almost had to deal with the worst.

A distressed resident on my hall came to me during the night, while I was studying. Two sets of her friends, the majority of which live on my hall also, had set out on a short little venture — one group was going to the Winn Dixie and the other group was going to get the car from the pasture where freshmen and sophomores park. The latter were to meet the other girls at the grocery store later to bring them back to the campus. One mutual friend remained at school.

Soon, she received a phone call. The girls at the store were wondering where their ride was. The girl on the other end had no clue. Tensions began to build on both ends of the line - it had been almost an hour since both groups had set out. Where were the girls who had gone to the pasture to get the car?

Now, it was necessary to consult a higher authority. Security was called and no answer was given. Then the stu-

dent and I decided to go down to Johnson Hall where we could find a security officer. We were later met by two officers who said that they would go and check out the area. Meanwhile, we paced and pondered, "hoping for the best, but fearing for the worst." Suddenly, an officer got a message on his radio that the girls were found and were on their way back to school!

Luckily, that was a false alarm. We could now rest easy and forget about it, but what if the girls who had gone to get the car had not been found or if they would have been found in a different state than they had left?

This situation prompted me to think about this parking location on campus.

Freshmen and sophomores who have special permission are given the "privilege" to park in the pasture. The pasture is in a secluded section of campus where lighting is minimal, the terrain is rough, and in a corner sits an old decrepit shack - the perfect haven for a would-be attacker. It all sounds like a scene to a horror movie and it could be if more attention is not given to the

area. In light of the recent occurrences in the Triangle Area, it seems to me that that would be enough for someone to notice this situation before it is too late. I have always heard that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Why can't we investigate this problem and take measures to resolve it before we are faced with harsh reality?

Lights could be installed, new areas for parking could be looked into, or a

security officer could be placed on constant patrol.

I think a little added expense or time is far better than the loss of life. Let's do something so that we can keep all of our angels on earth.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Goodman  
Resident Assistant,  
3rd Brewer

## Tired Anyone?

by Jennifer Bruffey

Do you find yourself in your dorm room thinking how tired you are, when all you've done is go to class and watch soap operas? Granted, walking to and from Joyner and Harris is quite a task. Of course, watching Lujack on *Guiding Light* or Steve Andropulus on *As the World Turns* may give you a worn out feeling too.

Next time you get this feeling do something about it. You can take a walk (with a friend), workout with Jane Fonda, play tennis or do any other activity. It's amazing what 30 minutes or an hour of any of these can do for you. You will

feel better physically as well as emotionally. You might not think at first that a walk can refresh your mind but after a day of classes, meetings and homework it will work wonders. As the weather gets colder, don't let that keep you inactive. Doing *Jane* or riding the bikes in Weatherspoon gym will suffice.

Don't get caught up in the four-wall dorm room syndrome. Just 30 minutes a day doing anything active might make you feel better than after a 30 minute nap. Make this year your best physically and emotionally!

See ya on the courts, Cynthia!!

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