

U.S. too power hungry

A group of nations around the world, including many of the United States' allies, is proposing a permanently established court that would try international war-crime suspects. This court is called the International Criminal Court.

From the Editor

Current examples of the type of people the court would try are Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia and Foday Sankoh of Sierra Leone. As it stands now, the United Nations sets up temporary courts to try

specific cases of international war crimes.

But thus far, the U.S. has not joined these other nations in signing for this court. U.S. military officials, in a fit of paranoia reminiscent of the Red Scare, are afraid that the court might jeopardize the authority that the U.S. has by allowing other countries to bring politically-motivated charges against U.S. officials.

And North Carolina's own Jesse Helms is not helping matters. In fact, Helms is proposing a bill in Senate that would ban military aid to countries that do ratify the treaty that must be signed for this court to be started. And in Helms' bill, U.S. officials would have immunity from this court's jurisdiction before the U.S. would help the U.N. with peacekeeping missions.

Should we allow our elected officials to abuse and use the power of this nation in such a way? Helms' bill essentially calls for the legalization of blackmail in that it would allow the U.S. to bully and threaten even our allies like Israel.

Many countries rely on the assistance that the U.S. so consistently provides, and the U.N. most certainly relies on the military presence and power of the U.S., especially in countries of political turmoil and upheaval.

Had this bill been passed before Milosevic's attempted takeover of the Yugoslav government, would the U.S. have sat idly by, watching Yugoslav citizens suffer under the cruel dictatorship of Milosevic?

The U.S. shouldn't continually interfere in other countries political and social problems, as we currently are in Colombia, but we certainly should not use our power to make other countries fear us.

Campus forum

Spectrum's picture oversteps no bounds

Dear Editor:

This is in response to last week's letter to the editor about the picture depicting a gay couple kissing (Nov. 29, Campus Forum). My initial view is for the person who wrote the article to take off her rose-colored glasses and realize that the world is not entirely heterosexual. There is no reason for the two men to hide their love for one another because of the ignorance that prevails so deeply in some of the world's minds.

Though I am not a member of Spectrum, I applaud them for taking initiative to display what is considered to be a controversial picture. It is more of a Christian attitude to accept the love of these men than to say that you accept it as long as you don't have to see it. That seems hypocritical to me.

To my understanding, Spectrum was formed in support of individuals who have in the past been shunned by their peers because people feel they can judge others on their private loves. How can you say that in displaying that picture, Spectrum was "abusing their support"? I don't feel Spectrum needs the support of a person who, deep down, does not want to give it to them. What makes you think your support is of any significance to them? They deal with enough negativity from closed-minded people that the last thing they need is for you to uphold their political rights because they have other well-educated, open-minded people to do it.

Isn't diversity part of the initiatives set forth by Meredith? Diversity does not just include race. It includes sexuality, religion and culture. It truly worries me that such a negative and closed-minded attitude is about to enter the real world. You have no clue what you are about to get into if you think a picture is bad. For all you know, your first boss will be gay, or your first born will be gay. What are you going to do then?

Sincerely, Tiffany Cales, '02

Stop following us for our parking spaces

Dear Editor:

Lately as we have been trying to find parking places, we have noticed that there are people who wait in the Cate Center parking lot for people to come out of class. These people are known as the Commuter Stalkers.

Their idling their cars in a line in the parking lot irritates us to no end. Their actions not only clog the parking lot so we can't get around them, but also hurt the environment because of the extra emissions they release into the air.

Don't these people realize that it is easier to just park on the other side of Cate Center than it is to stalk students who haven't yet gotten out of class.

Point blank, their behavior is rude, it clogs the parking lots and it makes other students nervous as they get into their cars. Can people not walk an extra 15 steps? Which one of us doesn't need a little extra exercise? We are not addressing those with disabilities, but the rest of you should try walking; it can't hurt. The rest of us will thank you.

Sincerely, Christine Kelley, '02 Julie Norris, '01 Marley Finch, '01 Kate Breen, '01 Betsy Morgan, '01 Heather Thomson, '01

Who is elusive 'com-muter of month'?

Just imagine you are driving up to the Cate Center to find a parking spot, thinking this

might be your lucky day, and out of the corner of your eye, you see a spot! Wow! A spot in the Cate Center parking lot: could your day get any better? You pull into the spot with a huge smile only to be confronted with a sign that reads "Commuter of the Month."

With embarrassment, you leave the spot to find one out in the middle of nowhere.

Who is the commuter of the month? I'm not upset that there is a commuter of the month, but I wish she'd come to class. Is there really a commuter of the month, or is there just one less spot for commuters to park in?

Sincerely, Kim Joyner, '01

Let leaders handle Class Doll decision

This letter is in response to the letter published in the Nov. 15 Campus Forum.

As an active member of the class of 2001, I am astonished at the outlets being taken to discuss the issues concerning the Class Doll. I have only one question for the members of my class who have such conflicting views about our class doll: Where have you been for the last four years?

Everyone is aware of the successes that our class has made, and there has been a select group of students who have taken this class to its peak. To me, the Class Doll should represent those students who have dedicated their col-

Please see Campus Forum page seven

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