

The Daily Tar Heel

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Oversee, Don't Overlook

The University can't afford to leave stones unturned, questions unanswered or money unaccounted for.

And UNC administrators shouldn't stand for the University's auditor sweeping potentially unflattering information under the carpet because he feared bad publicity.

A recent state investigation has found that the University's Internal Audit Director Edwin Capel regularly neglected to issue reports of financial irregularities in departments ranging from the Student Stores and the School of Business to the Property Office and the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid.

This isn't an isolated problem. It's one that has repeated itself not once, but several times over the course of eight years. Capel has worked for UNC since 1981.

It's time to end this blatant contempt for the taxpayers of North Carolina. And it's time for an answer that explains why UNC didn't notice or respond to the irregularities sooner.

Until recently, Capel answered to Wayne Jones, vice chancellor for business and finance. But Chancellor Paul Hardin, upon learning of the discrepancies, changed the auditing process so Capel will answer to him effective Sept. 1.

Hardin's reasoning is that the audit will have more "clout and credibility" under his charge, even though he says the audit's chain of command was not the problem for the past eight years.

Eliminating the middleman—the vice chancellor for business and finance—only means that the already overworked chancellor will have even less time to ensure the University's financial integrity.

The vice chancellor is the one best able to fix financial irregularities as they arise because he is

close enough to the management level to work toward solutions. But, clearly, that safety valve is not enough to offset Jones' obvious conflict of interest in working close to department heads.

The University's auditor also should answer to the Board of Trustees, which would be less susceptible to departmental politics. The BOT, then, could watch over the vice chancellor to make sure all monetary problems had been noted and dealt with.

By also involving the BOT, which is far away from the daily brouhaha of campus administrative life, the University would be assured that a more unbiased party would be part of the auditing process.

In 1989, the state auditor's office "strongly recommended" that the UNC auditor report directly to the BOT instead of to the vice chancellor for business and finance. That recommendation was dismissed five years ago and was ignored again recently by Chancellor Hardin.

Hardin said the incident boiled down to Capel having made a bad judgment call—that the discrepancies were not the fault of Jones or of the reporting process.

And the chancellor said he wanted to change guidelines to ensure there would be no future confusion over when a report needed to be filed.

But, certainly, something went awfully awry for Capel to spend 5,277 hours over the course of eight years doing work that he never wrote reports on.

Whose interests were being protected for the reports not to be issued?

All the individual parties who stood to gain from the information not released by Capel's office should come clean now rather than let the administration appear confused, incompetent or secretive.

Lower Rent for the Homeless

More than 100 students are living in temporary on-campus housing. These students, who are forced to share tight quarters in dorm lounges, should be put up at as low a cost as possible until the housing department can find them the rooms it guaranteed.

Wayne Kunch and the housing department have made a whole-hearted effort to accommodate all the freshmen who are guaranteed housing.

Because certain kinks in the system—like accurately predicting how many of the students UNC admitted will actually show up in the fall—can never be worked out perfectly, some unlucky students every year will end up in makeshift campus housing for the first, difficult weeks.

The students living in lounges—with little personal space, no phone and no idea when they will be moved to their permanent room—are paying 80 percent of the full housing rate for every day they live in temporary housing.

That's right. 80 percent.

The standard double-room rate of \$985 per

semester boils down to about \$8 per day. If a student lived six weeks in a lounge, he would pay about \$267—saving all of \$67 for his inconvenience. Those suffering the indignity of spending their first college weeks with no secure home should not have to pay 80 percent of the full rate.

Housing is a University auxiliary service and has to make ends meet without any University funding. Its administrators try hard to provide a service that students will want to pay for.

But right now, the department is not losing money. Perhaps it could afford to cut a little more slack to the students making their homes in lounges. Those living in lounges are still using some services that housing has to pay for, like electricity, housekeeping, moving furniture around and hot water for showers. But surely these expenses can't equal 80 percent of the total costs for a double room in Carmichael.

Housing has made a valiant effort to place everyone and provide acceptable service. But within reasonable limits, it should strive to charge the lounge-dwellers as little as possible.

Cooperative Cabinet

Beginning this year, thanks to a decision by Student Body President George Battle, the Cabinet meetings of the executive branch of student government will be open to the public. This action was long overdue, and it is a positive step toward achieving a better student government with greater campuswide participation.

There was virtually nothing gained by keeping the executive branch meetings closed to the public.

Student government is supposed to be the students' collective voice, one that is acknowledged by the administration. It is only appropriate that the entire student body, rather than an elite cadre of elected and appointed officials, has the opportunity to be involved.

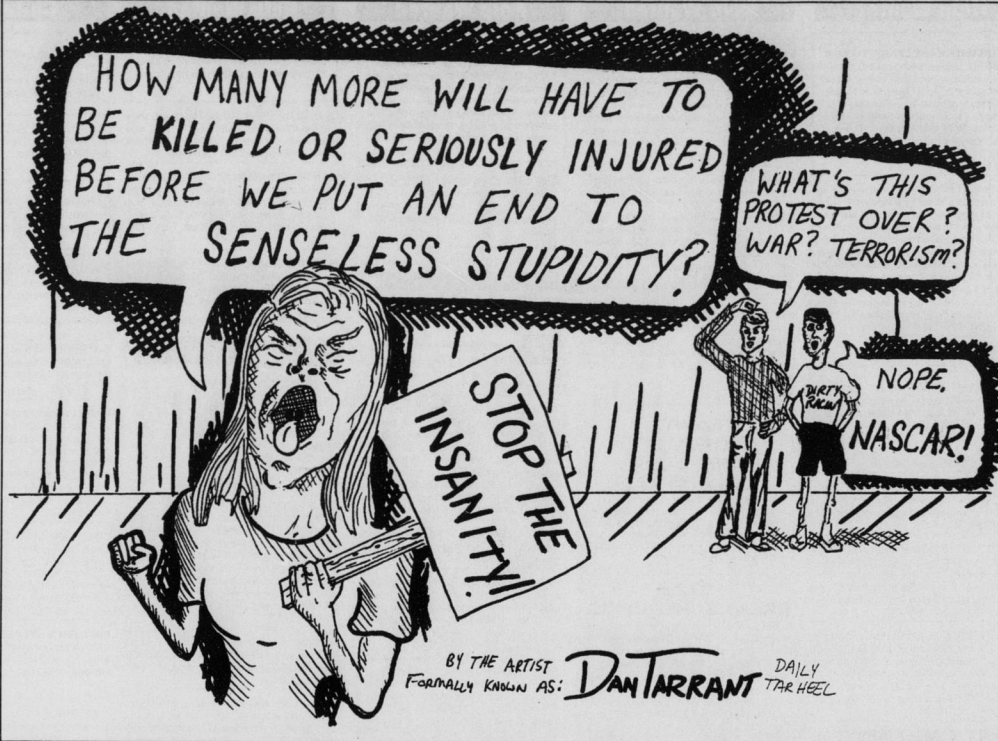
Low student participation in past campuswide elections has plagued the University. Some students may have been alienated in the past by a

system that was partially closed to them.

Now, the executive branch joins Student Congress as an institution open to the public. Increased interest in student government should be the result. If more able students are encouraged to participate in student government, the University will benefit tremendously.

With the executive branch Cabinet meetings now open to the public, the University will be able to ensure that any bad government in the executive branch also gets the criticism it so richly deserves.

Battle is to be commended for having taken this welcome action. His administration is well on its way toward becoming more responsive to the needs of the students it represents. The public can now watch and see if the rest of his administration's policies will be as good government as this early action.



BY THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS: DAN TARRANT DAILY TAR HEEL

What Kind of Friends Have You Made at UNC?

Before one party, someone asked if I was going to invite this guy I used to date.

Indignantly I said, "Of course I am; we're still friends." And then I paused. Friend is such a stupid, broad word to use in this situation. I've certainly shared more with him than with a lot of other friends, but I'm forced to describe him in the same manner as other random people.

Even with more remote "friends," this difficulty arises. You can't exactly introduce someone as "the guy in my Phil class who once dated a friend of a friend." Not only does it sound stupid, but by the time you finish saying all of that, the two people you're introducing have lost interest. In order to correct this, I have come up with the following designations:

Hello Friends: people you meet once at C-TOPS or at a party or some other random place. You don't remember their names or anything about them. You'd forget their faces if they didn't keep passing you in public places and waving frantically. These friends often know your entire history and feel obliged to ask you personal questions if they are able to corner you.

Classroom Friends: a semester-long friendship, based on a similar hatred of the course and of your classmates. You sit together every other day for four months, and then see each other maybe three times again before you graduate. Great possibility for deeper friendship, but not often realized.

Campus Y Friends: a generic term for friendships based on membership in any non-Greek organization. You're all so well, so upstanding, that you have to at least make a show of friendship. This friendship is characterized by The Handshake and is often based on the political aspirations among that particular group. It can develop into deeper friendships as well. See also Friends You've Had (good/bad) Sex With.

Sorority Friends: 100 of your best friends.

Fraternity Friends:

once you've shared more than three cases of beer with someone, they've seen enough embarrassing shit that you'd better be their friend. Anyway, where would all the freshmen get free alcohol the first two weeks of school without them?

Fraternity Friends (female): Hell, it's always nice to have a place to crash after a hall crawl or going uptown, even if it means a little groping when the lights go out. These friends are early-risers, leaving in the early morning hours to avoid a public Walk of Shame, and often to avoid seeing who is lying next to them.

21-Year-Old Friends: applicable only to those unlucky undergrads readers. These are the people who live down the hall, and who are always willing to make an extra trip to the ABC store. Sometimes they require a little compensation in the form of shots/beer, so the ideal 21-Year-Old Friend is a nondrinker.

Bartenders: anyone holding a whiskey bottle is a friend of mine.

Smoking Friends (1): people forced to smoke outside due to anti-smoking propaganda. After a few shared smokes and bitter comments about being forced outside, a sort of friendship develops. It can grow into something more if you smoke at the same time and place every day.

Smoking Friends (2): people whose friendship is based on smoking, a lot, together. Like Drinking Buddies, you share a lot of experiences while smoking and get to know each other well.

Friends You've Had (good) Sex With: those



JEANNE FUGATE STRAIGHT, NO CHASER

not-quite-lovers. For some reason or another you couldn't have a serious relationship with them, but they'll always be there for meaningless sex when your dating prospects are slim. More intimate than other friends, and also very good to have around.

Friends You've Had (bad) Sex With: a not-so-comfortable situation. One (or both) of you longs for the untroubled friendship before sex, due to feelings of embarrassment or insecurity. Often this makes the relationship tense, but because you've shared more than a beer, you don't want to drop the friendship. These friends are also available when you're single, but the previous category is more preferable.

Friends You Haven't Had Sex With, But Want To: the most exciting of categories. You're both lusting after one another but won't admit it, due to other commitments or stubbornness. A good drinking spree will usually cure this, moving them into a different category. Sometimes it's better to remain in this category than to move to another (i.e. Friends You've Had (bad) Sex With).

Drinking Buddies: the best of friends. A dark bar and free-flowing liquor/beer loosen up tongues and break down reserves. You don't truly know someone until you've been drinking with them. The best kind are the loud, obnoxious bastards who aren't embarrassed to yell out sexual histories and/or profanities.

I guess I could end this by making some pretentious (ala high school) conclusion about good and bad friendships, about the real and the false ones, but I refuse to insult your intelligence. Draw your own conclusions and make your own friends. As for me, I think I'm going to go enjoy a beer with some of my friends.

Jeanne Fugate is a junior English major from Ocala, Fla., who would gladly talk about her column over a Blue Cup tonight.

Modern Fraternities Have Many Positive Qualities

I am writing in response to the article by guest columnist David Ganz about the myths of the fraternity system. I start by saying that I was thrilled to see the DTH spending a bit of its space trying to foster an open debate about the UNC Greek system. With that said, I hope you realize how disappointed I was with the anti-Greek opinion of David Ganz. It was not the fact that he was against the Greek community that bothered me but the fact that he was so off base. I hope that this letter sets Ganz, and more importantly the UNC community, straight about the Greek community.

Obviously, Ganz was not a member of any organization that forces people from all walks of life to live, dwell, exist and rely on each other. All Ganz focuses in on is the exclusions in fraternities that happened in the 1950s. Using studies from the 1950s about the intolerance of fraternities is like saying that according to 1950s studies, getting a man on the moon is impossible. You cite my fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, as an example of exclusion. Perhaps you should know that since the 1960s, Lambda Chi Alpha has rushed and associated all men with no consideration of race, creed or color. Now while I admit that we have a way to go to be at the standards that we would like, we are actively working on the problem. Your article did nothing to solve the problem other than actively foster the misconception to minorities that they are not welcome to come by my house, which is

just not true.

Ganz focuses completely on hazing.

Hazing is a practice that goes on in many different social groups from formal organizations, like hunting clubs and fraternities, all the way down to buddies going to a bar together. I want to actively voice that I truly believe that hazing is the worst way to build an organization. That is one reason that I joined the fraternity that I did. I want to also say that I have close friends in many fraternities on campus, and I have never heard stories like the ones Ganz's investigative powers were able to dig up. Fraternities are actively running the steep tradition of hazing out of their educational process.

Most fraternities put their pledges through a semester of character-building lessons such as team trips, community projects and leadership skills. As fraternity educator of my house, I take great offense at your claim that fraternities do nothing more than to "preserve immaturity." I welcome you to come to one of my meetings at my house, and then you can tell me if a session on date rape, building your own business or history of our house is immature.

As far as academics, I believe that if you check the UNC numbers, you will see that the fraternity system has a higher GPA than the general student body. I know that in my house we have more than seven Morehead Scholars, and more than 20 Phi Beta Kappa members in the past two

JEFF KILMAN
GUEST COLUMNIST

years. Most houses structure time for their pledges where they study. Most pledges get their best grades that semester because of the structure.

And finally, as far as your most serious charges of violence and rape, I believe that you have fallen off of the deep end. Name one case on this campus of a rape in a fraternity house in the past four years? Funny, I can't, yet I can name at least 10 rapes that have happened in dorms, apartments, campus, in broad daylight and near the hospital. You made a serious charge in a very glib way with your off-handed remark that fraternities have "raped their little sisters." I personally will not stand for comments like that. We as a fraternity community spend twice as much time discussing issues of rape, cultural diversity and race relations than you or any other member of the University community spends.

Learn a little about the system that you, one, seem to condemn so much and, two, seem to know so little about. Give me a call. I would love the opportunity to show you the strength and positive changes that the fraternities of UNC strive for and attain. For you, the reader, I invite you to learn as much about us as you can before attacking or dismissing. I think we all have a fantastic opportunity to learn a great deal from each other.

Jeff Kilman is a senior journalism major from Jacksonville, Fla. He is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at UNC.

Burnette's Perspective Adds Value to Local School Board

TO THE EDITOR:

I expect a lot from the local school board. Through the intervention of the people they hire, I want all the youth entrusted to their care to maximize their skills and become socially responsible decision makers. Naturally it is hard to measure exactly how well this is done. I'm slow to praise; so when high SAT or Ivy League college enrollment is touted, I attribute much of this to the raw material our schools are asked to work with, but I'll concede that smart kids from affluent homes can benefit from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools.

I also feel the tutelage of Anthony Simpson is clearly an example of failure of the local school board. It is not that they wanted this outcome, but the programs they designed failed to prevent it. I'm sure they try, but I attribute part of their failure to their lack of diversity. LaVonda Burnette brings a new generation and unique experiences to the board. I hope that she and her ideas can have an impact on the Anthony Simpsons still in the school system. Unfortunately, the board has tried to remove her since her first month on the board.

READERS' FORUM

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticism. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 400 words and must be typed, double-spaced, dated and signed by no more than two people. Students should include their year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff should include their title, department and phone number. The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity.

I am not trivializing Ms. Burnette's mistakes; I'm forgiving them. And asking you to put some perspective on them. President Clinton delayed meeting the UNC women's basketball championship team so he could attend the funeral of Tricky Dick. That's right, folks; we had a president whom everyone recognizes by that nickname. Pillars of our community leading the recall effort have lied. Saint Brock, in her radio



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