

The Daily Tar Heel

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BOARD EDITORIALS

All for One

■ The diverse makeup of the Black Cultural Center's Student Fund-Raising Committee shows that we can put aside our petty differences.

A strong foundation has been laid for the improvement of race relations on campus in the form of a new committee created to raise money for the Black Cultural Center.

The BCC Student Fund-Raising Committee, composed of representatives from a number of student organizations, presents an admirable example of cooperation for the University. Although the students are diverse in backgrounds, they have united to achieve a common goal, and a difficult one at that.

Supporters have raised only \$2 million of the estimated \$7 million necessary to construct the BCC, and the fund raising also appears to have come to a standstill. The new committee will work to raise money through various fund raisers such as phone-a-thons and multicultural benefit shows, as well as attempt to re-energize the fund-raising efforts.

Even if they are unable to raise all of the funds, the fact that various students are combining forces exemplifies characteristics from which everyone can learn. The vigor with which they pursue this common cause may ignite further interest from outside donors. This interest could come in the form of additional donations or even the formation of other fund-raising efforts.

The diversity that differentiates the students strengthens the committee, as a variety of students equates to a variety of resources and connections.

Regardless of one's stance on the construction of a BCC, the cooperation of various student groups through the BCC Student Fund-Raising Committee indicates an admirable desire on campus to ease race relations and may signal the beginning of a powerful coalition that can address other campus issues.

Who's Invited to Perot's Party?

It's that special time of the year again. The seasonal pace brings crisp fall mornings, the political pace lurches into campaign speed, and Ross Perot decides to carve a niche for himself in the public eye. But the moody Texan's latest third-party initiative is an ill-timed, ill-advised effort to reassert his influential prowess in the political arena.

The news came earlier this week, when Perot announced plans on "Larry King Live" to establish a new "Reform Party" for independent voters fed up with Democrats and Republicans. His army of United We Stand volunteers is mobilizing to get the party certified on the ballots of every state beginning with the daunting challenge of California. The requirements for certifying a new party vary in each state, but the California deadline is only a month away. Perot's soldiers are armed and ready — eager to disrupt yet another election.

While a plurality of ideas in political discussion is generally healthy, this last minute attempt at party making only serves as an unsettling distraction. Perot has not made clear whom the party's candidate would be, only that the party and candidate will "not be owned by special interests." Well, we all know who the moneybags is, and now just might be the time to redeem his \$64 million dollar loss in the last election. Perot should be reminded that no one has seen the virtue of getting on the ballot as a third party since Henry Wallace had a go at it in 1947.

With a new political spirit in Washington, D.C., and both parties showing signs of change, the value of a "Reform Party" would be poor at best.

Independent candidates can get on the ballot without a third party, and the political climate can get along just fine without the unseasonable presence of Ross Perot.

Tar Heel Quotables

"Remember the golden rule: Those who have the gold, rule. That is how it is in the legislature."

Board of Trustees Member **WALTER DAVIS**
Before voting for the tuition hike last Friday.

"I'm sending back thousands of dollars this week to people who sent me money. It breaks my heart not to be able to spend it."

Chapel Hill Town Council incumbent candidate **JIM PROTZMAN**
Talking about his decision to follow suggested campaign spending limits after earlier criticizing them.

"I think we have taken an amazingly wonderful medium and turned it into a grocery store, something that is just meant to sell."

Children's TV program host, **FRED ROGERS**
Discussing the current state of television with childcare providers at UNC-TV studios in the Research Triangle Park.

"When I went to the University of Bridgeport, I worked nights slinging Coca-Cola boxes to pay my way through."

U.S. Rep. **FRED HEINEMAN, R-N.C.**
Explaining to students why he supports the elimination of federal interest subsidies for student loans.

"The General Assembly is saying to victims, at all levels, you are responsible for the plight at which you find yourself."

N.C. Sen. **FRED HOBBS, D-Orange**
Speaking about the past legislative sessions approach to women's issues at the Orange County Rape Crisis Center Tuesday.

"Right now, we're engaged in a survey here on campus to find out just what our food culture is."

Student Body President **CALVIN CUNNINGHAM**
Discussing the thought-provoking work being done by the Food Service Task Force.

'I Am Sorry' and Women: A Perfect Combination

Since writing "Opening Our Eyes and Watching Our Mouths" on Sept. 15, I have been called an ass, a coward, a racist and — my personal favorite — Cro-Magnon. Not that I enjoy being called Cro-Magnon, but at least it's imaginative.

I realized how negatively that column was received when my best friend called from Boston last week. "Aaah, you bastard," he screamed when I picked up the phone. (This is his standard salutation.)

"Who the hell is this?" I demanded, then recognized his voice. "Sorry, Lenny. Today, it could have been anyone."

Anyway, I would like to apologize for versing the opinion that homosexuality is disgusting in that column. It was a cheap shot, and I shouldn't have said it.

However, to interpret the rest of that column as racist entirely misconstrues my intentions. I understand that this University is fostering a group of wonderfully civic-minded individuals. Unfortunately, such people are often too quick to throw out allegations of racism at the mere mention of nationality, skin color or terms such as "slanty eyes."

Understanding the appalling nature of the truth, I will stand by my prior contention that people of Japanese ancestry do, in fact, have slanty eyes. That is not to say an Oriental person's ocular structure is inferior to that of anyone else.

The point of the column was not to say ethnic minorities should reject or forget their ethnic backgrounds, but that minorities — as well as majorities — should welcome and respect the fact that their value to this society lies in integration rather than segregation. Our future lies not in the exclusion of culture, but in the sharing of it. However, terms such as Chinese-Americans intrinsically separate minorities from the rest of our society.

That is to say, I hope people do not willfully destroy the common identity of American citizens.

zens. Anyone can be an American, regardless of heritage; however, relatively few people in our society can call themselves Chinese-Americans.

The division of ethnic minorities from the remainder of American society seems only to condone, and even endorse, the de facto segregation that we should be trying to end.

That is why I think politically correct language is harmful to society, not because I pay tribute to a Grand Wizard, wear a white sheet and like NASCAR.

Hopefully, we can move on and still be friends. Either way, we're definitely going to move on.

In fact, we're going to move on to one of my favorite topics: women's studies. I've been studying women for years, but never for grades, so my first women's studies class was a bit frightening.

At first I thought it was great. There's like three guys and 97 women and I'm feeling like Wilt Chamberlain. Looking around, confronted by 97 glowering faces I realized: I am the enemy. It was like Vietnam all over again, except there were no guns, no grenades and there were women instead of Vietnamese people. Yikes!

Now that it's time to start writing papers, women's studies has started getting really scary. Another thing that's really scary is when you wake up and there's a spider on your stomach and you're trying to get it off when you realize some guy wearing a hockey mask is in the room. And he's brandishing a chainsaw.

However, that is not as scary as a women's studies paper — especially if you're a guy.



ANDY DIAMONDSTEIN
SEARCHING FOR
MIRACLE
INGREDIENT Z-147

So when my teacher, Lester Bian, said we could pick our own paper topics, I wiggled out. After hours of brainstorming, I came up with some potential ideas to show my teacher:

■ "No Woman, No Cry," the vision of Bob Marley.

■ How women have been tied down in our society — bondage technique flowcharts.

■ "Showgirls." It's not a musical, but this movie still makes me feel like singing. An in-depth analysis.

■ Airbags to Zoomers: Euphemisms for Breasts, from A to Z.

■ Female wardrobe selection (case study): The girl I saw at He's Not wearing a short skirt and no panties — a hands-on research.

■ Why telling that joke could prevent me from ever getting another date.

■ 101 good things about boobies.

Lester looked at the list and said I didn't really understand the class. "You're supposed to examine an issue that affects women, like the struggle for equal wages," Les explained.

Suddenly, I remembered some drawings on the walls of the cave I grew up in.

"You mean, men don't drag women around by the hair any more because both sexes are equal and all that stuff?"

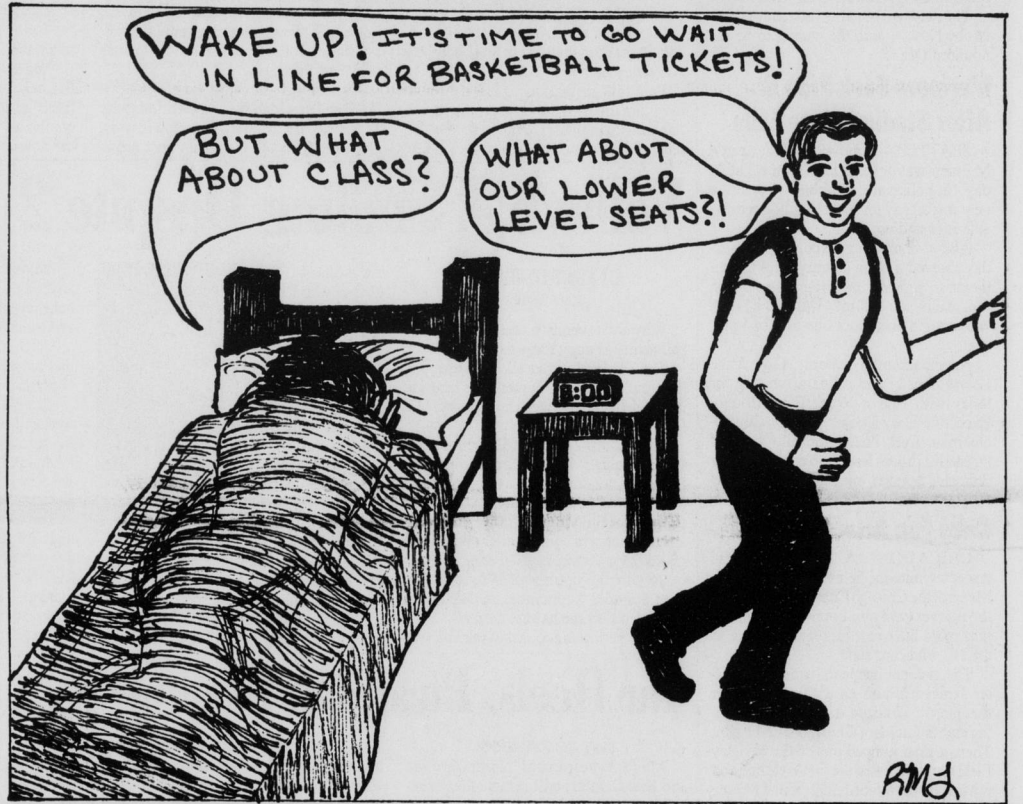
"That's what I mean," Les said.

Hell, that's pretty simple, isn't it? Totally 100 percent obvious. This isn't China — do we really need a women's studies department?

We don't have a men's studies department, even though you could argue that that's exactly what the history and political science departments are.

Women's studies. The idea seems like a having gender-biased self-esteem workshop with its own little teacher bureaucracy. Maybe not. Some of us will never know.

Andy Diamondstein is a senior journalism major from Scottsdale, Ariz.



'Million Man March' Should Be Observed Locally, Too

Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Rev. Benjamin Chavis have called for 1 million black men to march in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 16. The march itself covers three main issues. 1) One million black men will be marching in Washington to atone to Allah (God) for their sins. 2) These men are saying that they are ready to take responsibility for their families and the restoration of the black community. 3) The day is set as an economic boycott on corporate America.

Before I go further, I would like for everyone to know that all people of color are welcome to participate in the march. However the goal is first and foremost to reach a million black men and their families.

Minister Farrakhan and the Rev. Chavis are asking black people to recognize Oct. 16 as a Holy Day of Atonement and Reconciliation. On this day all that do not attend the march are asked to stay from work, school and abstain from buying anything. This means do not buy food from Lenoir, Chase or Union Station. This includes Student Stores and any non-black owned businesses in Chapel Hill. Is this too much to ask? Is missing class and/or work for one day too much to offer in respect for men who attend the march and yourselves?

I say yourselves because the Million Man March is a major step in our liberation as a people. A million black men have never come together in this country. Now that we have and for a positive reason, please do not hinder us due to ignorance.

The Day of Atonement shall be a day to teach the importance of a strong black family and a united black community. On this day black men will be standing to take on their responsibilities

as men and protectors of the family. It is a day for black people to settle whatever differences we have with each other. No matter how small or great our problems may be, we must come together in unity. Then we can begin to strengthen our families and build up our communities with ease.

This day, Oct. 16, should be taken with the utmost seriousness. These million or more men are marching in Washington to confess their sins before Allah (God). We are presenting ourselves as a sacrifice to the Lord of the Worlds for the redemption of our people. The guiding principle of the march is from 2 Chronicles 7:14 — "gift my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their bands."

So, Black Man, if your mind and heart are not set on making a change for the better, as a friend said to me, "Don't go quarter steppin'!" This applies for those at home as well. Bear with me as I share something with you so that one may understand that this Million Man March is no lightweight thing.

Jesus of the scriptures gave his life for the sins of the people. This does not necessarily mean he died, but he devoted all his time working to redeem the people. Minister Farrakhan, by the grace of Allah (God), is fasting for 30 days to



DWAYNE X (EATMON)
GUEST COLUMNIST

atone for his sins and the sins of a nation of 40 million. He is asking us members of the Nation of Islam to fast for five to 14 days, asking Allah (God) to forgive our sins and the sins of the community. I, by the aid of Allah (God), completed the fast and will try again if need be because your hurt is my hurt.

Everyone should make some type of sacrifice to participate in this Day of Atonement. Those who reject the Day of Atonement are written in the Book. Read Exodus 32:30-33 and Leviticus 23:28-30. Unity is the key to making the Million Man March a successful event. We must participate in all facets of the march. While a million-plus of our brothers are in Washington, we must support them through the Economic Boycott/Day of Absence. I'm sure there will be plenty of family/community building projects for students to attend, for they're being planned now. I end this article with a quote from page 11 of "The Fall of America" by the Hon. Elijah Muhammad: "We must unite at all costs. Once united, we must stand fully packed as a wall against injustice. If your brother does not want to unite with you, then you must teach him: cable him, urge him and persuade him by all methods available until he realizes that he, too, must give his all on the altar of justice."

I thank Allah (God) for coming in the person of Master Fard Muhammad, for raising the Hon. Elijah Muhammad and extending his mercy through Minister Farrakhan. Without these men I would not have had a word to write. Peace, love and happiness to all our people. Our liberation is at hand!

Dwayne X (Eatmon) is a junior microbiology major from Greensboro.

SBP's Loan Cut Opposition Shows No Regard for Future

TO THE EDITOR:
I was disturbed to read the letter to the editor Tuesday from Calvin Cunningham and his partner titled "Students Must Unite to Fight Federal Cuts to College Loans." The final paragraph of the letter was inexcusable, short-sighted and shows absolutely no regard for the future of the country.

The paragraph states "these aid programs are an investment in our future, a future that is worth far more than a balanced federal budget." Calvin, nothing is more important, nothing, than having a balanced budget virtually every



READERS' FORUM

single year! The federal budget has not been balanced for 25 years, and the situation has become worse with time.

Nothing, Calvin, is more important than balancing the budget. You are too short-sighted and ignorant to realize that we will have no future if

the fiscal situation is not corrected. What is the point of delaying loan payments if they will simply be applied further to the national debt? Why should all Americans have this added to the debt when it only benefits a few students?

We need to take care of the national fiscal crisis, and every program, except maybe defense, which has been cut for about 10 years, will either be cut or have its growth slowed. Everyone must be willing to do his or her part to balance the budget. Otherwise, the nation is finished, and I hope that Dick Gephardt clones like Cunningham will never get into political office.

Peter Wells
SENIOR
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