The Daily Tar Heel

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The Student Voice

Voting in elections, especially municipal ones, has never been much of a priority for students. Instead of helping to choose officials who will consider campus issues when deciding how to run Chapel Hill and Carrboro, most students have seemed to be content to sit back and watch ambivalently.

The University and the towns surrounding it have grown and operated together since the beginning. It's only natural that the University community play an active role in town issues, yet more often than not, a larger apathy overwhelms the concerns of precious few students.

This time around, we can help elect two brand-new mayors to lead the towns, as well as the Town Council and Board of Aldermen members who will craft the policies and laws by which residents, including students, will have to

So we're making it easier for you to get involved in the local campaigns. The Daily Tar Heel is holding two forums so students can ask candidates tough questions and get some anwers. The Carrboro candidates forum will be held Sunday at 7 p.m. in the Union Auditorium. Candidates for Chapel Hill offices will come to the Student Union's Great Hall Tuesday at 7

Please come by to meet the candidates and force them to address the campus community's concerns. And be sure to register to vote before the November elections. This is our chance to have a loud voice in an area where we have remained silent for far too long.

Be a Part of the Force

You say you'll retch if you have to eat another Chic-Fil-A sandwich? You're tired of the endless lines at Lenoir and you think that it should be razed to the ground for an entirely new, larger facility?

Now is the time to quit grumbling under your breath and make an effort to improve food services at UNC

A Food Service Task Force has been created to investigate different options available, and they are admirably attempting to hear students' voices. The task force has set up focus groups to provide forums for students interested in suggesting improvements.

Because administrators oversaw the last renovations to food services with little regard for the students' input, the results are not necessarily in the students' best interests.

The inclusion of students in the current decision process will help to ensure that food on campus will meet the needs, budgets, and appetites of students.

The task force has already spent an estimated \$6,000-\$7,000 on a trip to Boston to observe the food services of other colleges. This money comes from the profits Marriott has made from its consumers and returns to the University. Therefore, anyone who has purchased a single overpriced item from Marriott has already invested money in the process.

This money can be seen as a necessary expenditure to educate the task force about the variety of options available in a way that cannot be taught by lectures or through phone calls. However, upcoming trips to North Carolina schools such could achieve similar results.

An even lower-cost means of learning more about what can be done can result from the input of everyone who uses food service.

About 2,700 students alone pay a flat Board Rate for their meal plans. This number does not include the thousands of others who buy an occasional Coke or bagel.

That's thousands of voices and stomachs that have a significant stake in the findings of the Food Service Task Force

Make your voice heard: attend a focus group, fill out a survey or simply contact task force members such as Student Body President Calvin Cunningham or Director of Auxiliary Service Rutledge Tufts.

That, or stop complaining.

From Ol' Magic Rocks to the Million Man Mosey

agic rocks used to amaze me. All you had to do was drop these little rocks in water, and they'd turn into tall skinny rocks called stalactites or stalagmites or stegosauruses or something. In all, they were colorful? lanky, magic rocks and if used properly, they could scare the shit out of a goldfish.

Major markers, are a whole 'nother story.

Magic markers are a whole 'nother story.

They may be pretty neat, but they sure as hell aren't magic. If you get 'em on your clothes, they won't magically disappear, and if you throw'em in a pail of water, you don't get really big magic

markers.

What if Crayola came out with magic crayons, full of magic, colored wax ... alternative crayons, if you will. They would defy the normal crayon, coloring outside the lines, doing whatever they damn well please. Most people problems of the probl

ever they damn well please. Most people probably wouldn't be interested.
Unless Crayola's Magic Crayons came out on Oct. 11, National Coming Out Day.
In my opinion, the fact that we even need to have a Coming Out Day is a major sign that human beings have stopped evolving. The Jerry Springer Show is an even bigger sign — check out the "My ex is a womanizer" episode — but that's another story.

that's another story.

Now, before you dash off an angry note to my editor, let me explain. There's no special day set aside for people to announce they are straight, why have one for people to announce they're gay. Sure, it's a great reason to have a picnic, but so are s'mores and we don't have S'mores Day.

Besides, why put all that pressure on homo-sexuals. You've only got one day, you better say it. Say it. Say it, you bastard. What are you, chicken? It's going to be a whole lot easier for you and your family if you just tell us now. Otherwise, look forward to another 364 days of

It's like being tortured by the Vietcong all over again. Damn, I hated that war, trudging

day and night through the jungles living on bugs and dogs and looking for Asian men named

Charlie "Are Charlie," I'dsay, and they'd say, "No, I'm Kwan," or Twe or Tang or something, and I never got to shoot anybody. Not that I support shoot-ing Vietnamese people, or anybody else, for that matter.



ANDY DIAMONDSTEIN SEARCHING FOR **INGREDIENT Z-147**

On the other hand, there are a lot of drivers who deserve to be shot, or at least have their licenses revoked. Most of them — and I mean this in the nicest, most gender-indifferent way

ossible — are women.

Anyway, I think Coming Out Day is bad because, sexual preference aside, gays are exactly like heterosexuals, so why set them apart from everybody else once each year. It seems kind of counterproductive.

Hell, when I was a kid, I thought Led Zeppe-

lin and lesbian were the same thing. It was a great laugh for the second graders. "Hey, Andy, do you like Led Zeppelin videos?"

Somebody once told me that God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. That's pretty obvious, though. I've got a feeling God had a pretty firm grasp on the birds and the bees concept. Therefore, he probably realized that if he created Adam and Steve, he'd have to start over again in about 30 years or so, given the average lifespan in those days. Personally, I think he should have created Steve and Eve that would have been poetic justice.

Coming Out Day would be pretty cool if anybody could come out and announce their sexual preference. "I just feel happier around men," some guy might say. "In July, I screwed some chick," another might pitch in. After everybody finished giving a spiel, we could all go out for a beer or something. Talk about fun for the entire traditionally or non-traditionally structured family. Wow! tured family. Wow!

Since Coming Out Day is not like that, I spent most of the day inside gearing up for a really big event: the Million Man March.

Of course, this is another event I can't really

or course, his is another event than treaty participate in. Yep, these days white guys like me can't do anything but smoke a cigar out on the manor porch, drinking a mint julep and talking to the colonel.

Anyway, this is a really impressive event, and only a black man could have organized it. If we're dealing with a million white guys here, it's supremacy. Or how about a white guy telling a million black guys to march. It's just not going to

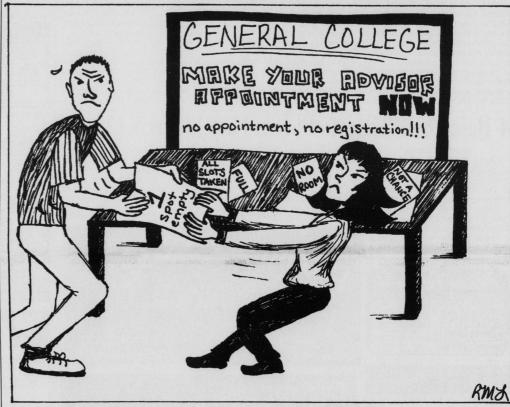
happen.
On that note, there is one thing that worries me about this march. From what I understand,

my perspective at least — a good thing.

However, if that's the case, why march. It just sounds so militant. I bet there would be a lot more support for the event if it was a Million Man Leisurely Stroll. I realize that using allitera-

Man Leisurely Stroll. I realize that using alliteration or onomatopoeia or whatever the heck it's
called helps give the event a catchy name, but
march? How about the Million Man Mosey?
I think a pretty good idea would be an all-race
Million Man Mosey. We could all meander
downto a drive-in theater and watch "Showgirls."
Now that would be an amazing show of unity.
Almost a company or Maric Pocks. Almost as amazing as Magic Rocks.

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



Tar Heel Quotables

"Sisters, you have shouldered the responsibility for the black man since the beginning of time. Without the black woman, there would be no Million Man March.

Nation of Islam Member RON X
Discussing the importance of the Million Man March.

"They're going to keep regulating alcohol, controlling noise and jacking up bus fares until we go into the community and cast votes."

Student Body President CALVIN CUNNINGHAM
On why students need to register to vote and
participate in the up-coming Chapel Hill and Carrboro
municipal elections.

"Almost as many times as they lied to me."

Defendant in the James Jordan murder trial, LORD D ASSADDIQ ALAMIN SALAAM U'ALLAH Telling prosecutor Johnson Britt how many times he lied to police when first questioned about the murder of Michael Jordan's father.

"We got the win, now let the win go,"

UNC linebacker JAMES HAMILTON Encouraging Tar Heel fans not to put too much emphasis on UNC's victory over No. 9 Virginia last

"I'm sure a lot of the kids around here would like to eat something that could actually get them through the day and not make them feel fat and greasy.

Food Task Force student member LISA DEVEL
Explaining the important mission of the task force to once again change Lenoir.

"It's like running a high school on the side. There's no reason taxpayers should have to pay twice for the same thing.'

Mathematics professor JOSEPH PLANTE
Explaining why the recent increase in the number of students taking introductory Math 10 is a negative

Advertising Production: Beth Meinig, coordinato Richard D. Allen, Jodi Brown and Cindy Henley,

Collegiate Binge Drinking Isn't All Fun and Games

alive and well at UNC would have no doubt after reading the article "Drinking Games Liven Up Student Shindigs" on page 3 of the DTH for Oct. 9. Whether the incidence of binge drinking is higher at UNC than at other campuses, the article highlights the apparent acceptance by the DTH and the student body that alcohol is the pleasurable vehicle over which friendships are made and deepened, and that drinking enough to raise one's alcohol blood level to well over twice the legal limit for intoxication is good "fun and games." Further into the article, students are admonished to know their limit: that is, to know their limit while participating in a drinking game in which the entire point is to produce as rapidly as possible a state of mind no longer able to make a considered judg-

There is no "fun" and "games" in our contacts with student alcohol use at Student Health mention just a few cases seen in the past year:

■ The student who, usually as part of a "drinking game," elevates his or her blood alcohol to a point that is life threatening, and is hospitalized on the Intensive Care Unit.

■ The student who drinks too much and is

involved in an accident or injury resulting in severe injury or GUEST COLUMNIST

■ The student who drinks too much, los behavioral control, is involved in assault or destruction of property and the student who is assaulted or whose property is destroyed.

The student who drinks too much, has a

non-protected sexual experience and an associated incidence of sexually transmitted disease,

the transmission of HIV infection.

The student who is discouraged and perhaps significantly depressed who makes a suicide attempt while drinking, and the student who tries to help or discovers the attempted or successful suicide.

■ The student, usually a woman, who feels clearly that she has been assaulted sexually with panying anger and confusion interrupts her life and academic career. intercourse which occurs when both parties have

■ The student, usually a man, who believes that sex was mutual, does not want to think of himself as a rapist and yet finds himself involved in criminal or campus judicial proceedings that

may greatly affect his emotional state, his career and his future.

■ The women who faces the dilemma of an unexpected pregnancy associated with alcohol-related unprotected sex and the crisis of con-

science this brings.

The student who has been drinking throughout his college career, and perhaps before, and now finds himself involved in addictive behavior and symptoms seriously interfering with his or her personal and academic life

The student who drops out because of involvement with alcohol.

■ The student who takes care of sick friends when other concerns, such as exams, may be

much more pressing for him/her.

The student who, while drinking, engages in destructive and pain giving behaviors, which he or she would not otherwise do, and writes off individual accessibility. individual responsibility as "the booze talking."

The student who learns to use alcohol as a

major way of coping with personal stress or discomfort and does not learn alternatives dur-ing his/her college years. This person is at high risk for continuing problems.

Judith Cowan is the director of Student Health Services

Sangam Offers Opportunities

achievements outside the Western world, and if readers will bear with me until the end of my letter, I will even go so far as to propose a first step they can take toward rectifying this situa-

Now, I hope that no reader will take what I write to mean that the important cultural figures of Europe and North America do not deserve the place that is generally reserved for them. On the contrary, I would be the first to defend the "deservedness" of the adulation "deservedness" of the adulation that is heaped on such figures as Beethoven and Shakespeare; on such figures as beetnoven and Shakespeare; these men were unequivocably geniuses for whose work humanity is the richer. My concern is that genius is not often seen as residing outside of Europe and North America, or at least that is



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 length, clarity and vulgarity. Bring letters to the DTH office at Suite 104, Carolina Union, mail them to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 or e-mail forum to dth@unc.edu.



non-Western artist does manage to reach a Western audience, I feel that there are miles to travel before the Mahabharatha receives its side The Canterbury Tales. And that, I am convinced, is truly the point we must arrive at.

I hope readers will find at least a kernel of truth in my admittedly poorly developed claim, and take it upon themselves to acquaint themselves with the cultural and artistic traditions

with which they might not be familiar Which brings me at last to the first step toward a solution which I promised and the real reason I am writing this letter. I am writing to extend an invitation to attend Sangam's annual fall show, Rang-e-Sangam. The program is Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Hill Hall Auditorium. This year's event will allow the community to gain exposure to South Asian cultural and artistic life. Range-Sangam will include acts ranging from classical dances such as Punjabi bhangra to an Urdu poetry reading to a dramatization of a scene from India's great epic, the Ramayana. It promises to be entertaining, whether or not one has had any prior experience with South Asian culture; in fact, those students, faculty and townspeople who may know very little about South Asia are the very people we especially hope will consider attending.

> Satish Gopal JUNIOR MUSIC/BIOLOGY

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DTH On-Line: Eddie Belles, Jason Purdy and Jos Purvis. TO THE EDITOR:

I have long wanted to climb the pedestal of the DTH editorial page to address what I see as a lack of recognition for artistic and cultural

my perception. While it is true the occasional