

The Daily Tar Heel

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Hey, What Are You Still Doing Here?

On your long drive, flight or walk home for the last holiday of the semester, remember that even the little gifts in life deserve thanks.

"Love to eat turkey 'cause it's good, love to eat turkey like a good boy should ..."

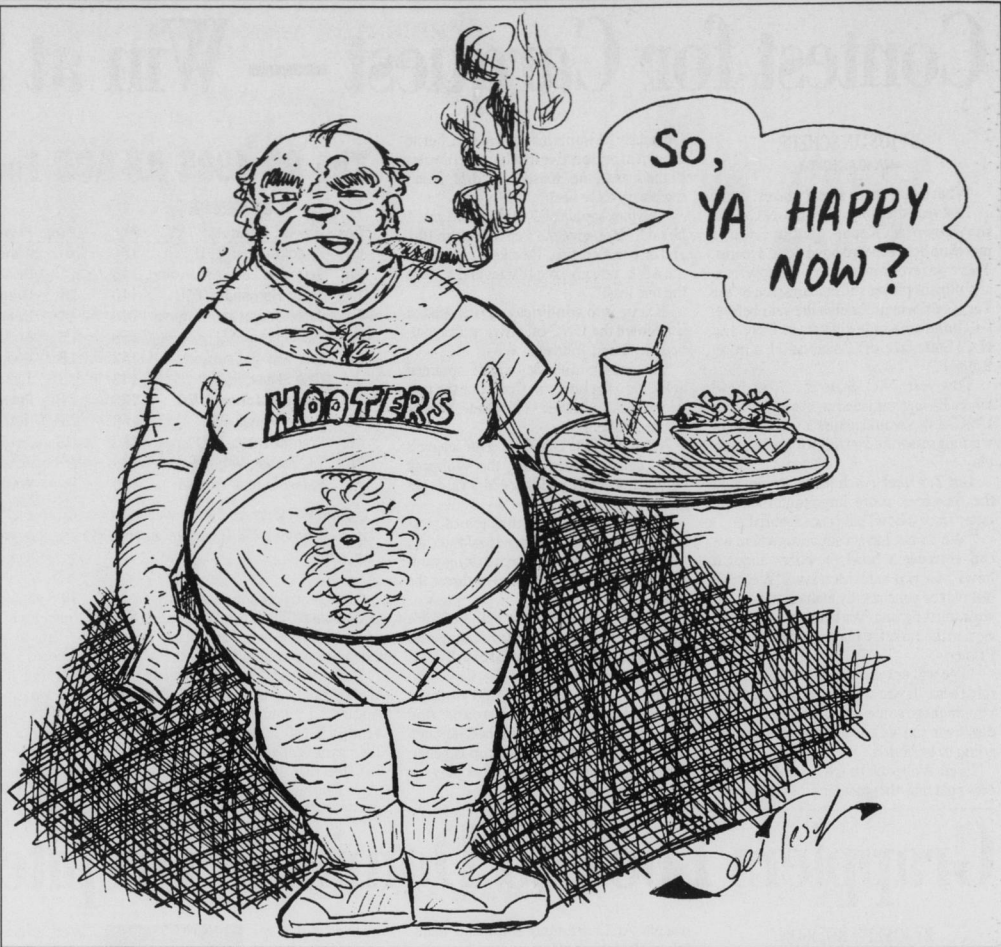
We're on our way boys and girls, on our way to platefuls of turkish delight, biscuits dripping with butter and multiple morsels swimming in gravy. So grab your DTH, check your mail one last time, fashion a suave new message for your answering machine and let Adam Sandler's Thanksgiving Song take you home for the holiday.

But please, by all means, set aside a moment or two to be thankful. Crack DTH sources have reported vicious rumors circulating around campus.

The rumors, we're told, point to an air of apathetic abandonment of the Thanksgiving motif. In an effort to salvage the integrity of this

holiday, we at the DTH have taken it upon ourselves to provide 10 marvelous reasons why every UNC student should be thankful.

1. Ross and Rachel kissed.
 2. A fresh new fountain beside Playmakers Theater.
 3. Carolina Quarterly — absolutely free!
 4. Four days without SIDEWALK CLOSED signs.
 5. Five-foot pythons behind your refrigerator.
 6. Hooker headlines.
 7. An active government.
 8. Still two months until SBP elections.
 9. A four-day break from the illustrious opinions of the DTH Editorial Board.
 10. "... 'cause it's turkey, to eat, so good."
- Happy Thanksgiving everyone!



Protest of Fraternity Was Hypocritical and Useless

Editor's Note: The author is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

TO THE EDITOR:

I have a few things to voice in response to the protest involving many of the members of the co-ed fraternity St. Anthony Hall. Having friends and acquaintances in the fraternity, I can safely say that nearly every protester present is a member of St. Anthony's. Their protest in front of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house was counterproductive as well as hypocritical. However, I do not intend simply to bash the tact of the co-ed fraternity, but to point out that there are more productive ways for the entire community to deal with the issue at hand.

First of all, St. Anthony's Hall has been the sole sponsor and host of a rush party entitled the "Dress to Get Screwed" party. In my tenure at UNC, I've attended one of the parties and been well aware of another. If this type of information was well known to the campus community, surely it would offend more than a few young women in the same manner as Phi Gamma Delta had done so. It does seem a bit hypocritical to endorse such an event, then for the same organization to so adamantly protest the letter which we are all so familiar with.

This brings me to my second point. This entire community is quite familiar with the issue concerning Phi Gamma Delta. It is obvious that the general consensus is that Phi Gamma Delta was morally wrong, and many are offended. My question for St. Anthony's is this: What purpose are you serving by reiterating condemnation for what the community has already condemned for a week and a half? It doesn't seem that one could possibly make the community any more aware of the issue.

All in all, a protest just does not seem to accomplish much. However, I am not blaming St. Anthony's, as I do believe strongly that actions must be taken in response to the issue. What I propose is that we re-channel our energies into more productive means of dealing with the issue.

For instance, set up some sort of rape awareness presentation or alcohol abuse program to present to the community's many organizations. These are the types of actions the Greek community has the means to accomplish and are best known for. In this manner, the problem can be dealt with, and hopefully attitudes can change — not by pointing fingers and yelling at a house.

Troy Hendrick
SOPHOMORE
UNDECIDED

Fliers Did Show Campus Y Approval of ADC Exhibit

TO THE EDITOR:

Campus Y Co-President Emily Roth says that the Arab American Anti-Discrimination Council's exhibit was not approved by her organization. Can someone please explain the program fliers that were distributed for Human Rights Week that specifically says that ADC's exhibit is on "Human Rights violations against Palestinians"?

Tina Dahir
JUNIOR
JOURNALISM

Offense of Exhibit Not as Important as Discussion

Editor's Note: The author is co-president of the Arab American Anti-Discrimination Council.

TO THE EDITOR:

The Arab American Anti-Discrimination Council's exhibit seems to have offended some and even embarrassed others. My apologies to those who are offended and who are not able to accept the truth that injustices are still occurring in the

West Bank. It is easy to assume that there is peace in this debated region because the media seems to focus on the peace and neglects the human rights violations that are still occurring. This exhibit had one intention and that is to create awareness that there are still human violations, even in areas with proposed peace.

Hana Alkhalidi
JUNIOR
CHEMISTRY

Chancellor Should Drop Thoughts of Privatization

Editor's Note: This letter is in the form of a poem written by a former UNC housekeeper.

TO THE EDITOR:

With your study of privatization
You turn back the pages of this great nation.

With all the things we've done to make things right,
You continue to try to prolong our plight.

We want you to acknowledge your failures of the past,
For your continued oppression of good and decent people surely will not last.

We've tried for over 200 years to get you to put things in perspective
And not try so hard to keep us from our honorable and deserved objective.

That is, decent wages for very hard-working and decent people.

It is time for you to drop this pretense of a study of privatization and treat them not as a lower class because they clean, but as your equal.

As a former member of the housekeepers scene,
And my friends in the HKA know what I mean,

I know some of the things that have happened in the housekeeping division.
As we in this profession try to make things better for us to live, I am appalled by your decision.

Why conduct and pay money for a study of privatization if you're not considering it?
So to call it just a study — pardon me for being so bold and crass — but that is a lot of bullshit.

So tell the truth and stop lying to good and decent people, creating an ugly and degrading scene.

And give and show them what a decent wage for the work they do and decent real opportunities to advance really mean.

So Chancellor Hooker as you take up the UNC leadership reign,
Please don't do as our former Chancellor Mr. Hardin did, show your care.

So drop privatization as an option so we won't have to treat you with the same disdain.

Chris Smith
FORMER HOUSEKEEPER

Society Needs to Become Accountable for the Insane

TO THE EDITOR:

I hate to poke a hole in Richard Rand Jr.'s banner of "traditional values" (Reader's Forum, Nov. 10), but his reasoning is in error. Despite what Mr. Rand implies, the verdict in the Wendell Williamson trial was not a case of jury nullification by bleeding heart Chapel Hill residents. The jury found Mr. Williamson "not guilty" based upon the evidence they heard, because that is what our criminal law requires. Moreover, this requirement is rooted in principles dating back to ancient Hebrew civilizations.

Any law student learns that the fundamental principle of criminal law is that, before the government can deprive a citizen of life or liberty, the government must prove the accused committed a bad act (actus reus) and had a guilty mind (mens rea) while committing the act. An accused who suffers from a mental disease or defect so profound that the accused did not know what he or she was doing, or did not know

that the act was wrong, cannot be found guilty, because there was no mens rea. The Chapel Hill jury was instructed that this was the American criminal law, and they followed the instructions. It was hardly a case of their condoning "abnormal behavior" as "freedom of expression."

As a former prosecutor, I know too well the anguish of crime victims and their families, particularly when they believe the defendant got away with it. But it might help to keep in mind that Mr. Williamson was not released but was sent to a mental institution. He will remain in state custody until he proves he satisfies the legal requirements for release. Given his violent behavior and his prolonged and increasing illness, that is extremely unlikely.

People like Mr. Rand, who use this verdict to attack the "excess tolerance" of our society, need to understand that a not guilty by reason of insanity verdict is not some new liberal concoction designed to allow every citizen to follow his or her destructive urges with impunity. Instead, it is based on the belief that it is not fair or just to punish children, the insane or the demented when they do not know right from wrong. Don't blame those 12 jurors for doing their civic duty and following established legal principles. If you want to change the entire moral framework of our judicial system, pressure your legislators to do so.

Christine Ryan
GRADUATE STUDENT
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

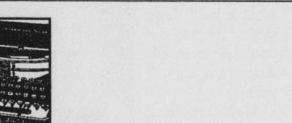
Insecure Women Willingly Condone Sexist Attitude

TO THE EDITOR:

Perhaps the most disgusting thing about the infamous Phi Gamma Delta memo is not the memo itself but the truth it speaks. As a member of the sorority system at UNC, I did not find the rush letter shocking at all, because many girls I know have been willing participants in this sexism.

We are not victims (as every women's rights group likes to label us) but just plain insecure. I cannot tell you how many times I have seen a girl intoxicated at a fraternity party, looking around the room for potential "hook-ups." Some guys she barely knows begins to flirt with her and she leaves with him in a group to go to "late night." This is where everyone couples off and dances together. A girl looks up at her dance partner through her drunken haze and he begins to look attractive and the more she thinks about it the more she doesn't want to be alone tonight. I don't think I need to go into the rest, but the end result is that she wakes up with a headache and a lifeless body beside her.

Why do girls let themselves get into these situations? I can't tell you that, but I do know that perhaps we should spend less time chastising Phi Gamma Delta and more time examining why we are willing victims. Our livelihood shouldn't depend on men. Our most memorable nights should not be the ones which left us sleeping next to a stranger. We need to change as women, and there is no easy way to do this. The only thing I can think of to address this problem is a saying my grandmother uses. The difference between being alone and loneliness is self-confidence. If we could apply that to our lives, Phi Gamma wouldn't



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.

have anything to write about.

Shepard Rose
FRESHMAN
JOURNALISM

Rape Is a Crime, Simply Being Offended Is Not

TO THE EDITOR:

Well, perhaps now I have seen it all: On the front page of the Nov. 15 Daily Tar Heel, a photo of a group of women holding a placard which proclaims, "WE ARE OFFENDED." Excuse me? Offended? Since when is it a crime to offend someone? Rape, now there's a crime. Molestation, abuse, harassment — all criminal. But it's still perfectly legal to offend someone or even hurt their feelings.

What apparently isn't legal is the stating of facts. That frat memo was offensive, certainly, and encouraged behaviors which quickly cross over into illegal, but as far as I know the memo simply described what is a reality for many fraternity and sorority members. Why join a fraternity or sorority? For the connections, perhaps? For the friendship? For the prestige? To meet members of the opposite sex? Yes.

And what is the well-rehearsed Chapel Hill mating ritual, easily observable on any weekend night in any Greek house, bar or on the street? Dress up, go out, get drunk, hook up and maybe get laid. Maybe not the optimal in social interaction, but effective — at least if your idea of relationships resembles something like a pinball game. Don't like it? Don't do it. Don't like meos written about it? Don't do it. Don't want to perpetuate criminal attitudes and behaviors toward women? Women, don't do it. When the party is thrown, simply don't show up. No one is forcing you.

Rape, molestation, abuse, harassment — these often occur in settings in which the victim could never have predicted the possibility of their occurrence. What I see in Greek houses and bars across Chapel Hill are settings specifically created to induce interactions such as "stumbling around" drunk, blah blah blah. I don't like it, so I don't do it. There are plenty of other, less offensive ways to get laid.

And if I have offended you, get over it.

Sarah Louise Woods
SENIOR
AMERICAN STUDIES

Rush Letter Displayed Male Need to Be Accepted

TO THE EDITOR:

I'm somewhat surprised that, in all the discussion surrounding the letter distributed by the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity during rush, no one has mentioned the violence that this sort of thing does to men.

In general, men in our society first learn about sexuality in the inflated terms of male bravado, leading them to be deeply confused about their own needs as they attempt to move toward sexual maturity. Discussing violent male attitudes toward sex as the outgrowth of an inherent character flaw in an individual or group of individuals rather than an outgrowth of our collective notions of masculinity leads toward a type of condemnation that, in reality, does very little.

Part of the difficulty in changing these attitudes is that they are deeply intertwined with the human need to be both loved and accepted, making it almost impossible to understand where an individual ceases to be directly seeking involvement with another and begins to be trying to act out a role as lover.

Similarly, it is difficult, especially once one is inside of this mindset, to recognize the difference between unhealthy repression and respect for oneself and others.

If we are to take this letter as an example of a greater problem, then we must see it as both cause and effect of that problem, part of a cycle of violent attitudes between men that involves violent attitudes toward women but does not ultimately originate from a lack of respect toward women. If we do not do so, I doubt we will be capable of enacting any long-term solutions.

Jonathan Farmer
SENIOR
ENGLISH

Insanity Verdict Deserves Rage More Than Letter

TO THE EDITOR:

While I do not approve of the recent pledge letter by Phi Gamma Delta, I cannot figure out why many people have reacted so strongly to this while showing minimal rage over the recent Wendell Williamson verdict.

Williamson killed two people and got away with it due to his supposed insanity. In my mind, the term insanity is specifically designed to let a killer go free. No one is ever convicted of raping or robbing someone due to insanity, and many people who commit these acts are as mentally ill as Williamson. Certainly, those women who walked outside the fraternity would not have bought an insanity defense if a mentally ill frat boy were to rape a woman.

How many people must lose their lives before people stop buying into this insanity defense, which allows people to kill law-abiding citizens and get away with it? Since when has a lewd memo been more offensive to people than witnessing a man get away with murder?

Peter Wells
SENIOR
GEOGRAPHY

Fugate Column Did More To Offend Than Anything

Editor's Note: The Daily Tar Heel has not received student fees since 1992.

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing to express how offended I was by the Nov. 6 article, "When Your Price Turns Out to Be a Toad ..." I understand the imperative need for people to be more open and honest about the travesty of "date rape," especially during Rape Awareness Week. As a woman, I encourage more women to be open about this tragic occurrence that seems to be an ever-increasing event on campuses everywhere, but I feel the way in which Ms. Fugate chose to write about it was the epitome of irresponsible journalism.

If syndicated newspapers such as The New York Times and the Washington Post are not allowed to print such vulgar language in their respective newspapers, why does The Daily Tar Heel feel it is justified in our newspaper? OUR newspaper because, unlike The New York Times and The Washington Post, we as UNC students do not have the option of choosing to purchase the DTH; we are required to pay for its daily publication through our student fees. I certainly do not appreciate being made to pay for a newspaper that so casually allows profanity to be printed.

In order to send a letter to the editor like this one, "The DTH reserves the right to edit letters ... for vulgarity." It seems to me the DTH needs to spend less time editing their letters and more time paying attention to their own articles. And to Ms. Fugate, your immature attempt to address

the issue of date rape turned it into an "us against them" name-calling contest in which the filthiest mouth wins. Congratulations! I guess you were the winner, but the next time you try to help women, why don't you try to write something that is supportive and educational and that might actually legitimize women's claims instead of something that offends people so much they don't want to even listen to your message?

Clinton Healey
JUNIOR
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Ousted Council Member Thankful For Opportunity

Editor's Note: The author is a member of the Chapel Hill Town Council.

TO THE EDITOR:

Only in the days following my loss in the election have I come to fully appreciate what a privilege it has been to represent the people of Chapel Hill.

To those who have supported me, I am so very grateful. To those who are glad to see me gone, well done! Chapel Hill is more alive today because we joined the debate. To anyone whom I have wronged, please accept my deepest apologies. It is never my intention to be hurtful. To my business partners and co-workers at FGI, your amazing tolerance and support for me serving on the Council made it all workable. Thank you. To my family, I love you, and I hope you will get used to having me around the house.

To my dear, dear friends on the Town Council: I will forever cherish the opportunity I've had to know and work with you.

And, finally, to the gracious citizens of Chapel Hill, thank you. God bless you all!

Jim Protzman
CHAPEL HILL

No Coincidence That Fountain Is Near Cashier

TO THE EDITOR:

OK, maybe it's just me, or did the University do it on purpose? Has anyone else noticed the beautiful, expensive-looking, new fountain they have built? What was the reasoning behind strategically placing this extravagant feature of our campus directly in front of the cashier's office?

Maybe the planners were thinking, "Hey, why don't we show off to these kids, who are trudging their way to receive their refund checks from federal aid and loans, that we have so much money in silly places, we can build a fountain in the midst of November!" I sincerely do not understand how the University has this kind of money to spend and still has to have a \$400 tuition increase. Certainly the fountain is pretty.

I appreciate the fact that the University is trying to make this campus even more beautiful than it already is, but if someone could please explain to me why this money isn't going to the needs of this university, instead of the wants, I would be forever grateful.

Jenny Johnson
SOPHOMORE
RECREATION ADMINISTRATION

Calling All Pontificators

The editorial board of The Daily Tar Heel is looking to fill its ranks for the spring semester.

If this sounds like you, please come by the DTH office in Suite 104 of the Student Union and pick up an application. They will be available in the front office until Nov. 29, when they are due back in the office.

Members will be selected by Dec. 4 and begin work when classes resume in January. All questions should be directed to Editorial Page Editor-select Jeanne Fugate at 962-0486.