

The Daily Tar Heel

Jeanne Fugate EDITOR
Office Hours, 2-3 p.m. Fridays
Graham Brink MANAGING EDITOR

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Senseless Dollars

■ However tempting he finds \$1 billion, Louis Farrakhan only stands to lose if he pursues Moammar Gadhafi's questionable donation.

Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam should have acted responsibly and rejected the \$1 billion offered them by Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Instead, Farrakhan has vowed that he is ready for a "showdown" with the Clinton administration over the legality of accepting the funds.

Farrakhan only stands to lose in this debate. All financial dealings with Libya have been prohibited since 1986. The Nation of Islam would have to be granted a special, legal exception to conduct such a transaction. Because Gadhafi has vowed the money will be used to "enter this (American) fortress and confront it," it is unlikely our president will pave the way for an exemption to normal policy.

Farrakhan's representative in his drive to receive permission for accepting the cash is Marion "Rex" Harris of Fayetteville, a self-made businessman and former member of the state Board of Transportation.

Harris argues such a huge sum of money could be put toward developing the economic power base of black America. While Harris remains a sympathetic figure with plausible goals, he overlooks a stumbling block: the source of the money has been implicated in international terrorism.

If Farrakhan and top Nation of Islam officials were to rethink the situation, they would see they would gain more by refusing the funds outright. The current image of Farrakhan's sensational leadership agenda does not sit well with most Americans. His anger-driven image has legitimized him in current political circles, and many wonder about his intentions.

By refusing any association with Gadhafi, Farrakhan could send a positive message to the public that he will not tolerate the terrorism and underhanded diplomacy embodied by Libya.

Instead, Farrakhan worsens his already poor image by associating with the terrorist state — a declared enemy of both the United States and the United Nations.

Practically speaking, the ability of the Libyan government to provide the Nation of Islam with such a huge sum is also questionable. Libya's total oil export income amounts to only \$9 billion per year, one-ninth of which would go to Jihad-minded philanthropy?

The Nation of Islam, Louis Farrakhan and Rex Harris are all being taken for a ride. The United States stands for principles that would bar its citizens from illegally laying their hands on a heap of dirty money — money that probably doesn't even exist.

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK Devona Brown

Look beyond Hillary vs. Elizabeth

Call it Year of the Woman II, call it another feminist movement. Just don't call it the Hillary Rodham Clintons vs. the Elizabeth Doles.

The '96 elections are a major example of women crashing through political glass ceilings. Five thousand candidates running for office, 1500 in state legislatures and 28 in the N.C. General Assembly all check the gender box marked "female." An estimated 54 percent to 56 percent of registered voters are women, making the female vote an important asset to candidates in upcoming elections.

Face it, baby, we have come a long way. We lose our way, however, when we side with either Hillary Rodham Clinton or Elizabeth Dole. Rather than celebrating their positions as women who are visible in politics, we divide ourselves based upon how we feel women should act. Such divisions only hinder our common goal of striving for acceptance in a male-dominated society.

We must realize that a woman known for strongly voicing her opinions on major issues is no less of a

woman than one known for standing behind her husband, advocating his beliefs. The same is true for housewives, single women and those working their way up corporate ladders.

Understand that our differences are all a part of our beauty as women.

To continue the progression of women's importance in politics and government, we must follow the example of those before us. According to Hillary Rodham Clinton, women opposite Jane Addams overlooked her Republican party affiliation simply because she was a woman.

We must do the same to avoid unnecessary divisions among us.

Instead of allowing ourselves to be characterized by our differences, we must come together and celebrate each other. Rejoice for the various types of women that we are.

Look towards what we can become when we unite — Republican to Democrat, housewife to working mother, woman to woman.

Tar Heel Quotables

"We would like to understand the relationship between smoking and disease."

DONALD DEBETHIZY, vice president of product development at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.
Explaining that the company's development of a "safer cigarette" is not an admission that cigarette smoking is unsafe.

"It's such an example of 'Wal-Martization,' the big guy trying to put out the little guy."

DORRIT GESHURI, Co-manager of Internationalist Books
Protesting Student Stores' obtaining textbook titles carried exclusively by Internationalist Books until this semester.

"It's like the biggest circus you've ever seen — it's better than the circus."

LAURA EDWARDS, delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago
Trying to explain the party atmosphere permeating the convention. Between the policy juggling and presidential spin, it must have been quite a show.

"It's frightening, though. Sometimes we're the only exposure students will ever have to Shakespeare."

ERIC KERCHNER, member of the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival
Lamenting the fact that many students in North Carolina have never seen a live theater performance.

"It's wrong for the federal government to suggest our farmers are growing a drug. These good tobacco farmers, growing a drug?"

Gov. JIM HUNT
Blasting President Bill Clinton and the Food and Drug Administration for approving stringent measures on cigarette marketing and advertising.

"The main problem is finding time and expertise."

JAMIE KILBOURNE, speaker of student congress
Pointing out the greatest obstacle to creating a student government, err... government web site, that is.



Of Smurfs and men: UNC's inter-sexual history

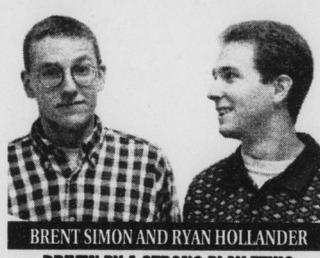
What do we all search for in life? Happiness? A pen that works? A reason to go to class? While these are all acceptable answers, we were looking for a more specific response: a mate, a lover, a significant other.

Now you can accept the fact that humans have innate physical cravings or you can languish in denial. Regardless, this is obviously a subject that merits special attention. Hence, this piece is the first in a two-part series on men, women, dating and the ever-evolving dynamic of sexual politics. Well, whatever. The first piece will frame said social phenomenon in a historical civic center... uhh, we mean historical arena, while the second will examine, to be a tad blunt, why we're all out to get a piece — and then why we're never fully satisfied when we do.

The UNC campus has seen a great shift in population makeup and, likewise, dating patterns. It's a read-it-and-weep fact that only 30-odd years ago, the University's undergraduate population was more than 90 percent male. Needless to say, this statistical bubble-burster put a crimp in the social scene for less-than-poster-pin-up quality guys looking for a few good dates. Were sorry to play myth-destroyers again but believe it or not, there were — and still are — some borderline undesirable men here at UNC. We can hear thousands of shrilly, Diet Mountain Dew-powered voices uniting in passionate protest, but for the sake of argument, let's just accept the statement as truth.

During the '60s, many lucky ladies were the subjects of intense bidding wars and could often auction their acquiescence to a swinging soirée for as much as \$50, full expenses, a signed promissory note of good manners — plus a percentage of the overall gross. This is all to illustrate that with such a decidedly estrogen-starved general population, dating woes and sexual failings were more pervasive than drunken gropings at present-day fraternity houses. And speaking of sexual frustrations, what better way to convey our point than to draw upon a certain Saturday morning cartoon as a supplementary metaphor?

It isn't exactly easy being three apples tall, socially dysfunctional, and constantly having



BRENT SIMON AND RYAN HOLLANDER
DRIVEN BY A STRONG PLAY ETHIC

to escape a balding, would-be serial killer bent on terminating the existence of your species. The Smurfs had to deal with all of this, plus a painfully disturbing male/female ratio. The one and only Smurfette came along courtesy of Gargamel, but you'd think the Smurfs would've eventually put their horny little blue heads together and come up with some cloning technology.

As one of a handful of Smurfs capable of growing hair, Smurfette was an enigma, a nonpracticing lesbian skilled in the exploitation of her status as the only legitimate nonphallic individual in Smurf Village. She had Handy doing pointless housework and Hefty lugging around huge stones for no apparent reason. And she was forever charming her way into free Smurfberry pies from Greedy. But, for some reason she could never finagle anything except white cotton summer dresses from Tailor Smurf. Fed up with her ironclad piety, many Smurfs eventually headed over to Peace College.

Some people have pointed to the Smurfs as a subversive example of communism and communal living, but let's examine this a little more closely. It's true that Papa Smurf wore red, encouraged cooperation and the division of labor, sported that Karl Marx-lookin' beard and could drink everyone under the table. But there are some definite class distinctions and social rumblings that are far too often brushed under the rug at the National Smurf Forums we often attend.

For instance, many people are unaware that there was in fact a small but vocal extremist faction that splintered from the original clan in

the late 1960s. Many Smurfs felt cheated in the title department. Instead of being Hefty, Brainy, Painter or Jokey, they had to suffer under the considerably less cool monikers of Waving Smurf #11 or Nondescript Crowd Smurf.

Others, like Janitor Smurf and Libertarian Smurf, began to demand equal exposure and ballot access. Ensemble Smurfdom just wasn't cuttin' it. Finally, led by Angry & Disillusioned Young Politico Smurf (who would later become Smurf X), several of the more actually-inclined Smurfs stapled rubber tubing to their heads and took up residence under the sea with the Snorks. Those who couldn't swim drowned.

While those that followed Smurf X left of their own volition, others were booted from the comfy compound simply because they were deemed "socially undesirable."

Nauseated Smurf, Chemically Dependent Smurf, Islamic Fundamentalist Smurf, Open Sore Smurf, Sexually Ambiguous Smurf (Vanity's cousin) and Dennis Choi Smurf were only a few of the ones asked to leave and never return. At this point, we can hear the cry rising from you, massive readership: What does it all mean?!

While you may question the sanity of our comparing UNC's inter-sexual history to a society where a stork and a blue moon took the place of fertilization, the point is that the Smurfs were all out for a little action. While they didn't reproduce sexually, they did have sex drives. But the sad gender imbalance of their village forced most Smurfs to throw themselves headlong into their work. This fostered fierce competition, dissent and eventually the splintering of which we spoke.

This sort of mad jockeying for sexual attention is certainly quite normal and characteristic of not only UNC past and present, but also society as a whole.

While the situation here at UNC, thankfully, has not reached quite a comparable crisis level, we shudder to think that the dating scene at this university 30 years ago was nothing more than a glorified Smurf village.

Brent Simon is a senior communication studies major from Greensboro. Ryan Hollander is a junior journalism major from Miami, Fla.

Humor, truth spin together in columnist's 'Dirty laundry'

TO THE EDITOR:
I am a freshman here at UNC and am just starting to get used to the new lifestyle.

However, as I read Richard Harris' column, "Airing Dirty Laundry" (Aug. 27) I realized everything he said was absolutely true. I think he should be commended on a truly insightful and well-written article.

I found the article humorous due to the fact that everything he observed concerning the separation between different groups on campus was correct.

Mr. Harris, I'm glad you spoke up concerning this matter.

Coming from a small town in North Carolina, this type of behavior is not at all new to me and I wish it didn't have to be this way. Growing up around this type of behavior, which was a little bit more discriminate than here, infuriated me.

I did as you said though. I openly corrected anyone making derogatory remarks and continue to do the same. I think everyone needs a course in getting along with others despite their differences.

I might just take your advice and enroll in an African-American culture class next semester.

I do have one bone to pick with you though. I am, in fact, white and 90 percent of my tapes are hip-hop, one of which is Nas.

Danny Wyatt
FRESHMAN
BUSINESS



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. 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.

of Student Stores towards the Internationalist bookstore ("Internationalist book store not threat to UNC Student Stores").

I am a graduate student who has been buying books for many years now at many stores, and I am surprised by the self-righteous and cavalier attitude of many professors at UNC toward their students in terms of the textbooks required for courses.

The professor is not a customer in this situation.

The professor is a facilitator, an intermediary, between bookstore and student. The student is the customer.

The convenience, economy and serviceability of the University toward its customers, the students, is obviously not foremost in the minds of some professors when ordering textbooks.

Here are a few examples of issues large and small which students could find objectionable about the "monopolistic" practices of the Internationalist bookstore.

Suppose I am a poor student (this isn't a difficult supposition to make).

I would like to purchase used books, insofar as it is possible for me to do so.

I would also like to get the best price on any book through bargain shopping.

The Student Stores and Carolina University Bookstore and RAM Book and Supply give me that option.

The Internationalist does not.

Suppose I am an athlete, or a disabled student, with a grant that pays for my textbooks through a University grant.

If the Internationalist, or my professor, has not informed Student Stores that I must purchase these certain books, then I cannot take advantage of my grant.

Those certain books will not be available at Student Stores (how could they be, when Student Stores does not know they are required for this course and therefore did not order them?). I must pay for these books from my own pocket at the Internationalist.

Suppose I am a politically conservative student. My professor is not just recommending that I and my fellow students support the Internationalist's political positions by opting to spend my money at the store.

My professor is, instead, forcing me to buy books at that store and therefore to give my money to support issues which are objectionable to me, but are espoused by the professor.

That professor, by not making his or her textbook order information available to the other bookstores, has limited both my political and economic freedom by making me a captive consumer of the Internationalist.

Perhaps the "39" faculty members who wish to "send a little business" to a worthy bookstore should remember who are the real customers in this situation and consider the student's convenience and rights when ordering textbooks.

Jennifer Malady
GRADUATE STUDENT
ART HISTORY

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