

Concerns or comments about our coverage? Contact the ombudsman at budman@unc.edu or call 605-2790.

ROB NELSON
EDITOR
Office Hours Friday 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893 • 107 Years of Editorial Freedom
www.unc.edu/dth

VICKY ECKENRODE & CATE DOTY
MANAGING EDITORS

Scott Hicks
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR
Katie Abel
UNIVERSITY EDITOR
Jacob McConnico
CITY EDITOR

Matthew B. Dees
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR
T. Nolan Hayes
SPORTS EDITOR
Leigh Davis
FEATURES EDITOR

Robin Clemow
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
Carolyn Haynes
COPY DESK EDITOR
Miller Pearsall
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Thomas Ausman
DESIGN EDITOR
Megan Sharkey
GRAPHICS EDITOR
William Hill
ONLINE EDITOR

Terry Wimmer
OMBUDSMAN

BOARD EDITORIALS

In Lawmakers' Hands

Now that all the bureaucrats have had their swing at it, it's time for the N.C. General Assembly to shoot down the recently proposed tuition increase. Lawmakers should be willing to pay for services rendered.

The UNC-system Board of Governors watered down the much-debated plan from its initial outlandish tuition increase of \$1,500 over five years to a still ridiculous \$600 hike over two years for UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University. The board OK'd lesser amounts on down the system chain.

Though the state's coffers are stretched tight due to Hurricane Floyd recovery, the buck should not be passed along to students, especially considering how much UNC gives back to the state. Let's remind them.

How many e-mail messages did students receive encouraging them to spend a weekend in a devastated town to help residents dig out of the sludge? How many canned goods were collected or coats donated? It's ironic that after all that UNC system students gave to help Floyd victims, they are the ones footing higher bills because of the disaster - particularly when you acknowledge how much UNC boosts the state economy.

Most graduates here go into professional fields and settle in various locations around the state. The taxes from this professional class are quite beneficial.

That educated work force attracts tax-generating and high-wage-paying businesses to the state. Look at Research Triangle Park. Would it exist if not for N.C. State and UNC-CH?

What's more, the UNC system also does much of the government's research. A UNC-Greensboro economist, for example, undertook the cost-benefits analysis that helped the state lure FedEx to Greensboro.

But all of these perks come with a price tag. The state has to pay for these services. And it does so through its commitment to providing the lowest tuition possible.

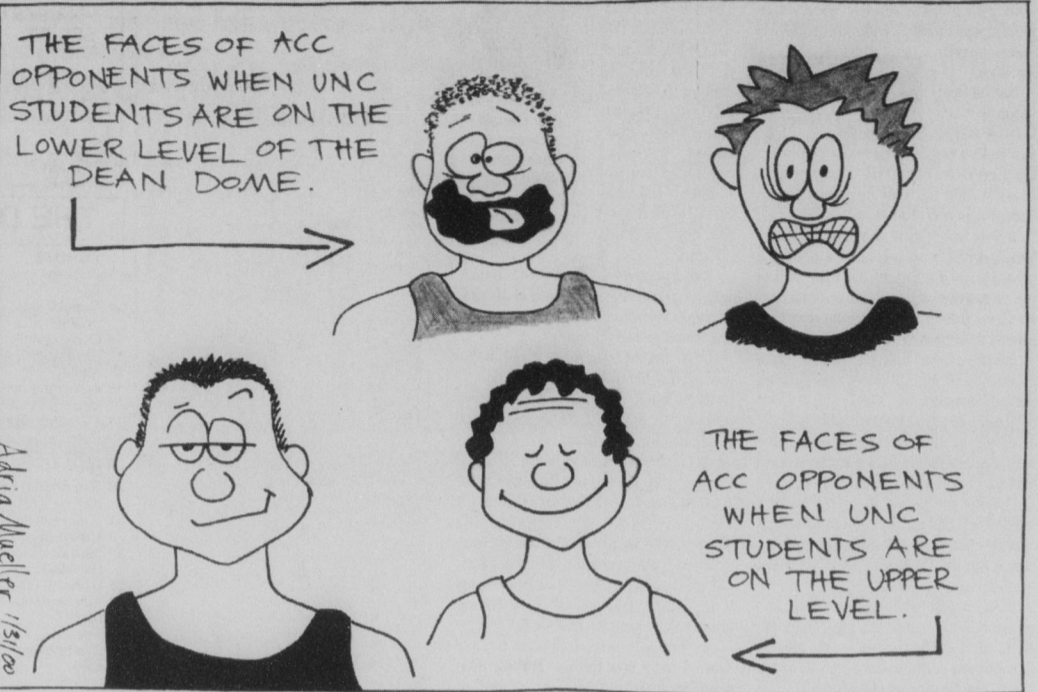
It says as much in Article 9, Section 9 of the N.C. Constitution: "The General Assembly shall provide that the benefits of The University of North Carolina and other public institutions of higher education, as far as practicable, be extended to the people of the State free of expense." It is lawmakers' personal responsibility to keep costs down at UNC. That means saying "No!" to this hike.

Granted, it's an election year, so legislators won't be willing to raise taxes with the threat of being voted out of office looming. But students can use that same rationale to achieve their goal. Find out the name and address of the state representatives in your home district. Write them and let them know how you feel about the proposal.

Don't let the grassroots activism that has sprouted up around this debate die down. As the proposed tuition increase reaches the desks of state lawmakers, it becomes time to take it to the next level.

This is the end of the road.

To find out who represents you in the N.C. General Assembly, go to <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us> and click on Member Representation under Geography and Representation.



Types Converge, Collide Uptown

I was talking to a friend from N.C. State University, otherwise known as the university of "I didn't get into Carolina, so I'll pretend that I really want to get into a career of waste disposal management," and when he asked me what I was doing that night, I habitually answered, "Going uptown." Being from the vastly inferior school, he then asked me exactly what "uptown" was.

Well, I hadn't really thought about it, what is uptown? Why is it so popular and why do people who are otherwise pretty sensible seem to lose all worries there? Of course being the scholar that I am, I decided it was my responsibility to ponder this very question.

To begin with, uptown is obviously Franklin Street and its surrounding bars. (Side note for you freshman: those places that say "23 Steps" and "Goodfellow's" are bars, and no, you can't get in by showing your high school senior ID card.)

Anyway, everybody knows where uptown is, but to get deeper into the psyche of the uptown phenomenon I decided I must do something more.

Thus, my team of psychologists and I came up with a system of categories with examples of real UNC students to better grasp the marvel. If you feel like you fall into some of these categories, you might need to seek immediate medical help.

1) The "Even on Sunday" Uptowner
Examples: "Jeffro," "Beaver" and "Pale Canadian."

This is by far the group that is most enamored by uptown, as anything is a reason to go uptown. To qualify for this category, you must have an emergency sorority event kit containing a fashionably worn southern college school hat, khakis and blue oxford shirt which must be accessible at any given time.

The question for these tortured souls is not whether you are going out but when.

2) The "Meat and Potatoes" Uptowner
Examples: "Biscuit," "Cuban B" and



AMOL NAIK
FROM THE DANK CAVE

"Kotite."

This group is called meat and potatoes because they are the backbone of the uptowners. This is a powerful faction due to the fact that they travel in large numbers, to the point that they are almost like a secret society; only instead of a secret handshake, they are all out-fitted in vests.

They are most likely the force that led Brian "tall, white and sassy" Bersticker to gather 16 percent of the student body presidential vote.

3) The "I Like to Shake My Stinkin' Ass" Uptowner
Examples: "Harry Houdini" and "Snoop."

In this group, uptown is not so much about going to a bar and getting slammed, but more so about running game in the line outside of the PDC.

To be in this group, you must have at least two 12s in the back of your ride and the tuner constantly fixed on 102-boo. Sorry, if you don't know all the words to the new Ghostface by now, you don't make it.

4) The "I'd Rather Sit on My Stinkin' Ass" Uptowner
Examples: "Jewda" and "Stork."

For this group, uptown is simply an escape from their true love, Mary Jane. A lot of you fit into this group, as evidenced by the mysterious puff of smoke that hovers over the wall facing Club Undergrad in the afternoons.

Whereas many in group two voted for Bersticker, most of this body probably didn't

even know there was a vote.

5) The "Life Is One Long Widespread Show" Uptowner
Examples: "Widespread" and "Panic."

This group loves uptown as much as the first group, only their croakies are replaced by hemp necklaces. A normal night for these folks entails rollin' uptown and stealing street signs, sometimes even passing out in the bushes outside Time-Out Chicken.

6) The "I Can't Get in Anywhere" Uptowner
Examples: "Lou" and "Pete B."

Life is just a countdown until age 21 arrives for these people, as they dream of future uptown glory. They make valid attempts at going out, only to be stifled by the fact that for some reason the bouncers don't believe they are 35 and balding.

7) The "Once in a Blue Moon" Uptowner
Examples: "Scooter" and "Cautious English Major."

The name says it all for this category, as Uptown is a tedious process where the journey is made only for specific occasions. This group has the lowly status just above Dook students uptown.

8) The "I Just Turned 21" Uptowner
Examples: "The grumpy old men."

For these uptown virgins, everything is a new experience as uptown etiquette is still being mastered. Often that guy, the one who's trying to hug and fight his friends simultaneously, is a member of this esteemed body.

Like I said earlier, if you fit into one of these groups, you probably need to seek help.

Chances are you're penniless and alone, and have the gut to show for it.

Come to think of it, maybe those "Don't Get Wasted" tools are right. Well, I guess I'll have to take that into consideration ... but in the meantime, you going uptown tonight?

Amol Naik is a junior history major from Lumberton. Anyone who wants to buy him drinks uptown, e-mail unc2001@hotmail.com.

Recognizing Effort

Last week's referendum made it abundantly clear that the majority of students - 2,907 to 249, in fact - support recognizing double minors on transcripts.

The referendum, however, is only the first step toward that recognition becoming a reality.

Because UNC does not officially offer double minors, the referendum was only a means to gauge students' opinions on the issue. Now that the support for such recognition is apparent, it is up to the administration to act as quickly as possible in facilitating the proper changes.

Speed is of the essence in this case, because many students would already qualify for double minors if they were offered. This is the result of the generally high caliber of students admitted each year and the credit the University awards for Advanced Placement classes taken in high school.

Therefore, a large number of students end up completing their perspectives early and focusing on outside subjects in which they have an interest.

These students should be receiving proper credit for their ambition.

The major stumbling block to double

minors appearing on transcripts is the concern of some professors that such a measure at a liberal arts school like UNC will result in overspecialization.

If double minors become officially recognized, the argument seems to go, students will focus on two or three subjects and neglect to expose themselves to other fields of study.

But such fears are groundless, because the current educational policy allows students to declare double majors. No one has yet questioned whether that results in overspecialization, and double minors would be even less specialized.

The administration must realize that General College and Arts and Sciences perspectives already do a more than adequate job of ensuring students receive a well-balanced course load.

Liberal arts universities are supposed to both encourage and foster interest in a wide variety of subjects. The fact that so many students are already qualified for double minors illustrates that the University has done an admirable job in this respect.

Now it's time to recognize those qualifications.

READERS' FORUM

Elections Board Leader Defends Group's Work In Handling Ballots, Polls

TO THE EDITOR:

(In response to the Monday editorial "Ship of Fools"):

To start, the failing database was tested before the election. However, a restriction was put on the APPLES referendum so that graduate students could not vote. This restriction forced the program to go to the original database for the old ballots that do not have Mr. and Mrs. UNC.

For online voting we tried to go outside to a source called votehere.com. However, it would cost \$10,000 for each election. The University did not want to spend this kind of money. We had already looked into a contract with the company, so we ended up having to go inside. We went to Information Technology Services. These are the same people that make the Web site for the University, not Academic Technologies & Networks.

We gave them all of our information. They decided to watch for a year and go from there. We are meeting in the next few weeks to get the project off the ground. It takes a certain time period in order to write a program of this magnitude in order to secure privacy.

The incorrect information for the data-

base for districts was lack of communication on all parts. It does not clearly state in the Student Code who is suppose to give the new information to the registrar. The registrar is nice enough to help out.

As for the past three years of elections, I have been on the Elections Board. What people think of as failure in an election is not even close. The Elections Board, by the Code, has 96 hours to give out the results. Luckily, with the determination of the Elections Board in the past we have gotten this information out as soon as possible.

The Elections Board works hard all day on election day and it would be easy to say, "Let's wait and count these tomorrow." We overcome our fatigue and work diligently.

No one should judge the Elections Board until they have been on it for one year. It is hard to believe we are criticized when I am told everyday that I have one of the worst jobs on campus and they would not do it themselves. I enjoy the Elections Board and the members. If we are a bunch of fools, then I would love to be surrounded by fools the rest of my life. They are the hard working individuals who are not in it for recognition or prestige.

Catherine Yates
Chairwoman
Elections Board

The length rule on letters was waived.

1998 Elections Chairman Points to Flawless Year As Proof Board Does OK

TO THE EDITOR:

I am responding to your Monday editorial "Ship of Fools," in which it is stated that "(t)he only thing reliable about the UNC student government Elections Board is that every year it'll mess something up." I was the chairman of the Elections Board for the 1998 election in which nothing went wrong. Not a single miscount, machine malfunction or Supreme Court case. That's 1-for-2 if you're keeping the correct score!

Joe Kledis
Graduate Student
Kenan-Flagler Business School

Rider Upset by Mottos Needs to 'Get a Life,' Appreciate Kind Gestures

TO THE EDITOR:

This is a response to Steve Friedman's letter to the editor Monday. As people who have a right to choose what acts in which we participate, I tell Mr. Friedman to get a life. Robert Moore is not "aggressive" in delivering his mottos. He has neither held a gun to anyone's head nor forced them to

say a word of positivity for the two minutes one rides the U bus. An "invasion of consciousness" is the ignorance you wrote the editor. This bogus term that you compare to other legal jargon is a reflection of deeper insecurities within you. Please learn to love yourself so that you might appreciate others' love for humanity. Maybe his sayings are aggravating to you, but you do not know who this man has helped by shedding a little light on a dreary day.

Karena Cason
Senior
African and Afro-American Studies

Union Worker Steps Up To Take Responsibility For Removed Posters

TO THE EDITOR:

One of the editorials in the paper Feb. 17 ("Gagged") criticized an anonymous person for violating the First Amendment rights of the student who posted his or her complaints against student government in the Pit. The anonymous cleaner wishes to come forward.

Aisha McGriff, building supervisor in the Student Union, had no ulterior motives for removing posters in the Pit. It is Union policy that postings not be allowed on lightposts, trees or the ground surrounding

the Union, and all postings will be removed. The removal was not related to any affiliation other than a paycheck.

In fact, if the student would like to come to the information desk in the Union, if she or he has proper backing by a recognized student organization or campus department, we would even be happy to take three of your posters and put them on our own internal bulletin boards, stamped, dated and signed. If you aren't backed by a recognized group, you would be directed to the downstairs bulletin boards next to the Underground and the Cabaret.

Representing the Union, we would further like to challenge the editorial's author to name him or herself, and then get his or her facts straight. Please address further questions about Union policy to 962-2285.

Aisha McGriff
Junior
Psychology and Communications Studies

Susannah Kirby
Junior
Psychology

The editorial argued that whoever removed the posters violated students' rights to express themselves freely. Whether the posters' removal was thanks to an individual acting alone or a University or Union policy is beside the point, the editorial argued.



The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticism. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 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. Publication is not guaranteed. 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: editdesk@unc.edu.