

# The Daily Tar Heel

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**JON HARRIS — EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK**

## The Real Deal

If a Senate proposal for a small tuition increase becomes a reality, students would still receive a bargain for their college education.

With N. C. legislators facing a revenue shortage in addition to all the other problems contributing to the state's budget crisis, the process of seeking out new sources of revenue across the state has begun.

Sadly, the UNC system will most likely become one of these new revenue sources, even though UNC-system students will end up providing only a tiny bandage for a state budget that has turned into a nasty-looking gash.

And while a tuition increase of any magnitude is automatically going to be unpopular, UNC students have no reason to protest this increase on a large scale similar to the protests that took place during the proposed \$1,500 tuition increase in the 1999-2000 school year.

Thus far, two different proposals have come out of the General Assembly. The Senate plan calls for a 5 percent tuition jump for all students on top of the 4 percent increase approved by the Board of Governors in the spring.

The House, on the other hand, wants to spare in-state students by hitting the out-of-staters with a 15 percent increase.

A decision on which plan will ultimately be implemented has yet to be made, but the House proposal's punishing out-of-staters reeks of state leaders shirking their responsibilities of fixing domestic budget problems.

This leaves the Senate proposal as the most ideal plan for a tuition increase for the UNC system and the UNC-Chapel Hill student community.

If the Senate proposal were to pass, the 9 percent increase would translate into a relatively small \$168 hike for all students at Carolina, which would spare the out-of-state students a disproportionate amount of what looks to be an inevitable increase.

Any future protest over this rather small increase would be an impractical effort start-

ed by either students who get caught up in romanticizing protests of the past (which happens frequently at this university) or those students who fail to recognize that their college education represents an investment that will end up paying large dividends years after graduation.

If students feel compelled to get riled up about something pertaining to a tuition increase, they should go protest the fact that the Board of Governors approved the 4 percent increase two weeks after students left for summer — probably because they were too scared to face a repeat of the events connected with the last bout of the larger tuition increases.

Students cannot overlook the fact that the Senate proposal would keep in tune with the frequently mentioned tradition of UNC-Chapel Hill having the lowest possible in-state tuition.

Presently, UNC-CH is dirt cheap compared to all of its peer universities and is by far the Wal-Mart of all the top 30 universities.

A recent study released by the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy found that students' costs for enrollment in four-year public universities in North Carolina are the second lowest in the country.

Also contained in the study was the finding that students in the UNC system pay the second-smallest proportion of the total costs to educate them.

Therefore, students need not worry — Carolina will maintain its anachronistically low tuition even with a small increase pending.

Although it's unfortunate that tuition increases remain a part of the solution to the state's current budget problems, a 9 percent increase is not worth causing a big fuss, especially when the costs of other colleges and the real dollar amount of the increase are taken into account.

**ASHLEY HOLMES — EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK**

## Street Fighters

The actions of some non-student residents of Pine Street reflect a growing problem with students who seek off-campus housing.

While the University continuously expands and raises student enrollment, something must be done to improve relations between UNC students who live off campus and non-student residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

The ongoing controversy on Pine Street typifies this seemingly eternal conflict. Here even the threat of increased student off-campus housing compelled non-student residents to imbue their laws with signs and to take action with the Carrboro Board of Aldermen.

Tensions between students and town residents have steadily increased in the past few years, but the actions of these Pine Street non-student residents were rude and unproductive.

Residents say they aren't anti-student. Well, putting signs in your front yard proclaiming, "This is not a Dorm" is certainly more anti-student than not.

Webster's defines the verb discriminate as "to make distinctions in treatment; to show partiality or prejudice." To exclude people from affordable and comfortable housing (built within the letter of the law, mind you) based solely on the decision to attend our University is discriminatory — plain and simple.

By comparing students moving in to their neighborhood to rape, as one protest sign did, Pine Street residents are actively tainting the character of their street with inaccurate and base stereotypes.

Pine Street residents are wrong to assume that students cannot promote a safe and fam-

ily-friendly environment. Students can behave themselves. It's been done before, honestly.

Rather than proceed with gross misinformation, something must be done to promote healing between students and non-student residents. The key to healing is improved communication between established Pine Street residents and landlords.

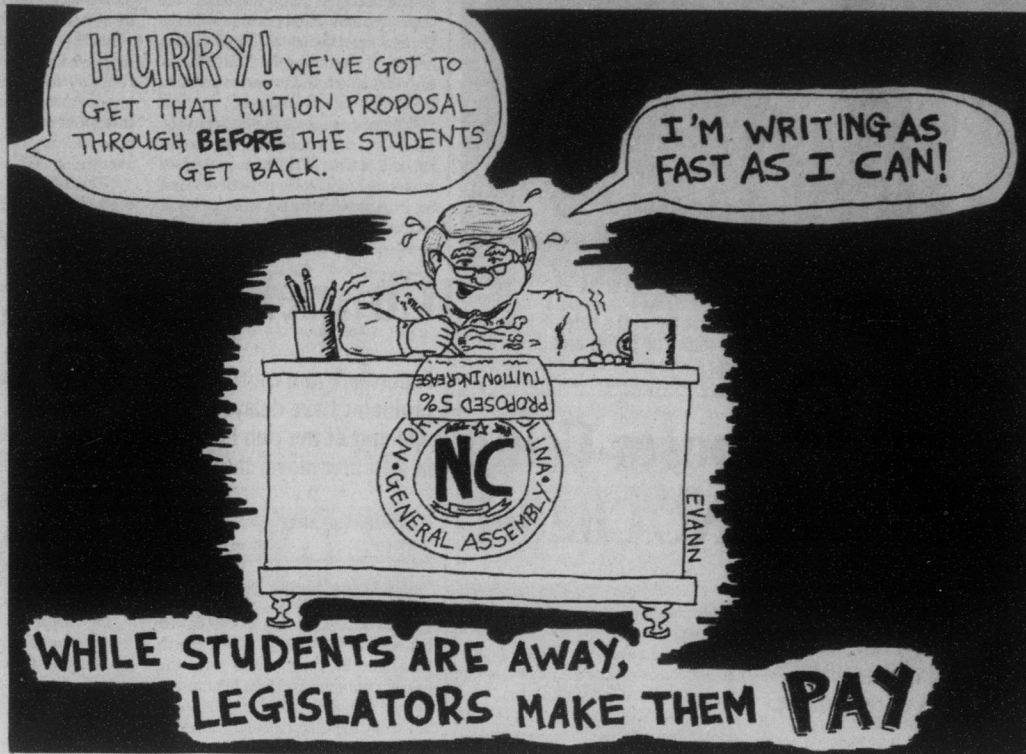
One such step that could perhaps solve the problem of student-resident conflict is that landlords include behavior clauses in leases. This way, students are required to behave in such a way that is keeping with the wants of Pine Street residents. If students are unable to abide by this clause they can decide not to rent in the first place, saving non-student residents much grief.

Changes in parking and traffic patterns that will benefit both neighbors and students could also eliminate potential problems.

But, what is most important in all of this is the attitude of both student renters and non-student residents. In order for these two groups to live together harmoniously, each must eliminate preconceived notions of the other.

No matter how many behavior clauses are included in a lease and no matter how perfect parking and traffic is, no real peace can occur unless each resident of neighborhoods such as Pine Street look past the stereotypes that plague each group.

We all must remember: in order to have good neighbors, you must first be a good neighbor.



## Columnist Laments Columns Lost

As some crazy hippie dude named Jim once said, and I think this was right before that fateful bathroom experience, "This is the end."

Assuming I pass my Spanish class, an assumption that I don't feel totally safe in making right now, I'm out of here. Last column for the *The Daily Tar Heel*, last classes at Carolina, last days on Franklin as a Chapel Hill resident. The End.

I'm typing this column amidst the rubble of an impending moving day. My entire life is in a few dozen boxes, supplied by the local ABC store, waiting to be loaded onto the U-Haul.

I'll be headed to a rival ACC institution to study law, an ACC institution that I fear — and it pains me to admit this — might get the best of us on the hardwood this fall. While I'll never turn traitor and root for another team, I do worry about what will happen to our boys in blue when the ACC regular season heats up. If I actually have time to go to a game, I'll be the one in baby blue amidst a sea of foreign colors. Look for me on TV.

Speaking of time, the summer went by way too quickly. I had all sorts of grand plans for my column in the DTH this semester: exposés, hard-hitting political commentary, and perhaps the occasional insight into the world. Instead, I usually got a headache from staring at a blank computer screen hoping that my columns would magically appear. Worse, I sometimes ended up with a hangover from seeking inspiration in a six-pack of PBR.

Still, I wrote a few columns that I either self-censored or didn't run for a variety of reasons.

For instance, I wrote a column about Duke, but a friend of mine who read the column before I submitted it for publication thought it



**BILL HILL**

### STREET NAME = GRAPPA BOY

was too mean and nasty to run in the paper. One night while at a Franklin Street watering hole, a guy who I later discovered attends the faux-ancient educational institution down 15-501 made the following statement:

"I like to come visit Chapel Hill, but the girls here just aren't intellectual enough."

After hearing that truly astonishing remark, I sat down and wrote my nasty column. Note to self: never go bar hopping with Duke students, because they always have to be "intellectual".

In my book, bars and intellectual go together about as well as M&M's and mayonnaise, but I'm sure that's my own silly little idiosyncrasy. Who knows, standing in a bar and shouting your interpretation of Proust or the day's stock quotes at a drunk frat boy from Duke might be a heck of a time. On second thought — gag me with a silver spoon — I'll stick with the keggers down on McMasters Street, thank you very much.

Another column that never ran was about rednecks. You know, the folks in the "No Feary"-stickered Camaros that load up in Fuquay and come to the Hill to raise hell on Friday nights. These are the folks you can always pick out at the bars, the ones huddled

together and drinking Hooch in the corners under a cloud of Polo cologne thick enough to make Ralph Lauren gag. The women are overly bleached and overly tanned and the men all have the obligatory peach-fuzz mustache and gold chain.

Sadly, that masterpiece will never get published: another friend of mine thought it came off as elitist ... even though it's safe to bet money on the fact that the guy driving down Franklin Street in the hot pink low-rider Ford pickup while listening to "Baby Got Back" isn't in the Classics Department here at UNC. Is that so elitist or has all the wine and cheese I've consumed in my years here clouded my mind?

On a much more serious note, I never did get around to writing a column about the lawsuit UNC lost in the N.C. Supreme Court last winter. In this day of budget cuts and low faculty salaries, UNC had to cough up close to \$90,000 in court costs because a few of our very own public safety officers beat the hell out of a guy they arrested in front of the Smith Center way back in 1995. Yep, UNC Public Safety Officers smacked this guy around and then sprayed him with mace because he refused to give his Social Security number. Although the victim won his case years ago, UNC fought the ruling and appealed all the way to the state Supreme Court.

Here's the punch line: one of the officers that participated in the beating is still employed here at UNC, kicking down dorm room doors and busting 18-year-old kids for an empty beer can in their recycling bins.

On that note, I'm out of here. The End.

Send your heartfelt farewells to Bill [wbhill@email.unc.edu](mailto:wbhill@email.unc.edu).

## Editor Covers His Ass For Last Time

This summer was a pain in the ass.

Literally. My summer full of basketball, Bulls' games and late nights came to a screeching halt when I found out I had to have surgery on my lower back.

For weeks before and weeks after the surgery, it hurt to sit down. (Imagine falling on your tailbone. Now imagine feeling like that every day.)

Unfortunately, my wound required another person to change the dressing.

Fortunately, I had many able roommates. For the past two years, I've lived in a Chapel Hill version of "The Real World."

We had all the characters — a gay Jewish guy from Boston; a Chinese girl from D.C., (or is she Korean?); a gay med student from Michigan; a laid-back med student from Carolina; a Jewish girl from Boston; and yours truly, a cocky kid from Kansas.

I'm actually considering writing my first Broadway musical based on the experience: "Two Gays, Two Girls and Two Guys."

All the guys ended up seeing my butt when I need a dressing change at night, which led to many laughs around the house.

(A special thanks goes to the woman who saw my butt more than my girlfriends ever have — Cathy at the Acute Care Center.)

Through it all, I had *The Daily Tar Heel*. The summer staff of the DTH was stronger than ever.

Unfortunately, the news couldn't have been slower.

Last summer, we had a new basketball coach and a torrential flood. This summer, we had budget cuts and the Master Plan.

City, State and National Editor Matt Viser,



**BRIAN FREDERICK**  
EDITOR

along with writer Ama Boaten did an excellent job covering the Master Plan over the course of the summer. (The phrase "Master Plan" used to connote an evil dictator or robbers scheming in a hideaway. Maybe it still does, on second thought.)

University Editor Geoff Wessel and his writer did a solid job covering other University-related news.

The arts writers performed like pros in this "summer of the review."

Newbie Jon Harris, editorial page editor, garnered the most mail for his pieces. (Jon, a man who is a conservative at 20 has no heart; a man who is a liberal at 60 has no head.)

There shouldn't be many mistakes in this edition, thanks to copy editors Tim Lawson and Laurie Osborne, who spent almost as much time flirting as they did copy editing.

And Design Editor Karen Williams, along with Brent Clark and rest of the graphics and photo staff, always put out a good-looking paper.

I am happy to report that columnist Bill Hill is coming out of his Republican shell with every column and following law school, will

be working for Greenpeace.

I would advise smart, good-looking men to ask out my Double Dutch partner Daniele. She has a bright future. Just don't do her wrong or you'll end up in one of her columns.

Extra special thanks goes out to the professional staff: Stacy, Penny, Melida, Pool-E, Janet, Lisa, Chrissy and my favorite ad girls, Sarah and Erica. You are wonderful and I will miss you all.

Without a doubt, the most valuable player of the summer is the man who looks like an offensive lineman but laughs like a girl, the man who made the trains run on time this summer and who has a gift for writing and editing that is only beginning to be tapped. Managing Editor Russ Lane could have put out the paper without me. I could not have done the same without him.

And thus ends my two-year experience at *The Daily Tar Heel*.

On my last trip as DTH captain, I can say that when all hands are on deck, we lose ourselves in these pages. The rest of the world doesn't matter. And at the same time it's all that matters.

We really give a damn about this world. I hope you believe us.

Best wishes, I must get going. During the next week, I have to finish my master's thesis, move out of my apartment, find a job, find a place to live and basically figure out what I'm doing with my life.

Talk about a pain in the ass.

Brian Frederick would like to thank all those who've helped make Chapel Hill his home away from home. In the future, reach him at [brifred@yahoo.com](mailto:brifred@yahoo.com).

## The Daily Tar Heel

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