

# Opinion



## Board Editorials

### Get Up, Stand Up

Unless students rally together, administrators will continue to marginalize them

As the semester slowly winds down and exams approach, there is a palpable sense of relief on campus. Classes are over, and winter break promises a much-needed respite for bleary-eyed students.

But while students hit the books, administrators are preparing to make a number of decisions that will have a profound effect on not only this year's crop of students but future generations as well.

On Wednesday the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee met to discuss the possibility of restricting parking on campus at night. Meanwhile, Chancellor James Moeser is nearing a decision on creating a satellite business school in the Middle Eastern emirate of Qatar. And in the midst of all of this, the chancellor's long-promised tuition increase creeps ever nearer to fruition.

Although these three decisions seem quite different, they all represent a disturbing trend that is only now becoming apparent: the marginalization of students at

UNC. The University's student body has always taken a keen interest in such decisions. It is a testament to the character and intelligence of the students that many of them have been, and continue to be, well-informed about the issues and willing to work for change on campus.

But while past administrations have regarded students as partners in a collective endeavor, the current one seems to treat them as more of an irritant.

Moeser has made it quite clear that he, and he alone, will make the final decision about the Qatar program. Student involvement in the parking and tuition proposals has been limited to surveys and forums — which have been created at the last minute and only under pressure from student leaders.

In short, the chancellor and his cronies seem more interested in placating students rather than actually listening to their concerns. They have grown quite adept at nod-

ding their heads and expressing sympathy for students' problems and then quietly going about their way.

The end result is an extremely frustrated student populace that receives nothing but lip service from those who should be looking out for them.

The administration serves the University, and the University serves the students. By prostrating themselves at the altar of national ratings and big money, the chancellor and company have lost sight of the University's mission.

What is perhaps most disturbing, however, is the relatively muted student reaction in the face of these changes.

Although Student Body President Justin Young and other student leaders have been successful in wringing a few concessions out of the chancellor — such as the Qatar forum — there hasn't been the kind of campuswide outcry that is truly needed to convince the administration how seriously students take these potential changes.

### A Greater Understanding

Dec. 7 marks the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and the end an influential semester of students' lives

On this very morning 60 years ago, my grandmother hovered over her two small children under a flipped couch as the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.

She was only a few years older than us, 27, as a Navy wife living at the military base housing about 2 miles from the site of the bombing.

As she was hanging the laundry outside on that quiet Sunday morning she recalls seeing fighter planes with the Japanese red sun flying over. My grandfather had been shipped out to Australia with his fleet two days earlier, on one of the few ships not destroyed by the bombing.

Historians have recently said they consider Pearl Harbor and Sept. 11 to be the two events that define America's history. They also say that the two are very different, but it was not until this semester that we, as students, began to better understand and care about the world and nation out-

side of our own lives.

My mother told me the story of my grandmother and Pearl Harbor only a few years ago. I was 6 when my grandmother died, and my grandfather died when my mom was in high school.

**KATE HARTIG**  
EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

Even at 18 years old, I didn't understand the magnitude of what she was telling me — an attack on our nation and its connection to my family.

Today, every one of us feels the way my grandmother felt on that Sunday morning. The stories, the loss and the tragedy of Sept. 11 are as close to us as Pearl Harbor was to my grandmother's generation.

I understand that magnitude now; our generations have been connected through tragedy and the depths of humanity.

The history of our generation is being written as we breathe. Students too will have stories of "where we were" on that September morning.

However, it's undeniable that things are incredibly different for our generation. An air of uncertainty lingers, making it even more important to laugh and love and take comfort in little things like the way the Bell Tower plays holiday songs near the end of the fall semester.

Looking back over this semester, it is close to impossible to put into words what we have learned and experienced.

Students and community members joined hands in the quad, gave blood and shed tears.

We learned far more this semester than we could ever gain in the classroom: We learned compassion, sacrifice, understanding and grace — qualities that make us a better society. We understand what it is to be American and how it feels to be alive.

Today marks a time where we need to continue to learn from the past and take in the present. Today marks a day where generations cross paths.

## Making a List, Checking It Once or Twice

Finally. It's the last day of class. How long have we waited for today? Since Thanksgiving? Since Fall Break? Since March when you registered for this class load? Ultimately, it's impossible to cram all we want to do into one semester.

There's always something more we wanted to say, to do or to see. For me, it's my last column — and there's quite a bit I haven't said or done. So here's my last-ditch attempt to speak my mind while I still have a soapbox and a semi-captivated audience (which undoubtedly dwindled to my family, my friends, and the few people I bribe to read it).



**RACHEL HOCKFIELD**  
OVER MY HEAD

Readers, you are probably scanning this column in between furious last minute note-taking, so I'll make it easy — here's a list of what topics I meant to address and never had the chance:

1. **Thank all the little people.** To everyone who's 4-foot-10 and under on this campus, I can relate. We conquer hardships that others simply don't understand — reaching for things, not having our feet touch the floor when sitting in a desk or seeing over the steering wheel. *Reason:* Under N.C. law, those 4-foot-10 and under are legal midgets and handicapped. Poking fun at the handicapped would have been so un-P.C.

2. **Explain my title.** Monday's columnist, Mojo, had readers thinking he spread STDs. Readers might have thought my title "Over My Head" meant I was a flaky wit. In fact, a few of you wrote in saying that I was. Surprise! I'm not dumb. I'm short. *Reason:* Why explicate this verity when it was invariably evident in my plethora of columns?

3. **Apologize to the administration.** I publicized that they know nothing about students. *Reason:* It's hasn't dipped below 32 degrees in hell yet.

4. **Admonish Bush.** Deplore him for not signing the Kyoto protocol as part of his environmental policy. *Reason:* DUBYA doesn't have an environmental policy.

5. **Explain that proselytizers are Satan incarnates.** I don't care if you agree with Marty or not — shut up. College is the time to mature and to realize not everybody thinks like you. Others aren't wrong — you are just ignorant. *Reason:* Religious salespeople suck. Why waste space reiterating what everyone already knows?

6. **Mock people who tell me "Write about me!"** They may say they're joking, but people who aspire to be glorified on a college newspaper's edit page are sick, twisted, pathetic nimrods begging for attention. *Reason:* They can take out a personal ad.

7. **Lampon the Faculty Council's attempt to take over athletics.** Last month, Sue Estroff told the Knight Commission that faculty wants a hand in the Department of Athletics' spending, scheduling and coaches' salaries. Right. Who runs this school, lady? Which programs operate in the black? *Reason:* Professors more important than basketball? At UNC? I am not wasting my time.

8. **Flatter/stalk Will Johnson.** *Reason:* It's been taken care of.

9. **Honor Lance Armstrong.** The Texan cancer survivor sped past his competition to win the world's most grueling month-long bicycle race, not once, but three consecutive times. *Reason:* How many students really know where the Tour de France takes place?

10. **Demand that the 86 percent in-state student ratio remain the same.** UNC-system President Emeritus Bill Friday put it best in 1998 when he said, "Every morning a million North Carolinians get up and go to work for wages which leave them below the poverty line so that they can pay taxes that finance the education you receive at Carolina. Your job is to figure out how you're going to pay them back." North Carolina's flagship university must remain accessible to the citizens who make up the backbone of our state. *Reason:* I heard this yesterday — I ran out of time to write about it.

11. **Delight readers with ditties about friends and family.** Sure, I could warm the cockles of your heart with humorous tales about Lindsay applying to 21 medical schools or twin sisters Laurel and Megan being mistaken for one another. Or Erica mispronouncing words because she hails from Staten Island, N.Y., or Liz and Mazz owning a 4-foot blow-up doll. *Reason:* Why write about that when I can spend my last line thanking my family, friends, friends-turned-critics, editors, hate-mail senders and every freaking other person for a hell of a semester?

Peace out! Rachel Hockfield, a junior political science major dabbling in creative writing is from Charlotte. She can be reached at rachel@email.unc.edu.

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## Don't Forget Lessons of Semester

Keep your ear to the ground this Winter Break.

This semester, we all have been forced to accept the fact that events outside the sphere of our daily lives can and will impact us.

The events of Sept. 11 have shown us that the issues we read about in the paper or hear about on the news — be it international policy or tuition increases at UNC — really can affect our everyday lives.

Although I would not pretend to compare the significance of the Sept. 11 attacks to the campus issues covered in The Daily Tar Heel, the point remains: Keep an eye on your surroundings, and realize that your life does not exist in isolation of the events unfolding around you.

And the ability of policy decisions to affect us does not conveniently end when the semester adjourns.

Members of a campus community — students in particular — have the



**KATIE HUNTER**  
EDITOR

luxury of being able to compartmentalize their lives neatly into four-month, semester-long segments.

Each January and August brings a relatively clean slate. Each December and May, you can sit back and take stock of where you have been, where you are going and what you hope to accomplish along the way.

For many students, Winter Break offers a pleasant timeout from the stresses of work and class — a time to catch up on all the things that fell by the wayside during the rush of the semester.

But while students are studying for finals, shopping for gifts or getting drunk off eggnog at their Uncle Morty's annual holiday party, University policymakers will be here on the Hill — and hard at work.

After classes end today, discussions will continue on two issues that could impact students' lives dramatically: tuition and night parking.

Both issues have been allocated a significant amount of space in this semester's issues of the DTH.

And although the DTH ends its regular publication schedule today, these issues will not stand still.

A committee will meet Tuesday to begin crafting tuition increase proposals that the Board of Trustees is expected to consider in January.

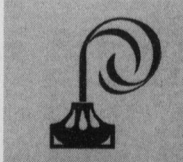
On Wednesday, the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee — which is considering imposing fees for night parking on campus — also will hold a meeting.

So even though the next few days are going to be jam-packed with exams and the next few weeks will bring a much-needed reprieve to many, don't forget to stay informed about issues that could affect your life and the University's mission.

Don't forget what this semester has taught us.

Otherwise, we might all regret it in January.

Editor Katie Hunter can be reached at krhunter@email.unc.edu.



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.

## BAROMETER

**Night Moves**  
Administrators are considering charging for campus parking at night to allow faculty members to find spaces. They also plan to start charging students for all that air they've been hogging.

**Slow Hand**  
Illustrating how the UNC campus is slowly returning to normal, yet another masturbator was caught displaying his wares in public.

**For the Love of \$\$\$**  
Six UNC-system chancellors met recently to talk about the possibility of tuition increases to meet rising costs next year. Couldn't they just have a really big bake sale or something?

**Eat a Peach**  
On Saturday, UNC was invited to the Peach Bowl. Meanwhile, Matt Doherty fondly remembers the days when UNC was a basketball school.

## TAR HEEL QUOTABLES

"Remember you are representing everyone in town, including those who don't pay attention."

**OUTGOING CHAPEL HILL MAYOR ROSEMARY WALDORF**  
Giving advice to her successor. Wait, was there an election or something?

"We're not in any rush."  
**ANTI-TALIBAN FIGHTER MOHAMMED ANWAR**  
Discussing a possible attack on Kandahar. Sure guys, you just get around to fighting the war whenever you're ready.

"It's a complex issue, and it does involve a lot of philosophical questions."

**SENIOR ERIC JOHNSON**  
Commenting on a proposed tuition increase. The main question is, "How much can we screw the students?"

"Sometimes dropping out is the best choice for a student."

**CAROLYN CANNON, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ACADEMIC ADVISING**  
And that student is usually the guy in your econ class who wears only hemp and hasn't bathed in a month.