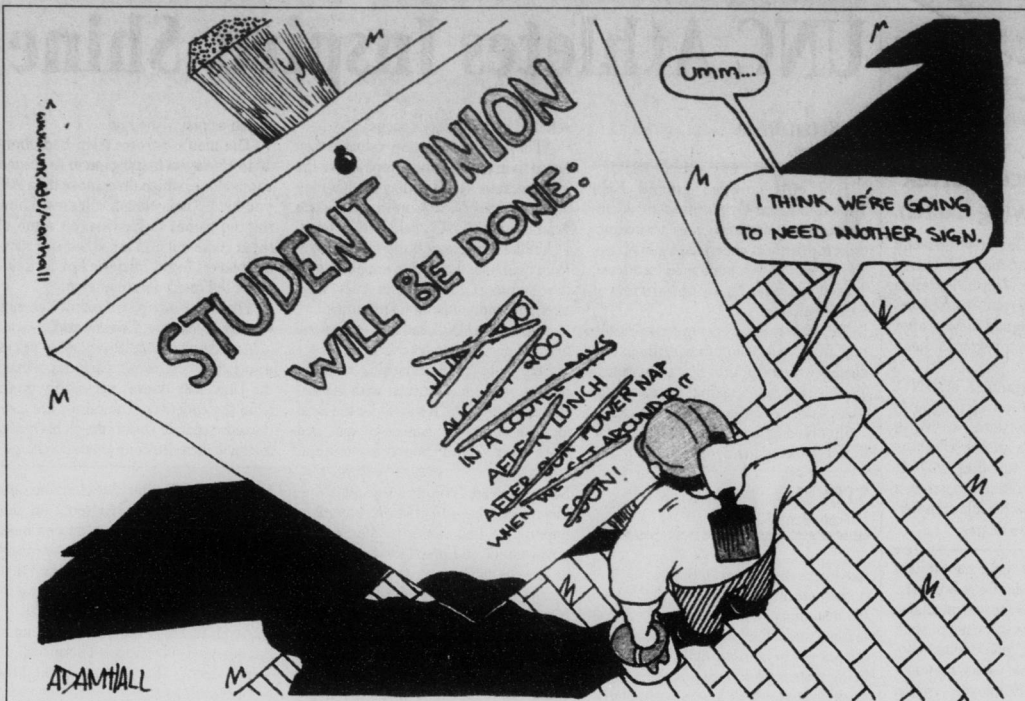


Opinion



The Lost Art Of Rationing The Shout-Out

If there is anything I've figured out during my stint as columnist, it would have to be that I never realized how many friends I had until they all started getting jealous of shout-outs. If I mentioned one roommate's name, the other would get upset. If I mentioned one relationship theory, I'd be asked why did I not retort with a more "female-friendly" perspective.

"Why don't I get a holler? Am I not good enough? That's blown up!"

That's how the weekly dialogue would go, but I would not give that up for anything. It was well worth any hassle from those who thought they were ignored to be able to spell my thoughts out on to the pages of one of the finest student newspapers in the nation. I enjoyed throwing out my thoughts and have to thank my editor and The Daily Tar Heel for giving me this opportunity. I know it's corny, but I got to give them their due props.



MICHAEL TOMPKINS
THIS SIDE OF PARADISE

Besides everyone asking for shout outs people would ask, "How do you decide what you are writing about? What are you writing about this week?"

One of my favorite comics of all time is the great Calvin and Hobbes by Bill Watterson, and I remember my favorite clip from it. This sums up how I go about attacking my 750 word gap:

Hobbes: Do you have an idea for your story yet?
Calvin: No, I'm waiting for inspiration. You can't just turn on creativity like a faucet. You have to be in the right mood.

Hobbes: What mood is that?
Calvin: Last-minute panic.

Of course I tried my best to not do that every week, but inevitably it ended up occurring once or twice (sure, just twice). I feel like I just started this gig, and it's over. There were a number of major issues that I would have loved to have talked about and even more petty stuff that would have made for wonderful rants. Alas, time and space limited me. The book's coming after I finish the outline for the Great American Novel. Adie Cush, when are we going to write it?

But one thing I couldn't forget in the end is the shout-outs. In no particular order, these people had an influence on the "This Side of Paradise" content in some ways, some more than others. I just wanna holler at some peeps.

My parents are wonderful for allowing me to attend this out-of-state university at their always-increasing expenses. When I walk around campus there is nowhere else I would rather be. I thank them for letting me be here and doing everything they could to help get me here. My baby sis is great, and if you ever get a chance to see a Lenoir-Rhyne College volleyball game, cheer her on. She's got nasty game.

Roommates: Keever is going to be as big as Spielberg one day. Befriend him now. Blane is the very definition of ghetto fabulous but also hilarious. Paul is on the crew team (jokes reserved). He's dedicated but subject to a good laugh about once a day.

Pardon the interruption, but he's Sherrell McMillian. Rell truly is the next Michael Wilbon. Get used to that line. My only advice is to never answer a question in less than one line. Be opinionated and loud.

Saha, you know how to analyze the best or worst of anything. Profundity is your thing. There may be no more TFS, Elizabeth Ball or Maddy Curley, but you will always have cankles, a theory you stole from some guy in 1938 and three roommates.

Wingwomen, how could I let you go without proper praising? What would I do without you throwing ideas at me about girls and everything else under the sun?

I would hate to see such a cruel world. Meeting the UNIT and you two made my summer. Gena, you are precious, tiny in a good sense and have an infectious great smile and laugh. Lindsay, you are smart, deep and wonderfully spastic. I feel the jealousy of other guys when I'm chillin' with the wingwomen. You are definitely presentable after all.

Brad Sain is a hustler in golf. Markman is a "Jew-ru" master of recruiting. Kristy and Carla sold out to be in Winston-Salem. Has anyone seen Drew Matthews? Did three-fingered Darryl get a bigger ego in NYC? Jay McKinnon is transferring to WHERE? Meredith went to St. Louis for "her summer job." Reynolds and Brent B. sold out on second session. Props to everyone in CAA from Kris to Beth Lyn. Virginia loves the Pump, Forsythe (Fever god) has no game and gosh, I miss Jessie.

I would like to thank "volleyball girl" for sitting in the quad and making my walk to class more pleasant first session. Sara Randolph is the next Mia, terrific to be around and elusive. And anyone else I missed, I'm sorry.

Peace, I'm out! E-mail me at tompkins@email.unc.edu.

Editorials

Decrease in Business

When tuition increases arise, the BOG should keep in mind its logic for decreasing the business school's increase

We have all witnessed a miracle. The UNC-system Board of Governors approved a tuition increase reduction two weeks ago.

Don't get too excited. The decrease will not affect the majority of UNC-system students. The board's decision applies only to students in the Kenan-Flagler Business School.

If you are seeking a master's in business administration or a master's in accounting, proceed to feel overjoyed. Your tuition will be lower than anticipated. Otherwise, you may continue forking over the dollars.

But the decision still shows a welcome change in thinking.

Business school Dean Bob Sullivan requested the decrease last month, arguing that Kenan-Flagler's repeated tuition increases over the past few years were making the school less competitive with peer institutions.

Administrators at the business school

had implemented their own tuition hike, not expecting the BOG to dole out such a hefty systemwide increase.

Sullivan asked the BOG to hold off on the bulk of the school-specific tuition increase planned for out-of-state students.

NATHAN DENNY
EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

For the business school to remain competitive, insisted Sullivan, its out-of-state costs must stay in the bottom tier of top 20 MBA programs in the nation. Sullivan argued that any increase of that stature could deter top out-of-state students from attending Kenan-Flagler, saying the doubly inflated tuition would "derail the school."

Remaining competitive with peer institutions? Recruiting great out-of-state students? Keeping costs low?

These sound like solid arguments. The BOG thought so, toning down the tuition hikes for all business school students - in-state and out-of-state.

The BOG should continue to mull

Sullivan's pleas over. Perhaps if they do so, members of the board will remember the logic the next time they consider the UNC system's tuition.

The business school is not the only institution in the UNC system that becomes less competitive when its tuition balloons. UNC-Chapel Hill has benefitted from costs lower than its peer institutions for years, enticing many a fine out-of-state student to attend. That appeal will fade with year after year of tuition increases.

"When industry and others look at us ... they are not just saying they want the best from North Carolina, we want the best from all over the world that come to North Carolina," Sullivan said at the BOG meeting last month.

This is not only true of the business school. The entire UNC system could benefit from this attitude. The BOG should apply Sullivan's logic to the rest of its constituency - every student in every university in the system.

Frat Stars

Critics of UNC fraternities need to see past stereotypes to see the value of Greek life in Chapel Hill

I am in a fraternity, and, therefore, I am a frat guy.

As such, some members of the UNC community would have you believe that I woke up this morning in my frat house amid several hundred empty beer cans and several dozen people whose names I cannot remember. They would have you believe that I immediately downed a Busch Lite to cure my hangover from the night before.

They assume I will skip class today and tell my teacher that I was at my grandmother's fifth funeral. Instead of studying for the test that I will cheat on next week, I will sit on a wooden bench outside of my frat house all day, drinking beer and listening to either Phish, Robert Earl Keen Jr. or the Allman Brothers. I will make lewd comments to every girl who walks through Fraternity Court.

These critics assume that if it is sunny, I

will wear my Ray-Bans with black Croakies and that, if it is rainy, I will don my North Face jacket. No matter what, I will wear my Rainbow sandals. I drive an SUV with a marlin on the back window, because that's what all frat guys do, right?

PATRICK HOGAN
EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

Some critics of fraternities at UNC will have you believe that this semester, like every other semester, our fraternities will break all the rules. We will contribute to the delinquency of minors by serving alcohol and cocaine at our parties, but only to white kids. We will slip Rophynol in our female guests' drinks. We will brand our pledges and make them do calisthenics until they vomit. We won't let you in our house unless you are a hot girl or a frat bro'.

They think we will drive drunk and rape women. That we will get in fights and vandalize other people's property. That we will get strippers for social events. That we will pick on non-Greeks and show no respect

for authority.

Our critics think we buy our friends and do whatever it takes to be popular. They assume we get poor grades and that the only reason we will get jobs after college is because we have rich fathers and frat "connections."

They think it's a lie that UNC fraternities do hundreds of hours of community service every semester and raise tens of thousands of dollars for charity. After all, we only joined fraternities for the parties, right?

Some critics claim we endanger the lives of the students who enter our houses because we are careless and inconsiderate. They would have you believe that we are everything that is wrong with UNC, Chapel Hill, the United States and, indeed, the world.

Some critics of fraternities are bold enough to claim these stereotypes are all true.

Some critics of fraternities have a bit more research to do.

The Daily Tar Heel

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Distribution: Triangle Circulation Services.

The Daily Tar Heel is published by the DTH Publishing Corp., a non-profit North Carolina corporation, Monday-Friday, according to the University calendar.

Callers with questions about billing or display advertising should call 962-1163 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Classified ads can be reached at 962-0252. Editorial questions should be directed to 962-0245.



ISSN #10709436

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READERS' FORUM

Orange Peace Coalition Mounts Effort to Oppose The USA PATRIOT Act

TO THE EDITOR:

Orange County Peace Coalition launched a drive to collect signatures on a petition that calls on the local governments "not to participate, to the extent legally permissible, in law enforcement activities that threaten civil rights and civil liberties of the people of Orange County, such as surveillance, wire-taps and securing of private information, which the USA PATRIOT Act and new Executive Orders authorize."

Carboro aldermen passed a resolution taking such a stand on June 25, the first in North Carolina. Carboro joins citizens in Amherst, Mass.; Ann Arbor, Mich.; Berkeley, Calif.; Cambridge, Mass.; Denver, Leverett, Mass.; Northampton, Mass.; and Portland, Ore., have taken action and been successful in urging their elected officials to monitor any abuses of civil liberties that might occur as a result of legislation, such as the USA Patriot Act, passed after Sept. 11, 2001. Boulder, Colo., is expected to join them.

In addition, the coalition collected the signatures of citizens attending the Annual Carboro 4th of July Community Celebration from the jurisdictions of Chatham, Durham

and Wake counties. Many individuals were unaware of the USA Patriot Act and its significance, and educational events are planned.

Currently eight groups make up the Orange County Peace Coalition: Campaign to End the Cycle of Violence, Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Central America, Charles M. Jones Peace and Justice Committee of the Community Church of Chapel Hill, Peace 1st, Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, Orange County Peace Action, Students United for a Responsible Global Environment and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Margaret Misch
Peace Action
Chapel Hill

DTH Doesn't Mention Citizens' Campaign Against Transfer of Nuclear Waste

TO THE EDITOR:

Yes, high-level nuclear waste from Shearon Harris may move to Yucca Mountain, but it will be at least 10 years before spent fuel rods head west. With lawsuits looming and Nevadans vowing civil disobedience to stop transports, the battle over

Yucca is far from over.

The Senate vote on Yucca Mountain solely benefits wealthy, corporate utilities such as Carolina Power & Light. Utilities are the only advocates for the dump; Yucca will fill, and there will be as much waste at reactors around the nation as there is now. Your article (July 18) ignored the national citizen's campaign opposing the \$58 billion project. In promoting Yucca, the nuclear industry argues that the radioactive spent fuel rods are not safe where they are, confirming our call for a shift from vulnerable, high-density cooling pools to hardened, dry cask storage.

CP&L's nuclear waste shipments are controversial. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires no physical tests of nuclear waste transport casks, and the spent nuclear fuel rods within could kill a person within minutes of direct exposure. The nuclear industry continually claims that the public is not at risk from their operations; excluding the voice of environmental organizations who disagree is sloppy journalism. Regardless of whether Yucca opens, CP&L must reduce risks to North Carolinians by ending the transport of this deadly material across our state.

Nora Wilson
North Carolina Waste Awareness and
Reduction Network



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.