BOARD EDITORIALS

WRITE A NEW CODE

The mess with this year's special election just goes to show that efforts to revise the Student Code largely have failed, and a fresh start is needed.

a new academic year, but student government still is facing the same ordeals and setbacks as always. Every year the Student Code comes into question, and every year the solution is the same futile revision of a section here or an article there. It's time to stop trying to correct the Code — it's too

The best way to save our ailing Student Code is to

kill it and start afresh.

Last year, Student Congress spent much of the year — wait, the whole year — rewriting and reword-ing much of the Code. It's painfully clear from this month's disputes about special elections in the Student Supreme Court that the time was spent in vain. Interpretation of the Code is up to the Supreme Court, but deciphering a document sullied by years of piecemeal alterations is no easy task. Student Congress should easy future of the congress should easy future. Congress should save future representatives and Student Supreme Court justices the headache of correcting and interpreting our inadequate — and often flawed - Student Code.

In the time that Student Congress will waste revamping the Code, an entirely new Code — one that actually

serves its intended purpose — could be written.

Congress should not attempt to create a new Code

on its own, though. What we need are nonstudents writing a solid and durable Code. That process might take a while, and students come and go; should Congress write the new Code, it would only become as confusing and superfluous as the old one

Those writing the new Code should be from within the University, and familiar with its inner workings. UNC has an amazing stock of constitutional experts and academics that dedicate their lives to creating documents such as these. These are the folks that can ensure that it will avoid becoming a quagmire when it should be a guiding light.

The Code is decades old, and though there is something to be said for tradition, what's the use of a historic code if it doesn't work? There's no reason to try to save the Student Code as it is. The patchwork corrections and years of frivolous modifications have muddied the wording of the Student Code, leaving it a maimed and paralyzed document.

So instead of trying to fix this dog's teeth, just get

GETTING RIPPED

Many students were unable to purchase Homecoming Concert tickets while organizers are hogging more than their fair share of free seats.

fter years of disappointing acts, the Carolina Union Activities Board and the Carolina Athletic Association pulled off an impressive getting rapper Common to come to Memorial

Hall for Homecoming.

Despite some grumblings about the \$40,000 price tag, students responded well -1,300 tickets price tag, students responded wen — 1,500 theres sold out in just three days. But while we thank both groups for their work, members overstepped their bounds by claiming a disproportionate number of tickets for what could be one of the biggest shows on campus all year.

It's not that members shouldn't be rewarded for their hard work. But 100 tickets? Give us a break. If this were the Dean Dome — which seats more than 20,000 — that might be one thing. But Memorial Hall, for all its beauty, seats just 1,434. That means that members claimed 7 percent of the seats.

Common and his posse took just 20 tickets.

Members should be rewarded for their hard work in a volunteer organization. But lots of people volunteer on campus and in the community without expecting a reward — hence the word "volunteer." Every last person who had even a little to do with

bringing Common here simply shouldn't be entitled to a ticket.

CUAB President Jonathon Benson said in an email that it is policy to reward members up to two tickets for their work in the process and for their overall involvement with the organization. Two tickets? We thought the idea was to reward the people who did the work, not their friends.

Hard work should be rewarded, but when a high-demand act comes to campus, board members should be mature enough to reason out a system by which those who did the most work, or have the most seniority, get a spot in the crowd.

others can wait their turn. That might seem unfair to some, but tell that to the students who will be shut out of Memorial Hall on Sunday.

This is no different from grabbing more than your fair share of seats for basketball games. Volunteering for an organization shouldn't automatically mean you get easy access to major campus events.

So when it comes to bringing in popular acts, keep

up the good work. But make sure you work out system that is equitable next time.

WORK IN PROGRESS

While the town is doing a decent job with some projects to revitalize the downtown area, there are some aspects that are being neglected.

ost reasonable people will agree that Franklin Street is in need of revitalization. The number of empty storefronts is a testament to that fact. But it requires both a more business-friendly climate and a more secure feel.

We're happy that the Town Council has given the go-ahead to the mixed-use developments at parking lot 5 and the Wallace Deck. Admittedly, there are some valid concerns. Rosemary Street will be narrowed by the project, and congestion could become a problem. Also, the nine-story complex at lot 5 will dramatically alter the skyline. But other projects in the past have done the same, and people will get used to it soon enough.

In addition to that project, Rosemary Village and the Franklin Hotel also bring the promise of getting more people downtown. And there's talk of trying to get a grocery store soon - something that's sorely

But there are some problems with downtown that need to be addressed. First, the parking situation won't be improved under the current plan. The town is adding 400 new spaces, but that's just not enough, especially when 233 housing units are being built

at the same time. All the retail space in the world won't do any good if people can't find a place to park before they shop.

The other problem facing downtown is the elephant in the room — everybody sees it, but nobody wants to be the first to bring it up. Between the poor street lighting, the aggressive panhandling and the open drug use near the corner of Franklin and Columbia streets, it's just not an inviting place to take a family after dark — there was even a gunfight on Franklin last week. Chapel Hill seems willing to talk about improved

lighting, as it should, and increased police presence also has broad support. But the town should also consider passing some ordinances — however politically incorrect — that further crack down on aggressive panhandling and vagrancy. Business owners shouldn't have to spend money removing syringes and human waste from their property every morning, which unfortunately at least one local business does.

We think it's great that the Town Council wants to improve downtown. But it's important to keep in

mind that there's more to creating a thriving neighborhood than just putting up new buildings.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above editorials are the opinions solely of The Daily Tar Heel editorial board and were reached after open debate. The board consists of four board members, the associate opinion editor, the opinion editor and the DTH editor. The 2005-06 DTH editor decided not to vote on the board and not to write board editorials. Address concerns to Public Editor Elliott Dube at dubee@email.unc.edu.

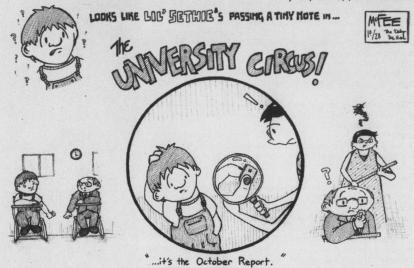
FROM THE DAY'S NEWS

"I don't know that it was a totally fair election."

PABLO FRIEDMANN, STUDENT CONGRESS CANDIDATE, ON INVALIDATED DISTRICT 2 RESULTS

EDITORIAL CARTOON

By Philip McFee, pip@email.unc.edu



COMMENTARY

Fall, food and fun for that chilly cold and flu season

ore than once this week, I left work with the thought, "Hey! It's cold enough to use the heater on the way home!" If, you know, my car heater actually worked.

Car trouble aside, fall is finally

here. Every year I am convinced it never is coming, that it will be 85 degrees and humid forever. But here we are, breaking out the long sleeves once more.

Something about fall screams "Hey, get in the kitchen!" There are certain flavors that are out of place save for these few months. Pumpkin pie in the summer? Perish the thought. This is the time of year for applesauce cakes with maple icing, pumpkin bread and vegetable soups.
Plus, now that midterms are

done and term papers aren't quite breathing down our necks, there's just enough time to spend an afternoon spreading the happy smells of fall all across your

This is also the time of year when I learned how to cook. My English teacher decided that should have a fun day of celebrating food after reading Clyde Edgerton's "Walking Across Egypt," before the stress of pre-paring for Advanced Placement

exams began.

My best friend Ashley and I pent an afternoon in her kitchen preparing for this. I made the old-fashioned Betty Crocker apple pie with a lattice crust and she made cornbread in a cast-iron skillet. After some deliberation, we decided that the skillet should go on the range, not in the oven. Yeah. Luckily, the pie turned out to cover up the smell of scorched cornbread. The evidence was buried outside.

You know how sometimes there is one definite sign that it's a certain time of year? Well, it wasn't really fall in my family until my mom made pumpkin bread.



AMY ROSSI

It's a simple recipe and you can do a lot with it. Toast it and butter it for breakfast, slice a loaf up as a side dish for dinner, or serve it as a dessert. If you're feeling especially intrepid, use fresh pumpkin instead of the canned good. (I've yet to try this because I'm not so much with the knife skills, but I hear fresh is fantastic.)

Granny's Pumpkin Bread

Beat together:

4 eggs 2 cups cooked pumpkin

1 cup vegetable oil 2/3 cup cold water

Sift the following together, then combine with wet ingredients:

3 1/4 cups flour 2 tsp baking soda

1 1/2 tsp salt

1 tsp cinnamon 1 tsp nutmeg

3 cups sugar

Bake in greased 8- or 9-inch loaf pans for 60 to 75 minutes. It makes two loaves If you have any favorite fall rec-

ipes, please send them along. I'd love to try them and share them

A Mountain of Kleenex

While I am wicked happy for the season change, the amount of sniffling, sneezing and coughing that is peppering campus classrooms suggests that another season is upon us well.

I am in fact writing this from

a veritable throne of tissues. And

While you're supposed to feed a fever and starve a cold, sometimes what can be most helpful is some comfort food. Soup, chili — just something that makes you feel warm and taken care of.
For me, the ultimate soothing

food is homemade macaroni and cheese, baked in the oven with bread crumbs. Do not attempt if you do not have the energy to

Baked Mac and Cheese

1 lb macaroni 3 tbsp margarine

3 tbsp flour 2 cups milk (skim is fine) About 1 lb shredded cheese

Salt and pepper Bread crumbs (optional)

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Cook the macaroni as directed and drain. Melt the margarine in a double broiler and stir in the flour. Slowly add the milk. Stir occasionally till the mixture thickens, then add the cheese. Salt and pepper to taste. While the cheese melts, transfer the macaroni into a buttered 13 inch by 9 inch dish. Stir the cheese mixture till blended, then pour over the macaroni. Mix gently, then top with bread crumbs. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes. It makes a ton, so if you're not a fan of leftovers, the recipe can be halved easily.

And if you make it with a cold, feel free not to share

Hopefully that will help some of you battling the cold season feel a little better. Enjoy the beautiful weather. And if you don't do much cooking, these recipes are a pretty easy place to start.

> Contact Amy Rossi, a senior majoring in communication studies, a amrossi@email.unc.edu

Orange County Sheriff's Dept.

CHECK PLUS

Guys are robbing folks in their cars late at night in Hillsborough? Well, the local law enforcement knows where in Hillsborough to wait to nap the crooks. Now there are three fewer folks wandering around taking stuff at gun and knife-point.



New distribution bracelets are weak

CHECK

Bracelets that people can't take off and give to their friends are a good thing. So are bracelets that might not cost as much. But they tend to pull out arm hair, and it's questionable if they'll last in the



Low early voter turnout at polls

CHECK MINUS

Quite frankly, the lack of interest in early voting doesn't bode well for student issues in the elections. If we can't even walk to Morehead Planetarium to vote, why should newly elected candidates listen to our concerns?

READERS' FORUM

enough to run the elections

TO THE EDITOR:

Lately, the Board of Elections has received merciless press in the DTH. The criticism is a little absurd coming from journalists who have never decisively studied Title VI Student Government General Election Laws. Their outside opinion should not merit the acknowledgement of any UNC students who — what do they say – demand democracy?

Title VI is a confusing document containing many contradictory clauses. The board has spent countless hours trying to make sense of it and apply it fairly.

Also, the drama surrounding the second seat in District 3 that was placed on the ballot after the compulsory candidacy meeting can be described as an attempt of goodwill that came back to bite the board. We decided to put the sec-ond seat on the ballot because we wanted the empty seats in Student Congress to be filled as soon as sible. Nowhere in Title VI does it state that it is it illegal for the board to add an additional seat to the ballot. However, our decision to put the seat on the ballot was not well publicized, and therefore the board tried to remedy the situation by removing it from the ballot.
In addition, I would also like

never and will never favor one student group over another. The board's interest is in running elections, not the partisan make-up of Student Congress. Every decision has been

to keep the playing field level. The coverage given by the DTH has taken away from the Homecoming candidates. These six students have worked hard to be on the ballot and deserve more coverage than the BOE. They are doing great things and have platforms ranging from hurricane relief to promoting oral hygiene. Give them some well-deserved

coverage, please. In response to the suggestion that Nicholas Mosley (chairman) and Jim Brewer (vice chairman) should resign, I have two comments. One, Jim and I share the same position, so if you want top Board of Elections officials to step down, note that there are two vice chairs. Secondly, resignation: good idea - I'm sure an aver age student who has never seen Title VI would be well-versed enough to take over the job.

And how does the board feel bout being challenged to ensure a fair election? Well, in the words of David Noel, "Don't even worry, we're gonna make it."

> Mary Boyd Harris Vice Chairwoman Board of Elections

Only the BOE knows bylaws to make it clear that the board has At least Carolina coaches have some sense of loyalty

TO THE EDITOR:

In another shameless attempt at self-promotion, the dirthag from Durham has signed on to lead Team USA in the 2008 Olympics, forgetting all about the poor indi-viduals he tricked into attending

viduals ne tricked into activities, the worst place on earth.

He's basically said, "Screw the Blue Devils, this is about the K-man." But this isn't surprising considering the K-first tradition. Remember the "back problem" he conveniently suffered before Duke's orst season in 20 years?

What about the public flirt-fest with the Lakers, just to get his ratlike mug on ESPN? And who will ever get those American Express commercials out of their night mares? "I don't think of myself as a basketball coach, I think of myself as a self-promoting media glutton who happens to coach basketball."

If he really cares so much about his team, why would he miss a practice to have a press conference in New York? When is the last time Roy missed practice to hold a press conference? I guess what I'm tryin' to say is, would it be wrong to pull for France?

> McKenzie Sumner Freshman

We welcome letters to the editor and aim to publish as many as possible. In writing, please follow these simple guidelines: Keep letters under 300 words. Type them. Date them. Sign them; make sure they're signed by no more than two people. If you're a student, include your year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff: Give us your department and phone number. The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Bring letters to our office at Suite 2409 in Student Union, e-mail them to editdesk@unc.edu, or send them to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27515. All letters also will appear in our blogs section.

Speak Out

The Baily Tar Heel

Established 1893 112 years of editorial freedom

RYAN C. TUCK

RCTUCK@EMAIL.UNC.EDU
OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY, THURSDAY 1-2 P.M. PIT SIT: FRIDAY, 12-1 P.M

JOSEPH_SCHWARTZ@UNC.EDU

REBECCA WILHELM

CHRIS COLETTA EDITDESK@UNC.EDU

BRIAN HUDSON

VERSITY EDITOR, 962-0372 UDESK@UNC.EDU

TED STRONG CITY EDITOR, 962-420 CITYDESK@UNC.EDU

KAVITA PILLAI NATIONAL EDITOR, 962-4103 STNTDESK@UNC,EDU

DANIEL MALLOY

www.dailytarheel.com

TORRYE JONES TURES EDITOR, 962-4214 FEATURES@UNC.EDU

JIM WALSH
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR, 962-4214
ARTSDESK@UNC.EDU SCOTT SPILLMAN

CATHERINE WILLIAMS

WHITNEY SHEFTE JEN ALLIET

DANIEL BEDEN

FEILDING CAGE

CHRIS JOHNSON

KELLY OCHS

EMILY STEEL

ELLIOTT DUBE

PUBLIC EDITOR, 260-9084

DUBEE@EMAIL.UNC.EDU