

BOARD EDITORIALS

# GIFTS FOR ALL OF US

When ol' Saint Nick asked what we wanted for this Christmas, we gave him a list of five things that would benefit students and locals.

**T**he editorial board was sitting around the fire, drinking eggnog and discussing area goings-on when a phone call came from jolly old Saint Nick asking us what we wanted for Christmas.

We thought long and hard and decided that we should use this unique opportunity to ask Santa to give us something that we can share with all our colleagues at UNC and our sometimes grumpy neighbors in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

We asked Santa to pull some strings with the Town Council and Board of Aldermen and hustle up the following:

**More buses, more times, more routes**

Public transportation in Chapel Hill and Carrboro is pretty good, but it could be much better. We need to start looking into ways of getting additional buses, expanding and adding routes and having better late and weekend hours.

There is a question of funding, but investing in public transportation will help students as well as locals, and it will help maintain our strong environmental record — and c'mon, what better time than the holidays?

**And a few more police officers**

Safety on Franklin Street is not just an issue for students. It concerns locals and the businesses that serve all residents.

A few more cops for Chapel Hill in general — and stationed on Franklin Street in particular — would improve safety a great deal. It also would make everyone feel better about shopping, dining and partying there, and that means more money for businesses and more money in greater tax revenues.

It'll be good for keeping citizens safe, it'll be a smart investment lowering crime, and it's a great gift for the children.

**Wi-Fi in downtown Chapel Hill**

Wireless Internet access for downtown Chapel Hill has the potential to give students and residents additional cause to bum around Franklin Street — and spend money.

Extra money being spent downtown could help bring about that long-desired revitalization of Franklin Street. That means having something extra to draw students and other patrons. That means Internet access.

**Better Franklin Street development**

Franklin Street development should be on the Christmas list of everyone this year. Part of making sure that happens is a better plan for development.

The Chapel Hill Development Partnership is doing some good work, but it needs to focus on a more comprehensive strategy.

That entails not focusing on some areas — such as high-income housing — and re-emphasizing others — such as filling empty office spaces.

**A lil' more love**

The tension that builds between Chapel Hill and Carrboro and the University can be pretty palpable — and certainly counterproductive to all interests.

Though the University can shoulder part of the reason for bad feelings, Chapel Hill and Carrboro should remember that we're all neighbors, that we need to work together, and that we need each other.

Santa Claus said we were good boys and girls this year — questionable writing and dividing and tearing down aside — and told us that he would do what he could.

But the leaders of Chapel Hill and Carrboro need to work on these things, too, because Santa already has a lot on his plate and can't do it alone.

# A SEASON FOR GIVING

UNC students should not only remember those less fortunate, but donate time, money or useful goods to charities and worthy causes.

**A**hhh, the holidays. A time for good cheer, finals and fighting about toys in Wal-Mart. But it's also a reminder to those of us lucky enough to attend this great southern university that we ought to be helping the less fortunate, not just ourselves.

Luckily, folks around the community are making it easy.

You know those 50 extra meals broke upperclassmen beg for? Try donating them instead of letting them go to waste.

Until noon today, Students Working in the Environment 4 Active Transformation will take extra meals, or \$3 from students without meal plans, and donate them to the Green Belt Movement — a Kenya-based organization that works for sustainable development and hunger relief.

Members will be outside Lenoir Dining Hall.

In addition, the Out-of-State Students Association has a program in which students can purchase meals from Lenoir's Outta Here and take them to homeless people on Franklin Street.

Other charitable endeavors can be found all over campus and the two towns.

If you want to help UNC organizations that need a funding boost, Ram Book and Supply on Franklin Street has a program that allows you to donate 3 percent of your total buyback from selling books to participating organizations.

Students who are members or are on the organization's "friend list" can request that money go toward those groups.

Groups involved include the golf club, UNC's chapter of the American Red Cross and the rugby club.

And don't forget that you still can help the victims of Hurricane Katrina, many of whom are still in Federal Emergency Management Authority-supported housing and are trying to put their lives

back together.

The Office of Human Resources still is holding a food drive through January, and the Suite Case Campaign is collecting suitcases as well as toiletries and clothing items in designated boxes in the Student Union.

For more information on continuing efforts to help Gulf Coast residents, go to [www.unc.edu/cps](http://www.unc.edu/cps).

Think you don't have the time? Instead of zoning out in front of the television, another round of Snood or College Hoops 2K5, try taking a break by giving back instead.

Spend a few hours to volunteer at a soup kitchen. The Inter-Faith Council always needs volunteers to pass out food, especially at this time of year.

Try giving blood or volunteering at local shelters or nursing homes.

It doesn't matter how you help, just as long as you do something.

The ever-popular U.S. Marine Reserve program Toys for Tots is up and running and waiting for donations. Great Earth Vitamins at Meadowmont is an official drop-off site, according to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce Web site.

The Chapel Hill Service League is seeking donations for the more than 800 children of Christmas House. The League will accept monetary donations, business proceeds or Wish Tree gifts at University Mall or Carr Mill Mall.

For more information, visit the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce Web site at [www.carolinachamber.org](http://www.carolinachamber.org).

And hey, many organizations are 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charities, which can translate into tax deductions for you based on IRS rules.

But remember: The holidays aren't the only time you should help others in the community, as many of these groups and people need help year-round.

There's nothing like brightening someone's holiday season with a simple, selfless act of goodwill.

**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 three 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@mail.unc.edu](mailto:dubee@mail.unc.edu).

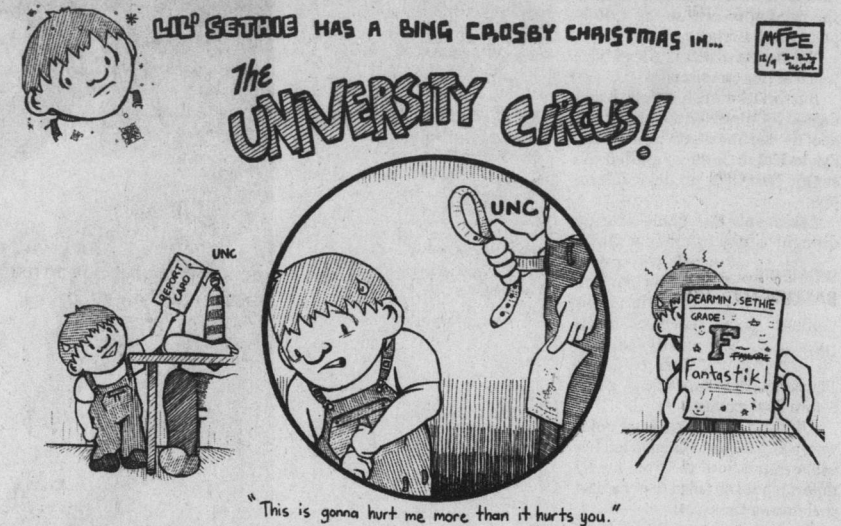
FROM THE DAY'S NEWS

"Everyone loves you when you're six foot in the ground."

JOHN LENNON, IN NOBODY LOVES YOU (WHEN YOU'RE DOWN AND OUT)

EDITORIAL CARTOON

By Philip McFee, [pip@email.unc.edu](mailto:pip@email.unc.edu)



COMMENTARY

# Television chefs entertaining, hold keys to culinary success

**I**cracked. Walking to weight training the other day, it occurred me to that I have not planned my Christmas cookie tray yet. Only I was thinking it in all caps and italics, because that is far easier to deal with than the mountain of work currently making the voices of everyone now go to that high scary place.

The procrastination has reached epic levels, with the ridiculous amount of heavily weighted assignments and the fact that somehow reading days aren't necessary to kick off finals.

My drug of choice? The Food Network. The background noise is comforting, minimal attention is required, and the cookie tray dilemma just might get solved after all.

Since this is my last column, and I've heard from several of you who have just started cooking, a nice place to leave off is with great sources for help and inspiration — and procrastination.

Here's a breakdown of the top five chefs on the Food Network and their shows, tailored to the college student:

1. Giada de Laurentiis, "Everyday Italian."

What's good about this show is that it presents helpful tips for approaching Italian cooking and debunks the idea that your sauce has to cook all day or that the food has to be really heavy.

While Giada's tendency to describe pretty much every dish as nutty or creamy is a little disconcerting, she puts a fresher, brighter spin on Italian food and offers a lot of explanation for what is done in the recipe. The variety of recipes is a strong point; this isn't just all pasta.

Plus, a friendly hostess can go a long way in helping someone learn.

2. Tyler Florence, "Food 911."

The premise of this show is great — people who routinely futz up a dish they really want to learn can contact the show and get help in their own kitchens. This is a humorous, down-to-earth learning opportunity for people of all



AMY ROSSI  
LIFE OF SPICE

Paula doesn't have the glamour of the previous chef, but her Facebook group here on campus outnumbers Giada's nearly 3 to 1.

Why? Because Paula's love of food and her down-home craziness is infectious. Almost all chefs try their dishes on air, but none with quite the same "Hot damn, I'm good!" flair as Deen.

Her recipes are more for special occasions than for everyday cooking, but watching someone get so excited about food makes for good viewing. Plus, years in the restaurant business result in plenty of experience for the viewer to learn from.

3. Rachael Ray, "30 Minute Meals."

Not everyone goes for the bubbly, perky persona of Rachael Ray, but it's hard to argue that she doesn't provide lots of opportunities for people who are just getting started with cooking or people on the go.

The fact that she tries to make her dishes nutritionally balanced is also a plus.

What's really good about this show is that it's not the answer, but a starting point. These are really adaptable recipes that you can make your own. Just expect to spend a little more than 30 minutes in the kitchen.

4. Paula Deen, "Paula's Home Cooking."

skill levels. What I really love is that Tyler goes over the mistakes people have made in the past when approaching their culinary nemeses.

You might not see your mistake on there, but the chance to learn from others in just 30 minutes is pretty cool. And as someone who does things like put vanilla milk in potatoes au gratin, I daresay this is one show that's pretty easy to identify with.

1. Alton Brown, "Good Eats." This is one of the few food shows out there with an actual cast of characters. The entire thing is quirky and oddball, but it's a different approach to food and cooking than any other show on the network.

We're told to put eggs in the cake mix and so we comply. But Alton Brown explains why this is necessary and what exactly the eggs do.

It's a chemist's approach to food, but in an unconventional and nondidactic way.

The historical perspective taken every now and then is especially interesting. Many offer the what and how of the recipe, but Alton Brown gives you the why as well.

During the exam-induced panic or as you plan your holiday, these and other sources such as the All Recipes or Epicurious Web sites can provide plenty of inspiration.

Thanks to everyone who wrote to me or The Daily Tar Heel letting me know that you enjoyed what you saw and providing feedback for improvement.

It's been a lot of fun — keep the ovens going and have a great break.

Contact Amy Rossi, a senior majoring in communication studies, at [amrossi@email.unc.edu](mailto:amrossi@email.unc.edu).

**✓+ A new state health care plan CHECK PLUS**

We like better health care coverage. We like cheaper. We like how this new health care package for state employees is shaping up.

It is good to see Raleigh on the ball and watching state employees' backs.

**✓ New housing recontracting CHECK**

Yes, the housing recontracting process could use a little tweaking.

But at the same time, getting the folks responsible for the awful class registration system to revamp it seems a little counterintuitive.

**✓- Something was missing CHECK MINUS**

The Marching Tar Heels declined once again to take part in the annual Christmas Parade.

Sure, they're really busy this time of year, but it would have been nice to see them help bring smiles to people's faces.

READERS' FORUM

**We should all be thankful for Matt Baker as our QB**

TO THE EDITOR:

In the aftermath of football season I think it is time that all Carolina fans tell Matt Baker thanks for a great year as our quarterback.

He finished 11th in career attempts (at 224) and 11th in total yardage. His 2,345 passing yards this year was the fourth-best single-season effort in Carolina history.

Not only that but he showed remarkable poise and tremendous effort. I was impressed with how he bounced back from hard hits all year and he had some tremendous runs — including the quarterback draw that put us into position for the field goal that sent the Maryland game into overtime.

I have been a Carolina football fan since I began to watch sports; in fact, I watched Carolina football before I watched Carolina basketball.

Chris Keldorf, Ronald Curry and Darian Durant were all great quarterbacks, but Matt Baker showed more courage than any of them.

So, on behalf of the Carolina football fans, thank you Matt Baker.

Nation Hahn  
Sophomore  
Communications

**Managers give their time and energy for UNC sports**

TO THE EDITOR:

In reference to the Dec. 7 front page article "Often Behind the Scenes, Managers Key to Success," I was disappointed to find that you solely credited the men's basketball managers.

There are 28 varsity teams on this campus, many of which have managers who willingly devote countless hours to these organizations.

As a women's basketball manager, I respect the work that the men's basketball managers complete — namely because I perform the same duties on a daily basis.

However, all managers have gone beyond the call of duty to sustain each of our University's teams. The work that we do is seldom credited, but as noted in your article, generally noticed when not performed.

With that said, it is a travesty that you publicized and commended only one team's managers, after calling attention to the lack of recognition managers receive. We are all students who attempt to maintain grades and social lives outside our duties with the team.

We contribute incessantly because we know the importance of the job we perform, even when others may not. I would like to

personally extend gratitude to all managers on this campus who give endless hours to a varsity team. It is a difficult and busy schedule to maintain, but the work gets done.

Nora Jabbour  
Senior  
Business Administration

**Nerdcore bands make great music you should check out**

TO THE EDITOR:

I just want to express my appreciation to Bryan Reed for writing the articles on nerdcore hip-hop in Thursday's Daily Tar Heel.

I got to see one of the pioneers of nerdcore mentioned in the article, MC Chris, at Kings on Tuesday and it was definitely one of my favorite shows of the year.

I also wanted to remind everyone that nerdcore is not just limited to hip-hop. There are several nerdcore rock bands out there and many reside in the Chapel Hill area — for example, SNMNMNM, who feature a tuba and accordion in their lineup.

Thanks again for giving all the glasses-wearing, comic book-reading, old school Nintendo-playing nerds a voice.

Dylan Thurston  
Staff  
Mathematics Department

**Speak Out**  
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; 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 the Student Union, e-mail them to [editdesk@unc.edu](mailto: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.

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