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New name is meant to break down barriers

Throughout history there have been followers of ideologies, religions and movements who did not live out the message and defaced the intentions and values of the system to which they ascribed. Christianity is certainly no different and perhaps is the most popularly identified model of such hypocrisy.

For example, in 1074, there was an emerging consensus in the West that Christendom had gained the right to political power. Amid such arrogance, Christian armies formed to enforce these rights and headed east to liberate Jerusalem from Islamic rule. This was the beginning of what is now known as the "Crusades". It was a deplorable time in the history of the church. Many acts were done in the name of Christ that he — and most Christians — would certainly deem horrific.

Fast forward to the 1950s in the United States. It was a time in which modernity flourished to the nth degree. The greatest of all wars was over, and America had risen to prominence on the world stage. During this time of progress, slogans were coined to capture the zeal of momentum ahead.

In 1951 a young businessman in the University of California-Los Angeles Greek system and his wife started a Christian ministry. They aimed to invigorate college students with the message of Jesus Christ so that he would have an impact in their personal lives and they would spread hope and grace to the world through Jesus' message.

Founder Bill Bright didn't envision a "holy huddle" of backslidden reprobate followers of Christ, but a vibrant community that would live according to Jesus' teaching and prove the validity of his words as they lived out his calling in the real world. He imagined a movement of Christ's love that would literally change the world.

He called the group, "Campus Crusade for Christ." He chose the name to capture the enthusiasm and momentum of their hearts, and in its 57 years of existence, it's grown to be the largest Christian organization in the world.

It was not a malicious choice. The name "crusade" in '50s culture was simply not inflammatory as it is today. It was a common term associated with forward momentum. Women "crusaded" for women's rights. Martin Luther King Jr. "crusaded" for human rights. In the '70s, anti-war voices "crusaded" for peace. So Campus Crusade "crusaded" for Jesus.

In recent years our culture has awakened to the destructive implications that words can carry in our hearts and minds. Many of these re-evaluations have been good for us to be aware of to reduce oppression and intolerance.

We realize that the name "crusade" has inherent problems historically and connects us to an unforgivable time in our past. We at UNC's Campus Crusade see the need to be responsible to our foundations and remove our semantic connection with historic oppression and reconnect our name to our true foundation, Jesus Christ.

We are changing our name to "Cornerstone." In the Bible's book of Ephesians, it tells us that Christ himself is our "chief cornerstone" on whom we are to build the church. As the first building block laid in new construction, the cornerstone's careful positioning is vital to the stability and integrity of the future building and must be critically placed.

So, we see Jesus' life, teaching and message as the pivotal foundation of who we are on campus. Our goal is not to preach a message of intolerance or world dominance. Our message is of a humble carpenter who came to earth as God's very son in order to offer true hope, true life and true meaning.

We are hoping that the campus community will see our change as a humble attempt to apologize for all of us who have defamed the name of Jesus and perhaps remove barriers to others considering his message of life.

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Mason Phillips, mphil@email.unc.edu



Party like it's 1999

Boyz II Men is well known but not best choice

R&B crooners Boyz II Men will take the stage April 26 in the Smith Center as the headliners of SpringFest, the campuswide celebration marking the end of the school year.

Boyz II Men is definitely a step up from Carbon Leaf, the lesser-known rock group that SpringFest brought to campus for \$5,000 last year.

Yet while Boyz II Men is a respectable choice and SpringFest's coordinators deserve credit for landing the high-profile group, it's not exactly what we'd call great, either.

Name recognition will not be a problem with this year's headlining act, which should increase attendance at the event. Unless students lived under a rock for

the entirety of the 1990s, they undoubtedly will remember Boyz II Men from the days of middle school dances.

But just because students are familiar with Boyz II Men doesn't necessarily mean that it is an act by which they want to remember the school year.

Middle school dances might be nostalgic, but ultimately there's a reason we're all glad we're in college now.

The coordinators of SpringFest could have used the \$42,000 that it will cost to bring Boyz II Men to campus to fund two separate acts, lesser known than Boyz II Men but more popular than Carbon Leaf. Two acts would cater to different audiences, thus appealing to a wider array of students.

Homecoming set the precedent for this by bringing both Augustana and Robert Randolph and the Family Band.

Although the performances of student bands in the S-11 parking lot before the concert will help to attract a greater variety of students, an opening act from an entirely different musical genre should also be included.

We're also glad that admission will be free for students with a suggested donation of either two cans of food or \$1, which will go to the Food Bank of North Carolina.

On the whole, SpringFest's coordinators did a good job to land a big-name group, albeit maybe not many people's first choice, and turn it into a beneficial philanthropic event.

Standardize it

N.C. should create a system for replacing vacancies

In light of the controversy surrounding the Charlotte-Mecklenburg sheriff position, the state needs to make changes to how counties and parties select replacements for county official positions.

Every county sets its own standards as to how vacated elected positions are to be filled, which means that the N.C. Republican and Democratic parties have different levels of power depending on the seat to be filled and the county it serves.

To eliminate much of the confusion and clean up the process, the state should adopt a universal system for filling vacated elected posts.

Sheriffs are elected in every county, but should they leave or be forced out of office, filling the post becomes a lot more complicated. In some counties, the party of the departing sheriff has the power to fill the seat.

In Mecklenburg County, for

example, the party has 30 days to fill the vacated seat; if it does not do so within that time, the county commissioners select the new sheriff.

The recent confusion in Mecklenburg arose because the Democratic party held an internal election to choose the new sheriff. Each precinct in the county can send representatives to serve on the party's executive committee, but many don't.

A state review panel nullified the results of the party's election because it determined that some of the precincts had been improperly organized, skewing the election toward the eventual winner, Nick Mackey.

The general consensus, however, was that Mackey was not the best person for the job. After 30 days, the commissioners appointed someone else.

In other counties, the parties recommend someone for the post, but the ultimate decision

is left to the commissioners.

The complicated process for filling empty posts is derived from a nearly 30-year-old law that authorized parties in some counties to elect replacements for empty posts, not just make recommendations.

It's time that the N.C. General Assembly cleaned up this process and passed a bill that called all counties to follow the same protocol when it comes to filling empty positions.

As for the post of sheriff, the state should allow the party of the departing sheriff to make a recommendation to the county commissioners, who should have the final say on the matter.

There might be some difficulty in getting a bill passed that requires a standard method of filling vacated county seats, but the move is necessary to reduce much of the confusion that has surfaced out of this patch-job legislation.

Pre-paid aid

State should fully cover costs of rape kit exams

In North Carolina, rape is a felony offense, and many offenders are caught with the help of an evidence exam done on the victim.

Yet of the about 3,000 North Carolinians who are examined each year after being sexually assaulted, most end up paying a share of the bill for their hospital testing.

The purpose of a rape testing kit is to collect biological evidence that an attacker left behind, and the cost of these kits should be covered by the state as evidence in a police investigation.

Victims of sexual assault are not required to have a test done — while it does help to track down their aggressor, it's not a mandatory health care cost.

The average cost of a rape kit exam is \$1,600, and while victims with insurance could be charged as little as a \$50 copay, many uninsured patients wind up paying hundreds of dollars for their exams.

North Carolina has some safety nets in place for those without insurance, but they too

often come up short.

Currently, hospitals send the bills for uninsured rape victims to the N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, which has about \$258,000 to help cover rape kit exams.

The estimated cost for the state to fully cover rape kit exams is \$4.8 million per year. To help make up more of the cost the Rape Victim's Assistance Program, established more than 25 years ago, helps to foot the bill for assembling and administering rape kits.

However, both of these options only provide enough money to reimburse up to \$1,000 per kit. It doesn't take a math major to tell you that for people without insurance, the least they would have to pay is \$600.

With the overwhelming number of rape cases in North Carolina, these assistance programs alone can't be expected to take care of the situation entirely. The state should be of more assistance.

In 2007, the state helped pay 469 hospital bills for rape test kits. But this still left thousands

of victims paying to find justice after experiencing something they didn't ask to happen and don't wish to remember.

Although the burden of payment would inevitably fall to some degree on North Carolina residents, this isn't necessarily a bad thing.

While the cost of funding rape kits is very high, recall what their purpose is. The kit is designed to gather evidence to aid the police in their investigation.

Police protection is a service we all pay for via taxes. That service is all-inclusive; it's not possible to pick and choose, only paying for the services you yourself want.

Since everyone already pays taxes for police protection, the cost of rape kit exams shouldn't be added on top of that.

In some way or another, the state needs to find the money to pay these hospital bills.

We're sure the victims want to see justice come to fruition. We are also sure they shouldn't have to pay to see it. The state should cover the cost of the investigation, not the victims.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"How do you stereotype everybody who has a mental disorder as being capable of something like this?"

JUSTIN SMITH, STUDENT, NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To read the full-length versions
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Professor's comments were inappropriate for class

TO THE EDITOR:

I have a brother with Down Syndrome and was shocked and angered by a professor's comment on that subject.

This professor blatantly told the class, "In my opinion, the moral thing for older mothers to do is to have amniocentesis, as soon during pregnancy as is safe for the fetus, test whether placental cells have a third chromosome 21 and abort the fetus if it does."

I was shocked to hear something so disgraceful come out of this man's mouth, a man who is apparently a distinguished embryologist.

First of all, I never understood biology to be a subject of opinion — theory and fact, yes, but not really an opinion science.

Secondly, I was shocked to hear him say "abort" and "moral" in the same sentence. I doubt that many people would consider abortion a moral act though it may be a legal act. It is appalling to me that there are still people in this world who think like that.

Essentially, this guy is condoning the killing of people with Down Syndrome. Children and adults with Down Syndrome are a blessing.

I do not know a single person who has met a person with Down Syndrome who has not been the better for it. They are sweet, loving, intelligent, (contrary to popular belief) and they do not judge.

They love you no matter what you do. I could not ask for a better brother, and even if I could change him I wouldn't.

People who believe that this population is anything less than human need to get out of the 18th century and come back to reality. And as far as opinions go, go ahead and have them but keep them out of fact-based classes.

Lara Frame
Senior
Anthropology, Spanish

UNC is completely justified in having ban on smoking

TO THE EDITOR:

I fail to understand the analogy between the smoking ban and a so-called "driving ban" ("Ban on driving would be better than smoking ban," Feb 13). Surely the author realizes that smoking a cigarette is completely different from commuting to work by car.

Driving is a vital method of transportation for thousands of students, faculty and employees of the University. Smoking, however, is a dangerous habit of just a few.

UNC is justified for creating the ban. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and is known to produce staggering health problems.

Hence, UNC aims to better the health of its students, faculty and employees by persuading them to quit. The current "ban" was instituted along with several helpful programs; Campus Health Services offers students techniques to fight the addiction.

The ban does not impinge upon the liberties of smokers. Rather, it is designed to allow nonsmokers the right to breathe fresh air on the way to class.

David Murray
Freshman
Public Policy

Facts used in reference to gender gap were wrong

TO THE EDITOR:

In the complaints about the gender gap bake sale and the defenses of it, the factual basis of the gap has been misstated.

For 2005, the ratio of women's median earnings to men's for employees who worked full time all year was 0.77.

This is the most common statistic used to state the "gender gap," as in, "women earn 77 cents for every dollar men earn."

This is documented in reports by the Institute for Women's Policy Research using data from the federal government.

This gender gap does not refer to the wage gap within particular occupations. That requires much more detailed data, and the most recent breakdown is from the 2000 census. Among full-time workers, it showed that men earned more than women in 486 occupations, and women earned more in 13 occupations.

If you're interested in cookies, you might like to know that the average full-time working woman baker earns 71 percent of her male counterpart's earnings.

Philip Cohen
Associate Professor
Sociology

Americans must aid their own poor before others'

TO THE EDITOR:

Though it is clear that her heart is in the right place, Rachel Craft in her Feb. 15 letter ("Out-of-staters are better off than illegal immigrants") makes sweeping generalizations that undermine her argument.

Seventy percent of illegals coming across the border each year are Mexican. Though as many as 40 percent of Mexicans live in poverty, Mexico is not the poorest nation in the world; in fact, Mexico is not among the top 50 in terms of poverty percentages by country.

Sure, some may point to the 40 percent poverty level in Mexico, but compared to the 14 percent poverty level in the U.S., that number does not seem as big.

So why are we making such a big fuss about helping the poor from foreign countries, when we do not help out our own? In fact, with capitalism becoming a trend in Mexico, poverty levels are starting to fall and unemployment is now at 3.6 percent.

Another assumption she makes is that the \$321.3 million our state pours into K-12 schooling to pay for illegals is an investment.

An investment means that the state expects some sort of return on the payment. This money is actually a sunk cost, a fixed cost that cannot be avoided and is irrelevant in decision making.

Not all Mexicans live in "dirt-floor shacks" and not all out-of-state students can afford to come to this prestigious school. There are many from both groups who need help to pay for college, but from my experience, I'd take the out-of-stater any day.

Saang Lee
Economics, Business
Freshman

The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893,
114 years
of editorial freedom

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