



SAM PERKINS
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID

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Give UNC some sweet summer lovin'

Before college, yes, it felt great to purge the disease of school from your life. But as a Tar Heel, UNC becomes a part of you. Don't take a break from this relationship.

So if you haven't locked up your summer plans, remember that whatever you do, you can do it (and make sure you do it at least once during college) in Chapel Hill.

Of the three summers I've had during my four years at UNC, I've spent two and half in Chapel Hill. And while it can absolutely suck at first, the downtime of the campus and town actually brings out the finer points of both that you can easily miss while saturated in the social scene of tens of thousands of students.

First and foremost make sure you take courses during at least one or two summers. One-month courses are great if you want (or more likely need) to really focus on a given area. Even better is the Carolina Courses Online option.

With CCOs you can knock out some of those annoying General College perspectives in a far more intellectually stimulating manner than in a huge lecture hall. And not only are they a financially sensible option, you can do them from absolutely anywhere.

Last summer I studied abroad in England but also took two CCOs — HIST 151 and POLI 101. And, under a pleasant dose of Big Brother, paid far more attention and enjoyed it far more than I would have ever expected.

Both classes required a few contributions a week to discussion forums on BlackBoard, and it made for great discussion and much more interesting learning, especially when you get blunt contributions from people who obviously had a glass of wine at the computer or stepped away from beer pong to write up a post. Plus, unlike in lecture halls, you get good opportunities to — respectfully and constructively — tell “that guy” to shut up.

When you need a break from academics, summer in Chapel Hill is the prime time for one of the University's relatively hidden gems — the disc golf course. I hate to tell people about it because it's nicest when it's not too crowded, but you can access it from either the Outdoor Education Center or UNC General Administration parking lots. It's a great way to get out for a few hours and try a new sport. Plus, you're under tree shade for most of the course. Exploring Battle Park is another good outdoor excursion.

Sticking around in the summer also lets you utilize a dwelling for which you have a 12-month lease. Or perhaps you can just help someone else out by taking up a sublease. That also allots you a trial period with some roommates.

Either you make some friends and potential future roommates, or you get out of there in a short period of time.

While you can probably watch our men's baseball team in the College World Series in June, there aren't exactly summer sports at UNC. But the Durham Bulls are playing just down U.S. 15-501 in a really nice minor league park. It's the best baseball fix you can get in North Carolina.

Finally, especially if you're an out-of-stater, take advantage of the diverse landscape North Carolina has to offer. One weekend, drive I-40 East a few hours and fill out that farmer's tan with some time at the beach. Another weekend, drive I-40 West a few hours and get up to the highest elevation east of the Mississippi River. Not only can you soak in a nice temperature drop in the N.C. mountains, Mount Mitchell has recorded snowfall during every month of the year.

So don't worry about the town being dead boring. There are fall-backs in the area. If you completely exclude UNC from your summer life, you'll regret it later on as you cheat on your beautiful campus with which you've developed such an intimate relationship. Because nowhere else can you get this kind of sweet, hot, sweaty, tender Carolina lovin'.

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Alex Lee, lobin@email.unc.edu



An engaging goal

UNC serves community well, but more can be done

You've heard it before — during Board of Trustees tuition debates and in that long-running commercial narrated by Charles Kuralt — UNC is the University of the People.

But how well does UNC really live up to that designation?

UNC-system president Erskine Bowles' UNC Tomorrow aims to better the state in a variety of areas, and the current focus in the brainstorming process is on public outreach and engagement.

UNC must strike a balance between public service to the community and academic service to the students.

This is not, however, a zero-sum game. It is possible to increase service without detracting from academics.

The best way to achieve this balance is by incorporating public service with academics and by encouraging professors to make service part of their own academic and teaching efforts.

And no matter what the numbers show, there's always room to build on the University's service to the community.

From the masses

Students play an integral part in fulfilling UNC's role as the University of the People.

They tutor local kids at Frank Porter Graham Elementary School, volunteer with the Inter-Faith Council soup kitchen and build houses with Habitat for Humanity.

The numbers for student participation in public service

are hard to quantify as there are an array of groups under many administrative umbrellas working locally, statewide and abroad.

According to the Cabinet report from this year's APPLES Service-Learning Program, more than 1,600 students participated in nine service-learning programs during the 2007-08 school year.

That's nearly 10 percent of UNC undergraduates.

Other organizations, such as The Campus Y and Public Service Scholars, which requires students to complete 300 hours of community service in order to graduate with that distinction, contribute to a culture of service on campus.

Top-down example

In order to truly serve the community, UNC must exercise top-down leadership by example. Professor-initiated and -led programs and centers for research allow UNC to give back to the state.

A perfect example is the Scholars' Latino Initiative, created by religious studies professor Peter Kaufman, which was designed to help high school students apply to college and find ways to pay for it.

Unfortunately Kaufman is leaving to take a job at the University of Richmond, in part because of the UNC system's policy against financial aid for illegal immigrants.

While this particular program was stymied, it's a prime exam-

ple of the kind of professor-led service initiatives we would like to see more of at UNC.

We all know about the “publish or perish” mentality in higher education, but imagine the change in the community if the primary goal was to develop new and better ways to serve.

UNC also can fulfill this role through the creation of programs and centers for research aimed at the common good.

The possibly soon-to-come Center for Public Policy will unite professors and leaders from across the state to take on issues directly affecting the state of North Carolina.

This is the sort of system-wide program that could best handle the changes confronting the state as it works to address issues pertaining to health care, education and the economy.

More than money

These service initiatives, whether they be performed by students or faculty, don't just need money thrown at them.

The University should never try to fill its service role through mere dollars and cents. While money helps, the real commitment must come from human capital, and this can be done without hurting academics.

The time, energy and ideas the University can give to the community are far greater and more effectual than any amount of money school or system leaders could appropriate.

That's where we need to focus to enact real change.

Erica MacKenzie
Senior
Biology, Intl. Studies

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“What are they going to say? They haven't made a decision.”

ROY WILLIAMS, BASKETBALL COACH, ON HIS PLAYERS' NBA DRAFT THOUGHTS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Feel strongly about something that has been printed? Post your own response to a letter, editorial or story online.
VISIT www.dailytarheel.com/feedback

Ice cream vomit-fest sends wrong signal on poverty

TO THE EDITOR:

I am appalled at Nourish International's fundraising event, the Maple View Challenge.

The event this weekend is a marathon of sorts. Participants run from campus to Maple View's Carboron store, eat a pint of ice cream and then run back. I don't think I'm wrong about what the event will entail: runners first shoveling ice cream into their faces, then running back to campus, perhaps vomiting on the way.

I wonder if the runners will discuss alleviating world hunger before or after they slam four scoops of Rocky Road.

I wonder if Nourish could explain vomiting ice cream for money to an impoverished family desperate for food.

It is possible that the Maple View Challenge will raise needed funds for international relief work, and in that sense, I am glad Nourish organized it.

However, I am extremely disappointed that such a progressive group would sponsor an event like this. It epitomizes first-world gluttony. It tells us that simply spending money, rather than also reducing consumption, can effectively fight poverty.

And to top it all off, a sign advertising the event in the Pit today asked women if they had ever eaten a whole pint of ice cream after a tough breakup, suggesting that such a “skill” might be useful in Nourish's competition.

From such a well-known, well-respected and progressive group on campus, I'd expect better.

Sweeping gun control, draconian jail time needed

TO THE EDITOR:

Jason Blatt's letter on April 15 (“Handgun registries don't help increase public safety”) only addresses part of what is needed.

This country needs a federal gun control law as comprehensive in its own way as the Civil Rights Act — one that makes registration mandatory, prohibits purchase without a permit proving competence in use and storage and prohibits purchase without a background check that covers medical conditions, as well as social behavior. It must cover all purchases, no loopholes, period.

Then we must back the law up with serious consequences. There should be no such thing as misdemeanor illegal possession — including possession of an unregistered gun — and no probation after a crime with a gun or a second offense.

This proposal would not keep a mature, sane, law-abiding citizen from owning a gun. It would make law-abiding types help keep our country fit to live in, as opposed to Brazil.

The jails may overflow for a while, but that's where the lawless belong. It would work about the same as a driver's license.

There are 32 gun homicides every day in America. That level of gun violence means every day — not just April 16 — should be a national day of mourning for both sides of the gun issue.

LaMotte Akin
Chapel Hill

SPEAK OUT

WRITING GUIDELINES:

- ▶ Please type: Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- ▶ Sign and date: No more than two people should sign letters.
- ▶ Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- ▶ Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- ▶ Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

SUBMISSION:

- ▶ Drop-off: at our office at Suite 2409 in the Student Union.
- ▶ E-mail: to editdesk@unc.edu
- ▶ Send: to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27515.

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Kvetching board

kvetch:

v.1 (Yiddish) to complain

Girls with great big shades. Think they look like movie stars. Like, yeah, whatever.

I'm pretty sure I'm not a coal miner, so why do my hands always look like I am one after I read your paper? I feel the black lung coming on.

I know you're trying to be sneaky, girl who comes in an hour late every day. But the door is at the front of the room. WE CAN SEE YOU.

I hope I get a scholarship so I'll be able to afford blue books and scantrons for my exams.

Please don't write your autobiography with the honey mustard on my sandwich.

New construction is good, but is spending three hours drilling into a brick wall outside my dorm room really a good use of tuition money?

Your profiles of potential candidates in the chancellor search contained the phrase, “Christ could not be reached by the deadline.” Yeah, I'd imagine he's pretty tough to get up with.

Nursing school, if I'm still asking how to properly weigh a diaper, then don't you think it's a little ridiculous to expect me to know how to put a needle in someone's pericardium?

Loreleis, enough with the e-mails. I'm not going nor have I ever gone to one of your concerts. Next time don't schedule it during our Final Four game, so I can reuse the “my imaginary pet iguana is sick and can't be left home alone, or he'll eat my toenail clipping collection” excuse.

Thanks, DTH, for giving us the nutrition guide to campus dining — with 10 days left in the school year.

To the girl who offered to swipe me into Lenoir: That was very kind of you! Thank you so much!

Middle school teacher with a thousand kids in Lenoir, this is our cafeteria, and you have absolutely no right to intimidate students who go here to give up their tables to a bunch of snotty-nosed brats.

Yay! It's spring! Now I get to look like a prude in my shorts and T-shirts while all these other girls prance around wearing glorified napkins as “dresses.”

Please don't vote if you are the type of person who gets that incensed because someone is making sure you're registered to vote. I have always been a firm believer in disenfranchising morons. It's great that you guys are doing it yourselves.

Send your one-to-two sentence entries to editdesk@unc.edu, subject line “kvetch.”

The Daily Tar Heel

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115 years
of editorial freedom

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