



SARAH HODGES

FROM MY WORD PROCESSOR TO YOUR EARS  
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## Best parts of college aren't on a syllabus

As a graduating senior, I feel compelled to write the obligatory column about the profound impact that college has had on my life.

I've had the insightful classes I think everyone should be required to take. I've had that inspirational teacher whose advice will follow me wherever my life takes me. I could tell you all about the best campus study spots, what to eat in Lenoir and the secret computer lab that's nearly always empty. But I won't.

Because what I've recently come to realize is that it's not the classroom experiences that have taught me the most during my time here, but my friends.

**AT-LARGE COLUMNIST**  
I know some of you are thinking that this is obvious, but it wasn't easy for me to find the right network of friends.

I entered college timid, introverted and, with few friends around, hyper-focused on my schoolwork. I went to all of the interest meetings I could, but I usually sat silently in the back corner and slipped out of the door five minutes before they ended.

I've learned to be more open and how to relate to people better during the past four years. And I owe my development and integration into positive social networks to a lot of encouragement from the people I now consider friends.

Not to mention the fact that I also owe them for my knowledge of everything from the rules of pool to countless Mariah Carey lyrics.

Don't get me wrong. I'm taking away lessons from the classroom, too. But most of it is nothing I couldn't have learned straight from a textbook if only I had the motivation.

Learning to mingle at parties and bars will teach you more about people than a course in psychology or sociology. We've all read literature about love and loss, but that doesn't mean anything until you've been through it yourself. And reading about the effects of alcohol on your brain chemistry just makes you crave a rum and Coke so you can conduct your own undergraduate research.

I'm not encouraging everyone to skip class, but maybe you could forgo editing that paper one last time to go out to the movies with your friends.

On second thought, maybe you can skip class just this once. You do have three free absences to work with ...

We're all inundated with the idea that grades are the most important factor in our education. For most of us, grades are what we've been working toward for the past 13 or more years.

We're all smart; we go to UNC. And if we stay focused we'll leave this experience with a degree. But it doesn't stop there. We'll get a job and start to clamor for promotions. And that's fine, as long as we stay focused on what's truly important.

Now I'll admit that it's been hard for me this semester.

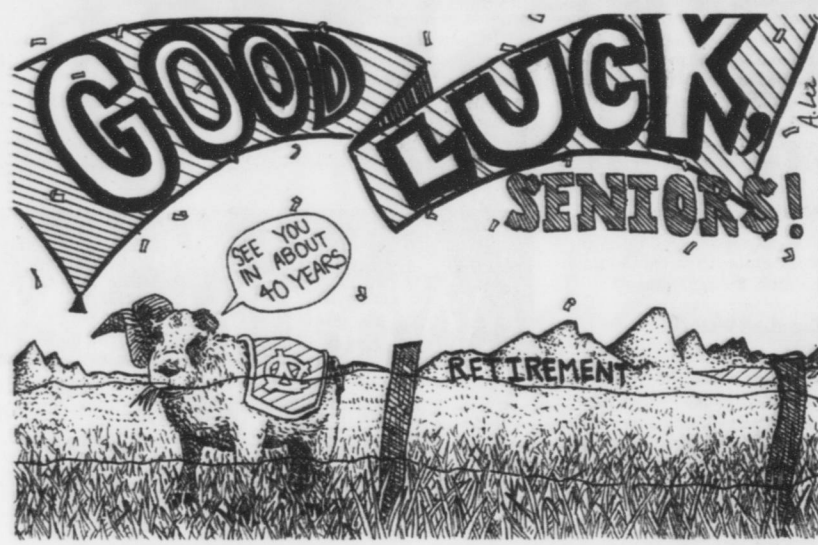
Graduation has been looming in the background and, when overwhelmed with things to do, my immediate reaction is to try to focus on what it was that I supposedly came to college for: my schoolwork. Despite a decent case of senioritis, I've spent multiple Thursday nights at home studying.

OK, so the senioritis usually wins out, but it'll take me half an episode of "Futurama" to realize that the Word document on my laptop is still blank.

There's no doubt that I wish I'd gone out more often this semester, that I'd spent more time with my friends before we go off to different grad schools, careers or whatever else lies ahead.

But there's no time for regret, not now. I have too much lost time to make up for before leaving Chapel Hill.

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



## Pay for their state

Scholarships shouldn't get out-of-state tuition exception

"I'm just a bill. Yes, I'm only a bill. And I'm sitting here on Capitol Hill." While the bill in the Schoolhouse Rock song is sitting on a different hill, there is a bill sitting around in the N.C. Senate that would affect our own UNC-Chapel Hill.

The bill, which would grant fewer out-of-state scholarship students in-state tuition status, is not expected to pass in the Senate this summer.

We admit it is always nice to see deserving out-of-state students attend our University — these students are part of the reason our University is at the caliber it is today.

However, by rejecting the bill, the Senate is promoting the use of state taxpayer dollars for nonresident, non-taxpaying students, and that is unacceptable.

The current bill would only decrease athletic, not academic, scholarship exceptions, but it should do both.

The state will spend \$7 million this year and next to subsidize the difference between resident and nonresident tuition for these students.

While the amount is not altogether significant in the grand scheme of the state budget, it's still money that could be put toward something that more directly benefits N.C. taxpayers.

And while it might mean that these scholarship organizations have to give out fewer scholarships, which is unfortunate, there are N.C. residents who need help paying for college, too.

Given UNC's history as the first public university in the U.S., it only seems right to stay true to our heritage. A university for the people by the people — the people of North Carolina who pay for this institution we all call home.

While the state tax money goes to out-of-staters is the main issue, there are also ques-

tions as to whom really benefits from the subsidy.

The bill doesn't just affect students; it promotes the bigger public universities' names when there are 16 of them in the state that all deserve attention.

UNC and N.C. State University, the two most recognizable and well-funded universities, have enrolled the most out-of-state students because of the law. Most of those students received academic scholarships.

While UNC is the flagship, that doesn't mean the smaller public universities should be left out in the cold.

Administrators at some of the system's historically black colleges and universities say they have not seen much of the scholarship money or benefits.

Perhaps when the Senate looks over the bill, it will give it a second thought and not just think about allegiances to the big men on campus.

## Solve the Riddle

Real estate bigwig needs to step up, improve Franklin

A big part of the University's charm is Franklin Street, a bustling hub of quirky businesses, but it's increasingly just a bunch of empty storefronts without parking.

Lousy parking and unused commercial space can be traced back to a wide range of causes, some of which are larger societal trends:

People drive too much. They're too lazy to walk very far. Gas is mildly affordable.

The economy's slow. Walmart competes against local stores with a vengeance. Chapel Hill's tax rate is high.

And, of course, there are lots of local factors:

The University is loath to provide enough parking. No one wants to widen streets.

But there's one factor that easily could be addressed. His name is Joe Riddle.

"He's got the ability to (keep our downtown healthy), probably to a greater degree than just about anybody else in North Carolina," Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy said.

Riddle personally owns the

University Chrysler lot at 419 W. Franklin St., according to county land records.

That's the former car dealership with the big empty parking lot that the public isn't allowed to use.

And his company, Riddle Commercial Properties, has the title to the building at the corner of Franklin and Columbia streets that houses Top of the Hill restaurant.

As everyone knows, that's the building with the gapingly obvious empty storefront on the most important corner in Chapel Hill.

And while many of the blank shop windows that have popped up lately are the result of changing markets and a downshifting economy, only folks who have been here at least four years can remember the last tenant at Riddle's property.

The Gap's store there closed in May 2004. That's when last year's seniors were finishing up their freshman year.

All told, Riddle and his business own seven lots in town valued at \$9,945,882.

And yet he fails to make use of his properties.

Which is odd, because Foy said he's a really nice guy and a really big Tar Heel fan. "He's a great guy to talk to and ... a pleasure to be around."

The town council gets plenty of complaints about him, but the answer's always the same: They're trying to talk to him.

And that's about all the council can do, legally.

So we would like to try something different:

Joe Riddle, as the editorial board of the student paper of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill we're asking you to help keep Franklin Street a vibrant, beautiful place that students, alumni and townies can enjoy.

And we would like to ask all of our University's august boosters (the Board of Trustees, the Rams Club and big donors to Citizens for Higher Education, et al.) to take the time to mention to Riddle just how much they want to see Franklin Street allowed to thrive.

## A place to remember

Eve memorials can remind us what we can accomplish

The blooming flowers of a new spring are beginning to dot our beautiful campus, bringing the landscape of UNC back to life.

The student body, like the campus, is still on its way back to life after our community was shaken by the death of former Student Body President Eve Carson.

A group of students are pushing for a pair of memorials to commemorate her life and the legacy she has left.

We support the efforts of these students, and we hope that the administration is receptive to the projects that are being proposed.

One idea is to rename the student government suite after Eve. This makes a lot of sense, since Eve redefined the way that

student government functions.

She was also emblematic of what a student body president should be: warm and personal, friendly with everyone she met and unequivocally excited about bettering this University.

The other idea is to add a garden to the impromptu memorial bench that was anonymously donated in memory of Eve and occupies an area next to the Campus Y building.

This is also a fitting tribute to a young woman who was so full of life and exuberance.

We hope that in this garden, or possibly in another physical memorial to be placed elsewhere on campus, that other students who have tragically been taken from us are recognized.

People like Keith Shawn

Smith and Jason Kay had a profound impact on the lives of countless people on campus, and we would like to see their lives commemorated as well.

We are thrilled to know that the Junior Year Scholarship that Eve worked so hard to start will be named after her.

Eve was an incredible agent of change on campus, and she continues to be to this day. Physical memorials will be a constant reminder of the charge that we all have to change the world we live in for the better.

Eve said students made UNC what it is, and as a student she proved this to the utmost. Leaving a physical mark to remind future students of the impact that one can have is the least we can do.

### QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"We got lucky because we read the tea leaves correctly with what was likely to happen with public funding."

SHIRLEY ORT, ASSOCIATE PROVOST, ON CAROLINA COVENANT

### 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](http://www.dailytarheel.com/feedback)

#### Board's advising editorial was ignorant, unhelpful

TO THE EDITOR:

As members of the Student Academic Advising Board, we would like to respond to Tuesday's editorial "Help! I need somebody ..." (April 22). The accusation that UNC's academic advising system is "cryptic and incompetent" is an insult to the men and women who work every day to help students achieve academic success.

The editorial board will be pleased to know that there are several measures under way that aim to restructure advising at UNC. The Daily Tar Heel, ironically, dedicated multiple articles to this process.

These impending changes address many of the alleged shortcomings mentioned in the article. Advisers are constantly working to stay updated on modifications to the curriculum and the requirements for graduation. Advising dedicates many hours to improving its ability to direct this curricular information and additional academic advice to students.

After many productive and professional meetings with advisers and administrators, the Student Academic Advising Board stands in support of academic advising in its efforts to improve its service to students.

Editorials such as Tuesday's provide no constructive criticism to an improvement process that is already under way. In fact, such uninformed and unproductive discourse threatens to undermine the current process of change. If the DTH is interested in seeing the University retain its best advisers and attract new advising talent, then the editorial board should engage in a respectful and beneficial dialogue.

David Bevevino  
Matt Burton  
Student Academic Advising Board

#### It is too early to call for ASG president to resign

TO THE EDITOR:

Deciding whether to respond in writing to the recent article and letter to the editor on the "conflict of interest" following my election as Association of Student Governments president is something of a predicament: I risk jeopardizing this administration in its infancy by remaining silent, but at the same time by responding I equally risk dragging out what is essentially a manufactured controversy.

The concern raised by (former) ASG President Jeff Nieman is certainly worth considering, and it's a point that will be scrutinized heavily in the months ahead. But since my term as ASG president does not even begin until July 1 — more than two months away — it is wholly premature for me to resign my position as Student Senate president at N.C. State.

If anyone — student, administrator, legislator or otherwise — would like to express their ideas and opinions on how to revitalize this association we all help fund, I would greatly appreciate hearing from them. I can be reached on my mobile phone at (919) 606-7158 or via e-mail to [ssp@ncsu.edu](mailto:ssp@ncsu.edu), as well as on AIM and Facebook.

T. Greg Doucette  
President-elect  
UNC ASG

### 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](mailto:editdesk@unc.edu)
- ▶ Send: to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27515.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Daily Tar Heel or its staff. Editorials are the opinions solely of the Daily Tar Heel editorial board. The board consists of nine board members, the associate opinion editor, the opinion editor and the editor. The 2007-08 editor decided not to vote on the board.

#### Students: stop whining, use standby line and enjoy

TO THE EDITOR:

After reading about the ticket forum ("Forum weighs 1-ticket option," April 23), I thought back on this past season. Despite winning only two lotteries, I was still present at every home game while school was in session. I got in by being willing to take a chance in trying the stand-by line.

I don't understand why so many students complain about the ticket policy. What they fail to realize is that we are all being afforded an opportunity that is not granted to students at other universities. We have the opportunity to witness in person one of the greatest basketball programs in the country. Let's be grateful for that.

Several hundred students received tickets through the lottery, and those who paid attention knew to use the standby line. I will admit that the line needs to be better advertised. On the other hand, I know many read the word "unfortunately" in lottery e-mails and immediately hit "delete" instead of reading the rest. How exactly is the Carolina Athletic Association at fault for that?

The problem isn't that the standby line is insufficiently advertised; the real problem is that people aren't willing to take a chance and use it. I've heard the excuse "I didn't think I'd get in" more often than I care to count. Well, I'm sure by now that most are aware of the success of the standby line. Here's a tip for next year: Use it. And enjoy the game.

Krysta Workman  
Freshman  
Undecided

#### DSP is good, but people seem to misunderstand it

TO THE EDITOR:

In response to the letter "DSP would do more harm than good for workers" (April 23) and as a supporter of the Designated Suppliers Program and Student Action with Workers' efforts, I would like to point out that the ongoing sit-in of South Building is the result of a three-year campaign.

During this time, Chancellor (James) Moeser has refused to meet with students, faculty and his own licensing advisory committee to discuss the benefits of the DSP. The program is designed to prevent companies from cutting contracts with factories that raise wages, improve working conditions and grant the right to collectively bargain.

The present situation is one in which the major corporations and licensees of UNC apparel close garment factories that uphold these same codes of conduct, simply because they are able to find cheaper factories with lower wages.

The suggestion that SAW members simply give charity to exploited garment workers ignores the structural flaws of university apparel supply chains that perpetuate poverty and abuse. For more information on the DSP, please visit SAW's Web site.

Daniel Cothran  
Co-Chairman  
Advocates for Human Rights

### The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893,  
115 years  
of editorial freedom

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