

The Daily Tar Heel

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115 years of
editorial freedom

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► Corrections for front-page errors will be printed on the front page. Any other incorrect information will be corrected on page 3. Errors committed on the Opinion Page have corrections printed on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.

► Please contact Managing Editor Jamie Williams at jameswe@email.unc.edu with issues about this policy.

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WEEKLY DOSE

Cagers take red-eye flight (minus flight)

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Anyone who has spent any time in an airplane knows those seats don't exactly offer the most leg room. Well, imagine being almost 7 feet tall and being forced to sleep in one overnight.

That's exactly what happened to the San Antonio Spurs on Monday night, according to ESPN.com. Fresh off a game seven victory against the New Orleans Hornets, mechanical problems grounded the team's plane.

The team was unable to find hotel rooms on short notice, and the players were forced to sleep on the plane, which was confined to the runway until 7 a.m. the next morning.

No word on whether the night spent on the plane was as boring for the players as for those watching the defending champs play.

NOTED. A 12-year-old Arkansas boy was charged with drunken driving after crashing his father's pick-up truck.

The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reports that the boy and his 10-year-old friend drank his parents' beer and decided to take off in search of a girl they had met at a rodeo.

Both boys escaped the crash without injury. But they are, presumably, grounded for life.

QUOTED. "To watch him do that tonight was beyond words. What a story. You feel like a proud parent."

— Boston Red Sox manager Terry Francona, in reaction to pitcher Jon Lester tossing a no hitter against the Kansas City Royals on Monday.

The accomplishment was magnified by the fact that Lester is a cancer survivor, winning a battle with lymphoma in 2006.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY

Outdoor music: Come picnic under the oak trees at Weaver Street Market and enjoy live performances by local bands. Admission is free, call 929-0010 for more information.
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: Weaver Street Market, Carrboro

Political meeting: The Orange County Democratic Women will hold its annual business meeting and elect officers for 2008-2009. There will also be a social reception to honor Democratic candidates going forward in the general election. It will be held at the Chapel Hill Museum, and guests should enter the parking lot off Boundary Drive. Additional parking is available across the street at Horace Williams House. The public is welcome to attend. For more information call Betsy Russell at 644-0869.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Chapel Hill Museum, 523 E. Franklin St.

FRIDAY

Basketball tournament: High school all-stars from around the country will compete in the Bob Gibbons

Basketball Tournament. Tickets are available at the door, call 758-5827 for costs and more information.
Time: all day
Location: Dean E. Smith Center

Downtown Partnership work session: The Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership's board of directors will meet to discuss the Plan of Work. Parking is available at Wallace parking deck. For more information call 967-9440.
Time: 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Location: Bank of America Cherry board room, 137 E. Franklin St.

SATURDAY

Wine tasting: A Southern Season is holding a wine tasting of Oregon red and white wines that offer lively aromatic qualities. The cost for the event is \$25 per person.
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: A Southern Season, University Mall

Play: Deep Dish Theater Company is presenting "A Clean House" by Sarah Ruhl, a comedy about a Brazilian woman and the people whose house she tends. Tickets are \$16 for adults,

\$14 for seniors and \$12 for students.
Time: 8 p.m.
Location: University Mall

SUNDAY

Jazz brunch: Enjoy jazz, Celtic, blues, percussion and more music while enjoying hot coffee and freshly baked goods.
Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location: Weaver Street Market, Carrboro

Band: The Magnolia Klezmer Band will give a performance at Southern Village as part of the "Summer Music Series on the Green." The event is free, and in the event of rain, it will be held at Market Street Books.
Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Location: The Green at Southern Village

To make a calendar submission, visit www.dailytarheel.com/calendar, or e-mail Managing Editor Andrew Liu at ajliu@email.unc.edu with "calendar" in the subject line. Events will be published in the newspaper on the day and the day before they take place, and will be posted online when received. Submissions must be sent in by noon the preceding publication date.

Explorer's Club frolic in sunny pop harmonies

BY JAMIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

There is something to be said for imitation. It represents a reverence, a certain respect and connection to the original source.

And for Charleston's The Explorer's Club, that source material is clearly the classic sounds of The Beach Boys.

Its all here on The Explorer's Club's debut LP, *Freedom Wind* — the sunny imagery, the gorgeous harmonies, even the band's press photos that feature them frolicking happily on a beach.

And what's wrong with that? What's wrong with happy songs about girls, fun and sun?

Of course, these sort of sounds are becoming more and more appropriate. As the mercury rises and windows begin to be rolled down, *Freedom Wind* is exactly the type of record you can turn up and sing along with.

But, for all of the Brian Wilson worship that made its way onto the record, there are plenty of unique reasons to sing the praises of The Explorer's Club: chief among them, the fact that they can really sing. The harmonies are as pure as the subject matter, and the saccharine themes are made even more charming by the precision with which they are delivered.

"I wish the summer sun would stay on for one more hour," is the type of line that has the potential to absolutely kill a song, burying it under a pile of hokey charm, but on album highlight "Don't Forget the Sun," the line serves as an important lynch pin, holding the listener's attention on nothing more than charm and harmony.

It's a clever trick that The Explorer's Club are utilizing here. It takes a band that is almost universally loved — The Beach Boys — and adapts its sound to the strengths of their band.

There are a few tracks, however, that are a bit too close to The

MUSIC REVIEW
THE EXPLORER'S CLUB
FREEDOM WIND

POP/ROCK



Beach Boys' originals, songs that if not played at high volume are apt to inspire a bit of confusion about who exactly is singing.

"Hold Me Tight" is probably the best example here.

Starting with subtle instrumentation and "ohh-ahh" backing vocals and slowly building into a sunny, bouncy narrative of young, summer love. Sound familiar?

Honestly, it's the type of thing that should get old after a while, but somehow it never does. There are enough curveballs thrown to make sure the listener never loses interest.

Some of those, though — "Honey I Don't Know Why," for one — are such a departure from the sound of the rest of the record that they are jarring, forcing the listener to cringe rather than sit up and take notice.

The raspy vocals of that track are reason enough to justify the rich harmonies featured on every other track. Its the same trick that Dr. Dog uses to much better results, but here, the richness of The Explorer's Club's harmonies make a song featuring only one vocalist seem completely crazy.

But other than that misstep, *Freedom Wind* is the type of record that fits summer like a damp, sweaty cotton T-shirt.

Contact the Diversions Editor at dive@unc.edu

STAR SYSTEM

- ★ POOR
- ★★ FAIR
- ★★★ GOOD
- ★★★★ EXCELLENT
- ★★★★★ CLASSIC

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