

## The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893,  
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of editorial freedom

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**EDITORIAL CARTOON** By Don Wright, The Palm Beach Post

WE ARE AL-QAIDA! WE WILL CRUSH THE SATANIC INFIDELS AND THEIR MATERIALISTIC OBSESSIONS! WHAT'S THE HOLDUP ON OUR NEXT OPERATION?

WE CAN'T GET CREDIT!



## Halloween time bomb

Midnight is far too early for police to clear Franklin Street of students celebrating the holiday

**T**own officials really got it wrong this time.

After months of talking about curbing Halloween, discouraging "outsiders" from coming to Chapel Hill and discontinuing measures such as shuttle rides from park-and-ride lots, officials announced they're going to try to clear the streets of partygoers at midnight.

Just in time for your grandma's bedtime.

All the rhetoric we've been hearing this semester has been that students are OK to celebrate Halloween on Franklin, just not these "outsiders" from elsewhere in the state.

But students don't end a night out at midnight. Many of them don't even start by then.

And trying to clear a street of revelers hours before they're

ready to head home is going to be a law enforcement nightmare.

Police Chief Brian Curran has said he hopes a good publicity campaign will let people know of the new, early end-time. But knowing and complying are very different.

Curran himself acknowledges that dispersing the Halloween crowd will be difficult.

Curran's predecessor Gregg Jarvis was more blunt.

"I don't think you can stop it or even curtail it without significant turmoil," he told The Daily Tar Heel last month.

Turmoil doesn't sound good.

Halloween is a logistical nightmare for the town no matter what. But police and town officials have not articulated a plan that seems both viable and safe for suddenly and drastically moving up

everyone's bedtime.

The shift, officials have said, is part of a longer-term plan to turn Halloween into a town-sponsored event with various stages for events, family fun and possibly even an entrance fee.

You know, a little more like Apple Chill.

This editorial board has advocated against curbing Halloween. Chapel Hill Town Council members have said that to make Halloween a town-sponsored event would be to drastically change its identity.

But even if officials insist on moving in that direction, the plans they laid out at the Wednesday press conference do not inspire confidence that the drastic shift will be implemented in a way that is safe and fair to students.

Students aren't your outsiders, Mayor Foy.

## Improve athletes' safety

More qualified athletic trainers needed at area schools

**A**fter the tragic deaths of several North Carolina high school athletes, legislation has been proposed that would require high schools with high-impact sports to hire full-time athletic trainers.

Atlas Fraley, Matt Gfeller and Jaquan Waller all died as a result of football-related injuries this past year.

Fraley was a student at Chapel Hill High School who reported dehydration after practice and died at home later the same day.

We applaud the efforts of Frederick Mueller, director of the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research, and Kevin Guskiewicz, chairman of UNC's Department of Exercise and

Sports Science, who proposed this new legislation.

Requiring full-time, nationally certified athletic trainers seems like common sense, but several area high schools have inadequate personnel.

Both Orange High School and Cedar Ridge High School have athletic trainers, but they are not nationally certified.

Carrboro High School does not even have an athletic trainer on campus, only one who responds when emergency services are required.

Although it is not clear whether nationally certified trainers could have had prevented these deaths, safety regulations should certainly be beefed up.

Concerns have been raised

that local high schools may have to cut high-impact sports if this legislation passes because of the financial burden of the proposed safety requirements.

We recognize that high-impact sports such as football often serve important roles in promoting school spirit and can provide a pathway to college scholarships for such athletes.

Funds should be found to hire full-time, nationally certified athletic trainers at all area high schools.

It is irresponsible for high schools to continue sponsoring high-impact sports without appropriate safety measures in place.

Before any more deaths occur, more prudent safeguards must be put in place.

## Continue Thorpe's legacy

Thorpe's passion should be reflected in new member

**R**eplacing a beloved public servant like Bill Thorpe is never easy, but the Chapel Hill Town Council now faces the task of choosing his successor.

Thorpe had a history of dedicated service to under-represented members of the community. The person who fills his seat should exemplify a similar commitment.

Thorpe was the council's only black member and an active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mayor Kevin Foy has said that while the Town Council might choose a black person to fill Thorpe's seat, the ideal candidate would be someone with a "demonstrated ability"

to address the black community's concerns. We concur.

This is not an attempt to apply a quota system to the council. Rather, it's only right that Thorpe's replacement embody the same set of values with which he served the community as an 11-year council member.

The council has included at least one black member during the past few decades. It makes sense for the council to appoint similar representation — at least until next year, when Thorpe's term would be up and voters can decide for themselves.

Edith Wiggins, a former council member, said that a black council member could better address the black community's concerns.

"If you haven't lived the

African-American life, the African-American experience, there's a limit to your ability to understand," she said.

While Wiggins has a legitimate point, we don't think Thorpe's replacement necessarily has to be black.

A candidate's race ought to be less of a factor than his or her ability to adequately represent disenfranchised populations.

Bill Thorpe championed civil rights for all marginalized members of society.

The person chosen to replace him should bring a similar perspective and level of service to the Chapel Hill community. All present and future council members would do well to follow his example.

### QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"Frankly, Obama scares the hell out of me."

**INETA CHERRY**, REPUBLICAN FROM LEXINGTON  
ATTENDING SARAH PALIN'S ELON RALLY

### FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT:

"This article is not only a slight to Dr. Lawson and his campaign, but to unbiased journalism and especially the DTH."

— ON "PRICE WINS UNC DEBATE"

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Islamofascism week was prejudicial, inflammatory

TO THE EDITOR:

In light of "Islamofascism" week, I would like to highlight the profiles of the individuals responsible for this prejudicial event.

David Horowitz received his master's in English literature, and is best known for his list of the "most dangerous academics in America," which is overflowing massively with erroneous fabrications. Horowitz has absolutely no education in the study of Islam.

Robert Spencer holds a master's in early Christianity from UNC. He has been criticized openly by UNC's scholar on Islamic studies Dr. Carl Ernst.

Ernst states that the "publications of Spencer belong to the class of Islamophobic extremism that is promoted and supported by right-wing organizations, who are perpetuating a type of bigotry similar to anti-Semitism and racial prejudice." Spencer has absolutely no education in the study of Islam.

College Republicans and the Committee for a Better Carolina: As UNC student organizations, I guess I expected a standard of academic intellectualism that was not borderline idiotic and inflammatory.

My question is: do you view radical Christianity as a "legitimate threat" as well? Better luck next time in bringing scholars who are academically accredited and credible in the study of Islam. Expect the upcoming "Peace not Prejudice week" to foster a Carolina community based in support of humanism and against societal injustice.

Remember friends, empty vessels make much noise; polemicists, Horowitz and Spencer are the most hollow of instruments.

Abbas Rattani  
Senior  
Religious Studies

#### Dr. Lawson, in fact, won last week's UNC debate

TO THE EDITOR:

I'm not sure what debate Mr. Barzilai was watching ("Price wins UNC debate," Oct. 15), but Dr. Lawson was the clear victor in the one I was present for (Tuesday) night. The errors Mr. Barzilai cited as evidence that Lawson is not knowledgeable were merely Rep. (David) Price's attempts to obfuscate his record.

For instance, Price deliberately implied that he voted "no" on the initial bailout without explicitly saying so. The Paulson plan he claims to have opposed was a draft that was being debated before the first vote. As someone who personally wrote to David Price to tell him not to vote for the bailout and as someone who watched C-SPAN as the votes were tallied, I can assure you that when the bill was actually

#### CORRECTION:

Due to an reporting error, Wednesday's column "Price wins UNC debate" incorrectly stated that Rep. Price voted against Henry Paulson's initial economic bailout plan. Rep. Price opposed the initial plan but no vote was scheduled. Price voted in favor of an expanded plan on Sept. 29. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes for this error.

#### 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:

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put before the house, Price voted yes. Lawson made no mistake — Price deliberately trapped him.

Conspicuously absent from your editorial was the incident in which Price claimed to have voted against Real ID — which I'm sure he did as a stand-alone bill — but it was Lawson who informed the audience that Price voted for a bill in which the Real ID was an amendment.

Also, why does Mr. Barzilai automatically assume that a socio-

logical center designed to research radicalism in American communities going to make us safe?

Last time I checked, American citizens are not terrorists.

Idealism is not to be scoffed at. The problem with Washington today is that the men there are not principled. They don't fight for their constituents nor do they fight for the Constitution — they merely follow polls, lobbyists, and bargain with each other for votes.

Now, of all times, is the time for a new congressman. Price has been representing us for 20 years — through wars, scandals, budget deficits, and a potentially cataclysmic economic crisis. Why does anyone want to keep this old and impotent representative in Washington?

William Harris  
Sophomore  
Undecided

#### Lawson's radical views would hurt 4th district

TO THE EDITOR:

The debate between Dr. B.J. Lawson and Congressman David Price showed how important congressional representatives are to a community. Rep. Price has used his 20 years of experience to increase funding for the National Institutes of Health, Environmental Protection Agency and National Science Foundation, which works with the Research Triangle Park, UNC and Duke.

Price understands that federal funding for these programs benefits our community and builds a stronger future by helping create the transfer companies that are so important to our local economy. Price also emphasized that the United States should not race to the bottom of labor and environmental standards with other countries, as China and India are making investments to pass us in research and development.

At the debate, Lawson would not refute that he believes federal funding for research and the aforementioned programs are unconstitutional.

Further, Lawson made conspiratorial accusations that the Research Triangle Institute was working with Homeland Security on a data mining and domestic spying project. He made no effort to provide evidence that his accusations were true.

Lawson would hurt the United States and the 4th District by attempting to reduce federal funding for research and development, allowing China and India to overtake our technological advantages. I believe Lawson's radical views will not benefit our community and shows that Rep. David Price is the only candidate that will fight for the 4th district and its future.

Marshall Dworikin  
Junior  
International Studies