

The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893,
115 years
of editorial freedom

ALLISON NICHOLS
EDITOR, 962-4086
NALLISON@EMAIL.UNC.EDU
OFFICE HOURS:
MON, WED, 2-3 P.M.
ERIC JOHNSON
PUBLIC EDITOR
ERICJOHNSON@UNC.EDU

HARRISON JOBE
OPINION CO-EDITOR
HJOBE@EMAIL.UNC.EDU
GREG MARGOLIS
OPINION CO-EDITOR
MARGOLIS.GREG@GMAIL.COM

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS
LISA ANDRUKONIS
BEN BUCK
JAMES DING
MICHAEL LEWIS
ANDREW STILES
SARAH WHITWORTH



JUSTIN R. CROWDER
A TALE TOLD BY AN IDIOT FULL OF SOUND AND FURY
Sophomore biology major from Greensboro.
E-MAIL: JRCROWDE@EMAIL.UNC.EDU

Spanish-language section is valuable

Two weeks ago Yatin Shastri wrote a letter to the editor advocating that The Daily Tar Heel no longer publish the monthly special section La Colina. He said he was not against publication of La Colina but would prefer to see it in a separate publication. La Colina appears once a month in the DTH on the back page and has a variety of articles including opinions, community spotlights and Spanish-language pieces. Following the focus of The Daily Tar Heel, La Colina focuses upon the University and the surrounding community. But in the letter to the editor Shastri says that although he has "nothing against immigration," publication of La Colina "represents the movement of catering to our neighbors to the south."

I find it a bit hard to understand how a once monthly section in a college-centric newspaper caters to our neighbors to the south.

According to the Spanish department here at UNC, there are more than 350 million native Spanish speakers in 21 countries. In fact, Spanish is the second most used language for international communications and is a recognized language of the United Nations. It is often quipped that English is the language of money, but Spanish cannot be far behind.

The letter also questioned why such languages as Mandarin and Hindi are not included in the same way as Spanish. While it is true that these groups do make up a significant portion of the population of the country, North Carolina has many more native Spanish speakers.

As a Spanish minor, I am quite biased on this issue. I look forward to the publication of La Colina near the end of the month and read all of the articles no matter the subject as a means of practicing my Spanish. I can assure you that I am not alone in using La Colina to help my Spanish comprehension. Numerous students here at Carolina take Spanish classes beyond the requirements for their majors and many pursue a Spanish major.

Issues of immigration and its legality aside, learning and utilizing Spanish is becoming more and more of an asset in our country. No matter how our government eventually rules of the issue of Hispanic immigration to our country, we have to realize that this is the next step in the evolution of our country. It seems that more and more signs proclaiming "Se habla español" on businesses that realize that there is much to be gained by catering to a Spanish-speaking population.

America has always been a melting pot and the mixture of ethnicities is one of its greatest strengths. After the election of the first nonwhite president, how can we maintain that we should preserve our supposed homogeneity? Mr. Shastri ought to take a more sensitive view on diversity issues at the University. With our population of Hispanic and Spanish-speaking students, faculty and employees, an overarching need for the acceptance of a diverse population should be one of our paramount concerns. When such a narrow-minded and inflammatory statement comes from a person in a position such as this, it does not speak well for the image of our University.

As humans it is our duty to reach out to each other across racial, linguistic and ethnic boundaries. I look forward to reading La Colina at the end of the month and hope it continues to garner the support it deserves.

EDITORIAL CARTOON By Don Wright, The Palm Beach Post



New board needed

Violations of Student Code, state law cannot continue

Cases now before the Student Supreme Court are textbook examples for why student government bodies need to operate in the open.

Juniors Ashley Klein and Matt Wohlford, possible candidates for student body president, were each fined \$40 by the Board of Elections for campaign violations.

Neither student knew the Board of Elections was even conducting an investigation.

(According to the Student Code the chairman of the Board of Elections is required

to notify the accused of the investigation within 24 hours after the commencement of investigation, and no decision may be issued until the defendant has been given an opportunity to respond to the accusations.)

Further, the Board of Elections made the decision to hand down the fines in a closed meeting.

The meeting was closed in clear violation of N.C. Open Meetings Law, which establishes only a few specific reasons that governing bodies can operate behind closed doors.

Now, as part of the evidence Wohlford needs for his supreme court case against the Board of Elections, subpoenas have been issued for every member of the board to find out what exactly happened at that meeting.

Seems a little unnecessary. If the board had only obeyed the law in the first place there would be no need for subpoenas.

This case start-to-finish demonstrates the Board of Election's lack of respect for either the Student Code or N.C. law. It's time for a new board.

Sustainability a must

UNC has made another gesture indicating its support of environmental sustainability, but it must continue to take concrete steps to illustrate this commitment.

UNC has recently signed on to a resolution with a long-term goal to become a carbon-neutral campus, joining 600 other colleges and universities nationwide.

Not only is this initiative beneficial to the environment, but it will also lead to cost savings for the University through a reduction in energy costs.

The University's first step should be to explore ways existing buildings can become more energy efficient.

Already, all 33 residence halls have low-flow water fixtures and efficient lighting. Future renovations to other campus buildings should include these features, but they should also implement more advanced features such as the addition of solar panels and gray-water recycling.

And all new construction projects should strive for carbon neutrality from the onset. In addition, the University

should solicit input from existing student groups who have been advocating for more sustainable practices for years.

This is a perfect opportunity for UNC to implement some of the innovative ideas conceived by the many students passionate about environmental justice.

By affirming its commitment in sustainability through the goal of carbon neutrality, UNC's efforts will not only help the environment but encourage students to adopt a socially responsible lifestyle as well.

Small. Ignorant. Cowards.

The hateful, racist messages scrawled in the "Free Expression Tunnel" at N.C. State University — just hours after Barack Obama was elected the first black president in our nation's history — are an unfortunate reminder that ignorance and bigotry still exist.

The four individuals who confessed responsibility for the messages are an embarrassment to their fellow students and to all of us as Americans.

That being said, I am disappointed by the overblown rhetoric surrounding this incident and concerned about the future of free speech on college campuses.

N.C. State is in the process of determining an appropriate punishment for the students, whose names haven't been released because authorities determined that their actions didn't constitute a crime.

State leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People want the university to expel the students and enact a "hate speech" policy to severely punish similar acts in the future.

I am not particularly concerned about the academic futures of these four students. But I do worry any time I hear talk of university "speech codes" that would



ANDREW STILES
Editorial board member from Charlotte.
E-MAIL: AJSTILES@EMAIL.UNC.EDU

restrict free speech on campus. N.C. State should tread lightly in this case, not least because the law is firmly opposed to restrictive speech codes.

Ruth Walden, mass communication law professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UNC, says it is important to distinguish speech that is morally reprehensible from what is legally acceptable.

"The outrage that the NCSU community feels about the racist messages in the free speech tunnel is totally understandable," Walden says. "But law presents a different issue than morality."

The U.S. Supreme Court, as well as state courts in California, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, have consistently ruled that hate speech codes on college campus are unconstitutional.

Public bodies, the Supreme

Court has ruled, cannot impose "special prohibitions on those speakers who express views on the disfavored subjects of 'race, color, creed, religion or gender.'"

So here's what I propose: Let the students remain in school — without punishment — under one condition. That they simply come forward and take "credit" for their actions.

Anyone who posts such inflammatory comments in a public place should be willing to stand by their words.

My guess is these students won't. They're cowards. They won't come forward because they live in a society that has learned to reject such overt bigotry.

Let's imagine these individuals explaining their actions at job interviews, on grad school applications or even to their fellow students.

And I can't help but smile thinking about them squirming in their seats while U.S. Secret Service agents searched their rooms and computers.

I don't think racism will ever cease to be an issue in this country. But before we go rewriting the rules regarding what students can or cannot say, let's take a step back and see these four individuals for what they really are: Small. Ignorant. Cowards.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"I want us to go for the gold. I can't believe we're still protesting this."

RITA HERNANDEZ, RALEIGH RESIDENT, ON PROTESTING C.A. AMENDMENT BANNING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT:

"When the tunnel is called the 'Free Expression Tunnel,' one should be able to freely express whatever they want with no consequences."

— ON LETTER TO THE EDITOR "FIRST AMENDMENT SHOULD NOT BE USED AS A SHIELD"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Condom advertisement was offensive and crude

TO THE EDITOR:

The content of last week's one-page Durex advertisement was unsettling: "Major in sex and you could score \$25,000, and a \$2 lift for your 'studies.'"

Students and faculty fought to get and keep a minor in Sexuality Studies. Making fun of "majoring" in sex derides healthy sexuality and the study of it.

Further, we don't need to send the message that women are always available for sex, even in professional roles. Such images don't cause sexual harassment or rape, but they feed an environment in which both exist.

The "diagram" of a "threesome" in the back seat of a car depicts a heterosexual male fantasy in which women are present only for men's pleasure. That's the message of the heterosexual pornography industry. And of the ad that ran in the DTH.

Freedom of the press means that you are free to choose any ad you wish. It also means that you are free to tell companies that you'd prefer ads that aren't juvenile or sexist. Your readers deserve better.

*Matthew Ezzell
Graduate Student, Sociology
Campaign for a Safer
Carolina*

*Sherryl Kleinman
Professor, Sociology
Faculty Advisor, Campaign
for a Safer Carolina*

'Gayble' article presented a stereotypical portrait

TO THE EDITOR:

The "gayble" story ("A seat at the table," Nov. 13) was nothing but a reduction of the queer community to a group of friends who think they run it. I am queer and have never heard of this group until this coverage and still have no desire to supposedly cement my inclusion into the community by stopping by there.

You can find queers anywhere you look, and they are not happy with this coverage. We are vibrant people that come from all different backgrounds and occupy all positions on this campus. Many of us have groundbreaking stories that would actually near you to the true and not so utopian world of many queers. Even with saying that, they cannot represent us all, and the DTH should not make it appear as they can.

*Ryan Jones
Senior
Photojournalism*

DTH should cover football as much as basketball

TO THE EDITOR:

Why is it the day after Miami beats Virginia Tech and the day before Carolina faced Maryland all we Carolina football fans read in the DTH is an article about the football game and basketball game being at the same time? There were more articles in the DTH last year about football, and we were losing games. Why does basketball get an article for a meaningless game?

To make this even worse there wasn't even an online exclusive previewing any aspect of the football game. I understand that bas-

ketball is the prominent sport here at Carolina and always will be, but when it comes down to what was more important this weekend, it was the football game.

Students here need to learn that there are other things than people named Tyler Hansbrough and an orange ball.

*Alex Rhodes
Sophomore
Exercise and Sports Science*

Singing of alma mater should be classy, not rude

TO THE EDITOR:

Those fans dedicated enough to remain past the final buzzer of basketball games will sing the alma mater and fight song — well, our version at least. The original fight song ends with "Rah! Rah! Rah!" We have replaced it with "Go to hell, Duke."

This classlessness really irks me. We should not wish for our opponent's failure, but rather our success. Amending the alma mater and fight song in this way does not insult Duke but tarnishes the Carolina way we all aspire to uphold. Is hate so central to our campus identity that we would sacrifice our virtue?

*Thomas Hopper
Senior
English, Classics*

Eve Carson Memorial 5k was an amazing success

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you, Carolina! Thanks to the 2,191 people who registered to run or walk in the inaugural Eve Marie Carson Memorial 5k, making it an amazing success.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to the members of Phi Delta Theta and Pi Beta Phi who hosted this event and worked tirelessly to ensure its success.

Thank you to the Students for the Carolina Way. With more than 200 volunteers from their respective organizations, they made this 5k an unprecedented event.

The Eve Marie Carson Scholarship was born of an idea Eve had during her campaign for student body president. Upon her tragic death in March, the University decided to name the scholarship for Eve as a living memorial. The selection committee will award the scholarship to between one and five deserving students. The application is available at www.unc.edu/eve for juniors and is due this Friday at 5 p.m.

The 5k on Saturday was the largest fundraiser thus far to benefit the scholarship. Gathering on the quad on Saturday, the Carolina community remembered Eve and her definition of the Carolina way.

While we wait for the final numbers to be tallied and dollars counted, please know how grateful we are to the University community for helping raise the necessary funds to make Eve's dream of a junior-year merit scholarship a reality.

*Caroline Thore
Outreach Coordinator*

*Andy Woods
Scholarship Director
Eve Marie Carson
Scholarship*

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 dthedit@gmail.com
- ▶ Send: to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27515.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel or its staff. Editorials reflect the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel editorial board. The board consists of six board members, two opinion co-editors and the editor-in-chief.

JOIN US: The Daily Tar Heel is hiring for the spring semester.

We're looking for about eight columnists who will produce hard-hitting, insightful, well written and well researched columns with local relevance centered around a theme of their own choosing on a biweekly basis.

We're looking for about eight to 10 board members who will write unsigned editorials on behalf of the DTH. Members must attend a one-hour meeting on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday each week to brainstorm and pitch ideas. Each board member can expect to write at least three editorials a week.

We're looking for at least two cartoonists who will produce creative, original editorial cartoons weekly.

Please visit Union 2409 or www.DailyTarHeel.com under "About us" for an application.

Applications are due at 5 p.m. Nov. 24. Contact Editor Allison Nichols at allisonnichols@gmail.com with questions.