

The False Excuse Fraud

The Men's Honor Council has shown once again the mighty arm of student government in upholding the ideals of the honor system at the University of North Carolina.

This time, it has initiated and is currently conducting a broad investigation into alleged use of fraudulent and forged excuses purchased by Carolina students from an ex-student here.

The ugly part of the entire investigation is that it points to a violation of the honor system at the University, not only by a single person who no longer is a student, but also by numerous individuals who paid to be fraudulently excused from class.

Obviously, effects of the "rubber stamp" case will not immediately be seen in policies at the University. But it is safe to think the false excuses will ultimately have some bearing on decisions forthcoming by the administration.

Specifically, we refer to current efforts of student government to put class excuses in all areas of the college program on an honor system basis. We wonder, in the wake of the discovery of the false excuse scandal, if students would uphold an honor excuse system.

Perhaps they would; perhaps they would not. Again we say they should be given a chance to do so, even if they fail in the attempt. Disclosure of violations of the excuse system by the Men's Honor Council, we feel, points out the fact that student government would do its part to uphold and strengthen the proposed system.

A second effect of the council's investigation is the fact that it will uncover, during the next several weeks, wholesale overcutting of classes by students in upper and lower college alike. Indeed, it already has done so.

Conceivably, students who have overcut some of their courses by virtue of using the falsified excuses will be subject to failure of their courses. It is the instructor's right to drop a student from his class when overcutting has occurred. That right prevails under current circumstances.

Whatever is the policy of the University in that respect, we feel, should be expressed similarly in all schools and classes of the college. If a freshman or sophomore is dropped from a course because he overcut, then so should be the junior or senior who has cut under the same circumstances.

The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publication Board of the University of North Carolina, where it is published daily except Sunday, Monday and examination and vacation periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates: mailed, \$4 per year, \$2.50 a semester; delivered, \$6 a year, \$3.50 a semester.

- Editor: DOUG EISELE
- Associate Editor: FRANK CROWTHER
- Managing Editor: ALYS VOORHEES
- News Editor: PAUL RULE
- Asst. News Editor: ANN FRYE
- Sports Editor: BILL KING
- Asst. Sports Editor: DAVE WIBLE
- Business Manager: JOHN WHITAKER
- Advertising Manager: FRED KATZIN
- Librarian: GLENDA FOWLER
- Feature Editor: MARY M. MASON
- Subscription Mgr.: AVERY THOMAS
- PHOTOGRAPHERS: Norman Kantor, Buddy Spoon
- EDIT STAFF: Whit Whitfield, Nancy Hill, Gary Nichols, Curtis Gans, Al Walker, Harry Kirchner, Gail Godwin
- NEWS STAFF: Davis Young, Ann Frye, Dale Whitfield, Mary Moore Mason, Stanford Fisher, Edith MacKinnon, Pringle Pipkin, Mary Leggett Brown, Ruth Whitley, Sarah Adams, Marion Hays, Parker Maddy
- Business Staff: WALKER BLANTON, JOHN MINTER, LEWIS RUSH
- Wire Editor: PAUL RULE
- SPORTS STAFF: Rusty Hammond, Elliott Cooper, Mac Mahaffy, Carl Keller, Jim Parks
- Proof Reader: PEBLEY BARROW
- Night Editor: PEBLEY BARROW

It would not be fair, we feel, to give one student an "F" in a course because he was party to the fraud, and to let another remain in class because he happened to be a junior or a senior. Cheating is cheating, and punishment for it should be equal and the same for all the guilty parties.

After all, that is what Men's Honor Council action will boil down to. It will be the punishment of a student for participation in the false excuse system, with judgment of the council not to be influenced by whether the false excuse constituted an overcut.

Would it be right for a freshman or sophomore to be dropped from a course because his use of a false excuse constituted an overcut, while a junior or senior who did likewise should be allowed to remain in class and get credit for 14 weeks' work?

We don't think so. The crime committed here is cheating, using a fraudulent excuse to get out of class. That it might have constituted an overcut is incidental. And consequently, the punishment of all should be the same and equal. That punishment, again, could conceivably be the dropping of participants from a course.

Thus far we have assumed that the Men's Honor Council will look with leniency upon first offenders of the Honor Code who turn themselves in for violation of that code. However, the Council does have the authority to suspend or expel from the University any student who has participated in the false excuse fraud.

Honor Council Chairman George Ragsdale already has called on offenders to turn themselves over to the Honor Council, noting that "the policy towards students who report themselves has always been to grant leniency."

There is much in what Ragsdale says. It is noteworthy to point out here that during Ragsdale's period on the Council, only one student has been permanently suspended from the University. Obviously, the fact that some persons have turned themselves in to the council has had some influence on the council's judgment.

Consequently, we would call on those involved to turn themselves over to the council. In the final analysis, all offenders will be cited to court anyway, after a thorough investigation into Hanes Hall records by the council. That investigation will continue until all guilty parties have been revealed.

GUEST EDITORIAL

First In U. S.

We don't intend to dwell on the subject (prolonged tendency is dangerous) nor to draw a deep conclusion (it's intoxicating), but we are struck somehow by a classic irony:

In its bid for industrial primacy, North Carolina has placed proper emphasis on diversification — on the type of enterprise that won't fold its tents if depression threatens or collapse entirely if depression pockets occur. Yet, North Carolina has one industry that meets the optimum specifications.

The Internal Revenue Service announced the other day that Tar Heels still leads the nation in the manufacture of illicit whiskey.

The booze is made — and a lot of it is sold — in the so-called "dry" counties. But the state realizes practically nothing, beyond possible notoriety, from the whole endeavor.

It makes us wonder a little.

Number One in the Nation is almost always a proudfest title. In the current instance, it is North Carolina's shame.

—The Charlotte Observer

Egg Laying

The Census Bureau reported that American chickens last year laid 61,000,000,000 eggs. We wonder if they would make an egg — if they could be gathered into one — as large as the one the United States laid at Cape Canaveral last year.

WISE AND OTHERWISE:

Russian Press Twisting News About America

By WHIT WHITFIELD

According to the Associated Press, the Soviet Literary Gazette recently printed a Washington expose in which the characters of many important figures in Congress were defamed. One such gentleman was Senator Carter Glass of Virginia. The Gazette said that he had not been to a Senate session in over two years, and that his administrative assistant had been acting in his capacity for that length of time. The interesting thing is that Sen. Glass died in 1946.

Far be it from us to call the Russians liars, but it's a cinch that they never tell the truth.

This is a good example of the reportorial and journalistic work being done in the Soviet Union. They somehow never print anything which does not further the aims of the Party. We wouldn't be surprised if the average person in Russia does not know whether World War II is over.

A New Hampshire couple came back from their honeymoon to find that they had not been married at all, at least according to their marriage certificate. Instead of their names on the certificate were those of the attendants at the wedding. It was all quite official, even signed by witnesses. Now they have a problem.

Speaking of marriages, or lack of them, a young girl in Lima, Peru had a baby recently. This was not too unusual, but the fact that the mother was just eight years old is. The father, aged 21, was put in jail upon requesting to marry the girl. It seems that she is too young to get married.

INS carried a rather unusual story recently.

A 70 year old woman was seriously injured in Los Angeles. She was walking along the sidewalk, minding her own business, when a three year old boy rode up behind her on a tricycle and shouted, "Get out of the way or I'll run over you!"

The old lady replied, "Now you wouldn't do anything like that." He did.

Police are human too, or so it is said. Proof? A Washington cop was arrested while on duty at a ballgame. It seems that he was driving a car that did not belong to him. His reason was that he needed transportation while his car was being repaired.

"Think They'll Stand Still While We Catch Up?"



VIEW FROM THE HILL:

Education V: New System Needed

According to a recent article in the U. S. News and World Report, Admiral Rickover intimated that the educational system of the United States was as many as four years behind schools in Europe.

Unless the U. S. claims or is willing to admit that its youth is intellectually retarded in ability, the U. S. can correct the educational dilemma that has set the U. S. so far behind Russia and the countries of Europe.

There needs to be a wholesale revamping of certain current concepts in education circles, and there especially needs to be a raising of standards so that the youth of the U. S. is challenged, stimulated, and able to compete in the all too real race against annihilation.

Perhaps the fundamental concept to be destroyed is the conception of the great importance of social compatibility in schools. Hence, at the present time children five years of age who are capable of doing second grade work, are not allowed to go to school, and children of seven who cannot keep up to first grade work, are in school holding down the aspirations of the other children.

Moreover, the old practice of skipping grades has been all but abandoned due to the feeling current among educators that a student in an environment of his social and chronological peers will feel most comfortable to pursue

his studies. However, what is neglected is the fact that these social and chronological equals are intellectually inferior causing more discomfort and a great deal of enforced retardation.

Under such a system, students qualified to start school could do so, at that age that they were qualified. They would be grouped according to intellectual ability, with means provided for advancement to a higher group if they find work too slow, or dropping to a lower group in order that they might not be befuddled by the speed that the class is going.

The students would be so divided also when time for specialization in the various subjects, and graduation would be conditional on meeting requirements rather than passing through so many years of school.

Second in the steps of revamping the educational set-up would be to raise the requirements for graduation. Students in France, for instance, have mathematics as a high school graduation requirement that isn't taught in the U. S. until the third year of college. This must be changed, and the U. S. should have as high or higher standards as any other country in the world.

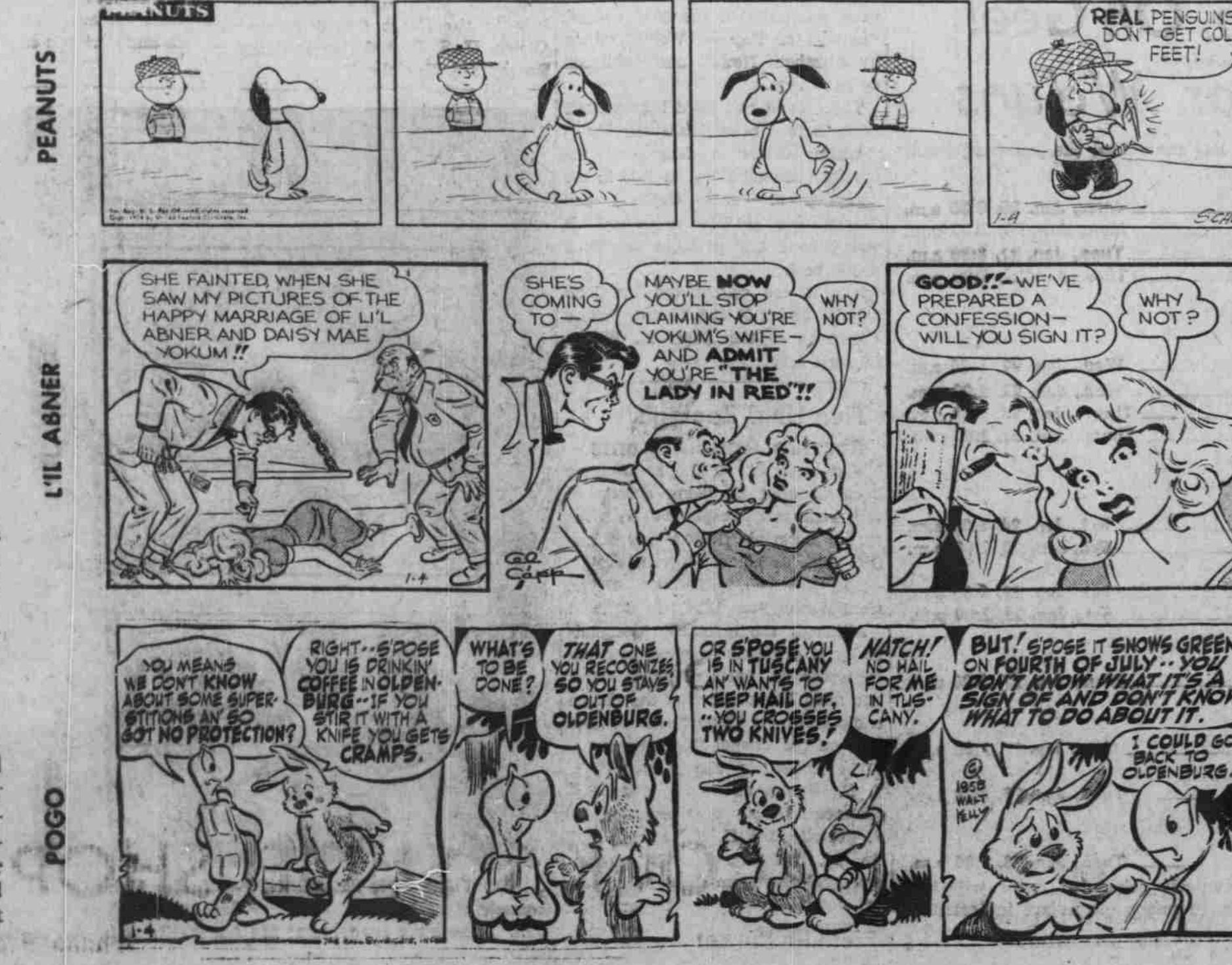
Thirdly, the primary emphasis of schools should be shifted from the knowing-how-to-do to the know-

ing that and why. Hence, many courses will be dropped from the current grammar school and high school curriculum, to make way for a more comprehensive study of the essentials of education.

The fourth change must be in the realm of individual attention which must be increased, and every avenue which might lead to the stimulation of individual thought must be opened and pursued.

There is as a fifth need, a necessity to bring to the child the feeling that he is indeed a part of a society, and that he must get along in the world in which he lives. This can be effected in two ways. The first way is the obvious means of activities within the class, which as it is made up of his peers, intellectually, will be indeed more stimulating than other group make-up. The other way is through the avenue of physical education, which both strengthens or should strengthen the child's physical processes and should teach him the group co-operation that is so necessary. Again here the division should be made according to ability in order that all can get equal benefit from the activity.

If these changes are made, perhaps then the U. S. can start the slow ascent toward a strong solid democracy. The emphasis must be switched from the social to the intellectual.



ONE WAY

TV: A Blessing? Too Maligned

Barry Winston

Nowadays, everybody's knocking television. It's the thing to do. According to a recent poll, the number of people who hate TV is exactly equal to the number of people who own TV sets. I just can't understand it. What's wrong with these people? What do they have against this noble medium of entertainment and communication?

Certainly they don't think it's a time waster. Sure, folks spend a little more time in front of the old 21 inches than they did before TV. But there weren't any sets then. And the little woman really doesn't waste very much time during the day, with her eye-balls glued to Bride and Groom, Matinee Theater, Queen for a Day, Modern Romances, Strike It Rich, Peggy Mann, American Bandstand, Do You Trust Your Wife, What's Cookin', Garry Moore, A Godfrey, Love of Life, Search for Happiness, Guiding Light, AV Matinee, The World Turns, Beat the Clock, Houseparty, Susie, Brighter Day, The Secret Storm, The Edge of Night, or Mary Backstage, Noble Wife. Sure, she watches all of them, but she's not wasting time. She's doing the ironing and getting an education at the same time. You don't think so? Just stay home some day and watch. Of course, there may be a burned shirt or two, and double creases in the slacks, but what's that compared to watching Jack Bailey chuck little old ladies under the chin while he cries out the story of their sad, miserable lives?

And it has been said that college students waste too much time watching TV programs at night in the dorm social rooms or fraternity houses, when they should be studying. It's just not so. Go into a dorm social room or fraternity house any night of the week. The place will be empty. I guarantee you. They're not sitting around, watching Gunsmoke at Drygulch Pass and wasting time. Where are they? Down at the Rat, watching Gunsmoke at Drygulch Pass and drinking beer, of course. Why waste time just watching TV?

Some people object to TV on the grounds that it stifles conversation, and that talking is becoming a lost art. Nothing could be sillier. TV actually stimulates conversation. Just holler across the room at a friend while everybody is absorbed in watching Clark Gable make love to Theda Bara. See, the warm response you get from everyone in the room. Or the next time you're watching TV at your date's house, just as Matt Dillon is about to go for his six-shooter, ask her old man what he thinks of this cold snap we're having. Well, maybe he won't actually say anything, but then one look is worth ten thousand words, or something like that.

If you have access to a TV set in a home, you can dispell for yourself the ugly rumor that watching television has disrupted the eating habits of the viewing public. Their eating habits couldn't be more regular. Just watch. Every fifteen minutes, when that suave locking man pops onto the screen and begins, "And now, a word from..." observe closely the actions of your hostess. With befitting grace, she bolts for the kitchen to stir the TV dinner, and is back in plenty of time for "... and now, back to our program." And supper is served promptly at six (or) seven, when John Cameron Cameron comes on with the West Texas weather forecast, which doesn't particularly interest the lady of the house. As for the actual eating of the meal, everything goes like clock-work. The supper hours programs are thoughtfully timed so that you may chew and swallow exactly a mouthful between each stabbing. What could be better for the digestion?

If you can stay on, into the later hours of the evening, you will have the opportunity to see another gross falsehood vanish in a puff of Arid. TV has been unjustly accused of breaking down family unity and strength, by setting the members one against the other over whether they will watch Groucho, Richard Diamond, or Zorro. See for yourself the absurdity of such claims. Observe the finesse and democracy with which the head of the house settles the problem. "ZORRO!" in a stern, respect-commanding voice is all that is required, and peace reigns supreme once again. And if someone should be fool enough to try to tell you that TV breaks down the warmth and closeness of a family, you will be able to scoff and tell them how you saw, first-hand, a typical family spend a typical evening in front of their set, never once moving from their seats. Through the night, they sat there, side by side, drawn together by a common bond strong beyond imagination. Side by side they sat, a close-knit group, unified by a singular, burning goal: the late-late show!

Finally, there are the never-ending, insidious innuendoes against the quality of the programs themselves, and their brethren art-form, the commercial. These are almost more than my soul can bear! My heart is literally torn from its moorings when I hear these scoundrels casting aspersions against some of our finest original American folkways. Who could possibly question the educational values of such shows as \$64,000 Question, 21, Tie, Tac Dough, or Strike It Rich? Where else but on one of these shows could you learn the 1903 population of Pago-Pago, or the annual timber exports of the Archipelagoes? Where else could you learn the M.O. of a 3792 carrying a 45 but on Badge 741? Where else but on the Oral Roberts show could you learn do-it-yourself appendectomy? And the commercials! How could anyone possibly fail to see the intrinsic, inherent, esthetic beauty of a giant size, living-color, box of Tide? With stereophonic sound! Or is that movies? Oh, well, I'll defend them next time.

by Charles Schulz
by Al Capp
by Walt Kelly