

The Daily Tar Heel

In its seventieth year of editorial freedom, unhampered by restrictions from either the University administration or the student body.

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January 11, 1963 Tel. 942-2356 Vol. LXX, No. 77

Sports-Writer Rumor: "Preposterous"

We have noted with dismay, indeed almost with shock, the manner in which various sports writers around the State have handled with what might be termed their "responsibilities" in connection with the public's interest in the proposed consolidation and name changes for the University's three branches. We are thinking specifically, at this time, of a column which recently appeared in the sports section of the Greensboro Daily News. It was written by their Sports Editor, and it was published Tuesday, January 8.

That's when and where — but "why?" we will never know.

The article, the editor, was concerned about a "rumor which is making the rounds in connection with this new movement to consolidate even more the three branches of the Consolidated University."

The column began with a quotation from president Friday: "If we are to be one university. . . ." And it went on to relate the essence of that quotation to a ridiculous rumor "that all intercollegiate athletics will be concentrated at one branch, and that this will be at Chapel Hill."

After leading off with the words of president Friday, the Daily News Sports Editor asked that the reader "Remember them as I take the liberty to report a rumor. . . ."

We would like to point out that it was, indeed, quite a bit of liberty. The handling of such "rumors" must always be a very tricky business. Most often they are founded

on misinformation and they lead only to further misinformation; they rarely, if ever have basis in fact.

And, furthermore, we would like to submit the notion that one does not merely "report" a rumor. It would seem that you either start, perpetrate, or dismiss rumor . . . you do not "report" it. By the very act of putting their warped and misinformed notions into print, you give them, almost automatically, a degree of credence which they did not formerly possess.

What in the world would prompt one of the State's most noted and respected sports editors to, even left-handedly, give public credence to rumors that can do nothing but confuse issues and, indeed, his own readers?

As the saying goes; "It's beyond us."

Especially when we note that the editor states in the column that: "Athletic facilities might figure into the details when the planning gets down to the work table, but they are much less important, at the moment, than adherence to the basic principle of higher education in North Carolina." (bold face added).

If the columnist-editor recognizes that fact, and if he believes that it is true, what in the world prompted the "report" of an absurd rumor?

It was rumor that would have been best handled when summed up and dismissed, as it was by president Friday, as being "Preposterous." (CW)

Clean-Shaven Pirates?

Manteo, N. C. has carried Patriotic Americanism to a pretty silly extreme. The promoters of the Lost Colony and all the other rigamole which occurs there every year, have banned "ragged type beards" on all the town's "pirates."

The reason for the ban? — The beards remind people of Fidel Castro. Therefore: no beards.

In place of beards the pirates are

asked to wear mustaches or sideburns.

We remind Manteo that Joseph Stalin and Adolf Hitler had mustaches and Elvis Presley wore sideburns.

And, anyway, if Manteo wants its pirates to be realistic, why not let them wear Castro-type beards? Who has been a better pirate lately than Fidel? (JC)

The Daring Young Man...

The DTH received a clipping yesterday of a wire story on the President's battle to keep House Rules

Committee membership at 15. The story reported a speech criticizing "liberal groups for giving the American public a false picture of the House Rules Committee."

With the clipping was a short note, "Dear Mr. J. C.: Do you dare to print the whole truth?" There was no signature.

To reiterate an oft-made point: the Tar Heel will print any letter of student opinion on any subject at any time—IF the letter-writer "dares" to identify himself.

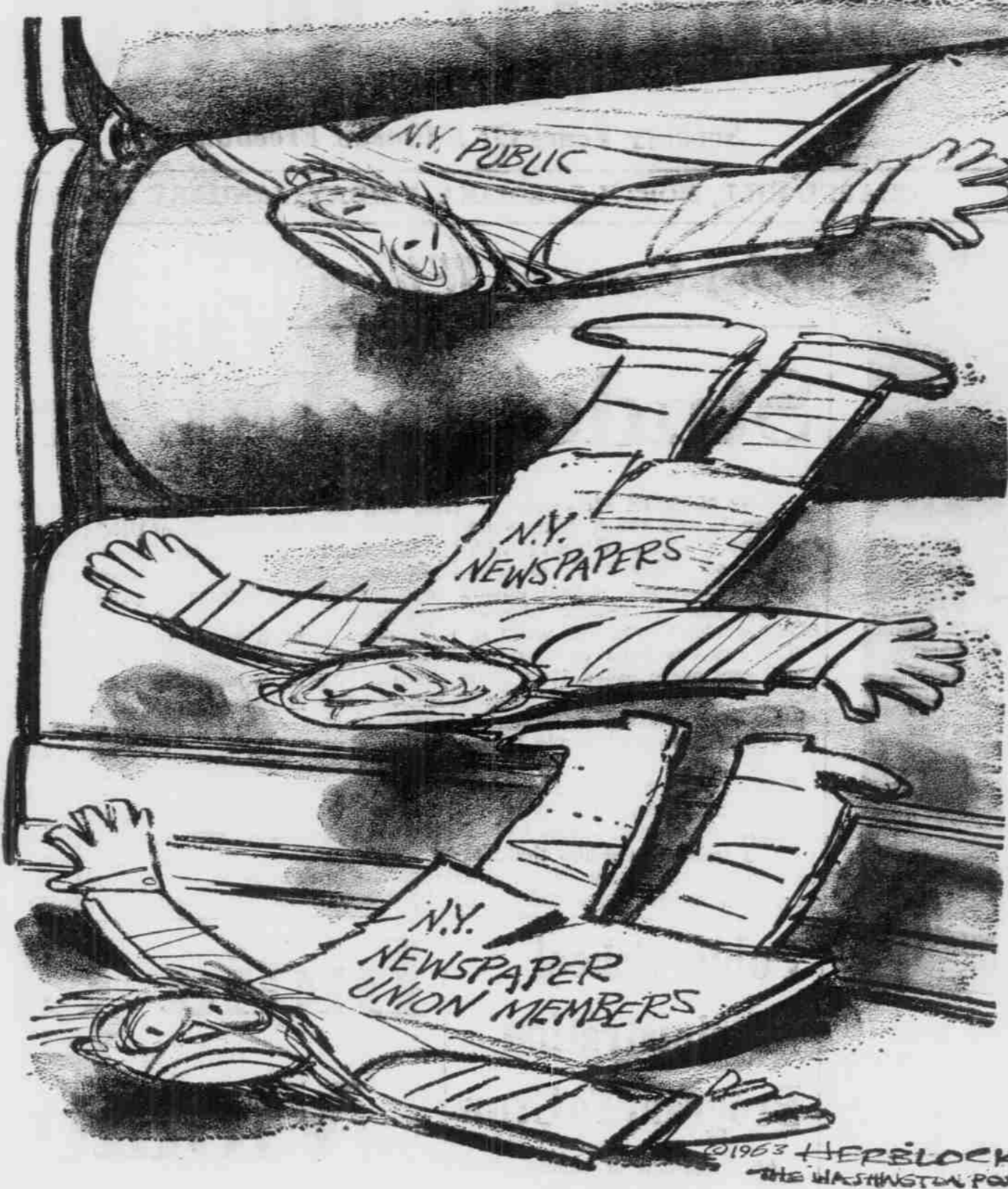
Unfortunately, experience proves, as Harry Golden put it, that the "world's biggest nonconformist is the person who writes a letter to the editor—and signs it." (JC)

Slick

We noted with interest that the latest issue of William F. Buckley's NATIONAL REVIEW was published on expensive slick paper, as contrasted to the earlier newsprint paper.

... So that's where our \$450 is going . . . (JC)

The Press



Universities 'Swollen'

UNC "Vigorous And Challenging Education"

By RUSSELL KIRK
More than 40 per cent of American high school graduates seek some sort of "higher" education after leaving high school—though much of this is simply advanced vocational training, and at least half the young people who enter colleges as freshmen never obtain degrees. Yet whatever the quality of the higher learning in America, more of our rising generation enter college than anyone, anywhere in the world, would have thought possible before the Second World War.

Doubtless one reason why so many

students push on to college is the lamentably low level of performance of the average American high school: in order to learn anything intellectual or useful, one needs nowadays more than a high school diploma, which used to mean something but today is no more than a certificate of minimum sociability. So the average college, catering to untrained minds, is not superior to the respectable high school of a generation or two ago.

LOST SCALE
This "rising tide of enrollments" presents grave problems to our

better universities and colleges, particularly state-supported institutions. For one thing, the humane scale is lost when a campus expands to accommodate five or ten or twenty or even thirty thousand undergraduates. Genuine higher education always has been a matter of personal relationship and compact academic community: Professor Mark Hopkins on one end of a log, and a student on the other end.

The University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill, experiences these characteristic difficulties. Always one of the half-dozen better state

universities, and manifesting a peculiar character almost unmatched among state institutions, Chapel Hill (for the name of the little town is virtually synonymous with the University) has been a vigorous and charming center of real study.

Walking today on its old campus, with its early buildings of a faded yellow brick, any visitor must be impressed with the strength and beauty of the University—something that ought not to be allowed to perish.

Yet how long can this old character endure? Last June, Chapel Hill awarded 2,150 degrees—nearly

as many as were granted, altogether, in the first century of the University's history. And the present enrollment, it appears, may be doubled by 1975 or so. "It is not good to be educated in a crowd," wrote Lord Percy of Newcastles, who knew much about the educational conundrums of our century.

NEW APPROACH
North Carolina is endeavoring to lessen this pressing difficulty by establishing a "Consolidated University"—Chapel Hill, the State College at Raleigh, and other state institutions—which will allocate functions to the different branches of the state's system of higher education, and divide the total student—population among several campuses. California already had embarked upon such a hierarchical system.

But I hope that every state may keep at least one university that offers something for imagination and intellect, and retains something of the old character of university life. A mass-university is no university at all.

James Meredith

Thanks SG

To the Editors,
(Copy of a letter sent to Mike Lawler, vice-president of the student body.)

Dear Mr. Lawler:
Please extend my thanks to your Student Government for their good wishes.

The kind thoughts expressed by them and many others during this period will always be remembered.

—James H. Meredith

Letter: Buckley Called Illogical

To the Editors,

An open letter to William F. Buckley, Jr.:

I must admit that I once had a great deal of respect for you, not because of your views but because of your reputation as an "Articulate spokesman of the Right Wing." However, this image has been shattered completely, I'm afraid.

Your article in *Playboy*, your actions on this campus, and your subsequent letter to your "Admirers" have disgusted this liberal and disappointed at least one conservative (see DTH letters, same day as Mr. Bobrowske and Mr. Hicks'). You are supposedly a spokesman for the Right Wing, and, in occupying this position I would imagine it would be your duty to convince people that the Right is right (correct, that is), and why its ideas should be heeded. You failed to do this or really even

to attempt to do so, sir. If you don't know what "a deductively and empirically true argument" is, then I can understand. I know what it is, sir, and for your information the answer is in the Good Book, the dictionary. "Deduction," sir, is "reasoning from given premises to their necessary conclusions;" "Empirical" is "pertaining to, or founded upon experiment or experience;" and "True" is "conformable to fact, correct; not erroneous, inaccurate or the like." I think that all of these describe Mr. Mailer's argument for his side, and my reasoning process has been moulded to accept the logical process, not the emotional attack. I do hope that they disseminate this sort of education at that august institution in New Haven. They do at our lowly state institution here. The course is Philosophy 21, and we would wel-

come you as a fellow student.

As to your statement about Mr. Tynan's cowardice, I would say that "cowardice" as defined by the military and the Right Wing is somewhat different from "cowardice" as defined by normal society. To desert on the battlefield in wartime is rather different than to oppose Barry Goldwater for President (or Fuhrer).

Although I didn't attend the Di-Phi debate on your censure and consequently do not know exactly what they considered vulgar about your lecture; Mr. Bobrowske noticed something that he never said much about. That itch that you scratched was not oblivious to all, and perhaps it wasn't language only that shocked the Di-Phi.

As far as I am concerned, Mr. Buckley, I think that name-calling is lower than you think liberalism is,

and your reference to "Judas Iscariot," "Old Lace" society, etc., in your letter does nothing to logically convince one that you should be paid. It does, however, dent your literary style, in my opinion. But, alas, Hitler did great things by evoking emotions, you know.

I personally hope that Mr. Mayer (Judas Iscariot, in case you didn't originally catch his name) sends your ridiculous (for the amount that we benefitted) fee to you so that we will be rid of your haunting image. I do think, though, Mr. Buckley, that you did more to promote the cause of liberalism (liberalism-socialism? communism?)—on this campus than anyone from the Left Wing could have done. If you want to come back and attempt to restore your image, then I would welcome you with open arms, not an open wallet.

—Neal A. Jackson

Jules Feiffer



The Daily Tar Heel

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The Daily Tar Heel is published daily except Monday, examination periods and vacations. It is entered as second-class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., pursuant with the act of March 8, 1879. Subscription rates: \$4.00 per semester, \$8 per year.
The Daily Tar Heel is a subscriber to the United Press International and utilizes the services of the News Bureau of the University of North Carolina.
Published by the Publications Board of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.