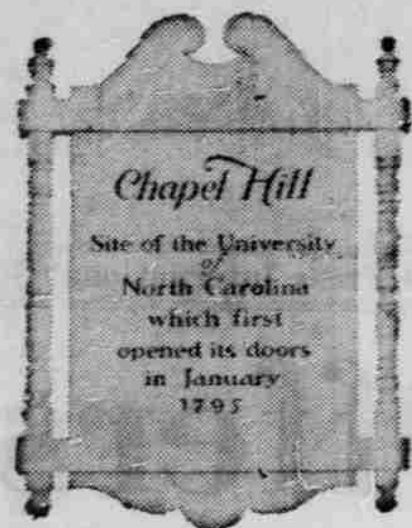


Editor Of Quarterly Speaks Out

The Daily Tar Heel

70 Years of Editorial Freedom



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On The Bravery Of Minor League Hoods Who Draw Their Courage From Anonymity

Just when we begin to feel that man has come a long way from the state of nature, and that life is not short and brutish, we get stopped cold by some action which we can neither believe nor comprehend. It is in this state of incredulity that we write this editorial.

Several days ago there appeared on this page a letter to the editor criticizing the conduct of some of the students attending the Friday night "Free Flicks." The letter pointed out that a few boisterous, selfish students ruined the movie for the rest of the crowd.

Yesterday, the author of the letter received a boldly worded but unsigned letter from someone who obviously found a shoe that fit. It follows as it was written:

"I'm taking bets that you have to be a goddam (sic) freshman here to have the guts to write such a sickening article! Obviously you have not been untied from your mother's apron strings long enough to understand the real purpose of those "Free Flicks." And if you don't, I'll tell you — they're just a means of letting off steam after a week's work around here. If your damned niger (sic) friends are 'embarrassed' why the hell don't they go to school at Greensboro where they belong.

The Peculiar Malady Of Homesickness

It's our experience that one thing most newcomers to Chapel Hill and the University will almost certainly get is a good, rousing case of homesickness.

Doesn't matter if you're a downy-cheeked freshman, a divorced sophomore, a girl (or boy) — hungry junior or a married senior. It even happens to graduate students and professors.

Chapel Hill is like that. All we can promise you is that it's worth fighting and getting over, because Chapel Hill grows on you, and once you're covered with its aura, loneliness is a very infrequent companion.

Leave Us Spike The Water, As Arranged

Chapel Hill's Manning Simons looks from here like sort of a male Otelia Conner.

"After such "sucklings" as you have been here a little longer, you'll also realize that there's no such thing as the so called "campus code" to most of the people here — it's admittedly (sic) a farce.

"Why don't you come down off cloud 9 now, huh? You'd just as well try to change the world."

We find it difficult to believe that a student at Carolina wrote this letter, but such is apparently the case.

And if this were not bad enough, the author of the original letter to the DTH has had several groups of visitors come to his room to insult him. One group of four or five stayed in his room for a few minutes and just stared threateningly, then left.

One can only admire the bravery of these minor league hoodlums. They come to call in groups, are afraid to sign their letters, and become rude and overbearing only in the protective anonymity provided by a darkened theatre.

So now that these people have ventured forth and accomplished their spohomoric mission of muck intimidation, we hope they will retreat to their room and not show themselves until it is time for them to regale the audience of a "Free Flick" with their sophisticated wit.

But believe us, you have to work at it. Get to know the people next door. Join a couple of things you want to be active in, or think you might like. Use the rifle, not the shotgun, technique.

Slowly and unnoticed, the aloneness of this place departs and suddenly you belong. Once that happens, you'll forget all about those long, grey days and quiet, blue evenings, and the beauty of this place will come through to you.

We know. Our particular case lasted quite awhile.

Simons, apparently short on pastimes, has contented himself for the past three years with holding up fluoridation of the town's water supply by legally outmaneuvering the University.

His suit was dismissed in Chatham County Superior Court a few weeks back, but that didn't stop him. He immediately set about having a new suit drawn up and, if past experience is any guide, he'll keep Assistant Attorney Generals busy for the next three years trying to defeat it.

Let's be clear about this: We admire Mr. Simons' devotion to his cause and all that sort of thing. But many people, including us, are losing out on dental protection for what appears to be no better reason than Mr. Simons' ability to hogtie the judicial process.

That's why we were glad to read that the University plans to go ahead with spiking the water now, instead of giving Mr. Simons another turn at bat first.

After all, if he's really and truly all wet, there's just no sense in the University waiting any longer. And if he isn't, no irreparable harm will have been done.

Editors, The Tar Heel,

It is a fine thing indeed that the University of North Carolina now has a writer-in-residence and it is even more remarkable that students were so largely instrumental in making the program a reality. Very wisely Gil Stallings and the Writer-in-Residence Committee had the presence of mind to give John Knowles a maximum of free time for his own writing since a turgid schedule of lectures and busy-bodging most certainly would have scared off anybody worth having.

The Committee has done its job, but making the program a fruitful one, however, is a vague and long-range possibility that cannot be administered to by any committee, but will rest largely on the somewhat diffident shoulders of that amalgamated mass known as "student body"; for beyond all the exchange of pleasantries and compliments between writer and admirer, what will surely impress a writer most and be decisive in his reaction to his stay at a university is the degree of interest in writing that he sees in students, and, most importantly, the results he sees on paper or in print, clear proof not only that his official duties have aided the student writer, but that the student writer had some interest and enthusiasm for writing in the first place. Unfortunately, I am afraid that Knowles is going to discover that the majority of student writers on this campus need most pressingly a grand and well-placed kick to their listless posterior.

It is nothing less than extraordinary that in the past school year, the recommendation was made in the Student Legislature that the stipend allotted to The Carolina Quarterly, the only student-staffed and sponsored literary magazine on campus, be terminated, and this fall, the University receives a writer-in-residence because of student enthusiasm for writers and writing. The record of a continual and diligent interest in serious writing here is not very auspicious. Too many magazines of student writing have been started by pan-flashes of zeal only to falter and be extinguished in a matter of months—Spectrum, Parlance, The Carolina Magazine are all now spectral relics of the past.

Fortunately The Carolina Quarterly has received steady financial aid from the Student Legislature. But magazines need more than money to continue to produce a product worth buying and reading. In the past school year I put out two magazines with a multitude of seven or eight staff members who not only had to render the difficult decisions in selecting material for publication but had to persecute and cajole a large number of students into buying a copy.

Many students have been severely critical of the Quarterly, accusing the staff of not publishing much student writing. This accusation is quite valid. Most of the people published in the Quarterly have turned out to be nation-wide apprentice and practiced writers, not because the student staff members of the magazine are adverse to student material, but simply because the quality and insignificant amount of student writing received is almost negligible compared to the returns and relative superiority of writing that comes to the Quarterly office from all over the country.

The Quarterly's first consideration in selecting material for publication is not where it comes from but how good it is. A standard of excellence is set; a challenge to student writers to be published on an equal level is offered. Too often that challenge is disregarded. Also disregarded is the fact that the undergraduates who run the magazine offer their time and talents unequivocally for criticizing student writing, offering suggestions for improvements in hopes that when student work from this campus is published, it will meet the standards of practically every literary magazine in the country, not to mention the personal benefits of balanced criticism to the young writer.

The Quarterly's highest concern for the students of this campus is educative, not to offer, as so many less visionary students of other universities do, merely an outlet for the unpracticed, faltering literary efforts of the occasional writer. The latter venture is doomed from its inception, for it cannot sell its hesitant efforts beyond the circle of friends who embody them.

Much of what I have said may seem like personal querulousness. It is quite the opposite. I am deeply and unerringly grateful to the students who have entrusted their magazine and its reputation to me for two years' editorship, but with the end of this school year, I can no longer offer my services to a magazine that has perhaps too often embodied my deepest desires. The future and fate of the Quarterly should be the urgent concern of every student on this campus and those to come. Whether the University that offered its facilities and enlightened attitude to Thomas Wolfe, Walker Percy and a number of other well-known authors remains to be seen.

Tonight at 8:00 p.m. The Carolina Quarterly is holding its first organizational meeting and the need for new staff members is crucial. For those students whose interest in writing is a persistent devotion to the aesthetic object and to the not always pleasant task of literary criticism, we offer a place for them to conjoin in hard work, the satisfaction of seeing that work well done, and occasionally, the reading of literature whose intuition of fineness beyond the reality experienced can unite them as the celebrants of a communal act. But only when the Quarterly is viewed not as a magazine but as a movement will its proper function be understood and

appreciated.

Louis M. Bourne, Editor, The Carolina Quarterly

An Answer To Gebeaux Letter

Editors, The Daily Tar Heel,

As another new student to the University, I think Mr. Gebeaux's carefully balanced statement (Sunday, Sept. 22) of the "moderate" position deserves some analysis. He argued, the reader may recall, that being "militantly for equal rights for all" but then giving "unremitting support for a Public Accommodations law" was a contradiction on the part of the Editors. Yet there is present in his letter a contradiction of his own. It reveals the usual hidden assumption of white hegemony in this apparent issue of "civil rights" vs. "property rights" and leaves the entire issue bogged down just where it begins.

Mr. Gebeaux made the following key points: 1) The Negro "has been denied the right to choose where he can go . . . (etc.); 2) the "law must give to all the right to choose, to discriminate, and to live by his own thought and beliefs"; but 3) "Once we begin to deal with private persons and their businesses, we are dealing with other human beings who are also given the same and equal right to choose where they want to go . . . (etc.)." He also asserts that 4) parts of the Accommodations law concerning privately owned businesses opened to the public are "concerned not with further protecting equal rights for all but in denying some rights . . . to some individuals in favor of others."

Some permutations of these four points are rather interesting, but confusing. If (1) and (2) are true, the law "sides" with the Negro and seeks to end the admitted denial of his "rights." But if (2) and (3) are true, the law "sides" with the private property owner's unlimited "right," even to "unwisely" refuse law at present does not support either side to their clear satisfaction (there are doubts, no?) then "further protecting equal rights" is pointless! WHAT equal rights are there now, if 1) is true?

Mr. Gebeaux is struggling to say that the rights of the Negro and of the white property owner should be equal, but that those of the latter group are "more equal than" (to borrow Orwell's phrase) the former's. This assumption of white hegemony invariably undermines the usual definition of the issue as one of equal but conflicting white and Negro rights. When the courts deal with the issue, someone's rights will become "rights", or

more accurately, become limited rights; so the present definition is inadequate and has little future.

I leave others to argue for some hierarchy of "human" over or under "property" rights, or to point out that the minimum wage and sanitation laws already limit the previously "absolute" rights of the private owner. I would point out, however, that this proposed law has the same "form" as did the multitude of Southern laws PROHIBITING integration of public facilities which were privately owned; but the "content" — non-discrimination rather than segregation — is new. THESE laws restricted property rights. But where, I ask, were the ever-present "constitutionalists" like Sen. Ervin, when these "unconstitutional" albeit popular laws were propagated?

The rest of Mr. Gebeaux's letter on yadds to the verbal confusion. This popular equivocation on the term "discrimination" likes to confuse impersonal and patterned social restrictions with private, personal, almost random individual choice. The law does not, in the very notion of a bill of rights, grant the unlimited right of a majority GROUP of persons to "choose" at the expense of other person's rights in such issues as religious freedom for Jehovah's witnesses, criminal right and reapportionment.

There ARE limits, you see, to the "unwisdom" of the people. The fair determination of these limits is our issue, not the pious preservation or destruction of a pattern of unequal rights consistent with our past hegemony.

Robert P. Althaus, Dept. of Sociology

Student Favors A Speaker Ban

Editors, The Tar Heel,

This letter is written to voice a rather unpopular stand, in defense of the state speaker ban law. Before you drop this letter and unless the valiant reporters to stamp out this new conservative menace to motherhood and liberalism, let me please clarify and publicize. It seems to me, as I'm sure it does to you, that this particular state law is far from perfect. Moreover, we probably agree that it should be revoked or at least radically changed. However, it would seem likely that our common antagonism would spring from very different sources. To me the law represents a faltering, overly-rigid, and only half-hearted attempt on the part of our elected representatives in Raleigh. Your views, it seems safe to say, will be well voiced at other times and in other places.

Of the two most common attacks I have heard against the law, the most popular seems to

be an argument that this law endangers this University's "liberal tradition", or at least part thereof. In this, I would agree. The law definitely attacks the "liberal tradition" of Janus (sic) Seales and Larry Phelps, who both have done so much to bring Carolina to the national lime-light. If you were a legislator who annually poured North Carolina tax dollars (and from a rather poor state, at that) into the coffers of our University, you might well feel dismayed when it hits the headlines in the fashion that it does. You might even be so egocentric as to feel that while you paid the piper, you at least had the right to monitor his tunes. Given that the law will probably not obtain many of objectives desired by its legislators, we must at least understand the sentiment behind their actions.

The second attack I have heard against the law is that it constitutes a singularly un-American method of obtaining results. In this I can also partially agree. However, remembering that the philosophy which these men wished to combat is the official philosophy which motivates Russia, at least in part, to her aspiration of world conquest, I do not recommend that we "hear no evil, speak no evil . . ." with our heads in the sand so far as this menace is concerned, but it is certainly within the duty of a University to properly warn its students of the danger they will face and leave with them an abiding sense of the traditions into which they were born.

Given that the present law is imperfect, there are several things that we should learn from its enactment. The first is that it springs from an honest and sincere forboding and a desire to further the best interest of the students. Second, that this forboding is not completely without foundation. And third, that if the University community desires autonomous control, it must provide for its students a responsible academic image and an understanding of the traditions and beliefs for which they may well be asked to pledge their lives, property, and sacred honor.

Warren Ogden

Letters

The Daily Tar Heel solicits and is happy to print any letter-to-the-editor written by a member of the University community, so long as it is free of slanderous and libelous remarks.

No letters will be edited in any way, unless they are unreasonably long. Letters must be typed and triple-spaced.

DH offices are on the second floor of Graham Memorial. Edit page material should be turned in two-to-three days before publication is desired.

"Man, That Looks Like A Real Twister"



The Same Show

By FRED SEELY

No matter what your feelings may be about UNC, you must admit that it is an interesting place. Things happen here as they happen nowhere else.

Consider last year — the demonstrations, the Beat Dook parade, the apartment rule, the furor after William F. Buckley spoke.

Also, the panty raids, the demonstrations against Castro, the appearance of Malcolm X and his Muslims, the Meredith Resolution in the Student Legislature.

But that was last year, and the Big Top has moved on. What will stir the student's breast this year?

The apartment rule mess will continue, but no one really cares about that anymore. The demonstrations have already started (Sunday's march mourning the Birmingham deaths), but the novelty is gone. The Beat Dook parade will go on, but it will be as pure as a spinster's soul.

So allow us a few predictions. The so-called "gag law", of course, will occupy everyone's thoughts for the first part of the year. The thing is such a hot political issue that it appears there is no hope for any action in the special session of the state legislature.

This issue will prove a strong test for student government and its leaders. If they realize that the law was proposed by fools, pushed through by fools but, conversely, cannot be attacked in a foolish manner, then there is a chance that it can somehow be beaten.

The flaming hearts of the Student Peace Union may have been somewhat assuaged by the passage of the test-ban treaty, but they are so bent on raising some

sort of hell that we will hear from them frequently.

The Carolina Forum always is good for a controversy or two (wait until you hear Truman speak about civil rights!), and the Symposium will be attacked for being left-wing.

The American Legion will not be happy until they clean out the whole school, and those rumors about some sort of States' Right's Party may yet turn out to be true.

The political campaigns will dominate the latter half of the year. Both the gubernatorial and presidential races stack up as being exciting, and there should be enough controversy to satisfy everyone.

The Goldwater fever which seems to be permeating the student mind across the nation should reach UNC before long. Of course, the liberals think President Kennedy is the greatest thing since labor unions, and there is an outside possibility that Rockefeller has a supporter or two. And, hopefully, there is a Ross Barnett man around.

Richardson Preyer and Dan Moore should have a good fight for the Democratic nomination for governor, and Raymond Stansbury and Bruce Burleson will provide all sorts of comedy relief. Of course, there's always I. Beverly Lake, the George Wallace of North Carolina. Lake and Preyer will try to chew each other to bits, and unknown, Moore, just may get the nomination. If he wins, Charles Jonas, the lone GOP hope, will not run. If either of the other two get the bid, look to try for the top state post.

In any case, welcome back to UNC. The Big Top has moved on — but it's the same show.

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