

The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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The Need For Student Power

It may be fickle or very premature to predict that the University is in for a rough year ahead but it seems more likely than not.

The University, its true, has a long history of controversy, as any vibrant and progressive university does. There have been, in the recent past, controversies on the campus about a "publish or perish" professor, civil rights in this sometimes adorable Southern town, assuagement by an English graduate instructor of themes on the very well known poem, "To His Coy Mistress", and a major flap about basic academic freedom in the speaker ban case.

There will be, no doubt more controversies such as these in the future. However, it seems to us that a more general mood of disagreement is growing

on this campus, than any that came before or that involved minor interests or minority groups. The disagreement, for lack of a better word, lies in differences of opinion between students and administrators on what is in the best interest of the student.

Most students on this campus are not of the you-can't-trust-anyone-over-thirty vintage. And most administrators are not unreasonable men.

But there continue to be decisions of major concern to the students made by the Administration in which student participation is excluded.

Many of those decisions, some fresh—some longstanding, have been the subject of considerable debate during this past week, the first of the school year.

Right off the bat, the parking sticker

became a heated issue—and rightly so. The Administration apparently realizes that it went too far in approving a \$5 charge for the T sticker, because it has become very defensive on the issue. That's understandable since no one has yet found a logical way to justify charging \$5 for the damn things.

When this writer asked one University official to explain the justification for the \$5 T sticker, he replied:

"Oh, you're one of those free thinkers, I can tell." Whatever that means. How do you communicate with that?

And then along came the bicycle registration fees of \$1. That's interesting for many reasons.

We remember, quite distinctly, when only two short years ago, a high place University official was quoted as saying

that he would like to see more people ride bicycles on campus and thereby cut down on the number of cars. Admittedly, there are still more cars, but there are also more bicycles. And where did the extra bicycles lead us—to another registration fee.

There are few things we can think of that would make a kid angrier than to tell him he has to pay \$1 to register his bicycle on campus, which he bought because he already has a T sticker, which cost him another \$5.

The reason the University gives for charging for the bicycle sticker is almost a dead giveaway in itself. They say the \$1 is to cover the cost of processing the bicycle registration.

Okay. But why does it cost five times as much to process a T sticker?

We're not being naive. Its all very simple—it's just another way to raise five bucks, and all the talk about future facilities will never justify charging students who will never have the opportunity to enjoy those facilities.

After all, we are not being charged tuition today for courses that our children will take at this University 20 years from now.

In another area, womens' rules are becoming a subject of increasing concern among the coeds.

Again, rules which effect close to 3,000 coeds on this campus are made by a handful of administrators, and we expect, in the final analysis, by one person, namely Dean of Women Katherine Carmichael.

Miss Carmichael is very respected on this campus by both men and coeds. She is sincere and dedicated in her attempts to preserve a very strict moral climate for the Carolina coed.

But, she is out of date; at least her ideas are.

By the time a girl reaches 20 years of age, she knows what kind of life she wants to lead. If she wants to stay out til 4 a.m., that's her business, and not the University's.

There is the old parallel, or contrast, between the Senior coed here and the 18-year old secretary or hair dresser in Durham. While the coed is told when she must go to bed, where she must live and how she must live, the Durham girl is free to live where and as she pleases. Of course, one may say, people expect greater things from the coed than from the secretary, but in either case, the girl wants her freedom to live as she wishes, if indeed her mind has grown with the rest of her body.

There are many responsible women leaders on this campus, along with a majority of all coeds, who want the rules under which they live liberalized. It is their right and their's alone. Except by endorsement, the men student leaders on the campus cannot be in the fight.

There is a lot of student grumbling on campus about other things, not the least of which is the University's policy of selling textbooks. The decision last week to deny Students for a Democratic Society a fund-raising concert made the University look as phony as a three-dollar bill, and the explanation that Graham Memorial gave only added insult to injury.

How do the students bring about change?

That is a difficult question. The rule of thumb in many minds, is that reason and thoughtful dialogue must prevail. The belief is that any disagreement can be settled by sitting down and talking up a solution.

The problem is that the Administration does not hear the students' side before they make a decision. And, after making a decision they don't want to change it and lose face. For example, the committee which raised the T sticker price to \$5 had only one student member.

There are, at this University, many very capable student leaders, many of them brilliant, and all of them interested in helping better the lot of the student.

But they are useless if the University will not listen to their suggestions, and respect them. We are not saying that Students should take control of the University and administer it. The primary interest of students is learning.

But there should be more student power. That doesn't mean a Berkeley, but it does mean that demands by the students be heard and be accommodated.

Student demonstrations are effective. At a midwestern university, a very minor incident—the changing of a particular bus route—brought on a student riot that almost destroyed the campus. The original bus route was begun again.

There is no need here for riots. There is a need for effective, well-planned demonstrations against the parking system; against womens' rules, by women; against decisions such as GM handed down to SDS. There is a need for a boycott against the Book-Ex, and it can be made effective with the right planning.

The anticipated reaction of the Administration to such proposals is "You should consider yourselves fortunate to be in school, while others don't have the opportunity. In effect, if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen."

That argument is also out of date. The University is for the student—and that's what it is all about.

And the student should have a voice in its government, for just that reason.

New Left's Mobilization Will Boost Hawk Cause

Perhaps the most amazing thing about New Left intellectuals is that for such a bright bunch of people, they sure do some stupid things.

For example, thousands of radicals from across the nation plan to go to Washington, D.C., Oct. 20-21 to create as much chaos as possible through massive civil disobedience.

The reason: they don't like the war in Vietnam.

Well, neither do we. It is a war which is hard to support because of political, military and moral reasons. It is a war which has created perhaps more disenchantment with the United States government—both at home and abroad—than anything else in a very long while.

It is also a war which the Administration has never sufficiently explained to the American people who must fight it. What's more, the Administration has lied about different facets of the war again and again, creating the aptly named "credibility gap" which now exists.

It has been a war in which thousands of lives—many of them American soldiers', maybe some of them friends' and relatives' of yours—have died for a reason that

the White House has yet to honestly explain.

It is a war which needs opposing.

But not the way the radicals want to do it—by clogging up the Pentagon, by in fact attempting a small-scale takeover of the nation's capital.

This is just not a very smart thing to do.

To begin with, even if an overthrow of the United States government were desirable—which it is not—it will not be accomplished by thousands of persons sitting down on the Pentagon steps until they are individually dragged away.

There is talk that the civil disobedience tactics will cause a disruption of the "war machine," which is the New Left's name for the Department of Defense.

Whom are they kidding?

The only disruption the National Peace Mobilization is going to cause will be that a secretary might uncross her legs and look up for a moment from her IBM typewriter to see the police dragging away the New Left type she stepped over on her way into the building.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, will undoubtedly continue to function. It is like that.

Another argument in favor of the mobilization is that it will make people all over the nation think about the war, will confront them in their newspapers and on their televisions with the radicals' feelings about Vietnam. This is supposed to get everyone reading about the war and deciding that, after all, it is a bad war and we should get out.

But things just don't happen like that.

The average American—as grotesquely non-thinking and middle class as he might be—will be only repulsed, not stimulated by the peace mobilization. Any feelings he may have against the war—against Lyndon B. Johnson—will be suppressed by his disgust with the radicals. People are like that.

What the peace mobilization is going to do is to undermine most of the work that the liberals—whom the radicals dislike more than they do the conservatives—have accomplished by working within the system that is for better or for worse, the United States.

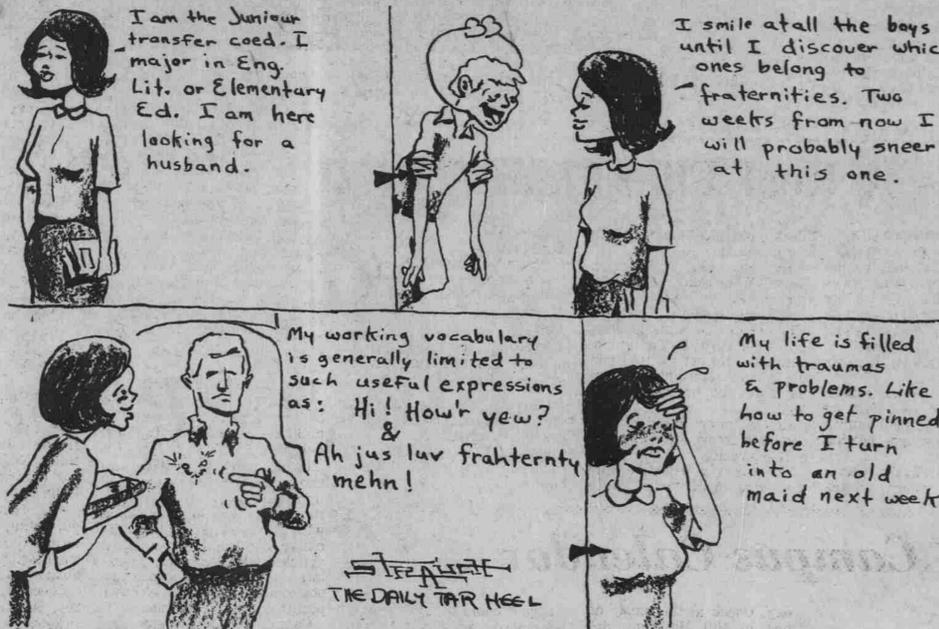
It is going to once again make being against the war in Vietnam seem like a bad thing. It is going to hack away at the respectability which being opposed to Vietnam began to take on when those against it began such responsible protests as the letters to President Johnson from student body presidents—including former Carolina President Bob Powell—and other esteemed groups.

It is going to put the radicals in the forefront of the anti-war movement, and because they will seem to have taken it over, drive many moderates and liberals away from active participation in it.

It is going to be one of the best things Lyndon B. Johnson and all the other hawks ever had going for them.

Heel Prints

The girls in converted men's dorms are complaining that the urinals have been left in the bathrooms. Why not plant flowers in them, call Lady Bird, and get them declared part of the National Beautification Project?



Letters To The Editor

Is Freedom Of Speech Important?

Letter to the Editor:

I am a transfer student and as yet unwise in the ways of Carolina. At my old alma mater, freedom of the press was non-existent, and so our "student" paper read like a very poor Sunday school bulletin. I longed for the time when any student would have the right to air his views, even if he did step on the highly sensitive toes of his administration.

Here at Carolina, The Daily Tar Heel evidently enjoys freedom of expression. The question I want to ask is this: Does this freedom really carry any weight?

I read recently that the SDS has been denied use of university facilities for a fund-raising concert by Judy Collins. An excellent editorial laid bare the injustice of the decision. Okay, we know the weakness of the administration's position. Does it matter if we voice our disapproval? Can we speak loudly enough to have this unfair decision changed? Or is this freedom to speak out only an unanswered "blowing in the wind"? I wonder.

Joe Harbin
315 Ehringhaus

Too Much Crusading

Editor of The Daily Tar Heel:

Our student newspaper for a long time has been recognized as one of the best protectors of student rights and guardians of student welfare. However, the journalistic sword that has done so much for students in the past becomes blunted when the crusading spirit is allowed to become more important than the facts.

The case in point is the Tar Heel's treatment of the status of the honors 36 seminar in education in Friday's issue. Since I was the major source of the facts in this case, perhaps I bear part of the responsibility for the way they were transmitted to the Student Body by The Daily Tar Heel. At any rate, I would like to try to correct what I fear is a very wrong impression conveyed to the Student Body about the "honors 36 incident."

The important point was not that callous administrators through malfeasance or indecision had stifled sincere student efforts at learning, but

that in spite of an administrative foul-up, both Dr. Dan Patterson, Associate Dean of Honors, and Dr. Norton Beach, Dean of the School of Education, were cooperating to make alternatives available this semester to students interested in the inter-disciplinary study of education, while a more permanent status for Honors 36 was being worked out. The faculty members and administrators involved in this program are some of the people most concerned about students and real education at this University. We do ourselves a disservice and them an injustice when we take up the fiery sword of student journalism against men like this. I hope we will see that sword wielded with greater discretion in the future.

Sincerely,
Dave Kiel

Otelia On Warpath

To The Editor:
I have been writing for the Tar Heel for nearly ten years, but never have I had my column butchered as the sec-

tion—Handling Mules—was in Friday's Tar Heel. It would have been better if it had not been published at all.

I don't know who lays out the editorial page for the Tar Heel, but he ought to find himself another job. I didn't have time to read the Tar Heel until Friday night, if I had read it in the morning, I would have warned my readers that the mixed up writing was not my doing. Does the Tar Heel have a proofreader? If so, he is in the wrong occupation.

I appreciate the editor correcting my spelling when I am careless, otherwise, I don't like my writing to be tampered with.

Some people were puzzled that in the Thursday's Tar Heel I had hit a student, while in the Saturday's Tar Heel I stated that I had never hit anyone with my umbrella. By way of explanation—the Saturday articles was written, but not published, during Summer School, while the umbrella episode happened in September after the Fall term opened. I didn't write the umbrella episode.

Otelia Connor

'Defeated' Collegians Are Choosing Suicide

By United Press International

A mass migration is under way across the United States. Parents who have worked long and hard for this day are sending their children off to colleges and universities.

For many of the youngsters now begins their first real skirmish with life. Some of them will be defeated.

There are estimates that as many as 1,000 college students will die by their own hands this year—victims of suicide.

The word suicide is ugly. When it is used, and it often is not, it is whispered.

"Suicide statistics are notoriously unreliable," Dr. Benson R. Snyder, psychiatrist in chief at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, says. "Families, educational institutions and business institutions are reluctant to talk about such occurrences."

Suicide carries a taint that touches not only the victim but his family. Many Americans link death at one's own hands with mental derangement. To Roman Catholics and others, suicide is a crime against God.

The crime, or tragedy, may be that not enough is being done about suicide, particularly among the young.

Growing Problem?

It is hard to determine whether

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