

The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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Some Changes Needed In Councils' Procedure

(An editorial prelude to today's Attitudinal Survey on the Honor System began Wednesday with an examination and criticism of the substance of the system. Today's editorial deals with its procedure.)

Should you be charged with an Honor or Campus Code violation, what method of trial would most certainly insure that justice would be done?

There are many persons who say that the present procedure for Honor System trials fails to guarantee a defendant his rights. Others, however, claim it is structured for his best interests.

Perhaps the most controversial facet of the present student judicial system is the existence of separate Men's and Women's Honor Councils — the members of each who come equipped with separate sets of mores, and hand down sentences of differing severity.

IN MANY cases, the sentence for a coed convicted of a charge is harsher than for her male accomplice, simply because she is the one who has broken more rules in committing the same act. For example, a woman student who stays out overnight with a man may be charged not only with that, but also with the violation of myriad dormitory regulations. This, then, is also a problem of a substantive, as well as procedural, nature.

In general, however, the Women's Honor Council is still harsher on its defendants than is the Men's Honor Council, even when the charge is the same.

THE DIFFERENCE between the two is, in its distilled form, merely the difference between the sexes: women are generally more prudish and Victorian than are men.

But why should this sociobiological factor enter into the processes of justice?

It shouldn't. A coed who is charged with a specific violation should be given the same rights, the same hearing as if she were a male student.

To do otherwise—in an attempt to perpetuate the South's traditional sexual caste system — is to do injustice to any coed defendant. For the courts, if they are to be fair, must brush aside being subjective and traditional, in favor of dealing objectively with defendants.

TO FURTHER insure that the defendant is given every chance to defend himself, he should be allowed both a public trial and the choice of any defense counsel he pleases.

As it is now, the only defense counsel a person may have is a student who comes under the jurisdiction of the same court which is trying him (e.g.) only an under-graduated coed may defend another under-graduate coed.

Also, the trials are conducted in such privacy that they almost take on the appearance of being Star Chamber hearings. Wednesday was, in fact, the first time this year that an Honor Council trial has been open to The Daily Tar Heel — at the defendant's request.

Were the system changed, a student defendant would have his rights more closely guarded by a counsel of his own choosing — be it another student or an attorney — than he presently does by a defense counsel picked at random from the

Attorney General's staff. Under the present structure, a defendant is denied this protection.

ALSO, BECAUSE the trials are all held privately, the Student Body at large never knows just what is happening with what is supposedly its Honor System.

Although most persons brought to trial before one of the Honor Councils would probably prefer privacy, allowing them such complete privacy as now exists also shrouds the operations of the entire Honor System.

How, therefore, can the Honor System claim to be enforcing the laws of the Student Body — when most of that Student Body doesn't even know how they are being enforced?

How also can students intelligently vote for Honor Council members when they are denied the chance to see how their elected representatives perform in office?

The answers to both questions is that they can't.

IF CAROLINA'S Honor System is going to be held in any sort of esteem by the students, it is going to have to be changed.

It is going to have to be restructured so that it more fully guarantees each student the right to a fair trial, a trial whose verdict is independent of the sex of the court.

It is going to have to allow students freer access to competent counsel — or, rather, counsel when the defendant deems competent himself, rather than being told by the Attorney General that it is competent.

And it is going to have to be more open so students in general may see just how their Honor System is being administered.

How can these changes be brought about?

It will take a lot of work. The first lick can be hit today, however, when you vote in the survey.

If you vote, that is.

College Football's PROblems

From The Raleigh Times
How many football players does it take to make up a really good college team today?

The number for the Southeastern Conference must be 125, for that conference voted recently to permit its members to have up to 125 boys on football scholarships at a time. Each campus may if it wishes, bring in 40 freshmen football players on scholarship each year.

The increased number of scholarships allowed in the Southeastern Conference undoubtedly will bring more demands from ACC teams that they be permitted to have more than the present limit of 140 total for football and basketball scholarships.

If the ACC accedes to this demand, it will only mean that the treadmill will spin a little faster.

Letters To The Editor

Are Viets Better Dead Than Red?

To The Editor:

Until this past week, it might have been possible to believe that however bad things were in Vietnam, they could hardly get worse. This illusion, like so many others in Vietnam, has been shattered. I do not refer to the sudden attacks of the Viet Cong all over the country, but to the incident at Ben Tre, reported on the front page of Thursday's Greensboro Daily News.

It appears that in the previous week,

when Viet Cong attacks were at their peak, the guerrillas overran the city of Ben Tre, 45 miles southwest of Saigon. The Allies found themselves unable to recapture the city except at heavy cost, and so they decided to call in artillery and air strikes regardless of civilian casualties. This was done, and the town was 85 per cent destroyed. The enemy was driven out, but somewhere between 500 and 1,000 civilians were killed. One U.S. commander acknowledged that "we

will never know for sure" the number of civilians who died; and he added that "many families are buried permanently under the rubble." In other words, as one U.S. major put it, "It became necessary to destroy the town to save it."

Destroy the town to save it! One might well ask how anything is saved when it is destroyed, but there is something still deeper involved here. The incident at Ben Tre represents the final perversion of the American enterprise in Vietnam.

This is the last step. Even the use of nuclear weapons will add only quantities of death to the quality of death that we a time when most of the world decided to let the Vietnamese of both zones choose by ballot whether or not they would be ruled by communists. The United States decided not to allow this and so we supported Ngo Dinh Diem in this attempt to make his zone into a country.

Later, there was the question of whether or not we would allow the Vietnamese to choose communism by force. We decided not to, and committed our soldiers. Then the question arose: are the Vietnamese in general better dead or red? We decided for them that they were better off dead. The result is that pilots have dropped a load of fire bombs on a wooded area of Vietnam, incinerating 50 square miles of jungle, without knowing who is down there.

But Ben Tre represents the final mutilation of our ideal. Not only are particular Vietnamese civilians better dead than red, but we are going to kill them to "save them" from being red. Our original purpose is now twisted beyond recognition into something hideous and grotesque. In the nightmare world of 1964, Big Brother tells us that war is peace. Now, in 1968, the final folly is already upon us, and all pretense of logic falls away: we must destroy to save.

Michael Hollis,
104 Glendale Drive

Old Classmates Cannot Hear?

To The Editor:

Freshman Orientation Week was truly a delight! I found it informative though hectic, enjoyable though tiring, but most of all it seemed that everybody was so friendly. It reminded me of the friendliness and concern I left back home.

Now that week is forgotten by many!

With the beginning of classes I made many "acquaintances". We shared ideas. How politely we spoke when we saw each other during the course of a day. We were classmates.

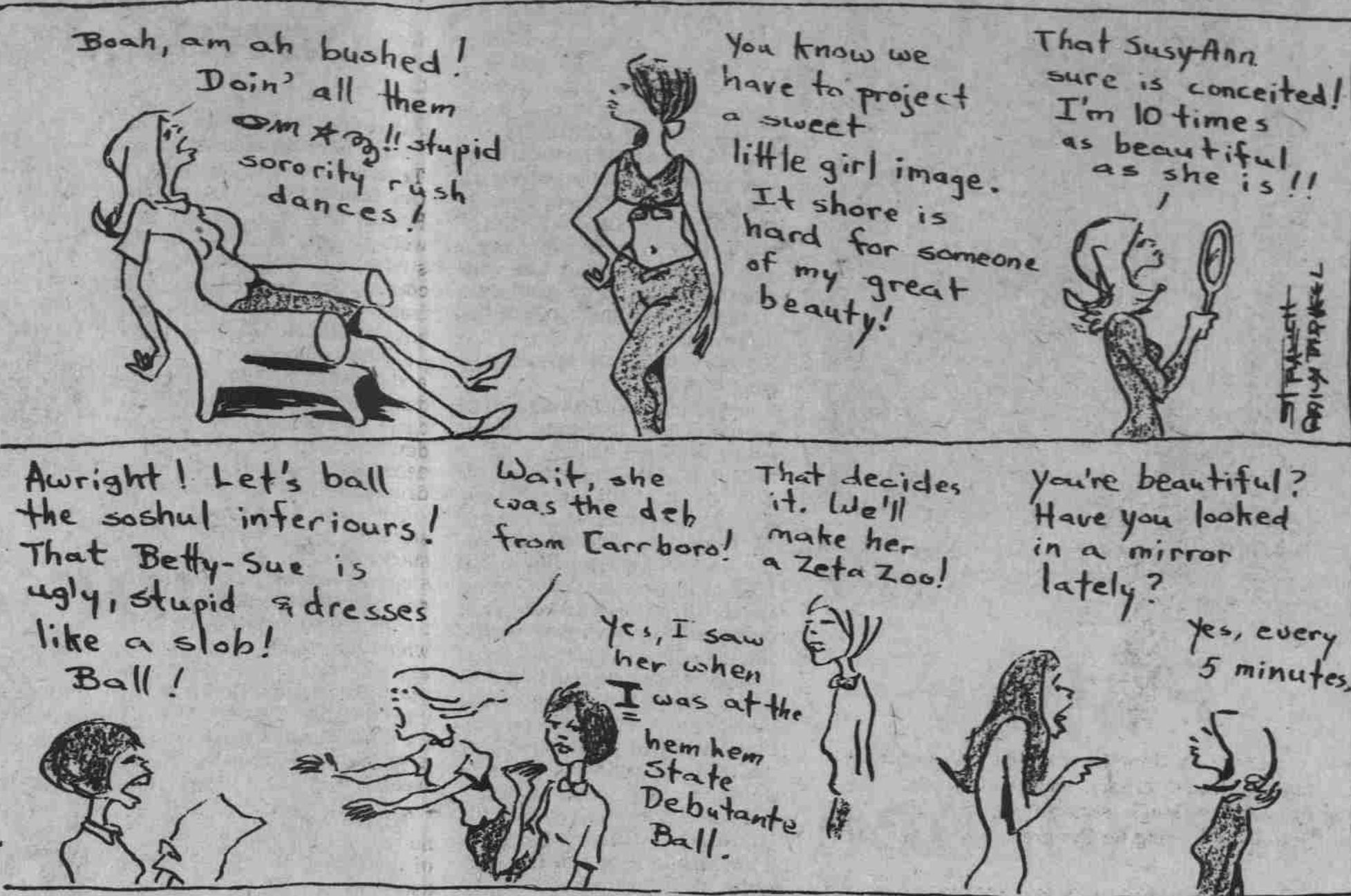
It's funny how things change. I no longer have classes with some of my former "classmates" and when I continue to greet them (meeting them by chance), they do not seem to hear me. They no longer seem as friendly, even though I am sure they would recognize me... if they heard me. It's a shame people do not really take more notice, while commuting across campus, to adhere an occasional greeting.

I never knew a Negro's voice could be that soft!

Lee V. Stiff,
551 Ehringhaus

Letters

The Daily Tar Heel accepts all letters for publication provided they are typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters should be no longer than 300 words in length. We reserve the right to edit for libelous statements.



Letters To The Editor

'Nice Being White' Edit Defied

To The Editor:

I fail to appreciate either the sarcasm or "poed intention" put forth in the quarter column announcement on the editorial page February 11: "Going through rush this Spring. You are, huh. Sure is nice being white, isn't it?" Is it? It left me wondering, as this quip was not signed, if this was a short but sweet comment by Bill Amlong or some other member of the Tar Heel staff. If so, I pity this campus for supporting such a pathetic newspaper. I cannot comprehend this crass attitude.

No Negro comes to this University ignorant of the difficulties he will find. Negro students are aware of such obvious concerns. To state them so bluntly is simply poor taste.

Moreover, Negroes can now rush or pledge many fraternities. In the North the DKE's at Trinity, the DKE's at Rutgers, the Kappa Sigs at Dartmouth, Phi Sigma at St. Lawrence, St. A's at Yale all have Negro brothers. At Princeton and Harvard, they are club members. At Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, ZBT has a Negro brother from South Carolina. In the South, Sigma Chi at Davidson has accepted Negro brothers, and I understand that all four Negroes on the Basketball team there last year pledged fraternities. The same is reported true for Duke. At this University, Charlie Scott pledged St. A's, but chose to depledge after three weeks when he found basketball took up too much time.

Where reason is there for this message offset by too much blank space not to attract immediate attention? Is this a threat, or merely a sick joke? Either way, it fails. As a matter of fact, it tends to make the Negro look good, for I imagine he would neither say "huh," nor reduce himself to such crude tactics.

Lee W. Purser
526 Granville Towers Eaet

ACC Tourney Is Political

To The Editor:

I would like to raise a familiar issue concerning the ACC basketball tournament at the end of the regular season. Does anyone have a say as to whether there should or should not be such a money-making venture, except the administrators of the ACC schools and others not directly involved with the

basketball programs of each conference member? It seems to me that fourteen games is an adequate enough test of a team's mettle, especially when half of them are played at the opposition's home court. The Duke loss at South Carolina should point up the obvious advantage of the home court as well as the defeats suffered by Carolina and Duke at Vanderbilt

earlier in the season.

If I am not mistaken, such coaches as Vic Bubas and Dean Smith have expressed at least qualified disapproval of the ACC Tournament, for the reasons above. Isn't the object to have the best possible team represent the ACC, or the team that struggles through a tough, 14-game schedule with the best record? Or do we opt instead for extra dollars, neglecting the interest of the players (at least those on the top team) and the students, who have little chance of seeing anyway.

Isn't the existence of the ACC Tournament, largely a result of politics and not, as some claim, to sustain public interest in the ACC? Is there anything that can be done to abolish this money-making show? Or at least can people directly concerned with the basketball programs at each ACC school, i.e. coaches and players, vote to decide whether a tournament should be held? I am a great fan of basketball and our great Carolina team, but I fail to see how this tournament pro-

ves anything, except how many extra dollars can be collected from largely non-student spectators.

Peter C. Geridine
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The Daily Tar Heel is published by the University of North Carolina Student Publication's Board, daily except Mondays, examinations periods and vacations. Offices are on the second floor of Graham Memorial. Telephone numbers: editorial, sports, news-933-1011; business, circulation, advertising-933-1163. Address: Box 1080, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27514.

Second class postage paid at U.S. Post Office in Chapel Hill, N.C. Subscription rates: \$9 per year; \$5 per semester.

Here's To The Botched-Up World

By GENE WANG
Credibility Gap: The Johnson family's TV station in Austin, Texas, ran a regularly scheduled football game instead of Lynda Bird Johnson Robb's wedding on the same day.

Drop Back 15 And Punt: The Seattle Times of January 1, 1968, ran a picture of the first two babies born in the new year under the heading of "Night Sports Final."

Are You For Real?: The National College Queen Pageant, which feels that publicity for their pageant comes under the category of "Information which will benefit the readers in their college careers."

Go Kick A Dead Horse: To the next episode in the never-ending saga of Chapel Hill's own Arab-Israeli conflict.

Listerine Also Stops Bad Breath: Allard K. Lowenstein, UNC '49 author of the Student Government Code, who says that the credibility gap is a "gale of political halitosis blowing through the White House."

Authority Is Habit-Forming: Dean of Men James O. Cansler seems to be addicted to the University's proposed drug policy.

Carolina Is The Fashion Plate of the South: during Rush Week when the population of three piece suits and socks explodes.

With A Scream of Brakes and a tinkling of glass: Chapel Hill's new crosswalk signs may protest pedestrians, but their therapeutic value to Franklin Street traffic is somewhat dubious.

Hoof In Mouth Disease: Davidson

Coach Lefty Driesell says that UNC is vastly overrated. This week's UPI Poll only had the Tar Heels taking all but six of the 35 third-place votes in the coaches' poll, to remain "firmly entrenched" in the number three spot.

Pretender to the Throne: In the DTH's want ads for Tuesday, February 13, there is a request for a "Tudor in Conversational Spanish."

God is Not Dead: He is resurrected at East Gate Shopping Center.

Survey Results Critical

By BILL FINDLAY
Special to the DTH

The first three sections of the Attitudinal Survey on the Honor System are the Honor Code, the Campus Code and the Court Structure. It is hoped that the answers given in these three sections will provide some measure of the effectiveness of the existing system towards the achievement of its objectives and furthermore, will guide the thinking of the student judiciary towards the implementation of reforms to create a more effective judicial system.

The fourth section of the survey deals with specific information and is to be considered optional. It is hoped that most persons will answer this section, however, as it will give a very valuable indication of how personally responsible persons feel under the existing system. Specifically, the following questions are asked:

WHILE A student at UNC-CH:

Have you ever committed a violation of the Honor Code of an academic nature: yes...no...don't know
Have you ever committed a non-academic violation of either the Honor

Code or the Campus Code: yes...no...don't know

Have you ever seen or had concrete knowledge of an Honor Code violation committed by another student and then failed to report that offense: yes...no...don't know

The term academic used here and elsewhere in the survey refers to the student's formal learning experience, especially coursework, and the term social refers to a student's non-academic activities.

This essentially concludes this series of articles designed to explain and elaborate on the Attitudinal Survey. At this point, it should be stressed that this is a survey and is not a referendum. The results of this survey will not determine policy but will be used in determining which course policy should take.

Much work has gone into the preparation of this survey and much will follow in the compiling of the results. It is hoped that everyone will give serious thought to the questions it asks and then answer sincerely. An investigation of this sort is probably long overdue and can be of lasting value to the University if properly conducted.