

# The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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## There's Got To Be A Better Way

Rush is a bad system. I'm not attacking fraternities. I'm only saying the present method for choosing pledges is wrong.



GINGRAS

Fraternity members go through an entire semester in which they're not allowed to even talk to a freshman about their fraternities. Then, when the magic rush period starts, they are besieged by mobs of hopeful rushees they have to meet and decide on the spot if they like them or not.

It's equally rough on the rushees. They have to decide in the short period of three or four nights if they like a given fraternity of 50 or so brothers well enough to stay with them. Rushees also run the risk of getting balled at the fraternity they want.

How can anybody honestly say they can judge another person on the basis of his performance under such strained conditions?

Any given fraternity is besieged by rushees. On a good or bad night (depending on your point of view) over 100 rushees can invade a house.

The brothers run around meeting, shaking hands and having names shouted at them. They in turn must shout their names over the roar of the crowd and

make an attempt at conversation.

By the end of an evening the rushees have all been asked the same question over and over by brothers of the same and different houses. The brothers in turn have just about been exhausted of their stores of small talk, feeling that they must have said the same thing and gotten the same answers at least a hundred times.

After all the rushees have gone back to their dorms, the brothers get to sit around for hours and hours discussing the various rushees. If I could have a nickel for every time I've heard, "Oh, he's a nice enough guy. I sat right over there on the couch and talked to him for about ten minutes," I'd be a rich man.

The problem is that you have a

brother who's known a person for ten minutes and yet he's got to stand up and give a character reference for the guy.

It's a bad system.

The tension on the part of the rushees who just hope to God they're not being balled at THE house they want and the tension the brothers feel hoping they get all the good guys they want, gives the whole situation massive ulcer tendencies.

In short, there must be a better way for fraternities to select pledges.

I'm not coming out against deferred rush by any means. Without deferred rush, freshmen would have an even tougher time making a realistic choice of fraternities.

The real problem comes when freshmen have to choose a fraternity in the short rush period. They make this choice on the basis of the few minutes they spend in each house plus the rumors they hear about such houses' image on campus.

Fraternities and prospective rushees could get a more realistic view of each other if the fall semester could be used as an informal rush period. This informal rush could mean inviting prospective rushees to dinner or to pre-arranged discussion (my grandfather would have called them smokers) or anything else that would give both sides a change to meet on peaceful terms.

As I sit here nursing a swollen right hand and laryngitis, I can't help but feel that there must be a better way somewhere.

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## Speaker Ban Decision: Score One For UNC

And so the saga of the Speaker Ban does indeed have a happy ending!

It is a story which began on a rather black note in the Spring of 1965, when reactionary and anti-University forces within the General Assembly passed the "Gag Law" with the speedy precision of an executioner bringing down his axe.

The law was introduced, non-debated and enacted into law so quickly that by the time Consolidated University President William C. Friday arrived in Raleigh, after getting an urgent telephone call about what was happening, the legislators presented him with a fait d'accompli.

And the Consolidated University was stuck with it.

Opposition to the bill arose from throughout the state, and came to a head in Chapel Hill — traditionally and proudly the freest state University in the South.

The students wouldn't stand for it. They ignored it, invited communist speakers to test it, signed a petition and marched down to Chancellor J. Carlyle Sitterson's house one night to give it to him.

The faculty reacted in pretty much the same way.

It was made very plain: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill simply wasn't going to stand for such nonsense. It just wouldn't go here at a University sculptured by such a man as its first President, Frank Porter Graham, one of the foremost defenders of human and educational rights this nation's ever known.

Finally, the General Assembly amended their handiwork to some extent. It placed the responsibility for approving speakers in the hands of the Board of Trustees, who passed it down to the chancellors on the four campuses.

But still, that wasn't enough to satisfy Chapel Hill. This law was evil, in the finest Machiavellian tradition, and it would not be tolerated — even in its diluted form.

It was one of the clearest breeches of the right of free speech, one of the most flagrant attempts of red neck politicians to curtail academic freedom, to which this University had even been a victim.

It clearly had to go.

So a group of students banded together with two banned speakers, communist theoretician Herbert Aptheker and Frank Wilkinson, and filed suit in the Federal Court in Greensboro, asking that the law be declared unconstitutional.

Monday, after many months of apprehension that the suit would be lost on grounds of some technicality or another, the three-judge panel ruled: the Speaker Ban is indeed unconstitutional.

But is this the end of the story — or is it just a chapter in the history of the relations of this University with this state?

For this University, free though it has been from state political domination, has a long past of near-entanglements with it. And sometimes, those entanglements were near enough to hurt, to set the University a-reeling, even if they couldn't knock it off its feet.

For example, there was that incident last year when Jesse Helms demanded over the airwaves that the University do something about Michael Paull, an English grad instructor who committed the terrible sin in

Jesse's eyes — of teaching seduction to freshmen, seduction as romanticized and alluded to in the lines of the poem, "To His Coy Mistress," that is.

Then there was the time, even more recently, that Gov. Dan K. Moore — who has been somewhat less than an adamant defender of this University's academic freedom — started name-calling against Howard Fuller, a Negro activist who was lecturing to one section in the graduate school of social work.

In both cases, it was a case of the state against the university. In both cases, the University was hurt. In both cases, the University won.

And so it did again Monday.

That is something to be thankful for: not that students once again have access to some rag tag communist or the other for a speaking engagement, but that this University's precious freedom once again has been reaffirmed.

That students of this University reacted so adroitly to a challenge against its freedom.

That the law has proven a shield for freedom against prejudice and politics.

That...

That, in essence, The Good Guys Won Again.

## The Land Of The Free

From The Minnesota Daily

An incident in Orangeburg, S.C. last week should remind anybody who thinks otherwise that the long fight of the fifties and sixties for civil rights is hardly over yet. Attitudes die an excruciatingly slow death.

Orangeburg is the home of South Carolina State, a predominantly black school in an overwhelmingly white town. Last Tuesday the growing tension between the residents of the town and its students reached a new pitch when the students tried to integrate a downtown bowling alley. The students ended up fighting police, and seventeen of them were arrested. The solution to this display of rashness was to send in National Guardsmen and state troopers to block the downtown area from students.

Last Thursday one of the students threw a piece of wood at one of the troopers and hit him in the face. The troopers responded by firing into the group of assembled students, killing three of them.

Orangeburg, S.C., the United States of America, (Land of the Free), 1968.

### Letters To The Editor

## One Contradiction, Two Contradiction

To The Editor:

I should like to examine some of the statements made by Allard K. Lowenstein (last Sunday night) in support of Senator Eugene McCarthy's candidacy.

Statement 1. "The only thing holding the Johnson campaign together is the feeling that he is inevitable. . . As a matter of fact, it is hard to find anybody who wants Johnson." (Italics mine) Comment: Overstatement and oversimplification are, of course, excusable in a political campaign.

Statement 2. "The problem is that everybody thinks he is the only one who doesn't want LBJ." Comment: How could any dissenter be so insensitive to the obvious?

Statement 3. "If Johnson continues to send boys over to die in Vietnam, there is no way on earth he can get elected." Comment: Never have our war aims been explained so clearly! Save your breath, Senator Gene, you're as good as elected!

Statement 4. "If we can show public disaffection with the Vietnam policy, there is no place in the Democratic party Johnson can hide." Comment: Well, there's no place like home.

Statement 5. "Why Gene McCarthy . . . would only have to run well in the primaries, not even win, to indicate the discontent of Democrats and the unpopularity of Johnson." Comment: Ignore statements 1, 3, and 4.

Statement 6. "There comes a time when someone is so right that you must take a stand with him, win or lose." Comment: Lose? Ignore statements 1, 3 and 4.

Statement 7. "We all owe a debt to McCarthy, a man doing a difficult thing at a difficult time." Comment: With all that support? Ignore statement 1.

Statement 8. "The mythology of the war is falling apart. The mythology was that the war was going to be won." Comment: But that mythology never could stand careful examination, could it?

Statement 9. "We are at a crossroads, if the present course (in Vietnam) is pursued for another four years, what hope remains to save the country?" Comment: Sen. McCarthy could run again.

It is hoped that Mr. Lowenstein will soon visit the campus again. He certainly

is more of what everybody needs. However, if he cannot make it, perhaps Mr. Lipsitz, who is equally adept at counting an empty auditorium and interpreting it as a thumping endorsement, will favor everybody from time to time with the same type of political analysis.

Ben Bartley  
414 Rosemary

## Art Of Dropping An Add Course

To The Editor:

The recent session of drop-add has made at least one thing apparent: pre-registration is becoming an increasingly insignificant thing.

Countless numbers of students pre-registered for courses only to find they had been closed out of the course on the first day of classes. A class planned for forty is jam-packed with ninety students at its initial meeting. The professor has nothing he can do. Many students must be dropped.

### What The Heck

## Attacks Pose Reputational Paradox

By LOU HECKLER

**GIRLS WILL BE GIRLS**  
DEPARTMENT: There seems to be a bit of paradox floating around campus lately concerning our coeds, typical and otherwise.

Efforts have been made for a couple of years now to emancipate the women from old out-dated rules which govern their behavior. Did I say govern? I meant dictate.

The pity of the thing is that in the midst of this move for more freedom, two coeds have been attacked or at least slept with by the male of the species.

The girls certainly have their rights to push for more freedom. They can probably handle it. The question is, can the men?

Another problem might arise in the certain status a girl achieves in being forcefully approached. I heard a couple of guys talking the other day and it went something like this:

"You hear about M being attacked the other night?"

"Yeah. You know, she must be alright. I always thought she was kinda cute."

So-o-o, what's a coed to do? Does she force the man off or help him along his way.

Thus, drop-add gets worse and worse with students hustling all over campus trying to find some course open. The result is almost assured: a student ends up taking a course he has no interest in simply because it meets at a time he has open.

How can a student be motivated to study in a course he does not even want?

Most students who have tried to take P.E. 41 or RTVMP 45 or Speech 44 are accustomed to putting down an alternate since these courses are so popular. But it does not stop there. Upper level Political Science courses as an example are nearly impossible for an undergraduate to get.

For seniors it's different. Many pre-register less than the required number of courses and just show up for the first day of class at a course they want. The professor, sensing the dilemma, dismisses the problem by admitting just seniors and grad students. The undergraduate sophomore or junior who was told he could take the course and who has the class ticket to prove it is out of luck.

The undergraduate deserves a better shake. When he is granted a ticket, he should be guaranteed a course. The ones

without should look elsewhere. get their required courses in before their last year. The reasoning of "I need the course to graduate" should have been thought of earlier.

The student body is expanding rapidly. The problem is certain to be greater next year and the year after.

If pre-registration is to have a function, the student should be assured that his first day of class in a selected course will not also be his last.

Lou Heckler  
105 Chase Ave.

## Of Lizards And Such

To The Editor:

In reference to Randy Myer's vitriolic caricature of Bruce Strauch: lizards do not have scales!

Jay Biggs  
Granville West

**THAT'S LIFE DEPARTMENT:** A professor was lecturing his class the other day on ways to sell life insurance.

He explained that there are several things to remember. One, you have to convince the person that he needs the protection. And, two, you must sell the person, not the product.

Someone asked if it might not make him more popular.

"I guess that might be the case," the prof explained stammering. "You know, I suppose it does make you popular with your family."

Which makes me wonder this: how popular do you want to be? After all, if you get too much life insurance, your family just might love you . . . to death.

**THAT'S THE WAY THE MONEY GOES DEPARTMENT:** All this flack of late concerning President Johnson's proposal to curtail spending abroad could have serious repercussions on this campus and others throughout the country.

Many of the schools, ours included, have cooperative arrangements with schools in Europe. This is not even to mention the student union-sponsored trips to various exotic places each year.

Can you envision some of the future GM ads if this thing goes through:

"GM Plans a Trip to Nassau! Yes, you, too, can bask in the glow of the warm tropical sun on the radiant white beaches of exciting Nassau. We think you'll love being there, but because of the President's embargo on international spending, we can plan the trip for just three hours, 17 minutes. Sign up at the GM Information Desk."

**JACK SPRAT COULD JOIN NO FRAT DEPARTMENT:** Rush, rush, rush. See the boys rush. They are trying to join a fraternity. Brotherhood, kinship, fellowship.

Ah, but take note of these lines from an anonymous pen:

Blue is true,  
Yellow's jealous,  
Green's forsaken,  
Red's brazen,  
White is love,  
'and black is death.

You know, I couldn't have said it better myself.

**BLANKET PRIVILEGE DEPARTMENT:** The great philosopher and teacher Cicero once said: "There are more men enabled by study than by nature."

That cat must never have been to the arboretum.

But, what the heck.

### 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.