

# The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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## Bland Simpson

# 'One Hell Of A Year'

It's been a hell of a year. But, then, aren't they all?  
 For the nation, it's been, as always, a year of despair and a year of hope. More despair, though, than hope.

Despair over a president whose dovish ways of 1964 fell before his hawkish ways of late. Hope when a blithe, urbane, poetic politician shook hands in New Hampshire and suddenly shook the minds of the nation.

Despair over a faraway battle on hill 881 or 882—over mixed-up bodies and coffins. Hope when Ho said OK, and Charles de Gaulle rolled out the red carpet and all the trimmings just last week.

Despair over our mass culture and its accompanying urban blight, and over the wild destruction in the cities during our annual riot season. Hope, for a

brief while, when a blue-ribbon commission laid bare the problems and offered some constructive ideas. Despair again, though, when no one heard.

For the state, things just seemed to fall into their "proper" places—including the wishful thinking of candidate Hawkins. Naturally, only one gubernatorial candidate was forced to talk about issues; the rest just were able to smile and sit pretty. (Some prettier than others).

For the campus, it's again sort of sad. Sure, we won in basketball, but we lost our souls. We had time for Larry Miller, but not for Viet Nam. We opened our eyes when miniskirts swished by, but we sure as hell kept them closed elsewhere. No wonder Negroes think white America is sleeping.

Overall, it was the year of McCartheys crusade; of Martin Luther King's martyrdom; of the Johnson and Romney exits.

It was the year when Duke entered the real world with a vigil that Carolina could only watch and wonder about. Three cheers, Duke. It was also the year that Columbia fell to the students.

It was the year we all started talking participatory democracy, and yet most of us didn't have time to get involved. It was the year we all demanded "relevance", and yet most of us remained as irrelevant as ever.

It was, like all of them, another of those years most of us don't know what to make of until the steady historian explains it to us forty years hence.

It was the year we got upset about poor Bonnie and Clyde, and yet we

were afraid (rightly so) that the Graduate hit a little too close to home. So we just went on believing that anybody ("regardless of race, creed, or national origin") could have two cars and a color television if only he'd stay down in that greasepit several more hours a week. Or if he'd just go get a job, as if he didn't want one.

It was the year we decided that what we needed to make life meaningful was a job as insurance salesman. First raise after six months; BA majors preferable but not absolutely required. Yes, it was one of the many years that Carolina would turn out a bunch of no-minds.

Oh yes, it was also the year we rallied round the flag, boys, and cursed those evil, conspiring leftists who stood firm in their opposition to the draft.

How dare they insult recruiters from our glorious armed forces in Y-Court? And then, too, it was the year we went down to our draft boards and told them six different reasons why we should be 4-F and twelve good reasons why they should be drafting hippies and the like.

As UNC students, it was the year that STRAUGH became politico and upset the whole student body presidential race. It was the year that Dick Levy scared the administration with a proposed boycott on Chase Cafeteria. And it was the year that South Campus got buses for a while, while we still fought on against women's rules.

Indeed, these have been, as Dickens once proclaimed, "the best of times and the worst of times." But what a poor balance.

For, while flighty sorority girls and cosmopolitan-to-be Carolina gentlemen all buy their airline tickets, the poor people march on to Washington. While all our little "Mr. & Mrs. Robinsons" prepare to go off and see "everything" in Europe in two weeks, the American poor prepare to put their plight before the nation by camping near the Capitol for Lord knows how long. The best of times for some, the worst for most.

So while you're drinking your beer and making your first million this summer, consider just what this year was and what it could have been—for you and those around you. Think about it. As Kidd Brewer used to say, "You'll be glad you did."

## Educational Reform Needs To Have Broader Effect

Graduating in a couple of weeks? Congratulations. Glad to be leaving? Do you have that feeling of "Gee, finally I'm escaping from this place?"

Unfortunately, that's the feeling that runs through the minds of too many graduating seniors. By the time most students have been here four years and are about 22 years old they get the feeling they've outgrown the place and are glad to be shedding themselves of it.

That's too bad because that's not the way it should be. The University should be of such a nature that as a student progresses through it, the University, the educational process, should keep step with him.

Instead of a student running an obstacle course in order to get a degree he should be working inside an environment which encourages him to think and question, inside and outside the classroom.

What's a student learn after going through this obstacle? He knows how to beat the system, he knows what needs to be done to get around specific hurdles, and no doubt will be able to sneak by all the problems he'll face after graduation.

But should these graduates be having to sneak their way around the problems they'll face in the future? We don't think so. We think they should be equipped with the tools they need to be able to meet problems head-on, understand those problems, and solve them, rather than just sneak around them.

What the students need is, to use a much worn phrase, to learn how to learn, not learn how to

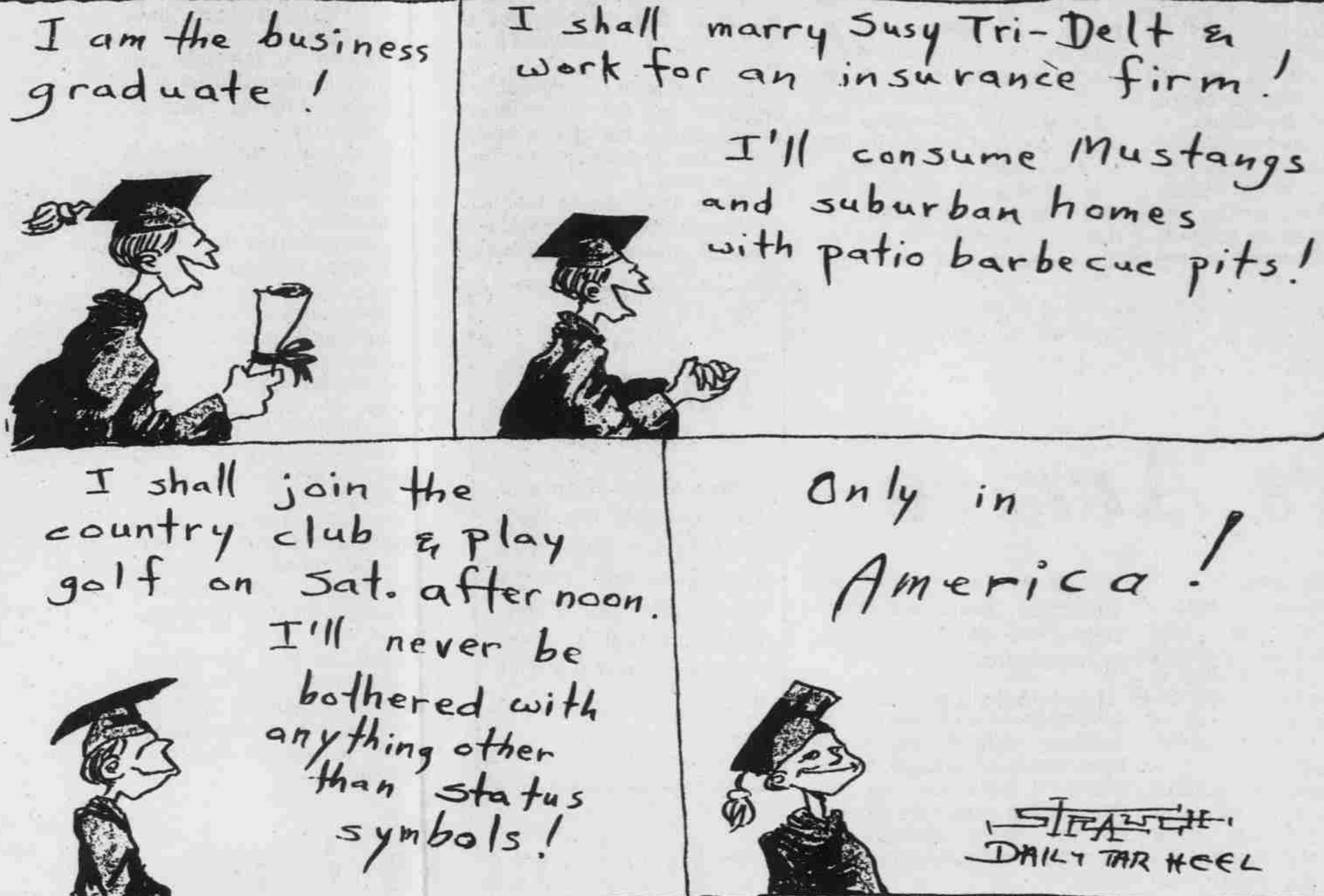
dodge problems. Rather than learning that under Professor X you can make an "A" by wearing a coat and tie to class, students need to have an educational system structured so as to not encourage such a way of thinking.

Too much emphasis on grades, a General College that turns-off curious students, and courses structured so as to kill any interest that is generated are among the things to blame.

The educational process has been gradually improving over the past few years. The Administration has instituted a limited pass-fail system and has made it possible for students to organize their own courses; Student Government has started an Experimental College. All of these are reforms that have meant a great deal to those persons who have been effected.

Unfortunately, not enough people have been touched by these changes. Many students have already been turned off educationally by the time they are able to take advantage of pass-fail. Too few students are aware that they can form their own courses. Others don't have the time outside their regular work to take Experimental College courses.

This gradual change has to be continued into next year. Educational Reform needs to broaden its base so that more students are affected, so more can take an interest in their academic lives here. The feeling of "Gee, I'm finally escaping this place" has to be eliminated. To chip away at the number of students who feel that way needs to be the aim of the Administration and Student Government next year.



### Letters To The Editor

## On: Marchers; Marijuana; McCarthy

Dear Editor:

In a recent article on the Di-Phi speak-out about marijuana it is reported that one speaker repeatedly emphasized that "medical evidence shows that marijuana is not a harmful drug". This is sufficiently contrary to our own experience that we felt some comment was in order.

At the Student Health Service we have seen a significant number of individuals who have had serious, often disabling accentuation of existing problems because of their use of marijuana. To a lesser extent we have also seen individuals who have had serious psychiatric difficulties precipitated by the use of marijuana.

Surveys conducted in areas where marijuana usage is prevalent and the few good experimental studies of the drug effects which have been done have indicated a fair frequency of adverse reactions. These studies, however, have been questioned on the grounds that a predisposition to difficulty must have existed in the user for trouble to occur. However, unless one contends that a drug must produce difficulty in everyone to be called anything but harmless, this does not serve to exonerate marijuana.

We agree that the laws relating to the use of marijuana leave a great deal to be desired. Legal problems, however, are not the only danger with marijuana usage. We have seen with marijuana all the same kinds of adverse psychological reactions that have been described for LSD. The potentially disrupting and disorganizing effect of these two drugs seem very similar.

The allegation that use of marijuana is completely harmless is not supported by available evidence. For the individual who does have a serious incapacitation reaction related to marijuana use, the problem is no minor health hazard. It is little solace to him or to the physician

responsible for this treatment that some individuals also act adversely to alcohol or for that matter to penicillin. The risk in terms of the frequency of adverse reactions may be small, but may be of a sufficiently serious nature that some individuals may elect not to run such a risk, particularly if the potential benefits are also small, or could be derived by other less potentially dangerous means.

Sincerely,  
 Clifford B. Reifler, M.D.  
 Senior Psychiatrist  
 Myron B. Lipsitz, M.D.  
 Psychiatrist

To the Editor:

In refusing a very simple request by the sponsors of the Poor People's March to use the 'Tin Can' and gymnasium facilities, the Administration has once again missed an excellent opportunity to improve its image among the Black students and townspeople of Chapel Hill. There is no reason why this request had to be approved by the Trustees, and it could have been implemented without any fanfare or complications throughout the state.

There are always "good reasons why requests such as this are turned down. The University cannot afford to assist political movements, and it must not offend the people of North Carolina. But what about our Black citizens? How long are they, and the more militant student groups, going on accepting decisions of this sort without openly challenging the Administration in terms of a confrontation of the kind we have seen on numerous more liberally-inclined campuses? If such a confrontation does in fact occur, this should certainly come as no surprise.

It is about time the Administration took a strong and open stand in favor of improving the condition of its own nonacademic personnel. I am aware that many changes are going on behind the scenes. Efforts are being made, with some success, to hire Negro faculty and other white-collar personnel. I don't believe that all of these efforts need to be publicized since in many instances a quiet kind of integration and upgrading works best. But it is important that the University go on record as being wholeheartedly behind similar efforts by others to further the same ends. When it seems to turn a deaf ear on very moderate requests, it only invites more extreme reactions. I would think that this point would be so completely obvious that it would not need stating. But apparently it does.

H. M. Blalock, Jr.  
 Professor of Sociology

To the Editor:

The latest American trend appears to be that of causation. In Washington someone is obviously getting a big charge out of establishing that device which reveals the root problem of all upsetting events... THE SPECIAL BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE.

Blue Ribbon Committees have dealt with every subject from the draft to civil disobedience and now the Columbia riots. The obsession with the "Why's" which these Committees manifest is exceeded only by the verbose reports which they issue.

The Blue Ribbon Committee on the draft offered the lottery system as a solution to the draft because this would eliminate the bickering which some had in performing a simple duty for the country. The thousands of words which this report contains went for naught with the adoption of the present policy.

The Blue Ribbon Committee on civil disobedience learned that there certainly were riots, and that they were caused by people who were discontent with their environment. Obviously, anyone with a TV could eliminate any conjecture as to the riot's cause in about two seconds. Nevertheless, reams of material were condensed into this soul searching report which answered "Why."

The present Blue Ribbon Committee will probably find and expose the reasons for the Columbia Rebellion after much deliberation. We offer the quickest way to finding the cause by directing their attention to an interview with one of the instigators of the riot. He explained all the "Whys" so that a twelve year old could understand without a Blue Ribbon Report.

The implications of these reports are threefold. (a) The reports, i.e., Civil Disobedience and Columbia might be an effort to find a scape goat such as communist inspiration behind such disorder. (b) The reports may function as indices of public opinion on rampant crises. (c) Finally, they may serve as a method for avoiding direct confrontation with the issue.

This final point needs clarification. Because the "Whys" in most instances of the reports are obvious without analysis, any report is merely "lip service" to the problem. Everyone knows how to eliminate the present problems in the nation, either by suppression or by paying out great sums for social improvement. Either unleash the police, turn loose the judges from the pangs of conscience, and quit doing partial obeisance by producing causalational reports, or pay the price of reform. The Blue Ribbon Committee should be sent to the bawery or the barnyard.

Chase Saunders  
 203 Everett

in drives and have gotten incredible results. Their fervor has catapulted Eugene McCarthy into the thick of the Presidential campaign to speak the needs of youth and liberalism.

But in their new found power, in their excited commitment, students are missing the issue. We are looking for a President—not a symbol.

Engene McCarthy came into prominence by standing up alone against the war. By so doing he captured not only the minds and hearts of students, but a large percentage of the New Hampshire vote as well. With this victory, thousands flocked to his ranks. But it was the anti-war, anti-Johnson, and student power issues which won him supporters—not the political image of Eugene McCarthy. Had any other liberal stood up and done what McCarthy did, chances are students would be trying to convince the country that this other man was best qualified for the Presidency.

The McCarthy machine is phenomenal, but understandable. When a man like Bobby Kennedy offers students money to work for him, he receives only lukewarm support. But if an idealistic symbol such as "Clean Gene" asks students to suffer a little and work a lot for the very things dear to their hearts, he gets a veritable army. The Peace Corps works on the same principle by giving youth a chance to express and work on their ideals. The challenge—"It won't be easy" draws many more students than money which most of them already have anyway.

This is where the problem lies. Students are rallying to a cause, not to a man. They are working and voting for their ideals which reflect from McCarthy back into their own eyes. This is understandable because that is why any voter chooses one candidate over another. But in this case it only happens to be McCarthy sitting there on the white horse. It might just as easily have been someone else.

I do not wish to be overly critical of McCarthy. He has done an admirable job as a rallying point and has given the student a voice we have lacked in the past. But his success comes not from his former accomplishments but rather from his riding of the issues into the limelight.

Ideal can go a long way toward improving our society but men—not ideals—run the government and turn ideals into reality. Eugene McCarthy, unfortunately, is not that man.

As a holder of symbolic power he is unequalled—but a President he is not.

Jay Lacklen  
 321 W. Cameron

## Speech Ban A Farce

Two years ago Frank Wilkinson drew a crowd of 2,000 to hear him talk from a stone wall bordering Franklin St.

Two days ago he drew only about 35 persons to hear him talk, and that number dwindled as his talk grew longer.

Why the difference? The answer is in the State Legislature.

The solons of NC's General Assembly decided five years ago that UNC students don't have the maturity to be able to make rational judgements on political issues and so passed a law which would keep all potential subversives away from the students.

No person who had ever pleaded the fifth Amendment in answering questions about subversive activities was going to be allowed to speak on campus, they decided.

They were effective in doing so for five years. No subversives spoke on campus; they were not given a chance to spread their evil thoughts before crowds such as the 35 that showed up for Wilkinson.

No, instead the people, such as Wilkinson and Herbert Aptheker, spoke off campus and drew thousands to hear the talks of the Speaker Ban martyrs. Yes, the State Legislature really accomplished something by keeping subversive speakers off the campus.

Yes, Wilkinson is really a dangerous speaker. Anyone who heard him speak Wednesday would acknowledge. The portly, gray haired man spoke on a number

of dangerous and inflammatory issues, like the First and Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

Take for instance these quotations, obviously quotes providing good cause for banning the guy from campus:

"American Democracy is the best thing that has been devised yet; but we're not guaranteed that it'll stay."

Or: "If HUAC has the right to investigate overt acts of treason, espionage, or sabotage we'd defend it."

Or: "At all times we have been ready to debate the other side."

That's the type person the state legislature has been trying to keep off the campus, a guy that can barely hold an audience of 35 under normal circumstances.

If there's going to be anything red around this state we think it should be the cheeks of some mighty embarrassed state legislators who have wasted their time and state money for such a farcial law.

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