

The Daily Tar Heel

76 Years of Editorial Freedom

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English, Mod Civ Reforms Improve Learning Situation

Academic reforms are slowly coming to UNC. The College of Arts and Sciences and the General College are reviewing their requirements, and now the introductory English and Modern Civilization courses have been revised.

The changes, major in the English courses, and minor in Mod Civ, have been needed for a long time.

The old introductory English courses typified much of what is wrong with all introductory courses. While geared at teaching the student how to write, they also forced the student to remember picaynish extracts from readings, something that had little relevance to anything the student would have to do after he had finished taking the introductory courses.

The way the English courses are now, after revision, the student is taught how to write, but more importantly, he is forced to acquire those educational tools that will benefit him even after he has finished the courses.

Instead of having to learn the importance of the ashheaps in *The Great Gatsby*, the emphasis will be on "the process of think and imagining," according to Dr. Robert Bain, a member of the

Freshman English Program.

The Mod Civ program, although not being changed as drastically as the English, is being changed so that one of the most irritating features is gone: the use of dozens of books that are never available for use by students. This move was very admirably taken when the faculty of the Mod Civ program found out last year in a poll that this one feature particularly griped the students.

In addition, six Mod Civ courses will be taught in the dorm, creating a more informal atmosphere which should encourage discussion.

For the past two semesters the Administration has allowed two classes per semester to be taught in the two high rise dorms, James and Morrison. For a while it looked like this was going to be all the classes that were to be held in the dorms, but fortunately, this year the number is going to be expanded.

With these changes in English and Mod Civ it should be easier for new students to survive their first two years at UNC without being totally turned off by the system here. Hopefully, other departments will study the beneficial effects these changes should have on the students and will follow their example.

Book Ex Making Some Ground In Aiding Students

Over the past years the University Book Exchange has built up an image befitting its former location in the dusty basement of a small building; it has been looked on as narrow in imagination and stingy on benefits to the students.

Now the Book Ex has moved out

of its hole in Steele Building and into a glass-walled roomy new building. At the same time it has taken some steps to eliminate its old image and improve its services to students.

Long lines still exist in the new Book Exchange but they are something which cannot be helped unless one wants the Book Ex to buy dozens of cash registers and employ dozens of cashiers to be used for a few days every year. Naturally, that is impractical.

On the positive side, the Book Ex has made it possible that all texts used by students can be bought back, where in the past, only those which were to be used in a course the following semester would be bought back.

In addition, the Book Ex has started selling some items of clothing at prices lower than those in downtown Chapel Hill.

On the negative side, it seems that cash registers in the Book Ex have been placed so that long lines build up in the aisles where the books are, making it hard to find the books.

In all, it adds up to some sound improvements in service to the students by the Book Ex.

The Book Ex has often portrayed as evil incarnate by Student Government types eager to practice their demagoguery rather than enlighten students or divert their energies to some target which needs changing.

It is ironic that students will complain so bitterly about book prices but will not hesitate to go in a clothing store in downtown Chapel Hill and pay outrageous prices for mediocre clothing.

Any student government leader or student who is interested in improving the students' situation at Chapel Hill should pick these merchants as the target of their non-constructive, demagogic criticism, rather than the non-profit Book Ex.

Area Residents Should Be Careful In Using Water

Chapel Hill's water shortage, which started out almost as a joke a couple of weeks ago, has become very serious now.

University Lake is the lowest it has ever been and the University Water Department has had to resort to using the siltiest water in the lake.

To make things worse, September is usually a wet month and October a dry month, which means that if it doesn't rain soon, there is little chance for an improvement in the water situation.

The Water Department is asking all Chapel Hill and Carrboro residents to go easy on the water, particularly to limit non-essential use of water, such as for watering lawns.

Right now all conservation of water is being sought on a voluntary basis; hopefully the situation won't be as critical as that in New York two years ago when the city had to pass a law against serving water in restaurants unless the customer ask for it.

To prevent the water crisis from reaching such a proportion all residents of the area should be cautious in their use of water and particularly try not to waste it on their lawns or in washing their cars.

Politicos '68

The Chicago Catastrophe

an editorial
By WILLIAM G. ALLEN

The Democratic Convention, circus, debacle, or whatever, remains to be a much cussed and discussed topic with only heat and very little light having been added to it.

The visual news media covered the tragedy in much the same fashion that they cover the war in Vietnam—always emphasizing the pains of the underdog and the cruelties perpetrated against them. Perhaps part of the reason for this is because reporters often mix in with the demonstrators and the brawl and expect to emerge untouched. In this instance, few newsmen had the sagacity

to realize or be concerned with the fact that their weakness for sensationalism was promoting and perhaps was the main catalyst for the hostilities that took place. Many films were widely distributed showing the police swinging billy clubs and beating the demonstrators. Few films showed the Viet Cong flag being raised or the American flag being stomped and spit upon. Much was made of police brutality, but little was said of the woman who tried to prevent the Yippies from raising the Communist flag and was consequently beaten to the ground. Few newsmen showed the police officer who hit in the head with a cement block with a nail in it, or the cans of urine

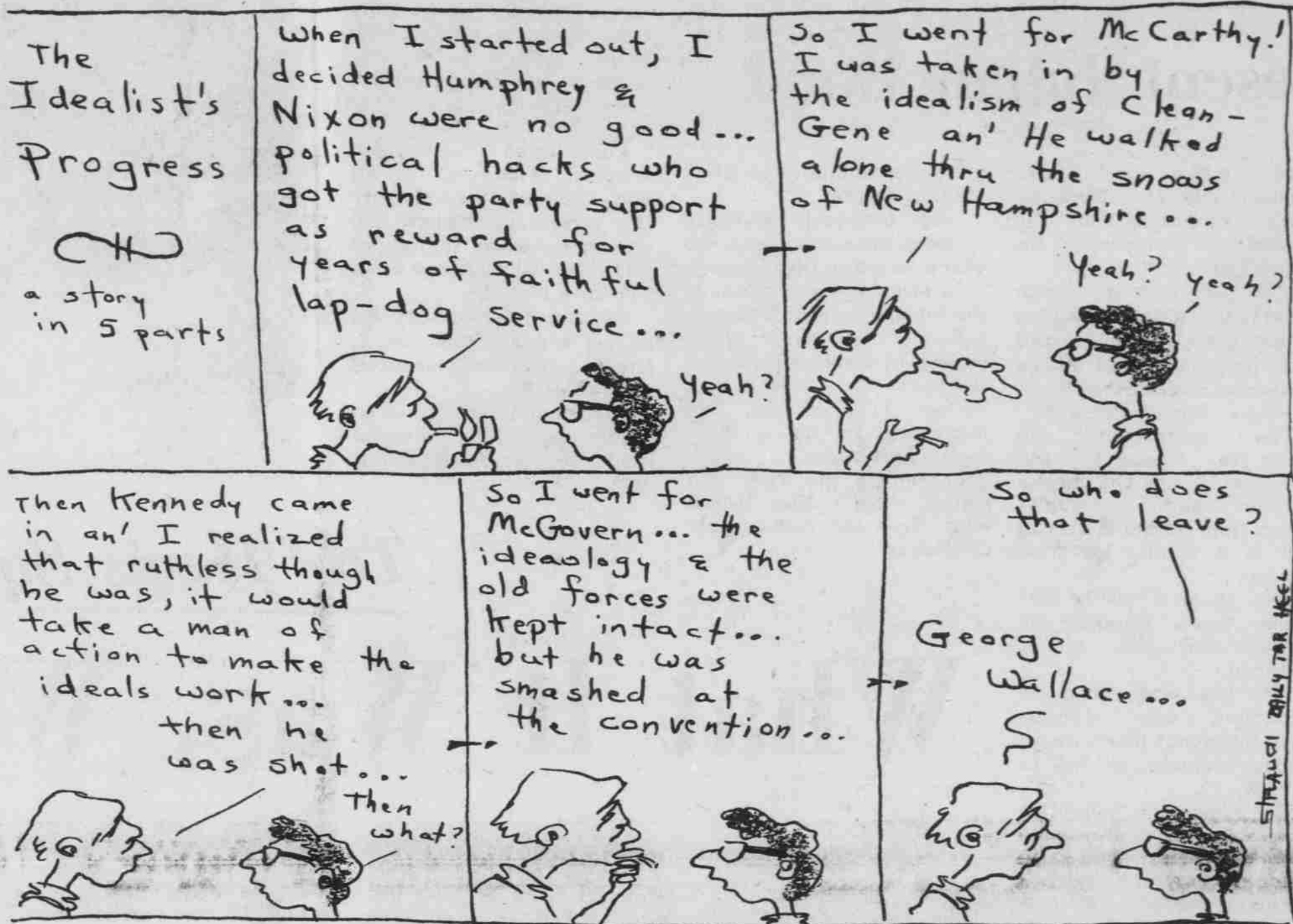
among other articles being thrown from the windows on McCarthy's floor in the hotel. Rebel apologists like columnist Tom Wicker of the New York Times reported that America's youth was being beaten in the streets. This kind of statement is certainly open to question, depending on whether one considers the rioters—many of whom were merely social renegades—to be representative of America's youth. No one denied the right of assembly and peaceful protest to these demonstrators. However, in the light of the prior warning by the FBI that the leaders of the peace march were planning a riot for the purpose of gaining world attention and giving to the

North Vietnamese aid in their Paris talks, as well as the fact that over 70% of those arrested were from out of state—most of them vagrants at that—one must question the nobleness of this group; their cause, and the press' adamant portrayal of them as "America's youth." Mayor Daley of Chicago reported that the lives of all the major Democratic candidates as well as his own had been threatened on several occasions prior to the convention opening. Vice President Humphrey had to be flown to the convention by helicopter to avoid severe security problems, and the President of the United States was warned by his secret service that his life would be in

jeopardy if he went to Chicago at all. Out of this chaos and turmoil, there were no fatalities, no one shot, and only twenty-six of those demonstrators arrested required hospitalization. All events considered, this was indeed miraculous. The fact that the police followed the Kearner Commission's suggestions and used only nightsticks and tear gas to quell the rioters is commendable. Those who raised the Viet Cong flag and stomped the American flag while screaming "Police Brutality" should have been among the demonstrators in Prague, who saw their companions crushed beneath Soviet tanks. That is brutality!

The tragedy is that the majority of the demonstrators could not be distinguished from the disgusting few who led the riot. Consequently, during the panic, many who harbored no foul intentions were ruffed up by the police, and, in some cases, arrested. No one condones even accidental police abuses, but everyone must realize the awesome responsibility that these men shouldered, and the circumstances under which they operated—lest we relive a third senseless assassination in 1968.

William G. Allen



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Letters To The Editor

Graduate Student Association Called Farce

To the Editor:

A credibility gap in the Graduate Student Association was exposed my first day on campus.

A month ago I had received a succinct note from the graduate school, "Pick up your permit to register at Memorial Hall, S-Z, 1:10-1:30."

After a protracted hunt for Memorial Hall I parked illegally and still arrived at one o'clock. I could have saved myself the trouble. A line of students pushed outside the building, down the front walk, around the side of the building, and across the front of Hanes.

I was growing about being treated like a Russian housewife or a man who voted for Hoover, when a neat-shirt and tie-official-type stuck a piece of paper in my hand—a Graduate Student Association questionnaire. Boldly the piece of paper declared, "the few minutes required for this task will substantially benefit us all." Marking the questions helped keep our minds off the gross inefficiency of the registration process.

Was this the "substantial benefit" we were promised? No, something more practical was coming. At 1:30 the line suddenly began to move. I got inside the building just in time to see an official from the university pick up the two (there were only two) boxes of permits to register. Not harshly, but emphatically, she was telling a frustrated student that the line was closed now because a convocation was soon to begin for the graduate students. (And of course the people welcoming the students could not be kept waiting.) The line would be reformed at 2:30. I was lucky; I had only wasted thirty minutes.

I looked for a GSA man, No one was in sight. I glanced down at the first sentence of the questionnaire. "The Graduate Student Association is... intended to promote the interests and cohesion of the approximately 4000

post-baccalaureate students on campus."

I would like to believe that, I thought, and I made a neat paper ball and shot it into a basket on the floor.

Zan White
113 Lexington Circle

He Returns

To the Editor:

This is written for a two-fold purpose. First, to reveal to the University students in general the deplorable treatment bestowed upon one of Carolina's elite; and, secondly, to inform the instigators of such shame of the severe consequences for their sins. His excellency, Thomas Harper Hefner, Governor-in-exile, has decreed that his former haven, Fort Parker, will be reoccupied by his forces within three weeks. This movement, which has been underground for months, has enlisted the aid of thousands of volunteers. It is now rising from the underground to begin manipulations in the open. Plan of attack has not been decided upon as of yet. His Excellency and his council-of-state-in-exile, which consists of the strongest planks in the barn of Scott College intelligence, are debating among air assault, mass beaching of the infantry, cavalry charge through the Teague-side door. Plans will be finalized and movement begun within the week.

Women of Parker beware! Only dear Mrs. Vincent is safe. Your days of pleasurable bliss-carpeted tube room, redecorated parlor, etc. are numbered. The militaristic bureaucracy appointed in Parker will fall prostrate before the feet of Gov. Hefner and he will rule wisely all the days of his life.

Count Reid
Publicity Chairman
of the
Let's put Tom Hefner
back in Parker committee

Go Big Mo

"Barney Gargoyle and the Cacaphonous Discords" will play at a combo party to be held by Morrison Resident College at 8:00 p.m., Friday night, in the Morrison social lounge."

When a Morrison resident stumbles upon such a sign left hanging in an appropriate location in his dorm (like over the elevator button), he is expected to at once leap high into the air, to land gently back to earth, and to commence performing spiraled sequences of piroettes and arabesques all the way back to his room, like some gone-wild off-balance gyroscope. Once in his room, he floats high on blissful zephyrs of happiness and hovers contentedly over his bed in some sixth state of transcendental ecstasy. This is as it should be for the tender-hearted student.

sensitive to the true spirit of dorm loyalty.

Once in a while, however, there passes by this sign a strange individual, a gum-chewing malcontent. As fantastic as it may seem, his mouth does not fall open like the mouth of some half-dazed jack-daw at the sight of this announcement. The gum he chews does not roll from his lips onto the floor. Rather, he continues to chew, blowing bubbles of indifference, but with that same base air which must be breathed everyday. This individual is more elevated at the thought of a Chase cafeteria student special than at the haunting thought of another Morrison combo party.

There comes a time when all must choose between the gum-chewer and the fairyland dancer of the air waves. I've already bought my year's supply of Bazooka Bubblegum. I refuse to play a role in another one-act farce of modern knights and ladies

enacted in the white-washed cinder brick prison cubical called the Morrison social lounge.

Robert Kruger
152 Morrison

Columbia OK

To the Editor:
In Friday's editorial, concerning the Trustees' visit, you said, "If they expect to find here the type of students that precipitated the Columbia revolt they are mistaken." Granted, there are differences, such as, UNC is not organized for revolt and Columbia was. But they are students and we are students; that's the same. Moreover, I had good fortune this summer at UNC to be enrolled in a course with a Columbia student, who seemed to be a student and looked like one, who blended well with UNC, as a chameleon would do with Nature.

Sincerely,
Phillip Don Julian

More Fantastic Tales —All Of Them True— On The New Book Ex Be Sure To Read Tuesday's DTH