

The Daily Tar Heel

76 Years of Editorial Freedom

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General College Committee Beneficial On Two Counts

The new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Raymond Dawson has taken a much needed and exemplary step in appointing a committee to reassess the purpose of all courses currently required of students.

The steps he has taken are good not only in that the General College requirements need to be seriously questioned, but in that he has appointed more than a token number of students to the committee.

In the past two years the educational reform that has taken place has affected mostly juniors and seniors. It is they who are allowed to take courses on pass-fail and it is they who are allowed create their own courses.

However good these reforms might be, they have not had as broad an effect on students as they might have because most students, by the time they get through the requirements of the General College, have been turned off by the educational process.

While when the student first came to Carolina he might have really been thrilled with the idea of learning new things, by the time he gets to be a junior that no longer matters, what does matter to him is that he will soon get his degree.

That's why a major revision needs to take place in the General College, so that all the drudgery, all that which kills the spirit inside the student, may be eliminated.

"The committee questions... whether any one course, such as

modern civilization, is necessarily the best way for all students to become acquainted with this vital fields," according to Professor Merzbacher. We think he had the right idea.

The second important thing about the committee is that students represent a substantial portion of it, four out of the 16 members.

Most committees created by the Administration have had a tendency to employ tokenism. Thus, important committees, like Buildings and Grounds or Traffic and Safety have only two student members out of 17 members. This tokenism is then pointed to as proof that students have influence on the University's policies in these areas. This of course isn't so; the interests of the students and administrators may coincide in decisionmaking, but this can't be pointed to as student influence on the Administration.

However, with four members on the general college committee students will have a better chance than ever to have their influence felt and to have their feelings toward curriculum reform made known.

This new committee offers great potential as an agent of some much-needed change in the curriculum on campus. We find it very encouraging that the committee doesn't plan to just skim the surface of the problem and that it recognizes the need to have students take part in the work.

American Democracy

Richard Nixon Tells Us What It's All About

Remember some of that stuff they told you in high school civics books about democracy being based on the belief that people are sufficiently capable of making decisions on how their government should be run and what it should be done.

Well if you believe that you're all wet. Monday we got the latest word from Richard Nixon on American "democracy."

In answering questions at a meeting of newspaper editors and publishers who were grilling him on his Vietnam policy, he told them, in explaining why his Vietnam policy was so vague, that supposing "Nixon, Humphrey, and Wallace each said what he would do to end the war, I doubt if the American people would have the ability to make a judgement."

That's nice to know. We don't have the ability to judge whether our security is being threatened by North Vietnam, we don't have the ability to judge whether the bombing of North Vietnam is just, we don't have the ability to judge whether the South Vietnamese regime is democratic, we don't have the ability to judge whether our tax money should be spent to revive American cities or to kill peasants and occasional Viet Cong.

When you begin to think about that statement of Nixon (and it could just as easily have come from Humphrey) you wonder about the nomination of candidates by the two parties.

Both parties had contenders for

the nomination who were very popular in the polls; both offered some kind of alternative to the course that our country is embarked on. Both failed to win the nomination.

Then you begin to realize that maybe the people who choose the candidates are like Richard Nixon and "doubt if the American people would have the ability to make a judgement," and so present the American people with two candidates who offer no substantial alternatives to present American domestic and foreign policy.

It's an awesome and discouraging thought, especially to someone who is voting for the first time and thinks he is doing something important in his life.

The only advice we can give you is to be a good boy, graduate with fairly good grades, go into business, join a civic club, become a public official, elected or appointed—preferably a congressman—start letting representatives from the aircraft companies or the oil companies take you out to dinner, let the Air Force fly you to Europe and Asia on junkets, put your cronies on salary at the local poverty project (if they're blacks, make sure they're good blacks, none of these Afro-haircut boys) and by then maybe you'll have the ability to make a decision on our Vietnam policy.

In the meantime, Long Live American Democracy!

Bobby Nowell

Young Liberals Gnawing At HHH

The other day we were standing in Orange County Democratic headquarters, surrounded on three sides by alternately smiling and grim facades of Hubert H. Humphrey, when a former—perhaps still-avowed supporter of Eugene McCarthy came striding in and asked for an HHH button.

"If he keeps making statements like the one he made last night (Monday), I

"Humphrey arrived at the moment of truth but fell back in pallor..."

might even wear it," chortled the bearded youth, pocketing the piece of tin. An insignificant incident, you say. Perhaps.

The McCarthyite was referring to the first really dramatic statement of Humphrey's campaign since the Vice President said in his convention acceptance speech that "the policies of yesterday need not be the policies of tomorrow."

Stop Bombing

Monday night on national television Humphrey said that as president he would stop bombing of North Vietnam "as an acceptable risk for peace." The move, HHH stated, "would be the best protection for our troops."

Any fluttering of pulses in anticipation that Humphrey was at last going to step out from the long Texas shadow of Lyndon Nimrod—to become, as he has often promised, his "own man"—ought to have been brief, however.

HHH killed thypalpitration himself by again offering a version of his previously unwavering demand that reciprocal signs for peace for North Vietnam be registered prior to any bombing halt.

"In weighing that risk and before taking action—I would place key importance on evidence direct or indirect, by deed or word of mouth—of Communist willingness to restore the DMZ between North and South Vietnam," he said.

Backs Off

As he has done so frequently since Chicago, Humphrey arrived at the

moment of truth—of political independence—but fell back in pallor instead of going the good way over the brink.

The fact that Humphrey can indeed flutter pulses even with such amorphous statements on foreign policy is an indication that the youth who have scorned him in 1968 actually want

"The young hecklers... still gnaw at Humphrey's innards."

to—need to—believe in him and be led by him.

In a campaign which has been devoid of anyone appealing to youth, a complete about-face by Humphrey is about the only hope the new liberals retain—and with each passing day and each failure by the Vice-President to gain an identity of his own, this hope becomes increasingly dim. It is all too clear that the obstinate and noncommittal Richard Nixon and the blustering yet empty George Wallace

offer no openings for youthful support.

It is ironic that the Vietnam issue is probably the only thing which stands in the way of the young people's advocacy of Humphrey.

Past Glories

Humphrey has an enviable record of liberalism and reform in his 20 years of public service—but it is also ironic that the young liberals have taken this record and turned it around to accuse the Vice President of living on past glories.

As one McCarthy man and campus leader at N.C. State succinctly put it, "Hell, I would love to support Humphrey. His domestic programs are much better than those of Nixon, and his courage on everything but Vietnam—is unquestioned. But I'm like any other Joe—my deferment expires in another year."

On Vietnam, Wallace's statement that "there isn't a dime's worth of difference in the Republicans and Democrats," comes very close to being true. And of course since Wallace himself doesn't even know where Vietnam is, the people don't really have much to say about where in Southeast Asia the U.S. will be during the next four years, do they?

No one yet knows whether Humphrey really favors a halt to the bombing, because every time he looks pinned down on the question, he launches into smoke-screen tactics, like deriding his opponents as he did following his Monday address.

Gnawing Problems

The young hecklers, without a leader and hungry for someone to vent their anguish upon, still gnaw at Humphrey's innards.

Whether the gnawing from the other side—from LBJ—will continue to have as much weight with the Democratic standard-bearer is something that must be decided by Humphrey soon. There are only 34 days left until the voting, and HHH is in deep trouble.

It is not too late for Humphrey to make his pitch for the youthful, liberal vote with a decisive stand on Vietnam.

And the young liberals would not be two-faced to support the man who was "Mr. Liberal" of the Democratic party until he became Lyndon Nebuchadnezzar's stooge in 1964.



Scott Goodfellow

Rumors—Dime A Dozen

The Chancellor beamed broadly as he ushered me into the large office in the third basement of South Building. "This," he announced, "is Rumor Central."

There was a huge machine along the wall with dozens of blinking lights—all the things one would expect in the Colorado Air Defense Shelter. Lab technicians were running about the room with clip boards, scribbling continuously.

"In this room we check out Rumors, analyze Rumors, even start Rumors. We've checked out everything from the Rumor that WUNC is planning to go Rock and Roll to the Rumor that a prominent Dean left his electric toothbrush running after using a whiskey flavored toothpaste."

Lights Popping

"We're really awfully proud of this little operation." The Chancellor gazed adoringly of the blinking gadgetry. "This is marvelous," I said. "Could you tell me how it works?"

"Surely. First you must realize that we have many Rumor Agents around

campus. They pose as draft counselors in Y-Court, clerks in the Book Ex, SSOC activists, even DTH reporters. And all they do is listen for Rumors. When a Rumor is heard, we feed it into this machine."

The machine clicked at this point, as if burping in agreement. "Look, here's one coming now. I can demonstrate. It says, 'There is a device attached to every home in Chapel Hill which will cut off the water after fifteen gallons are used on a given day.'"

Good Rumor

"That's a pretty good Rumor," I said. The Chancellor popped it into the machine. Seconds later a chute at the other end of the machine threw out pieces of shredded paper.

"There, you see? The rumor is false and the machine has ripped it up."

"That's pretty good," I said, "but who pays for all these people and this machine, so you can check out Rumors?"

"Oh, the Athletic Department, of course. They use the machine a lot, checking out Rumors like Bear Bryant is

holding a one-way ticket to Raleigh-Durham Airport, or Rumors that the NCAA is checking Rumors. They pay for the machine with money from date tickets."

"What a splendid operation," I noted. "Everyone is benefiting."

"But didn't you say that you started Rumors, also?"

"Oh, yes, that's one of our vital functions. Governor Dan—that's what we call the machine—spends most of his time thinking up effective Rumors which would most help the Administration in policy decisions. In fact, I believe Governor Dan is finishing up the final touches on a Rumor he's been working on for several weeks now. Ah yes, let me read it to you."

"...It can now be revealed that Curtis LeMay is behind our water shortage. The General is secretly operating a huge munitions plant in outer Carboro where he is making bombs. He intends to 'send Vietnam back to the Stone Age.'"

I thanked the Chancellor and left, awestruck, and knowing that everything was well under control.

Letters To The Editor

UNC Sandwiches Sloppy And Stagnant

Editor: A few comments of our own on Mr. Shetley's comments in yesterday's article in The Daily Tar Heel on the monopoly held by "UNC Sandwiches" here on campus:

The University Food Service does not give a better product than Made-rite; their product is grossly inferior. And instead of having the university kitchen employees make sandwiches between meals to lower the quality of the food at the Circus Room, might they not spend their time better keeping the cafeterias clean so as to avoid another C health rating?

Also, is it not strange that inflation drove most sandwich prices up this year by 25 to 40% at the exact same time the University Food Service assumed a monopoly on production of sandwiches sold in the Book-Ex snackbars?

The reason students eat at the CR is to

avoid Lenoir Hall, which is now the sole supplier of sandwiches at the Circus; the student cannot win. If the Food Service makes better sandwiches than Made-rite, why not let the consumer decide? Competition is healthy for business, and in this case we are sure it would be more healthy for the student.

We residents of Graham can speak only for the quality of the sandwiches at the Circus Room, but we are sure that the same disgruntled feelings must exist among the patrons, or rather former patrons, of Made-rite sandwiches at the other 8 snackbars on campus.

Even were the University Lake overflowing its banks, all the water in it could not wash down these sloppy, soggy, stagnant "UNC Sandwiches."

Sincerely,
Gene Ramsay
Kim Peele

Al Holyfield
Bill Wisdom
John P. Ripley
Charles Thorne
Curtis Eugene Furr, Jr.
Philip Ashburn
Andy Blackmon
Richard Cox
1st Floor,
Graham Hall

Mideast Conference Not Mis-scheduled

Editor: Jerry Doliner's accusation that the International Student Center had deliberately planned its first session of

the Middle East Colloquium for the evening of Yom Kippur is completely unfounded.

The six-week program was planned during the course of the past summer and Tuesday nights were arbitrarily picked for the sessions to facilitate arrangements for classroom space and films. It just happened that the eve of Yom Kippur fell on Tuesday night, October 1. I can assure Mr. Doliner that the I.S.C. had no intention of excluding supporters of the Israeli position. Had he been at this first meeting, Mr. Doliner would have found that the Israeli position was very well represented, as we expect it to be throughout the next five weeks.

Sincerely,
Jay Gallagher
Coordinator, Middle East Colloquium
305 Carr

Notes

—Mayor Sandy McClamroch on the water problem: "It won't really help to send the students home. After all, they only use about 40 percent of the water every day."

—The varsity soccer team, having dressed out for practice Thursday in Woolen Gym, found they were locked in. Some time elapsed before a team member managed to locate a janitor who could spring the fellows.

—In a lead headline this week, the DTH declared that the Board of Aldermen had taken legal steps to halt the drought.

—One suggestion for helping the water crisis: Everyone fill up a glass with water from the faucet, then drive out to University Lake and dump it in.

—A circular making the rounds in the mails advertises a new graffiti button, "Hubert Smokes Muriels."