

# The Daily Tar Heel

77 Years of Editorial Freedom



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## Advice To The Trustees: Go Home!

Two wickedly funny editorial cartoons, a columnist's discussion of the various uses of the word "shit," a front page headline suggesting the Army might spice up PX confectionaries with, well, tarts—and the DTH made its challenge to the University Trustees. More, it told them. "If you're looking for an excuse to curtail our editorial freedom, attack here!"

I don't know if it "could have been any other way." I suspect not. If the Tar Heel has been too overtly moral, self-contradictory, impatient with the old lies, it is because it has also always been acutely aware of its freedom. This is to its credit, and this is probably why when Trustee Tom White made an ass of himself over "obscenity," the Tar Heel had to jump up and down yelling that the man had long ears.

But style and tone do count for something, and it would not be too far from the truth to say that the Tar Heel was presumptuous, that it abused its freedom.

But by the same token a freedom that can't be "abused" with some leeway is no freedom; and if impropriety, rudeness, or the catchall "bad taste" are the criteria against which we define freedom, it would be just as well to dispense with a bothersome illusion and get down to the business of authoritarianism.

Illusion, however, is the meat and drink of our Trustees. They're right with God, man, and the bank, wouldn't be Trustees if they weren't. And from this they conclude that they are right to govern, educate, and set standards for other, less obviously graced, people.

The trouble is that American life continually elevates little, small-souled men into power and esteem. With the Trustee—the businessman, "developer," the man who's made good, is asked to pass on the ideals of people more naive, more honest, and more idealistic than anyone he can ever recall "succeeding." Need we say it?—He doesn't understand.

A reading of Chaucer won't give him that understanding, either. Indeed, no one expects Tom White or any Trustee to know Chaucer or want to. But would it be asking too much for Tom White and the rest to know themselves? to understand that ignorance of Chaucer is hardly worth bragging about? to comprehend that ignorance doesn't imply common sense, earthiness, or noble simplicity—ignorance is ignorance, and

being proud of it implies debility of the mind.

Is it too much to ask our Trustees to understand that being out of sympathy with the University community does not fit them to govern it? Is it asking too much for them to understand that their disruption policy was wrong from go, that any restraints on the DTH will also be wrong, and that they will probably always be wrong from go when they impose themselves on the University, because they lack a fundamental understanding of what the University is.

Must it always be asking too much of our Trustees to understand that a university which taught businessmen's values would be sordid and low? and that the one significant way in which they can transcend themselves is by admitting as much and making the University the repository of all that they have not had time to cherish, all that is fine and which one day may be the common property of society—but not this day.

Listen, Gentlemen, "friends of the University," Trustees: forgive my earlier sarcasm. I have one serious word of advice to impart to you—Go home. Go back to television, business, the swimming pool, go back to whatever is yours and whatever you enjoy. The noblest thing you can do for this University is to admit your utter inability to serve it usefully. Don't govern us, don't judge us, don't moralize to us.

When you find us upstart, insufferable, arrogant, just shake your head and say that you don't know what this generation's coming to.

It'll be the truth.

### Letters to the Editor

#### Nixon's Speech, Only A Re-Run

To the Editor:

Monday evening, Nov. 3, I chanced to be turning my TV dial when I encountered former vice president R. Milhaus Nixon, Esq., commenting on the Vietnam war. I find it appalling that the CBS network, so early in the season, has resorted to using re-runs.

Fred W. Thomas

#### Moratorium Support 'Implied' By SBA

To The Editor:

Regarding the letter to the Editor by Raymond R. Moose appearing in the October 31 issue of the DTH.

Mr. Moose's point is well taken that there was no "express" support of the Moratorium by the Student Bar Association. The SBA did however show implied support of the Moratorium by arranging a number of speeches by Law professors to Law students concerning the legal aspects of the war.

Mr. Moose asserts that this speaker's program was "in accord with the long-standing policy of the SBA to sponsor speaker programs which address themselves to current legal issues." Is Mr. Moose so naive as to think that "this" particular program was scheduled on "this" particular day as a matter of coincidence? Of course it was in observance of the Moratorium.

Mr. Moose's constant use of derogatory phrases (i.e. "gross, irresponsible journalism... blatant disregard for the truth... inability to understand the English language... irresponsible reporting"), leveled at the DTH for assuming authority to interpret the implied support as "support" is a bit harsh to say the least.

This becomes especially clear in the fourth paragraph of his letter, in which Mr. Moose purports to have the authority to speak for the entire law school. He states: "Such a report tends to give the erroneous impression that future lawyers of North Carolina endorse and support disruptive means of voicing group opinions."

Was this the impression derived from the alleged SBA support? I think not. Was the impression (what ever it was) erroneous? I can't say; I don't purport to speak for the Law School.

Patrick M. McNeely  
Law School

### An Exercise In Ritual

"It is clear that the word has not gotten through to the president, and we've just got to work harder."

Those were the words of Sam Brown, the chief spokesman for the Vietnam Moratorium, spoken in response to President Nixon's speech Monday night on the war.

Apparently Mr. Brown thinks something can still be accomplished by the kind of dissent which was used on October 15.

The October 15 Moratorium was a good exercise in bringing people together concerning a political issue. The large gathering served as an inspiration that people can get together if the collective will is strong enough. Thousands of people, if the issue is important enough, can all crawl out of their little, separate holes for a moment or two to show that they are together.

There is something religious about such events. There is something which shows that man still has the need to be a part of a community, a community not merely based on physical closeness, but on an intellectual, or spiritual basis. There is still that drive in man to be part of the group.

Which is a rather cynical way of looking at the moratorium. But we must be clear about this. If the efforts of those participating in the moratorium are to persuade Mr. Nixon that his war is an evil one and he must stop it, then they might as well go back to their little, separate holes.

If Mr. Nixon had not demonstrated his position clearly enough before now, he did Monday night.

He made himself quite clear

### The Problem With Factories

Today is perhaps the beginning of a small beginning for the students living on South Campus because today the Suite Arrangement Plan takes effect. The Plan allows students who wish to, to convert the living arrangement of their suites so that some of the rooms may be used for living and study purposes, leaving the remaining rooms for sleeping.

The South Campus factories have done little to spur students to a positive psychological, intellectual, or social development. Rather, they seem, by their oppressive architectural structure, to hamper that kind of development.

The students who live in the cubicals out on South Campus tend to become alienated rather quickly

### A Humanitarian Cause

The YMCA-YWCA's annual fund-raising campaign finishes tonight with a door-to-door solicitation in all the women's dorms and in selected men's dormitories. According to Joe Shedd, president of the YMCA, the goal from student membership contributions is \$1000. It is also hoped that faculty membership contributions will reach \$1000 as well.

The Y, operating on an annual budget of \$11,000, relies on these contributions to supplement funds from other sources. With its budget, the Y is able to offer valuable services in four principle areas.

These services consist of a wide range of programs in the areas of community service, international affairs, campus services, and a number of ad hoc programs such as VISTA, Upward Bound, and the Carolina Talent Search, to name just a few.

Among the many activities in the first three areas of service are

about the whole issue. He does not really care what the masses in this nation think about war and the death which results from it. The blood. The gore. The pain. The tragedy.

President Nixon does not really seem to care about that. He seems to care more about his political position in both the world and in this country.

And the backers of the moratorium might as well stop dreaming. Large gatherings are fine. Woodstock was fine. It was called the revolution of our generation. It was a collective, ritualistic event. That is where our generation is heading. Towards that kind of communion.

Some of us, of course, are heading the other way. Towards complete alienation. But when the time comes, when the opportunity comes to be part of such mass gatherings, the willingness seems to be there to participate. That is a fact of our psychological make-up.

When people are really faced with freedom, there is a need to shun the responsibilities which that freedom demands. They put their faith in a religion, or a political movement, or a rock-and-roll band. That explains Woodstock. And it explains the moratorium.

No, President Nixon will probably not do anything because of the efforts of the moratorium participants. And because he has the power, there seems to be little the dissenters can do to achieve their ends. They might as well go back to their little, separate holes. And get back to the real end and business of being alienated.

just because of those cubicals. For entering freshmen, the handicap can be a major one.

There have been efforts by the elected leaders of the residence college system to do something to make the "living-learning experience" a better one. But programs of that nature seem to result in failure. Alienation is difficult to eliminate, especially when students have to live in a sterile atmosphere.

This idea of rearranging the living plan of the suites is one which could have some good results. By allowing students to relate to one another on a more personal, integral basis, some small beginning in eliminating that feeling of alienation may be beginning.

the Murdock Committee, to work with mentally retarded children; the Umstead Committee, to work with psychiatric patients; and the Tutorial Committee, to tutor elementary to high school students.

If there is one organization on this campus which consistently functions as the nerve-center of the programs designed to serve the community, it is the Y. But the Y cannot hope to serve on such a grand scale unless it has the financial support from the community—from students and faculty members—that it needs.

When the representatives of the Y visit the dorms tonight asking for membership contributions, we hope the students will respond. Making a donation to the Y pays for a membership in the organization.

It is also a small way of promising that the humanitarian efforts of the Y will have the financial backing needed to fuel the individual efforts of those that participate in serving others.



Bryan Jones

### Radical Centerists Begin Move

Lately, there has been a running battle on the subject of a Conservative columnist for the DTH, with the misconception rampant on both sides of the political fence that a Conservative is a Rightist.

This is patently ridiculous. If a Conservative is a Rightist, and if the farthest Right one can be is Fascist, then it follows that the most extreme Conservative is a Fascist, check? Except that a Fascist government for the United States would be a major change, and that is not Conservative.

From the standpoint of a new group, The Radical Center, Left and Right are both insane, but Liberals, Conservatives, and Moderates are not. Upon finding the leader of this new group—Neville Clarke, a dark-haired freshman of medium height and bulky weight—I was immediately struck by several questions.

"Wait, how can the Center be radical?"

"Easily," Clarke answered, "Radical, after all, refers to a system of methods, not ideals. We have a radical Right, working for the destruction of the present government (and think what would have happened to our present government if Wallace had been elected) and we have a Radical Left, working for the destruction of the present form of government. Then, the intention is to establish their form of government in its place."

"And the goal of the Radical Center?"

"To use extremist methods to make the present government work efficiently. And if you don't think that that is radical, try getting a letter from here to Greensboro in less than three days."

I nodded, recalling my own problems with the USPOD. "But, aren't there very few Radical Centerists?"

"At the moment, yes, but if the proper semi-revolutionary fire can be kindled, then we would be an instant majority."

How so? "Well, after all, the three groups we would appeal to are Liberals, Conservatives, and Moderates. These three groups have for years been labeling each other Leftists, Rightists, and

Wishy-Washies, respectively.

If one really looks at them, they should be natural allies, but the labels have always kept them apart. To add to your confusion," he continued, noting my somewhat glazed appearance, "we of the Militant Moderates to use another term—can see that there are Conservative Leftists, and Liberal Rightists."

"Whoa. What about the debates in the DTH?" I asked, glancing back at the first paragraph.

"Simple enough. They are between Leftists and Rightists who are under the impression that they are Liberals and Conservatives; the truth is, a Conservative has too much-ah, Conservatism to attack someone in print, while a Liberal has too much regard for the feelings of others. Or, if you prefer,"

I cut him off for a second with a wave

Ken Ripley

### Yack Should Have Pictures Of People

When I wrote my first column of the year, I remember how I bewailed the fact that last year's yearbook was a book of faces, not people. Now I discover, to my horror, that this year's yearbook won't even be a book of faces—at least not the faces of the people most dear to me.

It seems to me grossly unfair that I won't have a chance to make next year's book a book of people, because the Publications Board didn't think those people were important.

My hackles positively bristled with indignation when I read that Gunnar Froman, chairman of the board, felt the Yack pictures were only used as some form of dating guide. Of course they are used this way at times, but aren't people more important than that?

I know I'd like to see pictures of my friends, particular pictures of people I know and want to remember. I know my parents would like to see a picture of me, not page after page of candids and group shots.

And I'm pretty sure that twenty or thirty years from now, if and when people look at their yearbooks, they won't be looking for dates, but for themselves and for those people they once knew and loved.

The Connor girls were perfectly right to get upset, and petition, and I don't think that their plea to have a campus-wide vote was out of line.

Froman's answer that the contracts are already signed, though nicely quenching hope, is unfortunate, and his nice remark that we can protest next year is maddening, if not arrogant.

Not only does he sound like he's

of my hand, in order to gain a breathing space.

"Perhaps," I began warily after a moment, "you can give me examples of the difference between label and reality?"

"Well, as you pointed out in your essay, the YRC attack on Alan Albright was anything but Conservative, yet it was definitely Rightist. Helms has suggested some rather radical changes for this state—like the elimination of Chapel Hill by the most expedient method. Not very Conservative, but extremely Right." He glanced at his watch. "Oops. I'd give you some examples of the difference between the Left and Liberalism, but I have to attend a rally. On The War."

"Wait! What is the Radical Center stand on Vietnam?"

"Steadfast," he said, and he was gone.

happy that the Board has put one over the students, he makes me wonder why the Board didn't take the issue to the students before they made such a momentous decision. Why?

There was some effort to compromise next year, if the Carolina Bluebook includes all three classes. But while the book is a great idea for the incoming freshmen, it doesn't help overall.

First of all, the paperback book of "mugs" just isn't going to last that long. Such books fall apart very quickly. And also, they just aren't the same as having them in the yearbook.

Secondly, if the books are cloth bound—or even if they're not—I can't see the duplication of effort to produce two books in place of one. My fees are too high, and we've got enough controversy over fees now, for the Publications Board to be so liberal.

Somewhere along the line, those in charge of the Yack's contents, both board and staff, had better be very careful that they know exactly what the purpose of the yearbook is: to capture Carolina during the year—all of it, including the people.

At this point, I'd like to see what students think about getting closed out of their book. I hope that there are more students like those in Connor Dorm who will make their wishes known now to the Publications Board, and not wait until next year and let hopelessness set in.

Boy, I'm going to miss that book of faces, and the book of people it could have been. Even with faces only, it wasn't so bad this year—because it had potential. Next year, maybe I will burn mine.

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