

The Daily Tar Heel

77 Years of Editorial Freedom



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Semester Schedule Needs Change

I'd hate to admit it, but I was glad to come back to school this week, if nothing else to recover from the wild holiday season. To me, the campus was beautiful, the more so from the absence.

But not so beautiful is the prospect of exams coming up in merely a matter of days. I've got the feeling that I'm ready to begin while the semester is trying to hold me back.

It's as if these two weeks were their own kind of small semester. A semester

that promises little more than an excessive number of papers due and the doom of finals.

And I hate it. Grump. I don't object to taking exams or doing papers, though they are the least of academia pleasures, but what I do object to is when we have to take them. The natural letdown after a holiday, coupled with the gloomy Tuesday rain and snow, was all the more miserable because of the knowledge of what lies in the immediate future.

Next year U.N.C. at Raleigh will begin classes late in August and conclude the semester by Christmas. As far as I know, such plans are not on Chapel Hill's agenda.

Why? I'd just like to take a few minutes and put in a plea for we silent majority types who are suffering right now to whatever scheduling committee sets up such niceties. Let's hurry up and get the semester over with before Christmas. The idea, of course, is not new. A

good number of colleges, on whatever system—quarter or semester, trimester or whatever—manage, to complete a complete unit by the holidays. I think it's great that one UNC campus at least, Raleigh, gets to finish early, and, jealously, I wonder why those of us at the main campus can't have the same benefits.

There are plenty of benefits to both school and students, it seems to me. Such a shift wouldn't necessarily have to be too complicated. Merely moving up the schedule a couple of weeks and ending the spring semester earlier would not mean necessarily changing the present system.

Psychologically and practically, the beginning of the new semester in January would be much better than struggling along in one place have lost interest in. At present, Christmas divides a period of about five weeks almost in the middle, creating two pockets of time between holidays in which students are psychologically "down" and the events are confused. Since Thanksgiving and Christmas can't be avoided, moving the semester up would help alleviate that problem.

Another consideration is that many professors have virtually completed or could complete their course under the present schedule by Christmas break anyway. After holidays, the few weeks are almost deadweight anyway; time better spent in easing into a new semester.

Administrators who like to keep students in school and students who have to travel home long distances might appreciate the possibility—if the semester finished before Christmas—of abolishing that semester "break" which comes so soon after Christmas. Either the time could be added onto Easter later or to Christmas earlier, saving expense and confusion.

One other possible advantage is that the shift of beginning and ending times for semesters might prove more convenient to students. I'm sure some would appreciate getting out earlier in May to begin or conclude summer job hunting.

And I know that by the end of the summer I start to pace the walls of my room, missing my friends and suffering acute boredom. At that point, school seems to come none too soon.

And by changing the semester, creating two evenly divided, compact semesters beginning earlier and ending earlier, it would come soon enough.

If anyone else would like to get the semester readjusted here, or if someone has more ideas to shed on the subject, please speak out.

The Administration doesn't have to be inflexible, nor are students always helpless. I have a lot of admiration for those students and those members of the Pub Board who got the Yack pictures put back in.

Maybe things can get done. But it would sure be nice to celebrate Christmas without exams to dampen Christmas spirits.

'Obvious Abuses Of Funds'

The Student Legislature has called for an investigation into alleged abuses of funds allocated to the *Daily Tar Heel*. The "obvious abuses of funds," as described by Rep. Gene Yates, chairman of the legislature's Finance Committee, are said to apply to three editors of the newspaper who had been receiving two salaries—as editors and as staff members.

The legislature has instructed the Publications Board to conduct the investigation and to remove from office those responsible for misuse of the funds. The bill, however, has not yet been approved by Student Body President Alan Albright.

An investigation into the misuse of funds might serve the purpose of clearing the now-tainted character of the newspaper and of placing the responsibility where it properly belongs: on the shoulders of the Publications Board. Consequently such an investigation might be better conducted by some body other than the Publications Board.

The editors who have been receiving two salaries—the editor, the managing editor, and the sports editor—have done so with the explicit approval of the *Tar Heel's* former business manager, Ron Johnson, who resigned last month for academic reasons.

The business manager is an appointee of the Publications Board, a body which is given by the Student Constitution the power "to supervise the financial administration of all student publications financed under the authority of the Student Legislature . . ."

After receiving the approval of the business manager, the three editors each signed two contracts. The contracts were also signed by the business manager and the Chairman of the Publications Board, Gunnar Fromen. In addition, the two checks which each editor received bi-weekly were

signed by Mrs. Frances Sparrow, the director of the Student Activities Fund Office.

The alleged "obvious abuses of funds," then, was conducted completely in the open and had the approval of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Fromen, and Mrs. Sparrow. Mr. Fromen and Mrs. Sparrow are both members of the Publications Board and thus the whole affair had the implicit approval of the Publications Board, which is supposed to "supervise the financial administration" of the *Tar Heel* anyway, according to the Student Constitution.

Mr. Albright might think long and hard about signing a bill which asks the Publications Board to conduct an investigation to discover who is responsible for "abuses of funds" and to fire those responsible. It is the Publications Board which is responsible, whether or not there have been any abuses.

And as far as the "abuses" are concerned, the three editors who have been implicated by the Student Legislature, in addition to obtaining permission before signing two contracts, contributed an amount of work above that required of their editorial positions to merit the extra pay.

Such work included returning to school a few weeks early to put together a special 38-page orientation edition of the *Tar Heel*; travelling, by their own expense, to various cities out-of-town to do correspondence work; and contributing news stories, editorial columns, drama reviews, music reviews, poetry, and cartoons to the newspaper.

Mr. Albright would be ill-advised to sign the legislative measure calling for an investigation into the "obvious abuses of funds." And the Student Legislature would be ill-advised to continue finding the "obvious" where the obvious does not so obviously exist.

Mr. Kirk's Pop Festival

Florida Gov. Claude Kirk, that late-blooming champion of the American way, claimed victory over the nefarious "pop festival" in his state this week, much in the same manner that the white pioneers exulted their triumph over the American Indian "menace."

Mr. Kirk, who first declared his opposition to such events in November, explains his objection with the lucid gusto which swept him into the Executive Mansion: "We're going to show people that they can't come down here and play."

The governor was so enraged at what he saw during a brief visit to the West Palm Beach Pop Festival during Thanksgiving that he had a 15 year old boy arrested for refusing to give his home address.

What he saw was several thousand people sitting on the ground, laughing, talking, and listening to music in the friendly Florida sunshine. Cheap entertainment for the predominantly youthful throngs. And not much different activities than those performed by older tourists who flock to Florida each year to stay longer, "play" harder and—most importantly—spend more money.

However, Mr. Kirk was so

incensed at the unkempt, pot-smoking festival contingent that he decided they posed a major threat to the security of his state. And he announced that he would devote all his energies to prohibiting any more pop festivals in Florida.

A festival had been scheduled for Hollywood (Broward County) the last week in December, and not even Mr. Kirk's blasts could force its cancellation. But the good governor and the Broward County commissioners put such tremendous pressure and restrictions on both promoters and audience at the event that the three-day festival was almost a total failure.

A gathering which had expected to draw 35,000 to 50,000 for a three-day run—by no means large as pop festivals go—attracted fewer than 20,000 people.

The Rev. Billy Graham spoke Sunday, and some folks believed his presence was a prerequisite for the festival permit.

In his stratified definition of "play," Mr. Kirk is clearly discriminating against young people who don't fit his "all-American" stereotype. The failure of the festival was more a result of that discrimination than anything else.



Robin Brewer

The Subject Was Fleemels

Hallo. Do not be alarmed at the sound of this voice. You will grow accustomed to it shortly.

Better now? Good. This is your Fleemel Examination. It will test you for fleemel. It required little concentration or effort, and should give an accurate reading of your fleemel. Just take your time and follow the instructions.

Look at this page. Direct your gaze to the upper left hand corner, where the page is largely white. Stare at this for approximately 5 seconds until a tiny dot forms on the periphery of your eye. This is your stain.

Move your head slowly down the page until the stain hovers just above the line of print you are reading.

Secure a blank sheet of 4 1/2 x 11 paper and fix your stain in the middle of this. This is your banner.

Wait until you hear a voice. This lets us ascribe an identity to you for future reference.

Good. You made it through the first gate. Your banner is therefore of the translucent variety, and your fleemel potential is, at the very least, latent.

Fold your banner into halves and press your digit to it. Wait for the hum. Your stain will recover when the hum in your banner has been established.

You are now through the second gate. Take your key and sign the banner where the hum was, making sure not to commit any rollovers. This is social commitment. Sufficient but not necessary.

Move your stain to the top of the digit mark and place it on top of the hum. After a short while you will hear a sharp noise that can be heard over the hum. Place the social commitment next to involvement and fold your banner into fourths.

Good. When your stain recovers move swiftly to the next gate and switch your social commitment to the standard hum of five, which will put you past

Letters to the editor must be typed on a fifty-space line and double-spaced. All letters must be signed. All letters to the editor are welcomed by the editorial staff, regardless of the opinions and ideas presented within them. Letters should be addressed to the associate editor, care of the *Daily Tar Heel*.

revolution and into the groove. Snap the groove with your digit while maintaining the five hum and you have achieved your new banner, which is the rollover of establishment. You may keep or discard this. It is not important as far as fleemel goes.

You are very close now. Permit your hum five sex to relate to either social punishment or place your digit on the new gate of rockenrollover,

Letters To The Editor

Ban On Radish "Unconstitutional"

To the Editor:

The University's ban on sales of the Radish on campus, cannot be legally supported. The first amendment to the Constitution reads: "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press . . ." The federal courts have extended this to mean all agencies of all governments within the United States. Our Constitution is the supreme law of the land and all other laws are superceded by this document.

The University of North Carolina is an agency of this state's government and therefore subject to these rulings. To prohibit sales here is to abridge freedom of speech and the press. Although state statutes and University policy may be invoked to rationalize the ban, it is clearly unconstitutional.

Many papers are sold on this campus. All the snack bars and cafeterias have newspaper vendors. Yet they have not been banned. Therefore, one must conclude that the content of the Radish is particularly unacceptable to University administrators.

The ban amounts to a celuloid attempt to restrict Radish sales thus causing it financial hardship and limiting the effect of its information. The University's move is a glaring case of political repression but not just an isolated incident in violation of our Constitution.

It is a serious thing whenever a bureaucracy comes to regard the fulfillment of its whims as a standard larger than the law. Moreover the integrity of the University is at stake. How can it profess to support free inquiry and yet restrict free expression.

The issue here is not whether you support the left or not. Rather it is whether you support the Bill of Rights or not.

Sincerely,
Dan Moss, Jr.
Member of the American Civil Liberties Union

posters notwithstanding. Do you feel it now? Slip a banner into the digit, and move your stain translucently towards the identity which should now become visible. The groove you see will make a five hum love which will reveal the truth of your fleemel.

Relax now. You're alright. You have fleemel.

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Tar Heel Views 'Always Pinkish'

To the Editor:

Mr. A. Hewett Rose, III, expressed the opinion that the reporting of the *DAILY TAR HEEL* is biased and the editorials absurd. He has a point. No matter what the issue is, the same leftwing lies come from the *DAILY TAR HEEL* as surely as if it were printed in Havana. The correlation between the editorial viewpoints of the *DAILY TAR HEEL* and the Communist *DAILY WORKER* would approach unity. There can be no doubt about the editorial viewpoint of the *TAR HEEL* on ANY issue ANYTIME. It's always colorfully pinkish red.

This LEFTWING EDITORIAL POLICY has not been instituted by the present editor; it has been here a number of years. The major contributions to the *TAR HEEL* come from individuals from the Journalism Department. Just any student can not qualify to submit columns to the *TAR HEEL* on a regular basis. Students not indoctrinated with the Leftwing jargon are by definition not eligible—so one sided editorializing results, Mr. Rose.

Many of the facts reported by the *DAILY TAR HEEL* are just outright lies, particularly concerning student opinions. Take your samples from the sociology building and you will get different results from a survey in the School of Business or Venable Hall. How many long-haired "geeks" do you see in Alumni Hall (more than 50%) and in an organic chemistry class (less than 1%). Similarly, differences exist between the opinions expressed and taught in the different schools on campus.

A journalistic viewpoint must be espoused by anyone who wishes to be seriously considered for the major operation of the *TAR HEEL*. He is a product of one school of thought and in no way represents the opinions of the student body in general. Most students read one of the typical editorials from the

TAR HEEL and either become sick, bitter or mad, or simply dismiss it as someone's opinion.

Why can't any columnist dare to be an individual? I'm tired of reading the same old worn out line in the *TAR HEEL*. The Viet Cong aren't always good; everything the Administration does isn't BAD; everything that's BLACK isn't beautiful; every strike isn't justified; every RADICAL isn't a prophet of the Divine; and every PROFANITY can't be vindicated.

How can a column of student opinion be initiated in the *DAILY TAR HEEL*? Could a column of conservative opinion be included if someone or a group of well-qualified students (Graduate and Medical School students perhaps) submitted articles on a weekly basis?

Someone need not really be conservative or moderate to be at odds with the solidly leftwing position of the *TAR HEEL*. A majority of liberals on this campus decry the *DAILY TAR HEEL's* lack of originality, individuality, and honesty in reporting campus and world events. The triviality and absurdity of this year's editorials is regrettable.

Arlan P. Garvey
University Gardens

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