

The Daily Tar Heel

Opinions of The Daily Tar Heel are expressed on its editorial page. All unsigned editorials are the opinions of the editor and the staff. Letters and columns represent only the opinions of the individual contributors.

Tom Gooding, Editor

Awards Of The Week

IRATE PARENT OF THE WEEK AWARD—To the father who found his son sleeping in the lobby of fourth floor James last weekend and promptly turned his son's roommate in for a violation of the administration's visitation policy.

CLASSIFIED AD OF THE WEEK AWARD—To Bev Parker in Winston Dorm who paid for a classified which read: "I suppose I am being irrational in placing this ad, but could whoever finds the \$20 bill I misplaced on campus be just absurdly irrational and return it?"

THE PENN CENTRAL AWARD OF THE WEEK—To the University Party hierarchy for fighting for two days over the chairmanship before realizing that nobody wanted it.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK AWARD—To Dr. James Taylor, assistant director of the UNC infirmary, who said, "The only resemblance (of the infirmary to

North Carolina Memorial Hospital) is that we are located in the same building." Right on, Dr. Taylor.

TAKE A DRINK OF THE WEEK AWARD—To the University which finds itself facing its second water shortage in two years with the level of University Lake 41 inches below normal. Everything would be fine, officials say, if there were some rain to fill the lake and let them use the addition to the dam that was completed a couple of days after the last rainfall.

I AM CURIOUS OF THE WEEK AWARD—To Big Red, whoever he, she or it may be, for keeping the student body and the DTH staff in suspense with three ads in Saturday's paper, none of which said what or who Big Red is.

ATTEMPTED SABOTAGE OF THE WEEK AWARD—To former student legislator and conservative party leader Joe Beard who, prior to Thursday's meeting of legislature, passed out a two-page document listing about 25 motions designed to throw the proceedings into total anarchy.

OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK AWARD—To Dr. Claiborne Jones, special assistant to the chancellor, who assessed the water shortage by saying, "There's no sense in anybody getting excited because it's going to rain like hell before January."

TAKEN BY HIS POSITION AWARD OF THE WEEK—to Student Body President Tom Bello who took advantage of his office Saturday to ride his bicycle through the Union.

FAD OF THE WEEK AWARD—To all the Daily Tar Heel columnists who felt the only way they could express their thoughts during the week was in the form of a fable.

I SHORE AM SAWRY BUT... AWARD OF THE WEEK—To all those coeds who put on their nice blue ribbons to be herded together, led through living

rooms and then be told that they just didn't measure up to the high standards of Zeta Phi Tootie Sorawrity.

POLITICS MAKES STRANGE BEDFELLOWS AWARD OF THE WEEK—To Karl Stauber, head of the Student Consumer Protection Service, who gave Student Stores manager Tom Shetley a hand Thursday by drawing the winning name in the store's television giveaway.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME AWARD OF THE WEEK—To Tim Kilpatrick whose name was drawn from the bucket in the Student Stores. Treasure that TV highly, Tim, you will never again get anything free from the Student Stores.

GRAND RE-OPENING OF THE WEEK AWARD—To the New Establishment which opened its doors this week after being closed down for 30 days by members of the Old Establishment.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE AWARD OF THE WEEK—To the University traffic office which this semester issued parking permits allowing 14,500 cars to try to park in the 6,800 parking spaces on campus.

UPTIGHT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE WEEK AWARD—To Dean Cornelius Oliver Cathey for his letter to Student Body President Tom Bello, telling him, "I must advise you that the action of the Student Legislature in this instance (refusing to accept the administration's policy) cannot be accepted as binding in any way. Neither the Legislature nor any other branch of Student Government may speak for the entire University community, determine policy unilaterally, or modify policies made at other levels of University administration."

But the administration, in its consummate benevolency and wisdom, can?

Ken Ripley

Church Is A Bad Word

"Church" is a bad word nowadays. Of the many institutions now under seige, or neglect, the institutional church must come somewhere near the top of the list.

She comes under attack from the politicians, who question her "privileges" and who trumpet their own causes under the church's banners. Blacks storm the pulpits with their demands. The youth flock out of the church in droves, leaving the church to her "churchianity." Many adults simply ignore her.

And the institutional church hasn't helped. The Church as an institution has become increasingly confused and unwieldy, at the same time seemingly more concerned with self-preservation as an institution than with the spiritual purposes she's been given. The quality of the institutional church has suffered, and her credibility is at low ebb.

As a result, the institutional church is losing her audience. Fewer people are willing to listen to what she says. The post-war religious boom has not merely leveled off, but nearly every major denomination has reported actual losses in church membership.

Colin Morris, a missionary and president of the United Church of Zambia, eloquently expresses the problem:

"Our strident and bitter denunciations of the Church leave no serious wound. The most devastating judgment of the Church comes from the man who, with exquisite politeness, as though raising his hat to a lady, walks quietly out without a cross word or murmur of disappointment

and gets on with the business of living without her, a tolerant but utterly unapproachable neighbour."

However, contrary to popular suspicion, I don't feel that the institutional church is bad at all, merely ineffective. The institution has "asked for it," but I question somewhat that she really deserves all of the condemnation piled on her. The institutional church is humanly run and is, to her own decline and confusion, quite fallible. But not evil.

And not all of the church is "churchianity." The label "Christian" can still be applied, however discriminating. But that non-Christian churchianity that I do see—the sanctity without the spirit, the professions without the deeds, the legalism without the love—still remains a serious infection within the church, one which stifles Christianity within the institution and alienates those outside the Church.

The problem hampering change is that those within and apart from the institutional church have placed too much importance on the institution and not enough on the Church. But the institution is not the Church of Christ. It is only the functional form through which the Church can express itself. Where the institution is wrong, Christians should oppose it.

I criticize the institution where need be, not because I am "outside the Church," but because I love the Church—what it is and, more importantly, what it can be.

The Church, from the band of early disciples until now, is not an organization, but people—the body of

believers" who have accepted the good news of the Gospel and have become followers of Jesus Christ. The Church is, simply, Christians, all of them, who laugh, cry, work, suffer, and live in a world that demands much of them.

Christianity is not, nor dare it be, an institutionally-centered or man-centered entity by itself. Biblical Christianity is God-centered in its faith and concerned with men in its religious working-out of that faith. On campus, in the home town, in the world.

The Gospel message of Jesus Christ, that God has personally acted to reconcile man with Himself, is an exciting and ultimately important statement. It is the heart of all my concern and efforts—to show that it is possible for people to have a real, lasting relationship with God through Christ and a new quality of life itself that is rich, meaningful, and full of more love than a love-starved world can ever believe.

But the Gospel message is not entrusted to me alone, but to all Christians—to the Church. With this message comes sobering responsibility.

During His ministry, when Jesus sent the disciples out to preach, He warned them, "He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The God I have come to love has never failed to keep His promises and make good His claims, but we, as very human Christians, have.

"Church" is a bad word nowadays. But who, we should all ask, is to blame? And what can we do about it?

Greg Lloyd

Life And Interstate Highways

Driving back to Chapel Hill after a summer at home, my roommate and I were impressed in a funny sort of way with Interstate Highways. You know, the roads they build just for getting there?

Now this may sound strange because people usually get on a road to go someplace, and the best road to get on is one which goes someplace the fastest—Interstate Highways, of course.

But consider that there are some people around who believe the going, the actual driving time, to be as important if not more important than the destination, then the idea behind Interstate Highways becomes sort of useless.

And why not? Who's to say which is more important—the getting there or the going?

Throughout our entire lives, we are told to get there fast—get through college fast and then enjoy life. But once you get through college, you find that there is only another "getting there" and not an "enjoy life."

So there you are, out of college, and they (usually parents and generally people over 30) are telling you to get a job and then sit back and enjoy life. Life like this appears to be an endless

series of getting there, getting there, getting there. And what's it all worth? The only memories you have are those dealing with how you got there, and the only things you know are things that pertain to "how to get there."

So it appears that everyone has to make a choice between "getting there" and "enjoying life." Some will say, "Well why can't you enjoy life while you get to where you are going?"

What's the use in getting anywhere if it only leads to another thing that you have to get to? What's the use in making good grades in high school so you can get into college, then making good grades in college so you can get a good job, then working hard at your job so you can make more money, then making more money so you can a better life insurance policy, then having a better life insurance policy so you can die?

The answer to this is because that is the way we have been brought up to live (or die), that is the American way of growing up, that is the way it has always been—people don't know how to think for themselves.

People have always gotten on Interstate Highways just to get some where and not to enjoy the drive.

So now the question becomes, "Should I pursue a meaningful life, or should I go along with the system?"

Judging from the number of people who have chucked the system, it is

obvious that there are many people who either don't want to lead a meaningful life, don't know what a meaningful life is, or think they can lead a meaningful life within the system.

Now I don't think there are too many people who truly don't want to lead a meaningful life, so I believe everybody who hasn't chucked the system falls into the other two categories.

Those who don't know what a meaningful life is and remain in the system will undoubtedly be trying to change the system or at least help some friends realize what it is.

So now we've got people on three different levels—those who don't know how to live, those who know how to live but prefer to remain within the system, and those who know how to live and reject the system.

There are good arguments for both the "reject the system" people and the "stick with the system" people, but I think it is unrealistic to think that one can totally do without the system.

Besides, when you reject the system, you may find that you must reject some of the people you love who wish to remain within the system. People mean a lot more to me than any system which needs reforming.

However, if everybody would make the effort together, then we could make a system where everyone could live a meaningful life. The decision is yours and mine. Together we can get to the point where we won't need Interstate Highways—or systems, for that matter.

Letter

'Private' Restaurant Irks Letter Writer

To the Editor:

On the way to Chapel Hill today we stopped at a place between Pittsboro and Chapel Hill for some of their good Southern barbecue. It was well advertised by road-side signs along the way. Looking for the entrance we encountered a door marked "Private." Then we noticed there was a place to order near a window at the front. We ordered a barbecue and a drink.

The person who waited on us said, "We have a dining room inside if you'd like to come in and sit down." She indicated the door around to the side. I said, "But, that's marked 'Private.'" She replied, "Well, that's to keep the colored out." Restraining myself as much as I could I simply told her, "Well, we don't want any of your barbecue then." Shading our heads in disgust we drove on to Chapel Hill.

This is the heart of law 'n order country. I suggest some people of various shades of "color" who lie in the area

make a special trip to this place. And take the Sheriff with you.

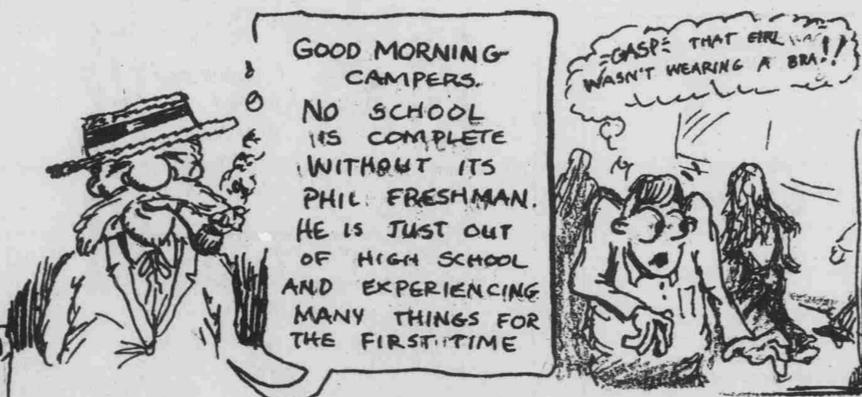
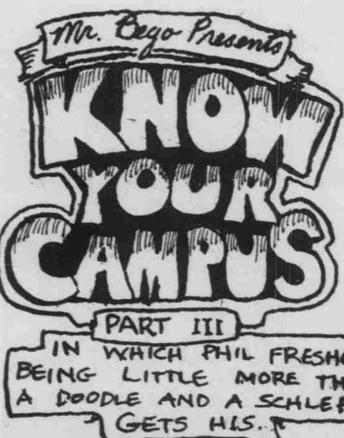
Sincerely,
Robert D. Raiford
Hilton Head Island
South Carolina

Letters

The Daily Tar Heel accepts letters to the editor, provided they are typed on a 60-space line and limited to a maximum of 300 words. All letters must be signed and the address and phone number of the writer must be included.

The paper reserves the right to edit all letters for libelous statements and good taste.

Address letters to Associate Editor, The Daily Tar Heel, in care of the Student Union.



HIS DORM LIFE IS CHARACTERIZED BY AN ABUNDANCE OF PLAYBOY PINUPS, AN ABUNDANCE OF SCHOOL SPIRIT, AND PLENTY OF RIDICULOUS PRANKS.

