

The Daily Tar Heel

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Tom Gooding, Editor

Nelson Drew

'No-Knock' Protects Innocent?

The news release began "Phoenix, Ariz.—Narcotics detectives, raiding what they thought was a hippie hangout, exchanged shots early Sunday night with residents of the house who had just moved in. The man of the house and a policeman were injured."

and the brave...and the "no-knock" search warrant. The "no-knock" warrant, in case any of you might not remember, is that wonderful invention of the Nixon administration which protects innocent citizens like you, me and that family in Phoenix from hippies and other nasties

who use drugs. It enables police to enter any house without warning if they believe they may find drugs there. At the time that the "no-knock" idea was being debated in congress, there were many misguided souls who spoke up against it. They thought it was a poor idea. One which was a direct infringement

on an individual's right to privacy, and which could lead to many innocent people being injured, or at the least, unnecessarily harassed. Even some police spoke out against the law, pointing out that a policeman could be legally shot by the owner for breaking into the house without warning.

All of these people were wrong. We know that they were wrong because the Nixon administration and the supporters of his anti-crime bill told us so. No innocent people would be hurt because the police would never use the "no-knock" law unless they were positive that drugs were in the house. It would be a good law, because it would prevent drug users and pushers from flushing the evidence down the drain while the police were knocking at the door. It would help protect law-abiding citizens from the evils of marijuana.

Now, no sooner has the bill become law than we find ourselves reading the report from Phoenix. An innocent man has his house broken into. He is shot in the side. A police detective is shot and loses two fingers. And the official police comment on the incident? "It was a misunderstanding."

A misunderstanding? Several people could have been killed because the police failed to notice that the people they were after had moved out of the house several days earlier. Just a simple misunderstanding. You know, just one of those things.

It is one of those things, admittedly. One of those things that should never have been allowed to happen. Not because the police should have been more careful. (Which they should have.) But because there should never have been a law which permitted it in the first place.

The "no-knock" law is perhaps one of the worst laws ever passed in this country. If used to its fullest extent it would turn this country into a police state which would rival Nazi Germany or the Soviet Union during the purges. As it is, it represents a gross violation of an individual's constitutional right to privacy. And worse, it places the value of human life at a level somewhat lower than the value of a fraction of an ounce of drugs.

The law is in direct contradiction with all of the principles of freedom which the laws of this country are supposed to be designed to protect. In a sane society it would be declared unconstitutional.

But getting rid of a law takes more time than creating one. Until such time as it no longer exists, as appalling as it may seem, its only redeeming feature lies in the fact that hopefully police will not use it for fear of being legally shot. Some police departments have already said that they will not use it for exactly this reason.

It is, unfortunately, the wrong reason for not using the law. But as long as the law still exists, it is better than no reason at all.

'Do Nothing' Day For An Election

Today is a good day to do nothing.

There's an election going on.

Twenty-two legislative seats, 14 Honor Court seats and 15 class officer slots will be filled by student voters today.

Twenty-two people will be elected to take 22 seats in legislature so that body can continue to do such things as tell Student Body President Tommy Bello that he did a "no-no" by spending \$894.64 for a leadership conference without asking their permission.

Fourteen people will take seats on the Honor Court, gaining the power to do such things as censure one of their membership for wearing sandals to court proceedings, as was done a couple of years ago.

And 15 other people will gain the distinction of being winners of the biggest popularity contest on campus short of Homecoming Queen—they will be a class officer.

The sole purpose of class officers used to be to get their pictures in the Yack, but now they do not even do that.

They do nothing.

When students start to mark their ballots today, if they bother to take the time, they will have a choice, something that is highly unusual in campus elections.

That choice will be a small one, but it will be a choice.

Students living off-campus have

the option of electing three student legislators who will do something other than argue parliamentary procedure in legislative meetings.

And freshmen have the opportunity to elect class officers who recognize the worth of class officers and make no pretense of being able to work miracles.

Gerry Cohen, Charlie Dean and Jake Alexander have campaigned for seats in the legislature representing Men's District III on a platform of "Vote The Rascals In."

Cohen, Dean and Alexander have promised that they will do something in legislature besides slap Bello's wrist for spending money without asking legislature. They offer a chance for legislature to do something besides debate parliamentary procedure.

The "Do Nothing" candidates for freshman class officers offer freshmen a realistic outlook to class officers. Jack Knight of Greensboro, presidential candidate; Lance Dunn of Charlotte, vice president; Steve Robkin of Atlanta, Ga., secretary; DeWitt McCarley of Greensboro, treasurer; and Karen Ellis of Fuquay-Varina, social secretary, propose nothing in their platform.

Class officers do nothing, they say, and therefore they propose nothing.

So when you go to the polls today, "Do Nothing."

But "Vote The Rascals In." Student Government will be better for it.

COF—A Good Thing

The Carolina Opportunity Fund is attempting to raise more than \$100,000 this year to establish a permanent scholarship fund for disadvantaged students.

In order to raise that amount the organization will sponsor a series of programs and fund raising events. They are currently sponsoring a drawing for the game ball from the UNC-Duke football game.

Tickets for the drawing will be sold all across campus during this week. Joe Stallings, head of the Carolina Opportunity Fund, has called the drawing one of COF's most important activities "not only because of the money to be raised

but also because of the large numbers of students involved."

There is a substantial number of high school students across this state who desire to attend this University. However, attendance at this University is limited not only by academic ability but also by financial worth.

Any individual who possesses the intellectual ability to attend and graduate from this University should not be denied that opportunity solely because he can not afford to pay more than \$2,000 a year for an education.

"There are many people who have the ability and talent to make significant contributions to our state and nation who are unable to do so because they don't have the money to go to college," Stallings said.

We believe the Carolina Opportunity Fund is the best way students can help to correct injustice. We encourage all students to fully support this program.

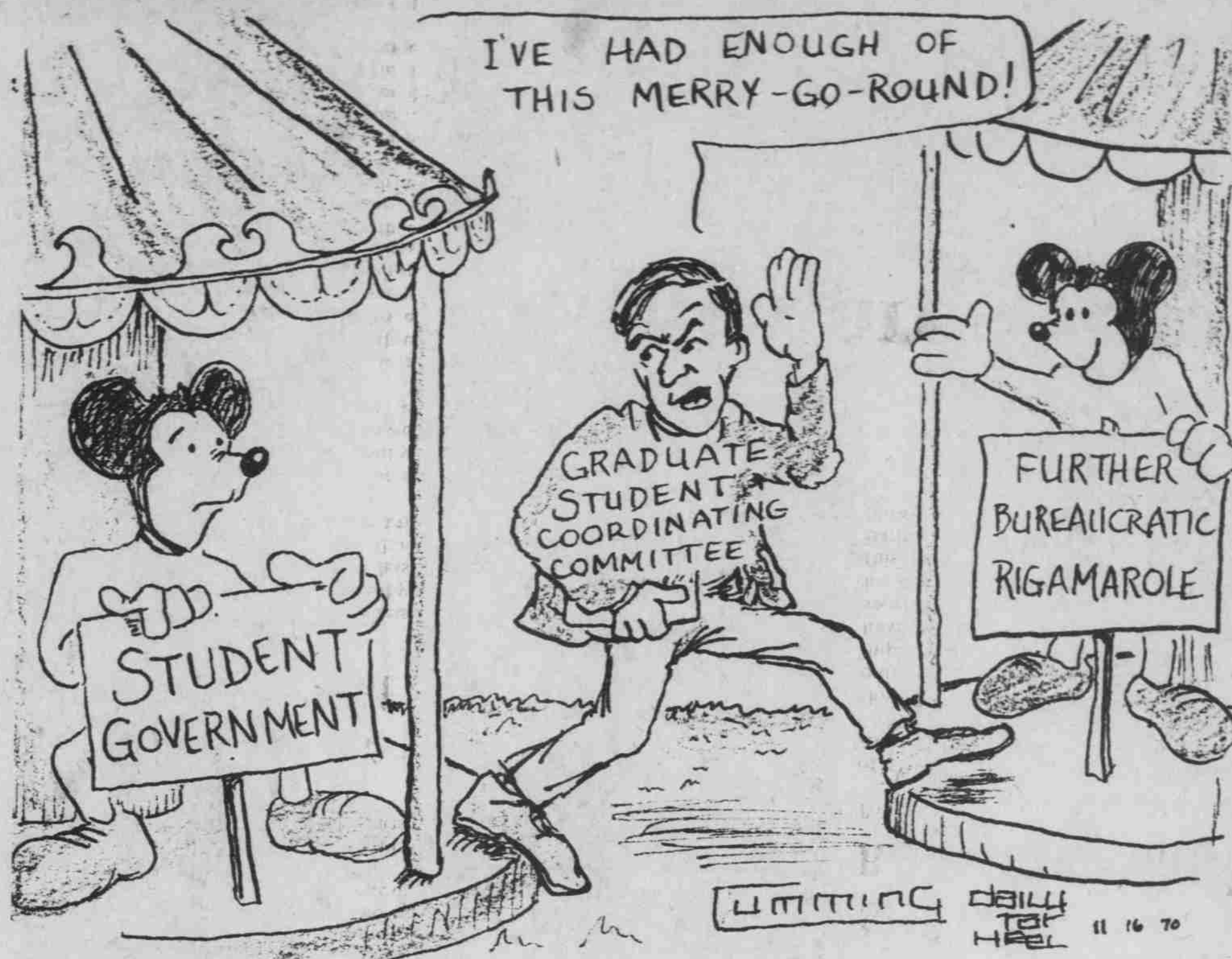
Issues From Back Issues

November 17, 1965

The State House of Representatives approved and sent to the Senate an amendment to the Speaker Ban Law giving the Trustees the right to regulate visiting speakers on campus and removing that power from the legislature.

November 17, 1962

A sophomore coed pled guilty to a breach of the Campus code by driving after closing hours without the written permission of her parents. The coed received an official reprimand.



Letters

Noise Bothers Free Flick Fan

To the Editor: As a viewer of the free flicks at the Union I must protest the actions of those people who stupidly make disruptive noises while the movie is in progress. These noises are often irritatingly boisterous, a fact to which many students attending the flicks can attest. Those same hell-raisers also make a nuisance of themselves getting drunk on weekends. Do they not realize they are severely infringing on the rights of other students watching the movies? Is that the only way they can express themselves? I know our admissions system is really screwed up after all.

Bernard Harris 951 James

Jeff Wood Wants Serious President

To the Editor: Today, freshmen will elect class officers. A few students will seriously consider each candidate and his qualifications, some will lightly pass the elections by, and many won't bother to vote at all.

Recent criticism of class elections (DTH, November 15) has certainly influenced freshmen opinions. They have been told that class officers are simply a farce and serve no purpose. I disagree.

As an independent candidate for freshmen class president, I realize the office exercises no executive or legislative power. I see the office as an honorary position; an elected and recognized leader of the freshmen class. The freshmen class president will be the representative of the largest class in Carolina's history. Shouldn't students vote for a responsible and sincere candidate?

A "do nothing, anti-class" slate is, in effect, making mockery of the class: "Look at my cool slogan. Vote for a cool cat. Then we'll sit back and laugh." That is the real farce of the election: insincere candidates.

There is no reason why some type of class organization cannot begin in 1970. The offices can function if students elect some "conscientious" and sincere leaders for the freshmen class. Maybe that is what has been lacking in the past. So, vote today. Elect a candidate who will "do something."

Jeff Wood 721 James

Ockerman Down On 'Do-Nothings'

To the Editor: When I decided to enter the race for Freshman President, I, too, heard all the comments about Freshman officers never doing anything, and that there was some thought about doing away with class officers completely. I entered the race

because I believe that there is a purpose for class officers and that we can get something done for the members of the Freshman class.

While I'm not claiming that we can produce world-shaking activities, I do feel that there are certain areas where class officers can do better jobs than other campus groups. For example, in the past two weeks I have heard the Freshman class labeled as the least active and the Sophomore class as the most active. The apparent reason for this is that it takes a year to find out how to get things done, where to go to do what when. Yet I see no reason why the information, or at least a much greater portion of it, cannot be presented curing orientation. The Freshman officers are the obvious people to conduct a survey of their class to find out where Orientation was successful and where it was lacking.

Another reason that Freshman officers have been unable to "do anything" is their isolation from the members of their class. We have proposed a Freshman Senate of elected representatives whose duties would be to focus class desires, then organize and carry them out.

I personally feel insulted by the positions of the "Do-Nothing" slate. I think most of the other candidates will agree with me when I say that I would not have run for Freshman office if I

thought the whole idea was a farce and that nothing could be accomplished. The officers, a Freshman Senate, and anything else class-oriented, exist for whatever the class decides to make them. We are the largest class in UNC's history and I see no reason why we cannot be the most active. At any rate, I ask that the "do-nothings" and the rest of the campus give us a chance before they condemn us.

Foster Ockerman 105 Teague

Sports Column Right About Ali

To the Editor: In response to Mr. Barber's criticism of Chris Cobbs' article on Mohammed Ali:

Mr. Barber must surely be somewhat short-sighted if he believes Ali's victory only refers to the ring, and has no social implications beyond that. Mr. Cobbs does have the foresight like any good sportswriter should and was justified in his comments. If we are to assume that this was just another fight, then Mr. Barber is indeed entitled to just another blow-by-blow summary.

Charles P. MacArthur 335 Ehringhaus

Tony Lentz

Scott Cares About Schools

One of the goals of my administration will be to set this State on a course that will make it possible for every high school graduate, no matter how poor he may be, to get all of the post-high school education he wants, needs, and can profit from. No longer must the boy born in the log cabin in the remotest mountain valley, or the girl born on the tenant farm in the Coastal Plain, find themselves doomed by poverty or residence to be educational cripples.

—Gov. Bob Scott

Seldom in this age of violent denunciation and unreasoned verbal attacks do we hear the voice of constructive criticism.

And it's even more difficult to find a kind word for higher education in a time when high government officials struggle desperately to cut the young people off from the rest of the nation.

But Governor Bob Scott proved himself the exception to the rule in a recent speech to the North Carolina Association of Colleges and Universities.

Scott makes three major points in his address: colleges should be more economical in the use of public and private funds, colleges and the State must work to remove barriers to higher education for the poor, and colleges must

work to improve the quality of the education experience.

But the most interesting part of his speech to me as a student was a list of nine questions that he felt colleges and universities should ask themselves. I feel they're worth reprinting here.

1. Are we on our campus engaged in a sort of education ritual in which semester hours and quality points are considered more important than the development of a student's ability to analyze and evaluate?

2. In designing the educational experiences on our campus, have we paid attention to those innovative changes that have proved productive and meaningful for today's world?

3. Have we devised a system that ensures that each student, especially those on our larger campuses, who wants to be a member of an educational community, can be? Or, have the students no alternative but to be lost in vast numbers?

4. Is it possible on our campus for a student to go through four years of college without ever once having his values, emotions, or sense of self deeply challenged? If so, what can and should be done about it?

5. What is the general effect of the

college or university community on the moral and ethical character of our students?

6. Do we use the lecture method almost exclusively because it is the easiest? Or, are we convinced that it is the most effective way of teaching?

7. Is the research being done by our faculty members really original research? Is it really beneficial to our academic community or to society? Are there any areas of research on our campus that could be discontinued without any loss to our institution or to mankind?

8. Is our institution really doing well all that it has undertaken to do? Or, is it aspiring to undertake other tasks without having mastered the ones for which it has already accepted responsibility?

9. Are our institutions more interested in enrollment figures, size of campus, new buildings and more degree offerings than in really striving to achieve excellence where they are?

The Governor deserves commendation in his drive to make education a real possibility for all North Carolinians.

The questions he has raised are evidence of a sincere desire on his part to help students by improving the quality of educational life.

And his questions deserve answers—better answers than academic freedom and tenure.

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78 Years of Editorial Freedom

Tom Gooding, Editor

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