

The Daily Tar Heel

81 Years Of Editorial Freedom

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

Susan Miller, Editor

September 29, 1973

Daily Tar Heel weekly awards

The Welsh of the Week or Ford Runge's The Worst Bargain in Town Award to Student Body President Ford Runge who still has not paid off his bet on the King-Riggs tennis match.

The We Should Pay Our Help More Award to News Editor David Eskridge for sitting down at a local lunch counter and finding a whole donut. Thinking it was abandoned, he ate it himself, only to see, in the mists of his gastric activity, the proud owner of the donut return—wondering what the hell happened to his breakfast.

The We Come to Bury Caesar Not to Praise Him Award to Senator Sam for his fantastic closing quote at his appearance here—"As long as I have a mind to think, a tongue to speak and a heart to love my country, I shall deny that our Constitution grants the President any right to convert George Washington's America to Caesar's Rome."

The Guns Are More Important Than People Award to the U.S. Senate for bending to White House pressure and increasing unimportant funding of the defense budget, after decreasing it.

The "You Sure Said It" award to Dean Donald Boulton for his

comment concerning the frozen funds for campus organizations—"The biggest slush fund on campus is the Campus Governing Council."

The "I'm Not Paranoid, Just Cautious" Award to Washington Post columnist Chalmers Roberts for replying to a question as to whether he thought his phone was tapped—"I've always operated on the assumption that the better part of discretion is to be discreet."

The Happy Birthday to the DTH Award to the gnomes in the shop who caused the DTH to grow eight years between Wednesday's and Thursday's issues by proclaiming "89 Years of Editorial Freedom" on the flag. Actually, it's 81 years. A contribution to the DTH Legal Defense Fund will help make it 82 years. Send contributions to The Daily Tar Heel, Box 49, Carolina Union, UNC.

The "Let Him Slowly, Slowly Twist in the Wind" Award to Richard Nixon for not saying anything for or against his Vice President Spiro "Zero" Agnew.

The All Women Are Good For Is . . . Award to the Tackety Yack for having no pictures of woman athletes and two pictures of women in typical Miss America poses.

Ken Allen

Yes, we have no Tar Heels today

It's 8 a.m. You pop out of bed and head for your first class on a dead run, pausing only to pick up your copy of *The Daily Tar Heel*.

Or, perhaps it's 8 a.m. and you pop out of bed and head for your first class, pausing only long enough to wonder why in hell there aren't any DTH's where they're supposed to be.

Or, if you have gotten a DTH, you may wonder why the national news reads like it was taken from the 11 p.m. news cast on TV.

Well, hopefully this will answer some questions and while it may not help you get a DTH, maybe you'll at least understand.

First off, local news is written from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. Unless it is really important (such as Amelia Bellows entering a beauty pageant or Ford Runge getting indicted on fraud) if it happens after 6, we save it.

The same basic thing goes for national news. All the news that is made nationally or across the state during the day that makes the United Press International wires is sifted through by a wire editor.

He takes the important things and tries to shoe horn what other large papers devote two sections to into one page with ads.

And so it goes with sports and features. Everyone's deadline is 6 p.m.

Why is the deadline 6 p.m.? Well, copy editors have to read everything for accuracy, style and readability (contrary to popular belief, the DTH does employ copy editors).

Then, editors "lay out" the individual pages, decide what should go where, how big a headline to put on it, what the headline should say and draw all this on a piece of paper for the people in the shop to follow.

The shop? Yes, downstairs, in the Union, next to the bowling alley and behind the women's rest room is a big room where Student Graphics (the shop) takes all the typewritten copy and turns it into what you see in the paper.

This stuff is glued onto a piece of paper the size of the DTH (sometimes straight, sometimes not so straight). Headlines are printed up and glued on and black sheets of paper go up where pictures will eventually be.

All of which takes time. Sometimes, this creates confusion. Last semester a staff member was doing a last-minute type-job on a research paper in the DTH office.

A light tap-tap-tapping came at the door sometime around 4 a.m.

Some fellow wondered if it was too late to get a letter to the editor in the paper that was coming out that morning.

The poor guy just couldn't understand. We do hope you can.

But what does all this mean to Joe College who has simple tastes, is easy to please and just wants a cross word puzzle to work in his class?

Well, now the situation gets complicated. Unless you are a freshman, or junior transfer, you can remember last year when DTH's were put in each dorm and then a whole pile was dumped in the Union.

Over the summer, the DTH changed printers for a variety of reasons (most of the monetary). The DTH is striving for financial independence and is trying to get the paper to more people. Now, this may confuse the uninitiated and I, myself, am a bit unclear as to why we are increasing our readership by hiding the papers. But here is the story I get: Only 6,800 of UNC's almost 20,000 students live on campus. The others live in fraternities, sororities, apartments and other off-campus places.

So, the major apartment complexes, fraternity courts, and street corners passed by off-campus students on their way to class were pinpointed.

And lo! Papers should be dumped here. But, since all these new places were getting papers, the papers had to come from the old places (supply and demand).

And, to complicate matters, only one person is now handling the circulation (incidentally, he also runs the press). So, we now have less people having more drop points.

Therefore, (this is it, folks) instead of putting a few papers in each dorm, John puts a lot in each dorm complex.

Wherever there are groups of dorms, there should be stacks of DTH's. And, there is a stack or two on Franklin Street, in the Y-Court and in the Union.

People who don't find papers in their dorms and apartment people who don't know there are papers to be found in their apartment complexes all go to the Y-Court or the Union, causing the papers to be gone by 10 a.m.

If you have read this far, you probably wonder, so what. Well, if, just once, you get up a few minutes early and search around, you'll probably find a huge hoard of DTH's, and then you will know where they are.

There are 15,000 of them out there somewhere.



Letters to the editor

Ervin insults UNC students with tardy arrival

To the editor:

Sen. Ervin was more than 20 minutes late for his appearance on this campus Wednesday evening. He arrived without explanation or apology for his delay.

The reception scheduled for after Sen. Ervin's speech was cancelled because the senator could not attend. Unfortunately the invited guests did not learn of this until after they'd needlessly waited for 30 minutes.

I don't know if these delays were the fault of Sen. Ervin or of the Forum Chairperson Betty George. But I do know that tardiness is a waste of other's valuable time and it is unquestionably rude. Moreover, I am absolutely certain that I'd rather not have my Union Activity (non-voluntary, non-refundable) fee spent on or by those who insult the students of this university.

Chris Edwards

Roommate left in chicken legs

To the editor:

Wait, Johnny! They left the same message when I found my roommate perched precariously among the chicken legs in the

freezer.

Four-hundred and fifty degrees is definitely too high a temperature for deicing. After half an hour, my roommate turned into dandelion fluff and blew out the window.

That is the symbolism . . . Linda Craven University Gardens Apts.

Sobbing Nixon repulses reader

To the editor:

I am compelled to offer a dissenting opinion on Tim Sims' article, "President deserves compassion, consideration." Once again Dick the Slick pulled the emotional act on the American public to keep them from receiving the facts "absolutely cloudless." Need I elaborate on the effectiveness of Nixon's "Checker Speech"? I think not.

Mr. Sims, you speak of patriotism. I ask what has patriotism to do with Nixon sobbing on national television. Nixon emphasized on feelings. It should be obvious that Nixon has the ability to look one in the eye and whimper, while begging for

consideration. Nixon does need consideration (psychiatric). He is a very sick man.

I point out that you said little about the content of Nixon's speech. Yes, the President is human. But the same laws that protect him as a human being, also subject him. Yet unlike we mortals, King Richard can proclaim himself immune to subpoenas and depositions. The issue is not the quality of Nixon's speech, rather what Nixon said in his speech. Nothing!

Now Mr. Sims, you seem to be easily persuaded by the looks of a person. As for myself, I am behooved that the President is able to obtain knowledge unlimited of domestic and international affairs; yet, he can not tell when a damn "bug" is on his nose.

Jim Wynn 121 Ehringhaus

Santa's letter discriminatory

To the editor:

As assistant chairperson of the League Against Discrimination Against Dandelions (LADAD), I would like to offer evidence to close the ever-widening credibility gap initiated and perpetuated by John Santa in his grossly prejudicial letters printed in the DTH during the past week.

Dandelions cannot write! I feel that it is a sin—even more—a damned shame that dandelions are getting blamed for the incredible events described by Mr. Santa.

Furthermore, there is empirical evidence conclusively demonstrating that both pansies and nasturtiums do participate in the practice of highly irregular cults. (Cf. "Me and All the Flowers" by Iama Gay) I therefore strongly suggest that Mr. Santa refer his accusations toward these or other fringes of the flower population and leave the dandelions alone!

Believe you me, they are innocent!! I.T.S. Hail Town House Apts.

Graham cartoon 'in poor taste'

To the editor:

This letter concerns the Billy Graham cartoon in Thursday's edition of the DTH. In short, it is our opinion that Dave Shores' cartoon is in poor taste. Regardless of your religious beliefs, we think the subject matter is far too serious to making jokes about. We hope that in the future the DTH will make better use of their space.

Jeff Johnson Rick Jernigan 2128 Granville South

P.S. By the way, Mr. Shores, from a theological stand-point, the notion is nonsensical view of the fact that no mortal can save anyone.

Telephone story creative writing

To the editor:

My congratulations to the DTH for its excellence in creative journalism. The lead article in Wednesday's paper ("phone company sued . . .") combined both form and content to clearly illustrate the confusion and lack of coherency in the Chapel Hill Telephone Co. system, since the lines of the article were arranged in a jig-saw, hide-and-go-seek fashion.

The repetition of the final paragraph also brings to the reader's mind the type of doubletalk which usually emanates from the offices of said company. Keep up the good work!!

Read Gilgen Dept. of Romance Languages

Reprinted letter corrects mistake

Editor's note: The Daily Tar Heel wishes to apologize for a misprint appearing in Ray Pittman's letter in last Saturday's issue which has caused considerable consternation for several persons. The mistake was an error made by the compositors, Student Graphics, and appropriate steps have been taken to insure that such errors do not occur again. The words causing consternation were not those of the writer. The letter is reprinted in original form:

To the editor: During my four years at the University of

Letters

The Daily Tar Heel provides the opportunity for expression of opinions by readers through letters to the editor. This newspaper reserves the right to edit all letters for libelous statements and good taste.

Letters must be limited to 300 words and must include the name, address and phone number of the writer. Type letters on a 60-space line and address them to Editor, The Daily Tar Heel, in care of the Student Union.

North Carolina I have observed that it has always been the policy of The Daily Tar Heel to present the news as factually as possible. It is for this reason that I am submitting this letter.

I feel that the recent letter of Steve Robkin needs a few words of clarification. In expressing his disapproval of the announcement of the upcoming Billy Graham crusade at Saturday's football game, Steve used the very descriptive terms "commercial announcement" and "advertising". Calling on my old friend Mr. Webster, I found that both of these loosely defined meant publicizing for the purpose of selling a product. It is here where I feel the clarification is needed.

Fortunately for Steve and I, what Mr. Graham will be talking about in Raleigh next week is not something that he has the ability to sell nor we have the ability to buy. That's because it's free. It was purchased in a "rip off" deal many years ago by a good friend of ours.

I wanted to add this to Steve's letter because, even though I've never met Steve, I can really identify with him. Not many months ago things as seemingly unimportant as an announcement at a football game could infuriate me to the point that I would have done more than write a letter. I'd probably have gone up and punched the guy in the mouth (taking into consideration his size, of course). But after I heard the Good News about a better way of "trucking" through this world, things don't seem to upset me too much anymore. Who knows Steve? Since you took special notice of this announcement, enough to call it to so many peoples' attention, maybe the good Lord was offering you or the others like myself who were at the game, a special invitation for next week. The good Lord really does work in funny ways.

Ray Pittman Durham

P.S. Thanks to the Daily Tar Heel for allowing all people to express their beliefs.

Reader replies to statue defense

To the editor:

James Jernigan, I resent the implications made in your Sept. 26 letter regarding my view of the '73 Yack.

Your letter insinuates that my knowledge of history is dim, that I am oversensitive and you straight-forwardly called me a racist and a bigot. But no more should be expected from one who would equate the South's part in the Civil War with today's blacks' struggle for equality.

You tell me that, the southerners "fought NOT, to perpetuate the degradation of black people" . . . but the primary issue was the protection of their homes and their way of life."



I ask what was the South's "way of life" during the days of the Civil War? It was to repress and destroy the lives of my forefathers. Those southerners went to battle believing they could conserve an institution characterized by atrocious treatment of black people.

You ask me not to "drag Silent Sam in the mud, because the soldiers he represents were my people, and the people of thousands of other students here." If it upsets you to hear of Sam figuratively dragged in the mud then imagine how I feel when I think of how my ancestors were literally dragged through the mud.

Silent Sam would have had a better defense had he spoken for himself.

Aaron Fox 219 Ehringhaus

The Daily Tar Heel

Susan Miller Editor

Winston Cavin, Managing Editor
David Eskridge, News Editor
Mary Newsom, Associate Editor
Seth Efron, Associate Editor
Adrian Scott, Features Editor
Elliott Warnock, Sports Editor
Tad Stewart, Photo Editor
Ken Allen, Night Editor

Dick, that line doesn't read: "I'm behind him one-thousandTH of a per cent!"