

# End of independence

In order to protect freedom of expression, both editorial and artistic, a buffer must be placed between campus media and the political structure which supplies them with some of their funds. That buffer has traditionally been the Media Board, an overseeing body composed of some Student Government representatives, some professional members, members at large, and representatives from each of the campus media.

That buffer has now been destroyed by action of the Campus Governing Council. The entire concept of balance and expertise has been destroyed with the passage of bylaws never seen nor approved by the Media Board.

The official bylaws of the Media Board, signed by the Student Body president and CGC speaker, were lost when the Media Board was ousted from its office and its files were placed unlocked and unguarded in the lobby of Suite C. Although several copies of these bylaws exist (including copies in the appendices of the Student Government Code), the new chairperson of the Media Board, Dick Pope, took it upon himself to draft a new set of bylaws and present them to the CGC. No other Media Board members saw these bylaws.

These bylaws have not been passed by the Media Board, as tradition, law, the former bylaws and common courtesy would seem to dictate. For that reason alone the action of Pope, the CGC Administration Committee and the CGC is repulsive.

More frightening than this seizure of prerogative, however, is the fact that the new board does not permit either professional representatives or anyone associated with the campus media to vote. The only voting members are appointed by the president, the CGC, the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, and members selected by these appointees. And the new bylaws are riddled with provisions for CGC intervention in any Media Board actions.

In other words, the independent Media Board is gone. Can independent student voices in the campus media long survive?

# Grading the graders

At 4 p.m. today in Hamilton Hall auditorium, the Faculty Council will convene. For most students, the purposes and procedures of the council are obscure, if not completely unknown. Today at 4 p.m. is a good time for students to learn a little more about the council, its goals, and the kind of persons who people it.

A committee of the Faculty Council, under the chairpersonship of Provost J. Charles Morrow, has proposed a re-evaluation of grades which would make A's rare, C's common and current levels of performance the equivalent of one letter grade lower than currently received. Today's A-level work would be graded as B-level work under this proposal.

This proposal comes without benefit of student commentary or input. It is a complete distortion of a proposal by Professor James Leutze of the history department to permit "plus and minus" gradations between letter grades in order that greater precision in grading can be achieved.

The committee proposal can do only harm to the graduates of this institution as they leave to compete for scarce slots in graduate and professional schools and in the job market. As long as other schools do not revalue their grading systems, Carolina graduates must face unfair competition.

Faculty Council Chairperson George V. Taylor has shown the resoluteness and good sense to openly oppose the "downgrading" scheme. The Campus Governing Council has passed unanimously a resolution condemning it. Now individual students must convey their objections to the Faculty Council as a whole.

It is in the interest of every student, from the full-time beer-guzzler to the half-crazed Wilson bookworm, to oppose this grading change. That opposition should be expressed today in the auditorium of Hamilton Hall at 4 p.m.

A lot of students will have the chance to learn a lot about those professors active in faculty government.

# DU and the rest of us

The approval by the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen of a special use permit for proposed renovations in the Delta Upsilon fraternity house has ended a long controversy over the use of DU property. Both the brothers of Delta Upsilon and the neighbors on Rosemary Street had to compromise ultimate objectives, but the final resolution of the conflict should permit some degree of harmony in that section of town.

The aldermen wisely permitted the DU house to improve its property and to expand its quarters. As fraternities and sororities grow and change in orientation, changes in the structures that shelter them must be made. The reliance upon some architectural design revisions and upon municipal noise ordinances is superior to the reliance upon total restriction by denial of the permit.

Controversies over Greek houses in residential areas are likely to continue. Legal actions requiring the relocation of such houses is undesirable because of the cost to the houses in terms of property loss and disrupted histories and traditions and because of the strain between the town and the University community such actions would produce.

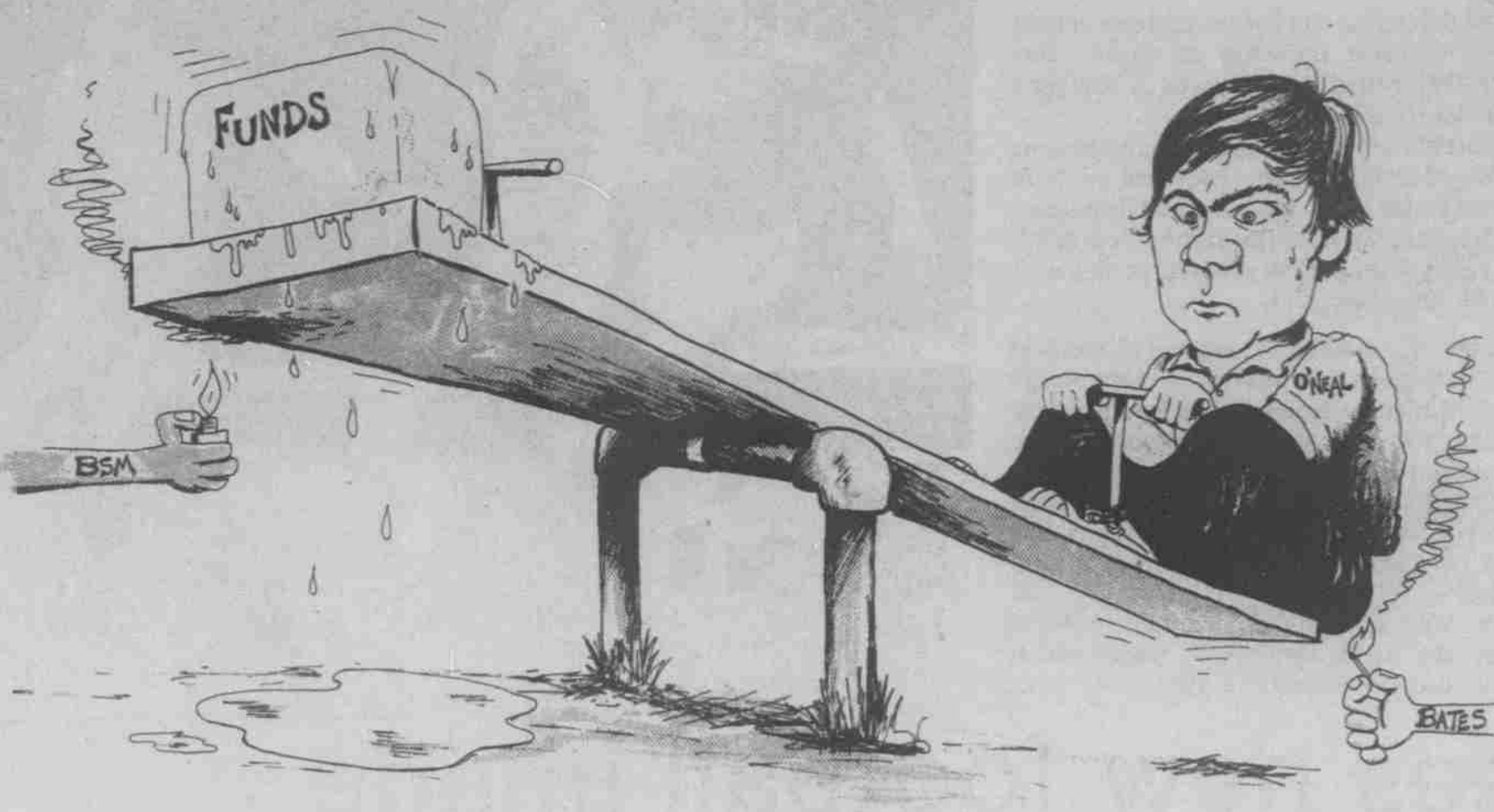
This kind of controversy underscores the need for students to register to vote and to exercise their votes in the upcoming November elections in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Even newly arrived students can register to vote after 30 days residency in either of the towns.

Students, University personnel and individuals not related to the University must live and work together. We must also, therefore, govern together.

**The Daily Tar Heel**

83rd Year of Editorial Freedom

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HOT SEATS

# Tom Boney Jr. U.S. should not give up canal

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger recently concluded widely publicized negotiations on a Middle East settlement. Not so well-known, but equally important, are ongoing State Department negotiations which would eventually give away the Panama Canal, an important territory owned by the United States.

The thought of giving up the canal began in 1964 when riots inspired by Panamanian socialists broke out over continued U.S. ownership of the canal, which divides the small Republic of Panama.

The United States bought the land to build the canal from the Republic of Panama in 1903 for \$10 million. Additional payments to neighboring Colombia, to a French company which had unsuccessfully attempted a canal, and to private property owners in the canal zone brought total cost of purchase to \$166 million. This figure makes the Panama Canal Zone far and away the most expensive U.S. land acquisition — far more than the \$15 million paid for the Louisiana Purchase or the \$7.2 million paid for Alaska.

Congressman Daniel J. Flood (D-Penn.), a long time foe of the canal giveaway, sarcastically says the return of this property "would be dangerous precedent for the return of the Gadsden Purchase to Mexico or Alaska to Soviet Russia."

The construction cost of the canal, built between 1904-1914, added \$380 million to the U.S. investment.

The \$166 figure includes yearly payments since 1914 to Panama as compensation for lost revenues to a Panamanian railroad which preceded the canal. The annual payment is currently \$1.93 million. This amount is often mistakenly referred to as the "rent" the United States pays to "lease" the canal.

The 1903 treaty, however, specifically grants to the United States "in perpetuity the use, occupation, control" of the canal and canal zone. The U.S. agreed to buy, not rent, the 10-mile-wide, 51-mile-long strip of land. Senator Alan Cranston (D-Cal), a

proponent of surrendering the canal to Panama, said in 1971, "This Nation has been upholding in the Canal Zone the remnants of the 'Big Stick' policy." This is the general thrust of opposition to continued U.S. ownership — the mistaken belief that the canal zone represents the worst aspects of colonialism.

Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass) calls U.S. ownership "an embarrassing anachronism."

There is, however, absolutely nothing about which the U.S. should be embarrassed. The canal is the lifeline of the economy of the Republic of Panama. The per capita income is the highest in Central America. Thousands of Panamanians are employed to work on the canal, comprising three-fourths of all canal employees. And the U.S. is directly and solely responsible for the construction, operation, and success of the canal from which the Panamanians have so prospered.

One of the major reasons many oppose the canal giveaway is the government to whom it would be given.

In a military coup of the late 1960's, Brigadier General Omar Torrijos assumed dictatorial power in Panama. His leftist leanings are viewed with alarm by opponents who foresee communist control of the vital waterway.

The U.S. has always operated the canal as a nonprofit, commercial convenience, allowing ships of every country — including communist — to pass through, all paying the same tolls, established in 1914.

Whether reciprocal fairness and price stability can be expected from the Torrijos regime or subsequent rulers is doubtful.

Since over 20 percent of all canal traffic is sailing to and/or from U.S. ports, unrestricted access is of vital importance to the U.S. economy.

The real irony of the whole situation is that the U.S. State Department continues negotiations despite clear and emphatic Congressional disapproval.

Ratification of a new treaty would require approval by two-thirds (67 members) of the Senate. Senator Strom Thurmond's (R-SC) resolution disapproving of the proposal has 37 sponsors — 18 Democrats, 19 Republicans — more than enough to block ratification.

On June 26, the House passed overwhelmingly (264-164) an amendment to the State Department appropriations bill prohibiting the use of any funds to finance negotiations which would relinquish U.S. sovereignty over the canal. (The Senate has not yet concurred with this provision.)

In the September 12 issue of *National Review*, Dr. James P. Lucier, Chief Legislative Assistant to Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), discloses a letter (released in Panama, but not the U.S.) from Secretary Kissinger to General Torrijos written after the House vote.

*I want you to know that in spite of these things, I am still engaged in the search for a final and just solution to this problem and the establishment of a new and more modern relationship between the two countries (emphasis added).*

Kissinger also refers to the duly-elected representatives as "those who do not want progress," who are doing "all in their power to impede or discourage new advances."

Since the proposed treaty would involve giving away U.S. property, the House would have to agree (Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution) which, at the present time, seems highly improbable.

The State Department should follow Congressional directives and terminate immediately its negotiations with the Torrijos government and perish the thought of turning over this valuable area to an unstable, leftist dictator.

Tom Boney Jr. is a senior journalism major from Graham, N.C.

# Carlotta du Val

# Life among the behaviorists

*A student's perception of an academic department of a large university is often molded by rumors around the dorm or quickie exposure to that department before drop-add has ended. Such questionable sources of information can lead to confusion (No, Seymour, Art History has no nude models). The following interview with Dr. B.F. Skinhead, UNC psychology professor, is an attempt to clarify misconceptions about the psychology department. His name has been changed to harass the guilty.*

Q. Dr. Skinhead, is it fair to call psychology the study of human nature?

Dr. S. Absolutely not! We psychologists do not study human nature at all. Sometimes we do study rat-nature and pigeon-nature, but never human nature. Psychology is the study of human behavior. At UNC we are all behaviorists, except for a few professors, but they aren't going to get tenure anyway.

Q. What do you mean by "behaviorist"?

Dr. S. A behaviorist is one who studies behavior with the intent to predict or modify it. For example, in one experiment we wired a six-month-old baby boy with a special bracelet. Whenever he wet (behavior) we shocked him (reinforcement) to modify his action. Three days later he died of a burst bladder just when we almost had developed a reinforcement paradigm to make him quit crying.

Q. What is the purpose of such experimentation?

Dr. S. Why, with these techniques psychologists could rule the world! If only we could get everyone to wear the bracelets . . .



Q. Are there any immediate applications?

Dr. S. Sure! We use our methods to treat the mentally ill: schizophrenics, victims of paranoia or depression, politicians and other psychobanananants. We also work toward the rehabilitation of convicted sex offenders. This often overlaps with our therapy for politicians. Our methods range from shock treatment to psychotropic drugs. Sometimes, in more obstinate cases, it is necessary to use stronger reinforcers like enemas, castration and induced vomiting.

Q. It has been suggested that psychology, because of its origins and principles, is not a "true science" at all, but a social science.

Dr. S. That is not true. All those expensive laboratory wings in Davie Hall were built just to dispel such a rumor. Why, every semester in our experiments we shock, mutilate and destroy thousands of white mice and stupid pigeons — all in the name of science.

Q. But what about the early psychologists and their work?

Dr. S. They were all dreamers and fatheads. Now we are behaviorists! We don't need old Freud.

Q. Do you mean Freud?

Dr. S. Whoever. He didn't get tenure either.

Carlotta du Val is a pseudonym for a graduate and professional student from North Carolina.

# letters

# BSM deserves funds

To the editor:  
O'Neal should explain the BSM funds freeze clearly or be ousted. Or both. He has shown irresponsibility to the student body.  
Tell me, O'Neal, why the BSM should not have their funds? They do a lot for themselves and many others. I don't know of any local organization or activity (maybe sports) which can equal or come close to matching the vitality and diversity of interests within the BSM. The freeze is a regression for the community, not just the BSM. I want to support the BSM out of my fees and you won't let me, O'Neal. Why? I think you made a tactless mistake. Make it better. Now.

Kirk Johnson  
107B Hanna St.  
Carrboro

# The truth on sword blades

To the editor:  
The recent debates pertaining to the BSM and its choir, money, and other interesting things reflect the continuing skepticism and kindergarten mentality of the "liberal white elite" whose curious orientation has been to criticize that which it does not comprehend or want to comprehend, thus rendering anything "black" as a threat or possibly as a viable creative mechanism imposing its force upon the general academic and social community in Chapel Hill, N.C.  
I like to quote Mr. Paul Green who recently gave his view on the melting pot theory.

Americans are a mighty people; they are powerful but they do not have the wisdom or common sense to match that power.

If indeed we are to produce a new America, it must evolve out of a spiritual harmonization of the races whereby mind is the focal concern and color is not an arbiter in the relationship.

I say the dialectic of the North American Anglo is vivid and remains entrenched in a colloquialism which denies or wantonly refuses to recognize the importance of the African-American population.

The truth will roll on sword blades and nothing else. Salaam.  
Bro. Malimu Baba Omowale

# Rage, uproar and protest

To the editor:  
Rage, uproar, protest! They seem to have an effect that hides objectivity and closes the eyes of many from seeing the views of all sides. The protest and pressure on behalf of the Black Student Movement Gospel Choir raised by the BSM turned Student Government away from its normal functioning in what I consider a highly abnormal process. It seems as if the legal process that we have to work with can be thrown out whenever a serious enough issue creates a shout of protest.

This shows that students can demand action and can influence their elected representatives. A recent example of student influence is the release of the DTH funds when students demanded a paper.

I ask that the student body raise its head and voice its opinion on this issue. Come this Tuesday night to the next Campus Governing Council meeting at 7:30 in the Craige Green Room.

Make your presence felt:  
Zapp Jennings  
CGC representative

# An abstract process?

To the editor:  
Somehow I can't believe that the Faculty Council committee seeks to punish the students of this university for being just that — students of this university.

The ridiculous proposal to unilaterally revamp the present grading scale totally ignores many realities. The Council has apparently forced itself to forget the fact that ours is one of the most academically respected universities in the nation. They have ignored the very important concept of student input. When faced with the near-certainty that students interested in graduate and professional schools would be at a competitive disadvantage, Provost Morrow attempts to explain this away by saying that "Grading is an abstract process." (???) Furthermore, it is my opinion that such a change would lead to a large increase in that phenomenon called "brown-nosing." There is certainly no need for more of that.

For some reason the term "stultifying bureaucracy" comes to mind.  
Mark Randall  
1424 Granville West

The *Daily Tar Heel* welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be typed, double-spaced, on a 60-space line and should not run over 50 lines (approximately 300 words).

The *Daily Tar Heel* reserves the right to condense letters and edit for libelous content or bad taste. Letters will run as space permits and according to their timeliness.