

Thomas Clifford

Reopening the book on JFK

Getting 'straight' on Besse's recall

If the fall semester is any indication, this academic year may well be the year of the recall for Carolina political officials.

Even though this first recall petition was begun in support of the Tar Heel, this newspaper editorially opposed the move because of its extreme nature and the damage it would inflict on progress in student affairs.

Dissidents in Besse's district, Morehead Residence College, have expressed dissatisfaction in the handling of various matters by Besse.

The degree of antipathy toward the Carolina Gay Association that exists on this campus is amazing and disheartening.

Homosexuality is a reality that

cannot be ignored, suppressed, or reduced by the dominant straight society. Nor should it be. Fears that homosexuality can lead to destruction of society are groundless.

The species will continue despite the increasing visibility of homosexual society. There are plenty of machos to rooster for the human race and ensure a surplus of replacements.

And distaste for a particular lifestyle is not justification for suppressing it. Carolina has such a variety of lifestyles practiced by its people that disagreement over desirable alternatives is inevitable.

The Carolina Gay Association has performed and is performing useful services for both the gay and the straight communities of Chapel Hill.

The issue of funding the CGA ought to be a central one in the recall election of Dan Besse. It is clearly the one which has raised the most dissent among his constituents.

Recently, while speaking in Dallas, President Ford said that he considers the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy a "closed book."

Granted, the President may feel that he needs to ease the growing paranoia concerning the country's economic situation and seemingly everpresent rising crime rate by assuring the public that these problems take national priority.

one event that so drastically changed the course of modern American history.

One of many persons who have worked at painstaking expense over the past 12 years finding out all the facts about what happened on November 22, 1963 is Colonel L. Fletcher Prouty.

These photographs clearly show that the commission was wrong in its

assertion that the murder was committed by a lone assassin. Prouty's evidence shows that there was not one assassin involved, but rather three—each working in conjunction with the other to assure maximum efficiency in their mission.

Can this be interpreted, even by Mr. Ford, who interestingly enough was a member of the Warren Commission, as insufficient cause for re-opening the case?

Mr. Ford may figure that too much time has passed since the assassination or that too many witnesses have died or disappeared to sufficiently explain certain rather obvious discrepancies in

the commission's conclusions. He may feel that the American people could get bogged down in the past and not be able to deal with today's problems wholeheartedly.

The fact is though, that all the evidence accumulated by men like Prouty was either withheld from, or misconstrued by, the commission. How and why, are questions which have a better chance of being answered when a new, more thorough investigation is a reality.

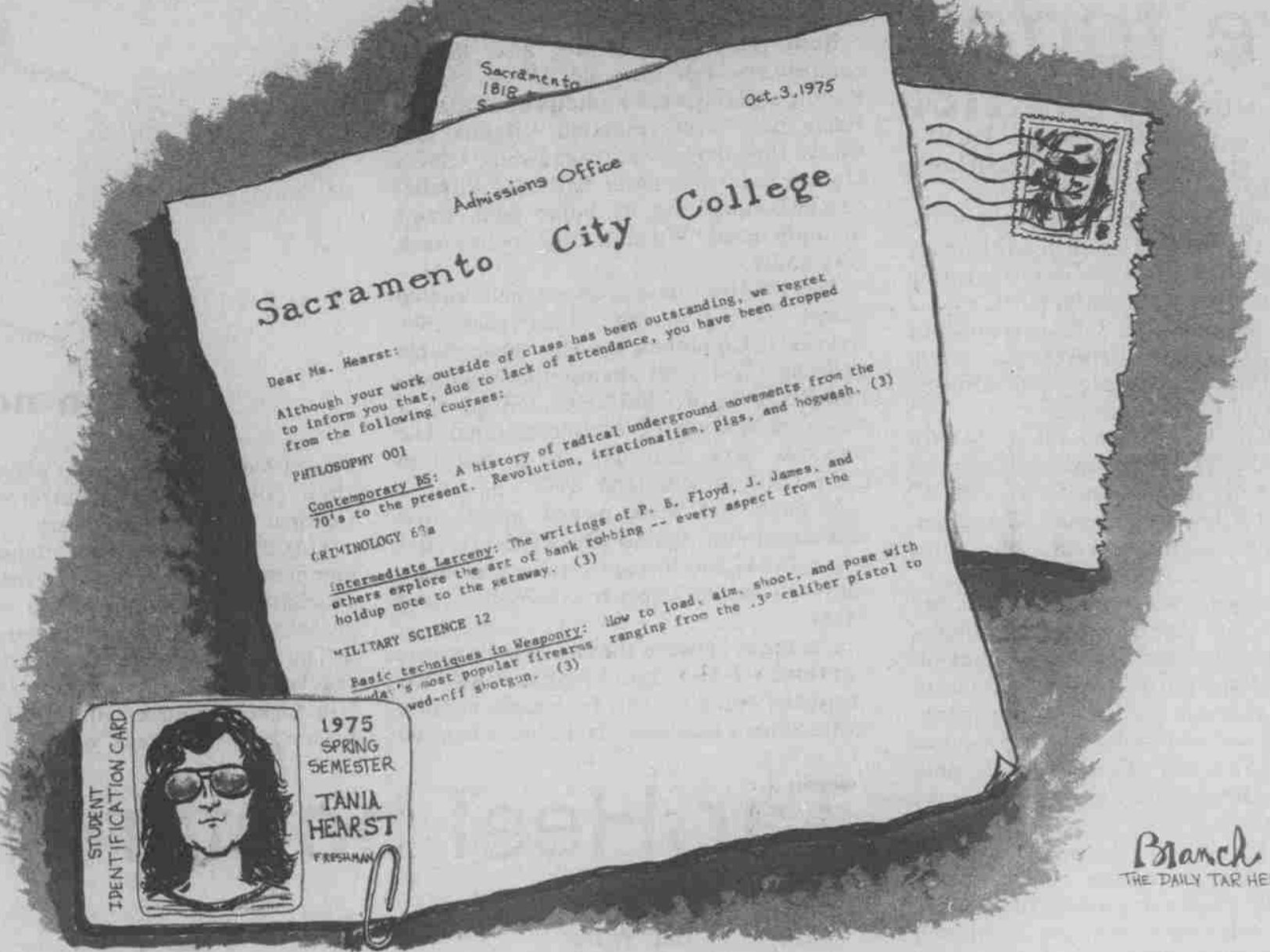
How, for example, could the commission have concluded that the first bullet fired passed through JFK's body, paused two seconds, made an upward right turn, passed through Governor John Connally, cracked his rib bone, slammed into his wrist and cracked two more bones and then pierced his thigh where it became embedded? All with minimal damage to the bullet itself.

And why wasn't the commission presented with evidence which clearly showed that an oak tree blocked Lee Harvey Oswald's view of JFK when he allegedly fired the first shot?

The Warren Commission should have taken it upon itself to investigate why there was no added protection in Dallas when not more than two months earlier police in Miami uncovered a plot to assassinate Kennedy. Why didn't it?

A thorough investigation of the evidence documented since 1963 is needed to find out the truth about what JFK fell victim to. We cannot ignorantly close our eyes to the new, enlightening evidence which is our best chance to show us this truth.

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letters

GPSF deserves financial independence

To the editor: Your editorial on the GPSF treasury laws was interesting, but it missed several essential points. Before one can consider whether or not certain expenditures are reasonable, one must consider the total situation.

First, one must realize that graduate departments did not start sponsoring picnics when Student Government money became available. Historically, such organizations have always had a dual role: social and educational.

The claim that graduate student social life is fundamentally different cannot be so cavalierly dismissed. Very few graduate students live on campus; even Craig cannot be filled with graduate students. And, since none live in fraternities, and few take any courses outside their own departments, one can readily see that a typical graduate student has almost no contact with the rest of the University.

Contrast this with a typical undergraduate's life. Most live in dorms or fraternities; all take many courses in fields

outside their major. The majority of extracurricular activities are aimed at undergraduates. All this creates a sense of commonality; a sense that the University is a community, a whole greater than the sum of its constituent parts.

You further claim that any organization could justify "social interactions." A glance at the CGC budget shows that most groups, with the possible exceptions of the Black Student Movement and the Carolina Gay Association, would have little reason to sponsor a social event.

The need for such interactions is also fundamentally different. A graduate student working on a dissertation must work closely with faculty members. Indeed, there is often little substantive difference between the work of a graduate student and that of a faculty member; theirs is more a colleague relationship. The same does not obtain for most undergraduates. It might be highly desirable, but, by the nature of our educational system, it is not necessary.

Last, you call for new legislation to curb "irresponsible" spending, to halt the "devouring" of the common treasury. The way the laws are worded now, we are restricted in how we can spend even our own money — money collected in dues from graduate students. In fact, if the departmental organization should try to organize a picnic, it could not collect contributions; doing so would be raising revenue, and all revenue, from any source, falls under the treasury laws.

I would suggest that a more equitable solution would be to let GPSF directly allocate all graduate student fees, entirely independent of CGC. Such a course might entail removing graduate representation on CGC's financial considerations; this would probably be a small cost to pay for autonomy.

Steven M. Bellovin, President, UNC Student Chapter Association for Computing Machinery, Department of Computer Science

Recognition for fencing champions

To the editor: Does Susan Shackelford realize that

Carolina has a nationally ranked fencing team? Evidently not, if the sports page of the Tar Heel is any indication.

I can almost understand why other teams whose seasons begin before ours have already been mentioned. I also accept the fact that some have had two or three articles printed while we have remained in obscurity.

It seems to me that a team that has remained the ACC fencing champion for as long as the award has been offered (5 years) deserves at least a little recognition and encouragement.

Kathi Kronenfeld (member fencing team) 1012 James

Fascist pressure on Besse

To the editor: The charge that Dan Besse does not represent his district is simply not true. Besse has done one of the better jobs of representing his district in the CGC.

So, what is really going on? Behind the scenes a fascist group of students want Besse replaced badly enough to begin a recall petition which has been associated with verbal falsities about Besse.

In essence, Besse is being pressured because this group of people cannot manipulate and control him.

D. Michael Fox 307 Stacy

The nature of comedy

To the editor: I did not find Richard Whittle's piece, "Women's lib, seriousness aside" (Sept. 29), particularly intelligent or humorous, and in having such an opinion I probably can be numbered with the majority of your readers.

It is the very nature of comedy to deal with goofs, errors in judgment, injustice, inequality and incongruities. For the subject of comedy is the common man, and as the common man is imperfect, imperfection is comedy's central topic.

Of course, the writer has qualified his statement by limiting it to "contemporary social injustices." I would think that humor would be a dear commodity in any age.

My apologies for this fustian: "If 'tis wrote against any thing, 'tis wrote, an' please your worshipps, against the spleen!"

Harvey Guggenheim Graduate English



...ALSO, THERE'S SOME PRETTY WILD STUFF HERE — ONE, OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT, PART 7, SECTION TWO, "THOU SHALT HAVE NOT FREEDOM OF THE PRESS..."

The Daily Tar Heel 83rd Year of Editorial Freedom. Staff list including Jim Grimsley (Managing Editor), Greg Porter (Associate Editor), Ralph J. Irace (Executive Editor), Jim Roberts (News Editor), Robin Clark (Features Editor), Susan Shackelford (Sports Editor), Barnie Day (Projects Editor), Joyce Fitzpatrick (Graphic Arts).

Carolina Gay Association Homophobes persecute Besse

Last Monday night, CGC Speaker Dan Besse met with some of his constituents (DTH, 10/1/75) and the funding of the Carolina Gay Association was a major topic of discussion.

To draw an analogy to another campus organization, the BSM, it is quite apparent that some (but by no means all) of the hostility towards the BSM is motivated by pure, unadulterated racism.

It would be interesting to know how many of Dan Besse's constituents have ever been to a CGA meeting or social event, read any of our literature, or heard any of our speakers.

always emphasized that all students are welcome at our events. The opportunities to discover the realities about gay people have never been lacking. Have you ever taken any of these opportunities?

Should CGA receive student funds? Those who answer negatively seem to forget that gay students pay fees just like everyone else and are therefore entitled to a piece of the pie.

Is there a need for CGA? Ironically, the answer to this is so resoundingly provided by those who would deny our very existence. As long as homophobic bigots spew forth their diatribe, it is necessary for a countering voice of truth and sanity to prevail.

Things would be very different if more of you homophobes realized that you already know a great many gay people. Your best friend, the jock down

the hall, (horror of horrors!) your roommate. One out of every ten of you is one of us. There are 2000 gays on campus and we're all around you.

It would be wrong to characterize all of Dan Besse's constituents by the utterances of a few vociferous bigots. Furthermore, many who profess to be against the CGA do so only under the intimidation of being labeled a "queer."

The CGA has much to offer for all students. Our events are open to everyone. We maintain a research library for the benefit of those wishing reliable, positive information on homosexuality. We'll gladly send a speaker to your class, club, dorm group, etc., to discuss general or specific aspects of the gay lifestyle.