

letters to the editor

CGC representative criticizes Fuller attack on Carolina Gay Association

To the editor:
I am genuinely shocked by the glaring inaccuracies of the account in the April 27 DTH of the attack on the Carolina Gay Association by Lyndon Fuller. The article appears to have me responding to the results of polls taken to ascertain constituents' views on the CGA.

Republicans speak out

An article in the April 26 Daily Tar Heel quoted Orange County Democratic Party Chairperson Hugh Wilson as saying the Orange Committee's actions against student voters are designed "to get Jesse Helms re-elected."

The UNC College Republicans would like to make it clear that we, and the Republican Party as a whole, do not support the actions of the Orange Committee, a group of conservative Democrats, and have not solicited their help to get Sen. Helms re-elected.

Republicans always have, and always will, support the right of every citizen to vote. We do not condone the attempt to disenfranchise voters because of their political beliefs. If Sen. Helms or any other GOP candidate wins, it will be because a majority of all voters supported him — not because we silenced the opposition.

We also would like to point out that the suit brought in Jackson County to make Western Carolina students eligible to vote there was brought by a group of WCU College Republicans, who were represented by attorney George Kaneklides, a former College Republican.

Jody Boyce, Chairman
UNC College Republicans
38-B Laurel Ridge Apts.

Hodges endorsement

Your recent editorial supporting McNeill Smith and an April 25 article in the Raleigh News and Observer prompt me to write this letter.

The article in the News and Observer cited Smith's account of a recent visit by Luther Hodges to speak before 35 students at UNC. Smith charged that Hodges had first admitted to smoking marijuana and later denied this when confronted by a reporter. I was one of those 35 students and MacNeill Smith's version is totally untrue. What Hodges said was that he has never smoked marijuana and he thought it was ironic that smoking was seeking to make cigarette smoking illegal while legalizing marijuana.

If Smith is a man of such "bountiful wisdom, compassion and unswerving integrity," (DTH, April 24), why must he resort to these derogatory campaign tactics? On the other hand, I have yet to hear Luther Hodges make one slanderous remark about any of the other seven candidates. In light of the tactics McNeill Smith has come to rely on during the campaign, I hardly think he the man to represent North Carolina in the U.S. Senate.

The man that can restore the other Senate seat to the Democrats and once again make

us proud to be North Carolinians is Luther Hodges.

Vance Sanders
208 Lewis

Vote May 2

Angered by the Orange Committee's attempts to take away your right to vote? One of the best ways to protect your rights is to vote in local elections.

On Tuesday, May 2, I recommend that you vote for the following progressive candidates for local office:

For Clerk of Superior Court, vote for Steven J. Rose. Steve Rose is a Carrboro lawyer who has actively helped student voters protect their rights.

For County Commissioners, vote for all three of the following: Anne Barnes, Norman Gustavson, Jan Pinney. Gustavson and Pinney are incumbents who have voted to take action to protect student voters; Barnes is a local political leader who has helped countless students get involved in local governmental affairs.

These candidates have demonstrated their support for your voting rights and, more importantly, their ability to do something about it. Go to the polls Tuesday and help elect candidates who are on your side.

Bruce Tindall
305 Burlage Circle

Smith endorsement

Bill Walker's "clarifications" of the issues in the Senatorial primary are liable to mislead many DTH readers (Letters, April 26). He accuses McNeill Smith of vagueness and of not making "strong proposals." Walker's error is understandable. Smith, in fact, has issued several detailed position papers, but the media has largely ignored them. This does not mean that he has been dodging the issues. On nuclear power, for example, he gave a precise and thoughtful set of answers to a questionnaire from the Kudzu Alliance, an anti-nuclear-power citizens' group here in the Triangle. Smith opposes further construction of nuclear power plants until the problem of waste disposal is solved. What is the strong, positive Hodges stand on this issue? We don't know — Hodges refused to answer the questionnaire. It's almost as if he didn't want to talk about the issues.

Why has Mac Smith attacked his opponents? It's a regrettable fact that this is his best way to get publicity. This would not justify unfairness, of course. He has not been unfair. Consider his charge that Luther Hodges was "waffling." Hodges, asked if he'd ever smoked pot, told a group of students that he had and then told a reporter that he hadn't. I don't think it matters which answer is true; what matters is that Hodges

gave both of them. A candidate is entitled to work only one side of the street. Smith points out his opponents' inconsistencies and Walker accuses him of making "vicious attacks."

Many people know that McNeill Smith would be a better senator, but they wonder if Luther Hodges wouldn't be a stronger candidate against Jesse Helms. They should consider that Hodges leads the polls now because he has the money and the name recognition. The election is still a half-year away, and whoever runs against Helms will attract money and publicity. It's more important that Hodges, a political rookie, is a lackluster speaker and an ineffective campaigner. In fact, he's already announced that he won't debate Jesse Helms! Mac Smith, on the other hand, knows that it will take a hard-hitting campaign to expose the abysmal Helms record. By running that kind of campaign, Mac will have a better chance than anyone else of winning the votes of moderate and conservative Democrats, even those who are philosophically closer to Hodges.

Mac has an outstanding legislative record, takes progressive positions on the major issues, and is an experienced campaigner. The candidate who can beat Helms in November and who will best represent us in Washington is State Senator McNeill Smith.

James M. Lane
Northampton Plaza

Reaction to 'Holocaust'

Peggy Frank's reaction to her fellow Jews regarding NBC's presentation of Holocaust was forthright, honest and refreshing. The television drama was timely, important and superbly produced. The quality of the acting (heretofore overlooked) was the driving force behind Holocaust. The many fine performances brought into vivid perspective the struggle of the Jewish people, their infinite suffering and their eventual triumph over man's ultimate act of inhumanity.

Unfortunately, Frank's analysis of the "complacency" among her fellow Jews and what she sees as necessary retaliatory measures in the Middle East is misguided, arrogant and unfair. In a blanket, paranoid condemnation, Frank charges that the non-Jewish world discounts the Jews as "not important." If that were true, what would account for such widespread reaction to and interest in Holocaust? Clearly, the Jewish community is a highly respected, important and influential force, both in this country and around the world.

In support of her charge that the non-Jewish world considers the Jews "not important," Frank points to recent worldwide condemnation of Israel's brutal offensive into Lebanon. Perhaps such condemnation is grounded in the belief that all peoples of all lands are "important" and are entitled to live in peace, dignity and

equality; that all people, including the Palestinians, are entitled to self-determination; that Israel's military actions affecting Lebanese civilians is a continuation of the vicious "circle of violence" that only begets more violence. In no way should the terrorist acts of the P.L.O. against citizens of Israel be condoned. Such acts, however, do not justify such massive military retaliation as has occurred in southern Lebanon.

Frank says that "Jews do fight back... for their very survival in the Middle East." She implies that criticism of such conduct is nothing more than anti-Semitism. Such a conclusion would be unfortunate and inaccurate. Those who are fighting for Israel are not fighting for the survival of Jews as such, but for the perpetuation of a Zionist state which seems to regard some people as more "important" than others and, therefore, ignores the principles of human rights for all which we, as Americans, are supposed to stand for.

Michael Harris
Michael Lydings
Craig Hall

'Playboy,' once again

I read Brodie Duke's letter (Daily Tar Heel, April 25) with nothing less than sheer amazement. How anyone can support the "ERA and any of its affiliate movements" and then write such a letter is beyond me.

In the first place, the issue of Susan Rowe's letter was not Playboy's journalistic merit. No one disputes that Playboy must

splash nude women from cover to cover to get anyone to read those "great articles and interviews." Check the circulation rates for Playboy as compared to those for Harper's or Atlantic Monthly. It's the bodies that sell Playboy.

And the fact that Hustler magazine exploits women in an even more degrading manner than Playboy magazine does not make Playboy innocent. How did you pass freshman English with such an illogical mind?

To imply that Rowe must be unattractive and therefore jealous of Playboy's models because she finds the magazine offensive is outrageous. No matter how much men like you wish it to be true, not all women spend every waking moment trying to please you. I know it's disappointing, but some of us have higher aspirations and more personal dignity than to dream of having millions of men drool over pictures of our bodies.

Of course the reaction would have been different if the magazine in question had been Playgirl. Men would have written to protest front page coverage and glamorization of exploitation, and rightly so. But the principle is the same. It is offensive to the women of this University when the student newspaper gives front-page coverage, in a light-hearted tone, to a magazine that degrades and insults women by viewing them as nothing more than bodies or toys — not individual human beings.

Linda Christopherson
N-13 Estes Park

Fuller's statements, read in his absence by Clay Shugart (the DTH gives the impression that Fuller was present), can be bested in stupidity only by those of Anita Bryant in the May 1978 issue of Playboy. I will always be "shaken" by such appalling ignorance and by attempts like Fuller's to justify his ignorance with pretenses of reason.

Fuller's "poll" revealed the following figures: 29 percent of those polled favored cutting CGA funding entirely, 19 percent favored CGA funding, and 2 percent didn't care. Anyone should be able to see that those figures hardly come to 100 percent. I must wonder where the other 50 percent in Fuller's "poll" stand on the issue of CGA.

I remain appalled that anyone could cite such figures with any seriousness. I am appalled that anyone could cite "personal reasons" as legitimate in dealing with such a decision. I am appalled that those who said their constituents "did not want their student fees to fund any organization that espoused a sexual philosophy of any kind" could, in the next breath, support without question funding for the Human Sexuality Information and Counseling Service.

And, as long as I live, I will continue to be appalled by the use of blind ignorance, closed-minded callousness and bigoted dependence on "personal reasons" in making decisions of political and community concern.

Emily Seelbinder
CGC Representative, District 6

Barber and Barbour

It is important for voters in Southern Orange County to realize that Stewart Barbour, a member of the Orange Committee who was instrumental in challenging the right to vote of many citizens of southern Orange, and Wade Barber, District Attorney in Orange and Chatham Counties, are two different persons. Wade Barber has not challenged anyone's right to vote.

Joe Hackney
Keep Wade Barber District Attorney Committee

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