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86th year of editorial freedom

With closer ties

The visit to the United States by Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-Ping, which officially begins today, seems at first glance to be a cause for much rejoicing. In the new ties with China which Teng's visit symbolizes, there is of course for the United States tremendous potential for trade with the 800 or so million Chinese who inhabit the mainland. And for many Americans there is the simple sense of relief which accompanies our normalized relations with one of the world's major powers. Already, in fact, it is being reported that the American public will be much taken with the winning ways of the Chinese vice premier; and indeed there seems to be every possibility that the historical American fascination and feelings of affinity with China, interrupted for some 30 years, are about to be revived.

But tremendous danger, for both the United States and China, lurks as well in their new relations. Despite the obvious similarities of immediate interest between the two—their mutual fear and distrust of the Soviet Union, and their mutual desire for expanded trade opportunities on an international scale—the dissimilarity of their long-term interests may turn their new-found closeness to their mutual disadvantage. In an odd twist of the old maxim, the familiarity between the United States and China, if allowed to grow too strong by either party, may well breed problems of extreme danger both for themselves and for the world as a whole.

For China, the problems to be anticipated from too-close ties to the United States are both internal and external in nature. On the one hand, it is possible that China might suffer the fate of some of the developing countries which have made themselves too dependent on the economic benefits of close ties to the United States. And while it seems unlikely that China's leadership is either so blind to reality or so overambitious for progress as to place itself in such an economically compromising position, there are also the natural traps and hazards of the Western economic system to be considered. And at any rate, there is a history of popular reaction to governments which encourage foreign economic exploitation, both in China and in the Third World in general, to which the Chinese leadership should not imagine itself immune simply because of its revolutionary heritage. On the other hand, with every move toward closer relations with the United States, China can only do more damage to its already dangerously bad relations with its vastly more powerful neighbor, the Soviet Union.

For the United States, few internal problems of such magnitude are to be expected from stronger ties with the People's Republic; like China, though, the United States can anticipate tensions with the Soviet Union to increase in direct proportion to its increasing diplomatic ties with China. In particular, the possibility of creating a viable league with China in order to pressure the Soviets into concessions elsewhere in the world is one which is fraught with danger—because the Soviet leadership, like the leaders of Russia throughout its modern history, is almost inexplicably concerned with its own imagined vulnerability to such combinations.

The newfound friendship between the United States and China is one which is long overdue, and one which holds great promise both for the two nations and for the cause of world order and prosperity in general. But its vast importance suggests something of its inherent dangers in an inherently dangerous international situation. It is one which must be cultivated with the utmost care.

An impressive promise

Procrastination is no stranger to UNC. All-nighters, last-minute crams, one-draft wonders or humble pleas for an extension are all too frequent phenomena; all kinds of obligations are set aside for the ubiquitous tomorrow.

School, after all, could be no other way. But when seemingly inexcusable delays get in the way of legitimate business, when endeavors that demand careful planning and adherence to deadlines fall prey to the will to "put it off," the result is normally trouble. And when the procrastinator is Student Government, the trouble can be the entire student body's.

Such appears to be the case with the planned Springfest concerts in Kenan Stadium. Nearly three weeks ago, Student Body President Jim Phillips said he expected selection of a promoter for the concerts to come within two weeks. Now, Craig Brown, an executive assistant in Suite C, estimates a decision could be as much as two weeks away.

Student Government certainly must exercise caution in selecting a promoter; with a project as ambitious as the planned concerts, an experienced, capable—and affordable—hand must be there to cope with the numerous snags that are sure to arise. We would like to think the delay in finding a promoter is a reflection of that added consideration and attention to detail. But the fact that the CGC committee appointed to deal with the concerts has yet to meet indicates that productive negotiations have been less than the norm.

Included in the dangers that can result from lengthy delay is the demise of a good idea. If time continues to pass and Student Government still has failed to settle on some substantive plans, the gala weekend in April could come and go without a single note from a big band in Kenan Stadium. Even worse is the possibility that the concerts will take place—but without sufficient planning, financial precautions and the good bands which book their engagements well in advance. Yes, worse than no Springfest in Kenan is a disastrous Springfest in Kenan.

Appetites across campus are whetted; students from all corners have endorsed the return of major outdoor concerts to Chapel Hill. Thus far, though, that weekend in April has been merely an impressive promise.

If Student Government hopes to deliver on that promise, it better secure a promoter and begin the search for bands immediately. It doesn't have much time.

D-days

The communication gap between students and the administrative powerhouse symbolized by South Building has long been a source of torment not only for those seeking explanations, but for those who are supposed to explain. Each semester, students in need of sound academic counseling sing the woes of the Carolina advising system; meanwhile, the advisers lament the excessive work loads that forbid them the time to do their jobs as they would prefer.

Thousands of second-semester sophomores are now reaching the stage at which they must commit themselves to an academic program, and the communication gap is just beginning to wreak its havoc on them. But those who are unsure of their major preferences and who are in need of some straight talk about the opportunities available do have a place to turn to. Today marks the opening of Major Declaration Days. Sponsored by the General College and Student Government, D-days—a nickname not without its sadistic overtones—offers a variety of forums for exploring the possibilities in each UNC department.

The highlight of the two-week program is the Major Mart—held from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. At these times, representatives from Carolina's various schools and departments will be on hand in Great Hall to meet with students and explain the offerings, options and requirements that will face a prospective major. To supplement this academic "home show," departments have been encouraged to offer additional programs and forums throughout the next two weeks.

Ideally, Major Declaration Days would lead every sophomore into South Building with a clear and unshakable confidence in his or her choice of a major. No advising system, though, is foolproof; there will always be unanswered questions, confusing and changing requirements, doubts and second thoughts. Still, sophomores lost in the menagerie of major possibilities can and should take advantage of the resources and help available during these next two weeks; they may not leave assured of their decisions, but those decisions will at least be better informed.

Council chairman recognizes challenge

UNC reputation based on students, faculty

'In Quotes'

By EDDIE MARKS

"The basketball team might be No. 2, but several of our academic departments are ranked in the top five themselves," said Daniel Pollitt, UNC law professor and chairman of the faculty.

Pollitt began serving his three-year term as faculty chairman this month, succeeding philosophy professor E. Maynard Adams.

"We have a very excellent faculty here," Pollitt said. "Every department has professors who are extremely able and conscientious."

Pollitt said a nationwide poll of 4,000 university professors by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* ranked the UNC departments of English, sociology and statistics among the top five in their fields.

"Whenever I go to a conference in another part of the country, it's kind of big to be from Carolina," he said. "It's not only Dean Smith that people talk about either, even though that's the first thing they mention."

UNC also owes its reputation to its students, Pollitt said. "The glory of this University is that whenever something has to be done, it's usually the students who initiate it and they usually do what's right."

"Every year the student body has leaders and non-leaders who react during a crisis situation. They stand up for what is right with courage, dignity and tact."

"The student body has become much more alert, bright and demanding over the years."

The UNC administration is another factor in the University's strength, Pollitt said.

"Since I came here in 1957 we've had more chancellors than football coaches. That's remarkable," he said. "But every chancellor we've had has been extremely dedicated and hard-working. They've set the tone for the rest of the University."

Pollitt said he is looking forward to his new job as faculty chairman.

"The chairmanship involves a tremendous number of things," he said. "Everybody has their own style and their own areas of interest."

"As for my scheme of things, I think the faculty can be most effective if it stays informed. We should take some time to find out what's going on. I don't think the faculty should just sit back and wait for the chancellor to appoint a committee."

Black admissions will be one of the biggest problems facing the Faculty Council during the next year, Pollitt said.

"Dean (Hayden B.) Renwick has made several charges about black admissions and, if they're true, they're deplorable," Pollitt said. "Renwick has spoken to the faculty, but the faculty has done nothing about it yet."

"The chancellor has done something about it, though. He's given a report to the faculty and the Advisory Committee (a standing faculty committee) is looking into it."

"I think one of the problems is that Renwick's speech to the faculty

wasn't publicized enough. If you weren't there, you didn't know about it."

Faculty retirement will be another problem facing the Faculty Council, Pollitt said.

"Under the new law, the retirement age for professors will be raised to 70 in a couple of years. But we're in a transition period right now," he said.

"If we do something for the older professors it might be at the expense of the younger professors. It might also mean there would be fewer positions which would otherwise be available for new faculty members."

"I would like to find out how other universities are handling the problem. We haven't done that yet."

The Faculty Council also will have to face problems created by the relationship between the University and Chapel Hill, Pollitt said.

"The Faculty Council hasn't made a lot of input into town-gown relationships," he said. "But there will be problems like the controversy over the new Press building and the athletic arena."

"It's really hard to guess exactly what will come up. The big things usually come out of the blue. There may be a lot of external forces we can't anticipate."

"There have been a lot of changes since I came here. The University has grown from 6,000 to 20,000 students and it has become coeducational. There will be more changes of equal magnitude but the Lord only knows what they'll be."

Whatever changes may come to UNC, the faculty will be ready to meet them, Pollitt said.

"Not only do we have a high-



Daniel Pollitt

calibre administration and an alert, energetic student body, but there's also a large number of faculty who will stick here through thick and thin," he said.

"The University has been here a long time. I don't think we'll go away."

Eddie Marks, a junior journalism major from High Point, is a staff writer for the Daily Tar Heel.

Making the long, cold drive toward spring

By HOWARD TROXLER

It's 3:25 a.m. and the policeman is singing country music.

Outside the rain comes down steadily—a cold blanket that sends the late-night walkers scurrying inside. I wonder why the hell they're out tonight anyway. They pound on the doors and I run to let them in. That's my job.

The policeman is a campus cop, a young guy who would just as soon not have his shift supervisor come by and catch him goofing off. He plays a guitar and sings Merle Haggard. He's pretty good. He also doesn't want to be patrolling in the rain.

It's the second week of class and I'm going insane.

"Let's go to the beach," Melanie said at 3:30 a.m. So we went to the beach. First we spent half an hour chipping ice from the 1964 Volkswagen. Then another 15 minutes starting the car and filling it with gas and oil and life. And then four hours driving on ice-covered roads to Carteret County.

"There's an ice storm warning out," Ann had warned us. "Do you think it's worth it?"

The sea was gray and foamy and a bitter wind blew along the shore that made us turn up our collars and shiver. A wave caught my shoes by surprise and I cursed the cold I knew would come.

We walked for miles picking up shells and sand dollars and weird pencil-shaped objects that we decided were crab tails. After an hour the sun broke across the water and we opened our coats to the breeze.

When we left Emerald Isle it was 58 degrees and Chapel Hill was forever far away. We drove for hours under blankets in the VW, stopping at both a Hardee's and a McDonald's on the way.

I fell asleep and woke up and the car was on the median and Kevin was yelling in my ear. No one else had ever driven the car but we made Melanie give it a valiant try while I slept in the back seat.

We laughed and sang and swore at the broken windshield wiper. We raced pickup trucks and drank warm Mountain Dew and tried to hit other cars. We usually missed but didn't care.

And then it got colder as we headed west and the ice grew back on the roads and the windshield froze over, obscuring the road signs that pointed to

Chapel Hill. We stopped singing and pulled into the dormitory parking lot. We were home.

The vacation lasted 11 hours.

I have a friend who insists that the intellectual decline of the '70s can be traced to two factors: the advent of disco and the rise of Colombian marijuana.

Somehow this theory becomes more palatable while I sit in the Union through the eighth playing of "Freak Out."

"Listen," Carter said. "With the old stuff, you smoked and went out and kicked ass. But now, all you do is lay back and say 'aahhhh.'"

And meanwhile, all the beards I know talk about drugs and all the sweaters I know talk about elections and I talk about both, depending on which one I am at the moment. And we had a chance to be ranked first in the nation and my Beatles albums lie dusty and unused. And it's cold and I caught a sore throat at the beach.

It's a long, long time until spring break.

Howard Troxler is a junior journalism major from Burlington.

Letters to the editor

Art Building essential for department unity

To the editor:

We have read with great interest the piece by Craig Brown ("Emphasis on research should be lessened," Jan. 25) on the back page of the *Daily Tar Heel*.

There is one piece of serious misinformation that we believe must be corrected, however. The reference to the "Ackland Art Museum addition" does not correctly understand the function of the proposed new art building. It is being designed entirely to respond to the teaching needs of the art department. By adjoining the art historical courses and the studio classes in the same building the opportunities for the students, both undergraduate and graduate, will be significantly greater. Presently the classrooms for art history, the library and the slide collection are housed

inadequately in the back section of Ackland Museum; the studio classrooms are housed in Lenoir Hall, Caldwell Hall and out on Airport Road in the Art Lab facility. The new building will improve these facilities and make them more responsive to students' needs.

Thus the art department at last will become a unity with a close interaction between the studio, art history, art education and the Ackland Museum rather than separate parts scattered over the campus. This unity is essential for the art department in its efforts to carry out successfully its teaching mission.

J. Richard Judson, Chairman, art dept.
Evan H. Turner, director of Ackland Museum

Unrecognized defense

To the editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to clear up any misunderstandings that may have arisen as a result of the advertisement that appeared on page 2 of the *Daily Tar Heel* on Wednesday, Jan. 24. I am referring to the announcement that positions are now available for students interested in becoming "Honor Court defense counsels or prosecutors." The Association of Student Defense Counsels, which placed this advertisement, is not an officially recognized student organization, nor does it have any connection whatsoever with Student Government, the student judicial process, or the Office of the Student Attorney General. The judicial

branch of Student Government, to which the chancellor has delegated sole initial authority in matters of student discipline, is an entirely separate entity which has as its goals the effective operation of the Honor System and the education of all members of the University community about their responsibilities under this system.

Interviews for prospective members of the Undergraduate Court and the student attorney general's staff will be held soon after Spring Break for all students who are interested in working with the newly revised and significantly improved Honor System on this campus.

Suzie Mitchell
Student attorney general

Colorado cool

To the editor:

Okay, I can take a joke as well as anyone, but Friday's "Great American Myths" (Number 13 in a series) cartoon by someone suspiciously designated only as "Miller" sort of irked me. You see, the problem lies in the fact that I'm from the hallowed institution of Colorado University in Boulder, Colo., and therefore have a distinct attraction to that town. Obviously Miller has never been to Boulder, otherwise he/she would clearly realize that people don't have to be into "higher consciousness," whatever the hell that is, (I assume Miller means consciousness, not yet having learned to spell) to be cool. That's your great myth, at least on the east coast, Mr./Ms. Miller.

As a matter of fact, I can definitely say people in Boulder, Colo. are the coolest folks east of the Rockies. In fact, they could give Chapel Hill a few lessons, including cartoon instruction. So let's not show our envious colors; we can't all be cool or Boulderites. By the way, Miller, Boulder is a very clean town, sans garbage on the streets, and the beggars are usually a bit taller and from the east coast.

A.M. Gordon
Carrboro, N.C.

