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The Daily Tar Heel

92nd year of editorial freedom

Blinded by the light

That six-pointed star is back atop the Morehead Planetarium, shining through the night and heating up controversy. Some like it up there, a few don't and most don't care.

question and agreed to put the star back up to advertise the planetarium's 35th birthday celebration.

But the chancellor didn't need that Supreme Court ruling to justify displaying the star. While the star does have religious connotations, so does the show it advertises.

Fordham had ordered the star's removal in 1982, after a UNC law professor claimed it was a religious symbol and thus should not adorn a public building.

Fordham's was a cautious decision, based more on avoiding a big fuss than on an interpretation of the law.

In this case, opponents of the star have carried the separation of church and state to an extreme - begging the question of what constitutes a religious symbol. Law professor Barry Nakell argued that because the star is a solitary display it is more difficult to prove it is secular than the display of the nativity.

Taking education home

A plan being developed by Student Government could help make living at UNC the total learning experience that college is intended to be.

Stadium in the region known as South Campus.

On South Campus, white and black students live together, not as part of some experiment, but as a day-to-day reality. Despite misconceptions held by those who have never lived there, South Campus is not a black enclave; it is the most integrated place on campus.

The plan is superior to a previously floated scheme that placed sole emphasis on the mix of black and white students and sought to integrate specific portions of campus.

We hope the new plan will mean the end of unrealistic proposals, dredged up every couple of years or so, calling for campus housing assignments to be made on a completely random basis in an effort to achieve greater integration.

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All of this is not to say that the new voluntary program being developed by Student Government is the last word on promoting integration, but it may be one of the best things we can do for now.

The Bottom Line

Well, the scent of Christmas is in the air. Shoppers everywhere are flooding the malls, people are humming carols under their breath, and the streets are lined with decorations.

More than 8,000 letters, if you happened to be born weighing 7 pounds 7 ounces at Wake Medical Center Wednesday (of course, if you had been, chances are you wouldn't be reading this).

As Christmas approaches, Central Prison's inmates receive all sorts of edible goodies from their family and friends on the outside. To cope with the influx of gifts, prison staffers have to work overtime cutting up all the cookies and cakes to make sure there isn't any contraband or weapons inside.

Cakes and cookies aren't the only things at the mercy of the knife at Central Prison. Even peanut butter has to pass inspection; workers don surgical gloves as they hunt through the goo looking for pills.

The obvious question: Why not something simpler, like Fred or Barney? According to his dad, Dr. Odechi Aal-anubaiamhotepokorohamz - the former Cecil McGirt Jr. - the unusual moniker is symbolic of the brotherhood of man.

An auspicious beginning, to be sure. But have they considered practicality? Job applications will be a job. SAT applications don't contain enough spaces.

Think again, folks, before committing thousands to clothes tags. Name-dropping would appear to be in order.

A child of letters...

What's in a name?

Integrating some truth into the 'DTH'

By SHERROD BANKS

The whole idea of campus integration and segregation is a very complex matter, much more so than was projected by the DTH in the Nov. 28 article, "Banks criticizes integration plans."

Last year, some concerned students described this campus as being segregated because 90 percent of the black population lives on South Campus while relatively few live on North Campus.

Furthermore, the BSM contended that the experiment would not produce realistic conclusions. This campus is not 50 percent black; it is nine percent black and shrinking.

Last year in response to the problem, the BSM proposed North Campus residence assistants sponsor a cultural event (as one of their RA projects) inviting the BSM Gospel Choir, Opeyo Dancers, and Ebony Readers/Onyx Theatre.

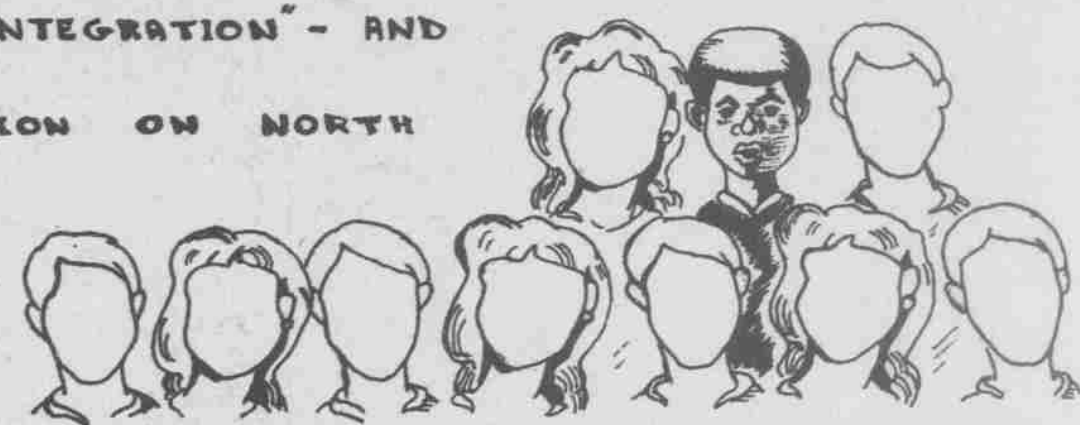
Q WHAT COULD BE WORSE FOR UNC BLACKS THAN CONTINUED SEGREGATION ON SOUTH CAMPUS?

SEGREGATION ON SOUTH CAMPUS?



A 'INTEGRATION' - AND ISOLATION ON NORTH CAMPUS.

ISOLATION ON NORTH CAMPUS.



would one find in such an environment would not be integration, but probably introversion and assimilation.

The difference between integration and assimilation is paramount here. Integration involves a mutual respect that leads to a mutual exchange of ideas and culture.

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write into the policy statement that the sole purpose of this project is to provide the participants with a cultural and educational experience and that the project should never be used politically to support a random-housing policy.

In conclusion, let me state honestly what bothers me most about this issue. The DTH's front-page headline suggested that I criticized integration and below it I was pictured as an angry, ruthless, militant S.O.B.

Sherrod Banks, the president of the Black Student Movement, is a senior political science and Afro-American studies major from Edenton.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Personally perturbed by Stinneford's banal epic

To the editor: Having authored a classified personal that seems to be of the genre so frantically reviled by an associate editor of our DTH ("Personally revolted by classifieds," Dec. 3), I feel uniquely qualified to respond to his breathless condemnation of "mail order dating" and, concomitantly, his utterly banal defense of romance.

Some weeks ago I approached my suitemate with a rather unique proposal. We had each reached a nadir of frustrations. We are both 22, reasonably attractive, inarguably extroverted, and yet two weeks ago we could count on one hand the undergraduate women we had met since our arrival in Chapel Hill

last August. This rather dismal state of affairs was attributable not to our individual characters or personalities, but to the fact that graduate and professional students have prohibitively rigorous schedules and requirements which leave little time for socializing.

The response was rather impressive. Some 50 women wrote to us within a week of the publication of our personal. We have met with several of the respondents already. None, to my knowledge at least, has yet been sold into a sex-slave ring or received a letter from Moral Majority. I think that each of these

women would testify that they are quite happy with their decision to respond. A good time has been had by all: no rapes, no heartbreaking disappointments and no premature marriage proposals.

I am quite honestly at a loss to understand how Stinneford arrived at his conclusion that personals of this sort or counter-productive to romance. In our case at least, women are meeting men, and each are enjoying the other's company, be it over lunch or a few pitchers of beer.

not. Neither of us is so naive as to believe that love can be made to order - something which the condescending Stinneford seems loath to concede.

How Stinneford can link personals such as ours with "a conspiracy to drive romance out of American life" is simply beyond me. That any informed college student could make such a disappointing enough. When such a ludicrous and pretentious assertion is made by a senior journalism major and associate editor of our campus newspaper one wants to hide his head in shame.

Mark R. McGrath
Chapel Hill



Writing not to praise Caesars

To the editor: It came to pass that during the nones of November, a decree went out from 13 (interesting number) student Caesars in Chapel Hill calling upon the powers that be in "Town and Gown" to lower the Star Spangled Banner as a sign of mourning should the highest authorities in our land take an action with which these verdant Caesars disagree!

only by including those who refused to go along with their most bodacious ploy.

Do these Caesars give any thought to what effect their feckless action may have upon the citizens of this state who are called upon every two years to appropriate millions of dollars to aid our beloved Alma Mater? Do they think that such an action strengthens our friends in the Legislature? If so, they are living in a land of dreams where "hoot owls are hooting" and a red gibbous moon beams.

I say feckless action. Why? It is because these crusading Caesars

have called upon their betters to violate Federal Statutory Law; 36 U.S.C. Code Service, Section 175-(m), provides that our flag may be flown at half staff only upon the order of the president except in particular circumstances set out in the statute. What our careless Caesars would be doing is directing a violation of federal law. If war should result, they would be counseling treason; and in any event, they direct a possible unlawful assembly. If they think ignorance is bliss they better think again. Bliss based on ignorance most often comes to a sudden disastrous end. Smarten up, fellows!

John Wilkinson
Class of '32
Washington, N.C.

Mr. Curious

To the editor: The story "Cocaine use up, pot's out at UNC" (Nov. 29) quoted Rex (not his real name) as saying, "Pot is so prevalent on campus that the average student should have no trouble finding it." Well, I'm an average student, and while I agree with Rex (not his real name), I'm having a little trouble this time. Could you please ask Rex (not his real name) if he could help me find some? I certainly would appreciate it.

Rob Stuart
(not my real name)
Chapel Hill

To the editor: I have a question regarding Monday's story, "The pill remains popular among UNC women." You report that "spermicides have flooded the contraceptive market." I was wondering if you have any pictures?

James Leites
Granville

Editor's note: We're rigging our underwater camera equipment now.

Letters ?

Letters to the editor and editorial columns should be typed on a 60-character line and should be triple-spaced. Deadline for letters and columns is 2 p.m. the working day before publication. The Daily Tar Heel reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar, clarity and taste.