

# The Daily Tar Heel

98th year of editorial freedom

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## War waged with ulterior motives

The last two days of the Persian Gulf War have sent conflicting messages to people around the world about whether to celebrate the waning days of a terrible conflict or to beat down for continued fighting.

The announcement Monday by Saddam Hussein that Iraqi troops were pulling out of Kuwait in accordance with a Soviet peace plan seemed to indicate an allied victory. Kuwaiti exiles and bomb-weary Baghdadis rejoiced in the streets while the last Iraqi soldiers trudged out of a devastated Kuwait City. But according to U.S. and British officials, the rejoicing is premature. Despite the fact that thousands of Iraqi troops appear to be retreating from occupied Kuwait and toward Iraq, the withdrawal does not mean anything to leaders of the multinational forces. And though President George Bush said at the outbreak of the war that the purpose of the conflict was to liberate Kuwait, it now seems that freeing the tiny country is not enough.

President Bush and British Prime Minister John Major's War Cabinet dismissed the Iraqi withdrawal Tuesday, claiming it was an attempt to regroup to fight again. They pledged to continue bombing the troops whether or not they appeared to be leaving Kuwait. As long as Iraqi soldiers will not actually lay down their weapons, they will not be spared, officials said. But if this policy is followed, world support for the war will diminish rapidly. The multinational forces cannot justify killing soldiers who are retreating, whether or not they are armed.

If this war is being fought to free Kuwait

from Iraqi occupation, that goal can only be achieved by allowing Iraqi troops to withdraw unmolested. The "shoot 'em in the back" mentality of the multinational forces cannot continue. Even if Hussein is, as President Bush said Tuesday, "trying to claim victory in the midst of a rout," world leaders should not be concerned that the Iraqi president is deceiving his people in an attempt to salvage some dignity. Let Hussein have his victory as long as the people of Kuwait go free.

If it wasn't obvious before, the ulterior motives behind this war are now becoming evident. The United States and other allied leaders never intended to let Iraq get out of the conflict with any kind of military or economic structure intact. U.N. demands for withdrawal from Kuwait provided a convenient ruse for multinational troops to dismantle a regime that had fallen out of favor with world leaders.

Pulling the wool over the eyes of Americans is unacceptable, and it is time for the United States and other countries to be honest with their citizens. Although the liberation of Kuwait is a commendable goal, destabilizing Hussein's government and removing Iraq from its position as a leader among Arab nations is questionable. The U.S. government has been tugging on the patriotic heart strings of its people by claiming it has fought a war for freedom. Americans understand freedom and are willing to fight and die for it. But they may not be quite so willing to allow the deaths of any more people if it becomes clear that the liberation of Kuwait is merely a side issue.

## Norplant deserves praise

Hallelujah! Norplant, the new birth-control implant for women, has arrived in the Triangle. Because birth-control options in the United States have been severely limited by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) restrictions, many women are enthusiastically supporting the proliferation of a device that will start bringing the U.S. up to date in contraceptive technology.

Norplant has been available in Europe for several years but only reached the U.S. when a Philadelphia-based company recently began marketing it. It consists of five silicone tubes, which are implanted above the elbow in the woman's arm and are effective for about five years. Simply explained, Norplant works by releasing a progestin into the woman's system, preventing her from ovulating.

Norplant will make problems with present forms of birth control seem like old nightmares. The necessity of taking daily precautions, as with birth control pills, and the fear of condom or diaphragm tearing or failure will be nonexistent for Norplant users.

But drawbacks to the new birth control include: the cost, which can reach up to \$700 for its implantation; more bleeding during menstruation; and severe menstrual cramps. Also, the visible bumps the tubes make in the woman's arm may be considered a drawback as well.

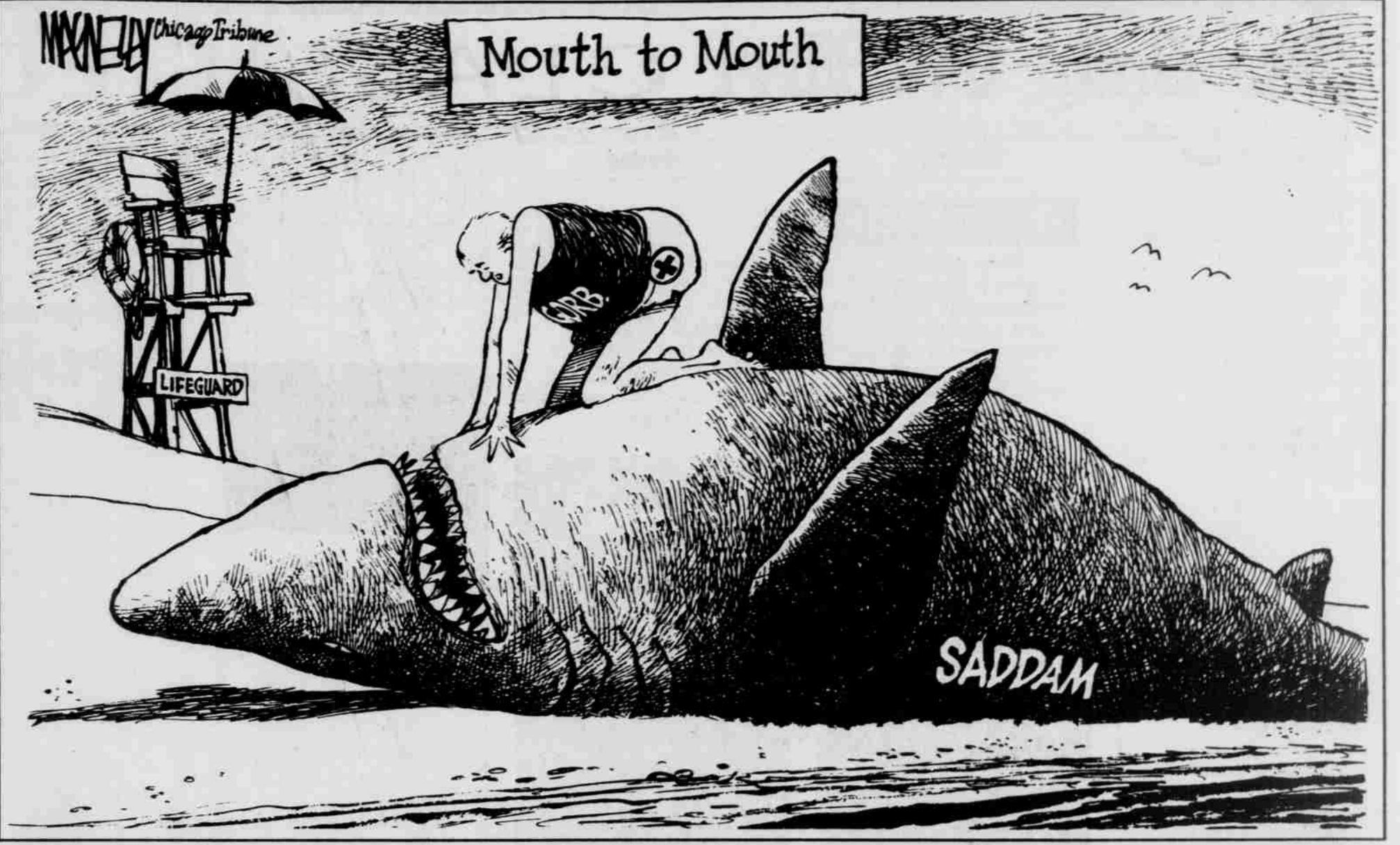
Local women can take this latest technological step in reproductive control

through UNC Hospitals. Many doctors' offices and health organizations in the area have said they have received requests for information about Norplant, and some have begun to make waiting lists for women who wish to have the device implanted — in an outpatient, minor-surgical procedure — when it becomes available. Although Norplant has FDA approval, it will take time for organizations to become authorized and trained to implant it.

Some groups in the United States have spoken out against Norplant, stating concerns that testing has not been extensive enough and that it could endanger women. But the European version of Norplant apparently has caused few problems, and the early complaints in the United States about the implants do not indicate that there are any serious side effects.

The last great stride in birth control in this country was the introduction of the pill in the 1960s. Very little has been done since then to make new methods of birth control available here, especially in comparison to Europe. Women are still trying to deal with diaphragms, sponges and messy foams. Other methods, such as the intrauterine device (IUD), were very widely used before their dangers were discovered.

No mess, no remembering and apparently little risk; women who are searching for better birth control and who can afford Norplant should say "Amen!" and get on the waiting lists.



## READERS' FORUM

### Ignorance proves racism still exists on campus

To the editor:  
CAUTION BLACK STUDENTS: The following has not been cleared by our spokesman, the BSM.

Racism no longer exists! Police reports indicate a drop in hate crimes and lynch mobs (with the exception of a few innocent Arabians), minorities have the right to vote and it is increasingly difficult for members of the KKK to occupy national office. America's come a long way, baby. So, why complain?

One valid reason for complaint can be found in the Feb. 20 edition of The Daily Tar Heel ("Vandalism incidents wrongly labeled racism.") Mr. Moss' arguments, though brilliantly written, have some serious problems. In the first paragraph, he makes what I'm sure is an unconscious mistake. The alternate term for blacks is African Americans and not Americanized Africans. The difference is important because the first term refers to a group of Americans with distinct African culture (much like the term Italian American) while Americanized Africans connoted a group of Africans with a distinct American culture.

Mr. Moss makes another error in the second paragraph of his letter. He writes, "If the moved product had been 'Shampoo for Whitey,' no fuss would have been made." The problem with this argument is that Rite Aid did not say "The products were moved because 'whiteys' tend to steal." Instead, the store discriminated against blacks based on unfounded truths and stereotypes. Please let it be understood that I don't consider Jonathan Moss a r—t. I just find it alarmingly naive when people try to ignore what is a basic characteristic of American life. There are r—s in this world and on this campus, regardless of whether or not we use the word.

JAMYLE NEWLIN  
Freshman  
International Studies

### IRA's terrorist actions merit criticism

To the editor:  
The cartoon "Irish SCUD" (Feb. 22) was inappropriate in its comparison to the Irish people in general, however it was an appropriate comparison to the IRA. Today's IRA is a terrorist group that does not represent the majority of Ireland. In Carrella and Sheehan's letter "Cartoon misrepresents Irish republican Army" (Feb. 25), they claim the Irish have been "trying to regain their independence." The use of violence by the IRA has been repeatedly condemned in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland and will continue to be as long as they commit terrorist acts against civilians.

The IRA's conception in the early 1900s was very pertinent to the times. Catholic workers in Northern Ireland were persecuted without representation of any kind. However, this situation has been drastically changed. If the British pulled out of Northern Ireland today, the entire island would become a Third World nation, and the people of both Irelands understand this possible consequence.

Who can deny that the IRA's intent was to kill innocent civilians in the London subway attack? Carrella and Sheehan claim "the comparison of their response to Hussein's unprovoked missile attacks on Israel and Saudi Arabia is ignorant." The purpose of both attacks was to kill civilians. The IRA repeatedly refuses to come to the negotiation table and continues terrorist attacks such as mistakenly bombing a school bus of Northern Irish children.

MOUTH TO MOUTH

I will agree that the majority of the world (especially the United States) is ignorant of the Irish situation. The IRA uses this ignorance in the metropolitan U.S. cities to paint a picture of a glorious cause in order to sway Americans of Irish descent to finance IRA terrorist acts.

Terrorism is no way to solve any problem, especially if no other means of resolution is attempted. I too encourage Americans to learn about the conflict in Northern Ireland. It is often forgotten in world news. However, it must be said that the great majority of Irish citizens believe the IRA to be a radical terrorist group not representative of the common Irishman.

DONALD HARVEY  
Sophomore  
Pharmacy

### BSM's efforts to combat bigotry are misdirected

To the editor:  
Out of all the organizations on campus, the one that has possibly gotten the most publicity, the Black Student Movement, has been the most disappointing. I do not know what the BSM's stated goals are, but it has been made painfully obvious that a primary concern is attempting to prove that this institution and its students are inherently racist.

The BSM's representatives and supporters frequently use the term "institutionalized racism." What they are trying to accomplish by proving this is uncertain. Supposing they succeed, then what? If the University is inherently racist, then the BSM cannot solve this problem; it will require nothing short of tearing down the school and starting anew. These allegations only breed resentment, not progress. It is only when blacks can stop separating themselves from the rest of the campus and starting working with others, not against them, that progress can be made.

The methods by which the BSM attempts to show racism are flawed as well. Anything that hints at a racial origin is racism in the eyes of the BSM. Their concern with finding the real motives of an action pales in comparison to their concern with making blacks look like the targets of racism. This became clear in the Rite Aid case, when the BSM hastily began a boycott without first stopping to find out that black hair care products are among the most shoplifted, a perfectly legitimate and "race-neutral" reason for their placement.

The goal of a community free from racism is an admirable one, but it must be approached rationally. If we believe that an incident is racially motivated, then it must be investigated to the extent of our abilities. Recklessly jumping to conclusions is never a good policy. Furthermore, some concern must be shown for providing real solutions to problems of race relations, rather than rejecting the community as inherently racist. These are the points I believe the BSM are neglecting in its approach to racism on this campus.

DAVID MEESTERS  
Freshman  
Psychology

### Fall orientation brings excitement, adventure

To the editor:  
Can you imagine carrying a refrigerator up to the fourth floor of a residence hall on one of the hottest days of the year, parents whining, confused freshmen, and being bombarded by questions from all directions? This was Fall Orientation 1990, and we were there. However, the worst part of the week was when it came to an end.

From now until March 8, applications will be available for fall

1991 orientation counselors. This position is a volunteer job that will start this spring and continue after summer vacation until spring registration. Starting in late March, OCs begin planning the activities for the fall orientation week. Organizing these programs requires much time and effort; arrangements must be made to coordinate social and academic programs within the University community. These can be mysterious, intriguing, stimulating, mind-boggling, awe-inspiring, different, creative, fascinating, whatever! It does not matter, so long as the important points of life at Carolina are stressed.

For us, this opportunity broadened our knowledge of the campus, its resources and its processes. We found many friendships, not just with our counselors, but with the other OCs as well. Our OC experiences have encouraged us to continue our involvement with orientation again this year. If this appeals to you, we urge you to attend one of the many interest sessions being held on campus this week and next. We look forward to another interesting year of orientation; the good, the bad and the ugly.

ROSS BERRIER  
Sophomore  
Biology/Pre-Med

JON PILLSBURY  
Junior  
Astronomy

### Death of Bob Sheldon is a loss of freedom, peace

To the editor:  
Unfortunately, another voice of freedom, justice and peace, like so many before, has been silenced. Bob Sheldon, as the operator of Internationalist Books, provided an invaluable service for many years by willing to stand against hegemonic oppression and to facilitate the diffusion of alternative information and points of view.

Few have invested as much time and energy as he did with his passion to bring a voice of justice to a world for which he cared so much. But like all too many of the voices like his, he fell prey to a society at war with itself. His absence will be felt with great sorrow, but those of us fortunate enough to have had contact with him know that he is at last at peace and that he would want us all to continue our efforts to bring freedom of speech, freedom from oppression and peace to this country and the world.

DAVID GHIRARDELLI  
Junior  
Geography

### Letter marred with illogical assumptions

To the editor:  
I suppose the most effective response to Shuronia Flood's exercise in self-parody "Letter's writer knows nothing about racism" (Feb. 25) would be to simply invalidate it line by line. Shuronia's first point: "If there is a theft problem at Rite Aid then why not move all of the hair care products to the front of the store? Why single out the products of African Americans?" Call me crazy, but maybe, just maybe, that's because the products of African Americans are the ones being stolen.

It truly is a shame that Shuronia's next point about the Malcolm X poster made absolutely no sense because it had the potential for an incredibly rewarding slam. But it's not a total loss. There are plenty other goodies in this one.

Next, Shuronia so insightfully points out that the Black Student Movement helps African Americans stand taller and prouder. Now, I'm all for coppin' an attitude, but when Shuronia says, "No one hinders the white students from following suit and organizing," she

is dead wrong. White groups, more commonly known as "hate groups," receive great public praise by being verbally and physically assaulted on talk shows. I wonder what the NAACP would have to say upon hearing of the newest social group at UNC, the UNC Young White Alliance (not to be confused with the UNC College Republicans). I also wonder what the student body would say if they asked for \$70,000 from an ailing budget.

Shuronia's last point I agree with. She says that if Rite Aid moved Shampoo for Whitey to the front of the store, she would protest. I believe her. She would protest that while Whitey's products are located at the front, African Americans have to walk to the back, reminiscent of when blacks had to sit in the back of the bus a few decades ago.

While I found Shuronia's article to be flawed, there is no denying that it was informative. After all, she did point out that, indeed, the DTH is not "A Current Affair."

KEITH GANZ  
Freshman  
Undecided

### Bible, Christianity teach true 'safe sex'

To the editor:  
I would like to respond to the Feb. 22 editorial, "Chastity Programs Teach Safety." Abstinence is the only true method of safe sex. The American Civil Liberties Union is concerned this program will mix teaching safety concerns with religion. An author of a pamphlet promoting abstinence could not take credit for this idea since this concept is found in the Bible. An example is found in 1 Corinthians 6:18-20: "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body."

God has created us, and He knows all of our thoughts, needs and dreams. He has given us guidelines because He desires the best for us. What could be more beautiful than a man and a woman who have waited their entire lives to give their virginity to their spouse, and on their wedding night give themselves totally to their lifetime partner? This is the relationship God desires for us.

Many people will say it's too late for them, but if you are unmarried and sexually active, I hope that you will change your lifestyle. God is forgiving. He has promised to change our hearts and minds if we ask Him. True Christianity is not a religion but rather a relationship with our creator, Jesus Christ.

If you are not sexually active, I encourage you to stay that way until you are married. No one has ever regretted waiting, but many, many people have regretted not waiting. The Bible has stood the test of time and outlines the way to a happy and successful life.

BRENT W. FUQUA  
1990 M.A.T. graduate  
Winston-Salem

### DTH Editorial page looking for columnist

The Daily Tar Heel is looking for a columnist who can write with an African-American perspective. Anybody who is interested must submit a sample column to the Editorial Page Editor or the Editor by Monday. The columnist would be expected to write every other week.

## The Daily Tar Heel

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