

# The Daily Tar Heel

98th year of editorial freedom

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## Protest wins battle; war still rages

Thank goodness. Something has finally been done about the budget cuts being imposed on the University, with some recognizable results. Presumably it's not too little too late.

They came. Greeks, non-Greeks, women, men, graduates and undergraduates. Most of them were not veteran protesters. Most said they had never protested in their lives. But they came, they marched, they cheered and they listened to cops threaten to arrest them.

Those of you who failed to attend the rally in Raleigh Wednesday protesting budget cuts to the University system missed out. It gave students the opportunity to express their anger toward the governor and legislators about teaching assistants losing their jobs, the difficulties students are having getting classes and their concern about the potential decline in the universities' educational statuses.

Students demonstrated peacefully, marching from the Governor's Mansion to the legislative building. Student leaders from campuses across the state spoke about courses of action students could take to defend their schools from further cuts. Then students moved into the building to pick up information and to try to speak with legislators.

When they discovered the Appropriations Committee was meeting in a nearby building, they moved there. Police then moved in. They told the students they were creating a fire hazard in the building and that they must leave. This was true. But when students said it was bullshit, police began threatening to make arrests for disorderly conduct.

Good grief! When a student told an officer that he thought telling peaceful students to keep their mouths shut or get

arrested was inappropriate, the officer overreacted. One student was detained. The behavior of the authorities was totally uncalled for. There were no bottles thrown, no officers were spit on. Students were simply trying to find the office of their respective legislators and communicate their views since the legislators did not come to speak or hear what was going on.

Legislators' behavior was no better. One from Forsyth County said he was glad the demonstrators weren't his children. They probably were glad he wasn't their father. The wife of one legislator said her children at N.C. State and Carolina had better be in their rooms. These comments illustrate completely what is wrong over there in Raleigh. Legislators, with very few exceptions, are not receptive to students and, apparently, education.

Another interesting footnote to the rally was the lack of UNC-CH leaders. With the exception of Michael Caldwell who played a key role in organizing the rally, student government leaders from this campus were present for about five minutes during the speeches. They looked like legislators in their coats and ties, and they acted like them. UNC-Charlotte Student Body President Beth Hammond exemplified what a student in that position can do. She spoke, rallied the crowd and marched with the students. Also, no professors were in evidence in the march, nor were any administrators from this campus or General Administration.

Students who went should be proud of attempting to make an impression on the General Assembly. Those who did not, shame on you. It's about damn time something was done. Let's not let the ball stop rolling here.

## Diversity lost with Cell's departure

With the departure of Gillian Cell, UNC's dean of Arts and Sciences, the University will lose its highest-ranking female administrator, a serious blow to diversity at the University.

Cell started her career with the University in 1965 as a history professor. She went on to become associate dean of the graduate school, affirmative action officer and chairwoman of the history department before becoming dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 1985.

Her six-year tenure as dean of Arts and Sciences was less than placid. Although the University administration supported her, many students accused her of inaccessibility and insensitivity to minorities. Her reappointment as dean in the fall of 1989 was rife with controversy, with vocal protests by students and a last-minute plea to the Board of Trustees to postpone a decision concerning her reappointment. But the University stood solidly behind her. Chancellor Paul Hardin called her "one of our most persistent and effective spokespersons for undergraduate teaching."

At any rate, Pennsylvania's Lafayette College decided she would be a valuable asset, choosing her as its next provost from more than 200 applicants. She leaves UNC for a post that many administrators and

faculty at the University are bound to envy. Instead of suffering from the same sort of budget problems facing UNC, Lafayette, a small, private liberal arts school, is presently expanding its faculty and programs.

And although Cell may enjoy her new position, UNC should feel saddened that her departure results in a loss of diversity. The distribution of the University's employees which is covered in the Exempt from (state) Personnel Act classification, which includes faculty and many senior administrators, is tilted heavily in favor of white men. Women are 30 percent of the total, while minorities make up only 9 percent. And only 3 percent of EPA employees are both female and minority.

While almost half of the EPA nonfaculty members are women, our faculty is only 25 percent female. In other words, there are very few women at UNC to follow in Cell's footsteps. As the University begins its nationwide search for a new dean of Arts and Sciences, and as it in the future begins to hire faculty once again, it has a responsibility to search for diverse candidates. The University appears committed to bringing in the best faculty and administrators possible. Let us hope this also will mean encouraging diversity.



## READERS' FORUM

### Article about Hispanics contains misconceptions

To the editor:  
I was glad to see that the three articles on "Institutionalized Racism" in the April 3 issue dealt with important problems that have not been addressed adequately on campus or by society.

"Low exposure" does contain the essence of many ideas I expressed to Eric Bolash. However, there are not only some misinterpretations but also grammatical and other errors. I mentioned to him that, although I had not felt discriminated against at UNC, this did not mean other Hispanics might not have experienced discrimination at the University. The fact that Yadiria Hurley and I have not been informed by students whether or not they have suffered discrimination need not support Bolash's assessment that Hispanics "seemingly" do not "experience the same discrimination as other minorities on campus." The statements that Hurley and I made provide inconclusive evidence for him to have reached this conclusion. The stereotypes of Hispanics and Latin America that Valenzuela, Hurley, other students and I have encountered could indicate there is prejudice at UNC. This could be part of the "institutionalized racism" of which Hatcher-Wilson spoke in "Subtle Racism" or it may be merely a lack of accurate information and exposure.

With regard to the political stereotype of Latin America, I explained to Bolash there is a prevalent misconception that Latin American governments constantly have revolutions and that they are unstable (not that they are "unstable and revolutionary"), whereas Costa Rica and Mexico are examples of democratic governments. I emphasized that Mexico's democracy is problematic; Bolash omitted this. I was referring to the PRI. Apparently, Bolash is unaware that Mexico supposedly has a multi-party system, yet the PRI is the only party that wins elections, and it was recently accused of tampering with votes.

I was quoted at length, often in grammatically incorrect sentences that did not cite me verbatim but that were attributed to me!

Finally, the society whose students I advise is the Sociedad Hispanica Carolinense, not the "UNC Hispanic Society." I am an associate professor of Spanish and the director of undergraduate studies in Spanish and Portuguese, not a "professor of Portuguese and Spanish."

Despite the merits of his article, Bolash should be more careful when he conducts telephone interviews. Otherwise, members of the campus community will be reluctant or unwilling to give The Daily Tar Heel such interviews in the future.

ALICIA RIVERO-POTTER  
Director of  
Undergraduate Studies  
Spanish and Portuguese

### Liberal arts majors maligned by cartoonist

To the editor:  
Letters expressing outrage over Alex DeGrand's editorial cartoons have become an almost daily occurrence in the DTH. Now it is my turn. His denigration of English and other liberal arts majors (April 5) not only displays DeGrand's ignorance but also serves to perpetuate the incorrect notion that such majors are doomed to unem-

ployment (or inferior jobs) after graduation.

No one in any major is assured a job upon graduation. But the vast majority of all majors who do not go on immediately to graduate or professional school will be employed in at least potentially satisfying career-track work shortly after they receive their degrees. This is true whether they are the 10 percent to 15 percent of students who obtain their jobs through the University's Career Planning and Placement Services (UCPPS) or the others who find jobs on their own (often with some UCPPS assistance).

Most businesses and other employers recognize that a student's major is not the most important criterion for judging job candidates. Development of analytical and communications skills — in logic, statistics, writing and speech courses — will make any student, regardless of major, capable of performing well in most entry-level jobs for college graduates. A student's part-time employment and extra-curricular activities can also strengthen his or her credentials.

It might also be noted that the Business School and most other professional schools tend to prefer liberal arts undergraduates for their masters programs. Too specialized training at the undergraduate level is seen as a detriment when one is looking for broadly informed persons ready to respond to a range of new and not fully predictable situations in their jobs and the world around them.

While you may wish to give cartoonist DeGrand freedom to publish without prior review, the DTH must be prepared to accept the consequence of being seen as a sponsor of ill-informed, if not embarrassingly biased, material on its editorial page.

M. RICHARD CRAMER  
Associate Dean  
The College of  
Arts and Sciences

### Carolina Critic avoids mission of 'young Nazis'

To the editor:  
Charlton Allen, president of the College Republicans, was quoted in the April 10 Daily Tar Heel article "The Carolina Critic takes on new shape," saying the Carolina Critic had "moved away from its original mission." No, Charlton. We've moved away from your mission — which is apparently to make conservatism a dirty word.

If you and your merry band of young Nazis want to spew Jesse Helms' brand of conservatism all over campus, then start your own magazine. Of course, you're probably too busy with more constructive endeavors, like tossing water balloons at peace protesters.

GRANT THOMPSON  
Junior  
Political Science/Economics  
Editor, Carolina Critic

### Printing of column shows lack of judgement

To the editor:  
Jenn Layton's rebuttal to Joe Pickle's letter ("Sex on Mexican beach proves anything but boring," April 9) in which he chastised her for being boring among other things was in fact humorous, and

Mr. Pickle may have deserved it. However, I feel that it was very poor judgment on the part of Ms. Layton and The Daily Tar Heel staff to allow her to use a column as a place to lambaste her critics.

To be a columnist for the DTH is a special thing, and Ms. Layton is very fortunate to have the opportunity to write one; however, a columnist should write columns, not rebuttals. I feel she has abused her privilege and taken advantage of her position at the DTH by printing the response to Mr. Pickle's letter. What would the DTH read like if everyone who wrote for it defended their previous work rather than writing their usual articles?

Ms. Layton has broken the bounds of journalistic professionalism. If she is compelled to print a response to someone's criticism, let her do it in a letter just as the rest of us would have to, rather than taking advantage of her position at the DTH. Nerdy or not, boring or not, readers expect to see and read a column on the back page, not a letter lambasting one of their peers. Rebuttals belong in the Readers' Forum.

ERAN GREENE ROSENTHAL  
Senior  
Journalism/Spanish

### Columnist ignores journalistic restrictions

To the editor:  
I was disturbed by Jenn Layton's column "Sex on Mexican beach proves anything but boring" (April 9). The contents of Layton's essay went against one of the most important restrictions placed on editorials. Responses to responses are not published. This regulation prevents the Readers' Forum from becoming a ridiculous exchange of hate mail.

However, this restriction was not enforced on Jenn's column that lambasted Joe Pickle for submitting an article criticizing her views. Layton's piece utilized many of the tactics this regulation attempts to avoid. First, she pulled one of Pickle's phrases out of context and used this as the basis for her article. Secondly, she wore out Mr. Pickle's name with continual condescending references.

As a religious reader of the Reader's Forum, I don't approve of the following message given off by the publication of Layton's article. You can criticize students with impunity as long as they aren't on the DTH staff or just work there. If you fail to keep this stipulation in mind, prepare to have your name defiled all over the back page of the DTH. In conclusion, allow me to borrow Layton's trite, last-word closing statement, "Peace, you chump."

BILL CRAVER  
Senior  
Economics

### Class time should be given for letter writing

To the editor:  
Many people have urged students to initiate a massive letter-writing campaign to combat budget cuts in the UNC System. Supposedly, North Carolina legislators will be influenced to change their positions on educational funding if they are inundated with mail from students and their parents. This can work, folks.

But let's face it: Many students will not take time out of their busy schedules to write their congressional representative, no matter how much the DTH and others holler in their ears. My proposal is

that professors and teaching assistants take advantage of a captive audience, namely, their students. Instructors should set aside 20 or 25 minutes of a single class session and allow students a chance to write short letters to their local legislators. I have faith that we students will have the gumption to mail the letter on our own time after we have written it on our professor's time.

To make this simple plan work, each instructor would need only a list of legislators and their respective North Carolina districts. They would then post this list in the classroom, so students would know which representative they needed to contact.

Instructors and students, I ask you: Is it better to sacrifice 20 minutes of class now, or not have that class later?

MYRON B. PITTS  
Sophomore  
Journalism

### Attendance at Smith Center must increase

Editor's note: The following letter was sent to Ken Brown, Smith Center ticket manager.

To the editor:  
Sitting at UNC home basketball games, one is struck by the large number of empty seats. This is an embarrassment around the ACC and has raised the ire of loyal UNC fans.

We would propose a system by which the Department of Athletics could encourage attendance. At tip-off time for each home game, a computer-enhanced photo could be made of the entire arena with particular attention paid to the location of empty seats. The empty seats would be matched to the master list of ticket holders and an "attendance record" of seats could be generated for the whole season.

The holders of seats that are empty twice or more would be penalized proportionately in the assignment of seats for the next season. In this way, habitual no-shows or late arrivals would be seated farther back each year, while people who give priority to getting to games on time would be rewarded by moving forward.

Such an arrangement would not violate any understanding, written or otherwise, that Rams Club members or University faculty or staff may have about their entitlement. It would, however, offer an incentive for a ticket holder to share his/her seats with less fortunate fans if the holder were unable to attend any given game.

Our suggestion doesn't address the style of cheering or any fans but rather gives priority to putting people in the seats. This would go a long way toward restoring the vintage home court advantage previously known in Chapel Hill.

ARTHUR AXELBANK,  
M.D.  
UNC Department of  
Family Medicine

JOHN J. FREY, M.D.  
UNC Department of  
Family Medicine

### Letters policy

- Please sign and date letters. No more than two signatures.
- Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Remember, brevity is the soul of wit.
- Include year in school, major, phone number and hometown.
- Include a title that is relevant to your letter's subject.
- The DTH edits letters for space, clarity and vulgarity.

## The Daily Tar Heel

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