

# The Daily Tar Heel

Established in 1893

100th year of editorial freedom

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## Publishing honor court cases increases impact

The University of Georgia's student newspaper recently won access to the school's honor court records. This landmark decision should set a precedent for colleges and universities across the country, including UNC.

Georgia's campus paper, The Red and Black, took its grievances to court and won the right to view the records of the Organized Court of the Student Judiciary.

The ruling gives The Red and Black the right to publish all of the facts concerning honor court cases, including the names of students charged with offenses. Red and Black Editor Lance Helms said the paper also wanted the right to observe court proceedings and was willing to fight for this all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The editors should be commended for their efforts to inform the university community of violations on campus. The Red and Black now will be an effective medium in educating Georgia's students about the court's influence. It also will have the ability to check up on possible wrongdoings in the system.

UNC's publications, including The Daily Tar Heel, should have the same abilities to inform the community and monitor the court on a regular basis.

All records from UNC's Honor Court — with the exception of students' names — should be made public. By allowing the DTH to report on cases throughout the semester, the University community would be more aware of the Honor Court system.

UNC's Undergraduate Honor Court releases summary reports on its cases to the DTH at the end of each semester. The release includes charges, verdicts and sanctions, but the reports do not mention the names of students brought before the court.

Because these reports are released only twice a year, they are ineffective in informing the community about the court's functions.

The only time most students learn about the Honor Court is during freshmen orientation. The court tells students that ignorance is not an excuse for violating the Honor Code. If the DTH regularly published cases brought before the court, students would be more informed and much less inclined to plead ignorance.

UNC's Honor Court should follow the precedent set recently in Georgia and allow campus publications to view case records. Freer access to court records would make the Honor Court a more visible part of the University experience.

## Lenoir summer hours to hurt wallets, health

Carolina Dining Services officials have reached a classic solution to their problem of declining profits. They're just going to stop serving meals after 2:30 p.m. on weekdays in the summer. Who ever heard of eating dinner anyway?

University officials have announced that the hours for Lenoir Dining Hall will be reduced this summer because earnings have been low in previous summers. Lenoir also will not serve on the weekends.

Once again, Carolina Dining Services officials are shrugging their shoulders to the demand for student services, blaming the decision on their perpetual scapegoat — a lack of profits.

The decision to close early completely disregards needs of students and others who attend school and conferences at the University during the summer.

By removing the dinner option from Lenoir, students will be forced to hike to the high-priced restaurants on Franklin Street. Not only are these eateries more expensive, but students without means of transportation will be unduly inconvenienced. Nayna

Uppin, a former summer school student, emphasized the need for dinner service at Lenoir.

"I can't imagine what I would have done last summer if I had to walk to Franklin Street every time I wanted food. Finding nourishment shouldn't have to be an excursion," Uppin said.

Carolina Dining Services' purpose is to serve the needs of the student body — even if profits are sacrificed. When policies are based solely on what is profitable, students become the victims.

Lenoir has lost money in previous summers, but there is no justification for completely removing the dinner option. Even if it means modifying the breakfast service to a continental breakfast, something must be done to guarantee that students have the option of eating dinner at Lenoir this summer.

Eating healthy and regularly is vital for academic success. Carolina Dining Services has confirmed in the past that students need not expect appealing food or adequate service in campus dining halls. But one would think they could at least get three meals a day.



## Helmsley sentence weakens 'citadel of arrogance'

I feel a little guilty taking glee in knowing that the queen of hotels, Leona Helmsley, is off in prison for at least 16 months. She is, after all, 71 years old, which is about my grandmother's age. She has cardiovascular problems and an older, ill husband who is reportedly totally dependent on her.

Her lawyer, Alan Dershowitz, who also has been involved in Mike Tyson's and Claus Von Bulow's cases, said the Aryan Brotherhood has threatened to kill her when she's in prison. Why would they want her? Anyway, the Brotherhood is probably not well-represented in the women's prison. Maybe they're the ones who do the laundry there.

For Leona, the prospect of prison seems to have always meant death, nothing less. If she has to go, she'll die because of her health problems, she said. And her husband will die without her around to care for him, she said. When her appeal for a new trial failed April 7 and a reporter asked her how she would handle going to prison, she answered, "Maybe I can drop dead."

Regardless of all of these circumstances, legitimate and melodramatic, she deserves to be in jail. She was convicted of evading \$1.7 million in federal income taxes. She and her husband Harry were indicted on charges that they bought furniture and decorations for two of their homes and deducted the purchases as business expenses for the Helmsley hotel chain. While this isn't the worst thing a person could do, it is a crime in this country.

Jerry Brown has said in his campaign that he wants the American people to use him as "their battering ram to tear down the citadel of arrogance." Jerry has provided us with a wonderfully apt phrase to refer to people such as Leona,

Donald Trump and John "The Teflon Don" Gotti, three veritable citadels of arrogance.

Leona treated her employees imperiously. And I remember seeing full-page ads in The New Yorker magazine, itself a citadel of arrogance, showing Leona in a fancy gown and tiara; Leona standing, queenlike and large, in the midst of her employees; Leona being waited on and bowed to by her employees. These images remind me that it's OK to feel good about Leona getting busted.

The day of her last-ditch appeal, last Tuesday, her lawyer said Leona "was not prepared to go to prison." Who ever is prepared or wants to go to prison? Leona wasn't prepared perhaps because she thought she could jump through the wealthy person's loophole.

Dershowitz said that Leona would give her hotels to the city of New York to house the homeless if she could evade going to prison. Her offer would singlehandedly solve the city's homeless problem, her lawyer said. While Leona's official spokesman said that the hotel offer was simply a metaphor used while bargaining for her freedom, use of this metaphor shows a shameless attempt to benefit from the highly emotional and troubling crisis of homelessness.

If the hotel giveaway was just a metaphor and not a real proposal, what was it a metaphor for but corruption, privi-

lege and contempt for the law, which the rest of us must live by? What better metaphor for the fall of Leona than Jerry's metaphor of tearing down the citadel of arrogance.

I'm not jealous of Leona and all of her things and her power. I've just always believed that, if there is justice in this world, people with too much pride, like someone who fancies herself a queen, should get spanked.

When she saw that she could not escape her sentence, Leona's tune changed. "I'm prepared to abide by the law," she said. I guess the idea that the law also applies to her finally penetrated beyond her tiara. Better late than never.

Unfortunately, her sentence might not have been humbling enough. She seems still to hang on, by her fingernails, to her citadel of arrogance. She flew in her private plane to Lexington, Ky., and was supposed to be driven by limousine from the airport to the prison. I'm sure it was the quickest and most convenient way for her to get where she was going. But wouldn't it have been a nice metaphor if she'd taken Amtrak or driven down in an old Volkswagen Rabbit?

Her prison is actually called a federal medical center and is located in "the rolling bluegrass countryside," according to one report. It's probably not the iron bars, hard bed, bare room type of place. I guess it's too much to expect that the room service at the prison will be lousy. Actually, a friend of mine said he'd heard on the radio that Leona might have to make beds and clean up in prison. One can only hope.

Arati Korwar is a journalism graduate student from Amherst, Mass.



Arati Korwar  
 Plunging into Traffic



Tilting at Windbags.

## The Daily Tar Heel

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## NAP represents interests of 'true progressives'

Editor's note: The author of the following letter is the staff adviser for the Student-led New Alliance Party.

To the editor:

If Eric Wagner meant for his statement ("New Alliance Party historically radical, racist") to be anything other than an attack on the black community, he has failed miserably. Tell me, Mr. Wagner, if Dr. Fred Newman (the proudly pro-black empowerment, progressive, white, Jewish founder of the New Alliance Party) is incorrect in his assessment that the Jewish establishment has "sold its soul to the Devil," where were all of the "progressive" Jewish organizations when Dr. Newman and other NAP activists (Jewish and otherwise) were marching in Bensonhurst against the gang murder of Yusef Hawkins, in Los Angeles against the beating of Rodney King and in Raleigh against the police department's "honoring" the murderer-with-a-badge of Ivan Ingram? How can anyone — black, white, Jewish, gentile, whatever — call him/herself progressive and fail to protest the state-sanctioned police brutality against communities of color? "Never again" must mean "never again" for everyone. True progressives know this, Mr. Wagner, and support a two-state solution to the Middle East conflict and decry the U.S.-supported fascism of the Israeli government. This stance does not make us any more anti-Jew than our support for Native-American rights or our being against South-African apartheid makes us anti-white. Had Wagner conducted himself as a responsible journalist (as would have the editors of the "National Alliance") and contacted Dr. Newman, Dr. Fulani or the NAP office for a rebuttal, he might have gained this insight. I see no such "could not be reached for comment"-type statements in his diatribe.

Instead, while hypocritically entreating readers to "critically examine (NAP's) history and current mode of operations," he ignores the history of another independent, black-led party, the Black Panther Party of the 1960s, whose leadership was killed off thanks to COINTELPRO, the CIA-sponsored propaganda campaign (intended to scare progressives — including progressive-minded Jews — away from supporting the BPP), whose lies, distortions and

## READERS' FORUM

quotes-out-of-context ("...") sound remarkably like Wagner's.

As an openly gay, working-class, white man, I am truly proud to be the local leader of an organization that is "black-led, multiracial," not in spite of the skin color of one of its founders or some of its members, but in acknowledgement that in as racist a society as ours, "multiracial" generally means "white-led" (read: tokenism). In contrast, NAP follows the leadership of the black community, which has always been at the forefront of the struggle for freedom and fairness for all people and has acknowledged and encouraged the leadership for all those (of whatever race) who support that struggle.

It is that kind of leadership that is best exemplified in BOTH Dr. Lenora Fulani, a brilliant, internationally noted developmental psychologist, who made history in 1988 as the first woman and first African American to be on the ballot in all 50 states, and the national chairwoman of NAP (who is running again in 1992) AND Dr. Fred Newman (NAP's founder and Dr. Fulani's campaign manager), who both teach and learn from, lead and follow, each other and thousands of activists in the American pro-democracy movement — the sexual innuendoes, red-baiting, Zionism, racism, corruption, and hypocrisy of the increasingly right-wing two-party system and its minions in the media notwithstanding.

I guess I should thank you, Mr. Wagner. The fact that you found your unprincipled, specious fearmongering necessary is a gratifying confirmation of just how overwhelmingly successful the NAP has been on this campus in building the new alliances between all progressive peoples suggested by our name, and how truly scared those invested in the totalitarian New World Order (who simply ignored us in 1988) must truly be. We shall overcome.

CLIFTON TROY TOTH  
 (Crying Bear)  
 Evening College  
 Psychology

## UNC students repeat history of bigotry

The author of this letter is a member of the UNC class of 1964.

To the editor:  
 When I was at Carolina in the early '60s, it was thought appropriate by most

students to jeer at "niggers" and "nigger-lovers." Now, I'm distressed to hear (the aroma has wafted clear across the country) that many Tar Heels are persecuting their fellow students because of their sexual orientation. Maybe that line about being doomed to repeat the history we don't bother to learn should be tattooed on the backs of everybody's hands at matriculation; it seems that Carolina students of the '90s haven't learned that "faggot" and "nigger" are the same word. Bigotry is bigotry is bigotry, kids.

JOHN MEDLIN  
 Seattle, Wash.

## Laettner's arrogance makes him bad teen idol

To the editor:  
 Everyone is sick and tired of hearing about the team from Durham, but I must commend Mark Chilton for his vote against the recent town council resolution celebrating the Duke championship. Stand up for your school? (I hope the editorial board can take a little dissent.)

And to Al Featherston, the reporter from Durham who doubted that anyone could take Christian Laettner seriously, a resounding WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE! Laettner, even if he is just a 22-year-old kid, has no right to be an arrogant punk who talks down to local media and stomps on fellow athletes. Hundreds, no thousands, of teenagers nationwide now claim him as a hero and probably emulate his attitudes and actions. Isn't it a pity that he doesn't provide a better role model? Instead of using his position of power and influence to say something important about drugs or safe sex, he would prefer to criticize the very city that has hosted his now-legendary career. Thanks for nothing, Christian.

SCHERI STEWART  
 UNC graduate  
 Art History

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 The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticisms. Please follow these guidelines:  
 ■ Limit letters to 400 words.  
 ■ Sign and date letters.  
 ■ All letters must be typed and double spaced.