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# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Ground-breaking compromise

Representatives of the University administration and the black cultural center broke through the rhetoric and recognized reality this week when they agreed to work together on plans for a free-standing BCC.

The agreement in this ongoing drama to cooperate was formulated at Monday's meeting of Chancellor Paul Hardin's working group, which is headed by Provost Richard McCormick.

It's reasonable to hail the agreement as arguably the biggest turning point yet in the negotiating process, which students and administrators regularly relegated to a level of bickering and snickering.

Harold Wallace, vice chancellor for university affairs and chairman emeritus of the BCC Advisory Board, represented sanity at Monday's meeting of the Hardin's save-face working group. "It is clear that we all share a similar vision for the black cultural center's future," he said, recognizing the fact that — as long as members of the advisory board understand the necessity that the new building be *academic in nature and purpose* — the previous disagreements no longer exist. But some questions still remain:

■ Will the student coalition for a free-standing BCC and other BCC representatives have the gumption to keep their eyes on the prize and on the real issues? BCC supporters should work to ensure that irrelevant name-calling doesn't cloud reality.

■ Will the BCC Advisory Board agree to work

through the system already in place for planning new University buildings? Although the board should have a great deal of say in the process, the planning shouldn't differ from that of any other academic building, such as the law or business schools.

■ Where will the funding come from? In August it appeared the Michael Jordan Foundation would foot the bill for the entire building (at least that's what some BCC supporters said). But now talk of such a donation has mysteriously ceased and Deloris Jordan, who heads the foundation, has not pledged to fund the entire project. Because the building will be academic, though, there shouldn't be a problem in obtaining money.

■ Will the Board of Trustees approve a free-standing BCC? In this case, the center's planners must remember the importance of creating an academic facility, one that the BOT would look upon favorably.

Supporters of the BCC — students and faculty — deserve congratulations. They fought a battle and won decisively (although somewhat divisively). In addition, McCormick and other members of his working group — especially the students who fought the flak from their colleagues in the coalition — deserve respective pats on the back.

The University community has witnessed a great climax. This plot, though, still has further to go.

## 'Condolence' ads: A grave error

Halloween is still a week and a half away, but senatorial candidate Lauch Faircloth is already in a ghoulish mood.

The Faircloth campaign has been running a television advertisement which purports to express sympathy and concern over Senator Terry Sanford's recent surgery.

In the ad, Faircloth directly addresses the viewer and says, "I hope you will join me in wishing Senator Sanford a complete recovery from his heart surgery." Sanford might have appreciated a personal expression of concern. However, it is doubtful that Sanford appreciates Faircloth delivering the message via statewide television.

Faircloth also asks everyone to "keep Terry and Margaret Rose (Sanford's wife) in our prayers." The obvious — and erroneous — implication of this request is that Senator Sanford already has one foot in the grave, so you should vote for Faircloth. Actually, Sanford's physician reports favorably on his health. And Sanford managed to exhaust campaign aids in their 20s who were traveling with him this

spring. Sanford is much farther from a meeting with the grim reaper than Faircloth would have us believe.

The advertisement is, in a word, cowardly. Yellow-bellied. Hurl-inducing. The state of a candidate's health is a relevant campaign issue, especially in a Senate race that carries a six-year term. However, if one candidate is going to allege that another's constitution is too feeble to last through the term, then he should have the chutzpah to say so explicitly.

A press release asking that the candidate release his health records *might* be appropriate. Questioning Sanford's health under the guise of legitimate concern, is not appropriate. It is morbid and disgusting.

Faircloth also claims to have been a friend of Sanford's for many years. They just disagree on the issues, he says.

How preposterous. Who needs enemies when friends like Faircloth are willing to put you on your deathbed for political advantage?

By Nov. 3, Halloween's hauntings by goblins and ghouls will only be a bad memory — one can only hope Lauch Faircloth will be, too.

## Time flies

Many things mystify students during their years at UNC, like blue-faced women in hair-covered boxes sitting in the Pit drooling milk and Saturday reading days (they don't think we realize we already have Saturday off?).

But nothing is more mystifying than students who insist on packing up their books and belongings 10 minutes before classes are supposed to end.

"It's obvious," you might respond. Professors never look at the clock, and they'll talk until the apocalypse if you don't give them a signal.

Wrong. Not only is it rude to your professor and classmates around you when you crinkle up your Daily Tar Heel and your notepads, noisily stuff them in your backpack and zip the zipper six or seven times before class time is over, but it doesn't keep most professors from lecturing.

In fact, during the last 10 minutes of class, your professors usually announce something of massive importance, like the next midterm date or the fact that next Monday's 8 a.m. class has been canceled.

Besides, UNC students are much too ingenious to get by with such a non-creative method of harassing

their professors into ending classes. A little ingenuity could produce much more effective results.

For instance, it would be much more effective to install buckets of sulfuric acid in the ceilings of Venable, connected to a switch that detonated 10 minutes before the end of each class. The acid would consume a chemistry professor's clothing (not to mention skin) and embarrass them into seclusion.

Or in Phillips, physics students could use an ejector device to shoot long-winded professors through the roof and outside onto Cameron Avenue. Not only would that help to cut class time, but students also could use their observations to do projectile motion calculations for lab.

Or students might try hiring look-alikes of Mohammed, Buddha, Jesus and Moses to saunter into religious studies lectures and sit down in the back row. Maybe one of them could ask to make an announcement from his boss.

Is that taking it too far? Of course not! If you're going to distract your fellow students from the last 10 minutes of classes, you might as well do it right. Or better yet — don't do it at all.



## Decreasing female faculty teaches a bitter lesson

Where are the women? We are not in the history books — nor the science, philosophy and sociology books.

Neither are we in front of the classroom.

Women in our academic system are achingly devoid of role models. Not only are we taught that we have made no contribution to civilization, but we are taught this, over and over again, by men.

As we enter the university, after years of being told that obstacles in our path have been removed, we suddenly find ourselves in a situation that speaks much louder and more eloquently than the words of those who insist the fight for equality has been won. Does it matter that we achieved the right to enter this university when all around us we see the evidence that it is practically impossible to make it in what is still a man's world?

We might be learning economics or psychology, but at the same time we are being taught — in a silent but insidious manner — that we are not good enough to reach the heights that men attain. More than half of the students at UNC are women, yet this half of the human race is being ignored when hiring time rolls around.

According to a report by the committee on the status of women, made to the University's Faculty Council last Friday, the numbers have not even remained stagnant — they actually have decreased. In 1990, women made up more than 30 percent of the faculty hired in the Division of Academic Affairs. In 1991, we dropped to 20 percent.

All four of the professors named during the 1990-91 academic year were men. During the same period, 11 new

distinguished professors were named — all were men.

Right now, only 84 of 884 full professors at this University — less than 10 percent — are women.

In a day and age when women supposedly are receiving equal opportunities and treatment, this is reprehensible. But by its treatment of women faculty, UNC is failing in its mission on an even deeper level.

As a student, I find the lack of women professors on this campus more than disheartening. And UNC must bear the responsibility for not fulfilling its duty to me. I actually am being discouraged from achieving my potential. When I look around at the faculty on this campus, what I feel more than anything is despair.

As a journalist, I am well aware that I am entering a profession where the newsroom rapidly is becoming a pink-collar ghetto, where less than 20 percent of upper-level management is female, where I can expect to be penalized almost \$8,000 a year in salary because of the shape of my reproductive organs.

But to receive such a harsh lesson in the realities of covert discrimination from the very haven that should be encouraging me to grow and test my limits is distressing.

I have become well aware of what my limits are. And they have nothing to do with my actual abilities.

The message UNC is sending its



Alisa DeMao  
Life Under Siege

women students is simple: You are not good enough. And our male colleagues are learning the same thing about us.

No one is suggesting the University hire unqualified women merely to fill a set number that achieves "equal representation." But with more and more women receiving their doctorates throughout the country, I refuse to believe qualified women are not out there. Are the increased educations and expectations of these women merely exercises in futility?

Are my increased education and expectations an exercise in futility?

That is what the University tells me every time I walk into a classroom and see another female associate professor desperately trying to achieve tenure. That is what the University tells me when it doesn't find women faculty good enough or important enough to include in its yearly hiring.

As graduation looms on the horizon, I should be looking forward to a bright future and a brilliant career — all the things we are told a college degree can bring.

But my education at this university also has left me with a legacy of uncertainty about my future and insecurity in my abilities.

Every woman knows the statistics. Every woman believes she will be the one to beat the odds. But as we have learned all too well — by example — in our classes, somewhere along the way the overwhelming majority of these women disappear, swallowed up in the mid-level job.

So, again I ask the University: Where are the women?

Alisa DeMao is a senior journalism and political science major from Garner.

## READERS' FORUM

### Columnist needs to read African history books

To the editor:  
In his Oct. 20 column, Eric Wagner writes that "very little" of Africentric history is true. Eric has pulled a Dan Quayle on all of us. He obviously has fallen prey to the Eurocentric history teachings that have prevailed in most Western societies to this day. Well Dan, uh, Eric, let me show you something.

Eric says that blacks are "asked to believe that Egypt was a black African country." First of all, this suggests that blacks cannot seek knowledge on their own and must be told. Not true. Secondly, scholars such as William Leo Hansbury, Carter G. Woodson and countless other anthropologists say that the evidence indicates that Egypt was made up of black, brown and yellow-skinned people. The Egyptians used only three colors to represent themselves in their famous murals: black, reddish-brown and yellow. Many Egyptian rulers are painted black in these murals. Not brown or yellow, Eric, but BLACK. I have no doubt that you will dispute the findings of these black scholars given your Western, right-wing historical biases, but these findings are backed by others. The Greek historian Herodotus (surprise, a European!) visited Egypt and said the people were "black and curly-haired." Eric's bucket of rhetoric is beginning to leak.

Wagner goes on to devalue the belief that black African emperors ruled advanced civilizations. Queen Nefertari, celebrated ruler of Egypt and co-founder of the 18th Dynasty, was black as well as several other Egyptian pharaohs. The Sudanese empires of Ghana, Mali and Songhay were ruled by black Muslims. The ancient city of Timbuktu was an intellectual center of Africa where African men and boys went to study the Koran and law at the University of Sankore. The Queen of Sheba was black and made a well-known visit to Solomon, a black king, one thousand years before the birth of Jesus. I could go on, but I encourage you to read for yourself.

Wagner has ignored or has been ignorant of facts such as those above. The goal of multiculturalism is to inform people of facts like these, not mislead them. Wagner should take more responsibility and read the texts that are

readily available at bookstores around the Triangle. Eric, take my advice. The next time you decide to write your column on something like this, READ THE BOOK.

J.P. REGAN  
Senior  
Political science

### People, not media should choose candidates

To the editor:  
Do not be stunned by the media into bi-partisan voting on Nov. 3! The media machine is the corrupter of politics and the true American agenda. The American agenda of which I am speaking is freedom of choice.

In the age of the electronic media, journalists have too much power and influence. Using this modern strength, they too often brainwash the American people into voting a particular way or taking a certain stance. I am afraid Mr. Ross Perot is about to become another victim of the media. Journalists have countless voters convinced that a vote for Perot is a wasted vote because he is supposedly no longer a viable candidate for the presidency. This preposterous notion is simply not the case. Mr. Perot is as viable a candidate as his supporters will allow him to be. If everyone votes with their own heart and mind on election day, Mr. Perot could just as easily be elected president of the United States as could Gov. Bill Clinton or President Bush. The media should not "elect" the president or anyone else — people should.

HESTON LAMAR  
Senior  
Political science

### College Republicans fail to honor truce with YDs

Editor's note: The author is the vice president of the UNC Young Democrats.

To the editor:  
This is a public request from the UNC Young Democrats to the College Republicans to please channel their enthusiasm for their party in more positive directions. As active proponents of free speech, we do not seek to curtail the College Republican's rights, we only ask that they recognize ours and treat

our organization and hard work with the courtesy and respect that we have sought to afford theirs.

At the beginning of the year, the two organizations signed an agreement not to deface or remove publicity posted by the other group, and an effort by the YD's has been in effect from the beginning of the year to coexist peacefully with the College Republicans. The CR's have repeatedly violated the spirit of the agreement by engaging in activities including chalking offensive remarks on the walls of Manning Hall and the surrounding Vote for Change rally site, the mysterious disappearance of fliers, persecution of Lt. Gov. candidate Dennis Wicker, (unsuccessful) attempts to disrupt the Clinton rally held at N.C. State University and the harassment of former Gov. Jim Hunt who believes that our campus is important enough to come to during the decisive final days of his campaign. (Mr. Hunt, incidentally, addressed all the issues hurled at him by rude hecklers with a composure and class that the CR's could learn from.)

Little can be gained from such negative and unproductive behavior that only reflects badly on their organization, candidates and party. Instead, let us all work together for our candidates of choice and, regardless of political affiliation, remember to VOTE ON NOV. 3.

JANE A.K. NORMAN  
Junior  
Political science

### Letters policy

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments and criticisms. We attempt to print as many letters to the editor as space permits. When writing letters, please follow these guidelines:

- Letters should be limited to 400 words. Shorter letters have a better chance of running.
- If you want your letter published, sign and date it.
- All letters must be typed and double-spaced.
- Include your year in school, major, phone number and hometown.
- If you have a title relevant to your letter's subject, please include it.
- The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity.

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