

## ‘When all else has fallen’



DTH/PEGGY MULLIN

A senior is attempting to finish her last semester at UNC without the help of her parents after coming out as gay at the end of fall semester.

## ‘Gay gal’ senior fights to finance her last semester UNC

By Rachel Jones  
Assistant Swerve Editor

Warm beams of winter sunlight streamed into C’s North Campus dorm room on the morning of her last first day of classes.

Technically, she started on Thursday, not Wednesday — she underloaded this semester for financial reasons, something that she described in her GoFundMe page, “Help a Gay Gal Graduate.” She created the page over Winter Break, when she saw her family for the first time since she came out to them as a lesbian.

“I didn’t want them to think that I was lying to them or deceiving them, so I came out to them,” she said. “And their immediate response was, ‘Well, we’re done. We’re not going to fund your education, you’re going to have to figure this out on your own, and good luck, because you’re not going to be able to do it.’”

But so far, she hasn’t had to do it alone — the page has raised over \$3,200 of her \$8,000 goal she needs to cover education and living expenses.

“I think thousands of people have seen it

at this point,” she said. “And I’ve had many people that I don’t even know that have emailed me or reached out to me.”

### Carolina community

C has chosen to be anonymous during her campaign, which does not have an end date, and for this article because she’s not out to parts of her extended family, and doesn’t want to put them in the awkward position of choosing between her and her immediate family.

However, her anonymity hasn’t been a barrier to those supporting her. In one month, 78 people have donated.

“Something about it really resonated with me — not from personal experience, but I know a lot of people who have had good experiences with finding support and coming out and then people who have had very bad experiences with coming out,” sophomore Alyssa Cunningham, who donated to the GoFundMe, said.

“She wants to finish her degree and I just want to be supportive to her on her journey to education as well as giving her some emo-

tional support,” Cunningham said.

First-year Hannah Hendren heard about C’s campaign through a graduate of her a cappella group, the UNC Walk-Ons.

“I’m fortunate to have more than enough money, and I had a gut feeling that I needed to help this girl,” she said.

The support extends beyond just the student community. While Eric Johnson, assistant director for policy analysis and communications at the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, said he couldn’t comment on C’s case, he emphasized that his office exists to make sure that students don’t have to drop out for financial reasons.

He said all financial aid policy, whether it’s federal or institutional, is based on the assumption that guardians will pay for their child’s education to the best of their abilities.

“We have the ability to exercise judgment and override — it just requires working directly with the student to find out if that’s a thing we can do,” he said. “If you’re

SEE [GOFUNDME](#), PAGE 5

## Men dominate UNC’s finance committee

The Student Congress committee decides which groups get money.

By Brinley Lowe  
Senior Writer

When Ivy Hardy was elected to Student Congress in 2013, she decided to join finance committee so the committee, which had about 20 members at the time, would have more than one woman on it.

Three years later, Katharine Shriver asked Rachel Augustine to join the finance committee for the same reason.

From April to October, Shriver was the nine-person committee’s lone woman.

Shriver, a sophomore public policy and political science major and Student Congress ethics committee chairperson, said she joined the finance committee in April when she noticed that all of the people who signed up for the committee for the upcoming year were male.

“As the finance committee, we are looking at clubs and allocating money toward them,” Shriver said. “If we just have men sitting there asking the questions, there is always going to be bias in everyone’s point of view.”

Cole Simons, Student Congress speaker and senior public policy and peace, war and defense major, said although diversity is important, the demographics of the finance committee don’t affect how funding is allocated because committee members adhere to a strict viewpoint-neutral policy.

“Viewpoint neutrality is something that is dictated by the Supreme Court of the United States when it comes to funding organizations at a federal level,” Simons said. “What that says is that no funding decision can be based on whether you agree with an organization and their beliefs or not.”

Hardy, a 2015 graduate and former speaker of Student Congress, said when she was on the finance committee, she did not think the policy of neutrality was followed by everyone.

She said the finance committee had cliques when she was on it, and although members weren’t allowed to vote for funding of organizations they were affiliated with, their friends had their backs.

Since becoming a member of the committee, Shriver said she has noticed a similar issue.

“It’s just like politics in real life,” Hardy said. “Even if he abstained, there was generally a group of people that voted together.”

Augustine, a first-year peace, war and defense and mathematical decision sciences major, said she was not surprised when she saw how much men outnumbered women on the finance com-

SEE [DIVERSITY](#), PAGE 5

## Living wage initiative certifies 100th employer

The program defines a living wage as \$13.15 per hour.

By Lauren Talley  
Staff Writer

The Orange County Living Wage initiative, a program encouraging business to compensate their employees fairly, has just certified its 100th employer — the Coastal Federal Credit Union in Carrboro.

The program encourages and promotes a living wage throughout the county and

certifies businesses that pay their employees a living wage.

“We reached 100 living wage employers in just about a year and a half,” said Susan Romaine, chairperson of the initiative. “It really shows what a progressive business community we have here in Orange County.”

Effective Jan. 1, the initiative raised the living wage to \$13.15 per hour, or \$11.65 an hour for employers providing health insurance. The change reflects rising rent prices in Orange County.

“In order to come up with this living wage we use something called a universal living

wage formula,” Romaine said. “It assumes that no worker should need to pay more than 30 percent of his or her income in rent.”

Joe Mecca, a spokesperson for Coastal Federal Credit Union, said the Credit Union had already committed to a living wage internally, and it was just a matter of getting certified.

“We, in October, began implementing a \$12.50 per hour coastal minimum for all employees, so it just aligned with what we’re already doing,” Mecca said.

The credit union found that their highest turnover

was among their lowest paid employees, particularly tellers, Mecca said. The higher wages help attract and retain employees.

“We want to make sure people don’t leave for financial reasons,” Mecca said. “We want to make sure they have opportunities to grow and take advantage of everything we have to offer from a career development standpoint.”

Paying a living wage not only helps in employee retention, but businesses who have joined the initiative also com-

SEE [WAGE](#), PAGE 5



DTH/RYAN HERRON

Coastal Federal Credit Union is now living wage certified as part of the Orange County Living Wage initiative.

## Not all NC representatives will attend inaugural events in DC

Two members of Congress from NC cited Trump’s divisive behavior.

By Becca Heilman  
Staff Writer

As President-elect Donald Trump’s inauguration approaches, some North Carolina politicians have announced they will not attend.

Representatives G. K. Butterfield, D-N.C., and Alma Adams, D-N.C., released statements Tuesday announcing plans to skip inaugural events.

Butterfield and Adams join a group of over 60 Democratic members of Congress who will not be in attendance.

In their statements, Butterfield said Trump’s divisiveness and lack



G.K. Butterfield represents the first district of North Carolina in the U.S. Congress. He will not be attending the inaugural events.

of knowledge of the presidency make him seem unprepared for the job. Adams said despite Trump’s promises, he has not bridged the partisan divide.

“I cherish our democracy and have a profound respect for the peaceful transition of power,” Adams said in her statement. “However, I cannot in good faith and consciousness pretend to celebrate the inauguration of someone who has spoken so horribly about women, minorities and the disabled. Instead, I am staying home to continue



David Price is a representative for the fourth district of North Carolina in the U.S. Congress. He is going to the inaugural events.

working toward our priorities and to meet with constituents, many of who are fearful of what lies ahead.”

Meaghan Lynch, Butterfield’s spokesperson, said he will not attend due to Trump’s divisive behavior.

“Some of his concerns included the Russian hacking situation and just some of the comments Mr. Trump has made in the past that were insulting to various groups of individuals,” Lynch said. “Those things in totality, Mr. Butterfield felt that he isn’t comfortable attending this year’s inauguration.”



Alma Adams represents the 12th district of North Carolina in the U.S. Congress. She will not be attending the inauguration.

Rep. David Price, D-N.C., said in a statement he plans to attend the inaugural events.

“I will attend the Inauguration on January 20 with pride — pride in our country and the values we must uphold, pride in the rule of law — and determined to make certain that no one, including our president, places himself above the law,” Price said in the statement.

But Price said he has doubts about Trump’s intention or willingness to govern within the bounds of the Constitution, and that he anti-

pates that Congress may need to hold him accountable.

“Like many of my colleagues, I am appalled by Donald Trump — his evident disregard for democratic values and his willingness to stoke bigotry and the politics of hatred and exclusion,” Price said in the statement. “Grave questions about how he got elected and his ties to a foreign power are currently under investigation.”

Lynch said Butterfield supports the office of the president and hopes Trump has a successful term.

“I would say our expectation is that Donald Trump will work on behalf of everyone and hopefully settle down on some of the comments he has made in the past that people of color and women have found to be offensive,” she said.

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“People gonna talk whether you doing bad or good.”

RIHANNA



# Music professor rocks protest song lecture

**By Lily Lou**  
Staff Writer

Two days before the inauguration of Donald Trump, Michael Figueroa, assistant professor of Ethnomusicology, hosted a Humanities Happy Hour on protest music at Top of the Hill's Back Bar as a part of the Program in the Humanities.

"Politics is on the tops of everyone's Facebook feeds, and it's all you ever hear about anymore," Rachel Schaevitz, a postdoctoral fellow who organizes events for the program, said. "And, it's exhausting, but it's so important, so it's hard to just say, 'I'm not going to talk about politics anymore,' because this is our world, and our countries, and our lives, and we need to."

Many celebrities like Katy Perry and Cher are protesting the inauguration, leaving lesser-known singers like Toby Keith and Lee Greenwood to perform.

"With the upcoming presidential inauguration that many people are unhappy about, using music to voice this opposition is such a powerful tool," junior Maddie Fisher said. "As a musician myself, I find music to be one of the greatest ways to move an audience and to make a point."

At the event, Figueroa introduced the relationship between music and political protest. "There's really no such thing as a universal category known as protest music or protest song," he said. "There are many different possibilities for musical protest. At its basic level, it's any music activity that challenges or resists some political order."

Though Figueroa is interested in protest music in pop culture, he is more drawn to smaller movements.

"What's more interesting to me is the non-celebrity," Figueroa said. "The way that ordinary citizens use music to

protest very political issues. How music is used in smaller ways, not amplified on the world stage — things that happen locally."

Though Figueroa covered protest music during the Trump election, he also spoke about protest music around the world.

"Protest music is one of the more seemingly obvious ways in which music is politically implicated, but once you look closer with a more internationalist perspective, it's actually more complicated and not so obvious how music serves in the protest," Figueroa said.

The event, part of Carolina's Program in the Humanities, aimed to inform the public about faculty scholarship.

"We try really hard to make sure that the people who come to Happy Hour are really good at talking to us as if we don't know anything about what they're doing and we can get a sense for whatever the topic is," Schaevitz said.



DTH/MARISA RAUWALD

Michael Figueroa, an ethnomusicologist, gives a speech at the Humanities Happy Hour: Protest Music event on Wednesday.

Figueroa has spoken about African-American music and jazz.

"When I saw how the election was getting intense and a lot of musicians like Beyoncé and Jay-Z were involved, I was like, 'Mike, we have to do something about protest music and politics in music,'" Schaevitz said.

Jamie Blake, who is a graduate student in the department of music, has worked with Figueroa in the past.

"He has a very deep knowledge of his field, and he's a very passionate professor," he said.

"But he tries to be accessible and approachable."

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## POLICE LOG

• Someone reported a breaking and entering with no force at the 400 block of Lindsay Street at 3:07 a.m. Monday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person entered the property without permission and refused to leave, reports state.

• Someone committed

shoplifting at the Rite Aid at 1218 Raleigh Road at 11:25 a.m. Monday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person stole four Valentine's candies, valued at \$12.99 total, reports state.

• Someone a breaking and entering of a vehicle at the 400 block of Tinkerbell Road at 8:02 a.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

• Someone committed an alcohol violation at the 100 block of East Franklin Street at 9:43 a.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person consumed an alcoholic beverage, valued at \$2, on a public sidewalk, reports state.

• Someone committed

larceny at the 2700 block of Homestead Road at 10:03 a.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person stole tools, valued at \$244.45 total, from a storage building, reports state.

• Someone reported a breaking and entering at the 5000 block of Barbee Chapel Road at 4:57 p.m. Tuesday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The person stole a revolver, gift cards and a video game system, valued at \$1,075 total, reports state.

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Office for Undergraduate Research  
Upcoming Events and Deadlines

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Jan. 24	Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Info Session 5-6:30pm @ Union 3408
Feb. 15	Travel Awards. Applications due the 15th of every month
Feb. 20	Carolina Research Scholar Transcript Designation Applications due
Feb. 23	Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Applications due
Mar. 15	Summer Award in Research-Intensive Courses Applications due
Mar. 31-Apr. 2	12th annual ACC Meeting of the Minds at Duke Applications due to <a href="mailto:our@unc.edu">our@unc.edu</a> by Feb. 13
Apr. 27	Celebration of Undergraduate Research Symposium Abstract due Mar. 1

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# How the dining hall cookie crumbles

## The dining halls’ cookie distributor got rid of M&M’s

By Malin Curry  
Staff Writer

For some students, the return to UNC from Winter Break was marked by a small tragedy — the M&M cookies at Rams Head and Lenoir dining halls are decidedly different.

Some students took to social media to voice their frustrations over Carolina Dining Services’ decision to change the cookie recipe.

One such student is Janet Haver, a first-year journalism major, who was one of the first to tweet to CDS about the change.

“The new cookies use a different kind of M&M’s, almost like those mini-M&M’s,” Haver said in an interview.

“They don’t have the same taste and neither does the cookie. The old ones were amazing though. The big pieces of M&M’s and the actual cookie part was delicious, and the sole contributor to my freshman 15.”

CDS responded to Haver’s inquiry in a tweet, saying they are trying to get the cookies back.

Haver said she was shocked by CDS’s response to her tweet and said she hopes the old M&M cookies will come back.

“I was pretty upset at the note that they might not come back,” Haver said.

“They are one of my favorite parts of eating in the dining halls, and so I hope they’re eventually able to see how good those cookies were and how crucial they are to the dining aspect of Carolina.”

Michael Gueiss, the executive chef for CDS, said CDS’s cookie distributor, Otis Spunkmeyer, discontinued the beloved M&M cookies.

Gueiss said they’re trying to solve the cookie



DTH/NATHAN KLIMA

The dining hall M&M cookies taste different now due to a change in who provides them. Whether the change is good or bad is a matter of debate.

problem.

“It seems that our distributor has stopped carrying the old cookie,” Gueiss said in an email.

“The cookie that everyone is talking about is the Carnival cookie. We are working on finding a suitable replacement if I cannot get the old cookies back.”

This move to get the old cookies back may prove to be a bad thing for some students like Kassandra Moore, a first-year biology

major, who actually prefers the new cookie recipe.

“I have noticed a difference in the cookies,” Moore said.

“They are way better than they were before and I like that they’re softer, because I can remember with the old cookies they were usually always hard and honestly, not that good.”

Some students do not feel as strongly as Moore or Haver and in fact are indifferent

about the new M&M cookies.

“I’m really not that into the cookies,” Mercer Brady, a first-year history major, said. “I mean I love cookies and all, but the change isn’t really that big for me.”

Whatever the case may be, it appears the old M&M cookies may not be making a resurgence anytime soon, so students will have to adjust to the new recipe.

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# North Carolina anticipates Trump economic policies

## Military or drilling expansions could help the state economy.

By Sayoni Ghosh  
Staff Writer

President-elect Donald Trump has proposed major changes to economic policy — some that might have distinct implications for North Carolina.

Michael Walden, distinguished professor of agriculture and resource economics at N.C. State University, said Trump has proposed a large tax cut, regulation reductions and a major infrastructure program.

“He’s also proposed further energy exploration, so all those things will affect North Carolina just like (they) will the nation,” he said.

But there might be special potential for an increase in offshore energy exploration in the state, Walden said.

“North Carolina has the largest known deposits of oil off of its coast. So if that were accessed, I estimate that could be converted to energy,” he said. “And on a long term basis, that could generate maybe 17,000 jobs and \$2 million of income.”

North Carolina is home to many of the nation’s military divisions, said Scott Dorney, executive director of the North Carolina Military Business Center.

“In North Carolina, we have six major military installations, with 10 percent of the Army at Fort Bragg, and the largest marine base in the eastern half of the United States and a lot of other military presence,” Dorney said.

He said the state’s military presence pro-

vides business and economics opportunities.

The military supports 578,000 jobs in the state, almost \$34 billion in state personal income and \$66 billion in state gross product, according to the 2015 report on the economic impact of the military on North Carolina released by the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the North Carolina Military Affairs Commission.

Dorney said he appreciates the federal and state governments’ perspectives on military.

“They understand the value of the military in our state from a business perspective, and they get the opportunity to grow the military economy and to continue to keep it strong,” he said.

Patrick Conway, chairperson of the UNC economics department, said the growing population of North Carolina is also an economic factor.

“We are a state that is steadily increasing its population relative to the rest of the United States — maybe not the fastest growing, but one of the fastest growing states in the country in terms of population,” he said.

“More people tend to make more economic opportunities, more jobs and more sales opportunities,” Walden said. “With growth comes some benefits as well as challenges.”

Questions remain as to whether Trump can implement all his policies, Conway said.

“The president-elect has promised a large number of things on the election trail, and also since he was elected, and I’m not sure to what extent he is going to be able to deliver on those.”

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# Students to honor the unsung heroes of UNC

## The project was started by a Georgetown student.

By Kaitlyn Green  
Staff Writer

A group of UNC students is working to recognize the behind-the-scenes workers who take care of the University.

Ben Albert, a junior business and economics major, is starting a UNC chapter of Unsung Heroes this semester — a philanthropic student organization devoted to promoting appreciation for the workers on college campuses who often go unrecognized.

Albert found out about Unsung Heroes through a Washington Post article his friend shared on Facebook.

Febin Bellamy, a student at Georgetown University, started Unsung Heroes after noticing the same custodians frequently working around his favorite study spot. He began talking to them regularly, heard their stories and was inspired to start a group devoted to telling those stories.

Reading about Bellamy’s story made Albert think about the workers he sees

around UNC every day.

“I thought that these obviously can’t be isolated people,” Albert said. “It would be really great to find them all over campus and help campus get to know them.”

Albert’s desire to start a UNC chapter of Unsung Heroes also came from those around him. His fraternity, Sigma Nu, helped buy a car for a worker at the Agora in Granville Towers a few years ago. He said a group of his friends also bought a Christmas gift for one of their favorite security guards in the public health building.

The group plans to speak with Carolina Dining Services employees, Department of Public Safety workers and custodians and post them on the UNC page of the Unsung Heroes website.

“These (stories) aren’t really like interviews,” Albert said. “I want them to be like conversations — how we can learn their story.”

Akash Mishra, who will be the group’s vice president of publicity, said the popular blog Humans of New York was his ideal for what he hopes the Unsung Heroes stories will achieve on campus.

“I think we as students

and faculty do a good job of recognizing unsung heroes,” Mishra said. “But I think it’s inevitable when you get caught up in your daily routine to just think about what you have to do and forget to put yourself in the perspective of other people.”

Trevor Hair, a sophomore global studies and Hispanic linguistics major, has already heard about Unsung Heroes from his friends. He hopes that it will recognize workers like two of his favorite Lenoir workers who he says always brighten up his day.

“The workers do so much for us — a lot of them work the entire day,” Hair said. “We all talk to them every day but we don’t really know much about their lives. I think it will be great to get to know them better and just who they are as people. Because they’re so cool! And so nice!”

Mishra said he hopes that sense of appreciation is what Unsung Heroes will promote.

“It’s just the little things that help this University run every day,” he said. “I think when you take a step back and think of that, you appreciate things a lot more.”

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# All up in your business



## Jasmin Mediterranean Bistro closes

Jasmin Mediterranean Bistro has permanently closed their location on the corner of West Franklin and North Columbia streets.

Nawwaf Said, owner of the former location and six others in the Triangle, said there wasn’t one specific reason for the closure. The cost of parking for employees and potential customers, combined with the high rent and Said’s decision not to stay open for late-night hours, all influenced his decision to shut down.

“I didn’t go there blind,” he said. “I knew there was an issue with parking but I didn’t know it was that severe.” Said added that plans for a new location at U.S. 15-501 between Chapel Hill and Durham are in the works.

The Colmont Restaurant Group out of Maryland had been interested in buying the space for a few months, though it was never on the market, Said said.

“I decided for a few months then said, ‘Okay, I can take my business somewhere else.’”

The Colmont Restaurant Group will be using the space to bring a stone-fired pizza restaurant to Franklin Street, Said said.



## Chapel Hill Public Library offers coffee

Visitors to Chapel Hill Public Library might soon be able to get their coffee fix while checking out their books.

After receiving feedback from guests that coffee would be a welcome addition, Chapel Hill Public Library decided to conduct a “coffee experiment.” In January and February, three coffee vendors will take turns operating pop-up shops.

Meeghan Rosen, the library’s assistant director, said the experiment will help determine if the library will permanently keep a coffee shop.

“These ‘pop-up’ coffee shops are designed to serve as proof of concept,” she said in an email. “We’d like to find out how much demand there is for coffee service, what the community thinks of the idea, and what the impact might be on library operations.”

Rosen said the first pop-up coffee shop, which started last week, has been well received.

“So far, so good! The public response has been vocally enthusiastic and very positive. People are excited to see it,” she said in an email.



## Habitat for Humanity ReStore open Sundays

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore of Durham and Orange counties is now open on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Previously the store was only open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Caitlyn West, communications manager at the store, said the decision to increase hours took almost a year to make.

The decision to open on Sundays is not only a move to increase donations and sales. It also allows volunteers more options to give their time.

“Volunteers are the heartbeat of the ReStore — we could not operate without them,” West said in an email. “By being open on Sundays, we’ve opened up more opportunities for individuals who can only volunteer their time on the weekends.”

While the ReStore offers a free donations pickup service Monday through Saturday, West said this service is not currently offered on Sunday. The store does accept drop-off donations on Sundays and hopes to be able to offer the free donation pickup service all seven days of the week in the coming months.

Part of a periodic update on local businesses.

Compiled by staff writers Meghana Srikrishna and Kiana Cole  
Photos by Taryn Revoir and Nick Bafia



# Tar Heels outworked in JV loss to Vance Granville

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL

VANCE GRANVILLE 106  
NORTH CAROLINA 100

By Ethan Belshe  
Staff Writer

The North Carolina junior varsity basketball team wasn't just outplayed — UNC was outworked.

The Tar Heels (3-1) lost for the first time this season, falling to Vance Granville Community College, 106-100, at the Smith Center on Wednesday.

"It was definitely a rough loss," sophomore guard Caleb Ellis said. "Probably the biggest disappointment is, as a team, we feel like we got outplayed as far as effort goes."

"They just wanted it more, honestly."

The Vanguard's put their speed and athleticism to good use against the Tar Heels, as they outworked North Carolina from the opening tip of Wednesday night's contest.

Vance Granville's guards

kept the ball moving on offense and crashed the offensive boards with intensity. The Tar Heels' defense could do little to stop the Vanguard's from scoring.

"Congratulations to Vance Community College," Head Coach Hubert Davis said. "They earned it."

"I just felt like the entire game they were the tougher team. They were the team that worked the hardest, that wanted it more."

Despite not being able to stop Vance Granville from scoring, UNC's offense kept the game close — as the two teams knotted the score at 51-51 heading into halftime.

The second half was just as much of a back-and-forth affair as the first, and the Tar Heels found themselves with a slim lead with as little as three minutes left in the game.

But a late turnover by North Carolina and four straight-made free throws by Vance Granville sealed the game for the visiting Vanguard's.

Despite posting 21 points on 7-of-12 shooting from

*"I did not anticipate them playing harder than us, tougher than us."*

Hubert Davis  
UNC junior varsity basketball coach

behind the 3-point line to lead all Tar Heels in scoring, junior guard Lucas Bouknight wasn't pleased with his performance after Wednesday's loss.

"It's really hard to be happy about yourself when you have 14 other guys who are just as disappointed as you are," he said.

"It's nice to see the ball go in, but it's nicer to see you score more than the other team at the end of the day."

Davis wants his team to push the ball on offense and score as quickly as possible. But when his players are ignoring the other facets of the game, the UNC coach knows things can only end poorly.

"One of the things that we talk about is that we want to win four battles: the turnover,



DTH FILE/TARYN REVOIR

UNC junior varsity forward Devin Dukes (22) goes up for a lay up against Methodist Monday evening.

the rebound, the free throw and the effort battle," he said. "They were winners of all four of those."

"It's gonna be tough to win a game if you do that."

Despite the loss, Davis remains optimistic. The Tar Heels endured a grueling start to the season, opening with four games in eight days and little time for practice.

But the quick turnaround was no excuse for the Tar Heels' head coach.

"I did not anticipate them playing harder than us, tougher than us," Davis said. "That's something that's going to have to change ... it will change."

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# Trump cabinet picks continue testimonies

The nominees have attracted national controversy.

By Corey Risinger  
State & National Editor

Confirmation hearings for President-elect Donald Trump's cabinet picks continued this week, stirring partisan debate in the U.S. Senate over candidates' qualifications.

Ten professors from the UNC School of Law are among the 1,424 faculty members who signed a letter opposing the nomination of Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-AL, for

U.S. Attorney General.

The letter cited the Senate Judiciary Committee's 1986 rejection of Sessions for a federal judgeship under the Ronald Reagan administration for being racially insensitive.

"Some of us have concerns about (Sessions') misguided prosecution of three civil rights activists for voter fraud in Alabama in 1985, and his consistent promotion of the myth of voter-impersonation fraud," the letter said.

But Elliot Engstrom, a fellow at Elon Law School, said it is crucial to distinguish between allegations of racism and criticism of views that align with conservatism.

"If the accusation is he's conservative, well, I don't think Donald Trump is going to be nominating anybody particularly liberal to be attorney general," he said.

Sessions' colleague Sen. Ted Cruz, R-TX said the body was solely evaluating his potential tenure as attorney general.

"If you begin to think about the awesome responsibility of serving as an attorney general with the possibility of having to handle certain cases, you need to be more cautious about what you say," Cruz said to Sessions. "So I think it's just not appropriate for me to be the person for you to seek

*"I don't think Donald Trump is going to be nominating anybody particularly liberal..."*

Elliot Engstrom  
Elon Law School fellow

political responses from."

Trump nominee Betsy DeVos received further attention this week after a critical testimony before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

Matt Ellinwood, director of the Education and Law Project at the North Carolina Justice Center, said confirmation hearings for the U.S. Secretary of Education have not always been so partisan.

"I'm very concerned in general about how education has become part of this partisan mix," he said. "I don't know that extreme divisions between parties works well when it comes to education."

Given DeVos' controversial nomination, D. Sunshine Hillygus, a professor of political science at Duke University, said she was not surprised the hearing provoked partisan tension.

While some members of the committee lauded DeVos for her support of private school vouchers and charter schools, the nominee had a more tense interchange with U.S. Sen. Al Franken, D-MN, and Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-VT, on educational proficiency and college affordability.

Ellinwood said DeVos' confusion over proficiency and growth speaks to her mindset, one distant from many public school evaluation models.

"It does show you how much her thinking is focused so much on vouchers and charters," he said.

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AUDITIONS

For Carolina Choir, Chamber Singers and Glee Clubs this week. Sign up in Person Hall Room 106 or email skleb@email.unc.edu. All singers welcome!

Business Opportunities

UPSCALE STEAKHOUSE IS HIRING

Stoney River Steakhouse is opening in Chapel Hill February 2017. Now hiring servers, bartenders, hosts, kitchen positions. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! Apply M-Sat 9am-7pm at 201 South Estes Drive, Suite D13 in Chapel Hill. Very competitive wages!

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Transport children, buy groceries, run errands, light housework, children's laundry, museums. Children are kind and creative, bright 10, 12, & 17. Must be organized, energetic, warm, kind, and available for two school years. House 300 feet from unc, parking available. 5-20 hrs./wk., weekday afternoons. \$13-\$15/hr., boe. Resume with gpa to: bb@telesage.com

Child Care Wanted

AFTERSCHOOL SITTER WANTED 2 or 3 days a week for Chapel Hill 5th grade girl. \$12/hr. Must have own car. neal.caren@gmail.com.

MOTHER'S HELPER for household duties while pregnant mom endures morning sickness. Carboro-based, detail oriented, completes tasks with little instruction. Seeking w/Th/F for 1-2hrs \$13/hr. send references: foragedforyou@gmail.com

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SR. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE NEEDED

Manage mental health projects. Have MS or PhD in psychology, experience with NIH grants. Be organized, detail oriented with knowledge of methodology, and good interpersonal skills. FT/PT position with benefits, walk to UNC campus. Wages BOE. Resume to BB@TeleSage.com

PART-TIME LAB ASSISTANT - 5 hrs/wk, flexible, \$12/hour. Learn to karyotype human chromosomes. Assist in processing cell lines and transporting specimens locally to our Woodcroft, Durham location. Must pass visual discrimination test, have own car, and interest in either clinical cytogenetics, stem cell or cancer research. Email interest: info@karyologic.com

GYMNASTICS INSTRUCTOR: Bull City Gymnastics of Durham has full time and part-time positions available for energetic, enthusiastic instructors. Applicants with knowledge of gymnastics terminology and progression skills preferred, must be available 2-4 days/wk. 3:30-7:30pm, some weekends. Send a resume to hr@bullcitygymnastics.com.

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED for busy salon. Afternoon, evening and Saturday hours available. Flexible schedule. Great attitude, people skills, computer skills required. Send resumes to urbanfringesalon@gmail.com

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CARE PROVIDER JOB: Disabled female professional looking for a part-time care provider. Pays \$15/hr. Perfect job for student. Contact deliza05@gmail.com for more info.

SR. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE NEEDED:

Manage ninth mental health research projects, assist with grant applications and manuscripts. Have ms or phd in social sciences. Be organized, & detail oriented with good interpersonal skills. 15-40 hrs. Per week, flexible schedule, benefits, friendly work environment, walk to unc campus. Wages boe. Resume to bb@telesage.com

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ROOM FOR RENT in historic home in Forest Hills neighborhood in Durham. Large, elegant room, private bathroom. No pets or smoking. 15 min from UNC campus by car. References needed. biandfury18@gmail.com 919-381-6884

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HOROSCOPES

If January 18th is Your Birthday...

Opportunities flourish for career growth this year. Discipline with planning lets you soar to new heights. Change financial strategies with a partner this February, before thriving creativity and communications spark. A different income direction next September leads to shared profits. Collaboration wins.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Today is an 8 -- Work together to manage a new assignment (on top of everything else). Suppress the desire to argue or procrastinate. Transform obstacles into opportunities. Partnership wins.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a 9 -- The pace quickens. Handle responsibilities before going out to play. A work controversy requires your attention. Get the facts. Stick with the real thing.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Today is a 7 -- Relax and let your thoughts turn to romance. Avoid awkward moments by scheduling carefully. You're developing a new perspective. Share what you love.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Today is a 6 -- Find what you need close to home. Family has your attention. Finish a big job together, to upgrade your domestic scene. Many hands make light work.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is an 8 -- Listen to what's going on, and summarize the plot for others. Observe the running game. You're especially keen-witted and clever. Put your thoughts into words.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is an 8 -- That money could show up any time now. Present your argument tactfully. Prioritize obligations and adjust the budget to suit. Don't spend what you don't have.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 9 -- You're on a roll. Personal matters come together, if you can avoid procrastination. Disruptions and distractions pull at your attention. Double-check your work for potential errors.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is a 6 -- You're especially sensitive. Clean up old messes, and clear new space for creating what's next. Hide out and consider what you want to generate. Discover options.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a 7 -- Your friends are your inspiration. Have fun on committees, at parties and at social gatherings. Sidestep a controversy with diplomatic humor. Smile with grace and tact.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is a 7 -- A professional challenge has your attention. Adapt to a change in plans. Clear communications channels are vital. Investigate options and opportunities. Compete for higher status.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is an 8 -- New opportunities open up. Take charge, and go for the big prize. Inspire others without getting pushy. When sufficiently motivated, your team can move mountains.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a 7 -- Take care of financial obligations without losing your cool. Do as much as you can without discussion. Think fast under pressure. Talk about money later.

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## GOFUNDME

FROM PAGE 1

struggling, we would like to hear from you. It's not to say that we can always do something, but we would like to have the opportunity, and there are a lot of cases where we can."

Terri Phoenix, the director of UNC's LGBTQ Center, was upset but not shocked at C's situation.

"We don't track any numbers on this but I know I hear of it happening frequently," Phoenix said via email. "As a parent myself, it baffles me how a parent could cut their child off

financially or otherwise for being LGBTQ-identified."

## Crude compromise

C describes the home she grew up in as conservative, Christian and intensely fundamentalist. Most of the people in her rural town held the same values.

"We had this stereotype where anyone who differed from those beliefs in any way was the 'crazy liberal,' and that was the person that I never wanted to be because my family, my town, my whole extended family had that extreme view of people that differed from their

beliefs," she said.

She wasn't completely surprised by her family's reaction to her coming out — she recalls them refusing to watch a TV series because of a same-sex kiss. But the rejection of her identity still stung.

Initially, they tried to bargain with her.

"It came to the point where they were only going to be paying for my education if I did x, y, z things, like speaking to a Christian counselor that they personally selected. I'm already seeing a counselor and I didn't want to change that," she said.

"I realized that in their

minds, me saying, 'You know what, this is who I am' — that is me walking away from them. I view it more as liberating and freeing and really reclaiming an identity that I've struggled so long to affirm and to accept."

## Keeping the faith

C said attending UNC was the first time she was able to open a dialogue with people who have different views from her.

"It was the first time that I realized that gay Christians could still go to church, that they could lead churches, that they could be happy and

can still be well-received by a faith community," she said. "Carolina was a place where I was able to meet people that challenged my views and that supported an environment where if I decided to come out, I would feel safe and loved and respected, whereas if I had felt the urge to come out in high school I would be mortified."

It takes a lot to create this environment, including spiritual fulfillment — especially for C, who said she's struggled with her faith, like many other college students.

Outside of the University, there are resources for LGBTQ Christians, includ-

ing Chapel of the Cross and the Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship.

C has attended a few churches around Chapel Hill, but hasn't found the right place. However, she said God and the scripture are still close to her heart. She ends her GoFundMe page with a Bible verse — 1 Corinthians 13:7-8.

"Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen."

@notracheljones  
swerve@dailytarheel.com

## DIVERSITY

FROM PAGE 1

mittee.

"The same thing happened to me when I got into my Calc 3 class this semester," she said. "A STEM-centered committee is generally less likely to have more females just because of the way that STEM breaks down — but it doesn't mean that it has to stay that way."

Ben Albert, a junior business and economics major and finance committee chairperson, said he thinks the gender breakdown of the committee is reflective of finance as a field. He said he thinks women should be shown that the committee is not just for men.

Shriver said she led a finance committee meeting when Albert was absent last semester, and some of the men on the committee did not give her the same respect as him. They talked over her — something, she said, they don't do to Albert.

"It is a reflection of the world," she said. "You hear all the time of women being put down and not being heard. It shows me what I'm about to face."

Hardy said although Student Congress was about two-thirds male when she was a member, she never felt like she wasn't listened to because of her gender.

"Everybody was a dominant personality when I was on the finance committee," Hardy said. "If you didn't work to stand out and make sure your voice was heard, it just wasn't going to be heard — whether you were a woman or a man."

She said when she was speaker of Congress, the then-president of the Graduate and Professional Federation was also a woman. She said both student government leaders encouraged women to run for office.

"We would find women in our classes who we thought would be assets to Student Congress and we would tell

them to join — not just for themselves, but because they'd be lending a voice to a large group of people on this campus who may not be well-represented," Hardy said.

Hardy said during her time in Student Congress, the organization lacked in racial diversity. She said when she was speaker of Congress, she was one of three black people across Student Congress and GPSF combined.

"It was mostly white males that you saw in Student Congress, and a fair amount of white females," she said. "But as far as women of color? Not a whole lot of us there."

Simons said he thinks Student Congress can improve in diversity, and wants the organization's makeup to be reflective of UNC's student body.

"I would encourage students who feel their voices aren't represented at UNC to run in the upcoming election," he said.

university@dailytarheel.com

## WAGE

FROM PAGE 1

ment on higher productivity, better customer and employee relations, Romaine said.

As of last year, rent in Orange County has increased 3.1 percent, Romaine said, though the minimum wage of \$7.25 in North Carolina has not.

"The Orange County Living Wage initiative has been incredibly successful. I think

more successful than anyone thought it would be in such a short period of time," said Carrboro Board of Aldermen member Damon Seils.

With the 100th business milestone passed, the initiative is considering what else they can do in the community to promote a living wage.

Romaine says they will continue to certify more businesses, posting short videos to social media featuring their certified employers and host-

ing more "boycotts," which encourage the community to support businesses who are living wage certified.

"We live in a state where local governments like Carrboro, Chapel Hill and others don't have the authority to require a minimum wage, so we rely on citizen-based initiatives like this one to make it happen," Seils said.

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Time **10AM-3PM**

Location **GREAT HALL, STUDENT UNION**

games

**SUDOKU**  
THE SAMURAI GF PUZZLES By The Mephm Group

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Level: **1** **2** **3** **4**

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Solution to last puzzle

9	7	2	4	8	6	1	3	5
3	8	4	5	7	1	2	6	9
1	6	5	9	2	3	7	4	8
8	2	1	6	4	5	3	9	7
6	3	9	2	1	7	5	8	4
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4	1	3	7	6	8	9	5	2
7	9	8	3	5	2	4	1	6
2	5	6	1	9	4	8	7	3

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

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- Across
- 1 Naproxen brand
  - 6 Yap
  - 10 Documentary divisions
  - 14 Ricoh competitor
  - 15 Green-skinned "Return of the Jedi" girl
  - 16 Approaching
  - 17 Not shady
  - 18 Action figure?
  - 19 Site of Shah Jahan's tomb
  - 20 Protective charm often adorned with feathers
  - 23 Decorative globe
  - 26 Ice cream maker Joseph
  - 27 Holed a five-footer, say
  - 28 Start of a hands-off declaration?
  - 30 Fivers
  - 32 Pigs out (on), briefly
  - 33 Stamina-testing ballroom event
  - 36 Longtime Labor Day telethon org.
  - 37 Wild bunch
  - 38 Gold units: Abbr.
  - 40 Forensic analyst's discovery
  - 46 Swiss river
  - 48 "Peter Pan" pooch
  - 49 Travel org. freebie
  - 50 Lamentation
  - 52 Miss an easy grounder, say
  - 53 It can follow directions
  - 54 Device found in this puzzle's three

DESI	SHIN	CROAT
EATS	NINO	PIANO
BROOK	LYNHE	IGHTS
SLOTS	ASOF	HUES
DOUR	WILT	
GRIP	IRA	LOSTIT
MONEY	MARKET	ANI
ABASE	KOI	SORTA
TOW	THESTR	ANGER
STEVIE	ETA	SELA
OSLO	MATT	
SPAY	LOBS	PREGO
ALFA	ROME	OSPIDER
SIEGE	PATH	KALE
HEWED	HUSH	EDDS

- breakup?
- 21 Wax-coated cheese
  - 22 Rear
  - 23 Ancient
  - 24 Gad about
  - 25 Wall Street figures
  - 29 1980 Chrysler debut
  - 30 Something in the air
  - 31 Cake with a kick
  - 34 "Too true!"
  - 35 Creole vegetable
  - 39 German industrial region
  - 41 Youngest Brontë
  - 42 Short rests
  - 43 Weighted allowance
  - 44 Stud, e.g.
  - 45 ICU worker
  - 46 Rose garden pests
  - 47 "The Good Wife" wife

- 51 Nice thoughts?
- 52 Bishop John for whom a Georgia university was named
- 55 Movie trailer unit
- 56 Imitator
- 57 One-half base times height, for a triangle
- 61 Dennings of "2 Broke Girls"
- 62 Juliet's season
- 63 Big affairs

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67												69



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HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED

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Gwendolyn Smith  
Not Your Token

Junior journalism major from Charlotte.

Email: gwenren@live.unc.edu

# Learn from Hidden Figures

I saw “Hidden Figures” during Winter Break and it was one of the best movies I’ve seen in a while. Despite the astonishment and shame I felt for not knowing the names of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, I felt an overwhelming sense of determination and inspiration.

These women were brilliant and despite their intelligence and ability to contribute to NASA, they were not given the dignity and respect they deserved.

What inspired me the most is how, despite the situation they were in, they did not live in fear and they did not belittle themselves in the face of discrimination. They thrived in the midst of their circumstances.

That is what I am choosing to do for the next four years and beyond.

What I came to realize is that there was no magic serum that was injected into the millions of people that voted for Trump on Nov. 8. Those people — people that condone the mocking of handicapped individuals, reject the idea that women can and should have control over their bodies and don’t believe that “all lives matter” — have had more than 18 years to develop those thoughts and beliefs. This election, they just happened to have a candidate that aired their innermost thoughts.

But hey, at least it’s easier to point them out, right?

I learned how easy it would be the day of the election. I was walking to class from Lenoir Dining Hall and I watched a fellow student leap — I am not exaggerating, he literally leapt with joy — onto a stone wall to rip an “I’m with Her” sign off of a tree and casually discard it onto the ground behind him. There was no shame.

So for those that are cautious, disappointed or concerned, I urge you to not let the next president of the United States lead you to act out of character.

Whether you voted conservative or liberal, your actions, your words, your impact on those around you is your responsibility and yours alone. I’ve heard stories upon stories of people being harassed and threatened because we are on the verge of living in “Trump’s America.”

I will be resilient. I will not cower in the face of this particular adversity. I will continue to be bold and outspoken, and most importantly I will continue to be civil and kind regardless of my opinion. Regardless of whether those around me are necessarily deserving of my kindness.

However, I’m saved, so it comes with the territory.

I thought about and dreaded this inauguration so much sometimes it hurts. I’ve tried not to think about it.

We’ve been here before.

I know for a fact my grandparents have been here before.

I know my parents have been here before.

I’ve read about it.

I’ve seen pictures of it.

Now I’m living in it.

And like before we will survive, we will prosper and we will thrive.

## EDITORIAL CARTOON By Emily Yue, emyue@live.unc.edu



### EDITORIAL

# Students and consent

## Parents should have conversations on consent with kids.

Bystander intervention, consent and sexual assault are increasingly common topics on college campuses.

While the discourse on the topics has worked to undercut rape culture and create a safer space for survivors, the conversation has failed to spread to high school campuses.

Research conducted by joint Orange County Rape Crisis Center and UNC Public Policy Capstone Team revealed that 18 percent of surveyed high school students in the

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools system did not know that an individual who has consented to sex may withdraw their consent at any time.

Further, a frightening 24 percent of students did not know that flirting does not constitute consent to sex, and 19 percent of students did not know that past consent does not constitute present consent. The research indicates a widespread failure of the school system to provide sufficient education and bystander intervention training to high school students.

While the Orange County Rape Crisis Center and the high

school activist group Youth Against Rape Culture have made strides to educate the student body, they cannot complete the task alone.

Given the recent sexual assault cases at East Chapel Hill High School, it is imperative that parents become involved in educating their children about sexual assault, consent and bystander intervention.

Parents are tasked with passing on skills and values essential to a fulfilling life. While these conversations may be uncomfortable, they are essential to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all students.

### EDITORIAL

# United, the press stands

## Resist the influence of others on fair reporting.

Last week, our president-elect held his first press conference since the election. Among the many points of focus — the piles of white papers as props, the cramped ballroom, the rumors — one theme trumped them all: his open antagonism toward the press.

When our president-elect shouts, “You are fake news!” at a CNN journalist, we should all take notice. His open taunting of Buzzfeed as a “failing pile of garbage” should send our alarm bells

ringing. It’s certainly not historically normal for a president-elect to shout at the fourth estate.

This has been said before. What we haven’t yet confronted is a more subtle danger which lies ahead. Even as Trump mocked some major news outlets, he applauded and thanked The New York Times for not publishing the dossier. His aides suggested that the administration might move the press corps out of the White House.

Enduring a barrage of doubt in our institutions, our press stands at a fairly precarious point now. But more dangerous than to battle with our president would be for journalists

to accept his praise or try to gain further access to the president. To accept his praise implies that his judgment matters; journalists should accept neither his praise nor his rebukes. Papers should not tone down their editorial content in hopes of access to our president.

Anyone who has been to a Trump rally could expect his antagonism toward the press. But what we must guard most jealously is the independence of the press; we should be free to criticize one another and hold each other accountable to ethical standards. These standards can never be decided by the powers themselves.



## QuickHits



### Trumpet call

This is the last Quick Hit section written during the Barack Obama presidency. From now on, Quick Hits will be written

under the “leadership” of a sensitive orange person. We doubt he will ever see these, but we hope the coming Quick Hits somehow, some way manage to bother him.

### Bee 3-D

Did you all know that any UNC student can make 3-D prints from an actual 3-D printer? Want to print friendship charms? You can! Want to print a life size model of Jerry Seinfeld in a bee costume? Maybe you cannot do that, but you can print the exact same thing in bee size! The possibilities are endless.

### Free at last

President Barack Obama gave us a glimmer of good news in the already dark 2017 — he commuted Chelsea Manning’s sentence. She pointed out failures of our nation’s military, something we need more of. If we want to advance as a society, we have to be willing to accept our faults, not shroud them from view.

### Love me, I’m liberal

This down thumb goes to a group of people we often do not criticize: the Liberal. Not all Liberals, just the kind that use the label but seemingly have no real link to the ideology. If your politics change if the policies do not benefit you, like being economically conservative, then you are not a true Liberal.

### Astrological apology

We here at Quick Hits are sincerely sorry for asserting last week that the Capricorn mermaid goat most resembled our beloved mascot, Rameses. The zodiac’s resident ram is the Aries sign. In keeping the cosmos in balance, if you’re an Aries you’ll have splendid fortune this week while Capricorns figure themselves out.

### We tried

Maybe the death of American society isn’t a bad thing ... Actually, we thought about seeing an ironic positive in Trump’s presidency, but there aren’t really any of worth. Just consider this a down thumb to Trump, or an up thumb to Joe Biden. We have nothing to make the inauguration seem okay.

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

“I would say our expectation is that Donald Trump will work on behalf of everyone and hopefully settle down...”

Meaghan Lynch, on G.K. Butterfield’s choice to skip inaugural events

### FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

“Perhaps you will see the light and come out of the cave you seem to live in.”

John Estes Remington, on a gay teacher being fired from his school

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Western N.C. held a wealth of memories

*Editor’s Note: David McKnight, a frequent letter-writer to the DTH, died on Tuesday. His passion for writing about the North Carolina he loved will be missed. In his memory, we are reprinting one of his recent letters.*

TO THE EDITOR:

Two counties of Western North Carolina made for a wonderful experience on learning about part of that end of the Tar Heel state during my times of youth as an early lifelong resident of a family growing up in Charlotte.

One experience in the summer after the fifth grade at Charlotte’s Midwood Election School in 1959 was at the Western Carolina summer school in Cullowhee, in the Western N.C. mountain county of Jackson.

Then four years later, right after my ninth grade school year at Eastway Junior High School in the summer of 1963, came a summer camp at the Brevard Music Center in the county of Transylvania in the Western N.C. county south of Asheville.

For the longest time I didn’t pay any attention to the geographic fact that the Jackson and Transylvania experiences I enjoyed in my summers of youth were actually neighboring geographic counties in the Westerns of North Carolina!

In Jackson County after the fifth grade I learned a lot about education in Western Carolina in 1959. Then four years later I learned about classical music development at the Brevard Music Center in Transylvania County, just east of Jackson County.

Take a nice look of a Western N.C. map showing both Jackson and Transylvania counties!

How many folks in the Piedmont or the East realize that these two counties are geographic neighbors out West?

David McKnight  
Writer and musician

#### Musings and advice from an alum — Pt. 2

*Editor’s Note: This letter is satire and part of a larger story. It will run periodically at the end of the letters section.*

TO THE EDITOR:

Right after college I landed a good, cushy job set up for me in Charlotte.

But I had gotten it during the first semester of my senior year. I had the whole next semester to potentially learn things, which seemed to not be worth the thousands of dollars I was paying.

Still, just out of habit, I went to my introductory class on philosophy.

The professor mentioned “hedonism.” I had heard my Mom call some of my favorite TV shows and video

games “hedonistic.”

So, I raised my hand and said, “What’s hedonism?” He was pretty peeved off and went on to say we’d cover it later — blah, blah, blah, I worked my whole life to teach mutts like you and my wife left me and my daughter hates me — ending with: “And, if you really must know right now, it’s used colloquially to mean the pursuit of pleasure as the highest aim in life.” He then ended class early and was crying.

I went up to that weeping fellow and asked: “So, I can just do things for pleasure?”

He looked me dead in the eye and said: “I’ve spent my whole life trying to prove hedonism wrong and what am I? An old, fat man in a dusty hall wondering at what point these lectures became sophistry for myself. Your eyes shine like mirrors for senescence.”

The old, fat man gripped his chest and fell. On the ground, he mumbled, “Someone, please, prove it was all worth it!” His eyes were looking right up at mine and I pointed to my own chest and whispered, “Who? Me?” He kept pointing at me and I kept pointing to my chest and going, “Wait. Who? Me? You want me to do something?”

He died right as the next class was coming in. They all said I should have called an ambulance a bit sooner, but I tried to explain that we were figuring out this hedonism and I’ve never found pleasure in a phone call. With that in mind I realized that telemarketing job in Charlotte was no good either.

So, I ended up ditching the job in Charlotte to follow my dreams to be a hedonist. It didn’t last quite so long as I hoped it would.

See, this was back when they had that Krispy Kreme on Franklin. Running out of that class, I went to the Krispy Kreme, jumped over the counter and started ramming those hot donuts in my mouth while yelling “HEDONISM!”

Supposedly I ate for 12 hours. Go figure! I wouldn’t know though because I got in the zone around hour two and actually transcended human consciousness. I met an alien named Gerald who was about to explain to me the true meaning of life (hedonism was not it) and then ... blackness.

In the end, I found myself laying facedown in the gutter—the faint taste of vomit in my mouth—and, ultimately, happy I had followed my dreams.

Though there was a chill that night in the gutter, one that consumed me and, I now doubt, will ever leave.

It stays.

An Alum

### CORRECTIONS

On Jan. 13 the board incorrectly said many N.C. community newspapers have “shut down for good.” It is more accurate to say many small towns newspapers have downsized or otherwise changed in recent years.

The DTH apologizes.

### SPEAK OUT

#### WRITING GUIDELINES

- Please type. Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- Sign and date. No more than two people should sign letters.
- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

#### SUBMISSION

- Drop off or mail to our office at 151 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514
- Email: opinion@dailytarheel.com

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Columns, cartoons and letters do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel or its staff. Editorials reflect the opinions of The Daily Tar Heel editorial board, which comprises 11 board members, the opinion assistant editor and editor and the editor-in-chief.