

The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893,  
117 years  
of editorial freedom

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# Dating is not as outdated as it seems

Even though Valentine's Day has passed, it will take a few weeks for the corny "Will you be my Tar Heel" T-shirts to be removed from Student Stores and for the various events involving love to be painted over on cubes in the Pit. As relieved as I will be to see the departure of these lovey-dovey remnants, Valentine's Day provides an opportunity for us to think about the state of college dating — or lack thereof.

From talking with my parents and grandparents, I know times have changed since the days when they were in the dating game.

Traditional dating — going out to eat, etc. — once provided an opportunity for men and women to get to know each other before deciding to commit.

Today, traditional dating has largely been abandoned, and the dating process has sped up — and I'm not just talking about speed dating. For instance, the first date has often been replaced by the first hook-up. How many couples do you know who had a traditional first date? Many relationships, whether couples want to admit it, get started in the context of a hookup.

This should not be surprising, considering the commonality of hookups on college campuses. A 2000 study found that approximately 87 percent of college students reported hooking up at some point in their lives. Another study in 2010 found that college students had almost double the number of hookups than first dates.

So why are people choosing to hook up instead of spending time dating?

One reason is that dating requires just that — spending time. Our busy schedules leave us little time to spend going on dates and hooking up saves time. It offers immediate gratification with minimal effort, and it can remove the expectation of making an extended effort.

Another reason is that courtship — or the idea of meeting someone face-to-face and having a relationship progress through more face-to-face interaction — is often replaced by Facebook messages and texting.

Hooking up is efficient, and we are a generation that loves efficiency.

But by replacing dating with hooking up, we miss out on valuable things that dating has to offer.

For one, removing traditional dating from the equation takes away our ability to "shop around" (on a non-physical level), leaving us with the choice between zero commitment and a full-on boyfriend or girlfriend.

Then there are the emotional repercussions. While research on the effects of hookups tends to focus on women, who often experience feelings of confusion and disappointment and are put at a higher risk for depression, it is important to realize that it's not just women who are affected. Research suggests that hooking up can put men and women at higher risks for divorce and marriage dissatisfaction, and of course STDs.

Lastly, going straight to a hookup can make us miss out on quality time spent getting to know each other — making it that much harder to create romance and find love.

So guys — and girls — why not forgo efficiency for the sake of quality and ask someone out on a date?

**THURSDAY:**  
Taylor Fulton gives her impression of Black History Month.

**EDITORIAL CARTOON** By Laurel Holden, lholden@email.unc.edu



# The Interview

Chris Blue takes an inclusive approach to leading Chapel Hill's police force

*The Interview is an opinion page series featuring extended interviews of people who affect our community, written by members of the editorial board. Today, Maggie Zellner writes about Chapel Hill police chief Chris Blue.*

If Chris Blue were part of an interrogating duo on "Law and Order," he would be the good cop.

As I sat on the sofa in his office on a sunny afternoon recently, Blue explained to me his primary aim as Chapel Hill's Chief of Police is always safety.

This seems like a no-brainer. He is, after all, a policeman. But in a college town where students sometimes feel victimized by the enforcement of alcohol laws, this safety-first sentiment is significant.

Blue is quick to point out drinking citations are not and have never been a source of revenue for the Chapel Hill Police Department. "I can assure you that money isn't going into our coffers," he says with a chuckle.

Blue is more interested in finding innovative ways to maximize the resources available to his department. He sees potential in the data they have amassed over the years from 911 calls and other routine records.

An analysis of this data would likely highlight inefficiencies in CHPD's current practices. For example, Blue says, they could reallocate patrolmen based on the timing, frequency, and location of 911 calls. He gets excited just talking about it.

Blue explains, "It's our interest — our obligation — to make use of the tons of information available to figure out the best way to use our finite resources."

Blue's capability as a leader comes through in this sort of

big-picture thinking. He is not so consumed with the day-to-day concerns of running a police department he fails to see areas for improvement.

However, he is not disconnected from practical concerns. His approach to problem-solving is inclusive. He understands the importance of having his staff on board with his vision.

And Blue's vision for his tenure — the realization of the police department's newly minted "strategic plan" — is inherently inclusive, thanks to the way the plan was drawn up.

Blue is ebullient describing the collaboration involved in making the plan: "Every good idea I've heard around here

over the past five years is captured in that plan."

His methods are as inclusive as the plan. By making small, concrete changes in the short term, he hopes to build momentum and ensure everyone involved in implementing the plan is convinced of its long-term feasibility.

Despite some lofty thinking, Blue makes it clear he is no fool when it comes to the realities of running an office.

Blue is laid-back, friendly, and approachable. His demeanor reflects his years as a member of the force he now leads.

He also has an intimate familiarity with both UNC and the town, thanks to his years first as a student, then as a resident.

This understanding translates into communication between UNC's Department of Public Safety and the CHPD which Blue describes as "seamless." Officers from DPS and CHPD train together, partner for special events, and main-

tain strong, friendly relationships.

For his part, Blue makes a point of fostering close relationships with the UNC Deans' Office as well as Chapel Hill town officials.

He has lunch regularly with Chancellor Holden Thorp and Town Manager Roger Stancil, ensuring the coziness between the rank and file of CHPD and DPS is supported by the close relationships of their superiors.

Blue's attitude suggests the buzzword which figured so prominently in Thorp's administration — "innovation" — made its way into one of their lunchtime conversations. Perhaps it did.

The point is Blue's priorities — analyzing data for more efficiency, collaborating to set goals and connecting with the University and community — speak to the same sensibility which has permeated the University since the onset of the economic crisis.

Blue has integrated his long-term goals into the day-to-day work of his police force. He seems to understand the importance of communication, both within his department and with the rest of the community.

Blue's desire for others' input — whether from his staff, community members, or University officials — shows he knows he does not have all the answers.

What he does have is the ability to incorporate diverse perspectives into a cohesive approach to management and law enforcement. This cohesiveness exists because Blue and the people he serves, supervises, and with whom he interacts share the same simple goal: public safety.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY:

*"I went home to my dorm ... and was seriously contemplating whether or not anybody should be subjected to this job again."*

ANDREW PHILLIPS, BOARD OF ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN

## FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT:

*"Professor Byrns has been and will always be the most influential person in my academic life."*

BART WELCH, ON PROFESSOR BYRNS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Those at the Rat's first opening should return

TO THE EDITOR:

I had mixed feelings about the story in The Daily Tar Heel ("Rathskeller opening delayed," Feb. 3) some days ago about the delay in the opening of the Rathskeller.

I had been looking forward to it very much, and in a way, I was disappointed with the delay. But on the other hand, I am pleased to see that Ms. Fountain says the opening will likely be "after the summer." This would put it, hopefully, in September, which is the month in which the Rathskeller first opened in 1948. (I can't recall the exact date.)

I was there for the opening, and for a pre-opening night party because I knew the Danzigers — who created that icon. So I call on all the other people who were "present at the creation" to keep watch for the re-opening date, and to be there.

Ed Williams  
Class of '50

### Language inequality helps reinforce power dynamics

TO THE EDITOR:

In light of the recent controversy ignited by gendered and sexist language, I encourage everyone to participate in "Got Gender?" Week. There are a lot of important reasons to support gender equality; the most important for me personally is interpersonal violence prevention. Any type of inequality, even in language, continues to reinforce power dynamics of heterosexual, masculine men over every other type of person.

Using words like "rape," "whore," "bitch," and the like continue to degrade women and desensitize us to the ugliness and prevalence of interpersonal violence. In the same way, telling a woman that she should "get in the kitchen where she belongs" supports the power dynamic already in place. Once it is excepted as common knowledge to a person that women are of lesser value, it is much more acceptable for that person to further degrade and abuse women. However, just because we are physically different in many ways doesn't mean we don't deserve the same respect. Women are not the only victims; certainly members of the LGBTQ community and yes, even heterosexual men are victims of interpersonal violence. But it all stems from the gender inequality evident in our society.

If you have questions or even doubts, there are several events around campus every day that focus on gender and the importance of change in our society. Visit <http://womenscenter.unc.edu/gotgender/> to get the schedule of events and learn more about "Got Gender?" Week.

Hannah Welch  
Junior  
Psychology and Sociology

kvetching board, but I believe that this kvetch brought up an important issue of the continued lack of gender-neutral language on this campus. To anyone who does not understand the necessity of gender-neutral language: Language is a reflection of the views of society. When it's considered normal to refer to humanity as "mankind," to large groups of people as "freshmen," or to greet a room full of people with "Hey guys," (just to name a few) this implies that an entire half of the population is so unimportant that they don't even deserve to be included in common language.

How would people feel if we switched sexist language to racist language? What if you were an African-American sitting in a room full of people of mixed races, and one of your friends came in and greeted everyone with, "Hey whiteys"? I think someone would get pretty upset if, as an African-American, they were referred to as "whitey." So why don't women get upset when they are referred to as men? Why is it still okay for masculinity to be the norm and femininity to be the abnormality?

Katie Varner  
Junior  
History

### Sex trafficking at Super Bowl becoming a problem

TO THE EDITOR:

When I was younger, my father frequently accused me of having "selective hearing." When he asked me to sweep the basement steps or scrub the tub, I couldn't quite hear him as well as I could when he and my mother whispered about having dessert or not.

Reading a recent MSNBC article about sex trafficking at the Super Bowl in conjunction with Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man" in my southern literature class got me thinking about selective sight. According to the MSNBC article, pimps trafficked thousands of underage prostitutes to the Super Bowl to capitalize on a wealth of prospective clients. In the article, a Texas attorney general deemed it one of the "biggest human trafficking events in the United States."

From what I have learned in studies done about these "underage prostitutes," they are actually young women, usually foreign, who have been sold into this sex-slave industry at a young age. Yet, as I watched the game that Sunday, I "saw" a limited definition of the game: players, coaches and the field. The game is more than those three elements. It's the whole event — every type of interaction surrounding and supporting it. This means that as viewers if we approach common events like the Super Bowl with selective sight, we cannot recognize underlying problems and therefore cannot address them.

Virginia Thomas  
Junior  
American Studies

### Gendered language could be comparable to racism

TO THE EDITOR:

I was exceptionally annoyed after reading a kvetch on Feb. 11 that said, "Feminists, if it is that important to you why don't you change it to personopause?" I appreciate the fun of the

**CLARIFICATION:**  
Tuesday's editorial "Laying Down the Law," failed to reflect the current hours of the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library run no later than midnight.  
The Daily Tar Heel 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:** at our office at 151 E. Rosemary Street.
- **E-mail:** [opinion@dailytarheel.com](mailto:opinion@dailytarheel.com)
- **Send:** to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27515.

**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. The board consists of nine board members, the associate opinion editor, the opinion editor and the editor.