The Baily Tar Heel

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Opinion

Established 1893, 120 years of editorial freedom



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Celebrate history month

hile the latter part of the 20th century saw both Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month rise to the forefront of American culture, very few people are aware of American Indian Heritage Month.

The beginnings of an American Indian Heritage Month date back to the early 1900s when individuals like Arthur Parker wanted to set aside a day to recognize American Indians and their contributions.

Ronald Reagan designated a national American Indian Week in 1987, but it wasn't until August 1990 that President George H.W. Bush declared the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month.

American Indian Heritage Month is particularly relevant to North Carolina because of the impact that American Indians have had on the state.

North Carolina's American Indian population stands at 122,100 — which is the largest American Indian population located east of the Mississippi River.

The state also contains eight state-recognized tribes, including the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, which is fully recognized by the federal government. The Lumbee Tribe has partial federal recognition.

The first settlement with indigenous people of the current-day continental U.S. was also in North Carolina. The Roanoke colony, also commonly referred to as "the Lost Colony," was established in eastern North Carolina in 1585.

Recent years have also seen the discovery of Fort San Juan and Cuenca, which was established in 1567 on the settlement of the American Indian town of Joara, now present-day Morganton, N.C. This makes it the oldest European settlement site in the continental U.S.

It doesn't just stop at the state level. Many are unaware of the American Indian connections that are right here at UNC.

Henry Owl became the first American Indian to be admitted to UNC in 1929, graduating with a master's degree in history. American Indian students began to graduate with bachelor's degrees from the University in the 1950s.

In 1972, there were only 41 American Indian students at UNC. Students formed the Carolina Indian Circle in 1974 to build a support network for Native American students and to share their culture on campus. An American Indian studies program was founded at UNC in 1998. In 2006, UNC created the American Indian Center, which is one of the only places on the East Coast to focus solely on American Indian issues and research.

American Indians are a valuable part of our nation's past. This month that is set aside for them is essential to the U.S.'s reputation as a multicultural society. UNC's resources like the American Indian Center and programs like American Indian studies show that a part of this rich history is located

right here in Chapel Hill. Throughout the month of November, we should take the time to recognize the trials, contributions and achievements of Native Americans in our country, state and University.



EDITORIAL CARTOON By Matthew Pressley, mdp924@live.unc.edu



EDITORIAL

Put a cap on it

Tuition increases should be kept manageable.

NC has sustained its reputation among the greatest public institutions in the country by consistently ensuring that an elite education is accessible to the masses. In order to continue this priority, it is essential that this education remains affordable.

The UNC-system Board of Governors is deciding whether to cap annual tuition and fee increases at 5 percent between 2015 and 2019, a reduction from the current 6.5 percent. To offset the upcoming decrease in revenue from in-state students, out-ofstate tuition rates would be market-driven, which for next year amounts to an increase of 12.3 percent.

UNC-system schools should remain affordable, but not at the expense of out-of-state students. With a mandate capping out-of-state enrollment at 18 percent of UNC-CH undergraduates, it cannot be reasonably expected for this minority of students to carry the burden of reducing tuition for the 82 percent of students from North Carolina. This 18 percent already pays 44 percent of tuition, and raising this figure even more is entirely illogical.

A 5-percent increase in tuition for in-state students amounts to \$417 per student — on out-of-state

students, it would amount to \$1,506. By exceeding this rate to an annual increase of 12.3 percent, UNC is adding \$3,705 to out-ofstate tuition every year.

The proposal to decrease the annual tuition rate for in-state students is strong progress towards making education more affordable, but raising out-of-state tuition is not a reasonable solution. In fact, it would make UNC accessible only to the richest of out-of-state applicants, and would deter many prospective students from applying.

If UNC is to maintain its reputation as an elite school with an affordable price, it is crucial that an alternative way to raise cash be found.

EDITORIAL

Back to the future

Students would benefit from more time capsules.

he UNC class of 1988 time capsule, unearthed on Friday, brought a sense of togetherness to a University that has seen its share of adversity in the last few years.

The University should work with various groups and organizations like the General Alumni Association in order to put more events like this together.

The capsule was much more than a collection of items that people thought were important 25 years

More than anything,

it was a reminder that students at the University - past and present — will forever be connected to each other and to Chapel

It can be very difficult to appreciate the traditions of UNC when times are changing so fast.

Events like the time capsule allow students to leave a lasting mark on a University that can sometimes be swept up in big

As any student or alumnus would tell you, the magic of the UNC experience is in the little things.

This time capsule is an excellent platform for bridging this intergenerational gap.

It can be difficult to

coordinate events that push communication between older alumni and current students, but the time capsule was an ideal way to foster this dialogue.

Students can reap benefits from events that bring older alumni and students together.

They will be able to take advantage through networking, as well as being able to hear advice about going through college from someone who was in their same shoes years

The people and experiences that are shared in Chapel Hill bind students to this University — and an event like this can further contribute to that sense of community.

EDITORIAL

Lean, mean machine

Tom Ross's fiveyear plan promotes efficiency.

¬ he UNC system's five-year strategic plan places a vital emphasis on increasing students' ability to access advising and fulfill requirements while cutting costs.

UNC-system President Tom Ross spoke about the plan at a lecture held at UNC-CH on Friday. He believes that decreasing the average number of hoursto-degree attempted by undergraduates is a plausible way to save time and money.

Many students begin their first semester oblivious to requirements and may have no alternative

but to pursue excessive credit hours to fulfill them. Additionally, some change majors and must suddenly fulfill new requirements halfway through their undergraduate career.

The strategic plan should be praised for addressing these problems through a focus on improving academic advising. Ross is enthusiastic about creating a degree-completer software program that would allow students to easily view which courses they should be taking to pursue a certain path.

This is a much-needed step, considering some system schools currently have no online tracking system.

The plan also calls for creating general education courses online and mak-

ing online classes free for students enrolled full time. This would further increase a student's ability to fulfill requirements, especially for nontraditional students.

As long as quality is maintained in online classrooms, the UNC system should push forward with these plans. A recent award praising the system's online proctoring setup is proof that its online practices have maintained integrity thus far.

Through these goals, a reduction of average attempted hours from 138.5 to 134 across the system would result in a cost avoidance of \$58 million. Implementing these strategies is an easy way to combat budget cuts while increasing efficiency.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"But I didn't really think of the magnitude of me jumping over my mom until after the fact."

Theo Pinson, on a dunk contest where he leaped over his mother

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

"More spectacular executive salaries ... when teachers in the N.C. public schools have to strugale to make ends meet."

David Proctor McKnight, on UNC's new vice chancellor position

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Be wary of appeals to the young generation

TO THE EDITOR:

Renowned educator Geoffrey Canada and investor Stanley Druckenmiller are speaking today, Wednesday, Nov. 13, to give a talk they call "generational equity," in which they will likely use the ever-present boogeyman of the national debt to take aim at Social Security.

If it is anything like their other campus visits, they will be paraded around UNC as common-sense, bipartisan advocates who care about our generation and want us to $\bar{b}e$ treated fairly. Yet, their talk of generational equity remains deeply problematic.

The first problem with Canada and Druckenmiller's account is that their proposals aren't actually equitable.

In a recent op-ed, they use the stereotype of the greedy senior citizen to justify cutting Social Security, one of the most effective anti-poverty programs the world has ever seen. By almost all accounts, cutting Social Security raises inequality.

More deeply, Canada and Druckenmiller seem to have proclaimed themselves advocates of our generation without ever actually having talked to us.

Had they done so, they would have heard about the injustices of previous generations who benefited from robust public education programs, then turned around and refused to pay

They would have heard about an increasingly unequal society that used to offer good jobs to everyone, but now only offers them to the best-situated.

Of course, this isn't the first time that older persons have used our generation to advance their own political agenda, but if Canada and Druckenmiller are really concerned about generational fairness, they should start by listening.

> Jonathan Edelman '14 Philosophy

Women's soccer story didn't show context

TO THE EDITOR:

I was disappointed by the conclusions drawn in your article on Nov. 7, "Dropping the ball," which focused on the dropping **Graduation Success Rate** of the women's soccer team at UNC. The facts provided do not correctly address the real causations of this decline.

Your article implies that players who affect the GSR, by not graduating within the six-year window, were dropping out for academic reasons after their fall seasons. In fact, every soccer player that discontinued classes selected to play professionally the spring of her senior year.

Previously, the only professional opportunity offered to players was the U.S. Pro leagues. These leagues were perfect for the GSR because they played in the spring and summer, allowing players to come back in the fall and finish their degrees within the sixyear window.

Now some of the best opportunities are to play in leagues overseas, the seasons of which extend into the fall, making it difficult for players to finish within the six-year window.

Two players that affected the team's GSR, Yael Averbuch and Heather O'Reilly, were both named NSCAA Scholar-Athletes of the Year, a highly competitive award given to one athlete a year who is at the top of his or her sport athletically and academically in the country.

Both took longer to graduate because one was given the opportunity to play professionally in Europe and the other was given the opportunity to compete in the Olympics and the World Cup.

The GSR was created to encourage completion of degrees. Let's not use it as a means to tell student athletes they are "dropping the ball."

> Carlyle Williamson '14 Journalism $Global\ studies$

Learn new ideas this spring with C-START

TO THE EDITOR:

Mass Incarceration in America. Claims and Controversies in Nutrition. Music of War. What do these things have in com-

Each is a course designed and instructed by an outstanding undergraduate through C-START. If you want to take a class this spring on a fascinating and unusual topic area, check out the course offerings on ConnectCarolina (SPCL 400) or under the Honors Carolina website at http://honorscarolina. unc.edu/current-students/ curriculum/c-start/spring-

C-START is a program of progressive education designed to broaden undergraduate course curricula, learning opportunities and the intellectual climate.

2014-courses/.

Courses are composed of 15 UNC undergraduates and meet for one hour and 50 minutes a week. Students in one of the courses receive one hour of pass/fail credit based on participation, dialogue and critical thinking.

This program gives all UNC students an outstanding opportunity to learn more about a topic of interest to them in a very unique way. We highly encourage all of you to take advantage of this unique academic opportunity.

Please reach out to Kexin Yin, C-START student coordinator, at kyin@live. unc.edu with any questions.

> Kexin Yin '15 Business administration

SPEAK OUT

SUBMISSION

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.

• Drop-off or mail to our office at 151 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel

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