

## The Daily Tar Heel

Established 1893,  
117 years  
of editorial freedom

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## In a fight for rights, we are all Egyptians

While it may seem a bit overstated, maybe even a bit lame, I 100 percent loved my study abroad experience. Now I know everyone's heard (and cringed) at those same stories — "I mean you've never really had pizza until you've been to Italy," "I felt that I was a real Spaniard, honestamente." It's annoying. Believe me, I am fully aware, and have joined in the eye rolling just as much as the next guy. However, it wasn't until Jan. 25 that I realized Egypt was much more to me than a semester-long vacation.

Full disclosure? Cairo isn't for everyone. It's polluted, insanely crowded and the taxis are speeding metal deathtraps. But it's living, and it's fun, and God knows I miss it.

The events in Cairo over the last couple of weeks have been monumental on the global stage. People have been glued to their computers and TVs, have tuned into Al-Jazeera for the very first time and have witnessed every minute of the despair, passion and drama that is the Egyptian revolution.

However, the fact remains that many people have yet to take notice.

While walking through campus on Wednesday, I overheard a conversation during class change: "I mean seriously, I'm so tired of hearing about that stuff in Cairo. We are in America, CNN, come on."

With the theme of "Untold Stories," I am expected to report on individuals in our Chapel Hill community, so it may seem like I'm getting a bit off topic with this particular column.

Nonetheless, while I sit watching the scenes of eyes red with tear gas, of people protesting for days, waving their red, white and black kafaya banners, I can't help but think this is community journalism in the fullest sense.

What many people, including that guy downing CNN, fail to realize is that Egypt isn't just some random desert nation, conveniently located thousands of miles away.

The reality is that events in Egypt have had a direct effect on people you and I see every day. For some, the Egyptian revolution hits very close to home.

Mohammad Saad is a junior at UNC and an Egyptian-American.

"I had often heard my folks complain about living under such a regime and about the corruption our family members faced each and every day. However, the recent uprisings are the first time I took notice and wished that I could do something about it," he said.

"Although I'm not there experiencing it firsthand, that is my home. Those are my family members and friends being oppressed."

Even our tiny Chapel Hill bubble, as isolated and idyllic as it may be, has felt the shock wave from this massive world event.

Now let's for a second pretend that Egypt wasn't halfway around the world. Maybe we can pretend borders are just something that's arbitrary, a nation-state is just a made-up word.

As a global community, we have a responsibility to support those neighbors in the streets fighting like hell for their basic rights. We have a responsibility to disapprove of a thirty-year reign of corruption, and help bring real democracy to one fantastic country.

Now do Tar Heels need to fly on over to Cairo, and start riding tanks through Tahrir Square?

No. But we do need to care. We are all UNC students, and right now, we are all Egyptians.

## TUESDAY:

Hinson Neville connects culture and chameleons.

## EDITORIAL CARTOON By Connor Sullivan, cpsully@email.unc.edu



## Students can judge Ingram

Conduct troubling but is not cause for disqualification

Today, the Board of Elections could end Rick Ingram's campaign for student body president — a night before his name is to appear on the ballot. They shouldn't.

But that doesn't mean Ingram can't face consequences for his antics. If students are as disappointed as we are with the conduct of Ingram's campaign, they shouldn't elect him.

During this election, good ideas were overshadowed by juvenile behavior and dubious decisions.

On Friday, the Board of Elections called for a hearing tonight to discuss disqualifying Ingram.

The accusations against Ingram include sending verbally abusive text messages to Ian Lee and intimidating other

campaigns' staff. Billy Kluttz, an Ingram campaign manager, is accused of verbal abuse and illegal petitioning in classrooms.

Ingram mostly denies these accusations but admitted his campaign struck the wrong chord early on. We agree.

"I understand that I have not run necessarily the ideal campaign," he said, but maintains his campaign has rectified that. If it has, it's not entirely clear.

Ingram attributes the disproportionate number of complaints against Kluttz to his visibility as a zealous campaign manager. But we're not convinced this accounts for Kluttz's outsize mention in the accusations.

One area in which we agree with Ingram is that much of the evidence is hearsay. "He-said-

she-said" is hardly the kind of evidence that should determine disqualification. And even if the allegations are true, one is hard-pressed to confidently call them "malicious," as the Student Code stipulates.

Even Lee and Mary Cooper were wary of saying outright that Ingram should be disqualified. Cooper said the BOE was her only recourse, and that it's up to the board to decide what punishment is just. The zeal for disqualification feels lukewarm.

This has been a shameful campaign season. We can't think of a time when there was less regard for the code.

But it is the right of voters to decide whether such conduct makes Ingram unfit for office. The BOE must allow Tuesday's election to reflect this.

## What happened to loyalty?

Drew will be missed but team will be fine without him

Tough times don't last but tough people do, Roy Williams said Friday.

Is anyone else not surprised? For two-and-a-half years we've held our breath and hoped that Larry Drew II wouldn't get fed up with us, even though we were all fed up with him.

No one will know if he ever really wanted to be here; whether he had any connection to Chapel Hill or this team.

By all appearances, he never fully committed to this team, only to himself.

Loyal teammates don't give up, especially not halfway through a season with something real to play for.

This season is real, and after

last year's performance, this team is going places.

And it has to hurt for a player to realize he's not the reason — that maybe it wasn't meant to be for him.

UNC center Tyler Zeller spoke for the whole UNC family when he said he was "shocked" that Drew left and that he was angry with him. "He left us a little stranded," Zeller said.

Drew is not Phil Ford. He's not Tywon Lawson or Raymond Felton. Fans should realize they unfairly demanded that Drew be the next great Tar Heel point guard. We are all guilty and we were all wrong.

Drew helped bring us a national championship and

definitely helped our team over the last few weeks, even from the bench. And we could have used him this week when we play Duke. He could have proved himself a valuable backup and an important piece of our basketball team.

We deserve better than desertion.

Moving forward, Kendall Marshall's school record in an ACC game — 16 assists against Florida State yesterday — certainly helped to ease the transition. Marshall had his coming-out party and Drew's presence was barely missed.

We wish Drew good luck in his future ambitions but we also say: good riddance.

## What I saw in Egypt

Three weeks ago when I packed to study abroad in Cairo, I could never have imagined the experience ahead. I have recently returned to the U.S. after being evacuated from Egypt.

Unfortunately, I was unable to contribute to the article about our experience because the Internet was blocked. I want to offer my perspective because I think that the way we discuss this movement is of utmost importance. Some reports have been sensationalist in nature, and I was saddened to find the DTH followed this vein. Media sensationalism undermines the legitimate efforts of millions.

I want to emphasize that while we were in Cairo these protests were overwhelmingly peaceful — the vast majority of violence came not from the protests but from attempts at repression.

Since the article attempted to present my experience, I would like to offer my perspective. There is no doubt this experience was rattling; hours in which communication was impossible because the government cut off Internet and cell service, days that we couldn't leave because we couldn't find secure transport to the airport and a week



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spent with the uncertainty of the future were frightening.

Thanks to the help of many, I have safely returned. But protests continue and the future of Egypt remains uncertain. I watch the news intently and think of the friends I left behind. The Egyptian people I met watched over me with extreme care, even as they undoubtedly had so many worries for their families, country and future.

I was overwhelmed by their kindness: the chef who cooked for our dorm daily when we couldn't leave because of a 17-hour curfew, Egyptian classmates who kept us informed, the security personnel who guarded our dorm against looters with nothing but sticks and a fire hose when the police disappeared.

The Egyptian people deserve a chance to demand a better future. These are peaceful protests, conducted by citizens who cross lines of age, socioeconomic, education and religion, and they have been met with violent repression.

Unfortunately, more violence erupted Wednesday between protestors opposing the regime and those supporting it. This sort of violence is a recent development. Tensions are mounting as life grows more difficult. When I left, ATMs weren't working, foodstuffs were running short and uncertainty was increasing. Much of the violence has been instigated by alleged "pro-Mubarak supporters," widely believed to be criminals and plain-clothes police sent by the government. But recently, the peaceful nature of these protests has prevailed.

I am writing in hopes to dispel ambiguity in previous accounts of our experience, as I worried that embellished descriptions confounded the peaceful efforts of protestors with the effects of violent government repression.

The protestors have gone out daily, violating curfew and risking their lives, because they believe in their fight. Their effort deserves dignified representation.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY:

*"I don't think we've done anything that in the wildest interpretation of these events can be classified as malicious and harmful."*

**RICK INGRAM**, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT CANDIDATE

## FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT:

*"Sneaking out shows that he has a lot to learn about being a man. Good riddance."*

**MIKE A.**, ON LARRY DREW II LEAVING MIDSEASON

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DTH should not be forum for homosexuality debate

TO THE EDITOR:  
I was disheartened to pick up the DTH today and find my sexuality (once again) up for debate.

While I appreciate those who wrote in support of LGBT people, I am disappointed with your paper for engaging this issue. Being gay should no longer be a matter for public debate; it is simply a fact of many people's lives.

We no longer debate whether one race is morally superior, and for good reason. We realized that it was never about what the Bible did or didn't say, it was systematic inequality. People quoted the Bible then too, and that had as little to do with Christianity then as debates on homosexuality do now. It is bigotry, pure and simple, and should be recognized as such.

When the DTH, and any other media outlet, publishes debates about whether or not homosexuality is sinful, it is offensive to all of us for whom it is a part of our being. I would ask that, instead of treating LGBT people's sexuality as public fodder, the DTH treat us as full humans and publish substantive stories about our community.

*Kate McFarland*  
Graduate Student  
Sociology

## The poor should be able to access vital medication

TO THE EDITOR:

The World Health Organization estimates that 10 million people die every year who could be saved by existing drugs but are simply too poor to afford them. Approximately one-third of the global population does not have regular access to essential medicines. These numbers seem like mere statistics until one realizes that we can change this disparity; such a fate for millions less fortunate than ourselves is not inevitable.

We, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM), strive to avert this health crisis by using the resources that universities and students have. Because many life-saving drugs are developed in campus laboratories, universities wield substantial power when they license their drugs to pharmaceutical companies.

Our proposal is simple: every university-developed drug, vaccine or medical diagnostic should be licensed with a concrete, effective and transparent strategy to make it affordable in poor countries for essential medical care.

We cannot rest until every potential drug, diagnostic or vaccine developed on a university campus is licensed with global access provisions. Our goal of enabling access can be a win-win for everyone: pharmaceutical companies continue to profit, universities' royalties are not decreased and, most importantly, medicines are available to those who need it the most.

My purpose for writing this letter is straightforward: We need your help. Global Access to Medicines Month starts today and we hope that you will participate. Come to our meeting this Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in

Chapman Hall to learn how you can help. Everyone is welcome!

*Carolyn Treasure*  
Junior  
Economics

## 'Angels in America' shows UNC is a place of growth

TO THE EDITOR:

Not usually an avid reader of the news, for some unknown reason I happened to pick up a copy of the Feb. 1 DTH. The first thing that caught my eye was "Angels' descends", covering PlayMakers' production of "Angels in America."

I was ecstatic to see Tony Kushner's controversial play on the cover. Many times I have overheard someone discussing UNC as a "liberal" university and laughed to myself, thinking my school to be more "cautiously progressive" (at best) than truly liberal. However, instances like this make me realize that UNC, while not perfect, is a place of opportunity for growth. With my own eyes I have the fortune to see those around me make discoveries and create change in the world around them.

Brendan Fox, the director of PlayMakers' "Angels," said that the story is more about the themes: "It's bigger than an AIDS play, or a gay play, or a straight play." I think Fox neglected to add one point. "Angels" is bigger because it is an AIDS play, and a gay play, and a straight play. These issues don't just impact the affected groups: They affect all of us, regardless of how we identify.

Let this be a reminder for us all to take a stand against injustice wherever we see it in our daily lives. UNC is a great place to be, and it's so easy to forget about the violations of human rights that are taking place while we are secluded within our bubble.

*Suzannah Kimbrel*  
Sophomore  
Communication Studies and  
Religious Studies

## Be respectful to visiting teams, stop booing them

TO THE EDITOR:

As the parent of two UNC students and a longtime Tar Heel fan, I was both surprised and disappointed when, at a couple of recent men's basketball games, as the visiting team was taking the floor, the home crowd began a loud, sustained booing. This struck my wife and me as incredibly bad form, and is the kind of thing that debases the image of our great university.

I submit that in the future we extend a degree of courtesy and respect to our fellow Americans, commensurate with the hard work and sacrifice that goes into participating in varsity athletics, regardless of where and for whom they are expended.

*Dennis J. McKenna*  
Tar Heel parent

## CORRECTION:

Due to a reporting error in Friday's editorial "Lee's breach of the Code," the board incorrectly stated that the Board of Elections has not addressed Ian Lee's status as student body secretary.

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
- ▶ **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.