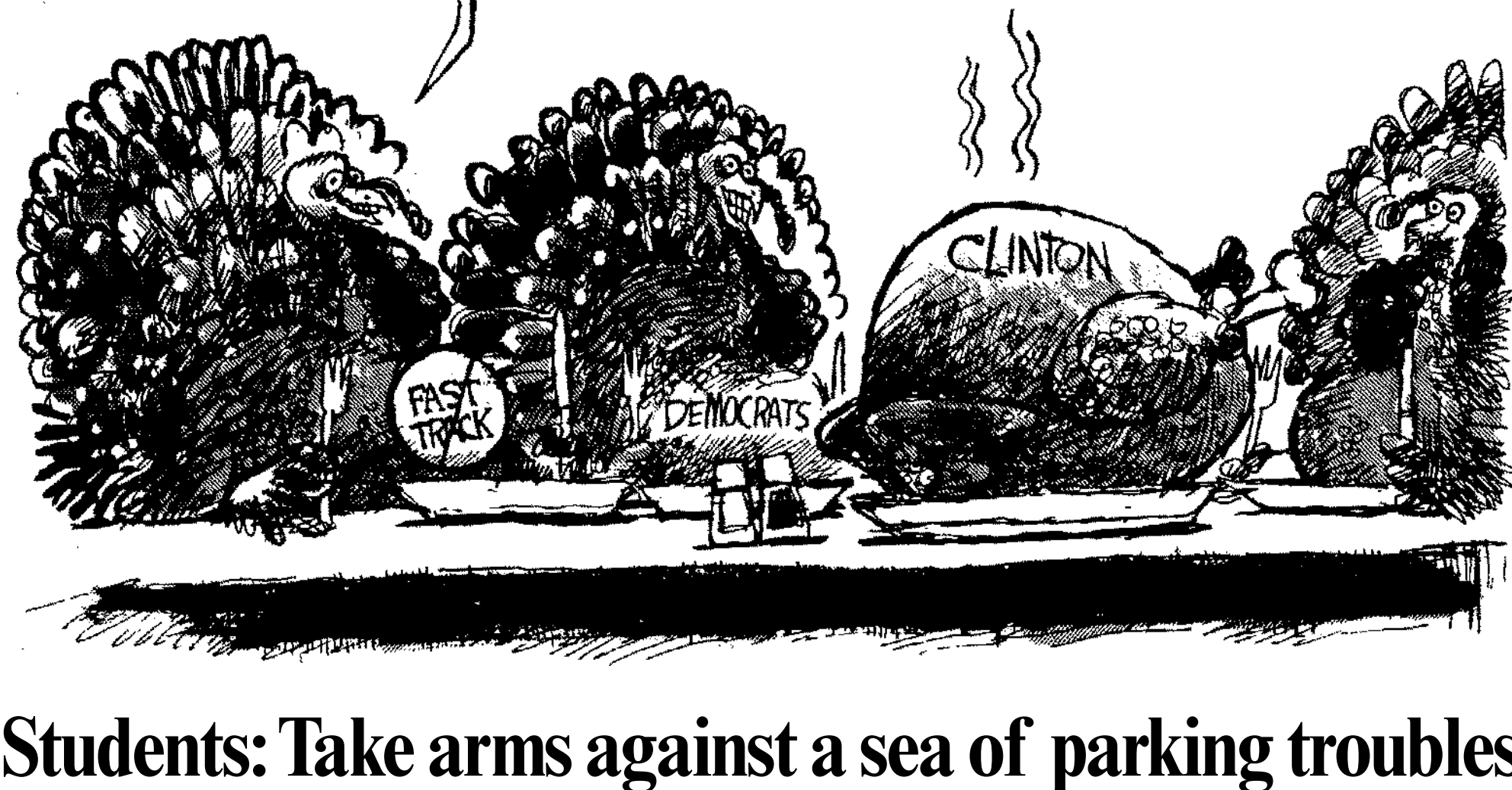


MIKE LUCKOVICH  
ATLANTA CONSTITUTION 1997

BOY WAS HE SURPRISED  
WHEN WE PULLED OUT  
AN AX!



## Students: Take arms against a sea of parking troubles

Drastic steps must be taken, despite Honor Code threats.

Over and over again *Old Gold And Black* readers are subjected to columns and letters complaining about parking. Students tell boo-hoo stories about cruel ticket officers, and how it takes ten minutes to find a parking space. These injured writers demand change. They

Matthew Smith-Kennedy  
STUDENT COLUMNIST

demand freedom from the so-called "Parking Gestapo, yet what has complaining in a student newspaper ever done for us? Others have passed out ineffective propaganda like last spring's "Fake Forest" parking tickets. The "Fake Forest" parking tickets and campus "Pave the Quad" graffiti are obviously failed attempts at real change.

Instead of cool slogans and witty campus commentary, we need a set of proactive strategies designed to create change in student parking. First, we need a set of concrete demands. The parking problem seems three-fold: There are not enough spaces in the right places, officers are a touch abusive with the ticketing and the tickets are too expensive. Remedying the space-availability problem is easy, as it is probably not too late to construct a parking garage on the Mag Quad instead of a new academic building.

The next two issues — abusive ticketing and high fines — can be solved by a university program called Park For Charity. Park For Charity is a program through which all parking fines (lowered to \$10 each) would be donated to a charity. The student body would vote on where the parking fines are donated (I'm

The chief advantage of this plan is that it creates an impression upon Hearn of how scary it is that students pay hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in parking fines. The hope is that Hearn would be moved by the sight of hundreds of tickets on his car. In short he might experience an epiphany: "I must stop this injustice."

thinking Brian Piccolo Cancer Fund). In theory, Park For Charity would reduce ticketing abuses since Parking Management would have no incentive to fine students, unless it wanted to help the designated charities.

As you can see, Park For Charity would become the university's single most important philanthropic program and could be featured prominently in admissions publications.

Now with the student demands out of the way, we must consider possible strategies for achieving our noble end.

Operation Ticket Hearn: This strategy involves collecting hundreds of parking tickets and mailing them to President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. In short he might experience an epiphany: "I must stop this injustice."

Operation Prof's Must Walk: This strategy involves collecting hundreds of parking tickets and mailing them to President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. In short he might experience an epiphany: "I must stop this injustice."

Operation Prof's Must Walk: The central action for Prof's Must Walk is student parking in faculty/staff spaces. For this to work, hundreds of students must commit themselves to parking in faculty/staff spaces for as many days as it

takes for the administration to yield to the aforementioned student demands. How will parking in reserved spaces achieve our demands?

The answer lies in politics. Students aggravate the faculty and staff by the parking inconvenience. The faculty and staff complain to the administration. The administration, which is faced with adamant student opposition, decides it is easier to give in to student demands rather than face an overly exercised faculty.

There are several drawbacks to this operation. First, the student strikers would receive numerous tickets and face possible disciplinary action, but the university can hardly punish upward of 10 percent of the student body.

Each student must be firmly resolved that "I will park my car in Vice President of Finance and Administration John Anderson's place until the citation oppression on this campus ends." Students of all races and nationalities fighting together to end oppression sounds like another picture for a campus brochure.

The second major drawback to Prof's Must Walk is that profs must walk, and this might cause significant faculty antagonism towards students. The faculty would just have to deal with the unwanted exercise. Professors use students all the time to voice their displeasure with the administration, or to protect their fields of interest.

As an *Old Gold and Black* reporter, one complaint I frequently hear from professors is that the fine for parking in Hearn's spaces is higher than the parking fine for faculty/staff spaces. So, insofar as faculty

members use students to air petty grievances, we will use them to combat the mother of all campus injustices.

And of course, Operation Prof's Must Walk might violate our Honor Code.

Operation Lowe's Gets Rich: In Lowe's Gets Rich students actually pave the Quad. The Quad is approximately 110,000 square feet. I estimate that it would take approximately 36,667 bags (each bag covering 3 square feet) of Quikrete concrete in order to pave the Quad.

At a dollar a bag, plus a hundred or so wheelbarrows (\$39.99), sturdy shovels (\$9.99) and cement hand spreaders (\$3.95), the total cost comes to about \$42,067.

This figure may seem high, but remember that the Student Budget Advisory Committee still had \$53,000 left to allocate to student causes before the appeals process. Maybe next year if SBAC has this same large amount of money left before it gives it all away in appeals, it could fund Operation Lowe's Gets Rich and still have \$11,000 left over to be distributed among Asian Student Interest Association, InterVarsity, Gay and Lesbian Bisexual Awareness, Alliance for Racial and Cultural Harmony, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and CSA (Caucasian Student Alliance).

For Lowe's Gets Rich to be successful, hundreds of students would be needed to truck the materials from Lowe's and actually mix and pour the concrete onto the Quad. Massive student commitment is not the only difficulty with this operation. Not too many students are parking lot engineers, so I have concerns about the durability of a Quikrete parking lot. Also, the Quad-turned-car-lot would lose its appeal for prospectives visiting campus, but at least they would be able to park somewhere.

And of course, Lowe's Gets Rich violates the Honor Code since it is willful destruction of university property (grass).

## Beer sale at Shorty's has pluses

Baptist State Convention fails to consider all sides.

The *Old Gold and Black* ran a story in the Nov. 13 issue that not only caught my attention, but also made me think. The story I'm referring to is senior Charles Starks' article "Baptists condemn beer at Shorty's."

The first thing I had to ask myself as I read the article was, don't the members of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention have anything better to do than show "displeasure" over the sale of beer at Shorty's? I mean, after all,

Sean Blue

GUEST COLUMNIST

this is a pretty big state and there are a lot more prevalent things going on than an on-campus coffeehouse selling beer.

However, if they can't find anything better, I'd like to address their specific complaints. Ray Davis, the pastor that submitted the resolution, cited the deaths of two students in a drunk driving accident on campus last year.

Shorty's can actually help prevent these kinds of deaths from happening in the future. Since Shorty's is centrally located on campus, most students walk there. This means that the students won't be drinking and driving.

Also, the bartenders at Shorty's are required to watch numerous videos on how to tell the signs of drunkenness so that they can cut patrons off in the beginning stages before they get out of control, or even worse, deathly ill.

This safety net doesn't exist at most off-campus bars. Stopping the sale of beer at Shorty's will only force students off campus. With no such safety nets, students are then more likely to get behind the wheel of a vehicle after they've had too much to drink. In other words, what Davis proposes could actually increase the number of tragic deaths due to drinking and driving.

Another statement made by Mr. Davis was that "We know (some) students are going to do drugs. Do we make a place for them?"

Obviously, the answer is no because drugs are illegal. The consumption of alcohol, however, is legal for persons 21 or older. Shorty's has a policy to check identification to make sure it only serves people that are 21 or older.

Students are going to drink, and there is no way to prevent that. Isn't it better, though, to try to control the situation than to distance yourself from it and pretend it doesn't exist? By allowing Shorty's to sell beer, the university is in fact becoming an active participant in the fight for responsibility when drinking alcohol.

What Mr. Davis proposes could actually create more problems. Davis called alcohol the number one evil in our society. Yet Davis proposes that we simply try to distance ourselves from this evil rather than try to cure it.

Part of the Baptist tradition is being able to think for yourself and make your own decisions. Mr. Davis is trying to eliminate this ability at the university. His resolution infers that students here aren't capable of drinking responsibly. As a student here, I find Davis's resolution both insulting and poorly thought out. Mr. Davis and the North Carolina Baptist State Convention made a serious mistake when they passed this resolution. They failed to consider all sides of the issue. Instead, they instantly looked at the negative aspects of Shorty's sale of alcohol and ignored the positive aspects.

## MORE LETTERS

### Students showed disrespect at game

We were embarrassed ... as Americans, as residents of North Carolina and as members of the university community.

Nov. 8 at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum the university hosted a visiting basketball team from Geelong, Australia (the so-called "Outback" team) which was here to play an exhibition game against our

Demon Deacons. Arriving in a timely fashion and positioning themselves between the Pep Band and the Screamin' Demons was a group of about 15 to 20 young men whom we presumed to be students from this university. (If it looks like a duck and sounds like a duck, it's probably a ...). These men showed a tremendous amount of energy and spirit which would have been great if: 1) It had been done in SUPPORT of OUR team and 2) It had been in concert with the regularly organized activities led by the cheerleaders.

This group, however, came equipped with signs printed with pretty obnoxious, offensive and derogatory messages which were insulting to our visitors. They repeated these "messages" vocally and, in the meantime, ignored totally the prescribed efforts to bring together the cheering fans. That our guests were insulted in our home is what has saddened us. Of course, support of our team is important and desired, but not in a negative format — the booing of each individual visiting player as

he is introduced, for instance. When our team is playing an international team, we all take on an expanded role as hosts because we are not only representing our school, but our country, too. Does this sound corny? If the Australians justly receive common courtesy everywhere else they go, they will remember this university as the site where they experienced shabby treatment. Nov. 12 our university played a team from Bulgaria. Again, this same group of young male students arrived "armed" to combat the "enemy." In their cleverness to design signs with offensive messages in the native language of our visitors, they failed to realize that the schedule had been changed, so we are not

sure how much of the Serbo-Croatian our Bulgarian guests understood. We understand that these are really pretty good guys. They claim that they are reacting to what they believe is a sense of apathy among students here. They want to be a real, energetic stimulus to the crowd in support of the team. If this is, indeed, the situation, what we would like to see is a re-channeling of this energy in a way that would preserve the courtesy and decency that has always been a hallmark of this university. We know that buzzwords designed to shock have different reactions from folks of different generations. In a situation where our community is observed by

children from the greater Winston-Salem area, we think it is important to err on the side of modesty. Surely everyone knows that one does not enhance one's own accomplishments by tearing down those of others. In terms of image, the name-caller always ends up the loser. These gentlemen have accomplished their goal of grabbing attention. Now, what can be done to turn their efforts from being nasty and negative to generating positive support for our worthy teams? *Pro Humanitate*, if you will.

Barbara Trautwein  
Assistant Director of Marching Band

Kenneth A. Zick  
Vice President of Student Life and Instructional Resources