

## Stand up

### Conway's protesting players should be applauded for guts

There are about 30 black football players in Conway who are without a team this week because they stood up and objected to something they felt was an injustice.

They may not have a team, but they should be ever so proud of the intestinal fortitude they have displayed. There are not too many young men in the world who would risk giving up football just to make a point.

But these young men did, and they are being punished for it. At Conway High School, the coach decided to move the starting quarterback from last season to defensive back this season and replace him with a less experienced player.

On almost any football team this move would be viewed as odd, but in this case it is being viewed as racism because the quarterback who was moved is black and the quarterback who took his place is white and the son of one of the coaches.

The players objected. And when their pleas for justice or at least a discussion went unheeded by the coach and the school's administrators, they boycotted practice.

Some of these boys could be college-caliber players, but they gave up their chance to play this season to show their feelings about the move.

The coach was undeterred in his decision and says the quarterback move was not racially motivated.

After the players missed four practices, they were dropped from the team. That was their punishment for standing up for what they believed in.

But one teacher in Conway was also punished for helping them. A black middle school science teacher who became the group's spokesman was suspended without pay Tuesday.

An avalanche of protest is falling on the head of the Conway superintendent and the school system. Protestors want the teacher reinstated or the coach suspended.

So far, no go from the superintendent.

This whole situation is getting out of hand. What started as a symbolic act of defiance between players and their coaches has boiled into something much bigger.

It has either unearthed some blatant racism or has sent the message to students and teachers in the state that standing up for what you believe in is not acceptable.

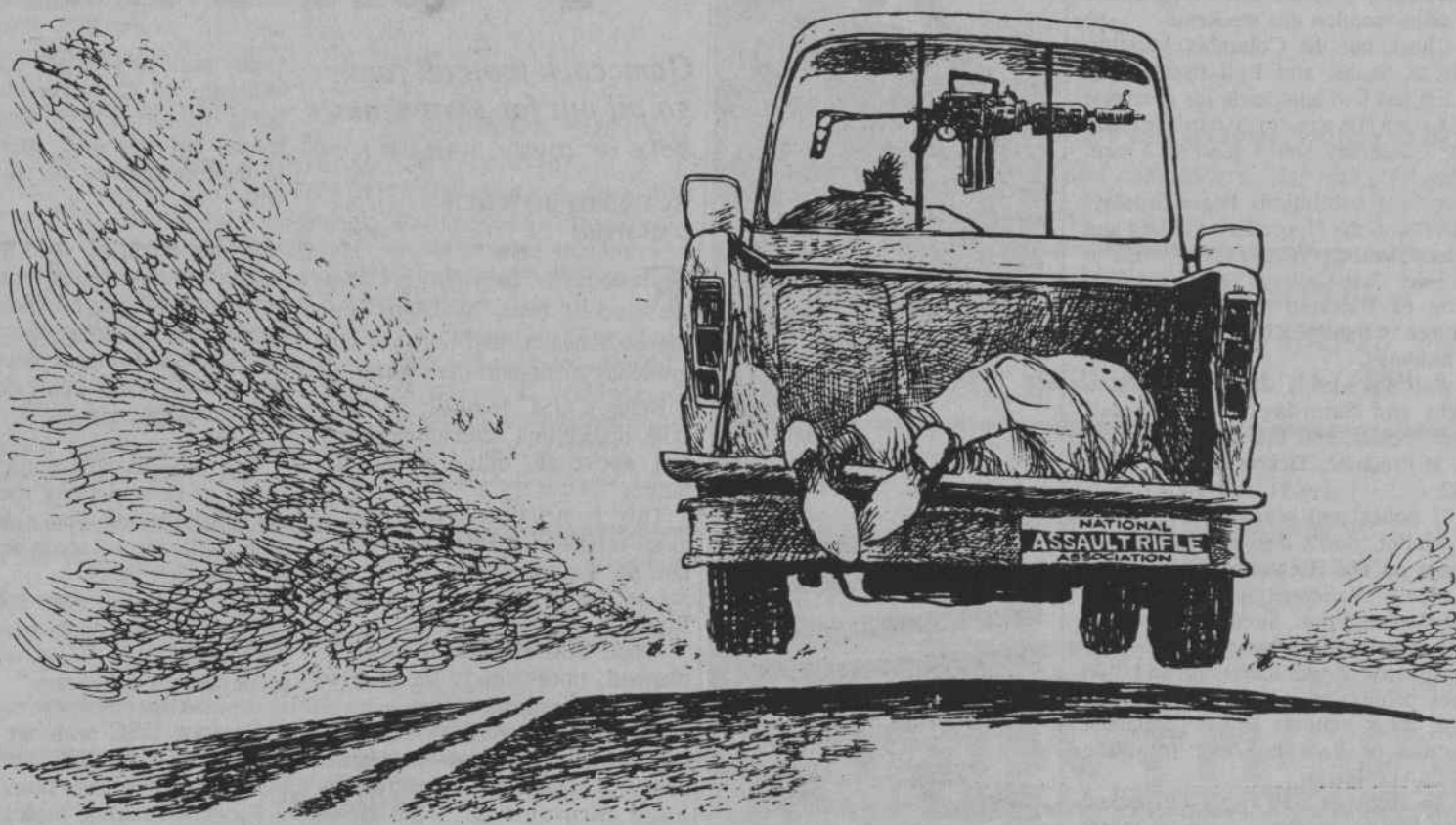
The quarterback situation may never be resolved to both sides' satisfaction.

But there are two things that can be resolved:

1. Reinstate the teacher because he was merely doing what he felt was right.
2. Get both sides to a bargaining table. Let the boys and their coach sit down and talk about it with a neutral third party acting as moderator.

Even if the players can't get the old quarterback back, they can at least get a chance to talk face-to-face with the coach and search his eyes for sincerity.

MAKELY Chicago Tribune



## Women, avoid hassles; bring a date out

It had been a long, tiring day when my roommate asked me if I wanted to go with her and some friends to Monterey Jack's. My first response was "Nah," but I changed my mind, thinking maybe it would be relaxing to go out and have a drink with friends. I was wrong.

My roommate Christine and I, joined by two other female friends, were going to meet two other friends (a couple) from out of town. Sounds simple so far, doesn't it?

As to be expected, we four females were carded at the door (the couple was already seated.) My two picture IDs were shrewdly inspected for several minutes. He looked at my license, looked at me. Looked down, looked up. Moved it around in the sparse lighting, looked at the other bartenders, looked at me again and eventually gave back my IDs. It was after all this that I overheard his fellow employees telling him the light wasn't good enough inside and he should go outside to check our IDs. It

was Christine's turn. The IRS-like scrutiny began all over again. His fellow employees said, "You really need to check them, they're not 21." (We were all 21-22!) Annoyed, Christine promptly sat down with the couple visiting from out of town and was mumbling unprintables under her breath.

All right, so they're getting more strict nowadays. I can understand that. But it was getting ridiculous.

Our other friends, Tana and Paige, underwent even more scrutiny. Tana is a petite 22-year-old graduate student who looks young, and I can understand why someone would card her. However, she presented two perfectly valid picture IDs. The process started all over. Look up, look down. "Do you have anything else?" Perplexed and annoyed, she said she had another outdated student ID. OK, so he'd seen her license and two student IDs. He's still not satisfied, but there's nothing left. How many of us carry around more than two picture IDs? Reluctantly, he gave her back her IDs. Paige, of course, was no exception. Look down, look up, etc. You get the picture.

Eventually we were all sitting around having a jolly time when two city cops came strolling in. The uniforms and badges gave them away. They passed by other tables and headed straight for us. Any paranoid person would begin to think this was a conspiracy. But I'm not para-

noid — not yet anyway. "Can we see some ID, please?"

We all gave them our licenses and tried not to look annoyed as everyone stared at us. They scrutinized them with their flashlights, shined their lights in our faces, looked down, looked up, etc. One of them told Paige, 22, that she didn't look like her license. She offered her student ID. With an air of authority, he gruffly replied, "No, I don't trust those things at all."

Excuse me? Come again? Don't trust those things? So what do you want us to do? And besides, what were these city cops doing popping in and out of bars? Shouldn't they be out looking for rapists, thieves, murderers, drunk drivers and other assorted criminals? Now I was getting angry.

They didn't card the guy who was with us and they didn't card any girls with boyfriends/dates. But then I remembered the only time I've ever been hassled was when I was with a group of women. Whenever I go out with dates or "the guys," I rarely even get carded, and certainly not hassled. Even my male friends have observed this phenomenon.

Does this mean we all have to be accompanied by our male friends/dates/boyfriends to keep from being hassled? Should we rely on men to "protect" us and "shelter" us? No, we shouldn't HAVE to.



Amy Loomis

## Nutty

### Is Bakker breakdown a ploy or truly serious affliction

Jim Bakker's gone off the deep end.

Either in a fit of paramount silliness or genuine affliction, Bakker went berserk Wednesday causing his trial on fraud and conspiracy charges to be postponed.

Bakker was said to have hid under his attorney's couch and babbled about how the people outside were in the "form of frightening animals . . . intent on destroying him, attacking him and hurting him."

It was indeed a helluva freaky day. Earlier, when former PTL Vice President Steve Nelson was testifying, Nelson collapsed. Playing the good Christian soldier, Bakker knealt over the body and cried and prayed. It was a good act, so the prosecution seems to think.

It was supposedly after the Nelson incident that Bakker lost his grip on reality. He was carried sobbing and curled up into a fetal position in the backseat of a car.

The prosecution intimates that Bakker's mental problem is overstated. Who knows, maybe this is a ploy. Maybe not, but the trial is postponed for at least a week — extra time to strengthen Bakker's defense. He's been a good actor in the past. Why not now?

## Letters to the editor

### Fair intolerant to other views

To the editor:

It seems to me that Rep. Mike Fair must have learned the tenets of good government from Orwell's 1984. Just how did this intolerant big brother clone become a state representative in our great democracy, as well as a trustee here at USC? The fact that Fair does not want to see the Rolling Stones or visit anyone but members of his own sex in USC dorms after the sun sets does not bother me. In a free society comprised of people with diverse beliefs and interests, that is his right. The fact that he wants to stop me from doing these things, however, infuriates me to no end.

Fair does not like the Rolling Stones. He considers a lyric from "Start Me Up" to be a call inciting all good Christians to necrophilia. The lyric is, of course, less about having sex with a corpse and more about a woman so inticing that she can raise the dead (so to speak). Mike Fair finds this offensive, so much that he feels he must use his influence to keep Columbians from seeing Mick and the boys. So what? I find so called "Christian Broadcasting" offensive. Watching charlatans with lacquered pompadour hairdos sell salvation and religious trinkets to the poor and gullible makes my blood boil. You will never, however, hear me say that others do not have a right to see this garbage. When I see someone frothing at the mouth and begging for bucks, I change the channel and leave Mike Fair alone. When Mike Fair hears the Stones are coming to town, he should stay home on concert night, tune in the satellite network of his choice and leave me alone.

Rep. Fair has sex on the brain, and he wants to make sure everyone is doing it his way. His desire to force others to practice his own peculiar brand of sexuality is insulting to everyone. It insults parents, who must certainly be shocked to discover that the morals they taught their kids can only hold up in Fair's paternalistic, sexually repressive vacuum. It insults the residents of USC, who are now discovering they are too immature and irresponsible to solve dorm room conflicts or decide whom they want visiting them after nightfall without Fair's intervention. Last, it insults those who have spent entire nights in coed dorms and not shucked their skivvies even once, but instead muddled through the vagueries of P-chem, Camus and calculus in these "love dens."

People should be able to hear what they want and see who they want regardless of sex or hour. Mike Fair's USC will not be a very nice place. Fight him.

Jeff Ford  
School of Medicine

### Fair's proposal closed-minded

To the editor:

Contrary to Mike Mungo's advice reported in *The Gamecock* Monday, I am deeply upset about Mike Fair's proposal to prevent students under the age of 18 from attending events that lack artistic merit and contain explicit references to sex.

Who shall determine what on-campus events lack artistic merit? While these events could be distinguished rather easily, the events "in the guise of entertainment" are

there to entertain audiences. That is why so many forms of entertainment exist. We will notice our Koger Center offers the gamut of entertainment options because not all forms of entertainment suit everyone. While some do not care for certain types, be it jazz, modern dance or stage performances, each has the choice of determining what he sees.

Fair is not open minded about social subjects, and it is scary to think our entertainment must be screened by one person, even more by a Board of Trustees. This university is much too large for eight men and women to determine what is suitable for view by 25,000 students. Somewhere in that previewing process, academic freedom is lost. Would that mean, then, professors are not at liberty to show

films and read classics in their classrooms without an approval by the board or through an approved reading/viewing list?

The Koger Center is an example of the best that USC has to offer. As *You Like it* was presented during the summer. Perhaps this is one of the few Shakespearean plays this proposal would allow. Many of the classic works by Homer, Sophocles and Shakespeare as well as mythology would be omitted from the reading lists of underaged students here at USC. Even our Poet in Residence James Dickey would have his work censored on campus. These works have been widely read and respected by the greatest critics. A person need not be under 18 to understand and disseminate the moral and personal value of these works. While students can appreciate the merit of the literary work, they also are capable of choosing not to interpolate the premise of these works into their lives.

Those of us who have strived to be in college at USC to become more informed would have more freedom if we had chosen not to be more educated individuals. Do men and women in government want USC to generate informed adults who are capable of choosing the right course in life or individuals who have been sheltered in an anachronism for four years?

Beth Fischer  
Journalism sophomore

### Fair deserves letter or call

To the editor:

This is a letter intended to suggest one supplemental item for Stephen Guilfoyle's list of "Here's what to give Mike Fair for a gift" (*The Gamecock*, Aug. 30). Actually it's another item. And what might the item be? — a phone call or a letter.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but this is still America, where people have the right to call or write a designated representative (such as a board member) to discuss or obtain information about a problem, and the visitation issue seems to be a problem. For the 300 people who signed the petition (or anyone else for that matter): got a question or problem with the visitation policy, give Mike a ring. He might be able to straighten it out for you. It's good to deal with these things in person like responsible adults.

Oh, I almost forgot, one has to keep on top of these things, so you better check with him at least once or twice a day for the latest info. Good luck.

Jeff Martin  
MSCI graduate student

## The Gamecock

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