

Opinion Editors:
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Application Deadline:
Friday, August 31

Fall 2007

Opinion Columnist Application

Name _____

Year _____ E-mail _____ Major(s) _____ Phone _____

Positions held on staff (past IDS experience not required):

Other journalism or writing experience (past journalism experience not required):

Other jobs, activities:

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet. Double-spaced, 12-point font would be helpful. Please respond carefully and thoughtfully. Be complete and concise, and limit your answer to five to six pages.

1. What makes a good column? Why would someone want to read your column?
2. What are your interests? Give us two column ideas (at least).
3. What news sources do you follow? Where do you get your topic ideas?
4. What influences guide your writing style? What writers do you admire?
5. As a member of the opinion desk, you are a member of a team. Are you willing to come to Editorial Board once a week and discuss topics for our staff editorial?
6. Are you willing to do original reporting (conducting interviews, attending events, etc.) in the course of writing your column?
7. What are two campus/local issues and two issues of interest to college students that you think need to be tackled on the Opinion page?
8. Would you be willing to participate in an IDS blog? Do you have blogging experience? Do you keep a personal blog? What blogs do you view as examples?

Attach the application, a fall course/work schedule and a résumé. Also please attach the best two columns you have or two sample columns of 500 words each. There will be no interviews, but we'd be happy to chat with you – just contact us to schedule a time.