

The Daily Tar Heel

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Harry Bryan, Editor

Saturday, September 18, 1971

Bus fee decision one for students

A bill calling for a referendum to increase room rent by \$3.50 per semester to subsidize a campus-wide, unlimited use bus system, is now in committee in Student Legislature.

Legislature should pass the bill in order to give students living in University residence halls the opportunity to decide the issue for itself, but before such a referendum is held, students should carefully consider the arguments that have been made for both and against the idea.

According to the plan presented, passage of the referendum would result in every dormitory resident paying \$3.50 per semester that would provide unlimited use of the bus system. Off-campus students and University employees could also buy semester passes for the same amount.

Some students have questioned whether it is fair or not for students on North Campus to be forced to pay for a bus system they would rarely use. But others, however, have countered with the argument that many students do not live on South Campus by choice, that they are forced to live there due to a lack of space on North Campus and should not have to suffer because their dorms just happen to be built away from the center of campus.

Clayton Woodard, who introduced the bill in SL calling for the referendum, also made a point

that would eliminate that issue entirely. Woodard said if students ran the bus system, it could be extended to include Eastgate Shopping Center and University parking lots, an idea that would make such a system beneficial for all.

However, at present approximately 65 percent of the funds financing the present bus system come from student fares, which would be eliminated. And \$3.50 from each student for a free bus system would not add that much money to the coffers.

In fact, according to Bailey Cobbs, student transportation commissioner, \$3.50 from each dormitory resident each semester would only be enough to finance the present bus system.

Cobbs and other students have pointed out that if the extra services were added, the fee per semester would have to be higher.

Perhaps the fairest way to decide the issue is to give students not only the choice of whether they want to subsidize an unlimited service bus system, but also to give them a choice of how much they would want to pay if such a system did go into effect.

No matter how the ballot reads, however, the issue should be put up to the student body, rather than being blocked entirely by Student Legislature.

Letters to the editor

Bikers need paths of their own

To the editor:

The points made in your editorial entitled "Cyclists Could Be More Considerate" are well taken. But motorists could be more considerate, too. I discovered this painfully Tuesday morning. My wife, Jan, started her job on campus Tuesday, so the two of us biked in from Carrboro during the morning rush hour. I had a nut missing on my front brake (it had fallen off Sunday), but I decided I could use the rear brake and get a nut later in the day. I was to regret that decision.

We were coming east on Cameron Street. Jan was going to turn right on Pittsboro Street. I was in the lead and was going straight through on Cameron. Traffic was congested at the T-shaped intersection of Pittsboro and Cameron. Cars were lined up on Pittsboro and had trouble pulling out to go left or right. Eastbound traffic was backed up on Cameron, waiting for the light at Columbia. Westbound cars were waiting to turn left into Pittsboro.

As I approached the intersection, going straight east, a westbound car started turning left, to go south on Pittsboro street. I had assumed that he would let me have the right of way, since I was proceeding straight through the intersection. (Also, I was wearing a bright red shirt, and should have been easily visible.) No such luck. He kept turning, coming right at the spot toward which I was heading.

I slammed on both my brakes instinctively. The front wheel locked. Over the handlebars I flew, and I sprawled on the pavement. The offending car drove on by. I looked around quickly, to see whether any other cars were coming at me. Fortunately, other drivers were more courteous, so I picked myself up and limped out of the intersection, dragging my bike behind me.

I escaped with only a skinned knee. My bike's front wheel, though, was bent beyond repair.

I felt shaken. I was glad that I was not seriously injured. And I kicked myself for not having both brakes in good repair. Then after these feelings had passed, I felt indignant about the driver's action. I asked Jan what happened to the car which had cut me off, but she had been too concerned about me to notice.

Several issues were raised by this incident. First, I understand that I did have the right of way. But it appears that the cynical use of power overrides (no pun intended) legal rights; at least it did in this case. Bikes assert their rights vis-a-vis cars only at great risk. So at this point I issue a call for law and order.

Secondly, while this may not have been strictly a hit-and-run accident, the driver of the car who cut me off could have stopped to see how I'd fared.

Thirdly, it is vital to keep one's bike in top repair. My brake malfunctioned, adding to the seriousness of the situation. In this I was wrong. But some sort of accident would probably have occurred anyway, given the circumstances.

Fourthly, the streets are dangerous, especially at rush hour. The recently created sidewalk bike routes are one alternative (and I'll be using them more). But pedestrian-bicycle conflicts are also a problem, and curbs are a pain the neck. A logical next step here would be ramp-type curbs along sidewalk bike routes.

Finally, two complementary partial solutions occur. At least one has been suggested already—community-wide bus service for Carrboro and Chapel Hill. This would eliminate some of the need for biking and for traveling by private car.

The other solution is to set aside certain sidewalks (or in some cases streets) as bicycle-only, with others as pedestrian-only. This is most feasible on campus, where there are many alternate sidewalk routes to most destinations. These should be clearly marked, especially at pedestrian-bicycle intersections.

New York's parks (at least Central and Riverside) have such a system, and I have found it most congenial, both as a biker

and as a pedestrian. The campus is analogous to a park in enough ways that it should work here.

Off-campus, though, the biker remains largely a man or woman without a unique, safe territory (for himself and others) in either street or sidewalk. Man is a territorial animal. This applies to bikers as well as pedestrians and autos. Bikers need paths of their own.

Sincerely yours,
John W. McIntroy
307 West Main Street
Carrboro, N. C.

Campus food service lousy

To the editor:

The University seems plagued with several persistent problems. Among the most persistent is getting an adequate food service to serve good-quality food at a moderate price.

It should be fairly evident to all university officials and students that we have another lousy food service on our hands. For a non-profit company, our food service certainly has high prices, comparable with those food establishments downtown. For a large

organization, our food service does not provide good quality food.

The formation of a student committee to look into the problem of our food service is commendable, better late than never. I suggest their first investigation be into what type contract servomation has with the University and their second efforts be directed into terminating that contract.

In the future, the University should allow these same students to contract another food service. That way, if it's again lousy, we can at least bite the hand that feeds us.

Thomas Vass
Chapel Hill

The Daily Tar Heel accepts letters to the editor, provided they are typed on a 60-space line and limited to a maximum of 300 words. All letters must be signed and the address and phone number of the writer must be included. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters for libelous statements and good taste. Address letters to Associate Editor, The Daily Tar Heel, in care of the Student Union.

The Daily Tar Heel Awards of the Week

The Stitch in Time Kills Nine Award—to N.Y. State Prisons Commissioner Russell G. Oswald and Gov. Nelson Rockefeller who tried to save 37 hostages held by Attica State Prison inmates by storming the prison. Nine hostages were killed when their rescuers opened fire on everybody in the yard.

The Sissy and Delilah Award—to UNC head football coach Bill Dooley who was reportedly overheard telling his players, "The only people who have long hair are women and HOMOSEXUALS."

The Robert Shelton Good Neighbor Award—to Bob Jones University which announced it will begin admitting black students for the first time—if they are married and promise not to touch the white women.

The Spanish Flyswatter Award—to the University administration and the School of Public Health which refuse to fund the Health Education 33 course in human sexuality. Apparently they don't believe the course is "to be used for the prevention of disease only."

The Bedwetting Award—to Robert Kepner, director of Residence Life, who refused to allow waterbeds in University housing even if they meet state regulations.

The Lovely Rita Meter Maid Award—to the Chapel Hill alderman who proposed the flower ladies be relocated in a proposed parking garage to be built downtown. They may rent a space for ten cents an hour, right?

The "Oh Dad, Poor Dad" Award—to Lester Maddox who said Thursday the nation must "go back to the death penalty" to combat lawlessness and crime whether the rapist, bomber or wielder of the knife "be relatives or friends of yours or mine." Maddox's son has been arrested twice for burglary.

The Your Number's Up Award—to Congress which voted down a bill that would end the draft. If you had passed it, senators, we would have given you the Thanks For Nothing Award.

The Today's Peace Corps Wants To Join You Award—to Richard Nixon who says he needs the draft to insure the success of his "peace initiatives."

The Bust of the Week Award—to topless dancer Gigi who was arrested three times this week at the Golden Crown Bar for "exposing her breasts at a public gathering."

Ken Ripley

Soul Food: person is important

"Some of these people who call themselves Christians amaze me," she was saying. "They spend all their time worrying about their 'souls,' and mine—and that's all. I don't want to be a soul; I want to be me."

She isn't alone. Not too long ago a black Christian, discussing racial prejudice, told several Christians, "I get tired of being looked at as some kind of disembodied 'soul,' as if my soul was separate from my color, my manhood, or my personality. Don't deny me the privilege of being fully human. The Gospel frees all of me, not just a part."

They've got a point. Too many times, it seems, Christians are so eager to get "converted" they manage to somehow split a person's personality. They get so lost in the person's "soul" they become blinded to the person. The joyful sharing of "good news" becomes militaristic "soul winning," all too often losing the concern and compassion for people that supposedly marks Christian love.

And if that's all that being a Christian means to us, then we've missed the point.

Loveless evangelism is a cruel mockery of the way that Jesus moved among people as he dealt with their problems, healed their hurts, challenged their complacencies and pointed to a new relationship with God.

Jesus looked at the crowds and saw people, not "disembodied souls." He was vitally concerned with the souls of men, to be sure, but in a way that sometimes we forget.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind," he said. "This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

To be a follower of Jesus, as Jesus meant it, does not mean merely to believe a certain creed, follow certain prescribed rules and religious practices, or to say the right thing. Anyone can go to church. We all have beliefs. When John the Baptist, Jesus, and, later, the apostles, said

"Repent," they didn't mean "get religion."

Jesus wasn't trying to change beliefs. He was trying to change people. Christianity is concerned not only with the soul, but with the heart and the mind of the whole personality.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ," Paul wrote, "he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come."

The power of the Gospel is that through Jesus a person can be radically transformed. Instead of being separated from God and worshipping ourselves, we are offered a new and dynamic relationship with God. Jesus talks not about a "self-help" theology, but about the power of God to change us if we want to be changed.

The person who becomes a Christian finds his beliefs changing, his attitudes rearranged. "I have been crucified with Christ," Paul wrote. "It is not I who live, but Christ who lives in me."

But if Jesus talks about the "soul" of man being transformed, he also talks

Americans were glad to let the factions of the South Vietnamese kill each other over control of the government. But no more—U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker and Nixon have decided that Thieu is to be president of the country.

With this backing Thieu felt free to rig the elections to prevent any strong candidate from opposing him. It worked—now he is unopposed.

But Thieu made a big concession to outraged U.S. public opinion last week: he said he would not consider himself elected to another term unless he gets at least 51 percent of the vote. Some concession.

Simply stated, the Nixon Administration wants Thieu to be president of South Vietnam and will do anything to achieve that end.

Nixon is simply following the Roosevelt extension to the Monroe Doctrine of the 1800's:

"The U.S. can interfere anywhere, at any time, in the internal affairs of any country, if the Administration in power at the time feels that intervention is justifiable."

Lyndon Johnson proved in 1965 that the U.S. will certainly send troops to any country in the Western Hemisphere that might be in turmoil. The justification—a shaky one at that—has been to save the country from Communism. A more obvious reason for sending troops into such places as the Dominican Republic is to protect the American money that has been invested there.

The American government has frequently been ready to put young men's lives on the line to protect American business interests abroad.

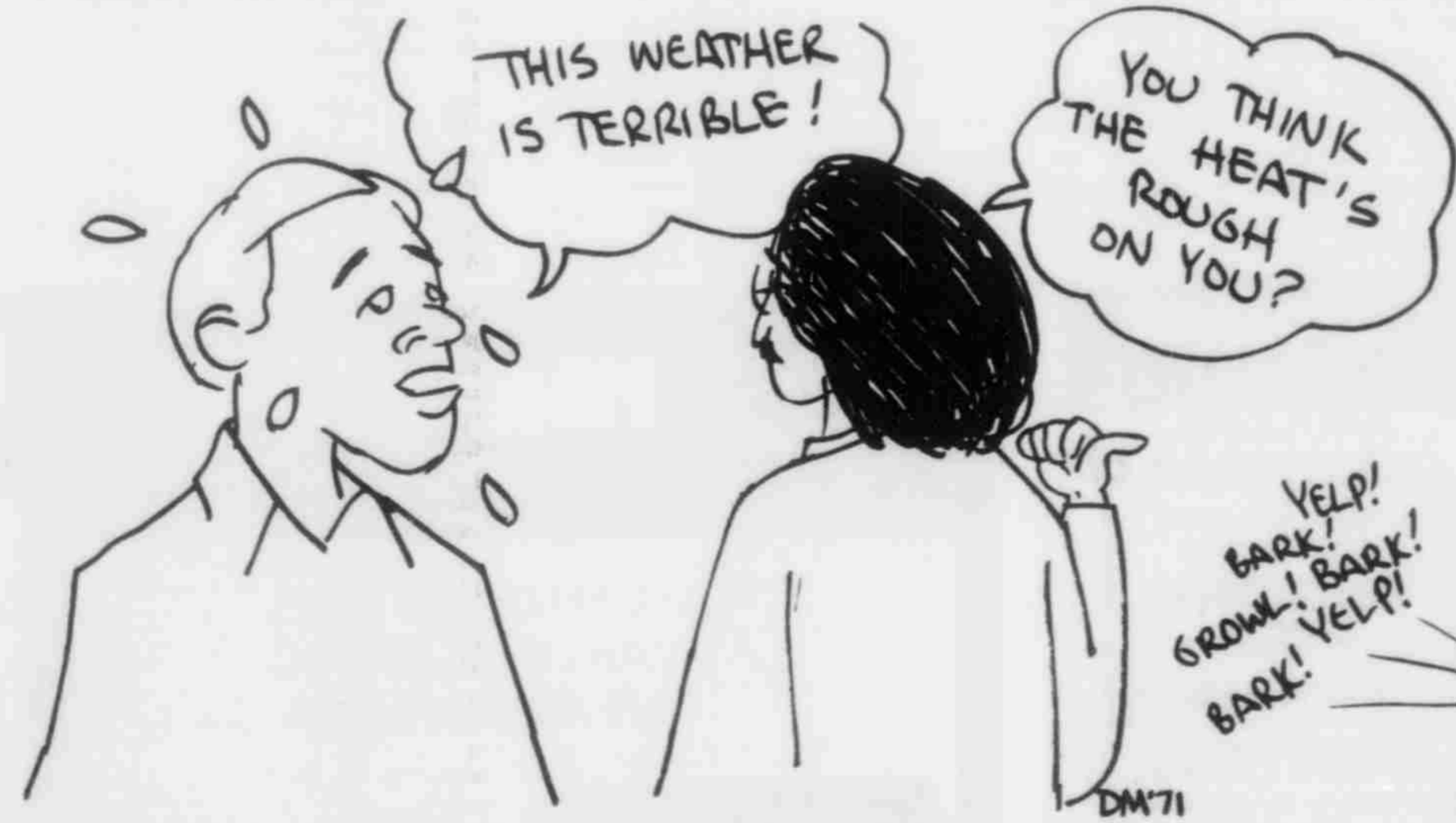
A part of the risk of foreign investment should be the uncertainty over order in the country and the stability of that country's government.

But American businessmen feel they can rely on the military might of the U.S. to protect their investments—at least in Central and South America.

Nixon's policy on foreign aid goes something like this:

"We interfere in the internal affairs of the country when we feel like it; we deny that we ever interfere when it suits our purpose."

It's great to have such an intelligent and enlightened foreign policy, isn't it?



The Daily Tar Heel

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