

The Daily Tar Heel

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Harry Bryan, Editor
Wednesday, September 29, 1971

Panther decision to be felt in N.C.

Superior Court Judge James M. Long took a necessary step Monday in Winston-Salem when he quashed criminal indictments against three Black Panthers charged with theft of meat last Jan. 12.

Long quashed the indictments and the jury venire from which jurors to hear the case would be drawn because jury lists in Forsyth County are not composed "of the constitutionally required cross section of the community."

He said the methods of juror selection excluded large numbers of blacks, women, daily wage earners and young persons, and evidence offered by defense attorneys showed just how bad the situation is.

Though 1970 census figures list 22.3 percent of the Forsyth County population as black, only 9.9 percent of all criminal jurors in the county since May 31 have been non-white.

And since the last jury list was drawn in November of 1969 (when prospective jurors had to be at least 21 years old) no one younger than 22 years, 10 months could serve on a jury in the county—through persons 18 years old are now eligible.

The only persons in Forsyth County who could get a completely fair trial, then, were white and middle aged.

Following the announcement of the ruling, Solicitor Frank J. Yeager was quoted by the Winston-Salem Journal as saying he was "shocked" and "disappointed." Yeager warned that every defendant in North Carolina will question the makeup of jury lists on the same grounds.

To Yeager and to white, middle-aged citizens of North Carolina who don't believe in justice, that may be a problem. But until every jury list is questioned, the type of discrimination that has been uncovered in Forsyth County will continue to go on in the other 99 North Carolina counties.

Showing a "humane" concern for persons whose trials may be delayed until a ruling is made by an appeals court, Yeager said, "How about those people waiting in jail? I feel sorry for them."

That's all well and good, Mr. Yeager, but what about all the people sitting in prison right now solely because members of the juries that heard their cases did not like blacks or "young punks with long hair."

Norman Black

Students dialed wrong number

The Chapel Hill Telephone Company held a public meeting last Thursday night to discuss plans for upgrading phone service in the area.

According to company statements, the new plan will be implemented within a 250 square mile exchange area which includes some 21,000 customers.

Only two customers attended the meeting, and they were outnumbered five-to-one by company employees and University officials.

Plant Manager L.M. Miller was not upset with the lack of attendance.

"I would like to interpret that as an indication that the people have confidence that their telephone company and the State Utilities Commission aren't going to allow anything that isn't in the best interest of the public."

Commercial Engineer Gary McKelvey agreed with Miller.

"We never did consider this much of a controversy," McKelvey said. "The State Utilities Commission suggested we hold a public hearing, so we did. We did receive some public sentiment expressed by those two people, however."

The telephone improvement plans will systematically convert all multi-party lines to single-party lines, and will eliminate mileage fees currently being charged customers living outside the base rate area.

The two people in attendance, Bill and Judy Schenck, raised an interesting point during the meeting.

The couple asked about the reasons for the changeover, and said they would like to continue to have the option of buying the cheaper two-party service, rather than convert to a one-party system.

McKelvey explained the Chapel Hill company will come under State Utility Commission regulation in January, 1973.

He added the commission had established a general goal for all companies of providing exchange-wide, one-party service without mileage charges, regardless of the characteristics of the exchange area.

McKelvey was also asked how much it

would cost the company to offer private, one-party service throughout the exchange, but still allow customers to choose two-party service.

"I doubt there is anybody in this state regulated by the State Utilities Commission that has set their goal as both one-and two-party service," McKelvey said.

The Chapel Hill Service Plants are to be applauded for seeking and gaining utility commission regulation.

The residents of Chapel Hill now receive six percent interest on all security deposits held for more than 90 days, as a direct result of this regulation.

And by 1973, all rates will be set and

controlled by the state commission.

However, State Utility Commission regulation does not insure adequate consumer protection, nor does it mean that regulations and planned improvements are not to be questioned.

Regardless of whether or not "anybody in this State . . . has set their goal as both one-and two-party service," it is clearly a goal worth considering.

Students living on-campus will not be affected by this improvement plan, but the vast majority of UNC students do not live on-campus.

Many of these off-campus students would be interested in the lower rates provided by two-party service.

Plant Manager Miller conceded the lack of attendance could indicate customer apathy.

Students at this University are in a sense residents of Chapel Hill, whether or not they claim the town as their legal home.

After receiving the right to register and vote in Chapel Hill, students could have a profound effect on the laws and regulations under which they live.

But an apathetic student body will accomplish nothing.

We have lost the opportunity to further discuss and question the telephone improvement plan. One can only hope it won't happen again.

Letters to the editor

Elitism won't cure pollution

To the editor:

Mr. Lenski's recent columns reveal the weakness of good positions supported by emotional assertion, misinformation and doubtful logic. Sadly, his articles fail as soapbox oratory as well as journalism, for he reveals the rankest elitism and class bias. Further, his moralistic approach to social problems is equally impotent and inappropriate.

First, Mr. Lenski notes, "People consume more and more to become less and less happy: the ultimate waste. Many have passed their optimum level of consumption and do not even realize it." The optimum level of consumption, determined independently of human desires, is an interesting concept, and I am interested in who determines what level of consumption is optimum for me. His further argument that people do not realize when they are beyond this point suggests that since Mr. Lenski knows their soul better than they do, we should recognize his divine standing in some way. Indeed, Mr. Lenski often sounds

more like an oracle than an advocate, but more of this later.

Finally, this argument reveals Mr. Lenski's class bias, a bias so common as to perhaps be the greatest threat to the environmentalist movement. When the tinsel of affluence was being distributed to middle America, pollution was not seen as a problem. Now when other Americans strive for a decent standard of living and perhaps also a little tinsel, they are told we don't need more consumption. It has a familiar ring on the South Side of Chicago.

Now consider the other side of Mr. Lenski's argument: that consumption is harmful because it pollutes and depletes resources. Mr. Lenski is the victim of several contradictions. If there is an "approaching famine of world resources," where will the rest of the world get the resources to carry on their "fantastic development schemes?" If they cannot afford "all the fancy new pollution abatement technology" we are doomed any way. Does Mr. Lenski propose these

nations not develop? Who then would cause the "crushed hopes?" If they do develop and pollute, who is the villain of the piece, the American consumer?

In supporting the assertion that America is depleting the world's resources, Mr. Lenski relies on the fact that \$100 of raw materials can be converted into \$4,500 of goods and services. An environmentalist should be glad that such value can be extracted from so few resources. Mr. Lenski, however, assumes that these resources were obtained from other countries, a simple factual misrepresentation. For some reason, he is unaware that such common desk references as the Statistical Abstract of the U.S. and the Economic Report of the President list U.S. imports of raw materials. A half-minute investigation of either of these sources would reveal that net U.S. imports of raw materials are a negligible portion of world raw material production.

Finally, we come to Mr. Lenski's basic approach. As I said, Mr. Lenski is an oracle dispensing Truth rather than an advocate. He views social problems as moral situations, to be overcome by good thoughts and good deeds, by "expanded consciousness." I personally have little faith in telling people to do good deeds when we reward those who don't.

Pollution and resource depletion are problems most amenable to solution by altering the incentive system. But this requires an attention to facts, not emotional hyperbole, and a faith in man as a rational being who follows his best interests in any given circumstance, not as benighted sinners, "guilty of an uninspired value system," who do not know what is best for them and must be shown the Way.

James T. Marsh
Economics Department
Carroll Hall

Accusation is mainly hearsay

To the editor:
It is true Billy Arnold's death is a tragedy but Mr. Humberger's accusation supported mainly by hearsay is merely a rubbing of salt into a wound that will never heal. However "it" the reports you have heard are not true, many facets of your editorial prove to be in the most part gossip.

In reference to your line, "There is no excuse for Dooley's negligence," what do you mean by negligence? If you are not even sure of what happened during that day of practice, how can you attribute the tragedy to something as vague as "Dooley's negligence?" I suggest you base your accusations on more concrete evidence which your last editorial lacked.

Robert McCall
David Peele
11 Lewis - UNC

The Daily Tar Heel

78 Years of Editorial Freedom

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Inside dope on drugs

Answers for grass users

by Woody Doster
and
the Student Health Service

Question: Some of my friends think marijuana is an aphrodisiac. Is it?—Signed D.M.

Dear D.M.: This is an individual response. When it occurs, it is caused by a psychological reaction to the drug, consisting of a suppression of one's customary inhibitions. Such an effect is often noted with alcohol, and indeed may even occur in the absence of any drug.

Question: I live in an apartment in Chapel Hill. I don't smoke marijuana, but some of my friends come over to my apartment and smoke. Can I be put in jail if my place is raided?—Signed M.G.

Dear M.G.: Yes, the authorities may

decide to prosecute everyone present, even those who are neither smoking nor holding.

Question: Is it possible to become addicted to marijuana?—Signed L.P.

Dear L.P.: No, if by addiction you mean a physical dependence on marijuana. However, you can become psychologically dependent. That is, you may have a great desire for the drug and feel that you need it in order to function.

Question: Sometimes the marijuana I smoke gives me a good high and sometimes it doesn't. What's the difference?—Signed S.L.

Dear S.L.: One possibility is that you may not be smoking marijuana at all. The stuff you buy may be anything from

oregano to lawn clippings. One study of "street" marijuana found that 33% of the samples contained no marijuana.

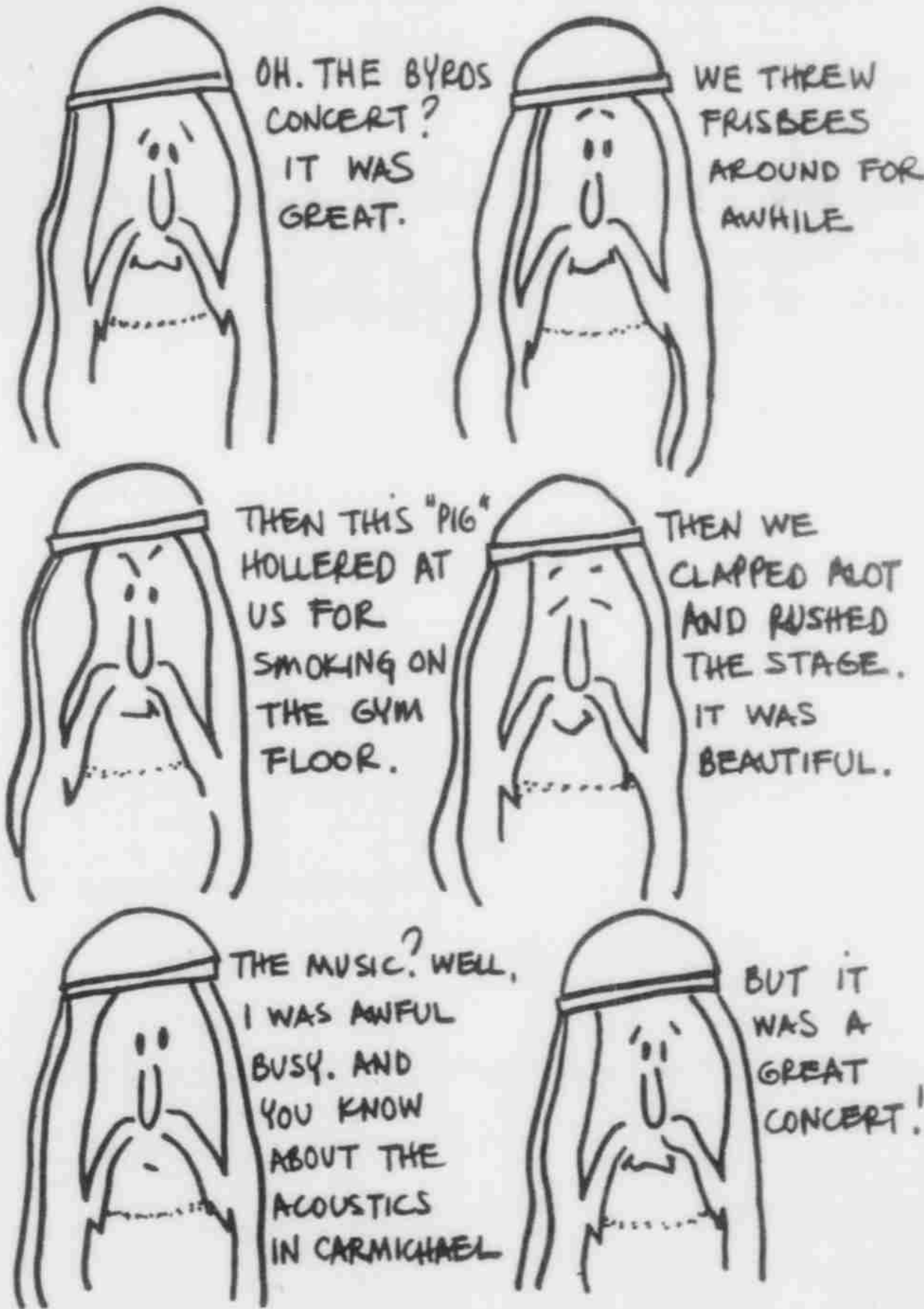
Question: I've started smoking marijuana. I'm worried that I may progress into using stronger drugs. What are the chances?—Signed K.C.

Dear K.C.: We don't know what smoking marijuana will do to you. Almost all heroin addicts have smoked marijuana. Conversely, the vast majority of marijuana users never feel the need to use "harder" drugs.

Questions for this column should be addressed to Woody Doster, care of The Daily Tar Heel, Student Union Building, Chapel Hill, 27514.

Letters to the editor

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.



R. SEBARK

Lou Bonds

Schools give you a future, past takes it away

Beginning at age six and continuing on through our adolescence into maturity, a record of our lives is kept. In the unforgiving memory banks of school records, everything from our age and weight to our conduct and attentiveness in class is kept along with other information.

Is it possible that the institution responsible for educating and training us for an "even break" in life is also taking that privilege away?

When we registered for the first grade, our parents were required to give certain information. Most of these questions concerned name, age, parents' names, kindergartens attended and so forth.

But then began the process of differentiation that followed us through elementary school, high school, college and into our occupations.

What is your sex? What is your race?

What are your parents' occupations? What schools did they attend? What is their annual income? IQ test scores?

When it was reported whether our parents were low-income or high-income families, principals and faculty members could distinguish whether we would be high or low potential students. To a great degree, this questionable title decided the quality of education we were to expect, how we were viewed by our teachers and how far we would advance.

For example, students scoring high on IQ tests and coming from a family with favorable educational backgrounds were treated as high-potential students and were encouraged to do well in school. Students with opposite backgrounds were treated as low-potential students and the attitude of the teacher's part, perhaps unsuspectingly, was "we'll just try to get him by."

These records and attitudes that accompanied them were never destroyed. Instead more facts and figures were added and they in turn were never destroyed.

Our performance in each class was noted permanently. There was a good or bad mark for every move we made in the class. We received checks or cross marks for "neatness, posture, conduct, attitude, dependability" and various other areas. These, too, have never left us.

Unfortunately, the records do not account for possible causes behind the good and the bad marks.

Did our teachers encourage us? Did they decide whether or not they would like us because of our looks? What were the teacher's credentials like? Perhaps our attitudes toward education were shaped by the attitude of the teacher. Perhaps the instructor favored spending more time with high-potential students than

with low-potential students. Maybe the IQ tests rated a student of a particular class and did not accurately judge ALL students' capabilities.

Various reasons could explain the marks we received in our early school years. Whatever they are, they will never be told. Only the results of the causes will be divulged.

And those results determined whether we were accepted into higher education, the quality of college we were accepted by and what jobs we will get.

The student who was discouraged from performing well will have a poor record. His chances of attending college are, likewise, poor. The job he gets will be determined by his record.

If a student's record, for one reason or another, does not accurately depict his true potential, then only against the greatest of odds will the individual be

able to attain his potential. And that does not account for his potential being dulled by the educational system that has compiled the records.

To advocate abolishing all record-keeping by schools and colleges is to advocate total chaos and therefore further damage the student.

But reforms can be made in what types of information are compiled, who they are released to, how they are determined and how long they are kept.

If a student is judged on potential by actual performance then there would be no recapitulating pre-judgement. His chances of achieving true potential would be increased. The economic status of a student's parents is another pre-judging instrument which, stricken from records, would allow him to compete on the same level with the rest of his class.

Impertinent records such as attitudes,

neatness, dependability and responsiveness should be eliminated entirely from the records. These judgements are made by one individual (the teacher) and are likely to influence the judgements of other individuals (future teachers, admissions boards and prospective employers).

IQ tests, as many experts testify, are inaccurate measures of both intelligence and ability. They should be deleted from all records.

Once a student leaves the educational system, his record should be left behind also. Then employers will be able to judge a person's acceptability from his performance.

If our schools are to maintain the function of preparing people for the future, then they must find some equitable way of dealing with the past.

Or else, the past should be forgotten.