

The Daily Tar Heel

81 Years Of Editorial Freedom

Vol. 82, No. 77

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Friday, January 11, 1974

Founded February 23, 1893

Federal funds approved for local transit system

Plans for a comprehensive system of mass transit appear one step closer to reality with the announcement that \$860,480 in federal funds will be forthcoming to finance a community bus system. Approval of the grant was announced late Wednesday afternoon through the Washington office of Second District Congressman L.H. Fountain.

Chapel Hill Mayor Howard Lee and the Board of Aldermen met in special session Wednesday to receive notification of the

grant by telephone according to the Chapel Hill Newspaper. Officials of the office of Town Manager Chet Kendzior Jr. expect formal announcement of the Department of Transportation (DOT) grant to be forthcoming in the mail.

Town administrators have been expecting approval of the funds by the Urban Mass Transit Administration of DOT for several weeks. Wednesday's announcement will enable the town to match the federal grant with \$215,000 in local general revenue bonds

and begin planning for the bus system. Target date for operation of 53.9 miles of bus lines is August.

Bus service will be provided to both the Chapel Hill community and the UNC campus through the use of 13 small 19-25 passenger town buses and four 45 passenger campus buses. Plans call for the construction of a bus terminal and several modular passenger shelters.

As a result of the failure of a bus referendum held in May 1973, Carrboro will

not be participating in the operation of the community system. Both Aldermen Braxton Foushee and George Beswick have indicated their willingness to support the holding of a future referendum.

Advocates of mass transit have promoted the idea of a bus system for over four years and have experienced an uphill fight in their attempt to put public transportation on a sound footing in Chapel Hill.

After the failure of a trial bus system operated by Chapel Hill and Carrboro and a public referendum in Chapel Hill in 1971, town officials initiated a federally-financed mass transit survey. The study made recommendations concerning the type of system that could operate most effectively between the campus and the community.

Chapel Hill voters went to the polls in light numbers in February 1973 to approve to finance the system by a 10-to-one margin and a tax levy by a margin of one and a half to one. Although both issues passed in all 10 precincts, the UNC student vote was credited with giving the referendum its strongest support.

The final vote total for the bonds was 3366 for, 1739 against; for the 10 cent tax levy for underwriting the initial operation of the system, the total was 3242 for, 1856 against.

Mass transit encountered several roadblocks in Carrboro, however, in the form of public opposition and hesitation on the part of the Board of Aldermen to put the matter before the people in the form of a referendum.

After three separate defeats of the public referendum proposal by the Board of Aldermen, Carrboro Mayor Robert J. Wells broke a deadlock vote in February 1973 to approve the public vote. Voters later rejected the bus system at the polls.

Most of the opposition from Carrboro citizens appeared to center around the increase in taxes that the transit system would necessitate.



Students have an amazing knack for finding alternatives to studying or attending class. There is always something more interesting to do than listening to a 75-minute lecture. This one found something eye-catching going on behind brick walls. (Staff photo by Bill Wrenn)

Stores offer discounts

by Bob Ripley
Staff Writer

The Student Consumer Action Union (SCAU) will sponsor a 10 per cent discount program to begin Monday and run through Jan. 28.

This two-week program is the continuation of a similar three-week program initiated by the Student Government last fall.

The number of participating merchants has increased from 13 to 28 since discounts were first offered. Students can now receive discounts in Raleigh, Greensboro and Durham as well as in Chapel Hill.

"We want to introduce students to merchants who want to give them a fair shake," Margot Townsend, project coordinator, said.

"We had a big turnout at the beginning of program last semester, but support towards the end was poor. That's why we have shortened the program a week," she continued.

"If we have a big turnout this semester, there are plans to have one big discount at the start of each year," Townsend said.

Merchants offering discounts at shops in Eastgate Shopping Center are: Eckerds, One Hour Martinizing, Endicott Johnson Shoes, Eastgate Hardware, Woods 5 & 10, Cheese Etc. and Richards.

Franklin Street merchants participating are: Country Craft Shop, Shrunken Head, Sutton's Drugs, Western Auto, Threadmill, Sherwin and Williams Paints, Burgner Music, Harmony Health Foods, Flowers by Hackney, Foister's Camera and Danwich Restaurant on East Rosemary St.

In the NCNB Plaza, student discounts are being offered by: African Batik, the Record and Tape Center, India Bazaar, and Jolie's Jeans. The Jolie's in Greensboro, Raleigh and Durham are also honoring UNC student ID cards for discounts as is A&S bicycle in Durham.

Townsend said many more merchants would have liked to be in the program, but said they had already given discount

coupons to students in booklets distributed during registration.

Jorgen Petersen, owner-operator of Danwich Restaurant, was pleased with the student showing last semester and said many came in just to see if discount really worked.

"We are still a new shop, and not as many people know about us as they do the other eating places, and this program helps them to meet us," Petersen said.

Shelton Henderson, owner of the Shrunken Head, said he was not asked to participate in the program last semester, but he expected to do a good business this spring as a result of being included.

Students should present their ID cards with caution. Some stores listed on the SCAU pamphlet don't know when to give the discount or who to give it to.

Sutton's Drugs has been giving discounts this week. Johnny Martin, manager of Woods 5 & 10, said he didn't know they were included in this semester's program.

The Record and Tape Centers are going out of business and are already selling records below cost.

Is capital punishment deterrent?

by Joel Brinkley
Feature Writer

Last in a series.

Arguments for and against capital punishment have gone on for centuries.

A popular argument against the death sentence is that only poor minority members are executed, to an extent, this is true.

Between 1930 and 1960, 3,724 people were executed in the United States. Forty eight per cent of these were minority members, mostly black, although minorities accounted for only 20 per cent of the country's overall population.

Virtually all those executed were poor.

Weather

TODAY: cloudy and warm. The high is expected around 70. The low is expected in the upper 50's. There is a 20 per cent chance of precipitation today, 40 per cent chance tonight. Outlook: warm and a chance of scattered showers.

Those in favor of capital punishment claim that it is a crime deterrent. When it is abolished, they say, the rate of violent crime rises. The facts, however, speak against this argument.

Government statistics from Canada, where capital punishment was abolished six years ago, show no statistical rise in violent crimes since then.

England (where, until 1834, several hundred specific crimes were punishable by hanging) abolished the death sentence in 1965 for a five-year trial period. In 1969, after studying crime statistics from that period, Parliament overwhelmingly voted to permanently abolish capital punishment.

Michigan has not had a death penalty since 1847. Its per capita rate of violent crime is actually slightly lower than that of neighboring Illinois, which does have a death sentence.

One popular explanation for the death penalty's failure to act as a crime deterrent is that criminals are usually unaware that death is the penalty for the crimes which they are about to commit. If it is widely known that death is the sentence for certain

crimes, the theory goes, then the penalty would act as a genuine deterrent. Many criminologists would dispute this theory as well.

In England, executions were performed publicly until 1867. Of the 167 persons sentenced to die between 1865 and 1867, 164 had previously witnessed at least one public execution.

Clinton Duffy, the warden of California's San Quentin Prison for 11 years until 1964, witnessed over 150 executions during his prison career. He is now an outspoken opponent of capital punishment. Duffy tells the following story which shows how capital punishment typically figures into the mind of a murderer:

"We changed over from hanging to lethal gas in the mid-thirties, and we had a man in San Quentin who was a thief. At the time, we needed some men to build the lethal gas chamber, to work as laborers: mixing cement, threading pipe and the like. This young fellow was assigned.

"Every night when he'd come back into the big yard, he'd be surrounded by the men. Many of them would ask him, 'Tell us about

the lethal gas chamber, tell us about the torture chamber!' He'd give them a blow-by-blow description of the progress of the installation. Invariably, he would say, 'Fellas, this is as close as I ever want to get to the gas chamber!'

"He was in prison for about three and a half years; then he was released. He had been out maybe three years when he killed two of his relatives. He had been enamored of a half-sister and the two relatives tried to break it up; so he killed them.

"How come you, who helped build the gas chamber, never thought of the death penalty before you killed those people? He responded, 'I just didn't think about it. When the devil gets into you, you think of nothing else.'"

Until the state legislature changes the present law, those North Carolinians who "...just didn't think about it" will be left with a certain fate — death in the gas chamber.

Daylight Savings Time

Conserving energy?

by Gary Dorsey
Staff Writer

Students having 8 a.m. classes this semester seem to be having trouble understanding why they're walking to class in the moonlight.

Nationally, Daylight Savings Time is being utilized by the government in an attempt to save energy. In the long run it will save the United States between one and three per cent of their total energy consumption. The confusion comes in understanding how it works.

Everett Billingsley, superintendent of University Electric and Water distribution, tried to explain the electrical economics of the new system.

"There are different peaks in electric power usage throughout the day. The greatest peak is in the evening, about the time people are coming home from work. Another peak occurs in the morning when people are getting up.

"What daylight savings time will do is reduce the power peak in the evening and increase the one in the morning. This system makes for a more level system of electric consumption, without so many peaks and valleys. It makes for a more economical operation."

This method of dispersing the peak hours of power demand will allow the utility companies a chance to run their machines on a more even keel. The long run effects should result in the one to three percent energy savings.

Of course there is always a chance that it may not result in any savings at all. Even Billingsley said the "rationale is

difficult to substantiate."

Grey Culbreth, director of University Utilities, said in this area the one to three per cent savings will be minimized.

"Overall there will be a small savings in energy in the U.S. But in Chapel Hill the savings will be even less because this is a residential area without much big business."

Of the people in this area, the ones who seem the most concerned with the new time schedule are parents and teachers. Parents are concerned because they don't want to send their children to school in the dark.

As a result school officials in this area are now trying to decide whether or not to delay school starting times as they are doing in many other cities across the nation.

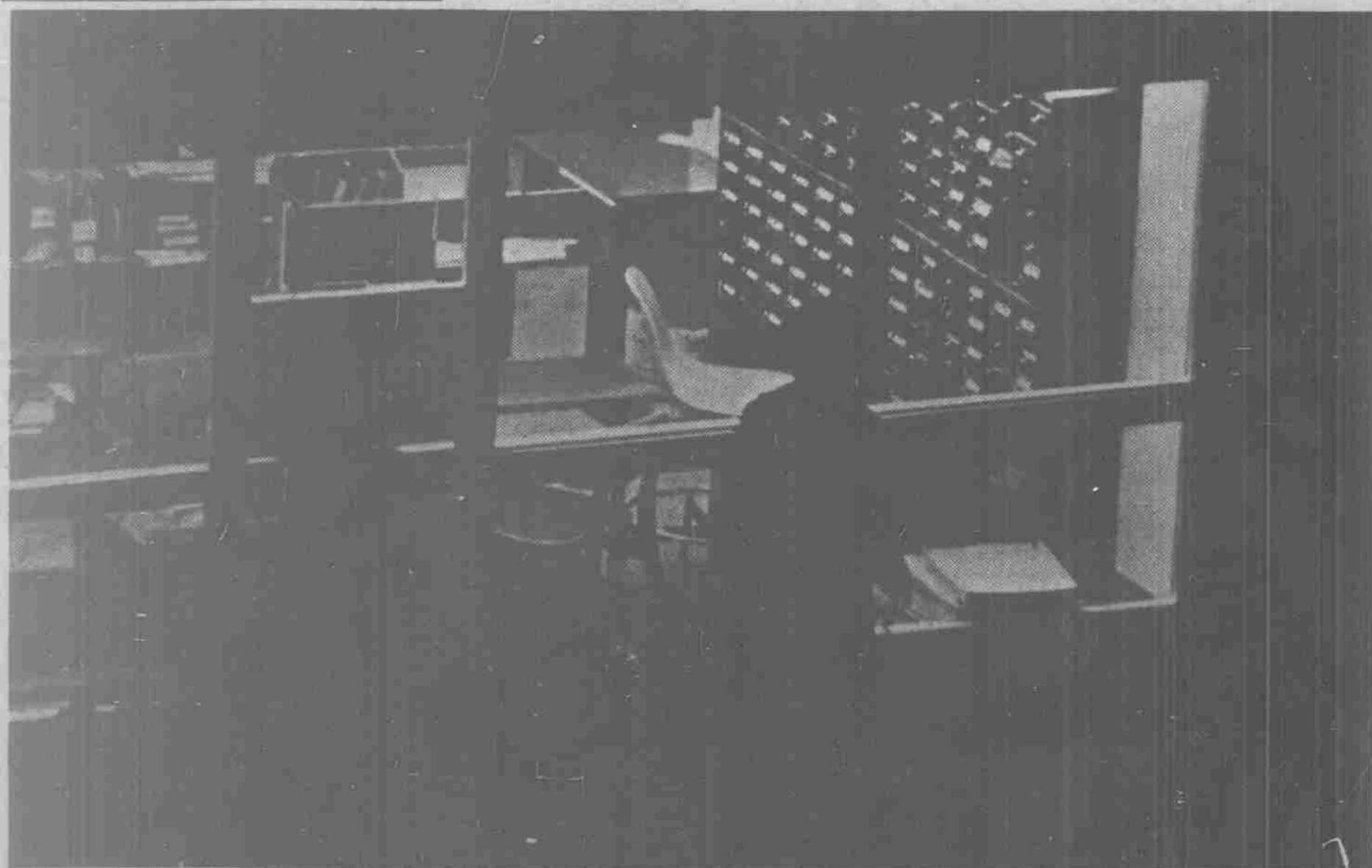
Some people don't seem so concerned, however. "I don't know," said Dan Ramsey, a UNC freshman. "I had an eight o'clock class last semester but the one I had today wasn't much different. Doesn't seem like they're saving energy, though."

Spaa Boner, a resident assistant on the sixth floor of Granville South, said that the mornings look "strange."

"But I don't really see how it's saving energy," he added. Another UNC student, who asked that her name not be used, also said that it was strange going to her 8 a.m. classes this semester.

"It's just black outside," she said. "It's alright with me, though. I've got Chemistry 61 at 8 a.m. and that's a nightmare anyway."

She, like Ramsey, Boner and Billingsley didn't see how it's saving that much energy.



The dark at the top of the day

Staff photo by Gary Labrator