

Author tells of living others' dreams

Plimpton: 'a participatory journalist'

by Helen Ross
Staff Writer

"I have this nose that bleeds at the slightest touch, and I suffer from something called sympathetic response, which means that when you hit me I weep," author and editor George Plimpton told a Memorial Hall audience Monday night.

However, these slight handicaps have not prevented Plimpton from taking positions in a wide variety of professions: as quarterback for a professional football team, as a boxer against former heavyweight champ Archie Moore, as a *Playboy* magazine photographer and as a musician with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

Plimpton is a self-professed "participatory journalist, which means that I enter people's professions for a short while, if I can survive, in order to write about them.

"Almost all American males go to sleep dreaming of striking out the New York Yankees," Plimpton said. This dream is less complicated than dreaming about

beautiful women.

After all, he said, if you invited Jane Fonda or Jennifer O'Neill to visit you in Chapel Hill, how would you entertain them? "Here, I understand, you would take her to the Shack."

Plimpton entered sports by pitching in an All-Star game in New York City. He retired the first two batters, including Willie Mays, on long pop-flies.

The third batter, however, hit a home run. "My reaction as a pitcher was that I had assisted in some great mechanical miracle."

Plimpton said he enjoyed pitching. "You can stand around and relish what you've done because you've got the ball and the game can't start again."

On the football field, Plimpton quarterbacked the Detroit Lions during part of the exhibition season. "The defense used to ask the offense to leave me standing so they could get at me," he said.

As a golfer, Plimpton played in such tournaments as the Bing Crosby and the Bob Hope Desert Classics. During one tournament, he found himself in the

unenviable position of playing ahead of Arnold Palmer.

At one point, when Plimpton was searching for his ball deep in the rough, he glanced back at the tee and saw Palmer looking at him "with the look of a businessman who has just discovered something moving in the bottom of his wastepaper basket."

The 6-foot-4, 200-pound Plimpton earned the nickname, "Flying Telephone Pole," during his tenure as a trapeze artist in a circus. "I rarely, if ever, got to the catcher before tumbling into the net."

Playing as a percussionist for the New York Philharmonic scared Plimpton more than sports. "Sports is predicated on the assumption that someone is going to make a mistake. In music, there is no room for errors," he said.

Although Plimpton's mistakes marred a performance in Canada, Leonard Bernstein, then conductor of the orchestra, was persuaded to give Plimpton another chance.

"You can't read music and you're not fooling

anybody by turning the pages," Bernstein said as he commanded Plimpton to watch carefully for the conductor's cue.

This time, Plimpton said, he did so well that he was invited to play the gong when the Philharmonic recorded the same symphony.

Plimpton's next adventure will be to play hockey with the Philadelphia Flyers. He wants to play goalie, since it requires little skating ability.

"The Philadelphia defense might play as if there wasn't anyone in the goal. And that wouldn't be far from the truth," he said. "My idea is to paint an enormous cyclopaean eye on my mask to ward off the opponent's offense."

Plimpton called losing the "most profound humiliation" and said he always goes out hoping, but not expecting, to win. Two of his greatest sports triumphs include scoring four points for the Boston Celtics basketball team and gaining 26 yards as quarterback for the Baltimore Colts. (Fifteen of those yards came on a roughing the passer penalty.)



Staff photo by Margaret Kitz

George Plimpton

The Daily Tar Heel

Vol. 83, No. 137

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Wednesday, April 16, 1975

Founded February 23, 1893

House tentatively okays ERA; close final vote expected today

by Tim Pittman
Staff Writer

RALEIGH—The North Carolina House of Representatives tentatively approved the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) Tuesday by a two-vote margin.

The 60-58 vote came on the second reading of the ERA following three hours of debate.

Before the amendment is ratified by the House it must pass on a third and final reading. That final vote is expected to come in this afternoon's session.

The spectators in the packed gallery sat tensely and quietly as the roll was called and votes tallied. Before the vote was announced Rep. Ronald E. Mason, D-Carteret, called out that he was switching his vote from "no" to "aye." The switch made the vote 60-58.

Had Mason not changed his vote, a 59-59 tie would have resulted and House Speaker James C. Green would have been forced to break the tie. Green has not made public his preference on the amendment.

After the vote Mason told reporters he might switch his vote again today.

At the start of Tuesday's session, Rep.

Hartwell Campbell, D-Wilson, proposed a rules change requesting that a three-fifths majority be required to pass a constitutional amendment instead of the simple majority required now.

Campbell justified his proposal by arguing that the U.S. House of Representatives requires a three-fifths majority to ratify constitutional amendments.

However, Rep. Herbert L. Hyde, D-Buncombe, used a copy of the House rules and the rules of Congress to prove that the change was out of order.

Green then called the House to a vote. The rule change was defeated, 60-58, and the legislative debate began.

Hyde, who introduced the ERA in North Carolina, led the supporters. Campbell, chairperson of the House Constitutional Amendments Committee which held the ERA for eight weeks, led the opponents in the debate.

Hyde recited a list of prestigious Americans who supported the ERA, and said, "I think this is good for the country. I think it is consistent with the American dream."

Campbell called the ERA an unnecessary amendment and warned that no one can predict how the amendment will be interpreted by the Supreme Court. "I do not know, Rep. Hyde does not know, no one in this assembly know how this bill will be interpreted," Campbell said.

If the ERA passes its third roll-call tomorrow, legislators predict an easy victory in the Senate. The Senate narrowly defeated the ERA two years ago.

By ratifying the ERA, North Carolina would become the 35th state to approve. Thirty-eight states must ratify the ERA before it becomes a constitutional amendment.

The Florida and Missouri Legislatures are currently debating the ERA.



UPI telephoto

Rep. Herbert L. Hyde... addresses the House and gallery during the three-hour debate over ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Hyde, (Dem.-Buncombe), is the chief legislative supporter of the ERA, which passed its second vote, 60-58. The measure comes up for a third vote today.

Juniors preregister early; building opened due to rain

by Merton Vance
Staff Writer

Approximately 800 UNC juniors were allowed to preregister Monday between 9 p.m. and midnight, although preregistration for rising juniors was not scheduled to begin until 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Ben Perry, assistant director of Records and Registration, said he decided Monday night to let students waiting outside Hanes Hall enter the building to escape the rain. The crowd of students grew so large he allowed them to preregister to clear the halls of congestion, he said.

The incident began when it started raining on a group of 70 students spending the night in line outside Hanes Hall.

One of the students telephoned Ray Strong, director of Records and Registration, to ask if the students already in line could use the building for shelter from the rain.

Strong gave his permission and told Perry to process the students as quickly as possible Tuesday morning to clear the halls in time for eight o'clock classes.

Perry said that by 9 p.m. the line had grown to approximately 125 students. He then decided to start preregistering the students.

He said he made the decision for two purposes—to clear congestion in the halls and to help students waiting outside to get in out of the rain.

Students then began calling roommates and friends, and the crowd swelled until Perry had to call the Campus Police to close the building.

Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor said, "It was a very unfortunate episode and one I hope will not happen again."

Perry said students who did preregister Monday night did not benefit more than those who came at the scheduled time, since they still would have had to wait in line

behind those who spent the night.

The Office of Records and Registration is now considering assigning random numbers to process upper-class preregistration.

Preregistration for juniors and seniors currently operates on a first-come, first-serve basis. The proposed random selection would be similar to the process used now for General College preregistration.

Taylor, Friday drop by Suite C

Administrators meet SG officers

by Art Eisenstadt and Mike Horne
Staff Writers

The atmosphere was light and informal in Suite C Tuesday as the Student Government staff clustered around the punch bowl and talked in small groups with more than 30 administrators who wandered in for UNC's first Administration Day.

The open house was held to improve communications between Student Government and the University administration, Student Body President Bill Bates said.

Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor said,

"This is a very pleasant function. I've had a chance to meet a lot of people I hadn't met before."

Dean of Student Affairs Donald A. Boulton said, "I think this is an excellent idea. I've met quite a few of the people here before, though they come to me mostly for money. But you can't have a good working relationship until you find out who the person you're talking to is." Officials ranging from assistant deans and CGC members to the Consolidated University president chatted in small groups over punch, cookies, chips and dips.

Consolidated University President

William Friday was the first administrator to arrive, and University Housing Director James Condie was the last.

"I appreciated being invited and I got here early so I could meet everyone," Friday said. He said he had discussed the \$73 million budget cut and planned tuition increases at the state universities with Bates.

"I just got here," Condie said, laughing and sipping punch. "I think this is a good idea. As you know, I have already been meeting with student groups from the residence halls." Condie, who attracted one of the largest

groups of questioners all afternoon, patiently explained housing ideas and policies, and listened to suggestions.

Echoing that idea was Harold Wallace, assistant dean of Student Affairs. "I'd like to have more meetings on a kind of informal basis. When you're on the phone, you're calling a name, but now you think of a personality."

Karen McDonald, a Bates assistant who helped set up the affair, slumped in a chair, looking tired after the administrators left, and said, "I was very pleased with the response. They all seemed to appreciate the interaction."

Media head selected

Tim Dugan, a junior accounting major from Washington, D.C., was unanimously elected Media Board chairperson Tuesday. Geroge Bacso, a freshman journalism major from Westfield, N.J., was unanimously elected treasurer.

Dugan replaced Mark Dearmon as chairperson, and Bacso assumes the office vacated by John Speagle in October, 1974.

The Media Board (formerly the Publications Board) supervises the *Daily Tar Heel*, the *Yackety-Yack*, WCAR, the

Cellar Door, the *Carolina Quarterly* and Student Graphics, Inc.

Dugan said his first concern as chairperson will be to obtain a construction permit for a student-run FM radio station.

"To do this, we have already adopted a resolution to reapply for a permit as the Board of Directors of Student Educational Broadcasting, Inc.," he said.

"We also would like to increase the advertising and marketing potential of the *DTH*, and to expand the services of Student Graphics," Dugan said.

He said the board has submitted a well-prepared budget request for its member organizations to the Campus Governing Council (CGC) and is expecting a favorable response from the CGC Finance Committee.

Other members of the Media Board include David Klinger, Richard Lowe, Bill Moss, John Sawyer and Rob Rice.

The organizational representatives are Gary Rendsburg of WCAR, Joyce Fitzpatrick of the *Yack*, Susan Lindsay of the *Cellar Door*, Barmie Day of the *DTH* and Don Hasse of the *Carolina Quarterly*. Melissa Cole is the board's secretary.

The board will hold interviews for the position of WCAR business manager and *Carolina Quarterly* editor at 4 p.m. next Monday and summer *Tar Heel* editor at 5 p.m.

Applicants for these positions should bring a resume and any letters of recommendation to the meeting on Monday. For further information applicants should contact Dugan by phone at 933-8712.

Aldermen request federal funds

by Janet Fry
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen approved Monday an application for \$465 million of federal community development funds and endorsed a state Senate bill giving cities and counties power to spend funds for community development programs.

The application for a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development was approved after two changes in the application were made at the suggestion of Asst. Town Manager Kurt Jenne.

Jenne requested that \$21,500 of day care funds and \$240,000 of housing rehabilitation grants be transferred to other classifications because the town cannot yet spend funds for these purposes.

The temporary transfers will be in effect, he said, until the town charter is ratified, or until the bill giving

towns the authority to use funds for community development is passed by the legislature. The deadline for the request was Tuesday.

The Senate bill states, "Any city is authorized to engage in, to accept federal and state grants and loans for, and to appropriate and expend funds for community development programs and activities."

If approved, the bill will allow municipal programs dealing with employment, economic development, crime prevention, child care, health, drug abuse, education and welfare.

Although some aldermen had opposed the section of the charter allowing the town to support day care and to finance a department of human services, endorsement of the Senate bill was unanimous.

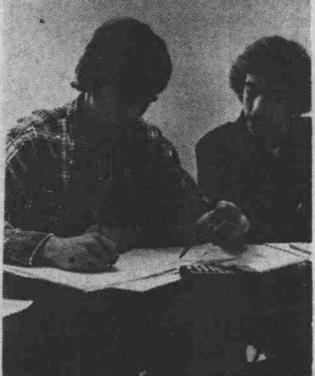
The board also announced that Aldermen Tommy Gardner and Gerry Cohen will represent the board at a N.C. Highway Department hearing in Raleigh next

Monday. They will express the board's concern about the state road system in Chapel Hill and ask for improvements on N.C. 86 North and N.C. 54 East.

Concern was expressed about the highway department's plans for routing traffic to the N.C. state zoo in Asheboro. Alderman R.D. Smith pointed out that much of the traffic would be routed through Chapel Hill, which already has its own traffic problems.

"We should be concerned about plans the state has for improving roads going to the zoological park," he said.

The Transportation Advisory Committee will hold a public meeting on the town's transportation system on April 24, committee chairperson Marvin Silver told the board Monday. "Now we feel we need to get input from citizens about changes in service and bus routes they would like to see," he said.



Staff photo by Martha Stevens

Dugan (left), Dearmon