

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and University community since 1893

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Wednesday, September 10, 1975

Vol. 84, No. 8

Weather: clear, cooler

Treasurer releases 'DTH' appropriation for fall semester

by Art Eisenstadt
Staff Writer

Student Body Treasurer Mike O'Neal agreed late Monday night to release the remainder of the *Daily Tar Heel's* fall semester Student Government appropriation.

O'Neal personally delivered a Student Government check for \$7,379.47 to the *Tar Heel* offices at 10 p.m. Monday, ending for the immediate future a cash flow crisis which caused the paper to cancel two issues and reduce the size of several others.

Following a two-week deadlock between Student Government and the *DTH*, the action topped off a climactic day in which the N.C. State *Technician* was distributed on campus in place of the cancelled *Tar Heel*, a recall movement was started against Student Body President Bill Bates, and several students visited Bates' offices demanding O'Neal's resignation.

"Nothing that happened (Monday) affected this decision (to release the funds)," O'Neal said Tuesday. "This is what we've been working for the entire

length of time."

In a letter sent to *DTH* Editor Cole C. Campbell Monday night, O'Neal explained that he decided to release the funds because an investigation conducted by Media Board Chairperson Dick Pope indicated that steps were being taken to remedy problems with the newspaper's business procedures.

"It is my opinion that Mr. Pope has taken action to move the *Daily Tar Heel* into a sounder business position in the days and weeks ahead until a more professional panel can make further business recommendations."

Actually, the *Tar Heel* had made profits on its first issues of the year but was in financial trouble because it did not have enough cash on hand to pay its printing bills.

Student Government treasury laws require organizations within its budget to cash funds-on-hand before entering into business transactions.

DTH Business Manager Reynolds Bailey had originally requested \$13,000 of the newspaper's \$29,500 Student Government appropriation in order to

pay the paper's expenses before advertising revenue started coming in.

Campbell said Tuesday, "Hopefully, Student Government officials will lay off the *Tar Heel* and promote those programs of theirs designed to aid the students."

Bates said Tuesday, "Our concept was that Student Government's role was absolved if the Media Board does its job. I'd much rather have the *Tar Heel* answer for itself than my having to do it."

O'Neal's release of Student Government funds gives the *Tar Heel* a total of \$13,900 for this semester. He said he would release the remaining \$9,600 in the *Tar Heel's* account on Jan. 1.

Bailey said, "I'm grateful for what they've given us. We'll make it now. The funds he gave us enhances our chances of making it."

But Bailey said the paper may encounter cash flow problems in December because its income from advertising was diminished during the recent crisis. Traditionally, the December issues of the paper are slightly larger than those during the remainder of the semester.

O'Neal originally charged that the paper's accounts receivable, or uncollected bills, level was unacceptably high, and that the paper was in danger of operating under a deficit.

Richard Levin, owner of Poor Richard's Camping and Surplus Store, said he is still considering filing a court injunction ordering O'Neal to immediately release the entire Student Government appropriation at once.

"I still don't have any assurance that the *Tar Heel* will publish every day," Levin said. He charged Student Government with diminishing his ability to reach the student community with advertising by making the *Tar Heel's* publication more difficult.

Another conflict that remains to be resolved is a recommendation by O'Neal and Pope that the *Tar Heel* charge the *Technician* \$160 for the use of the *DTH* distribution system Monday.

"I'm sure the *Tar Heel*, in its financial condition, would not let the fact that the *Technician* editorially agreed with them deter them from charging (for use of the boxes), like they wanted to do with Summer Life (a Student Government newspaper)," O'Neal said.

However, both Bailey and Campbell said they did not plan to bill the *Technician*. Bailey said the newspaper's policy is to warn other publications after they first use the boxes that they may be charged for subsequent use.

Campbell said, "It is my duty as editor to ensure that the students of this University get a newspaper every day. If we can't provide them with the *DTH*, we'll do our darndest to provide them with some paper."



Staff photo by Howard Shepherd

Basement moisture has caused several floors in Bingham Hall to warp, making them unsafe for students

Bingham rooms unsafe

Warped floors close three classrooms

by William C. Roberts
Staff Writer

Three first floor Bingham Hall rooms were declared unsafe Tuesday by Donald Willhoit, director of Campus Health and Safety.

Alternative classrooms are being sought for history, English, philosophy and speech courses that were meeting in Rooms 102, 103 and 108.

For the past two years, Bingham Hall has suffered from continually warping floors due to basement moisture, especially on the first level, James W. Pence Jr., director of the Speech Division, said.

Regular maintenance checks of the building have been carried out, the most recent occurring at the end of August, Pence said. Minor, temporary repairs have often been made and most have been effective, he said.

Warping accelerated last week and Pence asked Maintenance Superintendent Ed Sanders on Sept. 5 to investigate the problem.

Sanders first said the warping could be repaired without interrupting classes. However, Tuesday morning he reassessed the situation with Willhoit, who is responsible for assuring that University buildings adhere to federal safety codes.

After inspecting Bingham, Willhoit declared it unsafe and asked the departments using the three rooms to relocate their courses.

Sanders said he has reported the damage to the Physical Plant Division, which will outline specifications for temporary repairs. Sanders said he hopes a contractor will be hired within 10 days. A cost estimate will be completed today.

According to Sanders, the warping resulted from a steam build-up in the Bingham Hall basement, caused by a leak from Murphey Hall next door.

Murphey Hall is currently being remodeled, and workers there had capped a leaking steam pipe they discovered last week.

After the leak was capped, the steam

escaped into the basement of Bingham through a tunnel connecting it with Murphey, instead of through a manhole, as the workers expected.

The original top layer, a tongue-and-groove oak floor, now covered with tiles, buckled with the steam build up and subsequent condensation.

When it was discovered that the steam was accelerating the warping in Bingham, the cap was removed from the pipe in Murphey, allowing the steam to accumulate under Murphey Hall where it was causing no apparent damage.

Sanders said the steam leak was caused by a malfunction of the steamtrap in a manhole. Sanders said the leak has subsequently been repaired.

Bingham Hall, completed in 1929, is scheduled for renovation sometime during the next two years. At that time, it will be remodeled to accommodate handicapped students. Plans include the construction of inclined ramps into the building, larger restrooms and an elevator.

Please see page 2 for a list of relocated classrooms.

Recall move slows after funds release

by Bruce Henderson
Staff Writer

The petition to recall Student Body President Bill Bates, drafted Monday, ceased circulation Tuesday after receiving over 1,000 signatures. But its originator said the petition is still available to anyone who wants to continue it.

David Flagler, the petition's originator, said Tuesday "the issue is resolved" as far as he was concerned.

Flagler, a senior chemistry/religion major from Winston-Salem, said the petition's purpose was to free the *Daily Tar Heel's* remaining Student Government appropriation which had been withheld by Student Body Treasurer Mike O'Neal to be distributed on a monthly allocation system.

O'Neal released \$7,379.47, the remainder of the *Tar Heel's* semester appropriation late Monday night. Flagler said he thinks the petition, which collected 1,000 names by Tuesday, was instrumental in O'Neal's release of the funds.

"There is no doubt in my mind, and no doubt in (Student Body President) Bill Bates' mind, that if O'Neal hadn't released the funds, the signatures could have been gathered easily today," Flagler said.

The Student Constitution requires 3,000 signatures for a presidential recall election to be held.

Bates said Tuesday the petition did influence the decision to release the funds, but that he would have reacted in the same way if a group of students had come to talk to him, without petitioning.

Flagler talked with Bates Tuesday morning. Bates admitted then, Flagler said, that his administration was wrong to have withheld the funds. Flagler contended the administration overextended its powers in withholding the funds.

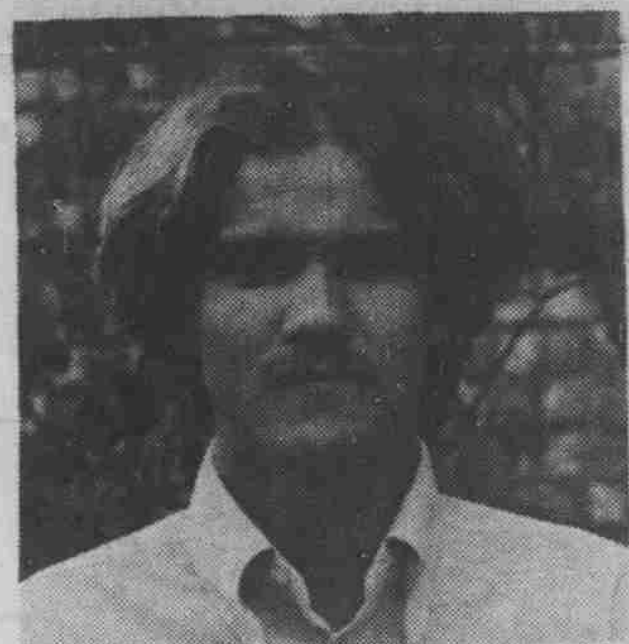
"I feel the students (the 1,000) showed they are not going to sit by and let the Bates administration strangle the *Tar Heel*. It was an issue of freedom of the press."

Bates said the funds were released because, first, the Media Board will more closely supervise the *Tar Heel* through the Standard Operating Procedures and second, because the students were concerned.

Standard Operating Procedures, once simply guidelines for the *Daily Tar Heel's* operations, became enforceable legislation last week.

He said he had concluded to release the funds by the time O'Neal released them. He said he did not ask O'Neal to release the funds, but that they had discussed it and reached the conclusion.

Bates said the crisis helped him judgmentally. "I learned quite a bit," he



Staff photo by Allen Boyce

David Flagler, who initiated the recall petition

said. Flagler said students who want copies of the petition to continue its circulation and persons who want to strike their names from the petition may see him from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today in the Pit. Flagler said he has "1,000 signatures and I don't feel it is my right to destroy those signatures."

He said he does not personally like the Bates administration, but those reasons are not enough to keep him personally involved in a recall effort.

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