

Buses and Carrboro

As the Chapel Hill municipal election draws closer, remarks about the Chapel Hill bus system have increased. Political candidates and coalitions have been making loud sounds for and against the Chapel Hill transit system. Columnists and letter writers have commented a great deal on the same subject.

But when November comes, the culmination of struggles over a bus system will not occur in Chapel Hill. The bus system is too firmly established to fear a challenge to its existence or even to its subsidy. Some revision of services to increase or to reduce routes and buses may follow the election, but the core of the system will remain much as it is now.

In Carrboro, however, discussions about a new bus system will be center stage. Both Student Government's Chapel Hill-Carrboro Affairs Committee and the newly formed Carrboro Coalition have pledged to make transit a central issue this fall.

Politics and buses in Carrboro

There will *not* be a Carrboro bus referendum. Last spring the Carrboro Board of Aldermen passed a measure permitting a referendum, and many citizens and Student Government officials thought that a referendum would be placed on the ballot.

But the measure only permitted a referendum, it did not establish one. For a referendum to have been included on this November's ballot, someone would have had to circulate a petition in Carrboro requesting a vote on the issue of a Carrboro bus system. No one circulated such a petition because most interested parties mistakenly assumed a referendum would be included in the general elections pursuant to the action taken by the aldermen in the spring.

In order for a bus system to be established in Carrboro, proponents of the system must identify and elect aldermen and a mayor dedicated to such a transit system. As the Carrboro campaigns unfold, it will be easy for student and University workers to identify those candidates who will work to implement a Carrboro transit system.

Through information campaigns and other action, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Affairs Committee will further help identify candidates for and against a Carrboro system. The Carrboro Coalition intends to endorse candidates who are sympathetic to initiation of a bus system.

Need for Carrboro buses

Studies conducted last spring by a UNC graduate study group reveal that at least 40 per cent of Carrboro residents are Carolina students and that 60 per cent of Carrboro citizens are connected with the University. These people must commute to campus daily, either by foot, bicycle or automobile and motorcycle. The great personal inconvenience of walking or of riding a bicycle (especially in inclement weather) and the great social inconvenience of traffic (pollution, noise, congested streets, crowded parking lots) argue for the adoption of a transit system.

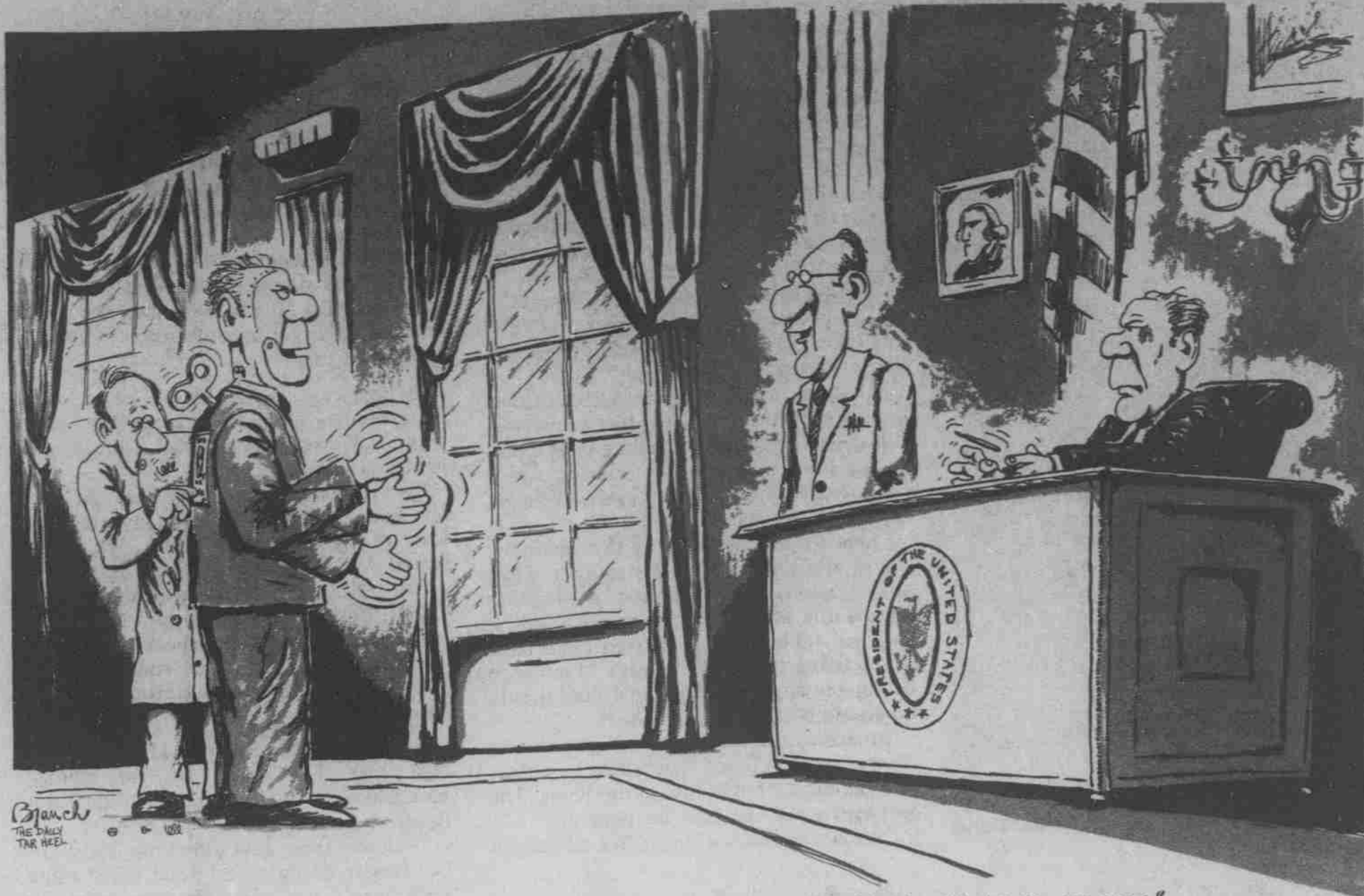
Those connected with the University system would obviously benefit as traffic congestion on campus decreases and the mobility of members of the University increases. Carrboro property owners would benefit because of the increased accessibility and convenience of houses and apartments in Carrboro. And non-University workers and residents would benefit by all of the advantages of mass transit: less downtown congestion, less pollution, less noise and increased mobility for those without reliable transportation.

What kind of a system?

Various proposals for a Carrboro bus system have been suggested. A Carrboro-only system, a Carrboro-Chapel Hill combined system and among these proposals. Whatever the specific organization, the system ought to facilitate easy maneuvering through both Carrboro and Chapel Hill because of the symbiotic relationship of the two towns.

Any system will cost a great deal, but with up to 80 per cent financing from federal mass transit funds possible, the immediate cost need not be overwhelming for local taxpayers. Chapel Hill property tax assessments increased from 88 cents per \$100 of property to 96 cents per \$100, according to the head of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Affairs Committee. Student tenants would help pay that tax through their rents, but the increased mobility should outweigh all the costs, especially as costs for parking permits and auto maintenance and operation are reduced.

After the election, the Carrboro bus system should move from the realm of feasibility studies into the realm of active projects designed to bring mass transit to town.



"You'll never have to risk your life in public again, Mr. President"

Doug Clark

Scandal at the puppy party

After years of White House policies of dirty tricks, closed doors, name-calling, and just downright ill-will, what a relief and pleasure it is to the American people that we can now enjoy the friendly, open, easy-going administration that Mr. Ford has established up in Washington. Instead of all that nasty political back-stabbing and corruption that plagued our government, we now have a group of down-home folks who really know how to get together for a good time. Such a gathering took place this week on the East Lawn of the White House, and all of our capital friends were there. The occasion was Liberty's puppy party, and of course our DTH Washington correspondent was on the scene taking it all in, asking probing questions, and overhearing other newsworthy items. His report: DTH: I'm here on the East Lawn surrounded by hundreds of White House guests. With me now are the proud parents, the President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford. Jerry: That's *step*-parents. DTH: Of course. Mr. President, what is that underneath your coat? Jerry: It's a bullet-proof vest, you dummy. Do you think I trust a crowd like this? Betty: He sleeps in it. DTH: I see. Mr. President, after that disappointment in the recent senatorial election in New Hampshire, do you feel that the Republican party is in trouble? Jerry: Not as long as we have men like Scoop Jackson. DTH: But he's a Democrat. Jerry: Exactly. DTH: Mr. President, when do you plan to hit the campaign trail, if you haven't already? Jerry: Well, definitely not before the pups are weaned. Susan: Smile everybody (Flash!) Jerry: Will you put that damn camera away? DTH: Miss Ford, what was your reaction to your mother's comments about you this summer? Susan: Wanna toke? DTH: Uh, no thank you.

Susan: Wanna go to bed? DTH: Uh, no thank you. Jerry: Poor kid. Ever since Betty shot off her mouth no one will touch her. DTH: Mr. President, have you given any thought to choosing a running mate for next year? Senator Helms: Why not a Southerner? Senator Brooks: Why not a black? Congressman Mills: Where's the booze? Liberty: Why not a dog? Donald: Why not a duck? Bianca: Where's Jack? Rocky: Why not a millionaire? Jerry: Why not? DTH: Mr. Vice-President, what could possess you to buy such an expensive bed for your home? Rocky: Well you see, I didn't pay for it. Kissinger uses my place on weekends and . . . DTH: I see. Ah, here is Dr. Kissinger now. Sir, what do you have to say about Jordan not buying our missiles? Henry: Bah, let zem not buy ze missiles. Ze can sell zem to anybody. Mills: Where's the booze? Patty Hears: You'll never take me alive. Susan: Wanna toke in bed? Helms: Help! DTH: Mr. President, you are certainly to be congratulated for the new grain deal with the Soviet Union. What concessions were made on the part of the U.S.? Jerry: We gave them George Meany and Alaska. Senator McGovern: I thought of the Meany part. DTH: Alaska? Jerry: Well, it was theirs you know. Susan: Wanna toke in bed? Jack: I'm you brother! DTH: Getting back to the more important matters, Mr. President, what have you named the new puppies? Jerry: Tricky, Dicky, Nicky, Ricky, Hicky, Licky, Micky, Sicky and Pat. Mills: Where's Susan (hic)?

DTH: Mr. President, what is your reaction to the hushing up of vital intelligence during the Vietnam altercation? Jerry: I know nothing about intelligence, nothing. Congresswoman Abzug: Listen you little sonuvabitch, if you're trying to pick a fight with me I'm ready. Mills: You wouldn't hit a man smaller than you, would you? Besides, I thought you were Susan. DTH: Mrs. Ford, what do you think the primary function of the First Lady should be? Betty: To stay first lady. Fortunately, Germans can't be elected President. Henry: For example, I am quite certain zat ze IRA would be in ze market for some short and medium range . . . Susan: Mr. Mills! DTH: For defensive purposes only? Henry: What else? DTH: Yes, well thank you Mr. and Mrs. President and Mr. Secretary. This has been a special DTH report from the gala East Lawn of the White House. Mills: You won't tell your mother, will you?

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The *Daily Tar Heel* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, on a 60-space line and are subject to condensation or editing for libelous content or bad taste.

Letters should not run over 50 lines (300 words) and should be mailed to the *Daily Tar Heel*, Carolina Union, Chapel Hill or dropped off in the letters box in the office.

Stephen Harris

Deep Gizzard tells all

I waited around behind the back staircase of the NCNB parking deck wondering why he was late. Around the office we affectionately call him "Deep Gizzard." He's the informant from the Administration. No, Deep Gizzard wouldn't tell all, but he continually pointed us to information he said we would get anyway. He was vital. Without him we could never have cracked the "WaterBates Affair."

The Administration continually puzzled us. Yes, the President and all his men (persons?) were an unusual breed. Beginning with the campaign, we all smelled a rat.

The President was so honest and too simple. "Make student government work," was his campaign motto. But we reporters knew he couldn't really have meant it.

The President said student government was spending too much money and that he would straighten out the money-eating government bureaucracy. George McGovern would have had a fit. Immediately, we were suspicious. Maybe it was a new campaigning angle. Or perhaps a new Poli Sci 169 campaigning theory. He might have been a puppet of big labor or an underling of the consumer movement.

Well, after the election, the news room crew went our separate ways, covering libraries and locker rooms. But we kept our eyes open for any hint of deception from the government. The outside of student government looked calm, but what of the inside? What devious workings go on behind the minds of the men entrusted with great power?

Sure, he fulfilled his campaign promises and cut the budget. Sure, he went to dorms on student government's behalf during freshman orientation. Sure, he began holding gripe sessions in dorms. Sure, he tried to freeze BSM funds, perhaps illegally. Sure, he went to the Faculty Council about the grading proposals. Sure, he has a Peppermint smile. But, we were still distrustful. We never could put our finger on it, but we believed he must be a crook. Aren't all politicians?

Then it happened. On a day, a quite ordinary day, the reason for my snooping around like a spy occurred. The President's person, Mike O'Neal, began the infamous WaterBates affair.

I saw Deep Gizzard. "He's gone," Gizzard said before I could even say "Hello."

"He's gone?" I gasped. "Yes, he's gone. Bates sacrificed him tonight. Soon, Bates will hand over O'Neal to the eastern liberal establishment press and . . ."

"Please, Giz!" (Poor Giz still had some of that political rhetoric in him.)

"Nothing personal, Bob."

"That's OK. And . . . who, the Democrats?"

"No, worst. The B S Mocrats."

"What? What's B S?"

"Never mind. Anyway, then Bates expects it will all be over. But Woodward, it won't."

"It won't?"

"No, it won't. I overheard the other day someone tell the President, 'There's a cancer growing!'"

I reflected. First, the funds cutbacks. Then the outcries. The student government budget. Graduate History Society. BSM. The Wednesday Night Massacre. Billy (Elliot who?) Richardson.

I asked, "What will happen next?" Gizzard shook his head.

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The Daily Tar Heel

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letters

A pretty noise is like a melody

To the editor: Monday night, September 22, a public hearing was held by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Chapel Hill to consider rezoning the land on the north side of Rosemary Street between Spring Lane and the eastern boundary of the Alpha Delta Pi house lot that is presently designated R-10A, to strictly residential zoning R-10 and/or R-6.

If passed, the proposal as it now stands, would prevent the fraternities and sororities concerned from any expansion whatsoever and prevent repair of any damage to the standing structure of more than 60 per cent. In other words, if arson occurred, or any natural catastrophe should cause more than 60 per cent damage to the standing structure, the structure would either be allowed to remain standing in that damaged condition, or it would be removed.

The comments in favor of the rezoning centered mainly around the preservation of the area for historical purposes and curtailment of undesirable noise. It was implied by the people in favor of rezoning that the only undesirable noise produced in said areas is caused by fraternities and sororities. This implication has no basis in fact. While it is true that the amplified music played at some fraternity parties is objectionable, I have been awakened many times by stereo music playing loudly at late hours in the homes of residential neighbors. Another residential neighbor yells for his dog at all hours of the night in resounding tones, and if the dog fails to respond, he continues to bellow as though he were talking to a recalcitrant child. I consider the above to be examples of objectionable noise that make it impossible for me to enjoy my residence to the fullest extent. The above statement however, is not intended as an attack against our good neighbors, merely an attack against the double standards

apparent in the comments made. One member of the Board of Aldermen made the statement that music played by small bands was not music at all, but noise. Obviously absurd, since any piece of music may be considered delightfully melodious by one person, but hideously cacophonous by another.

The purpose of this statement is not to affix blame, but merely to place the situation in a slightly more realistic light than was presented at the public hearing.

I should also like to emphasize that, while the final decision on the rezoning proposal is, the responsibility of the Aldermen, the students and townspeople do have a say as to who the members of the Board of Aldermen are. Any student who has lived in Chapel Hill more than one day may register to vote in the upcoming election, before Sept. 30.

I hope that this statement will be read and considered, not only by townspeople, but by students and other fraternity and sorority members. Even though the Rosemary Street areas are the only areas under consideration at present, the possibility is ever present that other sections of town may be brought under consideration at some future date.

Deborah L. Taylor
227 E. Rosemary Street

Exported Violence

To the editor: Amid the general relief that our noble President has survived yet another attempt upon his life, let us not forget the origins of violence. Let us not forget the scores of American attempts to shoot, poison or mutilate another president — Fidel Castro, and let us not forget the bullet riddled body of Salvatore Allende. When the cities burn, and bombs explode, when we are unable to walk the streets for

fear, pause for a moment and remember the Vietnamese. Remember Bach-Mai and My Lai, and remember Santo Domingo and Cambodia.

I, too am American. And I fear the bombs and gunshot. Yet only so long can we export our violence. God gave Moses the rainbow sign — no more water, the fire next time.

Eric Kraus
Graduate pharmacology student

Special interests and student fees

To the editor: It is my deep-seated belief that the University should develop a consistent policy as regards funding special interests. Let me explain.

As a music major, I must pay in excess of \$150.00 per semester in music fees. The University does not see fit to finance academic pursuits in my major field of study. This is roughly equivalent to a chemistry major buying his own lab or a computer science major his own computer.

Well, I can't even meet my own expenses, but let's take a look at a few other things I'm forced to pay for.

By buying books at student stores and through mandatory athletic fees I'm forced to underwrite a football program I'm philosophically opposed to. I'm not black or gay, yet I'm forced to support their special interest groups through mandatory fees. And each of these is a non-academic interest. Where are the University's priorities?

There can only be two fair resolutions of this situation: 1) The abolishment of all extra-academic fees, not only in music, but in any other (if any) department where a similar situation exists, or 2) The abolishment of all subsidy for the football team, blacks, gays, and all special interests, while introducing a

corresponding reduction in student fees. Either the University supports special interests or it doesn't. Anyone interested in mobilizing to end these gross inequities can contact our organization through my given address.

Clay Sims
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Chapel Hill

U.S. imperialism in Panama

To the editor: In light of recent history, I am forever amazed at how anyone can support such U.S. interventionism as discussed in the September 19 column on the Panama Canal. The U.S. "purchase" of land from the infant republic is analogous to the Cambodian "incursion." How much U.S. "aid" can these "cockroach" countries stand?

American policymakers in 1903, especially TR, were concerned only with building a waterway. They didn't give a damn about the long (or short) term economic impact on the new nation.

As is pointed out and quickly glossed over, the major amount involved in the "purchase" went to a French company and not Panama. Was the newly independent nation to refuse the big brother of the North?

The facts are there for those who care to look. They clearly show U.S. imperialism. I suggest that the author research more thoroughly the factors attendant to this "purchase." He might stumble across some interesting facts which will also help explain how the U.S. "won" and eventually "lost" Cuba. Additionally, it might help explain why there are currently rumblings in Puerto Rico.

Michael Clark
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