

Warm, cloudy

Today will be partly cloudy with temperatures in the low 80s. There will be variable cloudiness tonight and tomorrow.

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ACC victory

Carolina sports are better than ever! Both the men's golf and tennis teams clinched ACC championships this weekend. See pages 6 and 7 for details.

Please call us: 933-0245



Apple Chill

The elderly, the young and all those in-between jammed Franklin Street yesterday for the Apple Chill Fair. The fair, which is sponsored annually by the Chapel Hill Recreation

Department, featured good buys, good eats and good times. This year's fair was the biggest and, according to many observers, the best in the festival's history.

Apple Chill Fair: a day of sun, fun for everyone

By DON WARD
DTH Contributor

A crowd of 25,000 spring-fever victims converged on Franklin Street Sunday to participate in Apple Chill, the town's annual festival and street frolic.

Some came with things to sell, but most were there to bask in the warmth of spring sunshine and to rub elbows with neighbors in the carnival atmosphere.

Booths, displays and activity areas checked the sidewalks and street with curious things to watch, do, eat and wear. Most things for sale were homemade, homegrown or made before your very eyes.

Where else but at Apple Chill could you find

grandma's homemade fudge, a haircut for charity and a nonstop volleyball game offered as part of a town's celebration of spring?

A little dry humor from the man at the Friends of the Library sale enticed the book hungry a little closer: "Fine works of literature for only a dime. Best buy on the midway." That didn't exactly describe *Reader's Digest Condensed Books* and *Popular Mechanics* of yesteryear.

Strains of "Cripple Creek" drifted down the center of Henderson Street from Jim Magill's guitar as dozens of appreciative listeners waited for their turn to step into the "barber shop," a raised platform in front of the Record Bar. For a \$10 donation to the N.C. Association

for Retarded Children, customers got a shampoo and a trim.

One of the most popular activities was the dunking booth. For 50 cents you could have three attempts to dunk the live dummy perched over the pool of water. Judging from the cheers of the crowd, the guy got what he deserved.

One of the youngest vendors was a little girl who carried a box of candied apples through the crowd with evidence on her cheeks that she liked her own wares.

Not even the clowns got the respect given to a couple of free puppies being offered to a good home. Several pocket-sized dogs were carried away by new owners who looked happy with their transaction.

Faculty decision on drop period canned till fall

By AMY McRARY
Staff Writer

A proposal to extend the drop period from four to six weeks was sent to the Educational Policy Committee by the Faculty Council Friday at its last regular meeting this semester.

Prof. Richard G. Hiskey, outgoing chairperson of the Educational Policy Committee, said the committee probably would not present a report on the proposal until September.

The Faculty Council does not meet again August 31. The earliest change, if any, in the drop period would come in the 1978 spring semester, Hiskey said.

The Educational Policy Committee was established last year as an advisory unit to the Faculty Council. The committee will study the extension proposal and then report its findings to the council, which will then take any action necessary concerning the proposal.

Student Body President Bill Moss said Student Government had anticipated the council's action. "I think we're following in the right direction by working this way (through the committee)," Moss said. Student Government initiated efforts to have the policy reconsidered.

The council, which cut the drop period from 12 weeks to four weeks in April 1976, wanted at least a year-long trial period, Moss said. "It would have been detrimental for us to try to force the issue," he said.

Only three members of the council voted against consideration of the extension proposal, which was presented by Prof. C. Carroll Hollis of the English Department.

Extending the drop period to six weeks would gratify a large number of students and professors, Hollis said. He said after the meeting that he thought the committee would give the idea fair and serious consideration before reporting to the council.

"It seems four weeks have been tried and it is now time to consider a change to six weeks," Hollis said.

Diane R. Leonard, assistant professor of Comparative Literature, said she thought it would be better to consider the drop-period extension next spring when the plus-and-minus grade system is reviewed.

Two other professors spoke in favor of considering the drop-period extension. Joseph M. Flora, associate professor of English, said he believed extending the drop period to six weeks would please students, ease administrative paperwork and place no additional burden on the faculty.

Carter not sure on gas tax hike for energy plan

From wire reports

WASHINGTON—President Carter has been urged by key advisers to drop a proposal to levy higher gasoline taxes, sources said Sunday.

The proposed gasoline tax would be part of the comprehensive energy plan Carter will present to Congress Wednesday night in a joint session. Carter will outline the nation's energy problems in a nationally televised speech tonight.

"This is going down to the wire," one aide said of the decision on whether to raise the federal gasoline tax.

"It looks like it could go either way," he said of the proposal, which could add as much as 50 cents to the price of a gallon of gas in 10 years.

Some Carter aides argued that the tax proposal would create a major hurdle in trying to win Congressional support for the energy package, and they said the tax hike would not be significant enough to reduce automobile use.

The proposal being considered would boost the present four-cents-a-gallon federal gasoline tax by a nickel in 1979 with continued increases over the next 10 years to a possible 50 cent maximum unless gasoline consumption decreases.

Please turn to page 2.



Carter

Humanities Center launched; groundbreaking held Saturday

By BERNIE RANSBOTTOM
Staff Writer

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the National Humanities Center of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences which will be located in the Research Triangle Park were held Saturday.

The Center for Advanced Studies is located on 120 acres of land in the park and is jointly sponsored by UNC, Duke University and N.C. State University. The National Humanities Center is the first institution to be built on the plot and will be housed in a \$2.5 million brick, wood and glass structure.

Plans for the center were made by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Fifteen universities offered to be the host of the center, executive director William J. Bennett said, but North Carolina seemed to offer the most financial, moral and logistical support for the project.

The center will bring together humanists of all disciplines, to work on topics such as man and the environment, and the idea of the individual. As many as 50 resident fellows will be invited to work on their own

projects, and other individuals will work in teams on projects developed by the center.

Scientists will be brought in on appropriate projects, and it is possible that postdoctoral scientists from the California Institute of Technology will spend half an academic year at the center.

Charles Frankel, professor of philosophy and public affairs at Columbia University, was chosen as the first president of the center, which will be administered by a 30-member board. Board members include William Friday and Vermont Royster of UNC, Terry Sanford of Duke, Claude McKinney of N.C. State, John Chancellor of NBC and William Schuman of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. C. Hugh Holman of UNC is vice president of the center.

The center is scheduled to open in September 1978. "The Center's fellowships will be open to humanistically inclined scholars in the natural and social sciences and the professions as well as to scholars in the fields conventionally identified with 'the humanities,'" according to a pamphlet published by the center. Fellows will have

access to the libraries of the three sponsoring universities.

Fellowships for 1978-80 will be available to senior scholars pursuing individual research; scholars who have held their Ph.D.'s for six to nine years and are starting on their first large-scale projects; and scholars whose work falls in the areas of man and nature, history and the history of ideas, the theory of interpretation, ideals of education and human rights, liberty and equality, and moral theory and democracy.

The center already is receiving letters of interest from scholars around the country. Frankel said at the groundbreaking ceremonies.

"We mean to be at home here," Frankel said. "We mean for you to think of us as useful and neighbors. We mean to make this part of North Carolina a very conspicuous part of the nation."

"If the humanities ever were a luxury, they are no longer," Daniel Boorstin, librarian of Congress, said in the keynote address. "Now we need them desperately—not only as an antidote, but as essential nutriment for a free, growing, fully human consciousness."

Nobel winner slated to speak at symposium

Nobel prize winner Sir Bernard Katz and two internationally recognized geneticists will speak today from 1 to 5:30 p.m. at a public symposium in Memorial Hall. The symposium marks the 10th anniversary of the neurobiology curriculum at UNC.

The scientists will focus their discussion on future directions in the biology of the nervous system.

Joining Katz will be Sydney Brenner, head of the genetics section in the medical research council unit at the University Postgraduate Medical School, Cambridge, England; and Seymour Benzer, professor of neuroscience at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Cal.

Katz is a professor of biophysics at University College, London. He won the Nobel Prize in 1970 in physiology and medicine for his studies of the way nerves transmit messages. He found that nerves pass messages in a series of jump-like steps rather than in a continuous flow. The concept is called the quantal theory.

Katz will talk on the past and future of the quantal theory. "He explains complicated things in a very simple way," said Edward Perl, director of the neurobiology program and chairperson of the department of physiology.

Brenner and Benzer have conducted extensive research in manipulating genetic material in the nervous systems of simple animals. They are working toward applying the results of their studies to the human nervous system.

"It (the symposium) is to call attention to a small, but alive-and-kicking part of the University," he said.

—KAREN MILLERS

Voice of Bugs, Porky, and others tells of his beginning

By DAN FESPERMAN
DTH Contributor

In 1961 the Looney Tunes era apparently was over for Warner Brothers, and Fred Flintstone seemed sure to lose his next-door neighbor and pet dinosaur. Mel Blanc was dying, and with him the voices of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Tweety, Sylvester, Foghorn Leghorn, Yosemite Sam, the Road Runner, Speedy Gonzales, Pepe Le Pew, the Tasmanian Devil, Barney Rubble and Dino.

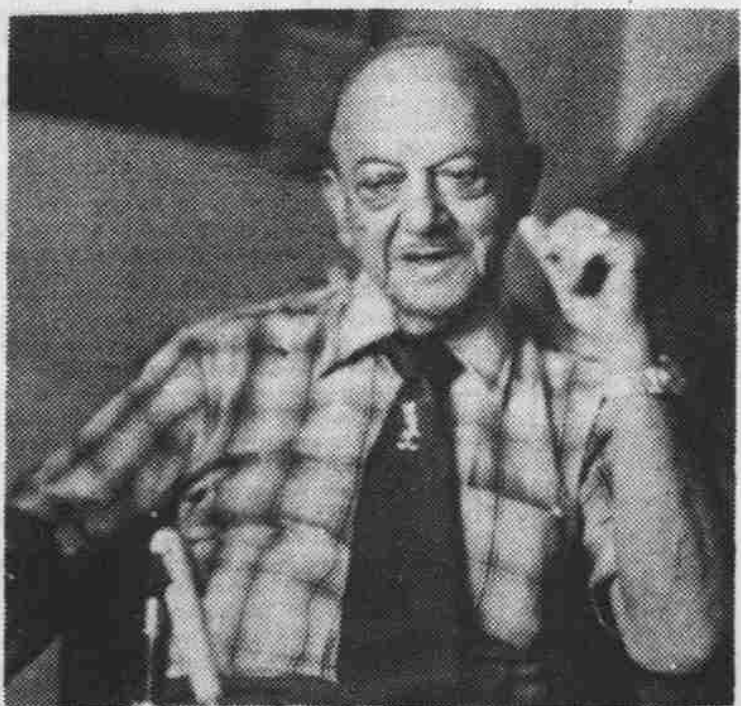
Mel had been in a car accident, and things looked grim. A Honolulu newspaper even ran his obituary. The hospital patched him with seven pints of blood and a full-body cast, but for 20 days there was no answer when a doctor would ask, "How are you today, Mel?"

In desperation, the doctor changed his tactics. "How are you today, Bugs Bunny?" he asked.

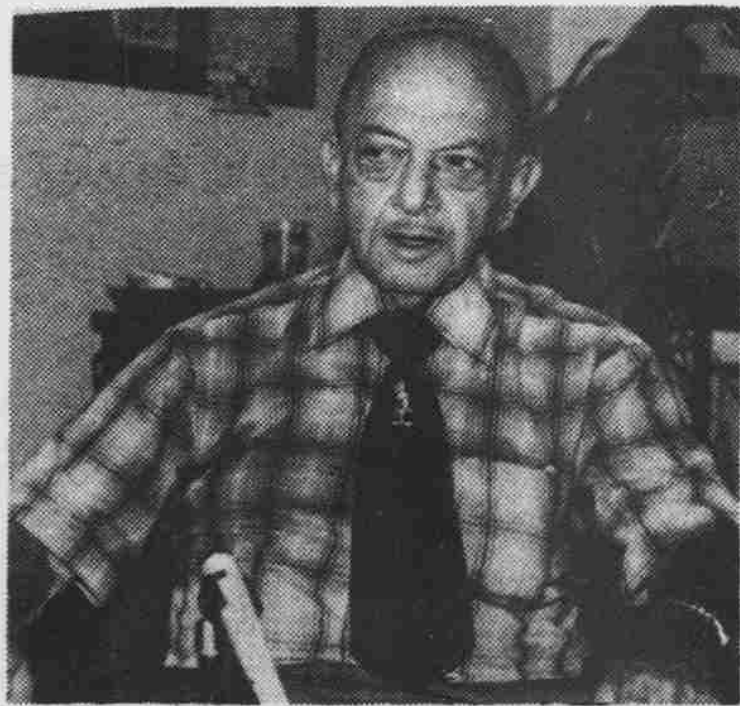
From an opening in the plaster hulk came the voice of a rabbit with a Bronx-Brooklynese accent. "Ehhh, pretty good Doc."

"I don't remember thinking that," Blanc says these days, "but the characters were alive, and I was dead."

In a way, it's still true. Blanc hasn't done the voices for a Warner Brothers cartoon in 16 years, yet Bugs and Daffy and gang show up on television almost every weekday afternoon and Saturday morning, and Barney still lives next door to Fred, Wilma, Pebbles and Dino.



Mel Blanc talked to a receptive audience in Page Auditorium at Duke Friday about cartoon



characters, the voices to fit them and the trouble he had getting into the business.



Staff photos by Joseph Thomas

Along with these reruns are reruns of *The Jetsons* (Mel does the voice of Mr. Spacely), a Papermate pen commercial and an ad for American Express credit cards.

What all this amounts to is 100 million persons a day that hear some form of Mel Blanc's voice.

But none of his more than 3,000 cartoons would have been possible without a lucky break in 1937.

"I tried to get into the cartoons for a year and a half," Blanc says, "and this guy kept saying to me, 'I'm sorry, we have all the voices we need.'"

"I'd go back every two weeks and he'd say 'Sorry, we

have all we need,' every time. That went on for a year and a half. Finally, this guy died."

So Mel auditioned and landed his first job. His director told him to do the voice of a drunken bull. How would a drunken bull sound?

"Well, I had to think for a minute, and then I figured

he would sound like he wuz a lil', a lil', I-loaded, and he wuz (hiccup) I-lookin' for th' sour mash.

"I started in radio in 1927. I was just getting out of high school, and I used to entertain the kids in assemblies. The kids would laugh, the teachers would laugh, they'd give me lousy marks.

"But I always loved vaudeville, and I'd always go when Jack Benny came on the vaudeville circuit. I'd go maybe twice a week to see him. I'd never think that I'd eventually work with him."

Work with Benny was full of surprises. The writers were always testing his limits, resulting in scripts that called for horse whinnies in British accents and goldfish voices.

Then came Warner Brothers. The firstborn of the Looney Tunes family was Porky Pig, who stuttered to life in 1937.

Before Blanc created a voice, he said, "They (Warner Brothers) would show me a picture of each character, and they'd tell me what the story was going to be."

"Porky Pig was a timid little character, they said, so I wanted to learn how a timid pig would talk. I knew that he would talk with a grunt like 'oink, oink, oink, oink, woink, woink, woink, woink, weeb, bu-weeb, bu-weeb, bu, bu, that's, bu, that's where I got the voice for Porky Pig. Hee-hee-hee-hee."

Bugs followed in 1931, but not without a few kinks.

Please turn to page 4.