

Prof: merit selection of judges works best

By JIM HUMMEL
Staff Writer

Based on the success of similar programs in other states, Gov. Jim Hunt's merit-selection system for choosing judges should produce better judges, said Professor Charles Hinsdale, assistant director of the UNC Institute of Government.

"Thirty states have full or partial merit systems. In my opinion, they've had a history of producing good judges," Hinsdale said.

Hunt's proposal calls for a judicial nominating committee to review three candidates to fill a vacant position.

"The strong point in this program is that every nominee would be well qualified for the job," said Gary Pearce, the governor's press secretary. "The main thing will be how aggressively the committee recruits."

The governor then would select one of the three candidates to serve until the next election, a period of 13 to 35 months. This period would give the acting judge a chance to demonstrate his abilities, Pearce said. At election time, the judge would be a candidate. He would need to

gain 60 percent of the vote to maintain his seat.

The 60 percent figure is an issue to be resolved among opponents and proponents of the plan, Pearce said. Some states require an 80-85 percent victory margin for an appointed judge to remain on the bench.

"I feel 60 percent is a good number," Associate Justice Dan K. Moore of the N.C. Supreme Court said. "We need a better system of selecting our judges than what we have now."

Moore, 72, has spent much of his public career since 1931 as a trial and appellate judge. He is barred by law from seeking re-election and will retire when his term expires in December.

Jack Cozort, Hunt's legal adviser, said questions concerning retention of appointed judges are a definite problem area. "You just can't have judges campaigning the way other political figures do," he said.

Asked about whether he believes Hunt's plan will be approved by the 1979 General Assembly, Cozort said, "I think it will be hard. Not only does it have to be passed by the legislature but it also has to gain the approval of the people."

Opponents of the plan say Hunt will have difficulty getting enough qualified lawyers to apply for selection.

"In addition to a salary cut, the elected judge would have to do a greater amount of traveling, anywhere from three to four times as much," Pearce said.

Under the present policy, the governor appoints a judge until the next election. The chief executive has sole discretion in the decision-making process.

The Bottom Line takes a lighter look at the news Tuesdays and Thursdays on the editorial page of the Daily Tar Heel.

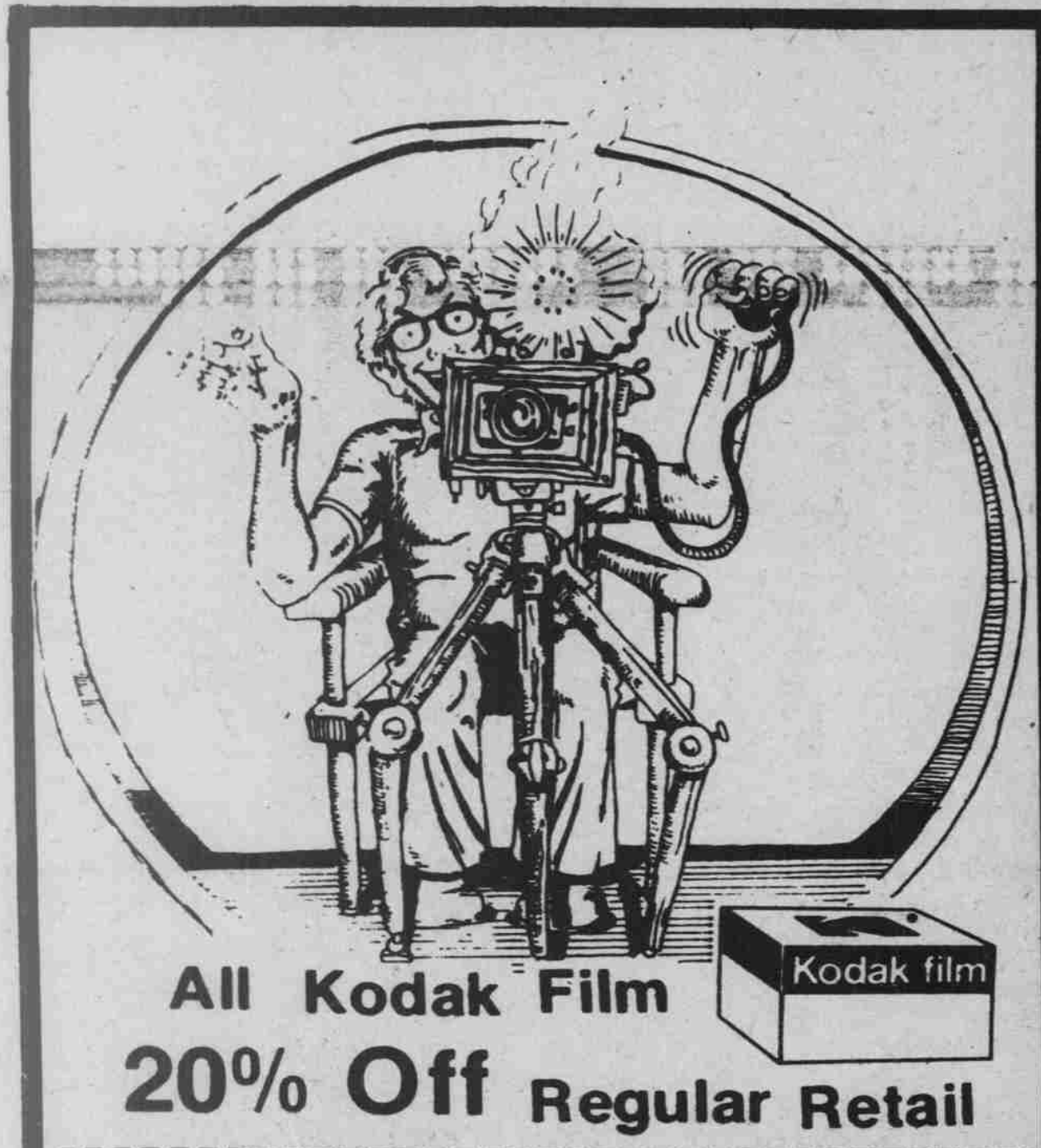
NUCLEAR POWER—WHAT ARE THE ISSUES?

8:00 P.M. — WED., SEPT. 20

Duane Nichols — Senior Chemical Engineer, Research Triangle Institute.

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News in Brief

Carter wins key natural gas victory

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate on Tuesday beat back, 59-39, an attempt to sidetrack the bill deregulating natural gas which the Carter administration has made a top domestic priority.

The vote rejected a bid by opponents to return the compromise — removing federal price lids from newly found gas by 1985 — to a House-Senate conference committee for redrafting.

Senate leaders said that would have killed the bill.

The test vote keeping alive the plan was a clear victory for the president, who has been waging a heavy lobbying campaign for the compromise on this key portion of his energy program.

UN opens 33rd annual session

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. General Assembly opened its 33rd annual session Tuesday, with Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim predicting the Middle East and southern Africa will "preoccupy the world community."

In their first actions, the delegates elected Colombian Foreign Minister Indalecio Lievano Aguirre assembly president and voted to admit the Solomon Islands as the 150th member of the United Nations.

The session promises to be the busiest ever for the international organization that emerged from World War II, with 132 topics proposed for debate.

Castro shoots down Cuban theory

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fidel Castro, in an interview made public Tuesday, told House investigators it would have been insane for him to have conspired in John Kennedy's assassination.

Castro said his involvement in any murder plot would have given the U.S. government "the most perfect pretext" for an invasion of the island nation. The Cuban president also repeated his belief that an effort was made by someone in the United States to implicate him in Kennedy's assassination.

Portions of Castro's interview were played by the House Assassinations Committee, which is seeking to tie up the loose ends to the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination so that a report can be issued in December.

Family food prices to skyrocket

WASHINGTON (AP) — An average four-person family may see the grocery bill rise as much as \$3.40 a week next year if farm prices are stable. But smaller meat and dairy supplies could force that bill up by \$6.15 a week, the Agriculture Department's chief economist said Tuesday.

That price increase would be above the \$6.21 increase already foreseen for 1978 for the typical four-person family who spent \$62.10 a week on groceries last year. Under the new figures, that family would be spending between \$71.71 and \$74.46 a week for food by the end of 1979, Agriculture Department economist Howard W. Hjort told a House subcommittee.

Senators sidetrack tax relief

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate Finance Committee plan to expand tax relief for poor working families ran into trouble Tuesday as conservatives clamored for more concern about middle-income taxpayers.

The committee delayed a vote on another plan, which aims to expand the tax cuts that were voted by the House last month for persons making \$40,000 a year or less.

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Science foundation offers fellowships for graduates

The National Science Foundation has announced two fellowship programs available for graduate study and postdoctoral research in scientific fields.

NSF Graduate Fellowships will be awarded to students who have completed no more than 12 semester hours toward a master's or doctoral degree in any area of science, engineering or mathematics. The awards are for \$3,900 for a 12-month period and are subject to approval for a second and a third year of renewal based on availability of funds and satisfactory progress toward the advanced degree.

Applicants must be citizens of the United States or U.S. territories at the time the application is submitted. Applicants also will be required to take the Graduate Record Examinations to test scientific aptitude and achievement. The examination will be administered Dec. 9 at designated testing centers.

Deadline for applications for NSF Graduate Fellowships is Nov. 30.

Selections will be announced in March.

NSF National Needs Postdoctoral Fellowships will be awarded for postdoctoral research and study on scientific problems of national concern in the areas of mathematics, physics, biology, engineering, medical and social sciences and interdisciplinary studies. Awards of \$1,000 a month for up to 12 months will be awarded.

Deadline for submission of applications for NSF National Needs Postdoctoral Fellowships is Nov. 3. Awards will be announced in February.

Persons interested in obtaining application materials or further information on the fellowships should write to the Fellowship Office, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D.D. 20418.

—CAROLYN WORSLEY

Classifieds

Announcements

LOST AFTER FOOTBALL GAME a wool red-yellow-green plaid blanket carrying bag in the vicinity of Manning Dr. Ridge Rd. Stadium Dr.-South Rd. Call 968-9390 ask for Joe, reward offered.

Miscellaneous

BE AN ADVOCATE. Join the Orange/Durham YMCA Coalition for Battered Women. New training program begins Thursday, Sept. 28 and runs for 9 consecutive weeks. Meetings will be held at Hassle House in Durham—1022 Urban Avenue near East Campus. For more information call: Durham YMCA—688-4396 Connie Renz—929-8081 Cyndie Cowan—933-4584

ANY FISHERMEN AT THIS UNIVERSITY? The Captain Stacy III leaves out of Morehead City on Saturday, September 30 at 5:30 am. Thirty spaces are reserved for interested UNC students. Call 933-3858 for details.

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MALE ROOMMATE NEEDED in off-campus house. \$85 per month plus 1/2 utilities. House is in Heritabe Hills. Carpool available. Call 929-6609.

Responsible, Quiet, Male wanted to share 2 Br. mobile home, 4 miles from campus with 1st yr. dental student; \$65/mo plus 1/2 utilities, call 929-9074 after 5:00.

Rides

NEED RIDE TO CALIFORNIA. Will share expenses and driving. Can leave after Sept. 21. Leave message at 966-3371 or 682-8979. Wayne Kennan

Tickets

NEED TO BUY 1 date ticket to any Carolina home game. Offering good price. 942-7233 keep trying.

NEEDED: ONE STUDENT DATE TICKET to both Maryland and State. Call 933-4345. Please keep trying! Need to obtain as soon as possible.

I NEED ONE FEMALE freshman or transfer ID (no picture) and athletic pass OR a guest pass for the Maryland game. WILL PAY. John 942-4808.

WANTED DESPERATELY: date ticket to Maryland football game. Will pay dearly. Call Carol 942-6112.

WANTED: 1 date ticket for Maryland—will pay excellent price—you can't beat it! Call Julie at 967-3698.

Wanted

WANT TO TRADE S44 parking permit for N4A. Call Gary at 3-7286 or come by 216 Graham.

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The Daily Tar Heel is published by the Daily Tar Heel Board of Directors of the University of North Carolina daily Monday through Friday during the regular academic year except during exam period, vacations and summer sessions. The Summer Tar Heel is published weekly on Thursdays during the summer sessions.

Offices are at the Frank Porter Graham Student Union Building, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514. Telephone numbers: News, Sports — 933-0245, 933-0246, 933-0252, 933-0272; Business, Circulation, Advertising — 933-1183.

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The Daily Tar Heel reserves the right to regulate the typographical tone of all advertisements and to revise or turn away copy it considers objectionable.

The Daily Tar Heel will not consider adjustments or payment for any typographical errors or erroneous insertion unless notice is given to the Business Manager within (1) one day after the advertisement appears, within (1) day of receiving the last sheets or subscription of the paper. The Daily Tar Heel will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement scheduled to run several times. Notice for such correction must be given before the next insertion.

Claire Bagley Business Manager
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LOST: ACC FOOTBALL RING. Contact 967-5733. Reward Offered. Please!

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