

UNC campus system

Bill encounters delay, has House support; proposed commission gets mixed reactions

By MICHAEL KEYS

A resolution creating a commission to study reorganization of the 16-member UNC campus system will carry over into 1980 before the state legislature takes action.

H.B. 1115, co-sponsored by Rep. Ernest B. Messer, D-Canton, and Rep. J.P. Huskins, D-Statesville, is now before the House Appropriations Committee. The Higher Education Committee earlier

reported favorably on the bill, which has strong backing in the House.

Messer said the bill was being held for the sake of the UNC system. UNC President William Friday said last week he appreciated the delaying of the bill, because the action will give UNC time to resolve its conflict with HEW.

The bill proposes a nine-man commission to study campuses and programs in the UNC system that might be consolidated or

dropped. The commission would include members of the Board of Governors, members of the state legislature and leaders of the black community, Messer said.

"I think we have to look more carefully at the individual campuses and ask a number of questions," Messer said Monday night. "Primarily, do they all justify their existence or should they be combined or cut out?"

Messer cited the two campuses in Greensboro "that are within hollerin' distance of one another" as examples of branches and administrations which could be consolidated into one larger and more efficient campus.

"In the Greensboro area we have a lot of duplication in administration and programs largely because of segregation," Messer said.

Raymond Dawson, vice president of academic affairs at UNC, said he sees no

reason for the commission. Part of the Board of Governors' function in overseeing the University system, he said, is to make its own planning and improvement recommendations to the state legislature. "We have made our opinion known to the legislature," he noted.

Dawson said there is no evident need to drop any campus from the system. The purpose of the system, he said, is to make education available and accessible to the public. Each campus represents a substantial investment by the state and is worthy of its funding, he said.

Messer explained that while the board members are capable administrators, they may not be able to look objectively at particular campuses because of regional politics.

Both Messer and Huskins said that consideration of the UNC-HEW conflict is central to their proposal.

"If Washington hasn't heard anything yet, they had better start listening," Messer said. "HEW looks at a campus and tells UNC that it must make improvements and investments. The University does what it can to comply. At some point, we have to say no to HEW. If a campus doesn't meet the guidelines, we should have the option to consider phasing it out."

Messer said the HEW policy is a Catch-22 situation, because HEW orders UNC to desegregate but at the same time asks for major investments in the predominantly black campuses. Such investments tend to propagate segregation, he said.

The bill is not anti-black, according to Messer, who said the study will simply determine which programs might be ready for merger or termination. "It's impossible to say which campuses will be lost, if any," he concluded.

Carrboro to get cable television in near future

By KATHA TREANOR

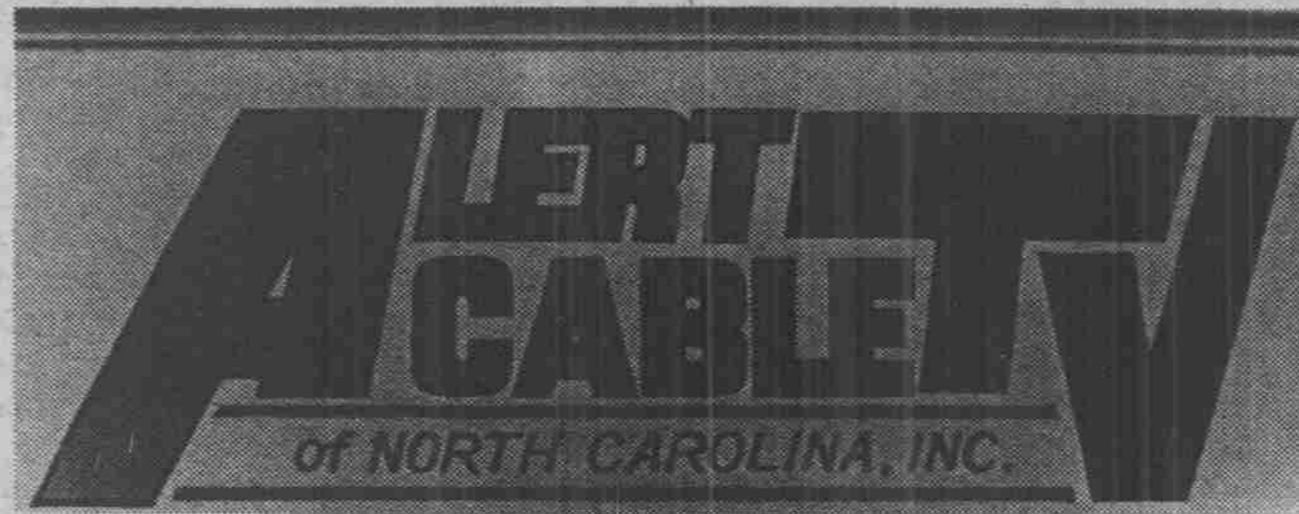
It looks like Carrboro will soon have its long awaited cable television system.

The Carrboro Board of Adjustment approved 7-1 the Bim Street location for Alert Cable TV's construction of a receiving station at its May 2 meeting.

James T. McHugh, regional manager of Alert, said the cable television system in Carrboro will be totally operational at the end of next week. "There are still some odds and ends to be finished," he said.

Carrboro subscribers will pay a \$15 installation charge and \$6 per month. They will receive local channels and channels from Atlanta and Chicago.

McHugh said he expects 2,800 subscribers by the end of the year, and that 2,300 of these will probably be apartment dwellers. So far, Carolina, Old Well and University Lake apartments



have been wired for cable TV. Estes Park is now being wired and Brookshire and Royal Park will be wired within a week, he said.

Alert is installing cables in the apartments at no cost to the apartment owners, McHugh said. Each tenant will decide if he wants cable TV. Each apartment is pre-wired. Whenever a tenant decides he wants cable TV, he signs up and is hooked into the system, McHugh said. This provides more uniformity than wiring each apartment as tenants subscribe, he said.

The Carrboro system will connect with

the Hillsborough system within a month after it is turned on, he said. McHugh said he appointed John Treff Faubert as manager of the Carrboro system.

Alert received a franchise two years ago and tried three times without success to find a site for its earth station, which receives signals from a TV satellite and sends them through TV cables. McHugh said these delays were costly.

The Board had voted 4-3 to approve the company's request for a conditional-use permit at its April 4 meeting, but this was short of the four-fifths majority needed to pass a motion.



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