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# The Daily Tar Heel

87th year of editorial freedom

## Iran's next move

The political and economic chess match that eventually will decide the fate of the 60 Americans held hostage in Iran has entered its third tense week, with no clear advantage yet emerging for either opponent. For both participants and spectators around the world, the effects of the Iranian students' takeover of the U.S. embassy in an attempt to force the return of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and the support of the action by the Islamic government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini will be felt long after the match has ended—whatever the outcome.

In the United States, President Carter will face intense pressure for reprisals against Iran—not necessarily for military action, but for a breaking of diplomatic relations or a cutoff of food exports. In Iran, the turmoil caused by the cutoff of oil imports to the United States and the U.S. freeze on Iranian assets as well as the uncertainty of some Iranians over their government's continued support of terrorist action, could mean an opportunity for gains in the region by the Soviet Union and a threat to U.S. oil interests in other Middle East nations.

The crisis also could further erode the already faltering status of the dollar as the leading reserve currency on international money markets, especially if Iran should elect to switch its assets to other currencies. Iran's foreign minister already has said his country is willing to wage an economic war with the United States.

But Carter's deliberate handling of the crisis has prevented Iran from gaining the leverage to capitalize on its possible advantages. Instead, the crisis has served to rally Americans behind a president whose leadership has been questioned in the past, and the bargaining position of the United States grows stronger as worldwide anger mounts against Khomeini's government. While Carter's economic and other sanctions against Iran have helped stem some of the anger in the United States, he has kept Iran in the position of villain by resisting more forceful action that could result in bloodshed.

The confusion over just who controls the fate of the hostages has further aided the United States in its handling of the crisis. The student group occupying the embassy has said it will not release the hostages until the shah is returned to Iran from the United States to face certain execution, but some of the officials in Khomeini's government have mentioned a compromise solution. Yet the students say only Khomeini can decide to free anyone—and it was Khomeini who ordered the release of blacks and women scheduled for today.

The students in the embassy already have deviated considerably from their earlier pledges of non-violence by announcing the remaining hostages will be tried for "espionage." Carter has informed Iran that it will be held fully accountable for the safety of the hostages, and the pressure on Khomeini's government will increase with each hour the captives remain in the embassy. Until they are freed, Iran will continue to fall deeper into its own trap.

## A violent resurgence

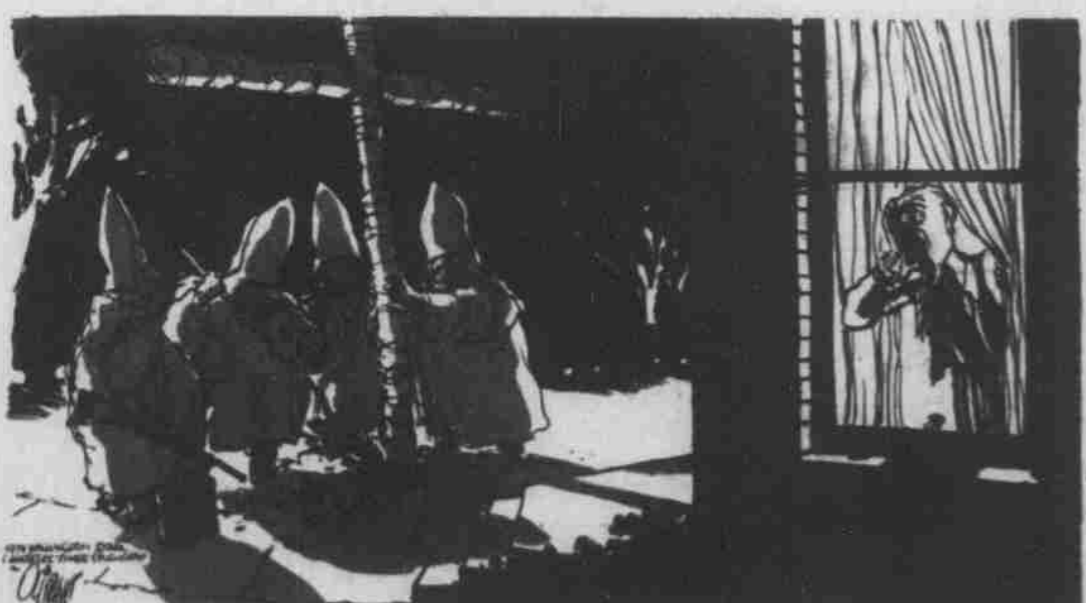
The recent slaying of five Communist Workers Party members in Greensboro is in itself horrifying, but beyond that single tragedy looms the specter of increased extremism. The resurgence is alarming, because along with the polarization of political views has come a renewed belief by some groups that violence can serve as a tool to further political causes.

The buildup of tension that led to the Greensboro murders stretches back to early July, when a Ku Klux Klan meeting in the small town of China Grove was interrupted by shouted threats and insults from CWP members—many of whom were among those who organized the Nov. 3 "Death to the Klan" rally that ended in the deaths. And in late August, Klansmen openly brandished semi-automatic weapons at another Klan gathering.

Causes of the resurgence in extremist groups like the CWP, the Klan and the Nazis cannot be pinpointed easily. Greensboro's tragedy involved people of diverse backgrounds and political persuasions. But behind the violence and propaganda seems to be a growing anxiety about the country's leadership, economy and fundamental values. Klan leaders espouse an unwavering allegiance to God, home and country. The Nazis lust for white supremacy. The CWP and other communist groups vow to overthrow capitalist society.

The groups' divergent and conflicting philosophies—since Greensboro the Nazis have sided openly with the Klan in their zealous hatred of communism—are the source of the animosity that led to the Nov. 3 violence. Unfortunately, these philosophies and the resultant methods for saving the country do not leave room for differing ideas.

What was revealed disturbingly in Greensboro 16 days ago is that there is an ever-increasing inclination for violence to feed upon itself. And the trend is unlikely to be abated as extremist groups respond to each other's atrocities—both real and imagined—with an ideological commitment to mete out just retribution at any cost.



# BSM finds many old barriers still intact

## 'In Quotes'

By THOMAS JESSIMAN

While its face has changed since its stormy beginnings in the 1960's, the Black Student Movement still plays an important role in the University by unifying black students and voicing their needs and concerns, Chairperson William Bynum says.

"The BSM was born out of the struggles of the '60s, and even though today those struggles aren't as visible, they still exist," Bynum said in an interview last week. Black political activism has taken on a new face in the '70s, he said. "We have to work within the system that exists because the system holds what the blacks need to get an equal share of."

"I am an optimistic person, and I would love to see the day when there is no need for the BSM, when we can all sit down in the same classroom without fear of being discriminated against and eat at the same table without glaring stares. But that day hasn't come yet."

Although the BSM has 300 dues-paying members out of approximately 1,500 black students, it would be a mistake to say that the BSM reaches only its members, Bynum said.

One of the goals Bynum set for the BSM when he took office in May was to ensure the implementation of the Long Committee report. The report, submitted by a chancellor's committee chaired by Kenan Professor of Religion Charles H. Long, studied the role of minority students on campus and made proposals for future University policies. "The BSM has been a major pursuer of the committee's recommendations," Bynum said. "Without the BSM, I don't think the report would have gotten the publicity it did, and then it might not have

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—William Bynum

reached the Faculty Council."

Bynum said he had often found it difficult to deal with the administration. "Most of the time I feel like we're going up against a brick wall with the administration, but that's nothing new with the BSM. Since the first black was brought to America, the blacks have been up against the wall with the administration. But that hasn't stopped the struggle in the past, and it won't come to an end now."

The BSM represents a different culture at the University, Bynum said, and he said that he did not understand why the BSM sometimes has to justify its existence. "There's an international students organization that is never asked to justify its existence, and it has an office over in Bynum Hall. The fact that

they have needs is analogous to the fact that we have needs.

"I don't feel like blacks have recovered from the days of slavery. I feel like we're suffering in one way or another, institutional or blatant, and without organizations such as the BSM, this racism is left unquestioned."

The BSM is pursuing the establishment of an office of minority and disadvantaged student affairs, which "would stress the needs of blacks and the disadvantaged that are left unanswered by the present administration," Bynum said. The BSM will present a report on the office to the new chancellor who will replace N. Ferebee Taylor when he retires in January. "This is considered by many to be one of the major issues the new chancellor will have to deal with," Bynum said.

The BSM also is studying the tenure process at the University, and specifically the reason the last four black faculty members who sought tenure were denied, Bynum said. "We're not satisfied with the recruitment and retention of black faculty at UNC," he said. "By not granting black faculty at UNC tenure, the University is limiting the influence that these black instructors can bring into their courses."

"The three blacks denied tenure last year all taught black-related courses, and so did the one instructor this year," he said. "Hence, the University is denying blacks the right to learn about themselves, and we see that as very destructive."

The BSM has access to a number of different outlets for correcting problems that might arise for black students on campus, Bynum said. "We do have influence on the policies of different organizations on this campus, and we're trying to expand ourselves so we can be more aware of more departments."

Thomas Jessiman, a sophomore English major from Newton, Mass., is a staff writer for The Daily Tar Heel.

## letters

# Porterfield challenges DTH statement

To the editor:

I would like to take the opportunity to clarify a statement which appeared in an article titled "Board kills RHA visitation plan," (DTH, Nov. 13). The last line of that article read as follows: "Porterfield's memo said the option plan would be difficult in implementing and possibly could cause problems in the ratio of blacks to whites living in the residence halls." I am at a loss as to how my statements in the memorandum to the Housing Advisory Board can be so grossly misrepresented.

In the past few weeks, the Housing Advisory Board has been discussing inter-hall visitation and the recommendations of the Residence Hall Association forwarded to that committee last spring. One of the suggestions of the board was that students could have a choice of at least four visitation proposals and could then indicate their visitation preference on their housing contracts. The RHA felt that to continue to offer options on the contract would be an unwise decision, since assignment is currently done on a somewhat random basis. Assignments currently are based on a first-come, first-served community preference.

The paragraph in the memorandum, which it seems *The Daily Tar Heel* was referring to, read as follows: "Therefore, we urge your committee to reconsider, or further consider, the option of contractual choice. One of the issues that you (the Housing Advisory Board) hope to discuss, as I understand your agenda, is the ratio and/or concentration of the black/white population on this campus. Many people have suggested that random assignment of housing is the only way to alleviate this and other problems. I point out to you that the more clarifications we offer on the contract, the less our possibility for any type of random selection on housing."

It is unfortunate that the *DTH* staff could not have at least quoted the memorandum in context. Many of the issues that arise on the campus are complicated when the press removes from context the comments of both administrators and student leaders. We sincerely hope that the *DTH* will be more context-oriented in making further comments, and we hope that our fellow students will read carefully the pages of the *DTH* and question, when necessary, the context of comments that may be made.

William Porterfield  
President  
Residence Hall Association

## The real menace

To the editor:

People like Harold Covington are the real menace this country faces, not any minority. I suppose even gushers have the rights of free speech and thought, but I'll be damned if I have to sit still and listen to them. Covington's rampant paranoia and psychotic tendencies are obvious to even the most casual observer. The only reason he hasn't been locked up is that he has done nothing homicidal—yet. I remember reading that Hitler's party started small and powerless...

When you decide, Harold, you have bided enough time, when you come to kick the gates in, and when they fly open, we who believe in the fundamental equality of all men will be waiting. You won't stand a chance.

Ashley Burnham  
714 Morrison hall

## Grad votes

To the editor:

"Grads to get extra ballot boxes," (DTH, Nov. 15), has prompted us to communicate to you our concern on this subject. As graduate students, we are deeply troubled by the growing lack of political consciousness in the country and its reflection in our University, which can serve as a microcosm of the larger domain.

In a time when two out of every three voters cannot make the effort to cast their ballot, any attempt to increase voter participation is a positive step. The article



in question stated that fully half the members of the Campus Governing Council were opposed to the addition of ballot boxes in areas of higher accessibility to the graduate student population. The objections raised by the dissenting representatives focused on two points: first, David Wright opposed the projected increase in graduate student votes while maintaining the status quo for the undergraduate vote; second, Rhonda Black was horrified that "...the establishment of these polling places can significantly alter the outcome of the election." Following are our responses to the objections raised by these politicians who obviously demonstrate keen insight into the rationale behind the electoral process and the operation of a democratic society.

The suggestion that stodgy, isolationist and feeble-minded graduate students be allowed to have any voice in how their greasy greenbacks are allocated is completely ludicrous. This would be tantamount to placing ballot boxes in Harlem and Watts and permitting the inhabitants to vote on urban renewal propositions. Would any slum lord in his right mind opt for enfranchisement of the ghetto?

Instead, we favor following the political ideology of Wright-Black to its logical conclusion and thus removing all ballot boxes to provide equal representation for undergrads and grads alike. The presently inequitable system could then be replaced by a benevolent monarchy.

Another viable alternative would be installation of Donna Summer as head honcho and the Village People for the Board of Trustees, thereby insuring at least one disco and sleaze happening per week. If we don't get an education, we will at least have boogied our feet to bloody nubs and will all die happy.

In conclusion, having presently discharged the weighty burden of our civic duty, we would like to offer the following memorable political aphorism—"Vote early and vote often (while you still can vote)."

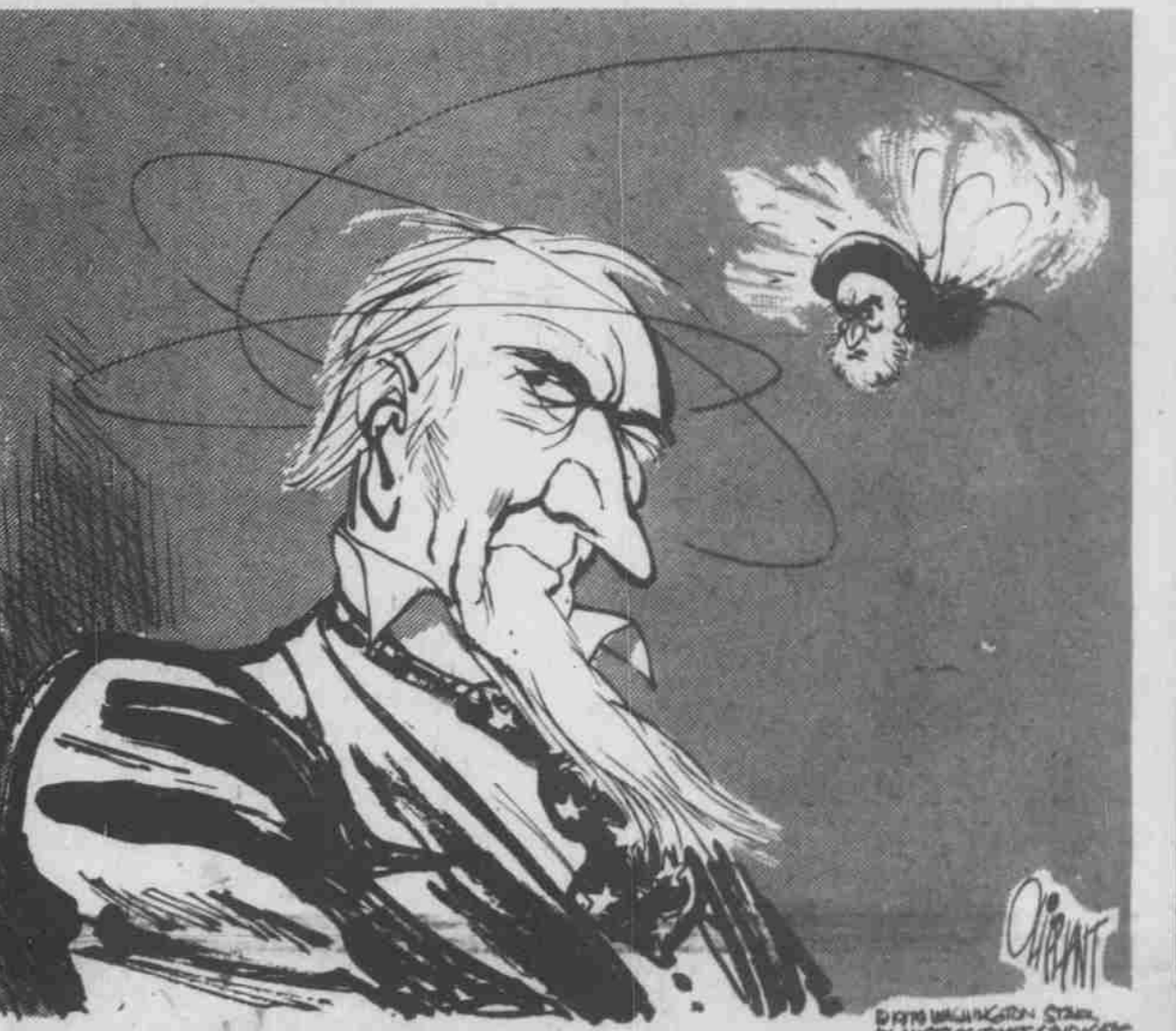
Jeff Calvert  
Mark Thompson  
Jon Caspar  
Kenan Laboratories

## Inevitable and beneficial

To the editor:

While reading the editorial "Stormy Waters," (DTH, Nov. 15), I noticed several incorrect and misleading statements that simply do not do justice to the Tellico Dam Project.

The editorial stated that the only known habitat of the 3-inch snail darter was being destroyed by the completion of the dam. However, Tennessee Valley Authority officials foresaw this problem long ago. Since then, the steps taken to



prevent extinction for the fish have resulted in their successful transplantation into the Hiwassee River near Tellico, and the snail darter has multiplied at a normal rate since the exchange took place. Thus, the dam's completion violated no part of the Endangered Species Act.

Secondly, I feel that the anger of the 341 farmers was far from justified. The Tellico Project has been in TVA's plans for decades, and has been under construction for nearly the whole of the 1970s. Throughout both these periods of time, the area residents fully knew of TVA's intentions concerning the building of the dam. Granted, while some of the residents received less than ample compensation for their land, none of them were forced to accept the settlements which they received. Other area residents received ample compensation and say they felt no qualms about selling their land if the dam was to be completed.

In addition, the editorial stated that individuals must suffer when public good is at stake, but that public good in regard to the Tellico Project was questionable. As I am a resident of eastern Tennessee, I welcome the dam and the inexpensive power which it produces for area consumption. The \$3-million reduction in TVA's hydroelectric bill will be a welcome relief from recent and incessant rate increases. As for the loss of rich Tennessee farmland, there are thousands more acres of fertile Tennessee farmland usable for crop and livestock production, which only took place on some of the 16,000 acres to be flooded—not all of them.

Sure, TVA is a force which is powerful enough to have a prominent effect in Congress; however, it also provides thousands of jobs in the Tennessee Valley area and cheap power for its inhabitants—power which also often brings in industry to the area, meaning even more jobs.

All logical opposition to the Tellico Project should have been voiced years ago when the dam was in the planning stages. There is now only one alternative, which I consider the most beneficial: cheap power, many new jobs and only incidental losses of land and resources. It is time that the opposition stopped biting off the hand that feeds it and admits that Tellico is inevitable and quite beneficial.

Wilson Freyermuth  
519 Morrison

## Capitalism

To the editor:

While *The Daily Tar Heel* may not be the appropriate place to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of capitalism, I would like the opportunity to address some of the specific points mentioned in "Anti-capitalist remarks lack justification," (DTH, Nov. 14), because I believe they raise some critical issues with respect to the questions at hand.

In case of Iran, oil companies are the primary culprits of exploitation: if the average American consumer thinks he is getting ripped off when he pays \$1 per gallon to Exxon, Texaco, Mobil, etc., think how the Iranian people must have felt when they received a mere \$2 per barrel as they did for decades prior to the oil embargo of the early 1970s.

It has only been in the past six years that crude oil prices are reaching their proper level in a free market. Despite my fundamental ignorance of basic economics, I think that oil prices will continue to rise as long as demand remains high; that is, as long as Americans continue to guzzle gasoline as if it were water.

Some brief comments about other points raised in the letter. Whether the ayatollah is or is not more repressive than the shah is a question which history will answer. If his government fails to distribute the wealth which Iran obtains and if it fails to satisfy the wants and needs of the Iranian people, then it will in all probability fall too, and rightfully so. But the ayatollah's crimes do not excuse the murder of tens of thousands of Iranians by the shah.

Finally, I did not denounce capitalism as the root of all evil. I did denounce exploitation. All people should be allowed to receive fair return on their investments and their labor. This means that to the extent that capitalism represents a rising tide which benefits everyone, it should be encouraged; to the degree which it is a tidal wave that drowns the poor for the benefit of those who have been fortunate enough to seek higher ground, capitalism should be controlled.

Charles Brass  
Department of City and Regional Planning

## Good stuff

To the editor:

Now wait a minute! Since when has *The Daily Tar Heel* taken it upon itself to publicize the works of promising young artists, particularly under false pretenses? On a casual perusal of the art works in South Gallery the other day, one piece stood out: the stark white tilted square bearing the socially poignant words: "Stolen Nov. 11, 11-12 p.m. Reward." This work, a biting and meaningful commentary on the decadence of modern man, far outstrips its companion piece.

And yet we are to believe that this work of art is but a notice of the theft of another work which surely must pale by comparison. Clearly the *DTH*, and perhaps the artist himself, have failed to recognize the value inherent in the work which has broken the barriers of modern art, exhibiting a more relentless social criticism than ever before believed possible within the structures of contemporary art.

Albert Barnes  
Robert Spencer  
Everett Rogah