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# The Daily Tar Heel

87th year of editorial freedom

## They don't make blue jeans like they used to

By HARRIET McLEOD

Another good thing has gone on.  
—John Hartford

It's always a singular thrill to get new jeans. Or it used to be back when getting new jeans didn't happen very often—about once every three years or so. Remember how stiff and clean they felt, with no wrinkles or sags? It was difficult to walk or sit down—they were like boards on your legs. You took your new jeans off and stood them in the corner where, in the morning, they waited to be jumped into again. A few wears, a few washes, and you had them molded to your legs. They were *your* jeans.

There was a cycle to their life. Those of us who remember Levis for \$6.99 have gone through the cycle many times. After successive shrinkings and stretchings, the knees would buckle, the waist would stretch and the jeans would ride down around your hips like a gunslinger's holster. The bottoms would fray; the belt loops would fray. Tiny white streaks would appear in the denim; the seams and the thighs would begin to change color. But good fading took a long time. Since \$6.99 and even \$10.99 jeans were thick, it could be years before your knees broke through. No problem. Patch 'em up. Embroider flowers, mushrooms or an upside-down flag.

By the time they were finally done for, your jeans were part of your life: "Oh man, I've had those jeans for five years! I can't throw them away now!"

You can't get all-cotton jeans anymore. Around 1977, Levis became 64% cotton and 36% polyester. Polyester?? it ruined the cycle completely. And it became harder and harder to find jeans that weren't prewashed. They cost \$20 now (unless you buy designer jeans for \$40 or so), and you need a new pair every 8 months, at least.

Other things came and went in the 1970s. Participation for one thing. Worrying for another.

Those of us who started college in 1970 felt, for a while, as if we had arrived at the street after the parade had gone by. Nevertheless, we listened to Leon Russell and Bob Dylan, Jethro Tull and the Allman Brothers, and marched against the war and for Earth Day and women's rights. And we took so much speed our skin turned green and our hair stood on end.

The '60s had begun with JFK's assassination in 1963 and really didn't end until Nixon resigned in 1974. Then the ignoble decade began and soon settled down—like a plague. The Ford years were boring, and we settled into a lifestyle of complacency.

For many, the path was religion of sorts. Be here now, Namaskar, Hare Krishna. Don't worry. Work on yourself. It's all part of the plan. Someday we'll all understand. All things must pass.

For others, it was kicking back. Take it easy, be mellow. Working hard or hardly working?

Earlier in the decade, you could overhear things like: "Let's do this mescaline and go watch people at the 7-11. Then let's come back and put some stars on the bathroom ceiling and fill up the tub with Mazola oil. Tomorrow we'll eat some pancakes and drink some tequila and go walk in the woods." Now it's: "Let's do this Quaalude and mellow out."

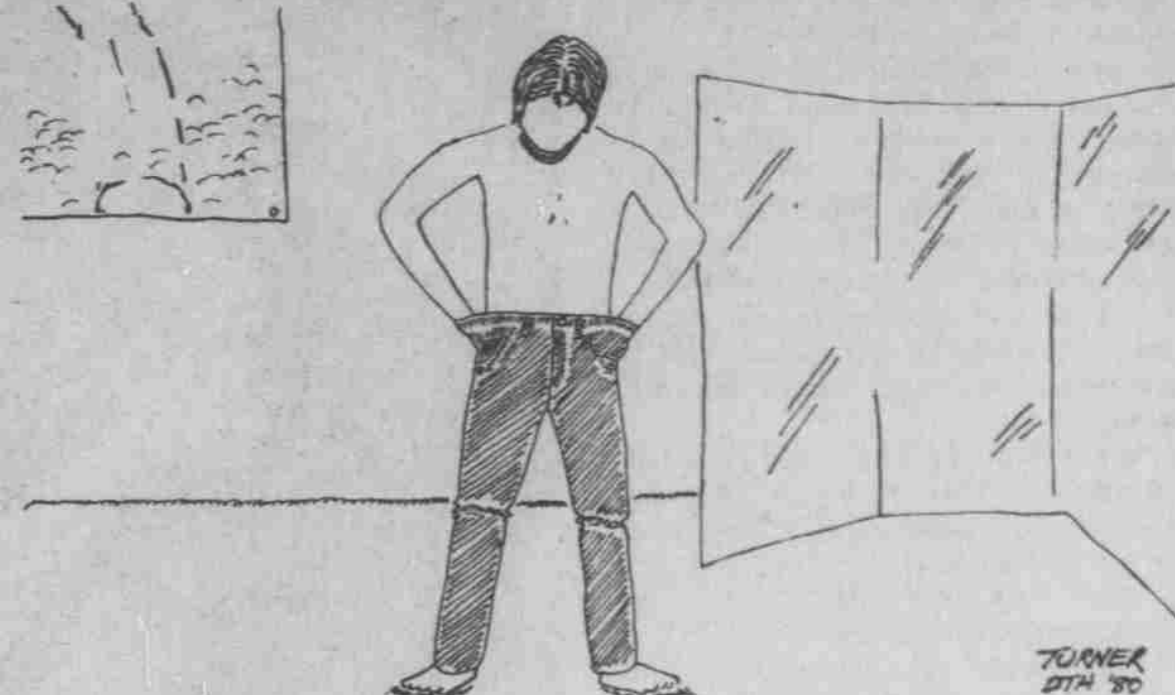
Social critic Randy Newman put it best: "Wanting to be mellow is like wanting to be senile."

For still others, the 1970s have been a time of rampant consumerism. Despite Jimmy Carter's politics of austerity and dire prospects of sacrifice, we bought a lot of neat things.

It looks like the 1970s might have been a short decade—'74 to '80. Why can't we continue the "malaise"? Well, there's Iran, Afghanistan, Russia, nukes, gasoline, OPEC and so forth. Worrying is back in style.

Sacrifice looms large.

Harriet McLeod is a graduate student in journalism from Sullivan's Island, S.C.



## Remember these?

- Burning draft cards
- Burning bras
- Hand saws
- Penny bubblegum
- The global village
- Black beauties
- MDA
- Purple microdots
- \$20 a lid/\$180 a pound
- Patched bell bottoms
- Red dye #2
- Bert Parks
- 32 cents a gallon
- The snail darter
- Skylab
- Shuttle diplomacy
- Morris the Cat
- The Hustle
- The ABA
- VW bugs
- Detente
- Butterfly handlebars
- Banana seats
- A warm-weather World Series
- Desert boots

- The Partridge Family
- Wheat germ
- Spiro Agnew watches
- Lynrd Skynrd
- Expletive deleted
- Billy Beer
- Future shock
- Jimmy who?
- Richard Brautigan books
- Crystal meth
- Pintos
- Swine flu shots
- Idi Amin
- Streaking
- The Beatles
- Moon shots
- Little Feat
- Louis Armstrong
- Communes
- Earth Day
- The 715th home run
- The Band

—Harriet McLeod

## Creative planning

It's still too early to make predictions about Chapel Hill's recently installed municipal government. But there are some early indications that Mayor Joe Nassif and the eight members of the Town Council have committed themselves to giving the town a new sense of direction. The signs are encouraging, because the myriad problems this community faces—from sticky parking and transportation issues to citizen apathy about town government—will require a good measure of sure-footed leadership.

Nassif's plan to remove some of the confusion from the often tangled process of compiling the town's annual budget is one of those encouraging signs. In past years, Chapel Hill often has fallen into the same budget-making trap that plagues local governments all over the country. That is, town officials have taken too long to get started on the tedious task of appropriating funds to the many government departments, and the inevitable result has been a last-minute scurry to get the budget wrapped up before the beginning of the new fiscal year. Deadline budgeting is not necessarily bad, of course, and it is a time-honored tradition. But Nassif plans to try a couple of innovations that could make the fiscal 1981 budget one of the most thoughtful ever for Chapel Hill.

Nassif plans to ask the heads of all the town's departments to submit a report to the Town Council describing exactly how the departments work. Then the council, in a series of intense work sessions, will come up with a set of goals for each department, and will ask the department heads to come up with budget requests to meet them.

Revamping the budgeting process was one of Nassif's major campaign themes, and he appears to have put a good deal of thought into implementing his promise. If Nassif and the eight other members of the council can manage to agree on goals to be met in the budget, perhaps hasty, ill-considered decisions can be avoided. If Nassif can carry out his plans, all the council members should be able to vote on a budget with full knowledge of where the taxpayers' money is going. Since a sizable tax increase seems virtually unavoidable, that is a comforting notion.

We hope Nassif and company will demonstrate as much dedication and foresight when dealing with the other issues they face. The downtown parking crunch, as well as the increasing demand on the bus system and the dilemmas of open space land, city-county planning and human services funding, will require similar creative thinking.

## The first 25 years

UNC-TV's live Tuesday night broadcast of the North Carolina Symphony was a fit and touching start for the year-long celebration of the state public television network's silver anniversary. On Jan. 8, 1955, UNC-TV signed on as the nation's 10th educational television station with a live performance of music and dance from Women's College in Greensboro.

The last 25 years have brought many changes. Women's College is now called UNC-G, and the tiny, one-transmitter station which reached only 38 percent of North Carolina now telecasts on eight channels and reaches 96 percent of the state. Early programming was entirely live and included music, church services, sports and educational broadcasts. Today, UNC-TV's offerings have expanded to include such diverse topics as crafts and folklore, economics and the environment, and drama and history. There's a little something for everybody in North Carolina, from the rabid Atlantic Coast Conference basketball viewer to those interested in learning about lap-quilting and woodwork.

And to celebrate its 25 years of service to the state—the year-long celebration has been dubbed "UNC-TV Celebrates North Carolina"—UNC-TV has several special programs in store for its viewers. Perhaps the most notable of these special productions is *The Flight Brothers!*, a musical drama scheduled for Feb. 13 which depicts the story of North Carolina's pioneer aviators, Wilbur and Orville Wright. Other specials include a behind-the-scenes series beginning Jan. 21 which examines the Julliard Opera School and an eight-part series hosted by UNC President William C. Friday titled *Great Decisions*, which begins on Jan. 20.

UNC-TV had humble beginnings in an era when television was considered by many to be nothing more than an ephemeral technological fad. There was no color TV then, and the state had only two commercial stations. Now, 25 years later, the station is a vital part of the ever-growing Public Broadcasting Service and plans to cover the entire state by 1982 through the addition of four new transmitters.

UNC-TV's history has been one of growth and service to North Carolina, and the next 25 years promise to be even more rewarding for the station's many devoted viewers.

## The Bottom Line

### Kitty Who?

The wily Soviets have been confounded yet again by the devious Americans. The American aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk was recently languishing in the Indian Ocean in response to the crisis in Iran. Another Kitty Hawk, perhaps better known, resides on the coast of North Carolina.

The Soviets now know the difference. According to the Navy, an American ship and a Soviet ship were floating near each other in the Indian Ocean when the Soviet vessel flashed a query about an aircraft carrier.

"Where is the Kitty Hawk?" the Soviets asked.

The Navy's response: "It's a small town in North Carolina." In the event that tempers flare around the Persian Gulf, it might be wise for the residents of this balmy Atlantic coast town to keep their eyes on the horizon.

### Feathered fallout

Clouds of noisome black feathered beasts have begun once again to invade the town of Rich Square. The usually crisp air has grown rank with a foul odor and violent screeches.

The blackbirds are back. These starlings and grackles have become the target of quite a few dirty-

bird jokes in Rich Square, mostly because the 2,500 residents of this once attractive town do not know what else to do about the feathered invaders.

The Town Council, in a typical frenzy of bureaucratic activity, has elected to do nothing at all. As one alert councilman put it, "There is absolutely nothing we can do with millions and millions and millions of birds who refuse to go."

Just how many avian creatures have graced the town? Although no one knows for sure, one resident claims to have a reasonably close estimate.

"I figure them at 6,341,000," said Frazier Helms. "I count their little feet and then divide by two."

### Top Ranking

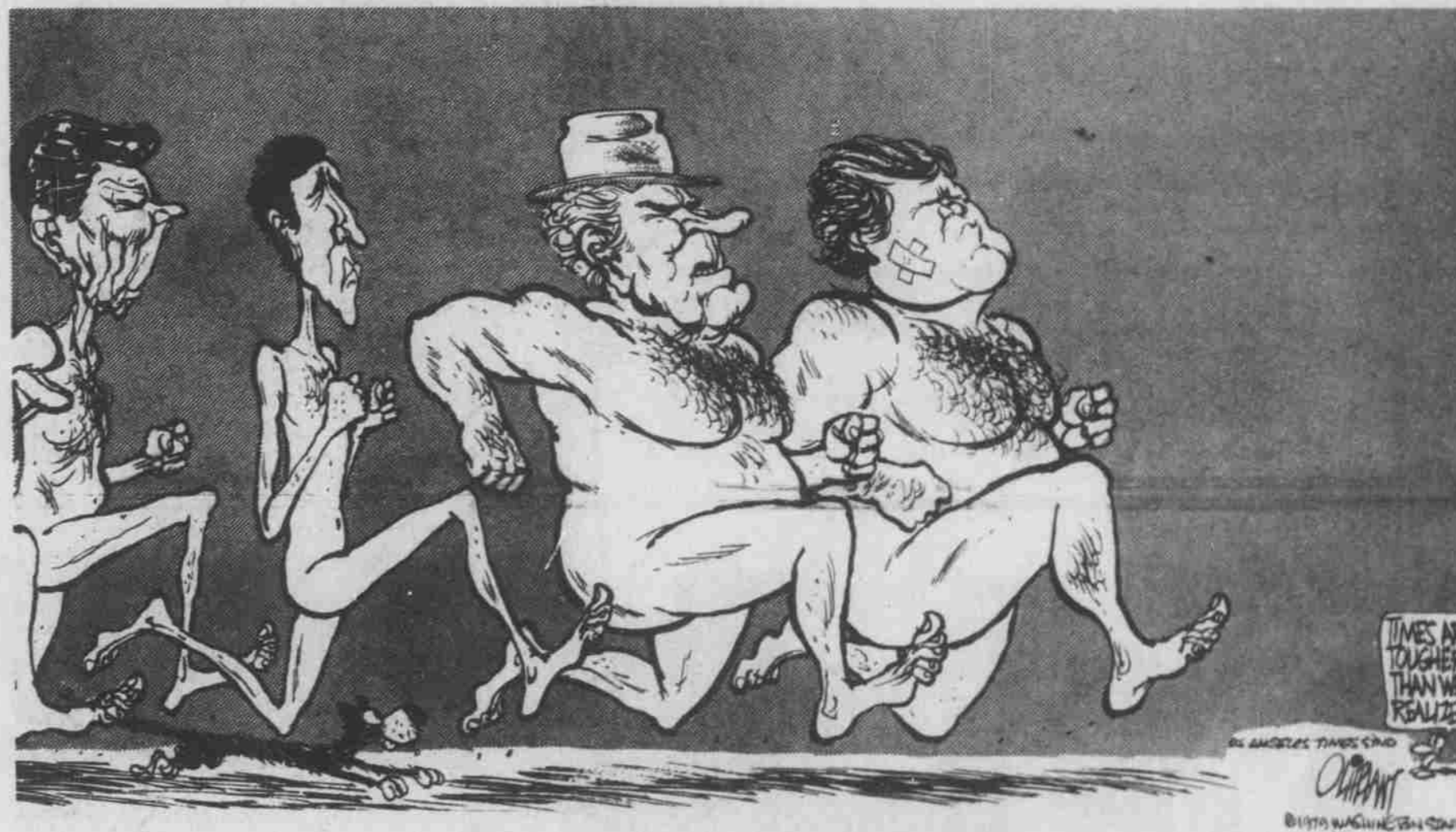
New York Mayor Edward I. Koch Monday rated Bess Myerson an "11." Myerson, the consumer advocate and former Miss America who is expected to announce her candidacy for the U.S. Senate next month, served as co-chairman of Koch's mayoral campaign two years ago.

Asked by a reporter on Monday how he rated her as a candidate, the mayor replied, "You mean on a scale of 1-to-10?"

Then he grinned impishly and said, "11."

And that's the bottom line.

"If this is the only safe thing we can do to get back on the front pages, then I say let's do it."



## Orientation, visitation remain RHA woes

By MARTHA WAGGONER

When Residence Hall Association governors talk about the accomplishments of their organization for the past fall semester, they usually speak in terms of growth in residence hall areas and an awareness, by students, of what RHA does.

Most RHA governors also say that RHA, a campus governing body and service organization for members of residence halls, has not failed in any area since they took office last April.

But some have no comment when asked about the volatile issues of orientation and visitation, which RHA's previous administration brought up for scrutiny.

Funding of orientation by RHA was cut off last year and the group since has pushed for an orientation fee. The group also opposed a lengthened orientation and has spent many hours preparing a survey of residence hall and orientation staff. RHA President William Porterfield said in an interview last semester he has received a letter from Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor which stated the length of the orientation period will remain as it was this year—the same length which RHA opposed. Both Scott College Gov. Mark Brown and Craige Gov. Herb Garrison say they would prefer not to talk about the chancellor's decision or who was to blame for not changing the length of the orientation period.

The group has had a little more success with the orientation fee. Although there has not been any definite administrative approval of the fee, the prospects for approval look better than for shortening the orientation period. The Orientation Commission has proposed that freshmen be charged a \$15 fee, which would include a charge for Tar Heel days. However, Will Owens, representative for Spencer, Triad and Old Well, said a \$12.25 fee is more probable, with freshmen being charged for Tar Heel days only if they sign up for them.

Another major project for RHA this year has been the battle to get its visitation proposal approved by the University's Housing Advisory Board. The RHA proposal suggested shifting the start of visitation by two hours from noon to 10 a.m. The housing board approved this suggestion but did not approve another part of the RHA plan which proposed 24-hour visitation on weekends. Instead, the board sent an option plan which allows students to vote on visitation hours for their dorm; 24-hour weekend visitation was one of those options. Henderson Residence College Gov. Peggy Leight said she thinks that when changes are approved by Housing Director James Condie and Vice Chancellor Donald Boulton, that two of the options will be cut out and the only options left will be visitation hours as they are now and the RHA proposals.

Porterfield said the Housing Advisory Board took RHA's specific proposal and made it nebulous. "We knew implementation would be the hardest part to plan and we worked on that," he said. "The Housing Advisory Board purposely ignored implementation in its proposal."

RHA also deals with Southern Bell Telephone Co. rate increases, sets up guidelines for intramurals, holds monthly blood drives and is planning a committee to encourage students to conserve energy. "If RHA hadn't done something about the (Southern Bell) rate hikes—going to Raleigh and sending petitions—there wouldn't have been anything done," Owens said.

Leight, Brown and Garrison said they did not think RHA had failed in anything it has attempted, but Vice President Ricky Murray said he did have one regret about what the group has accomplished. "The residents don't know about everything we've done because we haven't tackled a really big issue and overcome it," he said. "But we're headed in the right direction—we're beginning to have a voice on campus."

And that voice is making some student groups and administrative officials feel uneasy about RHA's growth. Porterfield said, "We're one of the most responsive student organizations to students' needs," he said. "We're an assurance that campus students will have a voice and be provided with representation."

"The response to our growth by a lot of groups has been wondering where RHA was going and why it was pushing so hard," he said. "I wouldn't say they felt threatened, but the administration and student organizations have been alarmed at the rate of growth of RHA—perhaps they aren't alarmed, just surprised."



"We're one of the most responsive student organizations to students' needs."

—William Porterfield

Leight says she believes that at one time, there was resentment in Student Government toward RHA. "Now the groups are getting along a lot better," she said.

Morrison Gov. Eddy Camp says he thinks that student organizations in general and RHA in particular are becoming too political. "I don't have any specific reasons for it, but it's something I see happening," Camp said. "RHA is a controversial group because it's a duplicate of Student Government. Both groups are supposed to represent the same people and both groups are fighting for that constituency."

"We (RHA) have to fight for our existence and for our credibility. Some people think you don't need a duplicate student government, but we perform functions that Student Government can't," he said.

But Vice Chancellor Boulton says he does not see any resentment about the growth of RHA. "From my vantage point, I'm pleased RHA has together and tackled things," he said. "They're playing a role that we need played. We've needed this kind of action and energy for a long time."

RHA works more closely with the housing department than with any other administrative office. Condie said Carolina's RHA is becoming a leader for other RHAs across the state. "We have the leading residence hall association in the state," Condie said. "It's become a model for other RHAs in the state and across the southeast. It's a strong, viable, largely responsible organization."

Some of the problems RHA has encountered are within the group, Owens said. "We've had problems with attendance (at meetings) by a few of the governors," he said. "This creates a bad situation because we're not getting representation for 700 or 1,000 students at the meetings these governors miss."

Other problems have been hinted at by the governors and staff members. Many, asking not to be identified, said they resent Porterfield's tactics in dealing with the governing board. At more than one governing board meeting, Porterfield lambasted the governors for not doing their jobs, for leaving him to write letters to the *Daily Tar Heel* and to talk with administration officials.

However, Porterfield says the problem is in striking a balance between his job and the job of the governors. "I'm trying to project—to the administration—what's happening, and governors are trying to protect this to their areas," he said. "The governors are doing a great job."

On one occasion, when Ehringhaus Gov. Tom Vitt considered requesting that the board go into executive session, he was told by a reporter that his constituents—UNC students—might resent not knowing what their representatives were doing. Vitt was less than delicate in his choice of language when he, in effect, told the reporter he didn't care about any such student resentment.

Not all RHA board members have this attitude, however. Many are, as Porterfield said, doing great jobs and are representing their constituents. But others are chronically absent or display attitudes that do not serve the campus resident. RHA has taken on some tough issues; some of which—like the length of orientation—were pretty much decided by the administration before RHA began to voice its opposition. And, the group did receive the bid for the conference of the National Association of College and University Residence Halls—the first such national conference to be held at Carolina.

But divisions within RHA have done more to limit the group's potential than any outside organization. The resignations of the national conference chairman and the head of the programming committee for that conference are examples of the lack of unity within RHA.

RHA appears bent on using the national conference as the example of this administration's success. But the group has the potential to do much more than that. The question is whether this potential can be recognized before Porterfield and the RHA governing board complete their terms of office three months from now.

Martha Waggoner, a junior journalism major from Winston-Salem, is news editor for The Daily Tar Heel.