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# The Daily Tar Heel

88th year of editorial freedom

## Mugabe's prudence key to Rhodesian future

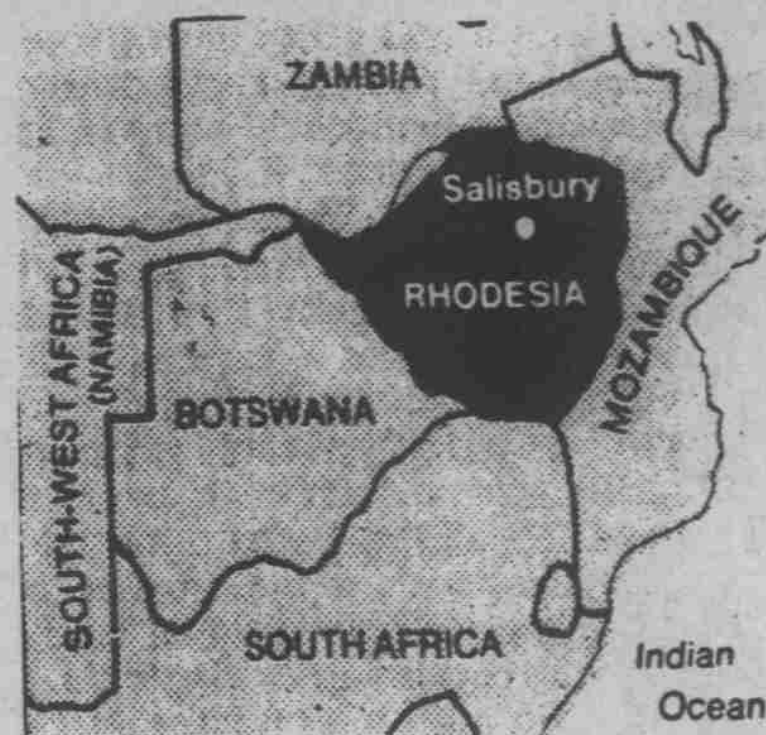
By WILLIAM DURHAM

The penultimate bastion of apartheid fell last week as Robert Mugabe, Marxist and militant, won an overwhelming victory in Rhodesia's general election. Blacks, frustrated by those of their own leaders who waffled in their negotiations with the whites, united to elect the leader who refused to compromise. Mugabe's victory, while astounding the British mediators and white Rhodesians alike, heralds a new era during which Rhodesia, or Zimbabwe as it is soon to be called, can become one of the most prosperous nations on the African continent.

Mugabe's margin of victory indicates that the black population of the country has pulled together at last. Long splintered by factionalism and tribalism, the black voters combined to give Mugabe 62.9 percent of the 2.7 million black votes, and 57 of the 80 black seats in the Parliamentary Assembly.

The wily British political manipulators had predicted that no candidate would achieve a majority of the vote. With a colonial fervor reminiscent of the days of the empire on which the sun never set, the British experts had anticipated a more even split among Mugabe, his former guerrilla partner Joshua Nkomo, and Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa, the leader of last year's biracial regime. The absence of a majority would have allowed Lord Soames, the colonial governor, to pick the increasingly moderate Nkomo to head a coalition government. Until Mugabe's recent gain in popularity, the British had not even wanted to include him in the coalition.

Mugabe's reputation among white Rhodesians as a Marxist and a murderer is reason enough for the British wish to exclude him from the Rhodesian government. Last year, the British had allowed an election from which both Mugabe and Nkomo were excluded. The leader of Rhodesia's



largest guerrilla army, Mugabe is known for his ruthlessness and dedication to Marxist ideology.

However, Mugabe has so far shown magnanimity and an apparently sincere desire to turn Rhodesia into a multi-racial state tolerant of even his political enemies. Aware of the qualms of the white population of Rhodesia, Mugabe went on television to reassure whites of his government's respect for personal property and pension rights.

To the blacks he addressed an appeal for patience: "Everybody should exercise patience, for change cannot occur overnight."

Mugabe stresses that he is a moderate socialist and will not inundate the country with Marxist ideology. He favors redistribution of land and other wealth in favor of blacks, but intends no wholesale remaking of the country. "We are not going to interfere with private property, whether it be farms or whether it be the mining sector of the industrial sector. The modifications can only take place in a gradual way," Mugabe said.

Land distribution is a point of potential controversy in a country where 3 percent of the

population, the whites, owns 50 percent of the land. To forestall cries of plunder and a wholesale flight of whites from the country, Mugabe has agreed to compensation for redistributed land.

Before he begins any long-term programs, Mugabe must deal with the more immediate perils facing his country. Four armies are roaming about a countryside devastated by war. Rural schools, clinics and agricultural installations have been destroyed. Blacks totaling 850,000 have been forced from their farms onto "protected villages," and 250,000 refugees are returning from neighboring countries. The economy has been so plundered that it has had a large negative growth rate for the last five years. And with the results of the recent election, the prices of Rhodesian Government bonds and of companies with interests in Rhodesia fell sharply.

Nevertheless, there is potential for enormous economic gain in Rhodesia. The United Nations Security Council has decided to lift the trade embargo it imposed a decade ago, opening the way for significant improvement of the rocky economy. The 230,000 whites in the country, however, are essential to Rhodesia's prosperity. If Mugabe prompts a white exodus by following the majority's wishes for a larger share of the land, then the economic picture will be bleak indeed.

Meanwhile, manufacturers are on the road to capacity production, construction is expected to increase, and mining production, which has increased vastly in the past few years, is due for an upsurge, according to the government.

The key to foreign investment in the country is a stable government capable of maintaining peace. The key to internal stability is the pacification of both the whites and the blacks. In any event, Rhodesia's success hinges on Mugabe; he is the key to the country.

William Durham, a sophomore English major from Chapel Hill, is editorial assistant for The Daily Tar Heel.

## Misplaced priorities

There is something quite ridiculous about a society that rewards its athletes, actors and rock 'n' roll stars with extravagant salaries while often ignoring and grossly underpaying those people who mold the minds of the future: teachers and professors.

In an announcement Tuesday, the Southern Regional Education Board announced that the disparity between faculty salaries in the South and other areas of the country would disappear by the mid-1980s if current trends remain unabated. Also, UNC President William Friday said he would request a 10 percent faculty salary increase when the 1980 session of the N.C. General Assembly convenes this spring.

Both of these announcements indicate a long standing problem in the academic institutions of this country. As Thomas Isehour, chairman of the chemistry department pointed out, the inability of universities to compete with independent employers could result in a dwindling supply of quality educators, a possibility that would most certainly undermine an effective educational system here at Carolina and throughout other universities (low wages do not do a lot for faculty morale either).

In an effort to deal with poor salaries and difficult working situations (such as student violence), many teachers across the nation have formed unions. Unfortunately, this option sometimes results in the best interests of the student being forgotten amid salary disputes and intense negotiations.

Professors and teachers perform a role essential to a free and responsible nation. That they should be paid low wages while "celebrities" rake in million dollar salaries tends to indict the values that transcend this country. Certainly, a realigning of priorities seems in order. In the meantime, the 10 percent salary increase and the trend towards improving a traditionally poor income area are welcome signs that indicate a movement in the right direction.

## Self defense

It seems as if every time one picks up a paper these days, the headlines blare: embassy taken, hostages held. First came Tehran and the pictures of blindfolded Americans huddled behind the militants, then Pakistan stepped onto the bandwagon when hundreds of students, angered by the takeover of the Great Mosque in Mecca, burned the U.S. embassy compound and killed two Americans. Now in the latest incident, terrorists overran a diplomatic reception in Bogota, Colombia and captured more than 60 hostages, including U.S. Ambassador Diego C. Asencio. Taking hostages under any circumstances is reprehensible and inexcusable, especially in light of the fact that an embassy in a foreign country is supposed to receive protection from all such attacks.

The take-over in Colombia is particularly alarming because of the highly trained and dedicated nature of the terrorists. A remarkably high number of the Colombian population, 2,000 of the 27 million citizens, are active guerrillas, and the group holding the hostages is one of the best equipped and organized. The United States has left the whole affair to the discretion of the Colombian government, and the Colombians have said that they will not make an assault on the embassy unless the lives of the hostages are in immediate danger. Recently the terrorists have softened their demands from \$50 million to \$6 million and asked for the release of fewer political prisoners. Still, they appear ready to fight for the latest demands and their determination in past terrorist activities has shown a preparedness to die for their cause.

Because of their symbolic nature, ambassadors and embassies make for easy targets. Recently, small groups have discovered how successful such attacks are for airing political views. If absconding with jetliners was the mode of the past and stealing nuclear or atomic weapons is to be the mode of the future, terrorists seem content with the most expedient tactic: hijacking embassies. By poorly protecting her embassies, the United States becomes ridiculously vulnerable. The depth of protection in many U.S. embassies is a marine with a gun at the door and another at the front desk. In Iran the United States was embarrassed when top-secret documents were not burned or destroyed before militants overran the inner office, and the situation is similar in many other U.S. embassies where such documents lie in file cabinets in unguarded halls.

Before another embassy is attacked, countries across the world should take a hard line against terrorists, and the United Nations should make an effort to ensure the safety of diplomatic sanctuaries. In the meantime, sadly enough, the simplest solution may be to increase the military presence in the embassies.

## The Bottom Line

Joel What's-his-name

Everyone knows that the massive Federal bureaucracy screws up—a lot. Remember the U.N. vote? But governmental goofs are not limited to the leaders in Washington. Take Chapel Hill, for example. During discussions of nominations for the vacant seat on the town's Transportation Board, members of the board tossed the name of a UNC student into the ring. Board member Gorman Gilbert urged the board to recommend to the Town Council a student he knew was interested, Joel-something-or-other, to the board. The board, ever enthused by displays of student interest, agreed and recommended both Joel what's-his-name and fellow student Warren Collier, Student Government's nominee. Both names were typed on the official recommendations and sent to the Town Council for consideration.

No problem, right? Wrong. There is no one named Joel anything who wants to be on the Transportation Board. Gilbert apparently suffered an attack of less-than-total recall and pulled a totally wrong name out of the air.

Thus, diligent transportation director Bob Godding was sent out to scour the campus for the student who knows

Gilbert and wants to be on the board. Of course, if Godding can keep the town's 1955 vintage buses on the road, nothing is impossible. Anyway, he found that the mystery student who is dying to serve on the Transportation Board is David McCarn. After all, names like David and Joel sound awfully similar.

Anyway, what's in a name when the machinery of town government is moving?

### Mooching

It was learned this week that one of the hostages in the Dominican embassy in Bogota, Colombia is not a diplomat at all. He's a professional gate-crasher, and got caught in the embassy when leftist guerrillas took it over on Feb. 27.

To sneak into such diplomatic parties, the man, identified as Jose Antonio Valencia, poses as the editor of a fictional magazine called "Diplomatic World." Apparently he arrived early on the evening of the embassy takeover, so not to miss out on the free drinks and canapes, and wound up staying later than he expected. Guess that'll teach him a lesson.

And that's the bottom line.

## letters to the editor

# Anderson best alternative to Reagan, Carter

To the editor:

I was pleased to see that, belatedly, the DTH has begun to cast doubt on President Carter's bid for election this November in "A capricious state of mind," (DTH, Feb. 11).

I was less than euphoric about what was written. The editor said that it is difficult to be harsh on the man who threatened to "whip Sen. Kennedy's ass." Why is it difficult to be harsh on a man who has hypocritically been kissing the same part of South Africa's anatomy since 1976 while he says he is for human rights? Why is it difficult to be harsh on a man who has presided over a tripling in the inflation rate? Why should we applaud a man who has made U.S. foreign policy the laughing stock of the world?

Carter has his faults, but we must not wait for them to damage his political fortunes. We must look now at what all the candidates are saying and decide now who is the best man for the job.

In some instances—Reagan's desire to blockade Cuba, for example—we have a clear decision as to whether we want World War III in 1981. However, unfortunately, usually we have no idea what the candidates really do believe, in which case we are in danger of having to vote blind.

This year there is one candidate, though, who does make sense.

Who told the National Rifle Association conference that he is in favor of gun control, while John Connally droned on and on about

HERE'S BOB WITH TONIGHT'S KIDDIE DRAWING OF THE WEATHER...

THANKS, CHARLEY. TONIGHT'S DRAWING IS BY MOOSELY ROBERTS, AGE 10.

IT'S ENTITLED, "LET'S NUKE IRAN INTO THE STONE AGE AND LET IT RAIN AHATULLAH."

THAT SURE IS A NICE DRAWING. THANKS MOOSELY!

OH, ISN'T THAT CUTE!

being "born in Texas with a gun in his hand?"

Who told the Iowa farmers that he supports the grain embargo while Kennedy ranted about them being used as pawns in the election year?

Who backs a 50 cent gas tax with a corresponding reduction in Social Security tax? Who would plow windfall profits tax revenue into energy research rather than into oil development, as advocated by Carter?

Who support for Civil Rights legislation was so eloquent that John Conyers, Democratic leader of the Black Caucus, crossed the floor of the House to shake him by the hand?

When you support a man for President of the United States, why not support the best, regardless of party tag?

John Anderson. Let us go forward with common sense and ideas and not be forced by the fickle fortunes of politics to stagnate in dogmatic party stereotypes.

Clive Stafford Smith  
203 Carr Street

## ABC Board to rule on future of Elliot's Nest

By ANNE-MARIE DOWNEY

A decisive battle between local residents who are fighting to close Elliot's Nest, a Chapel Hill nightclub, and the owner of the controversial club will be waged Friday.

The state Alcoholic Beverage Control Board will decide whether to issue a permit to sell beer and wine to the club's owner, Tony Gore. Unless Gore fights the decision in court, the board's ruling would be final.

If the board denies the permit, Gore likely will be forced to shut down permanently the club. But if the state board grants the permit, the residents, who have complained long and loudly about the club, will have to tolerate having a nightclub in their neighborhood. Either way, someone is going to leave the hearing in Raleigh less than satisfied and more than mildly upset.

The conflict between the residents of South Graham Street and the owner of the club has been brewing since the disco opened its doors in 1975. But when Gore bought the club in December, the residents stepped up their efforts to close the club.

When the complaints became loud enough, the story provided lively copy for the front page. The residents publicly proclaimed that the noise, traffic and parking problems created by the club made their living conditions unbearable. But the most riveting revelation of all was that one resident had caught two supposed Nest patrons in a compromising carnal act in the Second Baptist Church, a neighbor of the club. The headlines were set.

But conflict has since taken a more serious turn, and now the ABC board will have to decide whether to jeopardize Gore's business or risk further outrage from the residents.

At the center of the conflict is the residents'



contention that the nightclub should not be allowed to operate in areas close to residential sections. The site of Elliot's Nest is zoned for commercial use but it borders on a residential zone.

In the past this site, which is adjacent to the downtown business district, has housed other businesses, including a laundromat. The resident's furor and argument that the area had been zoned incorrectly was provoked only when Elliot's Nest moved in.

Derek Godwin of the state ABC office said the ABC board can rule to deny a permit on the basis of a club's location even if the site is zoned for commercial use. If it is found the location is "unsuitable," no permit will be issued.

Following a preliminary hearing of the Elliot's Nest case on Feb. 15, ABC Officer Lowell Siler issued a report stating that Elliot's Nest indeed is unsuitable.

Godwin said the unsuitable clause often is used

to deny permits if the local community opposes the permit request.

"This statute (the unsuitable clause) is more or less my catch-all," Godwin said. "This statute gives (the ABC board) broad powers to take anything into consideration."

Conflicts between residents and bar owners are common, Godwin said. Several community efforts in Raleigh against clubs on Hillsborough Street have been successful in shutting down bars. Much of the opposition to granting ABC permits comes from church groups, most notably the Baptists, he said.

Godwin said many of the controversies that end in the closing of bars and the businessman's losses could be averted if the owner of the establishment would ask about possible opposition before he invests money into his bar. Unfortunately, the ABC board is usually the last stop for businessmen who assume their application for a permit automatically will be approved.

"I feel for those people (the bar owners) sometimes," Godwin said. "But all it would take is a phone call or a few questions around the community."

Since the Elliot's Nest controversy began, the residents have been successful in getting what they want. First, Gore's initial application for a permit was denied. The club has been closed since January. Now the hearing officer's report on Gore's appeal has recommended the club be denied the permit. Chapel Hill Police Chief Herman Stone and other local officials have stated their support for the residents' position. It seems that Gore like many other bar owners may be forced to close his doors permanently and take a substantial financial loss.

Anne-Marie Downey, a junior journalism and political science major from Churchton, Md., is city editor for The Daily Tar Heel.