

Bus changes

Towns plan to expand routes by fall of 1980

By BEVERLY SHEPARD
Staff Writer

Some substantial changes may be made in Chapel Hill and Carrboro bus routes in fiscal year 1981, Chapel Hill's assistant director of transportation Bill Callahan, said Wednesday.

Proposals for the next fiscal year which begins in July, include dividing Carrboro's crowded C-route into eastern and western loops. The route may be split before University students return for the fall semester.

Callahan said the eastern route would include the University campus, Cameron Street, Merritt Mill Road, the N. C. 54 Bypass, Jones Ferry Road, and Main Street in Carrboro. This route would provide service for residents of Old Well, Carolina, Royal Park and University Lake apartments.

The western route would include South Columbia, West Franklin, and Main streets, the N. C. 54 Bypass, and Weaver, Davy and Fidelity streets. This loop would serve residents of Fidelity Court, Berkshire Manor, Chateau and Tar Heel Manor apartments.

"(The two routes) will solve some of (the overcrowding), but it won't eliminate it completely," Callahan said. "Until we get some new vehicles, we won't be able to put (the necessary) service out there."

Callahan said Chapel Hill's Transportation Department is

expecting 16 new buses that were ordered in early 1979 at the end of September. The town plans to put all the new buses in service and to use the older ones as back-ups.

The F route, which runs from North Carrboro to the Eastgate area, also may be expanded, Callahan said. Currently, the F buses only travel into Chapel Hill from Carrboro in the morning and from Chapel Hill to Carrboro in the evening. Callahan said the proposed expansion would provide two-way service as far north as Barrington Hills in Carrboro all day.

"We have discussed the rough ends of the (proposals) and sent copies of the cost to both the University and Carrboro," Callahan said. "We have a long way to go before we develop a complete picture of funding."

The service expansion and changes proposed by the town's Transportation Department will be considered in Chapel Hill's budget hearings in June. The proposals have to be approved by the Chapel Hill Town Council. Callahan said negotiations with the town of Carrboro and the University, which help pay for the bus system, about services expansion will begin in June.

Callahan said the town would reduce bus service for the summer beginning May 6 on the C, F, L, N, and U routes. There will be no S route service during the summer. Weekend service on the U route will end May 4. May 4 also will be the last day of Sunday shared ride service. The reduced schedule will remain in effect until the University reopens in August.

Fares may rise in Chapel Hill

By PAT FLANNERY
Staff Writer

With hearings on Chapel Hill's fiscal 1981 budget just around the corner, the Chapel Hill Town Council soon will have to decide if a bus fare increase will be needed.

Proposals for bus pass increases for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins in July, have been recommended by both the Chapel Hill Transportation Department and the Transportation Board.

Both the Transportation Department and the Transportation Board recommended some increase by approved by the Town Council to help cover the rising costs of operating the bus system, particularly fuel costs. The town's goal is to have bus riders pay for 33 percent of the system's operating costs. Riders currently pay only 28 percent of the costs.

The Transportation Department and Town Manager Gene Shipman have recommended that prices be increased by up to 64 percent, which would put the price of a 12-month pass at \$79 and the price of a nine-month pass at \$65. The passes currently cost \$48 and \$40. Student passes sold by the University are slightly less.

But the town's Transportation Board has recommended smaller increases,



Riders get on old bus on over-crowded C-route ...route to split when town receives new buses

expecting increased ridership next year to help defray operation costs. The board has proposed an increase to \$67 for the 12-month pass and \$58 for the nine-month pass.

Town Council member Marilyn Boulton said she hoped pass increases could be kept to a minimum to encourage bus ridership.

Most Town Council members said that until the final budget is submitted for approval, it will be hard to predict which increase will be most beneficial to the system. But most said that users of the bus system will have to pay some increase to help pay for the service.

"In general, the user of the bus system ought to pay as large a portion of the

fare as is reasonable," Town Council member James Wallace said.

Council member Jonathan Howes said the increase will depend to a great extent on what the forecasted ridership will be and on how much of the town's tax revenue will be devoted to the bus system.

"Obviously, the bus system's is afflicted with radically increasing prices," he said. "My inclination will be to favor lower rates of increase."

Most council members agreed that the lower rate increase would be favorable, but would not predict how the council will vote until the full budget is reviewed. A public hearing will be held on the proposed increases May 8.

Dorm residents need hospital lot

By KERRY DEROGHI
Staff Writer

Morrison Governor Terry Horne has proposed to Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance John Temple several zoning alterations which would allow Morrison residents to park closer to their dorm.

Horne, with Student Government Parking and Transportation coordinator Lee Carr, has proposed that the two S1 parking lots, which now are used only by hospital workers, be changed partially to S4 lots. Students then would be able to park in the lots.

"It's very frustrating to have to run to your dorms for a few minutes and have to park in Craige or Ramshead (lots)," Horne said.

The S1 lot had been zoned originally for student parking but was changed to accommodate hospital workers. It was then changed for both student and hospital parking, but over the summer it was rezoned again totally for hospital workers.

Carr said that now that the parking deck was finished, hospital employees should be able to park in the new spaces. He proposed that by moving some of the hospital people to the deck, several rows of parking would be made available to the students.

"It would be unrealistic for students to get all of the lot," Carr said. "We have a good chance of succeeding; it depends on what Temple can come up with."

Although Carr has already notified Temple about the proposal, the Morrison Executive Council has not yet compiled the parking survey results it plans to submit to him. Those results will be submitted after exams.

Horne said the survey, taken over a period of five work days, showed that the hospital employees alone were not utilizing the space fully.

"There were a number of spaces in the lots that were empty and stayed that way during the day," Horne said. "We also

surveyed the deck and found hundreds of spaces open throughout the day. One day there were over 600 empty spaces.

"I don't think what we are asking for is a lot considering what we found in the surveys of the parking lots. I hope our request will be seriously considered," Horne said.

He said that he would be drafting a letter and making an appointment with Temple to discuss the proposal after final exams.

Temple said he had received the first letter from Horne and Carr and had handed it to the traffic office. Traffic office members would discuss the proposal and then meet with him again, he said.

"If we can assign spaces to the students, we plan to do it," Temple said. "The traffic office needs to get back to me on it. If we can respond right away to what they are asking for, I don't see any need for further meetings."

Few express views at director forum

By STEPHANIE BIRCHER
Staff Writer

Ten students attended a forum Wednesday to express their views on the Student Health Service director's post and voice expectations about the person hired to fill it.

Present SHS Director Dr. James Taylor is resigning from the position effective July 1. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Donald Boulton, who organized the search committee, said he hoped the position would be filled by July 1.

"That, of course, is not always possible," Boulton said. "We are going as thoroughly and as rapidly as possible."

Boulton added that the committee was conducting a national search, that applications were being accepted from the present SHS staff, and that the new SHS director would be a practicing physician.

Several of the students who attended the forum said they would prefer that the committee consider candidates who had experience in public health service administration as well as in practical medicine.

John Thomas, president of Need for Equal Education for Disabled Students, asked the committee to consider a candidate who was aware of the needs of disabled students and willing to act in their behalf.

Graduate student Brad Lamb said the director should have good communication techniques and innovative financing abilities.

Student Government President Bob Saunders and University Services Chairman Scott Simpson gave the committee members copies of an April 17 DTH editorial on the selection of the SHS director.

"We feel the editorial pinpoints our view on the selection," Saunders said.

The editorial said the new director should reassess the services provided by SHS and acknowledge that the problems facing the service concerned management rather than medicine.

Boulton stressed that the search committee was seeking advice from as many students, administrators and student organization spokespersons as possible.

Boulton blamed the lack of advance publicity in the DTH for the low turnout at the forum.

"It is very important to me that (the activities of the committee) are well known," Boulton said. "The door is open, not just today. It was open yesterday and it will be open tomorrow." Students can write, call or visit any of the committee members if they would like to express their views, he said.

The group will meet weekly to discuss prospective candidates for the SHS directorship. The committee will review applications sent in by candidates and will make a recommendation to Boulton, who then will pick a director.

No applications have come in yet, Elliot said, since the advertisement for candidates only recently went out.

"We are not in the position financially to attract the kind of people we want," Boulton said. "They better love Chapel Hill a whole lot."

New rebate plan for triples proposed

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Donald Boulton has approved a proposal to give rebates to students tripled in dorm rooms beginning the first day they are in rooms until they receive notice that they can move.

In the past, students did not receive

rebates until they had been tripled for 30 days. Boulton said it was appropriate that the rebate corresponded to the actual dates of overcrowded occupancy.

He said he felt that the rebate of 20 percent, which goes now to each of the occupants in a tripled room, was appropriate and fair.

Director of Housing James Condie agreed that the 20 percent rebate was a fair percentage.

Because the University wants to find rooms for tripled students as soon as possible, it will allow students who want to cancel their housing contracts to do so with the minimum financial penalty, he said. The University released in January

more than 100 students from their housing contracts in order to make room for tripled students.

"We thought we were making people happy on both ends in that the people who wanted to get out could get out and others could be released from triples," he said.

Residence Hall Association President Peggy Leight said she is glad students will start receiving their rebates on the first day they are tripled because studies have found that crowded living conditions are detrimental to students.

—LINDA BROWN

Morgan proposes income ceilings on student loans

By KERRY DEROGHI
Staff Writer

As a part of a revision of the Higher Education Act which expires this year, Sen. Robert Morgan, D-N. C., has proposed that income ceilings on federal loans to students be reinstated.

The ceilings, lifted by the Middle Income Assistant Act of 1978, would restrict the number of students eligible for federally funded financial aid. Tom Polgar, legislative assistant for Morgan, said the senator's proposal resulted, in part, from reports that students were misusing funds.

"There have been streams of complaints of kids from families with annual incomes of \$60,000 and \$70,000 who are getting loans from the government and then taking the money and reinvesting it," Polgar said. "It's the case of people writing in on their friends. The letters have been coming in from parents about the lawyer down the street whose kids are getting financial aid."

"There have been 15 or 20 dispersed complaints, though the bulk of them have come from Chapel Hill and Duke (University), where the higher income

students go to school," Polgar said. Student Aid Director Will Geer, however, said UNC-CH students have among the highest repayment rate in the country.

"Our students are very responsible," Geer said. "We lend money each year to 3,500 and we do it gladly with no doubts that the students will repay. We're in the business of lending money to young people who have need for financial assistance and who have hopes of continuing their education."

Polgar said that as a part of the Higher Education Act, the financial aid program was being evaluated by both the U. S. Senate and the House. Senator Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., who controls revisions of the student assistance programs, is considering several proposals concerning the revisions. One of these proposals requires students receiving financial aid to provide at least \$700 from their own resources to further their education.

Morgan said he supported this proposal because "it reinforces the principle that meeting the cost of higher education is primarily the responsibility of the student and his family."

In order to cut the total cost of the

financial aid program, several other proposals will be discussed by a full congressional committee within the next two weeks.

One of these proposals calls for the total revision of the financial aid program and the institution of a new loan agency that would regulate money available to students.

A spokesman involved with the proposal said the program could create five times as much money for the students. She said the new loan agency would borrow money from the Federal Reserve Board at low rates and then

redistribute the money to college campuses. These loans would be based totally on need.

Although Polgar did not say whether Morgan supported the proposal, he said Morgan wanted to cut the total cost of the loan program or at least keep it at the present level. He said, allowing for the inflation rate, this would limit the amount of money available to the students.

"In general the Senate wants a cost reduction, and the House wants an increase in the funds available," Polgar said. "It's a big controversy."

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