

To Constitutional amendment

Abortion issue emphasis shifts

By KATHERINE LONG
DTH Staff Writer

The abortion issue limelight will shift this fall from a bill defining life to a Constitutional amendment banning abortions, groups on both sides of the issue said recently.

But any legislation to ban abortions is at least a year away, they said.

Earlier this summer, Sen. John East, R-N.C., headed a Senate subcommittee that passed the Human Life Bill. The bill, written by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., defines life as beginning at conception and denies conception as fertilization.

But passage of the bill by the subcommittee is only the beginning of a long process to send the bill through the House and Senate for a vote that may not take place until next year, said East's press secretary, Jerry Woodruff.

A number of pro-choice groups agreed that the bill would not be passed soon, and said recently that East's eight-day hearings accomplished nothing.

Plates' age makes shift necessary

From staff reports

Someone in North Carolina is going to have to stamp out a lot of license plates in the next few years. All 1975 North Carolina license plates are in the process of being replaced by the N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Motor Vehicles.

Since August 1, the Department has been replacing license plates in the series numbering AAA-101 through JAY-999. "We are replacing these 1975 license plates because these are the oldest plates and many are faded and illegible," said Motor Vehicles Commissioner Elbert L. Peters Jr. The replacement process will take one year, he said.

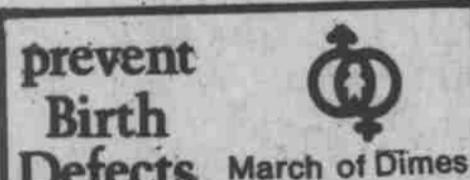
Drivers receiving new plates will receive ones similar to those they currently have. A new license plate commemorating the Wright brothers' 1903 flight will probably be issued by January, said Gonzaline Rivers, Director of the Vehicles Service Section.

UNC students who need to renew their licenses should go to the License Plate Agency in Carrboro, located on Main Street.

There have been a flurry of problems getting this year's batch of plates out to the public, and in recent weeks, a number of headaches have developed for DOT.

First it was noticed that in the special edition plates featuring the Wright brothers' airplane gliding gracefully over a dune-line, several parts of the airplane were not consistent with the original 1903 Wright Flyer. Indeed, it was not quite the same plane, and DOT officials, after having been notified of the error, said they would make the appropriate modifications.

A far more widespread, if minor, problem crept up last week when it was discovered that because some of the embossed letters and plates had been moved on the plate's surface, it was impossible to properly fit the validation sticker onto its proper space without overlapping around the edges. DOT officials said the problem was insignificant and said the plates would be sufficient to do the job.



— LYNN EARLEY

APO sells texts

Tired of those seemingly unending lines at the bookstore? Unhappy with paying more than \$25 for one book? Looking for a better way? The Alpha Phi Omega book co-op may provide an answer to these commonly shared problems. Students are able to buy and sell used books at reduced prices at the co-op. Lillie Eyrich, book co-op chairman, said, "APO sponsors the semiannual book co-op to provide students with an alternative to the Student Stores. The students set their own prices, of which 15 percent goes to the Bernard Grail Scholarship Fund. Last year we were able to donate \$9,000 to the fund."

The last day for collecting books is today. Sales begin today and extend through Thursday in 202-204 of the Carolina Union. Students will be able to collect money and unsold books during cash-back days, which are scheduled for Friday and Sept. 1 in the same rooms. Books unclaimed during regular cash-back days will be held in the APO complex in the basement of the Carolina Union until Sept. 15, Eyrich said. Books or cash unclaimed by then will become the property of APO and will be donated to the Scholarship Fund.

— LYNN EARLEY

Oversupply of gas lowers some prices

Students pay less for gas

By DEBORAH GOODSON
DTH Staff Writer

Even though the General Assembly approved a 3-cent gasoline tax increase this summer, in some instances, students actually are paying less for gas.

"We have an over-abundance of gasoline, and the price is dropping," said Quentin Anderson, public relations director for the Carolina Motor Club/American Automobile Association.

According to Paul Jackson, manager of West Franklin Street Gulf, every tank of his gas came down after the increase, some as much as 2 cents a gallon.

Billy Watkins, a spokesman for M.M. Fowler, Inc., which distributes to area Gulf stations, also attributed prices to an oversupply.

"Basically, prices have stayed level even though the state tax went up," he said. "The major oil companies went down on prices about the same time the gasoline tax was enacted. Therefore, people haven't really felt the increase of the hike. And they're buying as much gas as ever."

The gasoline tax, which marked the first general state tax increase of any kind in a decade, raised the tax from 9.25 to 12.25 cents. It became effective July 1.

Orange County legislators Joe Hackney, Patricia Hunt and Charles Vickery supported the increase.

According to Doris Gupton, spokesperson for the state's Department of Transportation, Gov. Jim Hunt proposed the increase after reviewing recommendations from the blue-ribbon study commission headed by former Gov. Dan K. Moore.

"In the last 30 years, we've raised the gasoline tax one time and that was in 1969," she said. "Everything is going up. Gasoline prices have more than tripled in the last decade. The cost of maintaining our highways

has increased 200 percent in the last 10 years, but our revenues from gasoline have not increased proportionally."

Gupton also noted that while people were taking more trips than ever, they were not buying as much gas due to more fuel-efficient cars.

North Carolina was one of 17 states that had to increase gas taxes this year. Several states did not succeed in ratifying their proposals.

"North Carolina has a special commitment to good roads, because we have a reputation for having them," said Gupton. "But people have to realize revenues will be used for maintenance primarily and not for new construction."

North Carolina, with 75,000 miles of highways, has the largest state-maintained highway system in the nation.

The gasoline tax, part of Hunt's "Good Roads" package, also included a rebate which was defeated.

As originally proposed, the rebate would have been equal to the additional costs of the tax for necessary personal driving.

The "Good Roads" package also raised the cost of a driver's license from \$4 to \$10.

Gov. Hunt defended his action by associating good roads with increased economic development in the state and by noting that North Carolina is basically a rural state with many small cities and spread-out communities, dependent on a good transportation system.

Hunt's spokesmen also declined to comment on the possibility of an additional gas tax increase in 1983.

In other legislative action which happened over the summer, a proposal to increase the cigarette tax was defeated. North Carolina, with 148,000 citizens employed in tobacco farming and tobacco-related industries, currently has the lowest tobacco tax in the nation.

A state system was established to manage hazardous wastes, and \$24.4 million was appropriated for a microelectronics center in the Research Triangle Park to attract microelectronics industries to the state.

Other action included making bid-rigging a felony crime, banning drug paraphernalia, increasing state aid to private colleges and reducing the number of state jobs.

The General Assembly, which will reconvene in October, will wrap-up the \$11.7 billion budget for 1981-1983.

Other issues likely to come up are the severance tax, pay raises for state employees and teachers and a 50 percent increase in the state tax on beer, wine and liquor.



John East

illegal, Woodruff said the Human Life Bill would leave that question to the states. Woodruff said East preferred a statute to a law because it was a "less dramatic" move.

Gray said that if the question came down to the N.C. legislature, abortions would continue in the state.

"The legislature here has consistently — by small but steady margins — favored bills to continue abortion funding," she said.

Select group produces current legal journal

By LAURIE BRADSHER
DTH Staff Writer

"The Review is the most prestigious award, next to the Order of the Coif, awarded to the top 10 percent of the senior class," Editor Kent Auberry said.

A few writers are also selected through a writing competition held in the spring and are judged by the editorial board, which consists of the senior members, over the summer months. The competition is stiff and the standards are rigid for this group. This year's winners of the writing competition were chosen last week.

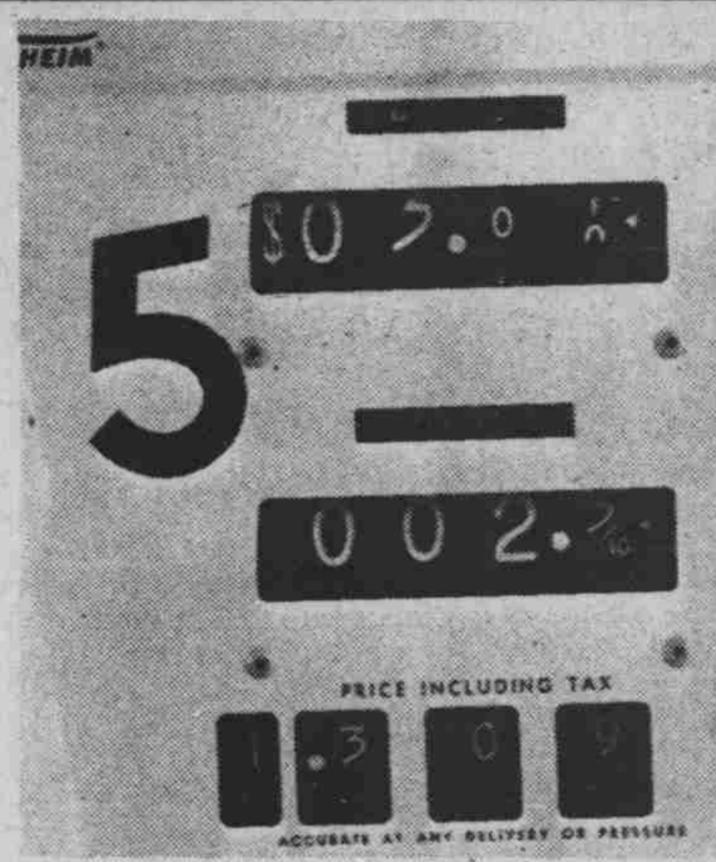
Students on the staff must research and submit two articles. One article, a note, is an analysis of a particular case or statute; the second article is a survey, a shorter note, which deals with a broader issue of the law. The journal's final issue contains surveys which sum up all the important North Carolina cases of that year.

Though students receive no credit hours for their work, time spent on the Review helps prepare them for future jobs. "You learn a lot about research that will help in your practice, even if the material isn't directly related to classes," Ralston said.

The staff of The Law Review worked through a backlog of work last week and is now right on schedule. This staff will "match with the calendar year," as it is the first to produce an issue on time in several years, Auberry said. The first issue is scheduled to be published in October.

Articles for the Review are submitted by practicing attorneys, professors, staff members and other law students. Space limitations often dictate whether or not many of these articles will be printed.

Most law schools have a publication similar to the Review. The journal is found in all law libraries and is used especially for research. Attorneys will often cite material from such publications for reference, and judges sometimes refer to these journals when making decisions.



Due to abundance, prices are down

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