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The Daily Tar Heel

89th year of editorial freedom

'Water, water, everywhere

Since 1968, Chapel Hill residents and students have become familiar with the warning "water shortage." It seems that every time the hot, dry summer comes around, area residents are all once again asked to conserve. Some summers find University Lake looking like a parched, prehistoric desert while in other years the drop in water level is not as severe.

This is one of the better years. While a June drought drew 50 million gallons from the lake's supply, recent rains have almost brought the water level back to normal.

Unfortunately, this encourages a false sense of security for residents who do not realize how easily the water level of University Lake can and does fluctuate. In the past decade, the ever-increasing population of Chapel Hill has put more and more pressure on the water supply. What was once sufficient is now inadequate.

The problem lies in the town's overwhelming dependence on University Lake as its primary water source. In the years when the University controlled the area's water system, alternative supplies were never developed. (The Orange Water and Sewer Authority did not assume control until 1977). So, Chapel Hill is still forced to rely on 5.5 million gallons of water daily from University Lake plus 1.5 million gallons from Hillsborough.

OWASA officials say a safe yield from University Lake is about three million gallons a day. Since the town draws substantially more than that amount, the danger of a water shortage is a constant threat.

There are no final reservoir plans to remedy the shortage in the immediate future, so for now — even with rain — it remains important for residents to conserve as much water as possible.

Although the problem is not as severe as the situation was a few years ago, when students were jokingly starting a "Conserve Water — Shower With A Friend" campaign, the University will have to conserve until additional water sources can be approved and reservoirs constructed.

... not a drop to drink'

While water conservation will keep down bills and help avoid shortages, the quality of discharged water is equally important. Unfortunately, the state's increasing failure to enforce pollution discharge limits is seriously affecting many streams and their inhabitants.

Across the state about one out of every three waste treatment plants is in violation of state pollution discharge limits, according to reports from the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. The result is that water downstream from the plants is often not suitable for drinking — or even for swimming. The polluted water, which often becomes low in oxygen, also will not support fish. More than 5.8 million fish in North Carolina streams and lakes died from low oxygen levels in 1978-1979, and water pollution is getting worse.

Nearly all of the plants in violation of the law, including those at Durham, Greensboro and Rocky Mount, have plans to correct their deficiencies. The problem is a matter of money. The state rarely enforces law violations because it realizes many plant operators simply do not have the money to meet pollution standards.

Without aid from the federal government, municipalities are forced to pass the costs of plant improvements to citizens, an often expensive proposition that does not gain the support of taxpayers. So, municipalities wait for federal government grants, which are slowly decreasing. Under President Ronald Reagan's budget cuts, North Carolina will receive half as much money for sewage treatment plants in 1981 as it did each year from 1975 to 1979.

If the federal government will not finance the improvement of disposal plants — and apparently it will not — state and local governments must. The 1972 federal Clean Water Act is not a government intrusion but a safeguard for the environment. Perhaps a review is necessary and parts of the law could be relaxed, but common sense dictates that when water becomes unfit for human and animal use, the water disposal process must be improved, whether it is required by law or not.

If citizens want clean water, they will have to pay for it. If increased taxes do not suit local governments, they should realize that clean water is a valuable resource and should be a high priority in local budgets. When the state receives its promised flexible block grants from the federal government, it should keep in mind that waste treatment plants desperately need the money lost through federal budget cuts. Clean water is too precious a natural resource to be polluted by a tight fiscal policy.

The Daily Tar Heel

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Composition: Frank Porter Graham Composition Division, UNC Printing Department.

Printing: Hinton Press, Inc., of Mebane.

Yoko's latest art is catharsis for her grief

By MARK MURRELL

"Hammer a nail in the center of a piece of glass. Send each fragment to an arbitrary address."
— Spring 1962, Ono's "Painting to Hammer a Nail"

Yoko Ono peers out of a window of her Dakota apartment in New York. It has been nine months since her husband John Lennon lay bleeding on the sidewalk below. Now, a teenage tourist stands proudly in front of the gate on West 72nd St. as her father hedges his way into the New York traffic with an Instamatic camera to get his daughter's picture at the exact spot where her hero died.

Such is not an unusual sight around the towering old brownstone building these days. Guards have become used to cars pulling up and parking on Central Park West and unloading people who shuffle up to the gate, look around with glazed eyes and then wander off as mysteriously as they came.

Their fascination with fame, death and legend are a daily part of Yoko Ono's life now. For her, the past nine months have been a search for appropriate reactions, explanations, words and gestures. She has startled some and consoled others with a recent album and videotape that deal directly with Lennon's death.

When her album *Season of Glass* appeared, many critics thought the cover showing John's glasses caked with dried blood was in poor taste. Others said the song "No, No, No" beginning with four gunshots and Yoko screaming was simply too painful to be subjected to, since later she screams, "Hate us, hate me. We had everything."

There was also the opinion that her work bordered on exploitation since it included a track of the Lennons' son Sean saying, "Once there was a little boy and he asked his father to tell him that old, old story.... I learned this from my daddy, you know... you see, it can end anywhere."

Although these details seem to be graphic public mourning, they are at heart optimistic because they accept Lennon's death. Yoko seems to be trying to get peo-

ple to accept Lennon's death and to find a way to deal with loss in life.

"Goodbye sadness
goodbye goodbye
I don't need you anymore
I wet my pillow every night
But now I saw the light...
I never want to cry again
Or hold my breath in fear again."

Yoko's recent work has been just as much a favor to Lennon's fans as a cathartic release for her grief. By having the strength to make a lasting public statement about the most tragic event in her life as well as face the accompanying criticism, Ono has proved she is a sensitive artist in her own right.

Although an album so intensely personal is bound to make some listeners uncomfortable, it's almost flattering that Yoko would want to share something like that with Lennon's fans and her own followers. The album was a therapeutic project for her and contains some encouraging end notes to the shock of last December.

"Music was my salvation," Yoko wrote on the album sleeve. "When I started to sing I noticed my throat was all choked up and my voice was cracking. I seriously thought maybe I should quit making the album because as some people had advised me, it was not the time."

"But the question was, when would it be the time? I thought of all the people in the world whose voices were choking and cracking for many reasons. I could sing for them."

Yoko is to be admired for not going into an easy and convenient seclusion, but keeping in touch with the many people all over the world who were concerned.

Shortly after the beginning of 1981, she took out a full-page ad in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and London's *Sunday Times* titled "In Gratitude" for all the people who were wondering about her thoughts, plans and her reaction.

Continued criticism of Yoko for exploiting Lennon's death seems to be cold, ignorant criticism.

Both Lennon and Ono were always very public in their expression of personal feelings, joys and disappointments. They appeared naked on the *Two Virgins* record sleeve, celebrating their love; they cut their hair and sold it at their bed-in for peace and even recorded and released on album the heartbeat of the fetus that Yoko later lost through a miscarriage.

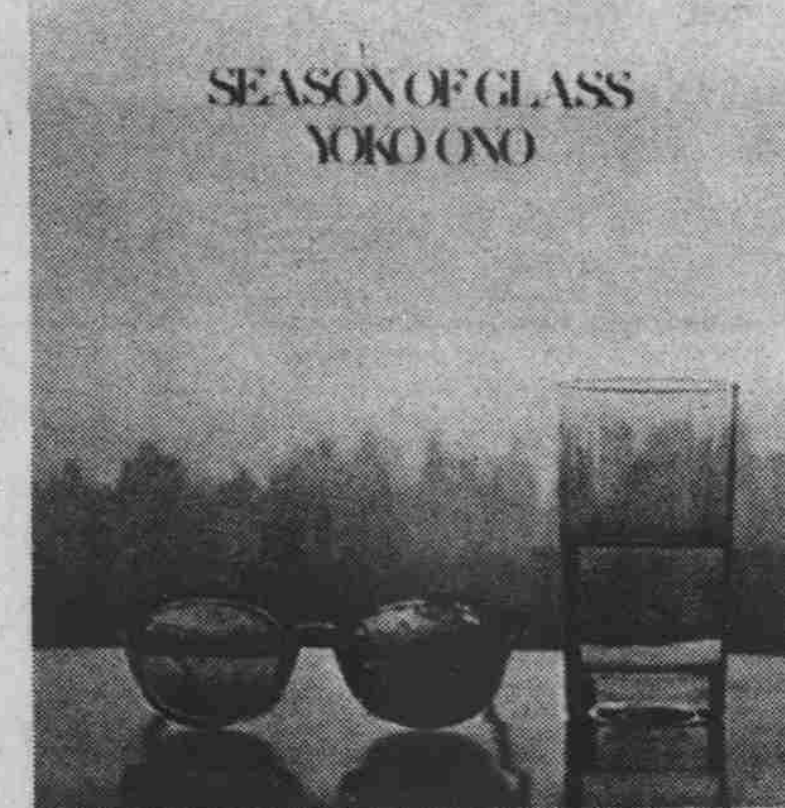
Therefore, it does not follow that Yoko would now be accused of exploiting Lennon's death by releasing a videotape of the couple making love to "Walking on Thin Ice," a song they were in the process of recording when Mark David Chapman appeared in New York.

Yoko has always been controversial. When Lennon was alive, he encouraged that quality in her because his tastes were much the same. She has a way of thinking and writing that blows people out of their socks and shakes up their thoughts. Some people are encouraged, while others feel violated, but everyone stops and notices.

She didn't jump on any Beatles bandwagon. She had been creating avant-garde works when John was but a boy, writing instructions for pieces to be performed by whoever would listen.

"Go to the middle of Central Park pond and drop all your jewelry." — Autumn 1956, Central Park Pond Piece That's a typical creation.

She became known for coming out on stage, placing a clock on a table and walking off, directing audiences to wait until the alarm went off.



The controversial *Season of Glass*

Letters to the editor

UNC sports not limited to varsity clubs

To the editor:

As we begin our first week of classes, it would be wise to consider the benefits of organized recreation to Carolina students, faculty and staff. Everyone needs to burn off some steam now and then, and what better way to do it than through rowing, cycling, backpacking and other activities provided by the UNC Sports Club Council?

Unlike Carolina's varsity athletic program, club sports require no particular time commitment. The clubs are totally student-organized, and the individual may choose the degree of involvement. And, unlike the Intramural program, Carolina's club sports often represent the University in intercollegiate competition.

Current club sports include bassmasters (fishing), cycling, crew, football, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse (women's), racquetball, water skiing, outrig, rugby, sailing, scuba, tennis, soccer (women's), volleyball and water polo.

Anyone interested in a sports club is encouraged to stop by the Pit on Wednesday, Aug. 26, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., when representatives of the various activities will be available to explain their sport. In addition, anyone interested in beginning a new sports club should contact the Sports Club Council office in Suite A of the Union at 962-1013.

Alison Pentz
President
UNC Sports Club Council

Library spies?

To the editor:

Sunday afternoon I visited the Law Library for a few hours of reading. From my carrel I listened repeatedly to whistles, primeval grunts, and the like.

A bit curious, I strolled over to the central reading area picture window to get a glimpse of the UNC football team at practice. I supposed this would be one of my few chances to see the team in action since I had been informed on Friday that although I could attend home games, my children, ages 6 and 11, should they care to go, could not sit with me. The only tickets I could buy for them were for the other side of the stadium.

Just as I reached the window a uniformed policeman, accessories beeping and flashing, tapped me on the shoulder and informed me that the coach didn't want me there — it disturbed his players' concentration. The officer, polite and a bit embarrassed, indicated that he was assigned to the security squad for this session. Peering down to the field, I saw a second policeman, walkie-talkie, gun, mace, etc., at hand, scouting the perimeter of the field, looking for peekers.

Returning to my carrel, the capacity for study gone, I sat obsessed with the awareness that a coach, who apparently assigns learning a lower rank than head-knocking, can control the library as well as the football field.

George S. Jackson
Chapel Hill

Legal advice

Think before you down a drink

Editor's note: This advice is prepared by Student Legal Services which maintains an office in Suite 222 of the Carolina Union. UNC students have prepaid for this service and may obtain advice at no additional charge.

You're 17-years-old and you want to get into a bar in Chapel Hill, or you're 21 and buying liquor for your friends in the dorm. What happens if you try? Who's at fault if you're caught illegally with alcoholic beverages?

In North Carolina it is against the law for anyone under the age of 18 to purchase or possess wine or beer, or for anyone to sell or give wine or beer to those under 18. For liquor, the age limit is 21. Selling or possessing alcohol illegally is a misdemeanor. Additionally, a seller may have his permit and license revoked. This is why restaurants

and bars card you. If the seller sees some form of identification showing the age of the purchaser to be 18 years or more, then the seller is protected. The underage buyer is in violation of the law. It is also unlawful for anyone to permit the use of his or her driver's license by another person in an attempt to violate the liquor laws. Upon conviction, a student loaning their license may lose their driver's license for six months.

Advice For The Day: (1) Always carry some form of identification with you. Expect to be carded at any restaurant, bar or store in Chapel Hill. (2) Realize that you are at fault if you illegally purchase or possess alcoholic beverages, or if you sell or give them to minors. (3) If arrested, seek legal advice as soon as possible.

Banner theft

To the editor:

We wish to protest publicly the theft of the Baptist Student Union "Welcome" banner which hung between two trees on the corner of Battle Lane and Boundary Street. The banner was literally "ripped off" of the grommets and nylon rope by

which it was hung. This act of vandalism has been reported to the Chapel Hill Police Department. However, a more public response seems appropriate to us.

Of course, we cannot know whether or not the vandals are a part of the University community. Nevertheless, such an act of intolerance is a threat to every organization at Carolina that seeks to advertise its existence or simply to welcome new and returning students to Chapel Hill. May it never happen again.

David L. Fouche
Norman Cannada
Baptist Campus Ministry

Editor's Note:
The flag was later found wrapped around two intoxicated students.

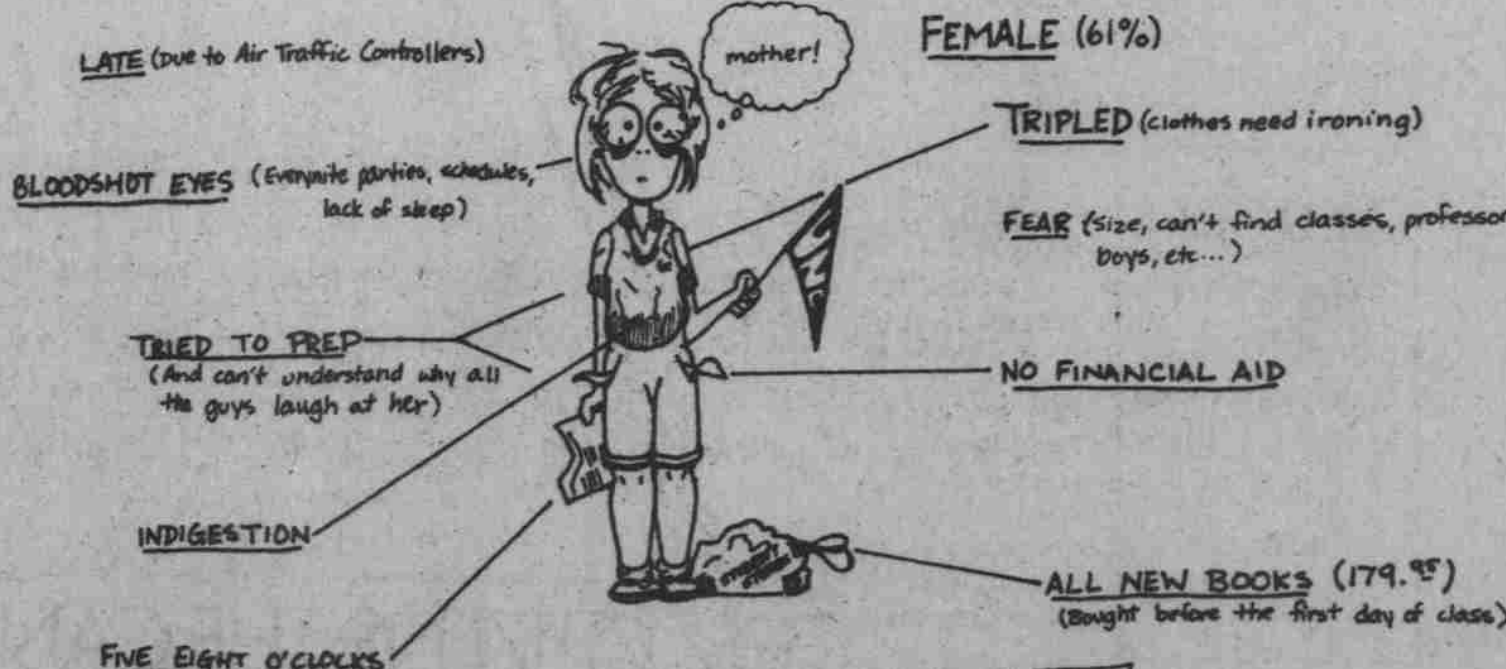
Letters?

The Daily Tar Heel welcomes letters to the editor and contributions of columns for the editorial page.

Such contributions should be typed, triple-spaced, on a 60-space line, and are subject to editing.

Column writers should include their majors and hometowns; each letter should include the writer's name, address and telephone number.

PRESENTING THE UNC FRESHMAN



WELCOME BACK
Dorrell
of
the
TAR
HEEL