

Minister speaks out

By PETER JUDGE
DTH Staff Writer

The Moral Majority and fundamentalist Baptist groups have swayed from their religious and historical roots in the quest for freedom of religion, said Rev. W.W. Finlator Wednesday night in the Carolina Union.

"Baptists are not Baptists any more," said Finlator, a civil rights activist and preacher at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh for the past 25 years.

"As a Baptist, I have a sense of history which I do not think my fellow Baptists, for the most part, share," he said.

He said the denomination began historically with the Anabaptists who were persecuted for their beliefs. "The Baptists said they did not believe in any state church," he said.

"Basically a Baptist is a person who stands for religious freedom," he said. "This freedom carries a very strong emphasis on freedom from religion as well."

"We have to respect the right of people to be agnostic, atheist, skeptics, anti-religious, humanists, secularists and what not. If you don't honor them, then you

don't honor religious freedom."

He said the early Baptists did not believe in "popes, bishops or cardinals." They did not trust people in religious power. "We trust ourselves," he said.

"If you read the Bill of Rights carefully, you will find what happened there is exactly what happened when the Baptists got started," Finlator said.

"The Bill of Rights says we do not trust the government, we trust ourselves," he said. "Number one — you can not trust people. Number two — you sure cannot trust people in power."

The Moral Majority's greatest support comes from the Southern Baptists, Finlator said. "See why I am talking about the Baptists so much?"

"The fundamentalists are content to be repressive on their own theological and biblical issues," he said. "The Moral Majority has taken it a step further.

"They try to define the Christian faith politically," he said. Now what makes a Christian are his views on abortion, homosexuality, prayer in public schools, ERA or busing, he said.

"God hasn't told me what to think about abortion," he said. "And I don't



Rev. W.W. Finlator spoke Wednesday night at Union ... said Baptist groups had swayed from historical roots

think he has told (Moral Majority leader) Jerry Falwell."

He said the Moral Majority had moved from the theological realm to the political realm. "They think that in a nation that is primarily Christian, we must impose these Christian views."

Finlator said the Moral Majority imposed their views through political means — "by giving money, by having single issues, by supporting candidates who support these causes and by targeting those who don't."

Finlator said the Moral Majority and the fundamentalists both insisted the United States was a Christian nation.

Mocking the rhetoric of the religious right, Finlator said, "If (Secretary of State) Al Haig sends more troops into El Salvador, why shouldn't he? It is a Christian nation doing it. Our foreign policy is Christian."

"Anyone who reads the Bible with an open mind will know that no nation ever was or ever will be Christian," he said.

Chapter for liberal causes organizes on campus

By KEN MINGIS
DTH Staff Writer

The Americans for Democratic Action met Tuesday night to organize a campus chapter in an effort to help with a nationwide campaign to fight for liberal causes. Though turn-out was sparse, ADA leaders were enthusiastic about the group's prospects.

"Our focus in 1981 and 1982 is going to be a lot more involvement in elections, grass roots politics and issue discussions," said Charlie King, national director of Americans for Democratic Action youth caucus.

"Since the 1980 election, liberals across the country have been deciding how to regroup," King said. He said

one of the things the group would be doing was to set up summer internships for students who want to work in political campaigns.

"Basically, the person would be working with the candidate's staff as well as attending seminars on various issues," King said. "One senator we want to help is Sen. Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio. He's been targeted for defeat by conservative groups."

King said he had noticed increased student involvement in politics on other campuses as well. "It's good to see people becoming less apathetic," he said. "People are becoming concerned over 'Reaganomics' and their effect."

"When financial aid gets cut, students just can't afford to go to school where they want," King said. "In fact, (President Ronald) Regan's election has been one of the

best thing for the liberal cause."

The ADA also wants to counter the money being spent by conservative groups, he said. "We are going to use 'person power.'"

On a local level, King said students would be lobbying the North Carolina Legislature for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. "In North Carolina, the group also wants to concentrate on local elections."

Nationally, King said he hoped the ADA could get together with the Democratic Party for a voter registration drive. "With the number of people in the party, they would be helpful," he said.

King said the ADA was growing. "We're spreading everywhere," he said.

DOE's abolition to have no effect on consent decree

By J.B. HOWARD
DTH Staff Writer

President Ronald Reagan's announcement last week that he planned to abolish the Department of Education should have

no effect on the consent decree decision reached last July with The University of North Carolina said University officials this week.

The consent decree between the 16-campus University system and the Depart-

ment of Education (formerly the Department of Health, Education and Welfare) was reached this summer after an 11-year dispute. Part of the agreement provides for 29 graduate and undergraduate programs at the five predominantly black

campuses in the UNC system.

Andrew Vanore, counsel to the University in the case, said there would be some one in the Department of Justice to oversee the implementation of the decree.

The only change, according to The University of North Carolina Board of Governors chairman John Jordan, would be that progress reports concerning the decree would be sent to the Justice Department instead of to the Department of Education. Jordan said the consent decree was "an order of the court," and, therefore, could not be altered by abolition of the Department of Education.

Housing project prompts negative reactions

By RICHARD FLYNN
DTH Staff Writer

A proposed public housing project in the North Forest Hills-Lake Forest North Shore area of Chapel Hill has prompted negative reactions from many of the residents there.

Petitions, letters and speeches voicing disapproval of the project, to be located at the corner of Piney Mountain and Eastwood Roads, were presented to the Chapel Hill Town Council at a public hearing this week.

David F. Reed, a Shady Lawn Road resident, said "the argument that is the strongest (against the project) is that the site is so remote."

He said the site was two miles away from any shopping facility in any direction, and was geographically far removed from job opportunities and recreational facilities.

Reed said that density was also a problem; North Forest Hills is mostly a single-family housing area, and, "to change that would be to change the whole character of the community."

He said his feelings also applied to apartment buildings and

condominiums, not just to the housing project.

Reed wanted to emphasize that this was not a racial issue. There is a wide range of racial, ethnic and economic differences, he said. "This is one of the most well-balanced neighborhoods in Chapel Hill."

Marilyn Boulton, a member of the Town Council, agreed with the residents.

"I believe (such a project) is very necessary, but ... I think it should be closer to work areas. I just think it's too dense."

The local housing authority has proposed 32 housing units on seven acres in the North Forest Hills area. "The town is also buying three homes on Church Street and building 20 units for the elderly and handicapped," Boulton said. "They could build 26, but 20 is more appealing. I wish they'd taken that approach at Piney Mountain."

"But that would be too expensive. We have to build what HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) pays for."

The Town Council is expected to vote on the project at its meeting Monday.

Reagan's plan would be, in effect, a "paring down and consolidation" of the Department of Education, Vanore said.

UNC President William C. Friday said the consent decree was "a matter of relationship with the federal courts," but added that the abolition of the Department of Education would be a mistake.

"I don't believe we would have resolved the civil rights issue without the department and a secretary like (Secretary Terrell) Bell," Friday said.

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