

## THE TAR HEEL

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### 'Don't get caught'

Ah, to be a reporter in Washington these days. These are the times that make a Woodward or a Bernstein or a Hirsch out of a "hungry," but green, newsman. Who is the mole? What top Reagan administration official will be first to get the axe as the case of the Carter campaign book does its best to become a full-blown scandal? Baker? Casey? Stockman? Surely, somewhere, there is a Deep Throat to tell all.

But maybe not. Is it fair to compare Debategate with Watergate? To many, such is analogous to a comparison of apples and oranges, or, worse yet, Central America and Vietnam. The press is being accused of overplaying the issue. Such a charge is not surprising, and in fact, it is incredibly common. But this time the charges deserve serious consideration and reflection.

The press corps in Washington could continue to hound every White House aide and official available, and perhaps the reporters would uncover that an illegal espionage operation was conducted by Reagan's 1980 campaign staff.

Or, equally possible, the press might create such a charge.

Responsible journalism is a must at all times, but coverage of this issue deserves kid glove treatment. Politics is politics, and some Carter aides admit they might have welcomed information such as the Republicans obtained. Perhaps it was only luck that the Republicans broke the cardinal rule of espionage: Don't get caught.

Now that they face intense scrutiny from public and press alike for the second time in a decade, the question of coincidence or habit is raised. Let's hope it is coincidence.

### THE WEEK IN REVIEW

## Gender gap to confound Reagan

It is evident that many of the women in this nation don't want Ronald Reagan to stay in the White House for a second term. This week, Kathy Wilson, chairman of the 73,000-member National Women's Political Caucus, called on President Reagan not to run for re-election. Indeed, Wilson said that the group regards Mr. Reagan as a "dangerous man" to woman's rights.

The group's main gripes against President Reagan are his opposition to the equal rights amendment and abortion, plus his refusal to support substantial legislation to guarantee economic equality for women.

The decay of Ronald Reagan in the eyes of the Caucus began at the 1980 Republican National Convention. There, in a break from 40 years of party tradition, Reagan supporters took away their endorsement of the equal rights amendment from the party's platform.

Public opinion polls show that President Reagan has considerably less support among women than he does with men. A recent *New York Times*/CBS News Poll showed that a 24-point gap between Republican men and women on the question of whether President

Reagan should be re-elected — 86 percent of the men felt that Reagan deserved a second term, but only 62 percent of women agreed.

Obviously, this apparent resentment could be a great obstacle for Reagan should he choose to run for re-election. Reagan had best clean up his act with the women in this nation lest they prove to be the nexus in his defeat. Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.

### Latin American Unrest

In Central America, chaos and U.S. political influence continues. In El Salvador, the negotiations remain at a standstill thanks to Richard Stone's apparently unsuccessful attempt to bring both guerillas and the Salvadoran government to the bargaining table.

Reports of yet another missing person in Guatemala, disclosed this past week, show that all is not well for the Rios Mott government. The disappearance of Lucretia Orellana Stormont, a lecturer at Guatemala's University of San Carlos and the 34th person missing at large, is indicative of a society where violence and instability lurks just below the surface and

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Brown's false impressions

To the editor:

I am writing concerning an article published in the June 23 *Tar Heel*. ("The Clue works to build up strong musical reputation in Chapel Hill") The article describes a new band, The Clue, that is playing in the Chapel Hill area and focuses on the manager and drummer David Brown. He is quoted as saying several things about his former band, the John Santa Band, that could most charitably be described as confused.

For about a year I worked for the John Santa Band as a roady. In that time I thought I came to know the band and its members fairly well. Clearly, however, I was in error because the article describes a band that I am totally unfamiliar with. In particular, I hadn't realized that Mr. Brown played keyboards and sang other than at the end of one song in which as part of the stage show the musicians traded instruments and played for several bars. It was my understanding that John Santa had written and arranged all of the band's music. And I am excited to hear that Mr. Brown worked on a John Santa Band album, which I hope will be out soon, because the only recording work that I know of the band doing was to produce tapes that might lead to an album contract and to train those band members that were unfamiliar with studio work (including Mr. Brown).

To me, the most incomprehensible parts of the article are those that describe unhealthy tension within the John Santa Band and characterize that band as a group that Mr. Brown would have to get away from in order to get things done right. The other four musicians and the two technical people of the John Santa Band seemed to me to be highly talented individuals who strove to be the best that they

could be at their respective crafts and to meld their collective abilities into a unified whole. Other band members that I have spoken to will admit to some degree of discord concerning some aspects of the band's music, probably not a surprising consequence of assembling seven talented people. But none of these other band members have described to me problems with the John Santa Band of the magnitude conveyed by the article. All of the other musicians have expressed willingness to do studio work with John Santa should he begin recording an album. Mr. Brown's unhealthy tensions with the John Santa Band can perhaps be better understood when illuminated by the quote of Mr. Brown's friend Julie Plunkett, "At times David does tend to be more of a dictator than he thinks and does a lot more decision making than he will admit."

I do not mean to disparage in any way Mr. Brown's talents as a drummer in a pop/rock band or as a percussionist in a concert setting (I attended one of his recitals in which he showed a fine grasp of the material). Nor do I wish him any ill in his efforts to form a band. I do, however, find bewildering his remarks about a band and about individuals that I care very much for. Mr. Brown's remarks concerning the John Santa Band seem to me to convey a completely false impression of John Santa and the other band members. If Mr. Brown's comments are an accurate reflection of his views toward his previous band and its members, then I would strongly advise the members of The Clue to read carefully the last published sentence of the article as they consider their own future with that band.

Mac Monroe  
Chapel Hill

## Santa and band 'outstanding'

To the editor:

I was upset by several of the comments made by David Brown of The Clue regarding the John Santa Band. I can understand that David was disappointed when the band broke up (he did not "quit"). They were an outstanding musical group. I cannot understand David's backbiting comments. Since I do not want to launch a personal attack on David's character, I will just say that, despite his impressive talent as a drummer, if he continues to

behave as he has in the past, soon no one will want to play with him. As for John Santa, all I can say is he is one of the nicest, sweetest, good guys around, and I know he gave David more chances than most people would have. Of course, David's behavior was not the only factor in John's decision to break up the group — there was also a problem in trying to find a new bass player. But I would like to leave a clue for The Clue — read the last paragraph of that interview carefully.

Elaine Royal  
Hillsborough

pressed lately to rear up and show its ugly form in the Chapel Hill vicinity. Not that it hasn't tried. The city's double-trouble dual elite law enforcement agencies, the Chapel Hill Police Department and UNC's Campus Police, successfully met two attempted burglaries head on last week.

On Saturday, the alarm system at a new barbecue restaurant on the bypass went off — intruder on the premises. Officers quickly formed a dragnet and flushed the culprit from his hiding place beneath a table. Town and campus cops joined forces in the effort, sporting a style any SWAT team could be proud of.

A public safety officer's work is never done, however. The next night, an alert employee (perhaps a dishwasher?) at a Rosemary Street Mexican restaurant spotted a stealthy, shadowy form clamboring over the establishment's fence. Police were quick to the scene, and they arrested a 26-year-old would-be cat burglar.

It is truly reassuring to know we are in such competent hands. Have one on us, fellahs.

Written by Ginie Lynch, associate editor, and Jeff Hiday, editor.

### The Police Blotter

Closer to home, violence has been hard-