

At the DTH with Charles Kuralt

By **SALLY PEARSALL**
Editor
and **RON CRAWFORD**
University Editor

It was business as usual at the DTH offices last month, until a celebrity appeared in our midst.

"Hello, I'm Charles Kuralt," he said, and he certainly was. "Do you mind if I look around?"

He said he was trying to find a place to film a segment for a possible television series, "Try to Remember," which would focus on certain significant weeks in history. For this particular episode, Kuralt had chosen the week of May 17, 1954 — the week of the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark desegregation ruling.

And he'd decided to begin the episode with a personal journey back to May of 1954, when he was a 19-year-old undergraduate at the University and the newly-elected Daily Tar Heel editor.

Soon his camera crew was setting up in the editor's office,

while the rest of us lined up to get autographs.

Kuralt, a Wilmington native, is one of the University's favorite sons. His "On the Road With Charles Kuralt" series for CBS has endured since 1967; he specializes in what Time magazine called "authentic, uplifting Americana." He also anchors the "Sunday Morning" program on CBS.

Kuralt enjoys the unique freedom his job allows. "CBS just lets me wander," he said. However, he said, he always has to be back in New York on Sundays to do the live broadcast of "Sunday Morning."

As an undergraduate at UNC, he was a member of the Golden Fleece, Old Well and Grail honor-

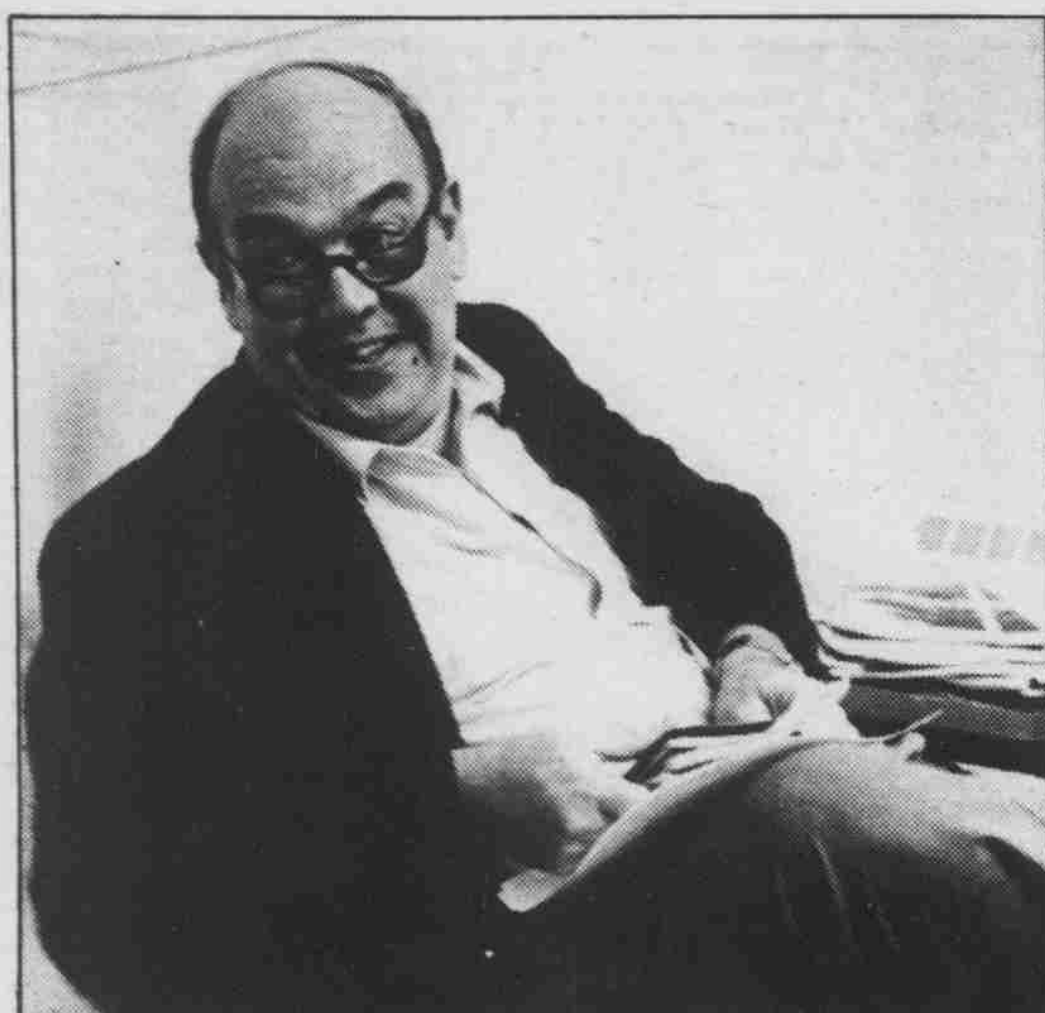
ary societies. But he spent most of his time working in the Daily Tar Heel offices, which were located on the second floor of the Graham Memorial building.

Kuralt majored in history, but said his studies came second to his work at the student newspaper.

"I started dropping courses to keep up with the work on the Tar Heel," he said. "I kept dropping courses until I finally had dropped them all — so I was editor of the Tar Heel, but I wasn't a student."

The paper was published six days a week, he said, and was printed on a flatbed press in Carrboro. Every photograph had to be taken to Greensboro to be

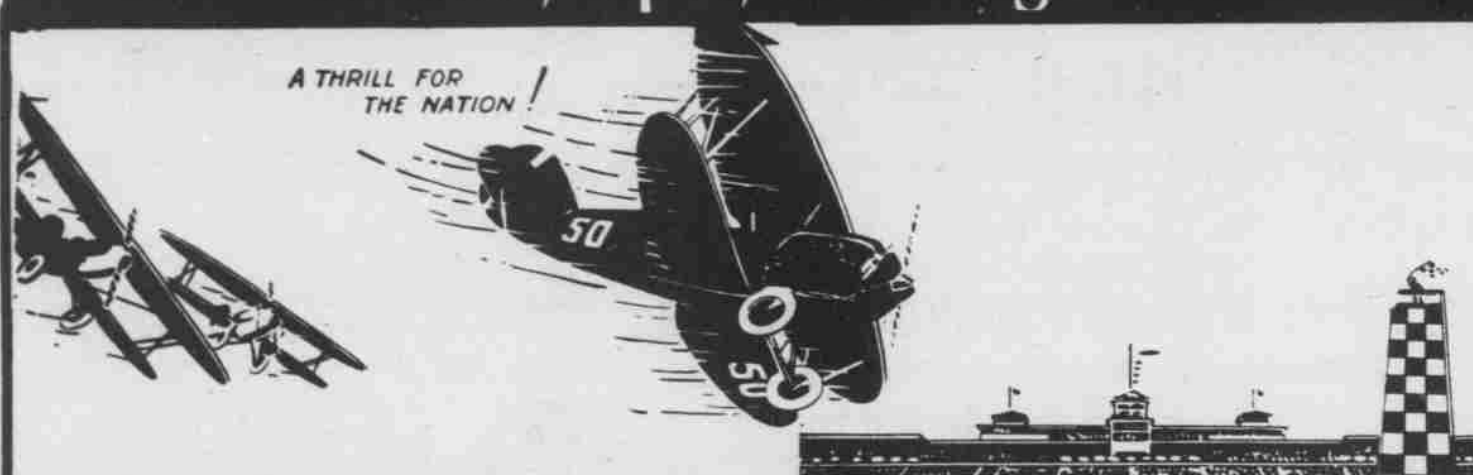
See KURALT page 43



Tar Heel/Laura Patterson

Charles Kuralt talks with DTH staffers in the editor's office

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