

# Experts optimistic about peace negotiations in Nicaragua

By ERIC GRIBBIN  
Staff Writer

Although the negotiations between the leftist Sandinista government and the contra rebels in Managua, Nicaragua, have not yet resulted in a truce, the negotiations are encouraging, say observers of the peace process.

"I think that the long-term prospects are good," said Sophia Clark, first secretary at the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, D.C. "The problem is that the contras them-

selves are divided. Some of them have been under a great deal of pressure from the (Nicaraguan) administration. There is, however, a basic consensus among the contra leadership and the field commanders in favor of the talks."

The contras have moved into cease-fire zones and sent an eight-member delegation to the talks.

"The government does not want the contras to continue to drag their

feet. We (the Nicaraguan government) want a definitive cease-fire. This is the end goal. I expect something to be signed soon. The fact that both parties went to the talks today is encouraging," Clark said.

The Sandinistas are allowing contras in the cease-fire zones to receive humanitarian aid, she said. The government does not expect the contras to regain the power they had earlier in the fighting, so through the treaty the contras may be able to

achieve political solutions, she said. "I believe that a truce is possible, but it's not going to be easy," said a Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff member. "But as long as both sides maintain a commitment to peace, it is a possibility. It is important that the U.S. government also has a willingness to see a truce completed."

If the talks break down, the contras could not continue without military aid from Congress, he said, and it

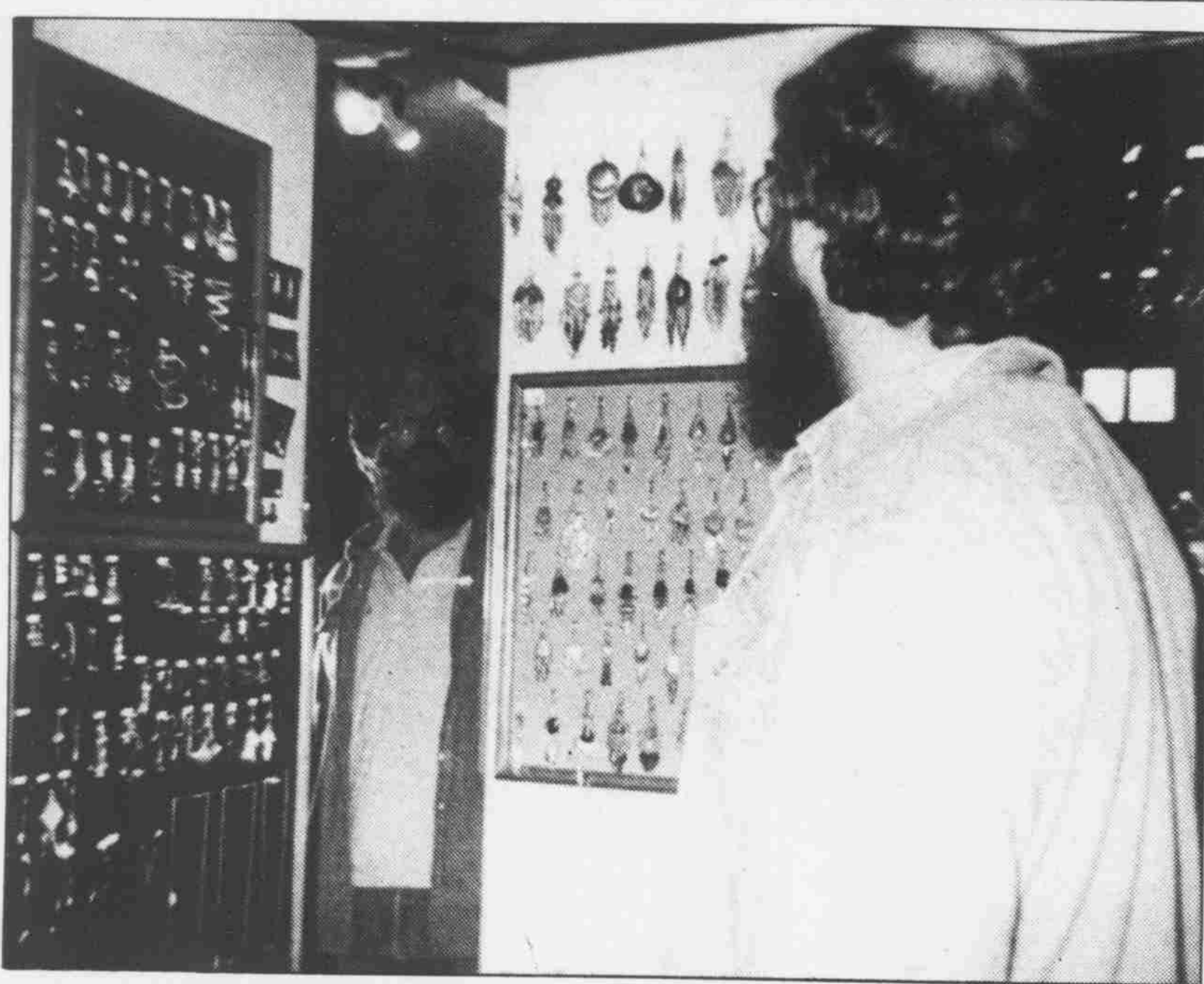
is unlikely that Congress would grant it. But even if they do break down, the fighting would not end, he said.

An official with the State Department said the contras may not be able to continue fighting.

Ellen Bork, a deputy press adviser for Interamerican Affairs, said, "It's a little hard to say whether or not the contras could regroup if the talks broke down. The contras have gained some political power, as evidenced by the fact that they are now negotiating

face-to-face with the Sandinistas. They are also weak in some areas, because they need consistent humanitarian aid.

"But... the contras have lasted eight years with ups and downs, so they can certainly last a few months without aid during the talks. The United States believes that, with adequate support, the contras can win their objective, which is an irreversible democratization. But it remains to be seen."



DTH/Christie Blom

Drew Maultsby, owner of Light Years Jewelry on Franklin Street, admires his selection of earrings

## Like jewelry, some good stores come in pint-sized packages

By LINDA VAN DEN BERG  
Staff Writer

When he was a child, Drew Maultsby might have operated a lemonade stand on the side of the neighborhood street. Although his current business is not physically larger — the address (119 1/2 Franklin Street) requires only half a street number — his clientele definitely is.

"When we started this shop here, we just put a table across the doorway which displayed our items," said Maultsby, the owner of 8-by-10-foot Light Years Jewelry. "It was more like peddling."

He and his wife Phyllis no longer have to entice people strolling by to enter the cubicle and scan the more than 2,000 sunglasses, necklaces, earrings, pins and bracelets lining the walls.

Maultsby attributes Light Years' two-year success to its unique and affordable jewelry. "It caught on right away because it is a style and price that the other jewelry businesses did not offer."

There are eight other jewelry stores on Franklin Street.

The majority of the items are priced from \$5 to \$30. Maultsby

says he generally buys from small manufacturers or craftspeople who make their own jewelry, so the items are of limited quantity.

Business also increased because Light Years is located in a college town, he said. Residents in Chapel Hill are willing to wear jewelry other than standard, conservative gold accessories.

The majority of customers are students, but some professionals also frequent Light Years, according to Maultsby. Special events at UNC also attract browsers on weekends.

Surprisingly, the jewelry shop owner says he does not portray himself as a jeweler or a jewelry maker. In fact, Maultsby is actually a leather craftsman.

He learned the trade from his sister and worked in a leather shop for eight years before attending the University of Georgia in 1979. After three years of majoring in forestry, Maultsby moved to the forest to work in a leather shop in Highlands. He and his wife then returned to Chapel Hill in 1985 to open their own leather shop in Carr Mill Mall.

"A friend of mine who owned this shop (now Light Years) then

called me up saying that George's Cheap Shop, which sold pipes, was moving out and asked if I'd like to lease the space," Maultsby said.

At that time, he knew nothing about jewelry. After selling various items, including leather goods, the owners "decided to concentrate on jewelry because it best fit the market and space," he added.

Maultsby said the key to his own business is not knowing how to make the jewelry, but where to find it — an aspect of the job that he enjoys. Each month he travels to New York City to buy his jewelry from shows as well as from street peddlers.

In addition, Maultsby said he and his wife, the store's only employees, also enjoy being their own co-bosses. "I'm committed to being self-employed," he said. "But that usually doesn't leave much free time."

The shop is open from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and business is rarely slow, Maultsby said.

Consequently, he hopes to expand business — maybe to a location that would require a whole street number.

## Lenient drunken driving sentences may violate law

By TAMMY BLACKARD  
Staff Writer

Some N.C. judges are reducing charges and postponing final judgments in drunken driving cases, violating the stronger driving while impaired laws of the 1983 Safe Roads Act, court observers say.

Some judges continue to reduce DWI charges to careless and reckless driving or to give out prayers for judgment continued (PJC's), they say. No judgment is entered on the record of a driver who receives a PJC, even though the driver pleaded guilty to DWI charges.

The old law against driving under the influence allowed drivers to plead guilty to the lesser offense of careless and reckless driving after drinking. But the Safe Roads Act supposedly eliminated plea-bargaining and limited a judge's sentencing power.

"The Safe Roads Act was supposed to force a decision on a drunk driving charge," said James Drennan, one of the authors of the act and the coordinator of UNC's Institute of

Government N.C. Courts Center. "The act was supposed to eliminate any convenient compromises on drunk driving."

Judges can sentence the driver to a lesser charge if the prosecutor changes the DWI charge, Drennan said, but judges seem to be skipping that step.

N.C. Special Deputy Attorney General Ike Avery said, "Under DWI laws, there are no lesser-included offenses. Some judges are trying to find drivers guilty of something they weren't charged with. This isn't what the Legislature intended."

Becky Bowman, president of the Wake County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, said the DWI rulings are convenient for courts. "I think it's justice for sale," she said. "It's a lazy way out, and it gives the person that's broken the law the idea that it's not such a bad thing. That atmosphere perpetuates the crime itself."

"With a careless and reckless driving sentence you see no hint of

an initial DWI charge on a driver's record," she said. "And a PJC is sort of a nice generous handout by the law — a favor. If a driver is charged with DWI again, there is no record of his first DWI charge if he was given a sentence to a lesser charge or a PJC. . . . We try to close the gap and eliminate these discrepancies, but there are many loopholes."

Orange County District Attorney Carl Fox said he does not think judges in Orange County are reducing DWI charges or giving out many PJC's. "DWI sentences are mandated by law," Fox said. "The law prohibits plea-bargaining and failure of the judges to follow the law is not legal."

If convicted of a DWI charge, a driver either goes to jail, is fined, has his license revoked or is given community service. These punishments can range from 60 days in jail and a \$100 fine to two years in jail and a \$2,000 fine.

The maximum sentence for careless and reckless driving is six months in jail or a \$500 fine.

## Despite delay, Vaughan thrills crowd with blazing blues-rock

Stevie Ray Vaughan brought down the house in Memorial Hall Sunday night with an electrifying display of guitar-playing wizardry.

Vaughan has been acclaimed as one of the finest players of his generation, and his spellbinding show Sunday night demonstrated why he has become a blues-rock legend. Vaughan's band Double Trouble provided excellent support, and Vaughan's singing was soulful and impressive, but his guitar pyrotechnics were the cornerstone of his unforgettable show.

Despite the overall success of the concert, the show got off to a bad start. The power in Memorial Hall went out just as Vaughan and his band took the stage, and the hall remained smothered in darkness for almost 50 minutes. A roadie came onstage to beg the crowd to remain patient while the power company repaired the malfunction, but many in the crowd began to boo and become impatient during the long delay.

When the power was finally restored, Vaughan came onstage and launched into "Scuttle Buttin'," and in the first minutes of this opening number he captivated the previously restless crowd. Vaughan played a series of death-defying, lightning-quick solos during this number, and these rapid-fire guitar blasts set the tone for the evening. He segued into "Soul to Soul" next, and he maintained the intensity of his guitar-fueled onslaught throughout this song and the four songs that followed.

Vaughan and the band thundered through the first half-hour of the show with almost no interruptions, and by the time Vaughan finally paused to change guitars and allow the audience to catch its breath, he and his sidemen had already delivered a textbook example of the way Texas boogie blues should be played.

Vaughan turned up the fire even more as he and his band slashed through their bluesy version of the children's nursery song "Mary Had a Little Lamb." This song was played at mid-tempo, but Vaughan's angry guitar solos made this slower song as powerful as the quicker ones that opened the show. The band began to grow quieter as the song progressed, and Vaughan responded to the band's changed dynamics by

### David Hester Concert

playing a series of subdued and mellow blues lines. The band began to bring its volume back up about halfway through the song, and Vaughan returned to his previous blazing style. Vaughan brought the song to its climax by moving his guitar behind his back and continuing to play his stinging solos as if nothing were out of the ordinary. This Hendrix-esque flourish added a theatrical touch to the performance, and Vaughan's use of one of Hendrix's visual trademarks helped show the respect one legendary guitarist feels for another.

Vaughan's singing was good throughout the evening, but his voice could often barely be heard over the roar of his band during the first two-thirds of the concert. His vocals were soulful and rich during his version of "Superstition," for example, but the effectiveness of the song was diminished by the fact that the sound of his guitar sometimes overwhelmed his voice. In fact, Vaughan's voice was so deeply buried in the mix that his words were occasionally unintelligible.

Even though Vaughan's voice did not receive enough amplification during the early parts of the show, the quality of his singing was still apparent. Vaughan's rough and powerful voice frequently made itself heard despite the poor sound production, and Vaughan had enough raw vocal talent to prevent the bad sound mixing from seriously affecting the show. Vaughan's voice finally received the amplification it deserved during the last part of the show, and his commanding barroom voice rang out with authority during these closing numbers. Such uneven sound production may have caused serious problems in another musician's performance, but Vaughan's musical mastery made the poor sound mixing seem like nothing more than a temporary annoyance.

The members of Double Trouble rocked as hard as their leader did. Drummer Chris Layton and bassist Tommy Shannon provided rock-solid rhythmic support for Vaughan's guitar explorations, but they generally stayed in the background and did

not stray into the limelight. Keyboard player Reese Wynans also provided musical support for Vaughan, but numerous solos gave him a chance to shine on his own. Wynans' playing was fluid and rich, and he showed his command of a variety of styles ranging from Memphis blues to rockabilly. Wynans' sinuous organ lines on "Pride and Joy" were exceptional, for example, and they brilliantly expanded the melodic lines laid down by Vaughan with his guitar.

The musical skills of the members of Double Trouble did not prevent Vaughan from dominating the show, and this dominance may have been most impressive on Vaughan's riveting version of "Tin Pan Alley." This slow song provided an effective counterpoint to the uptempo rock and boogie tunes which comprised the bulk of the show, and Vaughan gave an extremely powerful interpretation of this type of blues ballad. Vaughan was bathed in red light as he stood at the front of the stage with his head down, shaking out anguished and wrenching blues lines from his guitar.

Vaughan's technical brilliance had been the hallmark of his playing over the course of the evening, but his slow and mournful solos on this song showed that he could also play emotional and subdued blues. Vaughan's singing was also very moving, and it recalled the styles used by the old delta blues singers.

Vaughan took time out during one of the show's final numbers, "Couldn't Stand the Weather," to talk to the audience about his recent drug problems. He quietly told the audience how drugs had torn him away from the people he loved, and he briefly described his struggle to kick his habit. This talk could have sounded preachy and sappy, but Vaughan's simple sincerity made the speech seem appropriate.

The concert was opened by an Austin group called Bill Carter and the Blame. The Blame gave a soft and unimpressive performance, generally seeming competent but uninspired. They came across as the Huey Lewis and the News of Texas boogie.

The night belonged to Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble, however, and they gave a demonstration of the way God meant blues and rock 'n' roll to be played.

## Parking

Sullivan did say, however, that he thought the situation has improved, and the parking office is doing a good job overall.

"The parking office has handled the situation well," he said. "However, I think there should be more enforce-

ment on the towing policy of repeated offenders."

Mary Fox, parking control coordinator, said parking control tows people who have received more than four or five tickets.

Also, people who have K-lot

permits have an option to park in the Craige L-lot, she said.

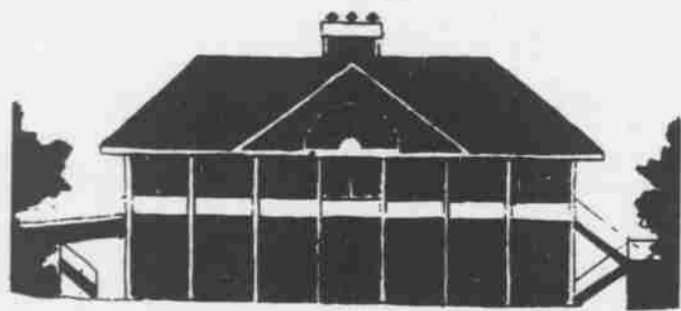
Paul Hoolahan, associate athletic director, said athletes are aware and responsible for the penalties they will face if they park illegally.

"Under no circumstances does the athletic department take responsibility for the fines the athletes receive," Hoolahan said. "They are subjected to the exact same penalties that any other offender faces."

Sullivan said anyone noticing an illegally parked car should call the parking office. Someone from the office will be sent to ticket the illegally parked cars.

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