

Welcome to Chapel Hill, but first . . .

By LILLIE LOVE

Chapel Hill is not your ordinary run-of-the-mill North Carolina town. This is a unique village and some newcomers have difficulty adjusting to life here. Here are several interesting facts that will help make the transition to Carolina smoother.

Sitting

Sitting is a popular past-time here, but it isn't how you sit, it's where you sit. Sitting on walls is the most popular place to rest your derriere. But not just any walls, mind you.

The most popular wall is the one in front of Greenlaw Building. Around noon, it is filled with Blacks who just sit there, talk, joke around and people-watch.

The football players usually opt for the wall on the side of the graduate library. And the walls on Franklin Street are usually taken by the townspeople. Some students do lounge there during the early evening, though.

Lines

Standing in line is an accepted way of life here. You wait in line for registration, financial aid, basketball tickets, football tickets, and to eat at some

restaurants. Here you line up to line up. Don't despair; just learn to pass the time. A favorite way is by talking about the people standing in front of you.

Football Games

Football games here are a social event, a dress-up, drinks-up occasion. The games start at 1:30, but it's best to get to the stadium around 11:30 to stand in line in order to get good seats. Bring your lunch with you. Everyone else does. Dress well. Everyone else does. Scream dirty chants at the referee. Everybody else does. Stagger home. Everyone else does.

Beer

Among certain groups, beer is replacing water as the number one drink at Carolina. Whenever the Union or the dorm throws a get-together, beer is almost always served. If you don't like beer, soft drinks are sometimes offered also. With all this free beer around, it is easy to overindulge. Don't. It's not worth the pain in the head the next morning or the extra inches around the waist.

Stepping

If you are not familiar with Black Greek or social organizations (i.e.,

sororities and fraternities), then you don't know what a step or a blockshow is. A blockshow is a performance by one of the Greek or social organizations. It is chants, precision steps and a lot of fun. It's also a social affair as most people turn out to a blockshow.

Running

Whether you are running to catch a bus or just running for fun, running is a way of life here. There are joggers everywhere. Some are barely running; they're just walking quickly. But they are jogging. It's a popular past-time and if you have taken it up, put on your track shoes and join the crowd.

Organizations

There is a University-funded organization for almost every interest. Just about everybody here belongs to some kind of group. There is the Black Student Movement, of course, the Association of Women Students and the Carolina Indian Circle.

A word of caution: When referring to these various organizations in abbreviated form, don't confuse the letters. There's quite a difference between the CGC (Campus Governing Council) and the CGA (Carolina Gay Association.)

Welcome to Chapel Hill.



Beverly Wells, an English/Journalism major from Kinston, N.C. was Miss Black Ink 1979.

Expressway threatens Durham community

By PAM COUNTS
Staff Writer

A black neighborhood in Durham has risen up to assert its right to undisturbed continuance, and lately, the whole town is talking about it. The Crest Street neighborhood located in West Durham has risen up in opposition to a plan written by the State Department of Transportation (DOT) to build an expressway through the heart of their small community. The DOT has planned to extend the East-West highway in order to alleviate some of the traffic congestion problems in West Durham.

Crest Street spokesmen have pointed out that few blacks have been included in the planning of the East-West highway or its extension even though it is black neighborhoods that have been most directly affected by DOT design decisions. The Crest Street committee in addition has even generated some alternatives to the proposed extension which they say are more in keeping with federal transportation and energy policy than the East-West extension plan.

Many supporters of the highway extension appear to be baffled as to why the community is battling so hard to maintain their neighborhood when it is obviously physically blighted. Among some of the problems evident are the considerable number of homes that are below standard and the less than adequate street network of dirt roads. Even given these adverse conditions the Crest Street residents have rejected some relocation schemes.

One of the proposals has been to move the community *en masse*, to a public housing project, thus insuring that the residents would not be separated. The envisions of this grand scheme are according to Crest Street representatives guilty of

rather shoddy planning. This proposal, if implemented, would be very costly and undoubtedly other neighborhoods in Durham could suffer from lack of federal funds for years while the Crest Street community was relocated. Furthermore, future generation families could remain in the

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public housing units only as long as their incomes did not rise above those as stated in the federal guidelines. If some future generation families manage to earn more than minimal wages then they would no longer be able to remain in the same community as their parents. Certainly attempts by the Crest Street residents to earn more money currently serve to enrich their community and not to disunite it.

The Crest Street residents are fighting to maintain a community environment which seems not easily transmitted to another setting. In the Crest Street neighborhood there exists a very strong sense of community. Residents feel that the location of their community is ideal because it is within walking distance of both the Duke and Veteran hospitals where many of the residents work. Residents feel safe in their community, they are especially satisfied with the social activity generated by the

neighborhood church and they find much of the open space in the area good for gardening. The people living in the Crest Street community have transformed their neighborhood so that it uniquely reflects their lifestyles and even personalities. Yet residents have also had to adapt and accept the problems and challenges which confront their neighborhood the largest and most succient of which appears to be their fight against the proposed highway.

You have to admire the gumption of this little community of only 244 households for

facing squarely the imposing bureaucracy of the State DOT and firmly proclaiming their right to be. Too often blacks have been at the mercy of technological values which support massive highways or awe-inspiring buildings, yet so often have proved to disrupt rather than to make some meaningful contributions to our lives.

We should have respect for a community who is willing to stand up and fight for its own value system and lifestyle despite contrary popular notions about "relative deprivation."

Variety of organizations

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The main office is located in 303 Venable Hall. Students can find pamphlets, current bulletins, and any information on health related fields.

The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September, 4. Old members and new students are encouraged to attend.

N.C. Fellows

Sophomores John Goodwin and Donna Whitaker have been named North Carolina Fellows.

Goodwin, from Wagram, N.C. and Whitaker, from Columbia, S.C. are both Journalism majors.

The North Carolina Fellows Program is a special four-year program designed to give students a chance to develop their leadership potential.

Under the direction of Mrs. Marjorie Christiansen, the Fellows plan a service project every year.

Also, all Fellows, as of last year, are required to take a specially designed leadership course in their sophomore year.

Another requirement of the program designated that Fellows find internships, with the help of Mrs. Christiansen and staff, in the summer of their sophomore and junior years.

The 38 current members of the program recently elected their steering committee, which will plan activities for the group.

Past activities include monthly luncheons with educators and other leaders.

The Fellows program is flexible in that it allows students to become involved in various other activities while learning the leadership skills needed in those activities.

The selection process is involved, consisting of an initial application and up to seven interviews.

Goodwin and Whitaker, along

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