

Teachers Are Hemmed In By Paperwork

North Carolina teachers are hemmed in by paperwork and other non-instructional duties, harassed by classroom interruptions, and suffering from lack of duty-free lunch period, but more than 50% of them say that they would still choose teaching if they had it all to do over again.

The North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) says its largest "Barriers to Educational Excellence Survey," conducted for the Association by FGI, a Chapel Hill polling firm, also points the way to a number of changes North Carolina should make in its efforts to improve its

schools. "This is the second year we have done the Barriers survey," said NCAE president Karen Garr, "and we think we have uncovered some very real prospects for improving our schools."

She said the Association will propose legislation in some cases and in other cases will propose that NCAE local units work with local school boards to gain agreement on what needs to be done to improve public education for the benefit of children.

Garr said the present survey was based on telephone interviews with a random sampling of

NCAE members across North Carolina. A total of 413 telephone calls were placed by FGI, and of that 413 calls, 400 NCAE members agreed to be interviewed for the survey.

One of the key questions on the survey asked teachers to estimate how often job-related, non-instructional paperwork interfered with teaching. Sixty-seven percent of the teachers said "often," another 25% said "sometimes." Only one percent said "never."

"In essence, the answer to this problem lies in making better use of computers and putting more

clerical aides into the schools," said Garr.

She noted that on a related question, teachers were asked which paperwork activities at their school were handled by computers. Grades were on computer at 32% of the schools, test scores at 31%, but money records drew only a 12% response, and lunch reports got a dismal nine percent rating.

"The problem was even more apparent when we looked at the computer use in elementary schools," said Garr. She said 78% of the grade 10-12 teachers said grades were handled by computer.

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Arthur Frysock

Prysock Spends Two Nights At NCCU

Durham, NC - Sweet-singing balladeer Arthur Frysock and Group make two appearances at North Carolina Central University for the university's Parents' Weekend, which begins with Awards Day exercises Friday morning, April 3.

The veteran baritone will appear with his group at NCCU's B. N. Duke Auditorium at 8 p.m., Friday, April 3.

At 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 4, Arthur Frysock and Group will be featured in a "Dinner/Theater" at the W.G. Pearson Cafeteria at NCCU.

Tickets for both programs are being sold in room 125 of the Alfonso Elder Student Union at NCCU. The highest price for each of the events is \$15, with discounts and lower prices also available. NCCU students with valid identification will be admitted free of charge.

Frysock began as a \$3-a-night club singer before going on the road in 1944 with the Buddy Johnson Band, with which he recorded three hits. He went solo with "Blue Velvet" in 1952, spent some time traveling to small clubs, and then signed with "Old Towne" Records to launch a major recording career.

His "Old Towne" hits included "It's Too Late, Too Late," "Stella by Starlight," and "Autumn Leaves."

Frysock recorded in 1976 radio and television commercials for Lowenbrau beer. The commercial, whose words began "Here's to Good Friends...the night is kind of special..." can itself be described as a hit. Today he is again a club singer, but at the top night spots in the U.S. His audiences find that his voice has transcended musical periods, and musical trends, and remains a classic. He now records for the MGM-Verve label.

For more information, call 683-6494.

Tele-Tax Gives

Tax Information

The Internal Revenue Service has recorded tax information on about 150 topics available through a telephone service called Tele-Tax. You can hear up to three topics on each call you make. A complete list of topics and instructions on how to use Tele-Tax are included in 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ tax form instructions.

The IRS also encourages any taxpayer who filed over 10 weeks ago and wants to check on the status of a refund to use the Automated Refund Information System, which can be accessed by calling 1-800-554-4477 toll-free. The service is available Monday through Friday between 6:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Hours may vary in some areas. Anyone calling to check on a refund through the Automated Refund Information System will need to know the first social security number shown on the return, filing status, and the exact amount of the refund.

Further instructions for using the Automated Refund Information System are provided in the 1986 Federal tax packages.

SMOOTH FILING

The IRS anticipates a smooth filing season. The Memphis Service center is expecting to be able to process refunds for North Carolina taxpayers in six to eight weeks, early in the season, and eight to 10 weeks after the peak in April.

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