## The Carolina Journal

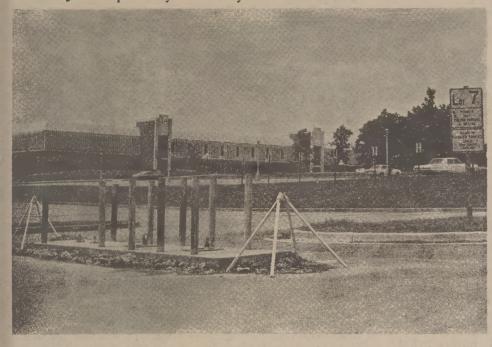
The Student Newspaper of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte

olume XII, Number 1

Charlotte, North Carolina

July 9, 1976

Carolina Journal photo by Lisa Laney



The new entrance to the visitor's parking lot.

## News Analysis

## Murder on the orientation express

By Doug Lerner

This past fall, changes were ade in the way new student rientation was to be handled. As a sult, the Orientation Committee as seen walkouts and resignations y at least two students, and the ffice of Student Affairs has been ensured by the Student Body overnment. In a three-part series, eginning with our Orientation sue in August, we will examine ne changes that have been made, hy they were made, and the easons why the Orientation ommittee has become the subject f controversy on our campus. his week we will report on the eneral issues that have been raised order to make the campus, articularly the students, aware of ie nature of the controversy. We iink the Orientation Committee is ut a single example of a more rious problem facing the student ody in the area of student rights; e hope that by becoming aware of ie problem, students will find wans of resolving it. Questions or omments concerning this series rould be made in writing to the arolina Journal.

-The Editors

In Dencember of last year, the udent body learned that changes ere to be made in the structure of he new student orientation rogram. These changes were to be nade without consulting students. mong the more important of nese revisions was the change in ne structure of the Orientation ommittee, which is supposed to esign the orientation program. The rientation program itself is esigned to give new students their erst exposure to the whole UNCC

The students were told that no onger would a student chair the committee as had been the

arrangement in the past. Instead, Betty Chafin, the Associate Dean of Students was selected, again without consulting students, to chair the committee. A professional Director of Orientation, Sally Allison, was hired to coordinate the program with the new seven dollar student fee charged freshmen and transfer students to fund the orientation program. In addition, changes were made in the ratio of student, faculty and staff membership on the Committee.

Dean Dennis Rash explained that among the reasons for the changes were the new fee structure, complaints of errors in past orientation programs and specifically the complaints of an academic dean he refused to name.

It has been reported the changes made are having an effect on student parti ipation in the direction of policies of the Orientation Committee. There have been revisions in parts of the short Orientation Handbook for this year which make certain sections appear more 'positive' to the administration. In fact, a high ranking member of the Committee has said, "The major concern of the Orientation Committee is not what the students think, but what the administration thinks.'

The academic dean who was largely responisible for the changes in orientation is Dr. Norman Schul, Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Schul says one of the reasons he prompted the changes were, "concerns expressed on the part of people, including myself, about lack of liaison with academic units...that there was not a good understanding (on the part of students) with regard to essentials." Dr. Schul maintains that although there were some things that worked well in the student-run program, the new

## Parking improvements done during summer

By Doug Lerner

Some construction is going on in the parking lot behind the Cone University Center. In one spot, the area near the gameroom, it looks like the entrance is being divided in two. In the upper lot, a single space has been chained off in a boondoggle that looks like a place to hitch a horse to.

When asked about these projects, Jerry Hudson, Director of the Department of Public Safety, said he did not know anything about the quadroned off space though he spoke about the work being done on the lower lot. Hudson said at the request of Dennis Rash, Dean of Students and Vern Parrish, Director of the Cone University Center, plans were made to designate some space for "conference parking."

Visitors will enter and leave the lower lot from the same spot they presently do, but will need either a token or a quarter to leave. A mechanical arm will control traffic in and out of the lot.

The amount of spaces to be used up by the new system will range from a minimum of about 20-25 to a maximum of 132, depending on how many visitors are expected each day. Chains will be moved between poles on the other side of the lot to regulate the

The lot behind the Cone University Center is the only space left where students are able to park right next to the University.

Despite receiving a negative response from the Chancellor's Parking Committee last year, Security changed the parking lots taking away the students' right to park behind Denny Building. Hudson said the committee did approve the loss of additional spaces this past October by approving this latest construction,

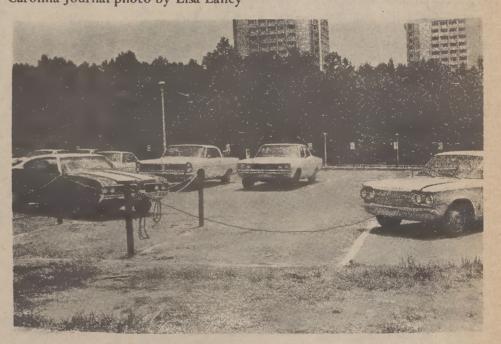
Hudson did not know how much this venture would cost, but a similar system at Central Piedmont Community College cost at least \$6000.

A member of the Chancellor's Parking Committee verified the committee "approved of the plan without approving of it." The member said the committee saw the need as a necessary evil until plans are made for additional parking, possibly parking decks.

One problem with the plan is the cost will not be made up for several years, possibly causing another raise in the already high parking fees. As the member of the committee put it, "We'll actually be paying to have less spaces to park in." He added he was not returning to the committee this year because it was "futile."

Parrish said he authorized the chaining off of the boondoggle behind the Cone University Center. He said it was for "access" for deliveries and maintenance and for that reason he chose a space near the newly constructed service

Carolina Journal photo by Lisa Laney



The unusual car-hitch shown above is actually a service entrance. See above story.

Committee is carrying on the orientation program with a 'new dimension'. Dr. Schul readily admits one of the main purposes for the changes was to enable the Committee to accentuate what he considers more positive aspects of the University, downplaying criticisms of the administration, faculty and policy.

A new 'area' of policy has been created to handle the Orientation Committee, loosely described as 'Institutional Policy'. Although a

highly disputed contention, the Office of Student Affairs maintains that despite the fact that students pay the new student orientation fee, the program and the fees are not under student control since they fall under 'institutional operations'. Institutional Control, that is control by the administration, of certain areas of University life has been dissaproved of often in the past, especially by

(Continued on page three)