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UNCC working around bus strike

By Kathy Espin

An estimated 350 students scrambled for rides to class last week when Charlotte bus drivers and mechanics went on strike.

The UNCC Office of Public Safety

contacted all students who had purchased bus passes for this semester and offered to arrange carpools for anyone who did not have transportation.

Public Safety Director Jerry Hud-

son said around 20 people called and were given telephone numbers of students living in their area who would be driving. Only two students were still having trouble finding rides on Thursday.

"One student said he had to spend the night on campus one night because he couldn't get a ride home," Hudson said.

Two vans have been rented to transport students living at Queens College to campus. Two round trips are made each day. Hudson said any students from the Providence Road area who need rides can catch the vans at Queens.

Students holding bus passes are

eligible for temporary parking stickers which will be good through the end of the semester. Around 20 temporary permits have been issued.

Hudson said the extra cars on campus have not caused a parking problem except in the visitors' parking deck. The part of the deck reserved for visitors has been expanded to allow students without parking stickers more space.

Hudson said the biggest affect of the strike is the sale of bus passes for next semester. "There isn't much demand for passes right now," Hudson said. He does not expect the reduced ticket sales to have an affect on the bus service next semester.



(photo by Robin Colby)

A bus is a rare sight on campus as the Charlotte bus strike enters its second week.

Heated debate on energy

By Lori Gulli

Nuclear power — a clean safe way to meet our energy needs, or a hazardous risk with our lives, the earth and the future of mankind?

These are the highly controversial aspects in the debate on nuclear power held at UNCC last Thursday.

On the "pro" nuclear power side were two employees from Westinghouse Electric, Lee Elder and Karen Adelson. The "con" side of the nuclear power issue was represented by Carlos Bell, professor of engineering at UNCC, and Jesse Riley, senior research assistant at Celanese Company.

The debate was initiated by Westinghouse Electric as part of their "Campus America" program. (Westinghouse makes the nuclear power plants.) The uniqueness of the program is the enlisting of young engineers to represent their view, in the goal of confronting nuclear opposition where it is the strongest — college campuses.

The issues set many on the edge of their seats (including the panel members). They were backed up by strong feelings on either side. If you are not aware of what is involved or were not at the debate, an example of the issues goes something like this:

Pro: When considering nuclear energy we should not isolate it but look at it in perspective with other energy sources. For example, nuclear power is cleaner than coal. No citizen has ever been killed by nuclear power, whereas 10,000 people die prematurely every year by coal pollution.

Con: After observation of coal we have become aware of its faults which are amendable but no money whatsoever has been put into correcting them because our energy funds have been put almost solely into nuclear power. We cannot make a comparison of the two because the gases from coal are biodegradable which will eventually break down into natural elements. Radioactivity from the waste of a nuclear plant, however, involves plutonium which lasts half a million years. It is not biodegradable. It takes only 10 pounds to make an atom bomb. One millionth of a gram will give one cancer if it gets in the lungs. The difference is the danger is incomparable because nuclear radioactive contamination is very often a subtle but deadly process. The most fatal contamination is leakage of waste (they lost 115,000 gallons of high level waste at Hanford, Wash.) which can mean concentration in the

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Charlotte mayor kidnapped, students responsible for ransom

The news is out now. Charlotte newspapers, television and radio stations even received word of it. The mayor of Charlotte is going to be kidnapped. Not only is he going to be kidnapped, but it will be up to the UNCC student body to see that he is released.

In a ransom note addressed to the students, they were told on Thursday, Dec. 7, the mayor would be kidnapped and held hostage on campus until a ransom of canned goods, toys and other "Christmas goodies" had been donated to the Newell Lion's Club. The kidnapping is to take place on the campus of UNCC where Mayor Ken Harris will be held hostage in the Student Government Conference Room beside the Student Bank. An anonymous caller told the *Carolina Journal* the mayor will probably be brought on campus at noon.

An all-out effort is being made now by the UNCC students to organize their clubs, organizations, floors and groups to help with the charity and negotiate with the kidnapers for the mayor's release. PFM is offering a free pizza party for any group contributing the most and having the most effect on negotiations with the kidnapers. The pizza party will be planned at the group's convenience and includes up to 100 people.

All contributions must be brought to the student government office where students will have a chance to meet the mayor. One floor in Sanford is planning to sing Christmas carols to appease the kidnapers and entertain the mayor. Students are encouraged to use their imaginations in devising ways to negotiate with the kidnapers. This will be an important fact in determining the winner of the

TO THE UNCC students

WE ARE KIDNAPPING
The Mayor of Charlotte,
WE WILL NOT let him go
UNTIL YOU HAVE GIVEN US
GOODIES TO THE NEWELL LIONS CLUB
more INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW

Ransom note sent to UNCC students.

pizza party.

Any group of students or members of the UNCC community are encouraged to participate in this excellent opportunity of sharing the Christmas spirit. All contributions, big or small, are welcomed, especially by the mayor, whose release is determined by the amount of donations brought in. Santa Claus will also be on the scene and rumor has it he is planning an escape for the mayor.

A reporter will be bringing the students on the outside, detailed reports of the negotiations and happenings going on. The Charlotte community will also be holding its breath waiting word as to whether the UNCC students are coming through with the contributions. The winner of the pizza party will be announced at the end of the release of the mayor.