

# The Carolina Journal

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## Riders Relieved

# Strike Avoided As Deal Made

By Chip Wilson  
Carolina Journal Staff Writer

Commuter students at UNCC were able to ride Charlotte Transit Authority buses this morning, as an imminent strike was averted after union and transit negotiators reach a tentative agreement only hours before the 5 am deadline.

Andre Joyce of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, called both sides together late Sunday to hammer out details of the latest contract proposal.

Last Wednesday, members of the United Transportation Union rejected the CTA bid, complaining about provisions allowing the hiring of part-time drivers and salary raises.

In a telephone interview, A.F. Warlick, the chief negotiator for the union, said he would recommend the new bid to his members.

Neither Joyce or Warlick would release details of the current proposal.

"The company and the union agreed not to inform anyone of the details because we haven't had a chance to explain it to our members yet," Warlick said. "There would be rumors floating

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Students once again turn to bus schedules as a tentative agreement was reached between management and union negotiators only hours before the strike was set to begin Monday morning.

Photo By Ray Gronberg

# Budget Cuts Likely To Be Relaxed

By Chip Wilson  
Carolina Journal Staff Writer

President Reagan's economic message to Congress may leave many students anxious about federal aid. Actually, the drastic cuts he announced might not end up as deep as many expect.

"Reagan announced these large cuts to have something to give those who will complain," said Tom Duffy, president of the Washington-based American Student Association.

"There are going to be some fireworks on Capitol Hill," Duffy said in a telephone interview. "The cuts will be made in the programs that don't scream."

Although he says Reagan "will be lucky to get half of the cuts he is asking for," Duffy told the *Carolina Journal* that student input will be needed.

"It will make a world of difference if a student were to write one letter to his congressman or senator. If hundreds of letters start flowing into congressional offices, they would be noticed, because staff members would be spending a lot of time responding to them."

Duffy listed the cuts proposed in the president's economic plan:

\*Guaranteed Student Loans will be limited to college costs minus other financial aid and estimated family contribution, which will increase.

\*All federal government subsidies will drop if the president's plan goes into effect.

\*National Endowment for the

Humanities, which offers grants to colleges, will lose \$80 million of its \$152 million budget.

\*National Endowment for the Arts will have \$85 of its \$159 million fund sliced.

\*Social Security student benefits, which affect a small number of students, but could lead to a higher strain on the Pell Grant (BEOG) as more middle and lower income students become eligible.

\*Duffy said the major cuts in the Pell Grants would occur because the president's plan mandates that every student put \$750 into their financial aid package.

As a student lobbying group, Duffy said ASA would have its hands full. "Our prime goal is to make sure no student is denied an education. Also, we want to make sure that it is a quality education."

"Students can do the same thing, especially in their own districts. The most conservative senator can vote for spending on something if his constituents demand it.

"Financial aid is such a far off thing for most students. You know it comes from Washington . . . and all you have to do is fill out a form.

"I'll tell you this. When this aid is cut off, it won't be such a far off

thing when you have to quit school."

The lobbyist says he is "absolutely" certain student support, even a one paragraph letter or mailgram, can halt the paring of federal aid.

"Students are the sleeping giants of this nation. They can speak with one voice."

"With the changes coming in the past election, our legislators are really watching the winds of change, so we can make a difference."

The cost?

"Just buying some stationary and a few envelopes."

# UNCC Financial Aid Cuts To Have Students Looking For Work

By David E. Griffith  
Carolina Journal Campus Affairs Editor

Over the next five years, up to \$9.2 billion in federal student aid money may be cut, according to the American Student Association. Thus, the finances of UNCC and its students could undergo drastic change.

Assistant director of Financial Aid Virginia Edwards said the plan will decrease UNCC's financial aid budget. "It will cut some needy students but it will force the students to help themselves more. I'm not sure that we will lose dedicated students.

If they're cut 10 percent, most of them will find a way to stay in school."

The president's plan proposes a \$600 million cut for the Guaranteed Student Loan program.

"The guaranteed student loan program needs some changes," Edwards said. "I think the program is being abused right now by people who don't need to borrow money but who are borrowing. There's no need whatsoever to do this. With large incomes, a family should have sufficient funds to pay college costs."

Contrary to popular belief, Edwards said, "The GSLs were not cut because of poor collection of the loans."

The North Carolina College Foundation Inc. has very good collection rate, Edwards said. "However, some of the states have had a problem in the past, but I think collections over all have improved."

In 1978 the Middle Income Assistance act raised the eligibility ceiling for GSLs from \$25,000 a year

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