

# The Daily Tar Heel

Class of '47 Reunion Edition

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## Twenty-Five Years Later

# Class Of '47 Back In Chapel Hill



Class of '47 beauty Tomie Cates (now Mrs. Roger Troxler) from Raleigh grazes the grass of Coker Arboretum. Modeling for his own camera is Alumni Review Editor Roland "Foo" Giduz, gazing intently into the eyes of Tomie, who is now unknown to alumni records. Does anyone know where Tomie is? If so, report same to "Foo."

## Spike, Now Emeritus Remembers Old '47

By SPIKE SAUNDERS '25  
Alumni Secretary (1927-70)

Editor Bob Morrison does a daring and a dangerous thing when he asks a fellow who became Alumni Secretary at the University 45 years ago this summer to "reminisce a bit" about the Class of 1947, reflect on its collegiate years and recall a few highlights and personalities of its campus residency.

Such a request by a reincarnated Editor of the "Tar Heel" can blast cranial floodgates and let loose stored-up memory cells that may inundate these columns. Indeed, halcyon memories normally held dear by classmates returning for a 25th reunion could be polluted (to use a presently much used horror word!).

The Class of '47 was, of course, no normal university class. It was a wartime baby that first saw the light of day in the fall of 1943 when a relatively small group of teen-agers came onto the campus at Chapel Hill to form the new body.

They numbered a few more than 300. Dean Robert B. House, the top administrative officer of the Chapel Hill campus of the Consolidated University in those years, used to say that when anyone walked Chapel Hill paths and got a gravel in his shoe, Chapel Hill got into his soul.

It was that way with the freshman of '47. They quickly joined other campus individuals—students and trainees—to make up the campus community of the 1943-44 academic session. The other groupings included 1,300 Navy V-12 apprentice seamen, 250 Army ASTPs, some 1,400 civilians divided about equally between co-eds and males, and 2,000 Pre-Flight aviation cadets of the U.S. Navy.

There was a war on and Chapel Hill was no college-as-usual place.

Before arriving the freshmen had been mailed a copy of the "Carolina Handbook," a little booklet that in earlier years was known as the freshman bible. Published by the University Y.M.C.A., the handbook's every word was probably considered pure gospel by incoming freshmen of '47.

Some quotations from the good book must be understood in the context of the times: "The campus is waiting to welcome you," it said. "Some people have imagined that the crowding into the campus of military units has made the place undesirable for civilian students. Don't let that thought worry you. . . . Right in the midst of 'marching uniforms' we find a place to live, good food, campus activities, and every facility for full-rounded educational opportunity both for women students and the men of pre-military age."

"Learn to enjoy your freedom here and do you part," wrote the President of the 1943-44 Student Body, John M. Robinson, Jr., himself a member of the Navy ROTC.

Perhaps more realistic were the words in the handbook written by Dean of Students Francis F. Bradshaw in a section subtitled "You and the War." He said: "Your nation and mine is engaged, with twenty-six allied nations, in what is known as 'total war.' . . . This stark fact must enter into all your choices and



activities in college."

The dean's words were pointed. Indeed, there was a war going on. It had been almost two full years since Pearl Harbor and the Class of '47 hit the campus in the middle of changing times and swift moving tempos.

Those in Chapel Hill at the time can remember the large section of the campus that was called the Navy Pre-Flight area. Included were dormitories in the upper and lower quadrangles and others building adjacent—Caldwell Hall (the old medical school building), Lenoir dining hall and some of the athletic fields nearby. Cadets of the Pre-Flight School and regularly enrolled students of the University shared other facilities—Woollen Gymnasium, the Tin Can, Emerson Field, and Kenan Stadium. But the core of the Pre-Flight Area—the former dormitories then converted to barracks and the mess hall (Lenoir)—seemed to stand as symbols of war preparation. The area was strictly zoned. There were guards and even sentry posts to mark the borders—whether to keep the cadets in or visitors out is not now remembered.

Steele and Carr were the only campus dormitories left for civilian males and most of the freshmen were assigned in these two buildings. Others had to exercise their freedom of choice to find rooming places in town—if they could. The fraternity houses had been leased by the University to house the V-12 apprentice seamen and the "Rotecrees" were put up in Old East, Old West, and other buildings. These students in uniform, along with the Army assignees (the ASTPs and, later, the Army Air pre-meteorology trainees) were fed in

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## "Dean House" Lauds "Dr. Frank"

As you of Carolina 1947 graduated twenty-five years ago, your class theme was "We Tar Heels leave our footprints on the traditional paths." I submit that you have done so in every department of student activity in the University, in North Carolina, in the nation, and in the world. You did so under the inspired leadership of that transcendent person, Frank Porter Graham. As you gather in your featured reunion, among many faces you miss is now the benign countenance of our great commander.

There can be but one reunion theme for you and for all of us; namely, love of Doctor Frank. He was an humble servant of the Master and therefore a man of love. He loved you; no man understood you better than he did. He put moral stamina in us all. He was a moral genius. He was also an intellectual giant. He knew the meaning of war, peace, politics, economics, social change, spiritual insight. He was a soldier of the true, the right, working in the beautiful way of love. He united us in love while he was yet with us. His death and funeral centered here the deepest tide of pure love that ever came here to wash us clean. That tide moves through you today.

Doctor Frank was a merry man. He would enjoy with you our mutual heritage and tradition and the fun and frolic of reunion. He trusted you, and he knew that, as you have, you would achieve greatly. He would not preach at you. He would be his merry, active self. But you would feel, as you do now, the impulse of his spirit to follow him creatively, as you do, in shaping all events



"Dean House" he was when Class of '47ers began assembling at diverse times upon the campus at Chapel Hill. Before they graduated he had become "Chancellor House" by virtue of an act of the General Assembly, his office, duties, and harmonica playing remaining substantially unchanged by the new title. For several years, Dr. Frank Porter Graham had written the keynote for the Reunion Tar Heel. The mantle of that responsibility has now fallen to Dr. Robert Burton House, who still resides among us, still a symbol of strength, integrity, and common sense.

subsequent to your graduation in 1947.

Heartily yours,

Robert B. House

## Famed Editor Of Alumni Review Reviews The '47 Alumni Scene

By ROLAND GIDUZ

Twenty-five years—a mere quarter of a century—is not a long time at all when you look on the similar cycle and circumstances of so many things in Chapel Hill now and way back then.

Certainly the old grid of '47 coming back to Chapel Hill for his silver anniversary reunion will be hard hit by the many new buildings, the long hair, the crush of automobiles, and the asphalt-lined suburban shopping centers. But just beneath that veneer he'll find the same Carolina spirit that he sensed so keenly when he trod the campus in the booming days just after World War II. And before he returns home from "the Hill" he'll also realize that a vivid cycle of parallels, some coincidental and some inevitable, has passed before him.

The year 1947, it is recalled, was the glorious era of Carolina's first post-season football game—the Charlie Justice-led squad that faced the Georgia Bulldogs in what became popularly known to



Baxter Sapp and Eugenia Nash do the Big Apple, Charleston, or whatever it was in that long ago time circa 1947. Himself a well-known photographer with the UNC News Service back then, Baxter says, "Those pictures that were taken of me were made by a friend standing nearby with my camera." Now practicing dentistry in Durham, Baxter appropriately is in charge of the gala dance to be held tonight at the Hope Valley Country Club in Durham.

partisans of blue and white as the Great Sugar Bowl Robbery. Consider the coincidence then that for the first time since that drizzly Jan. 1 in New Orleans over 25 years ago, the Tar Heels played Georgia in a post-season bowl game again this past season. The results were, unfortunately, similar. But Carolina fans who saw and watched the Gator Bowl game of last Dec. 31 surely felt that UNC again acquitted itself nobly before a more powerful Bulldog squad. The score of that game in Jacksonville, 7-3—quite a bit closer than the referee-abetted 20-10 victory that Georgia captured in the 1947 Sugar Bowl.

For more than a month after the Sugar Bowl classic, the Daily Tar Heel chronicled the misdeeds of referee Gabe Hill who approved an apparent "forward lateral" that set up the first Georgia touchdown. Mevies of the game later confirmed the error of this call, as they did a Carolina touchdown which was called back. On that one Kenny Powell was charged with "pushing" while trying to snag a Tar Heel pass in the end zone. It was also reported in the Daily Tar Heel that Kay Kyser out in Hollywood good naturedly paid off a bet on the game by pushing a football down Vine St. with his nose.

This was also the final period of Dr. Frank Graham's 19-year tenure as President of the University. Frequently absent from the campus during the '47 generation's time on campus, Dr. Frank was on call to serve in Washington, Indonesia, and in many other important off-campus capacities. During this year he was also taken seriously ill and hospitalized at Johns Hopkins for an extended stay. The Daily Tar Heel welcomed him back to Chapel Hill during the winter with the expression that "the feeling that all is not well automatically arises when President Graham is not here. His presence erases all those feelings." Editor Bob Morrison noted that those who hadn't had a chance to know him would have had that chance on the coming weekend "when he resumes his traditional Sunday evening open houses."

This year—almost 25 years to the day from that return home—Dr. Frank died in Chapel Hill from the lingering and increasingly severe ailments that followed him through his service in Chapel Hill. Jimmy Wallace, who wrote a lot about Dr. Frank in his Tar Heel column, wrote again about him recently in The Chapel

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Few in 1947 gave it a lot of thought. But here it is: the Class of 1947—back in Chapel Hill for a twenty-fifth reunion, guaranteed to be a unique event: never having happened before, unlikely ever to happen again!

They parked their cars yesterday near Morrison Dorm (or Morrison Residence Hall in the new parlance), greeting each other joyfully on their way up the hill, glancing up at a piece of sky that wasn't covered 25 years ago, walking on ground reserved then for lovers and rabbits, chipmunks, and squirrels.

The reunion will continue through Sunday. Although '47 is the prima donna, reunions are also being held for the Classes of '67, '62, '57, '52, '47, '42, '37, '32, '27, '22, and '13. Those before then have gracefully retired into the Old Students Club, also holding a reunion. Registration in Morrison Residence Hall will continue throughout the three-day period. Alums should go there for information and assistance. Printed program and schedule material is available at Morrison.

## Old DTH Editor Mills Quotes From Musty Tome: His "Diary"

In the spirited run-off election held May 13, 1947, Barron Mills was elected editor of the Daily Tar Heel by a margin of 415 votes. His byline had become very familiar to the Class of '47, and he had held numerous staff posts, including managing editor under Editor Bob Morrison.

For the past 17 years he has been editor and publisher of The Randolph Guide at Asheboro. He and his wife Barbara have three children.

After leaving Chapel Hill, Barron was for a while editor of The Alamance News at Graham, and was later with the United Press (now known as U.P.I.) and The Winston-Salem Journal.

He reviews here what happened the year after the Class of '47 graduated.

By BARRON MILLS

There I was, sitting there with a big brown, oversized book on the coffee table and a notepad and pencil in hand.

"Daddy," the 16-year-old said, whisking through the room. "What in the world are you doing? And what is that musty smell?"

"This is my college diary," I responded, pointing to my bound copies of the Daily Tar Heel for the years 1946-48—a "diary" that the book binders had charged me more to bind together than my graduation ring had cost.

"Oh, but Daddy, 1947 . . . that's a long time ago!"

But there it was in black and white.

June 5, 1947—Henry Wallace speaks to a packed house in Hill Auditorium under sponsorship of the Southern Conference for Human Affairs, an organization that was under investigation by the House Un-American Committee. And it was before the days of speakers' bans.

June 21, 1947—Plans being considered for construction of road between UNC and Duke, a road that was to be obsolete before it was traveled.

June 28, 1947—Kenneth Royall speaks to study group. Men outnumber coeds 4 to 1. Co-op grocery established in Victory Village to help pocketbooks of married students.

July 2, 1947—Vic Seixas runner-up for NCAA tennis crown, defeated by Garner Larned.

July 2, 1947—Tuition going up elsewhere but status quo at UNC. Budget calls for \$3,200,000 from gross receipts—\$1,300,000 provided by State



Mrs. Jim Camp, flanked by Alumni staffer Bo Dunlap (left) and her husband, listens as plans are made for staging the twenty-fifth reunion of the Class of '47. As Reunion Chairman, Jim worked for months to put together all the pieces necessary to make the Reunion click, while serving as Director of Economic Development for the Durham Chamber of Commerce. Bo, possibly a little young to be an honorary member of the Class of '47, nevertheless worked with his seniors to coordinate their efforts with the general program of the Alumni Association and to give them the benefit of his experience with previous twenty-fifth reunions.

Legislature.

July 9, 1947—Paul Green, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright for his "Lost Colony" production, completes "Common Glory" for Jamestown.

July 12, 1947—Veterans checks are late. UVA President Hugh Wells and Veterans Advisor F. Carlyle Shepard say Veterans "won't go hungry or not have a place to stay." Meal tickets are provided at Lenoir Hall.

Sept. 25, 1947—Lincoln Kan organizes College Council for United Nations. Year and half building program begins for construction of Morehead Planetarium. Army Air Force ROTC program begins at UNC. Tommy Dorsett pays \$3,000 in settlement to Order of Grail, out of court, to satisfy a civil action. The Grail had sought \$10,000 in damages. Tommy had contracted for to bring a 35-piece band, but showed up minus his string section. His two-hour concert lasted only 90 minutes.

Sept. 27, 1947—Tom Eller, president of Student Body, blasts betting and drinking at football games.

Oct. 1, 1947—UP story from Miami, Fla. National Sports Director of Cuba, Manola Castro, is charged with smuggling arms to Cuba. He demanded that officers notify his "good friend," Charlie Justice, to get him out of jail. Responded Choo-Choo, "I never heard of him."

Oct. 2, 1947—Advertisement for Harry's: "Now open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m., Beer, Breakfast, Lunch, Supper."

Oct. 3, 1947—Dr. Frank Graham to be sworn in as delegate to UN, will seek solution to Indonesian Crisis.

Oct. 5, 1947—Layne-led Longhorns (Texas U.) stun Tar Heels 34-0.

Oct. 9, 1947—Coeds will be permitted to enter the (fraternity) houses 30 minutes earlier in the morning, 11:30 a.m., instead of noon. Coed Senate discusses the problems of being confronted with drinking on fraternity premises.

Oct. 11, 1947—Meatless Tuesday and eggless and poultryless Thursday comes to Chapel Hill, at the government's request.

Oct. 12, 1947—National limelight fades for Tar Heels as Deacons win 19-7.

Oct. 19, 1947—Tar Heels rebound for 13-7 win over Indians (W&M).

Oct. 24, 1947—Statistics show men outnumber Coeds by 6-1 again this year (7,258 to 958). A public opinion poll of students shows that "long skirts are not here to stay." Of 100 polled 34 said for "a while."

Oct. 25, 1947—Student leaders of UNC and Duke to assemble here to discuss preventing pre-game vandalism.

Oct. 26, 1947—Tar Heels Bulldoze Florida by 35-7 Victory.

Oct. 30, 1947—Chapel Hill Communist Party openly revealed by circulars. Junius Scales, chairman.

Nov. 5, 1947—Coeds draw lots tonight for partners for human race on Sadie Hawkins day.

Nov. 6, 1947—The bell of South Building, rung in memorial for deceased faculty members, tolled yesterday for Elliott "Uncle George" Washington, for 35 years the janitor of the Zoology building.

Nov. 9, 1947—Powerful Tar Heels slaughter Wolfpack 41-6.

Nov. 11, 1947—DTH Editorial. Indefatigable Al Lowenstein (now a former NY Congressman) is definitely one man who should be commended for his efforts in getting the N.C. Student Assembly back in its orbit.

Nov. 13, 1947—Free one-dose flu shots will be given tomorrow.

Nov. 22, 1947—Vaughn Monroe radio show to be featured during tonight's Grail dance when CBS sends a national salute

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