

Student fees: How \$975 became \$275,000

by William March
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This is the first of a series of stories investigating the history, uses and philosophy of student fees on the UNC-CH campus.

In 1922 the UNC student body voted to pay its first student activity fee. At 50 cents per student per year, the total was about \$975, to support the debating activities of the campus literary societies.

At that time, the literary societies were the organizations most similar to a student government on campus. Since then SG has, to put it mildly, intensified its activity in collecting and spending students' money.

As of 12 midnight, May 15, 1973, SG will have collected from UNC students a projected \$273,000.00 for fiscal year 1972-73, and spent \$272,047.77, according to the 1972-73 budget.

"In addition to this," says Student Legislature Finance Committee Chairman Marilyn Brock, "we have spent heavily into the General Surplus that came down to us from previous budgets. This has been a big spending year for SL."

This additional spending involves something like \$20,000 over the budgeted amount, Brock estimated.

How did this odd custom of bandying about huge sums originate? Where, exactly, does the money go? Where should it be going and who makes the

decisions? If you are like most students, the answers you can give to these questions are vague.

The SG money comes from one of five basic fees which you pay in addition to your tuition as a student at UNC. Your athletic fee (which buys your pass to football games and entitles you to wait in line for basketball tickets) is \$12.50 per semester. Athletic fees have existed, separate from other student fees, since 1913.

That year, an editorial in the Tar Heel recommended a \$2.50 per semester athletic fee because students failed to buy enough tickets to keep the Athletic Association running.

The Tar Heel at that time was a

bi-weekly paper run, coincidentally enough, by the Athletic Association.

Your academic fee is \$37 per semester; generally this entitles you to the use of the University academic facilities. Your health fee is \$30 per semester. Your Union Mortgage Fee (did you know that you are paying for the Union building?) is \$30 per semester.

Your student activities fee of \$9 per semester (\$7 for graduate students) is what gives SG the \$275,000 it dispenses annually.

The origin and history of Student Government's power to collect and spend this money and the restrictions on that power, are documented in the Brooks Report of 1971. The report was prepared

by John C. Brooks, legal counsel for SG under presidents Tommy Bello and Joe Stallings, as part of a controversy that arose in 1971 when the administration assumed control of the SG accounts.

According to the Brooks Report, all the early student fees, beginning with the athletic fee in 1913 and including all activities fees imposed before the beginning of the comprehensive Student Activities Fee, were "voluntary." A student could have a particular fee refunded by showing that he couldn't afford it or that he was unable to enjoy the activity supported by that fee.

The Debate Council Fee of 1922, the 50 cents per year voluntary payment, was the first fee ever paid by the student

body to support a non-athletic extracurricular activity. The student body authorized the fee by a vote of 1,055 to 244, out of 1,950 students enrolled.

The fee was collected for the literary societies by the University. This has since been the case with all student activities fees.

But the spending of the collected money was at the discretion of the societies.

In 1923, a publication fee of \$5.50 was voted by the students to support the Tar Heel, the Yackety-Yack and the Carolina Magazine. It was not until 1928 that, again by vote of the students, Student Government itself began receiving fee support—to the tune of 20 cents per student per year.

By 1942 a Student Union fee and an entertainment fee had been added. In that year, an important milestone was passed. The four-year old Student Legislature was empowered by written agreement with the administration to administer the various fees and to change them. And, under certain conditions, SL was empowered to collect and spend as it saw fit fees with no specifically designated purpose. Previously all fees paid by the students were established for a definite activity—the "Student Union

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Lyndon Johnson dies of heart attack



Lyndon Johnson

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th President of the United States, the powerful Texan whose dreams of wiping out social injustice and poverty were shattered by the Vietnam War and the violent 1960s, died Monday of an apparent heart attack at the age of 64.

Johnson, thrust into the presidency by the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the man who won the White House with one of the greatest landslides in American politics, was stricken at his ranch in Central Texas at 3:40 p.m. (EST) and was flown to Brooke General Hospital in San Antonio where he was pronounced dead on arrival by Dr. George McGranahan.

Johnson's widow, Lady Bird, was notified at her offices in Austin and she

immediately flew to San Antonio.

Johnson was a robust 6-foot-3 and weighed 200 pounds. He often bragged of his formula for success: "Hard work." But he was finally stricken during a life of ease away from pressure politics.

Johnson became President on Nov. 22, 1963, when Kennedy was assassinated. In 1964 he won re-election over Republican Sen. Barry Goldwater by a crushing 61 per cent of the vote and set about to transform American society by pushing through Congress the strongest civil rights law since Reconstruction, and a far-reaching program designed to wipe out poverty across the country.

But four years later he retired from public life voluntarily when the Vietnam War and the turbulent events of the times caused a rising tide of enmity against him.

Since that dramatic announcement on national television on the night of March 31, 1968, that "I shall not seek and I will not accept the nomination of my party for another term as your President," he had lived quietly and in virtual seclusion at the ranch in his beloved Texas hill country.

Ironically, Johnson died as negotiators in Paris seemed on the verge of finally reaching a settlement to the war which cost him the presidency and his dreams of bringing about another Rooseveltian revolution—the "Great Society"—which would abolish poverty and racial discrimination.

Johnson was first elected to Congress at age 28 in 1937. Four years later he ran for the Senate and was narrowly defeated. But in 1948, he won that Senate seat with a razor-thin victory of 87 votes out of almost 1 million cast. First elected Senate majority whip and then majority leader, he rose to become one of the most powerful men in Congress before he began his trek to the Presidency.

Weather

TODAY: Sunny and continued mild today, high in the low 60s. Increasing cloudiness tonight, low in the low 40s. No chance of rain today, 10 per cent chance tonight.

SG attorney bill clears committee

by Greg Turosak
Staff Writer

After months of consideration and rethinking, Student Legislature's (SL) Finance Committee passed out without prejudice a bill providing the guidelines for the hiring of a student attorney.

The bill had been tabled again last week after the committee discovered there was no provision to protect a student who was involved in litigation at the time the attorney's contract might expire.

This was taken care of in yesterday's meeting, but no other material changes were made to the bill. However, a provision was added that the bill would be sent back to committee if all legislators did not receive a copy of the bill on Wednesday in time to read it for Thursday night's SL meeting.

The committee set a maximum initial salary of \$11,000 for the attorney and

\$8,000 for his secretary with a 7 per cent yearly increase.

The bill, with all its provisions, supplies no money, however.

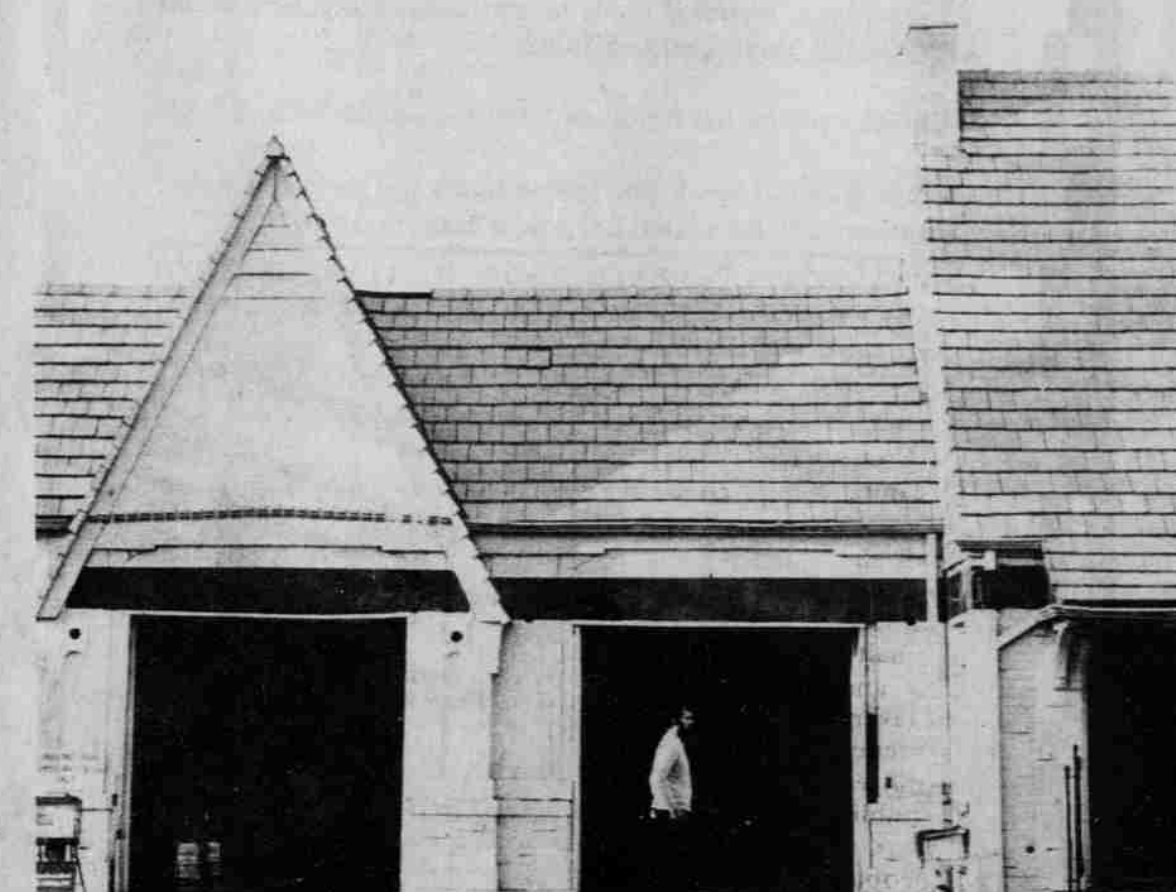
"This bill, if passed, will not appropriate money for the student attorney, it will just set up procedures," explained committee member Gary Rendsburg.

"The appropriations will be in next year's budget which comes up in March," he said.

After failing an initial favorable recommendation by a 3-5 vote, the bill cleared committee without prejudice by a 7-1 margin.

Besides setting the salaries for the attorney, the bill basically defines his duties and provides for the manner in which Student Government will select him.

Finance Committee also reported out a bill allocating \$3,500 to the Men's Glee Club for their trip to Kansas City in March.



Ho hum

Staff photo by Johnny Lindahl



With a quick glance it looks like a little ballet on top of a ladder; but it is only part of many months of construction nearing the final stages as the new NCNB corridor opens up into a new shopping plaza. (Staff photo by Tad Stewart)

Dr. Crist resigns UNC post

Dr. Takey Crist has resigned his position as assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology to go into private practice in Jacksonville, N.C.

Crist was the instructor of the popular Topics in Human Sexuality (Health Education 33) and was a leader in the movement at UNC-CH to provide students with contraceptives and information on birth control.

Crist said the decision to leave UNC was his own. "I wasn't asked to leave, I wasn't forced to leave, there was no coercion," he emphasized.

The reasons for his departure? "Private practice is just something I've always wanted to do." Also, he felt that stereotypes labeling him a "sex doctor" were getting in the way of his work. "People forgot that I'm an obstetrician and gynecologist."

Crist expressed faith in Bill Griffin, who will take over Health Education 33 and commended Robert Wilson, chairman of the Human Sexuality Information and Counseling Service. Crist will continue to write his sexual information column, "Elephants and Butterflies," in conjunction with Lana Starnes.

Abortion curbs rejected

Court ruling invalidates most state laws

United Press International

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court voted 7 to 2 Monday to prohibit the states from interfering with a doctor's medical decision to perform an abortion during a woman's first three months of pregnancy.

The decision by Justice Barry A. Blackmun did not completely bar the states from having abortion laws but it was certain to compel most of them to liberalize their present statutes.

Blackmun's majority opinion striking down abortion laws in Texas and Georgia set up three constitutional stages of state authority.

—For approximately the first three months of pregnancy, the doctor shall be

the only decision maker as to the medical need for an abortion.

—From that point on, the state "in promoting its interests in the health of the mother" may legally regulate procedures in ways "that are reasonably related to maternal health."

—Only until the fetus reaches the "viability stage," which medical authorities have placed between six and seven months, can a state forbid abortion outright. Even then, exceptions must be allowed "where it is necessary in appropriate medical judgment for the preservation of the life or health of the mother."

The viability stage is generally defined as when a fetus begins kicking, moving or

showing signs of recognizable activity within the womb. The court suggested that viability would be achieved when an unborn child could exist outside the womb, through premature birth or a Caesarian section.

Justices Byron R. White and William H. Rehnquist cast the two dissenting votes.

The Texas anti-abortion law made it a crime to perform an abortion except when the life of the prospective mother was at stake. Twenty-nine other states have similar attitudes on the books.

Georgia allowed three exceptions—one of them when pregnancy resulted because of rape—and set forth a strict set of procedural steps before an abortion could take place. Fifteen other states follow a similar pattern to varying degrees.

Death penalty divides Assembly

by Stephanie Bolick
Staff Writer

The 1973 session of the N.C. General Assembly is not yet two weeks old and already bills concerning the controversial issues of capital punishment, liquor-by-the-drink and equal rights for women have been introduced.

According to telephone interviews, legislators representing Chapel Hill in the Assembly are divided on the subject of capital punishment. Sen. William P. Saunders, D-Moore, favors the death penalty in North Carolina while Sen. A.B. Coleman, D-Orange, and Rep. Ed Holmes, D-Chatham, oppose it. Rep. "Trish" Stanford Hunt, D-Orange, was ill and could not be reached for comment.

"If a bill is not introduced to do away with capital punishment," Coleman said, "I will introduce one myself."

A bill eliminating the death penalty would be necessary to reverse the N.C. Supreme Court's ruling of last Thursday (Jan. 18), Coleman said. Laws passed by the N.C. General Assembly supercede state Supreme Court decisions, he added.

The N.C. Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty is constitutional in North Carolina and mandatory for persons convicted of rape, murder in the first degree,

arson and first degree burglary. This struck down a 1949 amendment to the state code which allowed juries to recommend life in prison instead of the death penalty for capital crimes.

The North Carolina decision resulted from a 1972 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court which ruled the state's death penalty law unconstitutional because of the 1949 amendment.

"I was very disappointed in the N.C. Supreme Court ruling," Holmes said. "I don't think that capital punishment is the answer to our crime problem."

Earlier last week bills were introduced in both the state house and senate to reinstate the death penalty in North Carolina. Rep. Gerald Arnold, D-Harnett, introduced a bill which would make the death penalty mandatory for various types of "premeditated and deliberate murder." Sen. Livingstone Stallings, D-Craven, introduced a bill calling for a mandatory death sentence in cases of first-degree murder and murders committed during a kidnapping or by bombs placed in public buildings.

Chapel Hill's representatives agree that the people should have the opportunity to vote on liquor-by-the-drink in a statewide referendum.

Rep. Sam Johnson, D-Wake, called for a statewide mixed beverage referendum in a bill he introduced last week. His bill would permit Grade A restaurants in

"wet" counties to sell mixed drinks. Although dry counties could vote in the referendum, they must decide to become "wet" counties before they could sell mixed drinks. The state ABC board would administer the sale of drinks.

"I personally would probably vote against the referendum if it came up," Holmes said, "but I agree that the people should decide for themselves."

Coleman said a "local option" vote for each county to decide the fate of mixed drinks was not feasible because of a 1971 N.C. Supreme Court decision. The court ruled that the law under which Mecklenburg County residents voted was unconstitutional, he explained.

The area's two state representatives and two senators are on record in support of the constitutional amendment providing for equal rights for women. A resolution supporting this amendment was introduced into both houses of the General Assembly the first day the session convened.

Holmes said he was having about three times the pro-and-con reactions about this issue as any other from his constituents.

Approved by 22 states so far, the amendment needs ratification by 16 more states to become the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It would give women the "equal protection of the law" guaranteed by the 14th Amendment.