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Carolina's defense ...

Staff photo by Gary Lohrke

... stops Maryland tailback Richard Jennings in Saturday's televised loss at College Park. The Tar Heels had won two games in a row, defeating Ohio, 42-7 and Wake Forest, 31-0, before falling to Maryland. The wet field in Byrd Stadium

forced Carolina to all but abandon its plans for a short pass attack, and the Heels were forced to slug it out on the ground with the tough Terp defense. Carolina lost 24-12. The game story is on page 5.

Duke, Bell backed for utilities sale

by Rick Reed
Staff Writer

The state Utilities Study Commission (Church Commission) voted Friday to recommend the sale of three University-owned utilities to Southern Bell and Duke Power Company.

In a resolution presented by Sen. Ralph Scott (D-Alamance), the 14-member commission voted 9-5 to sell the telephone utility to Southern Bell and the water and electric utilities to Duke Power.

Although the University sewer system had been bid on by the town of Chapel Hill, UNC will retain the utility, according to the Scott resolution.

Commission chairman Sen. John T. Church also appointed a five-man board to conduct sale negotiations. The board includes senators Church and Scott; Chapel Hill Mayor Howard N. Lee; Emmett Burden, executive secretary of the North Carolina State Employees Association; and Carroll Mann. The board represents the University, the state, utilities employees and the community.

The recommendations of the commission and negotiations board must be submitted to the UNC Board of Trustees, Governor Jim Holshouser and the Council of State. The trustees will consider the recommendations Oct. 11.

Of the five commission members who voted against the resolution—Mayor Lee, Carrboro Mayor Robert J. Wells, Tom Eller, Bill Ray and W.R. Hupman, Mebane Home Telephone Company president—Lee was the most outspoken.

Calling the resolution very disturbing, Lee cited four points which he thinks weaken the decision:

- Interference with the operations of the commission. Lee said, after the commission adjourned, he thought Duke Power had played a big part in structuring the resolution.

- "This motion cannot and will not be in the best interests of the employees," Lee said, indicating Southern Bell would probably transfer many resident employees throughout the South.

- Predicted a "tremendous jump, not gradual growth" in utility rates.

- Declared that the Church Commission was ignoring its decision to put the sewer system up for bid. Chapel Hill's failure to obtain the sewers, Lee said, is to lose a

chance to "bridge a tremendous gap between the University and Chapel Hill."

The sale of the telephone utility to Southern Bell may also spark an anti-trust suit. Following the meeting, Lee expressed willingness to go to court, and the other bidders—Central Telephone and Utilities Corp., Carolina Telephone and Telegraph—indicated previously they would file suit if Southern Bell became the successful bidder.

W.R. Hupman asked Assistant State Atty. Gen. I. Beverly Lake Jr. about the possibility of such a suit. Lake said the bidding would not have been objective if Southern Bell had not been allowed to bid.

The commission decided to hear Scott's resolution before considering a motion made by Tom Eller at the last commission meeting on June 10 and delayed until the Friday meeting. Aller, a Charlotte attorney and former member of the State Utilities Commission (SUC), had proposed the sale of the telephone utility to Southern Bell, the electric and water systems to Consumers Utility Corporation (CUC) and the sewer system to Chapel Hill.

The motion was tabled on June 10 because Lake raised some legal questions on the sale. Lake answered the questions concerning CUC at the Friday meeting.

Lake saw four legal questions concerning

all bidders, but especially CUC:

- Ability of each bidder to pay in cash the full amount of its bid at closing. CUC is a new entity, Lake said, and has no assets.

- Ability of each bidder to provide adequate service.

- Whether CUC is subject to SUC rate regulations.

- Whether CUC could provide an employee benefit plan equal to UNC's and whether benefits accrued under the state plan would transfer to CUC.

CUC is attempting to raise the money to purchase the utilities by selling bonds. Lake told the commission there was a substantial risk CUC would not be able to market the bonds.

Lake said, "The significance is this: UNC, the state and this commission would be committed completely to CUC before CUC has any money, with no assurance that the money would be obtained." Lake stressed that if CUC got the utilities, all other bidders would be released from their bids, and there would be no other recourse for UNC, and state or the commission.

Lake also said CUC would be subject to SUC rate regulations, could not have state employment plan benefits transferred to CUC, and does not qualify for the state employee plan.

Reactions vary on utilities sale

by Vernon Loeb
and Andy Sidden
Staff Writers

The Church Commission's recommendation for the sale of UNC utilities received mixed reaction in Chapel Hill including some urgings for strong action to block approval of the Commission's plan.

"In my own opinion, the public sentiment overwhelmingly favors the sale of

University-owned utilities to a consumer organization," State senate candidate Charles Vickery said Sunday.

He urged all area residents to petition the UNC Board of Trustees to consider selling the utilities to the Consumer Utilities Corporation (CUC) rather than Duke Power or Southern Bell.

The trustees will make their decision Oct. 11.

There are corporations similar to CUC in Jacksonville, Fla. and Alameda County, Calif., that are "just working great," Vickery said.

"Even though CUC was not chosen, they have not given up," CUC president John McKee said Sunday.

"We still consider ourselves in the ballgame, but I can't say exactly what our next actions will be because we haven't had enough time to regroup our thoughts. I just don't believe people are going to accept this decision on the part of the Church Commission. We're still a long way from the final story."

A Church Commission member who opposed the decision said he expected an anti-trust suit to be brought against Southern Bell. President of Mebane Home Telephone Company William Hupman said Central Telephone Company's bid was more than a million dollars greater than that of Southern Bell.

"If I were the high bidder and didn't get chosen, I would bring a suit. I can well see why Central Telephone might," he said.

The Commission, he said, only chose Southern Bell because their local service rates were lower.

"There was no point in even bidding," he said.

Mayor Howard Lee pledged to fight the decision. Outside the interference from people such as UNC Assistant Vice Chancellor John Temple had affected the decision, Lee said.

Temple declined to comment on Lee's accusation, but he did say he agreed with the Commission's decision.

"All facts show that it's the best alternative available," he said.

UNC utilities employees say they are glad to see any change.

"We're satisfied with the decision," UNC Utilities Director Grey Culbreth said. "Mainly we were tired of waiting. We were anxious for a decision."

UNC utilities employees were initially opposed to the sale, but now Culbreth said, since the sale has become inevitable, they have decided to have confidence in "those people who are going to own us."

Mrs. Tommy Cole, a secretary for UNC Utilities said most utility employees don't understand what changes will result from their company's sale to either Duke Power or the CUC. Most employees, Cole said, have no preference regarding the purchasing company because they don't know enough about either of them.

In any case, she said, employees want company representatives to come in and "talk with each of us personally, and tell us exactly what changes their policy will create."

Ford may not run in '76

Puts wife's well-being above presidency

United Press International

WASHINGTON—President Ford would not seek re-election in 1976 if his wife asked him to drop out of the race, *Newsweek* magazine Sunday quoted presidential advisers as saying.

Betty Ford was reported rested and more comfortable Sunday, a day after removal of her cancerous right breast.

"If she says the word, Ford will not run for re-election in 1976," according to an unnamed "close friend and advisor," *Newsweek* reported.

Another close friend told the magazine: "From here on, he will be much more susceptible to Betty's needs."

A third source identified as a friend but not named was quoted by the magazine as saying, "He would put her physical and mental well-being above the presidency. He never really expected to be President, so it would not be like he was being cheated out of a lifelong ambition."

Newsweek also quoted unidentified aides as saying Ford has become disenchanted with being President.

Windy

Today and tonight will be clear to partly cloudy, unseasonably cool and rather windy.

Highs today will be in the 70s, and lows tonight in the 40s. Chance of rain is 10 per cent today and 20 per cent tonight.

Students get voice in Title IX decision

by Meredith S. Buel Jr.
Staff Writer

Students will now have a voice in deciding how the University will react to HEW's proposed sex discrimination guidelines, Assistant Chancellor Susan Ehringhaus said Friday.

The Special Committee on the Proposed Regulations under Title IX decided Friday to allow interested students full membership in the committee.

Formed by Chancellor Ferebee Taylor, the committee is to develop implementation procedures for Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. Regulations for Title IX were issued by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare last July and prohibit discrimination by sex in any federally assisted institution.

Possible effects of Title IX include forcing UNC's fraternities to go coed and loss of funds for single-sex athletic teams.

Students will be allowed on two of the three panels which make up the committee. The first panel is concerned with single-sex organizations, student aid and housing. The second deals with athletics.

Students will not have a voice on the third panel, which discusses employment of faculty and staff members at the University.

"Students with special competence and interest will be selected by the individual panel conveners sometime this week," committee chairman Ehringhaus said. "Student members will have the same voice as anyone else on the panel."

The proposals, although tentative at this time, could cause major changes at UNC when they are re-issued in final form early next year.

The committee also decided that all meetings would be open to the public. "On November 11," Ehringhaus said, "we will hold an adequately publicized meeting where public comment will be solicited."

The next meeting of the full committee is scheduled for the first full week in November.

Anyone interested in the areas covered by the committee is invited to contact Ehringhaus at 103 South Building.

country to reassure the First Lady that they had undergone similar surgery years ago and were surviving very well, according to Helen McCain Smith, her press secretary.

Mrs. Ford had not been scheduled for a medical checkup for four or five months, but had gone in for examination last Thursday.

The doctor then found a nodule in the breast and recommended immediate surgery to determine if it were malignant. Mrs. Ford remained under anesthesia while the tissue was tested, and when the tests proved positive massive radical surgery was performed.

There was no explanation for why the routine examination had been moved up in time, but doctors said Saturday that Mrs. Ford's outlook was more favorable because of the early detection.

New cars displayed

Although the official new car year doesn't start until Oct. 1, many local dealers are already displaying their new models, such as this leviathan Cadillac Fleetwood on display at Uzzle Cadillac Olds. "Bigger and more luxurious than ever," this model features numerous luxury extras and an \$11,000 price tag.

Only three American cars, AMC's Gremlin, Chevy Vega and Ford Pinto, will carry prices below \$3,000 this year.



Staff photos by Peter Ray

