

# The Daily Tar Heel

Chapel Hill's Morning Newspaper

Vol. 83, No. 69

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Monday, November 25, 1974

Founded February 23, 1893

## Transit deficit could be aided by federal bill

by Henry Farber  
Staff Writer

Congressional passage of an \$11.8 mass transit bill last week may aid Chapel Hill's bus system substantially, or it may not offer the town a penny.

In either case, the local transit system will be in the red as expected for the fiscal year 1974-75, with estimated deficits of at least \$20,000 and possibly as high as \$77,000.

Local officials contacted federal and state officials over the weekend to find out if the bill, certain to be signed by President Ford, applies to Chapel Hill.

News of the bill's passage was greeted with excitement at Thursday's meeting of the Chapel Hill Transportation Advisory Committee, at which the projected local budget was released. Transportation Director John Pappas said the bill could mean as much as \$176,000 for Chapel Hill.

But Friday, a committee member contacted the state department of transportation to discover that an amendment to the bill might restrict allocations to cities of populations exceeding 50,000. The population figure used by the town bus system in applying for grants and funds is 32,000.

Even though the government might consider Chapel Hill too small to benefit from the bill, the local bus system is the third largest in the state. The state's largest system is Charlotte's which is reportedly earmarked for \$7,561,000 of the federal money. The second largest is Durham's, only slightly larger than Chapel Hill's system.

Alderman Gerry Cohen said he read the bill thoroughly and could not find where Chapel Hill might be eliminated

from receiving funds. The only distinction made between allocations to small and big cities is that cities of populations of less than 200,000 must have their funds channeled through the governor, he said.

The six-year aid bill was passed by the House Thursday and by the Senate Tuesday. Ford said in a telegram to House leaders that he would sign it when he returns from his Asian trip.

The 288-109 House vote marked a major success for mayors and the administration, which had launched a strong lobbying effort in its behalf.

Chapel Hill Mayor Howard Lee asked the aldermen to send letters to Sen. Sam Ervin and district Rep. L.H. Fountain, asking for support of the bill. Lee said he also called friends in Washington for support.

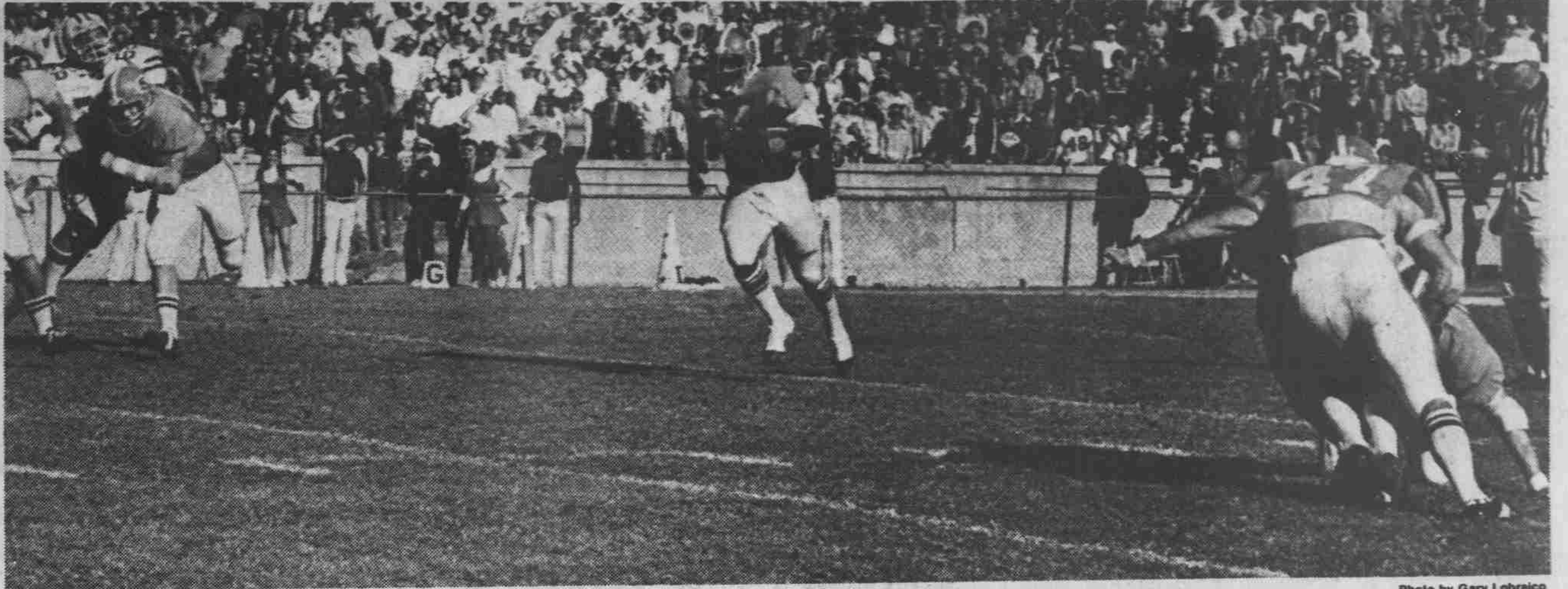
The bill makes operating funds available on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis, but the federal government will continue to pay \$4 for every \$1 in local matching for capital improvements. Chapel Hill's four-month-old system is funded by the four-to-one capital plan and local officials have discussed demonstration projects to obtain previously untouchable federal operating funds.

About \$7.8 billion will be available nationwide, on a case-by-case basis, for improving and expanding transit facilities.

The other \$4 billion can be used either for capital improvements or as operating subsidies to help hold the line on fares.

Operating money will be parceled out annually under a formula based on

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James Betterson head through a hole in Duke's defense in Saturday's 14-13 win over Duke. Betterson finished the season with 1,082 yards. See story, page 6.

## Former professor Russell dies

by Jim Roberts  
Staff Writer

Dr. C. Phillips Russell, UNC professor emeritus, was found dead in his home Friday at the age of 90. Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. today at the Community Church.

Russell was a noted historian, newspaperman and professor. He taught journalism and creative writing at UNC from 1931 to 1956.

Before coming to the University to

teach, Russell was a reporter for the *Charlotte Observer* and then the *New York Press*. After a trip to Europe, Russell worked for the *Philadelphia Evening Press*, later returning to England to report for the *London Daily Express*.

He joined the faculty here in 1931 after two years work with the *New York Herald Tribune*.

Russell, a Rockingham native, was a graduate of the UNC class of 1904. As a student at the University he was editor

of the *Daily Tar Heel* and was chosen as a member of the Order of the Golden Fleece.

In 1949, Russell was honored with the Mayflower Award for his book, *The Woman Who Rang The Bell*. He received the North Carolina Award for Literature in 1968 for "his creative work in writing and teaching others to write."

Russell authored several historical novels. His latest, *These Old Stone Walls*, a book on Chapel Hill lore, was published in 1972.

Russell was the oldest living alumnus of the University. He celebrated his 90th birthday on Aug. 5.

At the UNC Journalism School's recent 50th anniversary banquet, Russell received a standing ovation from students and faculty.

Russell's survivors include his former wife, Caro Mae Green Russell; two daughters, Avery and Claire; a son, Leon; and his sister, Susie Crossland of Rockingham.

## Griffith recommends ratification of ERA

by Lynn Barnes  
Staff Writer

"Women are not looked at by the courts as really being human" because they are not included in the constitution, Congresswoman Martha Griffith told students in a speech Thursday night.

Griffith, the last speaker of the Colloquium on Individual Rights and Liberties, asked the audience to work for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

"Before the 20th century is over," she said, "are we finally going to look at every woman in America as a real human being or are we going to set apart 52 per cent of the human race and say, 'For them, there's nothing?'"

"The greatest thing we could give America for its 200th birthday is equal rights under the law for every man, woman and child. Ratify, in this state next year, the Equal Rights Amendment and let us all be human together."

Griffith said the primary problem in getting the amendment ratified "is the word equal. They think that it means exactly alike, but equal does not mean exactly alike."

What the ERA would do, Griffith said, "is apply the Fourteenth Amendment to women: It would mean that state governments, local governments and federal governments could not make laws that distinguish between people on sex and sex alone."

Congress, she said, is discriminating worse than anyone else. "They collect so much money and dispense it on a most unequal basis."

"Under the pension act, for example, the government does not have to pay anyone who makes \$6,000 or less annually. So who makes \$6,000 or less? Women, that's who. And we will continue to have these laws unless the ERA is ratified to stop that type of nonsense."

Griffith also talked about inequalities in the social security act. "When I first went on the Ways and Means Committee, even a woman's own children couldn't collect social security after her death if she had been out of the labor market more than one-and-one-half years."

"We corrected that after I had nagged everybody in Washington for about five years. The first year after it was corrected, orphaned children drew \$100 million from social security funds."

"One of the errors of people who fight the Equal Rights Amendment," Griffith said, "is some mystical belief that women do have some rights now. There are very few rights that any wife can count on, and then only if she is connected legally by marriage to a man at his death."

Even if a couple is married, Griffith said, there are still inequities. "If a man died with assets of \$250,000, of which his wife may have earned half, she would have to pay \$10,000 in estate taxes. That would be money paid in taxes on money that had already been taxed."

An additional problem for widows, Griffith said, is credit. "The day a woman buries her husband she also buries her credit cards. If a widow wants to avoid paying for everything in cash, she must use her dead husband's credit cards. To some lenders, a man dead for five years is worth more than a warm, working, living woman."

## Vogel apartments being foreclosed

by Greg Nye  
Staff Writer

Foreclosure proceedings are underway against two apartment complexes owned by builder Daniel Vogel.

Foxcroft and Chateau apartments in Chapel Hill are scheduled for public auction on Dec. 18 to pay off a loan taken out by Vogel two years ago.

Cameron-Brown Investment Group of Massachusetts is foreclosing on its loan. Cameron-Brown loaned Vogel approximately \$1.75 million to be used for construction on the apartments.

Vogel failed to make the final payment on the loan, which was due in October.

A representative of Nye-Mitchell, a Durham law firm handling the Vogel foreclosure case, said Friday Vogel may still make the payment to Cameron-Brown before the Dec. 18 auction.

"If we do make the payment in time, there

will be no auction of the property," he said. Joe Murray, appointed by Cameron-Brown to carry out the auction, refused Friday to comment on the foreclosure proceedings.

Apartment tenants at Foxcroft and Chateau have no cause for worry, the Nye-Mitchell spokesman said.

If the apartments are auctioned, no major changes will occur, although there will be a management change. Contracts and rents will not be affected by the auction.

When faced with similar foreclosure proceedings earlier this month, Durham builder Bobby Roberts filed for reorganization under Federal Bankruptcy law.

The reorganization petition allows the property owner to arrange a plan of payment to his creditors without having to auction his property.

Vogel has no plans at the current time to file for bankruptcy, his lawyer said Friday.



Martha Griffith addresses Hill Hall audience Thursday

## Nuclear plant potentially catastrophic—Stewart

by David Broadwell  
Staff Writer

The Shearon Harris nuclear power plant now under construction near Raleigh may be vulnerable to an accident of catastrophic proportions, Dr. David M. Stewart of the UNC geology department says.

An earthquake of sufficient intensity could shatter the plant's cooling system, he says, causing the reactor to melt and releasing deadly radioactive material into the environment.

Stewart also accused the Carolina Power and Light Company, the plant's builder, of not seriously considering this possibility. He says further research into the earthquake potential of the area around the plant site should be conducted before construction proceeds.

"We have made studies and are building the plant according to Atomic Energy Commission standards," one CP&L official said. The AEC has approved the company's actions to date.

Stewart remains adamant, however. "I am the only earthquake seismologist in the state," he said in an interview last week. "I look upon myself as representing the people of

North Carolina in an earthquake risk.

"The administration of CP&L doesn't understand the situation because they're not seismologists. Whenever someone does a report for them and everything comes out great, they don't want to question it. Whenever someone like me comes along and says, 'Hey this isn't right,' they don't want to hear it."

Stewart contended that he has been blacklisted by CP&L for his outspoken views. "I've cooperated with CP&L before and have supplied them information. They're willing to take all the freebies I can give out," he said.

"All of a sudden their geologists have been muzzled and instructed not to talk to me. They are afraid, in my opinion, that they may say something that would be self-incriminating."

Replying to this charge, the company issued a statement saying that any previous cooperation between CP&L and Stewart was initiated by the geologist himself. They said Stewart has not been consulted because CP&L maintains its own staff of scientists.

With respect to the company's advisors, Stewart commented, "They are good geologists, but what CP&L says to the public and what they actually do is dictated by the

administration, not the geologists. That's where there's a weak link in the chain."

Stewart's main contention is that not enough seismic instrumentation has been established in North Carolina to determine whether the plant site is safe. The cause of earthquakes in eastern United States is relatively unknown, and North Carolina's potential for tremors is an even greater mystery. "Without instrumentation, it's a complete guessing game," Stewart noted.

Earthquakes in this state have been a rarity over the past 300 years, but the historical record indicates that a disaster can occur practically anywhere. An earthquake shook parts of South Carolina just last week, for example. Another South Carolina earthquake, the Great Charleston Quake of 1886, virtually leveled that region of the state and, as far away as Raleigh, moved houses off their foundations.

No significant seismic activity had been recorded before that date.

Stewart pointed out that although six out of seven potentially destructive earthquakes occur west of the Rocky Mountains, a quake in the east will do 20 times the damage.

"We know we haven't had a major earthquake in North Carolina for 300 years," Stewart said, "but that is no

assurance whatsoever that we couldn't have the biggest quake in the history of the United States tomorrow. We just have to face this realistic possibility."

Stewart has proposed a statewide network of seismic monitoring stations to begin recording phenomena within the earth. He advocates financing from the power companies because "they are the highest risk. You break a dam, and it's all over with when the water's gone. You break a building, it falls down, and it's over with, but when you break a nuclear reactor, you've just started your troubles."

CP&L has declined participation in Stewart's project.

Because of the lack of instrumentation near the Harris plant site, most research has centered on the historical record of seismic activity. Since the Great Charleston Quake affected the area more than any other incident, the Harris plant is being built to withstand just such a shock. "Take a Charleston-type earthquake and move it 50 miles and what have you got? You've got a broken reactor," Stewart said.

Stewart insisted, "I'm not on the side of being either for or against that power plant. I'm on the side of good science. All I'm asking of them is to do some bonafide, objective studies before they proceed, and they're scared to death to do it."