# UPI reporter cites Carter's 'common touch'

#### **By KAREN MILLERS** Staff Writer

A class of eighth-graders was touring the White House. President Jimmy Carter spoke to them for a few minutes, then asked for questions.

"Are you going to cut off funds for the B1 bomber?" a boy asked.

"I'm going to wait until the secretary of state gets back from Moscow," Carter replied. "And the message he brings back from Moscow about what the Russians are going to do will determine what I'm going to have to do.'

The White House reporters, startled that Carter had given such a substantive answer to an eighth-grader, dashed out of the room. Wes Pippert of United Press International (UPI) filed an urgent story.

"He feels more at home with ordinary people than, say, with Texas fatcats," Pippert said. "It makes things much more complicated for us reporters. . . You never know when he's going to make policy."

Pippert covered the Carter campaign for UPI and then was assigned to be one of the three UPI White House reporters. He also covered the Watergate story and the 1972 McGovern campaign.

Pippert held a question-and-answer session Sunday afternoon at UNC and spoke to the mid-campus and Granville chapters of Intervarsity Christian Fellowship Sunday night.

"I've seen or heard 90 to 95 per cent of the things he (Carter) has done in the past seven or eight months," Pippert said. He attributes Carter's uniqueness to his notion of power, his common touch and his feelings about human rights.

"He sees himself not as first boss, but as first servant. His view of power is not manipulative. It has scriptural originsthat's really radical."

Pippert said Carter openly recognizes how dangerous power can be. The reporter criticized the media for not adequately explaining that same underlying cause of Watergate-the temptation to abuse power.

Carter's common touch, he said, comes from an easiness in his converstaions with regular people.

UPI reporter Wes Pippert, speaking to several chapters of the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship Sunday, discusses covering Jimmy Carter: 'He feels more at home with

"He used the same language and details at the Clinton, Mass. council meeting that he did at the UN," he said. "There's condescension in his talking with ordinary persons. That's the real reason behind the symbolism of removing the trappings."

Concerning human rights, Pippert said Carter's strong point is that he addresses the infraction of human rights no matter where those infractions occur.

"All these things flow out of his Christian belief," Pippert said. "There's no doubt in my mind at all."

He said the President explained the integration of his faith and his job one Sunday in the men's Sunday School class at the larger point." Plains Baptist Church.

"Love in isolation doesn't mean anything," Carter said. "Those of us who call ourselves Christians have a tremendous responsibility not to sit around and blandly say, 'I love everybody.'

Pippert said Carter is enjoying good relations with the press so far. He is holding news conferences twice a month and is opening up the decision-making process.

"He's bringing things up for discussion. The American people aren't used to this."

Pippert also credited Press Secretary Jody Powell with being honest with the press.

## news briefs

WASHINGTON (UPI)-Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons allowed hisson, Donald, to promote a multimilliondollar life-insurance swindle of union members, a Senate subcommittee charged Monday.

The Senate Permanent Investigations subcommittee report also said Fitzsimmons permitted his home Local 299 in Detroit to adopt the fraudulant insurance plan, apparently knowing it would not benefit the members.

Fitzsimmons denied he had ever supported the insurance scheme, adding: "As would any father, I generally wished Don well in this endeavor, but in these matters he did not speak for me" or the union.

Staff photos by Rouse Wilson

ordinary people than, say, with Texas fatcats . . . It makes things much more complicated for us reporters."

"He has an intimacy with Carter that (Ron) Nessen never had with Ford," he added

The reporter defended Carter's Playboy interview, saying it was a demonstration of the President's interest in all segments of the American people.

"Do we want our politicians to cut off the community that reads Playboy? Are our presidents also the presidents of the people who read that magazine?"

Yet, Pippert said press response to the interview showed an inability to deal with the moral issues Carter was explaining. "Instead, they focused on his choice of words. They missed

Pippert stressed to Christian students the need to integrate their beliefs with whatever they do. He said the journalism profession actually offered him a better opportunity to do this than some other professions might.

"The commodity we're dealing with is truth. In that sense, it's a very pure profession," he said. "Along the say, how you get the truth is very important."

"Being a Christian does not mean I'm a better reporter. It does mean that I view what I'm doing as God's will for me. It does mean I may have greater sensitivity to certain stories. It matters in the way I work with people, the way I work at finding truth."

## **Teamsters swindle**

Chairman Sam Nunn, D-Ga., emphasized there was no evidence Fitzsommons violated the law. But Nunn said his conduct "poses a serious question as to a possible conflict of

> interest." Donald Fitzsimmons was identified in the report as a promoter who shared in the profits of the insurance scheme devised by a convicted felon and insurance mastermind, Louis C. Ostrer.

> Fitzsimmons' other son, Richard, was charged with embezzlement and conspiracy Feb. 4 in connection with the alleged insurance scheme in Local 299. Donald's attorney, Stuart Siani, was named as an accessory.

#### Prof heads FPC study

Richard M. Smith, professor of law, has been named by the Federal Power Commission (FPC) to head up a task force studying the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline.

Smith is on leave from the School of Law this semester serving as special counsel to the FPC, the main agency for allocating the nation's power resources.

Smith and Cornell University professor Jerome Hass are directing a staff of geologists, economists, engineers and others

Seven students receive journalism awards

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in collecting data to formulate a recommendation on the best method of getting natural gas from Alaska to the continental United States.

#### Summer school dates set

The registration office has announced that summer-school preregistration will be April 18-22. Class schedules are now available at Hanes Hall, the dean's office and other central campus locations.

#### **Civil War trip planned**

Student interested in a trip to Civil War battlefields this weekend should attend a meeting at 8 p.m. today in 209 Manning. The trip is sponsored by the peace, war and defense curriculum.

A two-hour lecture-orientation is planned for the meeting. Civil War background material and informational packets (itinerary, maps, brochures, carpool assignments) will be distributed.

The group will leave Thursday and will visit Manassas (spending the night at Fredericksburg, Va.), Harpers Ferry, Antietam and Gettysburg.

Cost of the trip (four days, three nights, two meals) will be \$34, due today if reservations are desired. Other expenses are extra.

#### Walk for Humanity

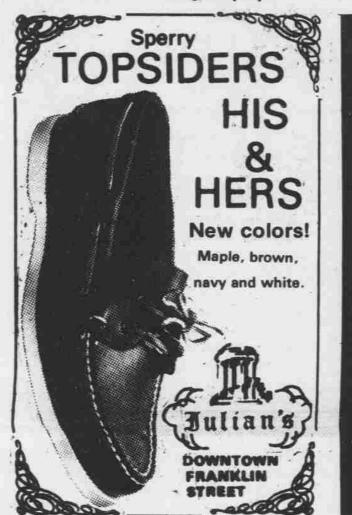
The ninth annual UNC YM-YWCA "Walk for Humanity" was held Saturday while thousands of UNC students crowded around television sets to watch the NCAA regional finals.

Despite the tournament, 120 peoplemost UNC students-participated in the 20mile hike, earning approximately \$3,000 in pledge money, according to Alan Avera, cochairperson of the walk.

"The NCAA hurt our publicity a little, but we had great weather on Saturday," Avera said.

The walk was more successful this year. than last, when the weather was bad, he said. Funds from the walk will be distributed to local organizations as well as international nonprofit organizations.

The walk will be held again next year.





#### RICHMOND, Va.-Seven UNC students

conference of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi (SPJ, SDX), a national organization of student and professional journalists, which sponsored the contest. Lee Poole, a senior from Greensboro, won first place in editorial cartooning for a Daily Tar Heel cartoon about the Carter Administration coming to Washington. A farmer in a pickup was depicted entering "Plains, D.C." as the Ford Administrationa limousine filled with businessmen-was leaving. On the back of the truck was a bumper sticker which read, "Honk If Your Love Jimmy." UNC swept the feature-writing competition. Former DTH Editor Alan Murray, a senior from Lookout Mountain, Tenn., won first place for a three-part series on the sex business in Chattanooga. He examined massage parlors, adult bookstores and X-

rated movie theaters and their owners.

Kevin Barris, a senior from Charlotte, placed second with his story in the DTH on the basketball team at the University of



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## THE DEAN OF BEER'S QUICKIE QUIZ.

### **Q:** A mini-brewery is:

- a) Hidden in a basement somewhere in Greektown.
- b) The result of trying to make Broken Toe, Idaho, the beer capital of the world.
- c) The right way to pretest beer ingredients. d) Both (a) and (c).
- A: (c) If you answered this question (a), you obviously know something I don't. And you are in a lot of trouble.
  - Now, as for the correct answer.

Yes, Schlitz actually does have a mini-brewery where they test-brew the ingredients that go into Schlitz. And if they're not right, they never go into Schlitz.

Which is something to remember the next time you're going into your favorite place for a beer.

You know which one.



Siglinda Steinfüller **Dean of Beer** 

AND YOU KNOW IT.

won awards Saturday in the Mark of Excellence regional contest for college journalists.

By TONY GUNN

Staff Writer

The awards were presented at the regional



North Carolina at Charlotte.

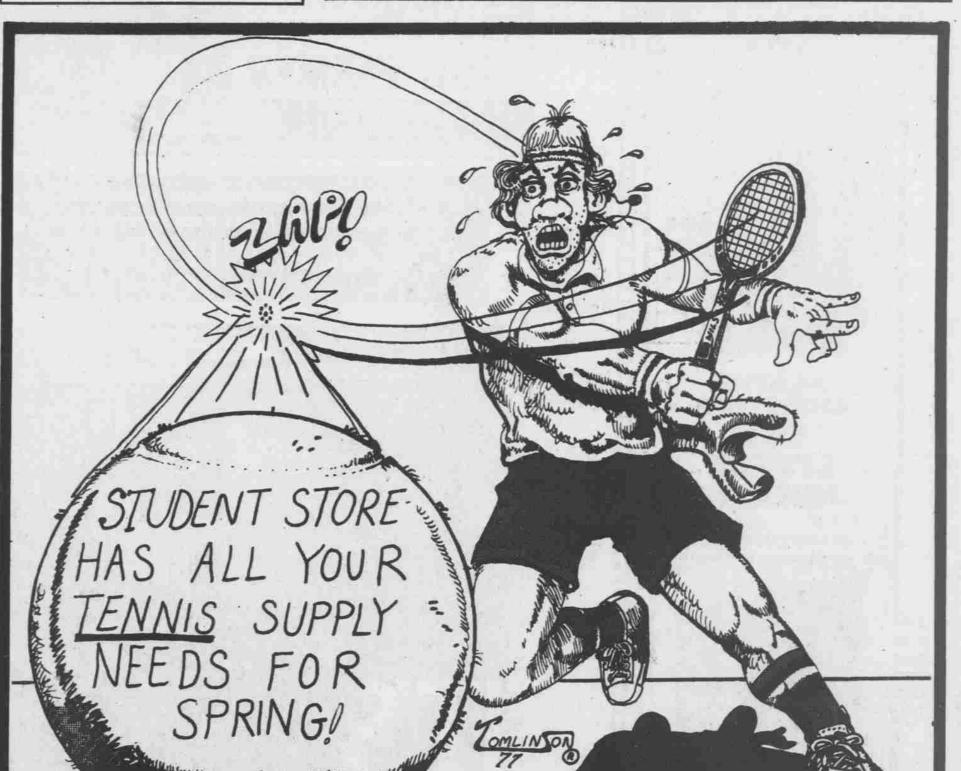
Taking third were Phred Vultee, a senior from Greenville, and Larry Toppman, a graduate student from Mt. Holly, N.J. Their story, which appeared in the DTH, was titled, "The Best State Fair in Our State."

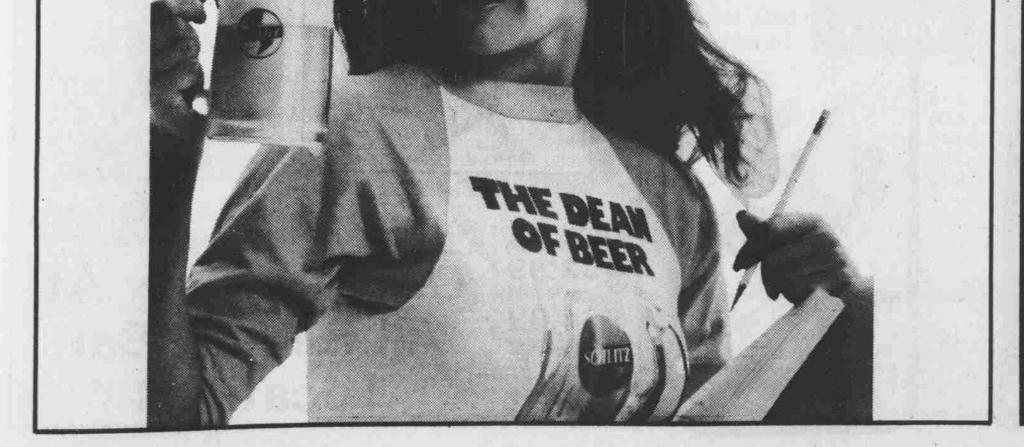
William C. Roberts, a graduate student from Durham, won second place in newswriting. His story, "Mayor Slow to Meet Housing Code," appeared in the Raleigh News and Observer.

Former DTH Photography Editor Charles Hardy, a senior from Perry, Ga., received honorable mention in news photography for his photo of Jimmy Carter, his wife and a tired Amy after the 1976 presidential election.

## Correction

Yesterday's Tar Heel incorrectly stated that Joe Hancock and Friends will be in Deep Jonah on Thursday, March 24. The ad should have read Joe Horacek and Friends.





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