

Sad parents leave excited freshmen behind to fend for themselves

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and
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Staff Writers

It was a day of contrasts. The excitement of moving and the sadness of parting, the eagerness to begin and the hesitation to end.

For approximately 3,000 incoming UNC freshmen, Saturday was a big day. They were arriving at college. Early arrivals were the rule. Most had moved in by 1 p.m., orientation officials said. Forty to 50 persons were waiting in line outside Hinton James by 10 a.m., area coordinator Bob Brymer said.

Apparently, the freshman who arrived earliest lives in Hinton James. He was at the dorm at 7 a.m. "I don't know his name and don't want to know," Brymer said.

The hazy day carried the threat of rain, but some freshmen had more serious problems. Ilene Hersher of Pompano Beach, Fla., lost clothes and personal belongings when a thief broke into the car she was traveling in outside a Jacksonville, Fla., motel.

Other people had problems, too. Clothes, contact lenses and a stuffed Bugs Bunny wearing a black tuxedo and a Carter-Mondale button were taken from a car parked outside Connor Dorm. They belonged to a freshman from Greensboro.

"Things went very smoothly," said Charles Hite of Charlotte. "One guy didn't have a desk when he got here. But in five minutes, they found him one. There haven't been any problems."

"Everything has been real smooth," Elaine Boyette of Fayetteville said. "I'm very pleased with the way things are going."

"It's great to be in Chapel Hill," said Sam Fowle of Washington, N.C. "I have been here several times and

I've been looking forward to coming here for some time."

It was a day of bringing a little bit of home while leaving the family behind.

Jimmy Dixon of Littleton brought his Frankenstein poster to his Old East room, and Bob McCamy of Atlanta brought a stuffed cobra to the fourth floor of Grimes.

Some inconveniences did occur, however. "I don't have a desk light," said Kevin Edwards of Indian Hills. "The RAs said that they would work on it."

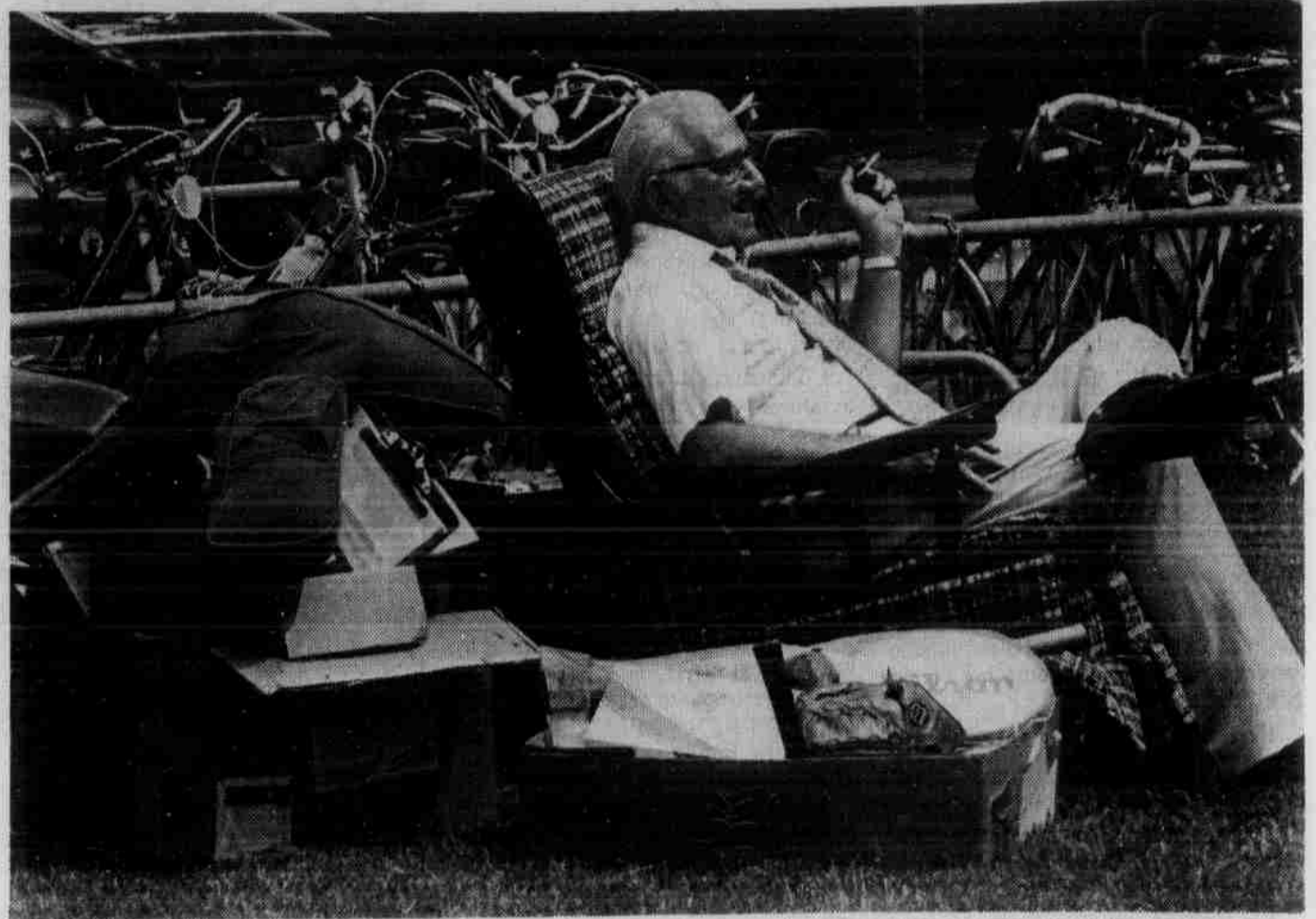
One young man came all the way from Atlanta to find that his two-person room was occupied by three persons. "They said it was a result of being overbooked and that they would move this third person out soon," Craig Pendergrast said. "The third fellow is an all-right guy, but it will be impossible to get organized until he is out."

The third floor of James boasted the only known triple on campus. "I don't know why they did it, but three of them are living in one room," RA Spurgeon Fields said.

Despite the fun of the occasion, some counselors predicted that Sunday might be different.

"A lot of them are excited about moving in, but they haven't yet realized that their parents are gone," said Joyner orientation counselor Elizabeth Cobey. "Their parents were hit by it today; the freshmen will be tomorrow."

Both Lower and Upper quads sprouted signs marking the way for students. Brightly colored banners welcomed students to dorms: a big bright blue-and-yellow sign hanging outside Grimes read, "Grimes welcomes Freshmen," and a small cardboard sign inside Cobb said, "Caution: 3rd Floor East Welcomes You to



A comfortable easy chair provides a brief respite for this harried father, who sat back for a few minutes Saturday to observe the pandemonium around him as 3,000 incoming

freshmen began arriving on campus, full of excitement and anticipation about their first year away from home.

Staff photo by L. C. Barbour

the Zoo."

The best news of the day in James was that the elevators worked all day long, a feat that amazed some of the orientation counselors who have lived there before.

Rumors circulated that a freshman girl in Morrison had put her bed together with railroad ties she had brought from home.

Another Morrison freshman found items in her room belonging to someone who had lived there two years ago.

On the eighth floor of James, a freshman's mother offered to clean the suite bathroom.

At Granville Towers, orientation counselor Brian Smith was being helpful by opening doors. "There's a lot of good-looking girls coming in," he said.

One mother of a confident-looking freshman took an orientation counselor aside and said, "He's so nervous, he doesn't know a thing he's doing."

As a car pulled away from the curb on Raleigh Street, a mother rolled down the window and called out to her son, "Call us if you need anything. We'll send it."

Philanthropist's 'silk hat' gazes skyward

A Harvard astronomer once remarked to UNC's leading philanthropist, John Motley Morehead, that North Carolinians are "the most astronomically ignorant people in all America."

Morehead took exception to the astronomer's statement and offered an amendment to his criticism: "Of all people in America, North Carolinians are the most ignorant of astronomical matters, and we'll build a planetarium."

Today the validity of the astronomer's statement is still being debated, but the state did build a planetarium. And, in the eyes of many observers, the Morehead Planetarium is one of the leading star-gazing facilities in the world.

Morehead first spoke of providing funds for the construction of the facility to the University in a 1938 conversation with UNC President Frank Porter Graham.

The grandson of one of the state's most respected governors told Graham he wanted to leave a unique "silk hat" sort of gift to his alma mater, something the school was not likely to obtain except through private

donation. A planetarium, it seemed, would fit the bill.

The planetarium began in May, 1949, with the Zeiss projector, a small museum and art gallery. The Zeiss projector had been witnessed by Morehead, the co-founder of Union Carbide, during a trip to Sweden in the 1930s. After an early attempt to purchase the projector was thwarted by a German clause limiting trade, he bought the instrument in 1947 for \$67,000 from the Zeiss Optical Company, which built the world's first planetarium in August 1924.

Commenting on his purchase, Morehead said, "As Germany is so thoroughly shot to pieces, the Swedes did not figure the limiting clause held any longer." Espousing the anti-communism fear that was sweeping the United States during the era, Morehead hurried through the transaction to "obviate the possibility of the Russians beating us to it."

The total cost of the planetarium, including projector and the building which houses it, was approximately \$3 million. Some skeptics scoffed at the idea of

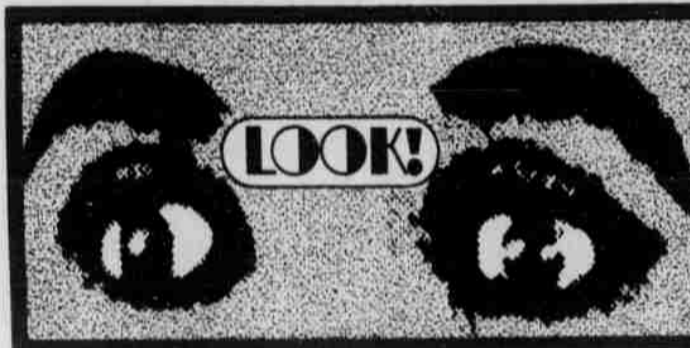
expending such a sum to look at the stars when anyone could do it cheaper in his own back yard. However, at the time of its construction, one could only view 9,000 stars at once in only five other facilities in the Western Hemisphere.

An observatory and many special programs and exhibits have been added to the original facility, which opened with Anthony Jenzano as its director.

Visitors to the planetarium include the 46,000 school children who go there annually and a host of astronauts sent to the facility during the "space race" era.

This week, the planetarium is presenting *Juggernaut*, a science-fiction production narrated by William Shatner. To encourage newly-arriving freshmen and all students to visit the planetarium, *Juggernaut* is being shown for \$1 per person throughout the week.

The planetarium's first presentation, given in May, 1949, was *Let There Be Light*. Morehead would probably say, "This is good."

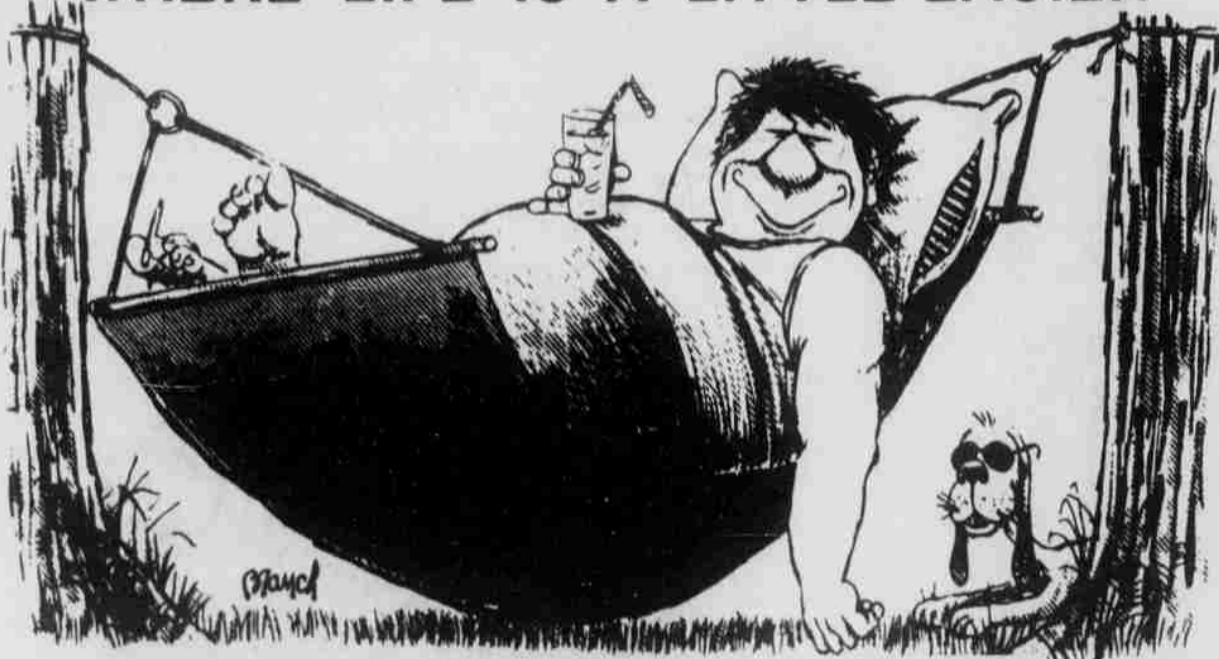


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