

Romantic extreme Civil War novel

Not since *Gone With the Wind* has there been such an unabashedly romantic novel about the Civil War South as *Blood Red Roses* by Elizabeth Boatwright Coker, author of seven previous historical novels. (E. P. Dutton Co. 278 pp. \$9.95)

And what a heroine is Angelica Burwell Berrien, proud, beautiful, impetuous, a splendid horsewoman and nearly six feet tall. And how she loved Beau Berrien, Hilton Head Island cotton planter, "the finest deer and waterfowl shot in the Low Country," whom she met in the stable of her uncle's Virginia plantation, fell in love with immediately and married in the parish church a few weeks later.

If all of this sounds like High Romance, it is. But no more so than Elizabeth Coker's own romance. After graduating from

novel about her South was published, "daughter of Strangers." Others followed: *The Day of the Peacock*, *India Allan*, *The Big Drum*, and *La Belle*. Her latest novel, *The Bees*, came out in 1968, after her husband's death. Both South Carolina and North Carolina claim Coker as a native writer, since she spends her winters in Hartsville and her summers in Blowing Rock.

Coker sets a fast pace as she unfolds her plot, but she also handles her characters deftly and sets her scene with the lyric beauty of the live oak trees and the old Southern plantation houses. Angel Berrien learns how to run the plantation, how to cope with the slaves, how to ward off the unwelcome attentions of the suave Yankee colonel who befriends her in her husband's absence and how to take care of her three young brothers-in-law, including the 8-year-old Button, who was too sensitive to shoot a bird but knew how to handle a gun when a crisis demanded it. The excitement and the dangers of the Civil War and an enemy-occupied plantation provide authentic historical background but never obscure the real-life people who live and love and fight and suffer on Hilton Head Island. The black slaves are portrayed sympathetically; and Mrs. Coker is adept at rendering the Gullah dialect without allowing it to become unintelligible.

Blood Red Roses makes exceptionally good reading because you get utterly involved in what is happening to these engaging people. You can enjoy hissing the villain, applauding the hero and actually loving the heroine. When Angel is convicted of killing a Yankee general and is about to be hanged, you know perfectly well that Beau Berrien will sweep up on his silver horse and rescue her — and you wouldn't have it happen otherwise. You know why this is called "a romantic novel." You are glad it is. And you suspect that Angel Berrien has some unexpected resemblance to Elizabeth Coker herself.

books

By WALTER SPEARMAN

Blood Red Roses
By Elizabeth Boatwright Coker

Converse College in 1929, she went to New York "to write" and found a job modeling hats and shoes for Saks Fifth Avenue. On a "blind date" at the Cotton Club in Harlem, she met James Lide Coker III, who was from Hartsville, S.C., only 15 miles from her own home town of Darlington. She went to a tea dance with him at the Plaza the next day, took a carriage ride in Central Park on Sunday — and a week later she accepted his proposal on a roller coaster ride in Coney Island.

Ten years and two children later she started writing seriously and in 1950, on her twentieth wedding anniversary, her first

3:30
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7:30
9:30
11:15
1:15
3:15
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NEW Race For Your Life, Charlie Brown!
BEST FOREIGN FILM
BEST ACTRESS
RAM TRIPLE

2:10
4:35
7:00
9:20

3 Women
Robert Altmann
Shelley Duvall
Sissy Spacek
Janice Rule

PG-13
Carolina Twin
CHAPEL HILL

3:30
5:20
7:10
9:05

You Light Up My Life
A Columbia Pictures Release
PG

CHAPEL HILL
Plaza 1
HELD OVER
SORRY — NO
PASSES

SHOWS
2:20
4:45
7:10
9:35

JAMES BOND 007
"THE SPY WHO LOVED ME" PG

CHAPEL HILL
Plaza 2
HELD OVER
2ND WEEK

SHOWS
2:20
4:10
6:00
7:50
9:40

WHAT THE PRINCE SLIPPED CINDERELLA WAS NOT A SLEEPER.
ADULTS ONLY X
Cinderella
A GROUP 1 PRESENTATION

CHAPEL HILL
Plaza 3
NOW SHOWING

SHOWS
3:00
5:00
7:00
9:00

CHARLES BRONSON
"THE WHITE BUFFALO"
PG United Artists

Varsity
HELD OVER
13th WEEK
SORRY — NO
PASSES

SHOWS
2:30
4:45
7:00
9:15

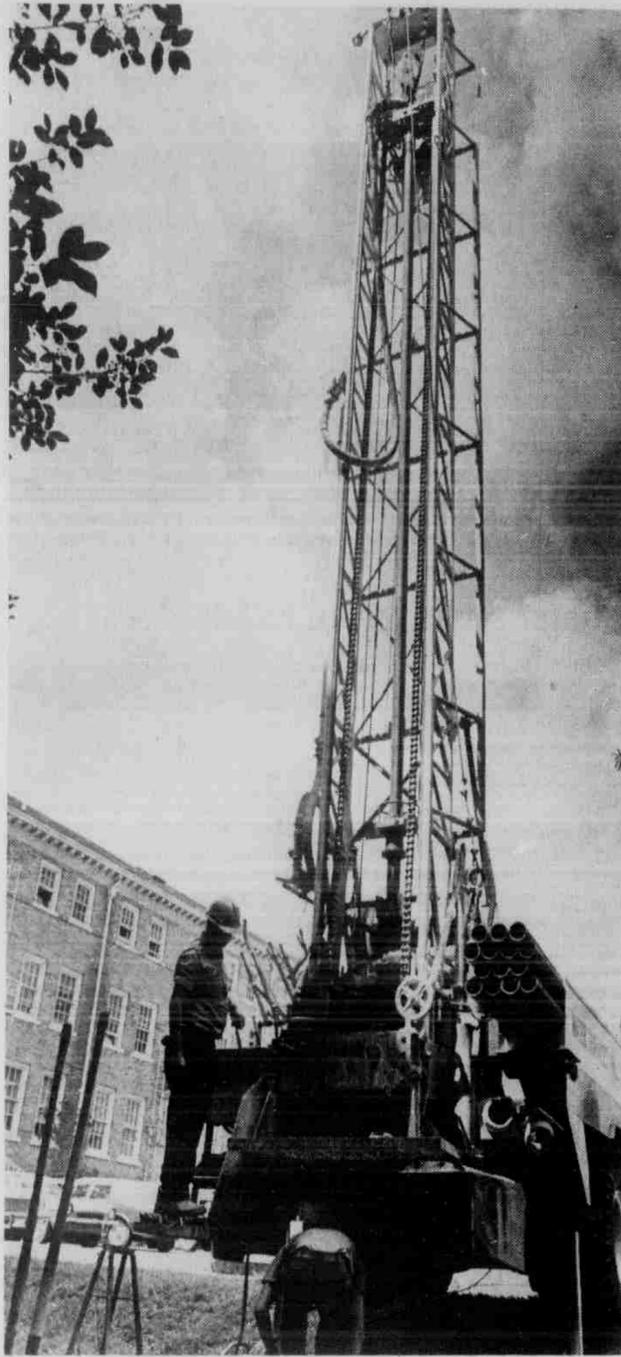
A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away.
STAR WARS PG

Lab Theatre performs 'A Doll's House'

The UNC Lab Theatre opens its 1977-78 season tonight with Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, which will run through Saturday with performances at 8 p.m. each night in the Lab Theatre, 06 Graham Memorial. Tickets are available at Graham Memorial.

Under the supervision of MFA acting student Bud de Winter, the Lab Theatre will present three major works each semester, and supplemental productions as they develop. These shows will have auditions open to all undergraduates and to the community.

Auditions for *The Hostage*, by Brendan Behan, will be held on Oct. 14. Contact the Lab Office for further information at 933-1133.



The well drillers outside Saunders Hall toil long and hard in the noonday heat. As one of the drillers said, "Lot of work tied up in it. But sometimes we just sit and watch it drill." Staff photo by Fred Barbour.

Drillers search for water, working long, grimy hours

By ZAP BRUECKNER
Staff Writer

The double-stacked diesel has been roaring for almost 11 hours now as it bores a six-inch carbide steel bit into solid granite more than 300 feet below the surface of the UNC campus.

The huge drilling-rig truck stands behind Old East on its shiny hydraulic jacks. In the spotlights of the 38-foot derrick the long, tall shaft spins slowly as it grinds the bit through the subterranean world in search of water.

One man stands on a platform on the drilling rig, where he controls the engine speed and the drill speed. His younger assistant cleans out the mud ditch where sludge runs from the hole to a nearby storm drain.

These are the well diggers who have been digging for water on campus over the past two months. John Wilhelm is the driller. He wears a blue workshirt, blue pants, heavy leather boots and he has an oily rag hanging out of his back pocket. The middle-aged driller has been digging wells for 24 years and finds the job worthwhile.

"Anyone who has been doing it for as long as I have must like it," he says.

The pay is good, but the hours are long and grimy. The men work on long shifts — sometimes 11 or 12 hours per day. Since Wilhelm and his apprentice driller are from Charlotte, they live in a motel during the week and go home on the weekends.

"We've been getting off around nine o'clock," Wilhelm says. "When I first got up here we worked six days a week."

Wilhelm squats down to watch the shaft spinning and listens carefully to the deafening sound of the diesel.

Most of the 14 wells they had bored had plenty of water, but Wilhelm acquired the nickname of "Dry Hole" the other day when he dug his 13th hole and came up dry. ("Dry" means only two gallons per minute. The drillers aim for 25 gallons per minute when drilling for commercial purposes.)

"Dry Hole" shrugged it off. After all, it was the 13th hole.

Wilhelm's apprentice driller, Junior Broome, finished cleaning out the mud ditch and came over to talk — or rather yell — over the roar of the diesel and metallic ringing of the drilling rig.

Broome, 21, has only been drilling for a year and one half. He is not sure how long he wants to drill, but right now he likes working outdoors.

"It's all right money," Broome says. "Lot of work tied up in it, but sometimes we just sit and watch the drill."

From the looks of the operation, however, he doesn't suffer from too much watching. After cleaning out the mud ditch again, he adjusts the hoses injecting water and suds into the shaft. This is done to keep the broken rock and dust in a muddy sludge; otherwise, dust would cover the entire area

around the drilling rig.

Broome also sharpens drill bits and works at other oddjobs around the site.

One of his tasks is to take samples of the sludge at 10-foot intervals and lay the shovelfuls in separate piles. Later he bags a sample of each and puts the bags in a box that will go to Raleigh for study.

Bill Council is a drilling superintendent for the company. He started out as an apprentice driller in 1953 working for 80 cents an hour.

"I started after I got out of high school," Council says. "I was going to stay until I could find something better." He pauses. "Never found anything better."

He chuckles softly and puffs slowly on his pipe. "First year or so I didn't like it at all," he says and then smiles. "But it's an occupation that'll really grow on you."

"This, to me, is the most exciting thing a person can do. No two jobs are exactly the same."

He enjoys the job so much that his CB handle is "Hole-Peddler." Council has made a lot of friends with the persons for whom he drills wells. These friends tell other people about Council's work, and he is able to get more drilling jobs. The Hole-Peddler stays busy with about 75 per cent of his work coming through contractors.

"The good part about this job is when you get there (to the site), there's nobody over you," he says. "You're doing something that will always be there. Something permanent. It's important to do it right to begin with."

While the crew is at work, Council says his company has previously drilled 16 wells which are now pumping a total of 750,000 gallons of water per day. And the cost of the wells is not exceptionally great.

"Eight to 10 cents a thousand gallons to pump this water," Council says. "They (wells) pay for themselves in two to three years. We've done the same thing for Duke and State."

He notes that many large institutions and businesses also are having wells dug because they provide a steady, inexpensive supply of water. The water shortages this summer have made the well-drilling business extremely good, he adds.

The campus-drilling effort has been fairly successful so far. The well at Navy field is getting 200 gallons per minute, and the one at the laundry is pumping about 100 gallons per minute.

To drill the wells on campus, University engineers tell Council where the University needs water. Then Council and the driller look at the lay of the land in that particular area and start digging.

The drillers stopped at 10:30 Monday night. The rock was getting harder and it was taking longer and longer to bore the hole. The water flow had reached a sufficient rate of 70 gallons per minute. The well was finished.

hairy buffaloes

Continued from page 1

"pretty hairy" according to those who have had it.

Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity has a martini chug, in which a contest is held to see which brother can chug the most martinis. A professor is asked to judge the contest and last year's winner drank 10 three-ounce martinis.

Alderman Dorm is going to have a "Talent and Gong Show" mixer where dorm members will present talent before such campus-celebrity judges as Student Body President Bill Moss and basketball player Rich Yonaker.

Phi Mu sorority has a "Susie Sorority" mixer where the girls and guys try to exaggerate the fraternity-sorority image.

Some theme mixers are traditional

like the Delta Delta Delta-Chi Phi "Old South" mixer where everybody comes dressed as Confederate soldiers, Southern belles and slaves.

Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) fraternity also has a traditional "Viking" mixer. The ATO house, with its Gothic architecture, lends itself well to this theme. The brothers decorate the house in Viking style with shields and spears, and wear Viking attire.

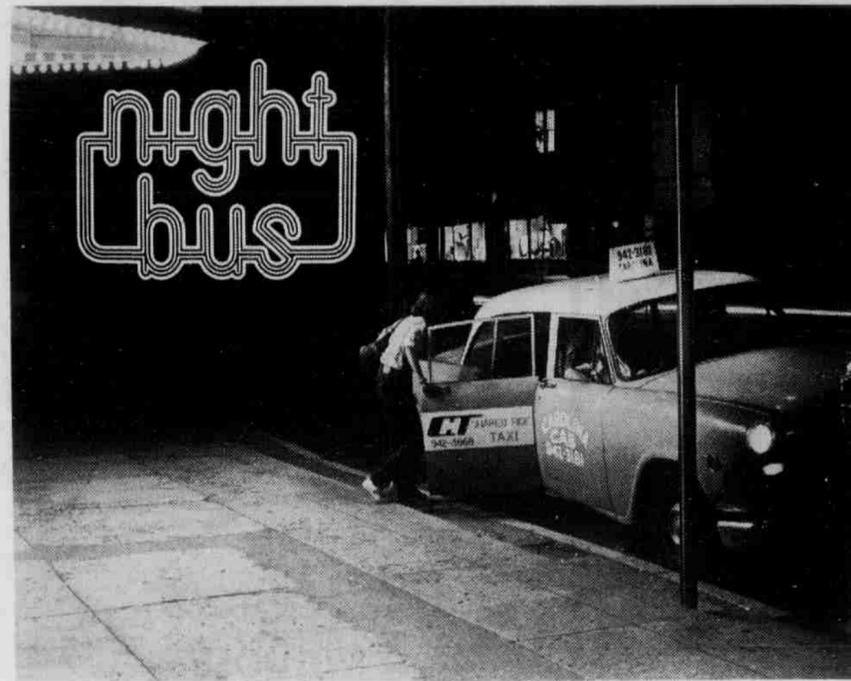
"For a couple of times a year a theme mixer provides an opportunity to display a part of yourself that wouldn't normally be manifested," said Mark Kogan of Chi Psi fraternity. "It can enhance a social season, but it can go too far and be detrimental if they are all like that."

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There's a new night bus in Chapel Hill. It's smaller than a regular bus and it's called Shared Ride Taxi. And, though it's a Carolina Cab, it's sponsored by Chapel Hill Community Transit and it'll still get you where you want to go.

get on it

Once you have a bus pass, a mere 25¢ will pay your way between any two bus stops in Chapel Hill. That's for the hours of 7:00 to midnight, weekdays. Door to bus stop, or vice versa, is only 50¢. And door to door is only 75¢. For folks over 65 or kids 6-12, the fares are even less, and kids under 6 ride free with an adult. SRT goes anywhere you want within a quarter mile of any

bus route in Chapel Hill. This service is not available in Carrboro or within the UNC campus core. But SRT will connect with the U Campus Route, which operates until 1:30 am.

to the point

Here's how to use the SRT service. Get a bus pass. Then call 942-3668 or 929-2197 about an hour before you want to be picked up. Give your name, pick-up location, desired pick-up time, destination and phone number. The dispatcher will try to arrange your trip as close as possible to the time you want, and he will call you back if a delay requires rescheduling. All you do is wait for the bus to arrive.

Just remember that it looks like a taxi, but it is a bus. A Chapel Hill bus.

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people who own bus passes
really know how to get around at night