Amnesty International

wins Nobel Peace Prize

## Mid-term energy shortage hits Hall's Jack the Wonder Toad

Jack is not nimble; he is not even quick because Jack is a toad-shaped candlestick.

Jack the Wonder Toad usually jumps through a perilous "ring of death," but lately he has become despondent. Upon taking numerous orders and an amphibious amphetamine, the wonder toad remains mysteriously silent and still.

Perhaps the stunt appears too intimidating. Jack's trainer, Rich Hall, has become quite distraught about Jack's lack of energy, whatever the reason for the passive performance.

The fearful "ring of death" at first appears to be a tricycle wheel with protruding nails. However, it is indeed a treacherous challenge to Jack's veritable toadhood, and he must attempt his perilous jump every leap year no simple task.

Hall describes Jack's condition after the toad's unsuccessful journey through the pronged ring: "He was not only irritable but unable to hold large amounts of water.

"Oh well, stick around and I'll rub some Compound-W on him and we can watch him freak out," an embarrassed Hall says when Jack refuses to perform.

Then for 30 minutes, Hall extricates minds from academic chaos by telling jokes and stories and performing impersonations to cover up Jack's lack of toadhood.

Despite the toad's poor performances. Hall has kept Jack in his traveling street show for about a year. The 23-year-old comedian worked for clubs this summer in New York and Philadephia. The Alexandria, Va., native resides in Philadelphia when he and Jack are not on the road.

Hall has performed in towns and on campuses in Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Arizona and California. Sometimes universities offer housing and Hall occasionally stays with friends.

Hall says he likes performing for Southern crowds better than for New York crowds because New Yorkers tend to clap fists in



Richard Hall entertains UNC students in the Pit with his lazy friend, Jack the Wonder Toad. If the frog proves immobile, Hall gladly fills in the gaps with his comical stories. Staff photo by Mike Sneed.

During the performances, Hall disguises himself as Buddy R. Pindergraph, a hick with inch-thick glasses and a Midwestern

Pindergraph tells a peculiar story: "I was putterin' around in my cucumber patch

when strange cigar-shaped objects with outof-state license tags fell right in my radishes over yonder, and I hollered to my wife, 'Thelma! Company!

"They were shaped just like magic markers. In fact, it was hard to tell them apart. But these things had arms...l caught me one before they got away... The only way to kill them is to snap their heads off. That way they dry up in about an hour."

Hall says his practice of setting up his street show without permission has resulted in quick rejection in some areas. At a craft fair in New York, a police officer stopped the performance after five minutes and told Hall

"I found it's best to do it without permission because most people find soliciting rules," Hall says. "I'm watching out of the corner of my eye for police."

Hall graduated from high school in Charlotte and majored in creative writing at Western Washington State College.

He says he hopes to appear on television in two years. Eventually, Hall would like to produce a comedy movie.

And Jack? Well, his situation looks

has given practical humanitarian and impartial support to people who have been imprisoned because of their race, religion or

peace movement they formed in an effort to end the sectarian violence in Northern

### Dayan - no PLO

The two Belfast women were cited for the

From UPI Wire Reports.

OSLO, Norway Amnesty International.

man's inhumanity to man. Monday won the

1977 Nobel Peace Prize, and the delayed

1976 prize was given to Betty Williams and

Mairead Corrigan, leaders of the Northern

In its citation, the Norwegian Nobel

Committee said, "Amnesty International

Ireland Peace Movement.

UNITED NATIONS - Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Davan Monday restated Israel's opposition to letting the "terrorist" Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) take part in Middle East peace talks, but minutes later left the door ajar for diplomatic maneuvering that might admit the PLO.

Dayan told reporters, and repeated to the full U.N. General Assembly six hours later. that Israel has no intention of agreeing to an independent state of Palestine - a "PLO ministate" that "would be a base for attempts to destroy Israel."

That position again appeared to put him in a position directly opposite his Syrian and Egyptian counterparts, who insist on PLO participation in Geneva.

But Dayan le't open what appeared to be room for maneuvering. Asked whether credentials of Palestinians at peace talks would be closely for PLO membership, he replied, "I don't think so."

#### Syria — not without PLO

BEIRUT, Lebanon - Syria said Monday it will boycott Middle East peace talks if the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is not represented, rejecting a U.S.-Israeli proposal for a new Geneva conference.

'Syria absolutely refuses to attend the Geneva peace conference if the PLO is excluded from it." Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam said in an interview with the Catari newspaper Al Arab

#### Tax cuts on the way

WASHINGTON President Carter. the worldwide organization which fights who spent the weekend studying tax reform, returned to Washington Monday and indicated that legislation proposing \$22 billion in cuts will be ready soon.

The President has said his proposals will mean substantial reductions for taxpayers. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said Friday chances of a tax cut next year are more possible now than they were a few

### news briefs

#### AMA refuses to testify

WASHINGTON The American Medical Association (AMA), on advice of its legal counsel, refused to appear Monday at Sen. Edward Kennedy's scheduled hearings on competition in the health care industry.

Neither Kennedy nor the AMA. sometimes antagonists over national health care issues, were saying much about the

Kennedy, D-Mass., scheduled joint hearings, beginning Monday, of Senate subcommittees on health, antitrust and monopoly, and invited the AMA to appear on the opening day. Kennedy is chairperson of both panels.

"It seems clear that the health care industry is not like those other industries where an open and competitive market serves the best interests of the consumer." Kennedy told AMA's Dr. James Sammons in a Sept. 19 letter.

## Correction

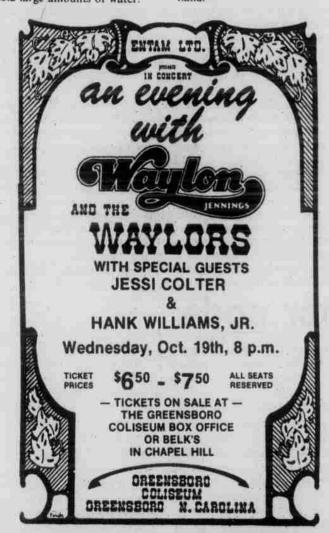
The Daily Tar Heel incorrectly reported Monday that the fifth-leading vote-getter in the Carrboro alderman's race will assume Robert Drakeford's seat on the board if he is successful in his mayoral campaign against John Boone. Drakeford's seat will be filled by board appointment if necessary.

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