

Women's caucus fights 'other side'

By STEVE HUETTEL
Staff Writer

"I think that most people wish the government would just stay out and leave us to our families."

—Mrs. Ann Bagnal,
president,
Women's Conservative Caucus

A year ago these women may have grumbled to themselves or their bridge partners about feminists, the gay rights movement or their ever-increasing tax bill, but most devoted their time to housework or church organizations.

This evening, however, the members of the Women's Conservative Caucus (WCC) meet in a Winston-Salem steakhouse to fight "the other side" — a nebulous group of feminists, homosexuals and various liberals whom they perceive to be leading an assault on the American family.

"We've got to get to work," says WCC President Ann Bagnal. "The other side is working like gangbusters. Another women's organization is being formed by the Winston-Salem Forsyth County Council on the Status of Women and the Young Women's so-called Christian Association, and I've got a feeling that every feminist organization from Winston-Salem will be well represented."

"They're just creating another organization which they can add to the list of groups in favor of the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment)," another member says.

"One of the problems we've had in these cases is that the other side is the same women for all the groups — from the League of Women Voters and NOW (National Organization of Women)," Bagnal says.

Although the primary topic on this night is ERA, the WCC is open to the study of any issue members wish to address and has taken stands supporting Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children" organization and opposing the upcoming referendum on gubernatorial succession in North Carolina.

Yet, the WCC is not just some isolated group of angry housewives. It is concerned with what some political observers consider the new conservative movement, labeled "pro-family."

A recent *New Times* article reported that numerous pro-family groups are springing up throughout the nation, and that they are concerned with such diverse issues as women's and gay rights, abortion, prohibition of Lactril for cancer treatment and even gun control.

Bagnal agrees that the pro-family movement's time has come and points to the fast-growing "W's" organizations in the Northeast as examples of the movement's widespread appeal.

The WCC began last March during a living-room meeting of 18 women opposed to the ratification of the ERA in North Carolina.

"We met on a Tuesday night and decided to run a quarter-page ad in the *Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel* to announce an

organization meeting the next week," Bagnal says. "In two days we went to their office with the \$500 in hand. One member went to her prayer meeting and got \$100 in contributions."

The WCC, with a membership of 40 and a mailing list of about 150, wrote their representatives in Raleigh and made bus trips to the legislature during the height of the ERA debate last spring.

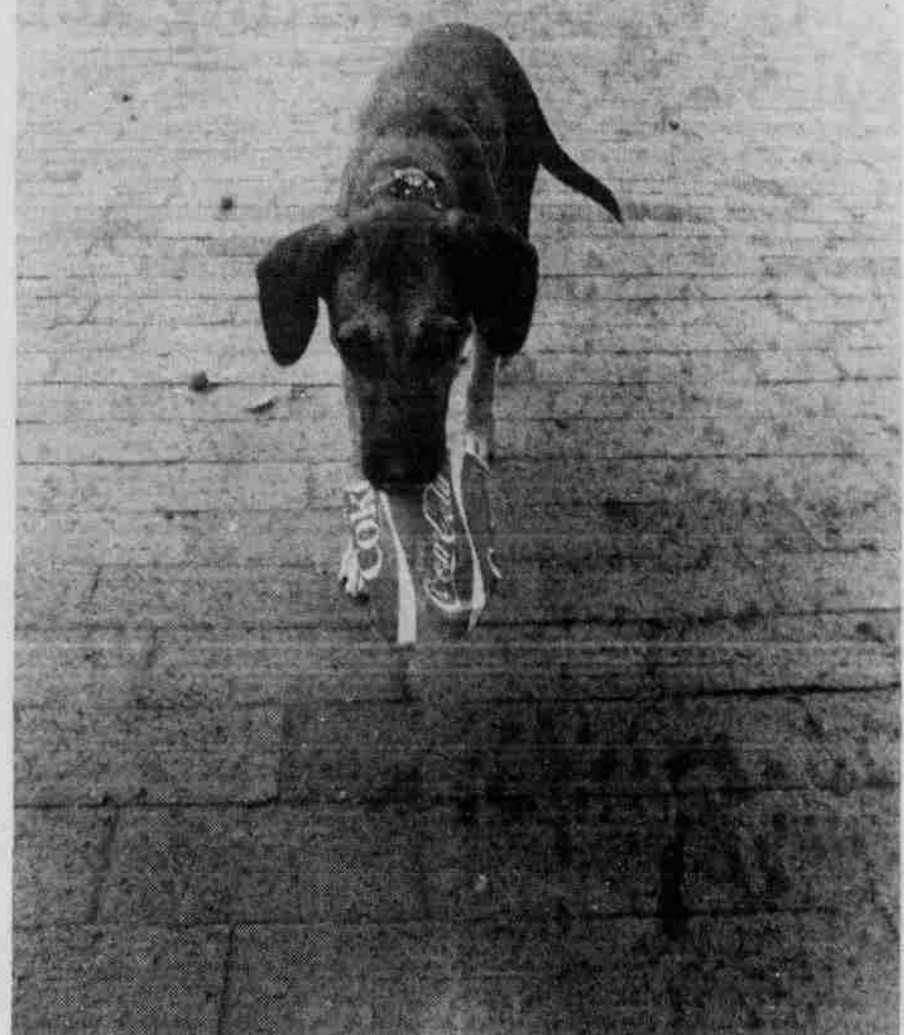
"A lot of the women said that they hadn't been aware of the implications of ERA before they joined and saw the need for an ongoing organization to keep them informed on other things that were going on after the ERA was defeated by the Senate," Bagnal says.

In addition to deciding to attend meetings of new local women's groups, the WCC discussed a boycott of Kellogg products because the company's foundation contributed to a pro-ERA group and writing their representatives in Washington to protest the proposed seven-year extension of ERA ratification and federal funding of groups supporting the amendment.

"The other side has Rockefeller money and a grant from Kellogg, and the Council on the Status of Women is pushing for the ERA and they're working on tax money," Bagnal says. "We've only got what we can raise ourselves, but they're not getting everything they want."

"Why, I saw Bella Abzug on the TV with a pile of (pro-ERA) letters this high," one member exclaims.

"And remember they're paid for with your tax money," interjects another. "And that," a third member whispers audibly, "is what makes me so mad."



Litter may be a big problem on our campus, but this little canine friend is doing all he can to alleviate the problem. He picks up the daily array of trash left in the Pit by careless students. Staff photo by Allen Jernigan.

Senate approves incentives, credits for energy savers

By United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Senate Monday passed by a 52-35 vote a \$42 billion, eight-year program of tax breaks for industries that develop new energy sources or switch from oil and gas and for persons who make their homes more energy efficient.

The bill, composed primarily of tax credits and incentives, now goes to a House-Senate conference committee, which will attempt to reconcile it with President Carter's plan of energy-tax increases.

news briefs

The House passed a bill similar to what Carter wanted, but the Senate bill contains only one tax increase — a gradually increasing tax on industries and utilities that refuse to switch from oil and gas to coal or other fuels even though they could do so.

To encourage the switch, the bill calls for a tax credit paying industries and utilities 25 percent of the cost of converting to another fuel.

Carter's plan, and the House bill, would rebate much of the tax money to the public through the income tax system.

But a majority in the Senate wants to spend the money on encouraging more energy production, and the bill that emerged from the Finance Committee as a \$41-billion plan of tax breaks — mainly for industry.

Helms — no contest

WASHINGTON — In an agreement personally approved by President Carter, former CIA director Richard Helms pleaded no contest Monday to a misdemeanor charge of failing to give a Senate committee full answers about the CIA's role in Chile. He was expected to get off without a jail term.

The Justice Department recommended a suspended, minimum sentence and a small fine in exchange for Helms' plea, which he entered virtually unnoticed at an afternoon hearing before U.S. District Judge Barrington Parker in Washington.

No date was set for formal sentencing, but there were reports it could be as early as Tuesday.

Tobacco price supports controversial

Continued from page 1.

overstepped their authority and are playing with the lives of these hard-working, God-fearing people."

Last year in North Carolina, tobacco provided nearly \$1 billion in farm income — one-third of the entire agricultural income in the state, he said. The sale of tobacco produced \$6.2 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues last year.

"Those bureaucrats have no regard for us," Graham said. "They just sit in their offices, pass regulations and tell us what to do. Some bureaucrats talk about 'retraining' our farmers to do other things, but if anyone needs to be retrained, it's them."

Elimination of tobacco price supports would not cut the production or consumption of tobacco, but would allow the large tobacco companies to grow their own at the expense of small farmers, said John Merritt, an assistant to Rep. Charles Rose of North Carolina's 7th congressional district who serves on the House Agriculture Committee.

"The tobacco companies will laugh all the way to the bank," he said. "The small farmers will just be replaced by large corporate farmers — if you kill the program you won't stop smoking, you'll kick out the little guy."

Merritt also said that someone from Rose's office saw an HEW plan to provide food stamps, Medicaid and welfare payments for tobacco farmers who would be put out of work should the price supports be eliminated.

Acknowledging the rising cost of the government purchases and storage of surplus tobacco, Merritt said the problem was caused by an increase in the acreage allotments for tobacco four years ago.

"The Department of Agriculture, then under Earl Butz and with big tobacco lobbying, increased the allotments and created a glut of tobacco on the market," he said. "The department is now trying to adjust the allotment formula."

The chances of Congress phasing out tobacco price controls are slim, Merritt said.

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The following honors seminars for the Spring 1978 semester are open to all students with a minimum 3.000 QPA. Permission from the Office of Honors (303 South Building) is required for enrollment. These seminars are limited to an enrollment of 15 students and, in most cases, will be offered only once.

HONORS 28, Sect. 1. "D.H. Lawrence and James Joyce." Prof. W. Thornton, English Dept., 3:00-4:30 MW.

HONORS 28, Sect. 2. "The Sense of Sight: Visual Meaning in Fiction" (G. Eliot, Proust, Woolf, Faulkner, Simon). Prof. Diane Leonard, Comparative Lit., 3:00-5:30 M.

HONORS 28, Sect. 3. "Medicine and Human Values." Prof. Larry Churchill, School of Medicine, 2:00-4:30 W.

HONORS 28, Sect. 4. "Personhood and Social Reality: A Philosophical Examination in Light of the Contrasting Perspectives of Sciences and Humanities." Prof. E. M. Adams, Philosophy Dept., 9:30-10:45 TT.

HONORS 28, Sect. 5. "The City of Rome." (Urban development and problems, art, architecture, literature, social and historical development) Prof. G. Houston, Dept. of Classics, 9:30-10:45 TT.

HONORS 28, Sect. 6. "The Novel and Lyric Poem." (Tolstoy, Faulkner, Mandelstam, Pasternak, Auden, Eliot, Williams) Prof. P. Debreczky, Dept. of Slavic Languages, 10:00-10:50 MWF.

HONORS 29, Sect. 1. "Medicine in Society" (Humanities and Social Sciences related to Medicine and Health in Modern Society). Prof. Axalla Skoole, School of Medicine, and Prof. Jensen, Dept. of Psychiatry, 7:00-9:30 W.

HONORS 30, Sect. 1. "Women in Management." Prof. James E. Allen, Health Administration, 7:00-9:30 M.

HONORS 38H, Sect. 1. "Great Works of the Western Tradition" (Cervantes, Swift, Goethe, Kierkegaard, Dostoevski, Nietzsche, Freud, Jung, presented by guest lecturers). Prof. W. Thornton, English Dept., 3:30-4:45 TT and Thursday evening discussion.