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# The Daily Tar Heel

86th year of editorial freedom

## For Senate: McNeill Smith

North Carolinians face a rare opportunity on May 2. They can nominate a man for the U.S. Senate who has led them since the 1950s with all the wisdom, compassion and unwavering integrity a public servant can muster. They can select a candidate who has proposed innovative and progressive programs to benefit the state and the nation. They can cast their ballots for McNeill Smith.

It is indeed a unique situation, but McNeill Smith is a unique individual. Always a decade ahead of the times, Smith has never feared to embrace unpopular issues and tackle challenging problems — stands which years later have become ingrained in contemporary thought as no less than just and right.

In the '50s, McNeill Smith took to the defense of Junius Scales, who was convicted of criminal charges resulting from his membership in the Communist Party. The act was deemed brazen and radical at the time, today, few outside of the reactionary would deny an individual's right to his or her own political persuasions and affiliations.

In the '60s, Smith represented several students at this University in their challenge of the state's speaker ban law, which gave administrators at a state university the privilege to pass approval over all speakers invited to the campus. The right to a free exchange of ideas is taken for granted today, but just a few years ago McNeill Smith was criticized for defending that right.

Smith established himself as one possessed of a clear and far-seeing vision long before he entered the political arena. One of the founders of the North Carolina Civil Liberties Union, Smith, along with his Greensboro law firm of Smith, Moore, Smith, Schell & Hunter, has consistently fought for the rights of the common when challenged by the forces of society. He served on the 1959 North Carolina Advisory Committee on Civil Rights and has led the state for nearly two decades in the field.

His first bid for office, aside from a successful campaign for the editorship of this newspaper in the 1930s, came in 1968. Smith lost in his campaign for the state House of Representatives but won the next time around in 1970. When Hargrove "Skipper" Bowles left his state Senate seat to enter the gubernatorial race in 1971, Smith was appointed to fill the unexpired term. He was subsequently elected in 1972, 1974 and 1976.

During these terms, more bills presented by McNeill Smith have won legislative approval than those of any other legislator. Smith worked for the reduction of pot penalties, for an increase of the state minimum wage, against the death penalty and against the state's regressive food tax. He presented bills to create a state kindergarten and a pilot project for the current state reading program. He called for a state energy program, a reorganization of the state university system and a program for state-park acquisition. In fact, the only stand McNeill Smith has taken in Raleigh adverse to our preferences was his fight against liquor by the drink.

In his campaign to face Jesse Helms in the November senatorial election, McNeill Smith has promoted perhaps the most innovative legislative programs of all eight Democratic hopefuls. Instead of simply bemoaning the ills of inflation, Smith has proposed a bill to limit the spiraling effects of foreign-oil imports. Instead of opting for the traditional rhetoric about unemployment, Smith has proposed a program of tax incentives and subsidies to business and a program of public works jobs. Instead of echoing President Jimmy Carter's calls for national health insurance, Smith has proposed his own solution, which would provide the health care needed by American families without draining the federal coffers.

### No labels

It is difficult to talk of McNeill Smith, for the man defies labels. He has earned the unfair tab of "liberal" through his work with civil liberties. Perhaps he might better be characterized as a progressive, or a social libertarian. But, as his health program



indicates, Smith can be a fiscal conservative — he always has been on the lookout for more cost-effective ways to deliver the services good government must deliver. And he warns of the growing federal deficit and is committed to shaving that debt.

Other misleading labels and characterizations have plagued McNeill Smith during the primary campaign. It is certainly true that the Smith campaign has suffered from a lack of funds, but money only dictates advertising, not qualifications for a post. The claim that Smith will be lucky to enter the contest against Helms is equally true — and equally deceiving. Though McNeill Smith may not enjoy the recognition or grassroots machinery of other candidates, he undoubtedly excels when the talk turns to legislative accomplishment and potential in the U.S. Senate.

### The political realities

Eight candidates are seeking the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate on May 2. Four — Tom Sawyer, David McKnight, Joe Felmet and William Griffin — offer nothing new and little intriguing.

All reports predict the race will come down to four other men: Lawrence Davis, John Ingram, Luther Hodges Jr. and McNeill Smith. The polls show Hodges with a healthy lead, which can in part be attributed to his famous name. But Hodges has worked hard to overcome his shortcomings as a political neophyte and has encountered remarkable success in his travels back and forth across the state. His program is sound — a mixture of fiscal conservatism and social libertarianism. His message is clear — the pressing issues of the day involve the economy and his background in business, economics and manpower services would place him in good stead in Washington.

Lawrence Davis represents the most conservative of the four major candidates. He fails, however, to represent what we feel are the concerns of the University and its community — let alone the state. John Ingram, the state insurance commissioner, has failed to impress. As the *Charlotte Observer* said Sunday, "His campaign has been as haphazard and disorganized as his conduct of the insurance commissioner's office."

### Set aside the polls

The Democratic Party has placed the defeat of Jesse Helms high on its list of priorities. Rightfully so. But North Carolina voters should consider more than a candidate's chances of victory when casting their ballots. No candidate today stands as great a chance of defeating the incumbent as Luther Hodges Jr. But no candidate offers as much promise on the floor of the U.S. Senate as McNeill Smith.

To again quote the *Charlotte Observer*, "McNeill Smith... should be on anyone's list of the greatest living North Carolinians. As a man of intelligence, compassion and simple human dignity, he has few peers."

The voters of this state have one more week to learn of McNeill Smith. If they do, then his chances of victory against Jesse Helms may be a great deal rosier on May 2. For if the Democrats of North Carolina look closely at McNeill Smith's past successes, present offerings and future potential, they will agree that he is clearly the man to represent this state in the U.S. Senate.

# Anita chases smoochers from her sunshine tree

By DOUGLAS TRAUB

Anita Bryant squeezed her oranges, bouncing them up and down, bouncing them up and down for the Lord. "Come to the Florida sunshine tree," she sang. "That's where the people do it naturally."

She watched two young people smooching beneath the Florida sunshine tree in her backyard. "I don't mind when it's natural," she smiled. "I don't mind when a man and a woman do it naturally. But when it's two men, well, it's just awful. The Lord says that all gays will go to Hell, and I'll drink to that!"

Anita swallowed her orange juice naturally; letting little glittering golden drops dangle from her chin like tears. When she walked over to her Florida sunshine tree to pick another orange, she noticed that the two young people beneath her tree were men.

"My God!" she cried. "Sin, oh sin! You two are sinning in the eyes of the sunshine tree. Can't you see, oh, can't you see, what this sinning means to me?"

Suddenly, Anita's family, singing in unison, appeared on the sundeck of her home. The chorus rang through Florida, clear to Miami, and then on to Minnesota.

"Can't you see, oh, can't you see, what this sinning means to me? Can't you see?" Anita clapped her hands together as the rest of Florida joined in. "Oh, can't you see, what this sinning means to me?"

"Hold it, hold it, hold it," said one of the two young people beneath the sunshine tree.

The chorus in Anita's yard quieted.

"What do my sexual preferences matter to you, Anita?" he asked.

"My children," cried Anita, "my poor innocent children. If I saw my children kissing beneath the sunshine tree, I'd cry. Then they would go to Hell."

"To Hell?"

"Yes. To Hell."

"I don't believe that Anita. I may not go to your heaven, and I hope I don't, but—"

Anita paid no attention. She juggled her oranges rhythmically, bouncing them up and down, bouncing them up and down and singing so that the world would do her will for the Lord.

Douglas Traub, a junior, is a journalism major from Miami, Fla.

## letters to the editor

# Carter, not Congress, responsible for failures

To the editor:

I am compelled to reply to a letter published recently in the *Daily Tar Heel* ("Carter performance editorial viewed unfair," April 20).

The writer sought to suggest that Congress and not President Carter is responsible for Carter's failure in the presidency. The writer, seeking somehow to defend the president, goes so far as to suggest that "Jesse Helms and other politicians like him" are to blame for the numerous failures of the Carter administration.

I humbly suggest that Carter is finding that it is difficult to go from the Georgia Governor's Mansion to the White House without adequate preparation. I suggest further that Carter is discovering that while firm handshakes and a brilliant smile can win primary and general elections, they do little to solve the problems this nation faces.

I suggest that in 1980 the American people remove Carter from the White House and in his place install someone who will provide America with the strong and able leadership that is desperately needed for the future.

Bryan Wirwicz  
2418 Granville South

### 'No go' on no-car policy

To the editor:

Your recent editorial on the parking-lot versus fringe-lot issue prompts me to mention some ingredients and past history which may have been overlooked.

I was in Chapel Hill back when students were making much noise to the effect that the University should get rid of its ownership of the telephone system. Those vocal students are now gone, and present students must suffer the consequences by paying higher fees and possible exorbitant installation charges. For the most part, students now speaking out on the parking issue will not be the ones affected by the issue in the future.

I was also in Chapel Hill back when it was decided that the parking system ought to be studied by experts (in the 60s, I believe). Accordingly, a large sum of money was paid to "experts" who told us ultimately what we already know: that we had a parking problem and would have to get either fringe lots or more spaces on campus, or both.

I want to point out that the fringe-lot solution may work for many people, but not for all. Professors Shafroth and Gilgen have written letters supporting the "no-car" (or similar) solution — as have others. Such persons always seem to have one thing in common: for them it is feasible to walk (as



'WHERE DO YOU WANT IT?'

with Professor Shafroth) or take a bus from a lot (as with Professor Gilgen).

For other persons a "no-car" policy may cause enormous hardship. I am a single parent, a father of two small children whom I take to school at 8:15 and pick up from an after-school program before 5:30 (55 late fee). Yet I often have meetings until 5 p.m. How could I catch a bus to a fringe lot and then get my children, all within a 30-minute period? There are others also who, like me, must carry typewriters and stacks of books back and forth between home and office. And there are others who have complications not even dreamed of by me, Professor Shafroth, or Student Government. Whatever system we end up with, there should be accommodations made for people with many kinds of problems and needs.

S. R. Smith  
426 Dey Hall

### Right to vote

To the editor:  
Confusion abounds with recent news

# University gives permits to hunt—parking places

By LISA GOODWIN

Dear Mom and Dad,

Here's some good news and some bad news. First, the good news — no dorm rent next year! The bad news — no dorm room next year! The Admissions Office has as much problems with math as I do. It calculates how many freshmen to accept, but the sum never adds up right at the Housing Department. While addition is difficult for admissions, subtraction comes easily to Housing. Every year Housing subtracts several hundred students from their rooms. And I'm one of Housing's remainders next year. (Maybe someone had multiplication confused with addition.)

Multiplication is definitely a factor at this university. To get anything, we have to wait in lines that multiply around themselves. We wait for tickets, books, pictures, classes, grades, food and even toilets at the football games. I've learned to get in line early, carry a portable baggamon set with me, and

always potty before the game.

Not only does the University not provide enough housing for all the students, but it also fails to provide ample parking spaces. To pay for one of those treasured parking permits, a student has to give up eating for three months, sell his kidneys, and auction off his car. And a parking permit is actually only a hunting permit. No parking space is promised. A permit gives only the right to hunt for a space.

I had to learn a whole new coloring system during this first year at Carolina. There is a big difference between light blue and dark blue — about 15 miles worth. Red is a color in disfavor, and HEW is a hue often called deaf, dumb and colorblind.

I appreciate all you did to prepare me for my freshman year at college. You taught me never to curse and told me what four-letter words to avoid in conversation. But you left out one of those words — exam. The first time I said it aloud four people fainted, and one girl threw her zoology book at me and washed my mouth out with beer.

You also mentioned students have a one track mind about a certain bodily need. You were right. There is one thing students always talk about and desire 24 hours a day. Some satiate their desires behind closed doors in late night study breaks. Others can be seen openly satisfying themselves on park benches, in bars and even in class. Many freshmen girls start showing early. Without places like Roy Rogers and the Circus Room, I don't know what some people would do. Food is definitely forever on the hearts, minds and stomachs of Carolina students.

But there is something you were wrong about. People can actually exist on three hours of sleep a night. Several students sleep standing up or walking around campus, and even more sleep through class. Not since kindergarten were naps ever so popular. I think some people have infrared eyes for seeing at night. If not infrared, at least red.

There are a lot of different people here — those who drink, smoke, pray, wear sandals in the winter and sleep with the one they love.

Too many misconceptions can be made from one observation.

Being accepted follows a student all through school from the moment acceptance at the University is made. Teachers, banks, jobs, fraternities, sororities and classes all have their requirements. I have learned to accept people, out of love and respect for their freedom to be whomever they want.

Don't worry, Daddy. I haven't turned into a braless liberal. Certainly love isn't that radical an idea.

I'll be home in a few weeks. But I will be leaving the home of friends I've made here.

I'm not that much different from the girl you left here last fall, except the freshman green is almost worn off of me now, and I see a faint, Carolina blue coming through.

Can't wait to see that old station wagon come May.

Much love,  
Lisa

Lisa Goodwin is a freshman from Winston-Salem.

# Carrboro is changing as Mayor Robert Drakeford prods it along

"A politician shouldn't stay around forever. He tends to get stagnant," Carrboro Mayor Robert Drakeford said recently.

"As long as what I do does some good, I'll continue. But when the 'Peter Principle' catches up with me, you're going to know it," he said.

As Drakeford talked in his Carrboro office, he

## "IN QUOTES"

By CAROL HANNER

was far from stagnant. The telephone rang several times as he sifted through a stack of mail.

"Different towns have different systems, so the titles of those in the government vary. But they all have a mayor, and, as a result, everything has to be signed by him," Drakeford explained as he opened letter after letter.

Meetings keep him constantly on the go. "Out of 20 working days in a month, I can easily go to 25 meetings," Drakeford said.

Besides town committee meetings, Drakeford attends meetings of the Durham-Orange Employment and Training Council, a federal manpower agency, and the Joint Orange and

Chatham Counties Association, a service organization.

In March, Drakeford was elected president of the North Carolina Conference of Black Mayors, a nonpartisan organization that provides technical and management assistance to the 15 black mayors across the state.

Why so much involvement? "I discovered after a while that the person who is most involved becomes the person whose town mysteriously seems to get funded the most by state and federal grants," Drakeford said.

"Carrboro is a town in transition. It's the second-fastest growing town in North Carolina. Frankly, I think most of the problems we have could be solved with money.

"The question I ask myself is, 'Who benefits the most from my activities?' Bob Drakeford or the town?" I think the answer is the town."

Drakeford sees new industry as another of Carrboro's needs.

"We have a lot of unemployed and a lot of underemployed people. We need to diversify our wage base. There are lots of people who would like to stay in this area when they graduate, but they can't because there isn't a market for their skills," Drakeford said.

The town of Carrboro is experiencing some positive changes, Drakeford said, particularly in



Robert Drakeford

the way board of aldermen meetings are run.

"In most of our meetings, we spend 45 minutes to as much as two-and-a-half hours hearing from citizens. This isn't an old thing. I feel that people are much more free to express themselves. If what they say is at all relevant to what the board is doing, we want to hear from them.

"The students' viewpoints need to be expressed, too. Basically, it was the student

population that elected me. It is one of our main constituencies — not our only constituency, but one of the main ones.

"I have lived in an apartment, I've been a student, and I've been around students long enough to know that they aren't always the favored children, that their needs are important, too."

Drakeford finds the recent attempt by the Orange Committee to stop students from voting in Orange County "very distressing."

"When someone starts challenging the basic right of students to vote and is successful, what is to stop him from challenging the rights of females, or blacks, or left-handed people or red-haired people? Once a precedent is established, what is to stop the same thing from happening again?" he said.

Drakeford's familiarity with students and with the Carrboro area stems from his own roots in North Carolina. His great grandfather was a slave in nearby Scotland County. Of five generations of his family, Drakeford was the only generation not born in North or South Carolina. He was born in New York City.

He graduated from Quinnipiac College in Connecticut with a degree in business administration and behavioral management in 1972.

UNC, from which he received a masters degree in regional planning and a masters degree of science and public health, brought Drakeford to the South to stay.

He was elected to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen two-and-a-half years ago and later was elected mayor. "The transition from alderman to mayor was difficult," he said. "I've had to tone down my personality quite a bit.

"If an alderman says something you don't like, you don't argue with him. Another alderman could just jump down his throat. The mayor must be more objective; he is a facilitator. The alderman is more of a persuader, a debater, and he is more involved in the committee system."

Does Drakeford have political ambitions for a statewide campaign of any type?

"I have been involved in the recent senatorial campaign of McNeill Smith in which I traveled 16,000 miles from November to March. That kind of campaign takes too much out of you financially, professionally and personally. A state office is not in my ambition right now," Drakeford said.

"I'm just trying to do the best job I can as Carrboro mayor."

Carol Hanner, a sophomore journalism and English major from Thomasville, is a staff writer for the *Daily Tar Heel*.