

THE TAR HEEL

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Carrboro's bus needs are the concern of everyone

Chapel Hill, the University and Carrboro are still negotiating over what type of bus service the area will have when the school year begins in August. Chapel Hill and the University have reached an accord on how much money each will put into the bus system, but the Carrboro transportation committee is not happy with the UNC-Chapel Hill proposal. Carrboro contends that it and its bus users are not getting a fair share of the pie.

There may be some validity to Carrboro's complaints. Under the proposed bus system budget for 1978-79, UNC will pay \$200,000 to subsidize residential bus routes in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Of this sum, \$229,000 will be used for Chapel Hill routes and \$31,000 for Carrboro routes, even though almost one-fourth of the non-campus bus riders in the area are from Carrboro. According to the Carrboro transportation committee, the University spends over twice as much on an average Chapel Hill bus rider than an average Carrboro bus rider.

Under the University-Chapel Hill proposal, the same level of service that Carrboro had last year — the C and N routes — would be maintained. But Carrboro transportation officials point out that the northern areas of the town are still without service, and a private bus service serving the Villages has ended its service. Carrboro, citing these reasons, has asked the University to throw in an additional \$41,000 to help expand the Carrboro bus service. The University has been less than enthusiastic.

Chapel Hill and Carrboro are part of the same entity; services for one cannot end at the city limits. The University, with its significant contribution to the total cost of the bus system, is not only paying for student bus service, but for the needs of the community at large. The University should consider the needs of the students and residents of Carrboro while it negotiates a new bus contract.

Neither is the town of Chapel Hill exempt from the responsibility of the bus system. Town officials must realize that a large expenditure for bus service is a necessity and will become more of one as the town begins to choke itself in traffic. Although the University bears a large part of the burden, the town is ultimately responsible for the area's future.

Both the town and the University should consider the Carrboro proposal for greater funding in our sister town. A complete bus service will not be cheap, but planning must begin now. Now, more than ever, mass transit is becoming the only feasible solution to transportation problems. It is highly impractical to think we only need to serve part of the community.

Letters to the editor

"Strident and one-sided" criticism of Carter unjustified

To the editor:

I would like to take issue with the tone of your scathing indictment of President Carter in last week's editorial ("Carter and his hard line: a political transparency," DTH July 20), in which you criticized him for taking a verbal hard line with the Soviets. While I agree in principle with some of the points you made, I strongly disagree with the strident and one-sided manner in which they were presented. You failed completely to consider the intense pressures on the president, coming from right-wing members of Congress such as our own dear Jesse Helms, to put into motion events which could cause World War III. The minority leader of the Senate, Howard Baker, has called for a suspension of the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT) and a slowdown in U.S.-Soviet trade. The American people in their infinite wisdom are demanding that their leader show the Russians that a big powerful U.S. can't be pushed around. Even you state "a firm stand that accurately represents American interests is in order when dealing with the Soviet Union." Tell me, just what "firm stand" did you have in mind?

People are demanding that the president show he's tough; they cannot be

quieted simply by telling them they're wrong, and ignoring them. Talking tough to the Soviets, while co-operating with them on important issues such as trade and disarmament, is a legitimate means of dealing with the pressure here at home. President Sadat of Egypt is using this tactic very successfully, dishing out hard-line rhetoric to his Arab neighbors who think he's too soft with the Israelis, while presenting a more conciliatory line to Israeli Prime Minister Begin in private talks. You may disagree with this approach, but to be fair, you must at least admit the reasons for its existence.

Roy D. Rocklin
 Department of Chemistry

Disgusting abuse

To the editor:

I thought Allen Jernigan's article ("A turtle visits the Shining Rock," July 20) was disgusting. A more appropriate title would have been "Carelessness and thoughtlessness in our national forests." To pelt a rattlesnake with rocks solely because it happens to be in one's path is not only ridiculous; it is ignorant. To pump shots at it with a gun is criminal. No one has any business with a gun in any eastern national forest. That snake has

No time limit on equality

As the March 1979 deadline approaches for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, the amendment's supporters find themselves a few crucial states short of the 38 needed. But a congressional subcommittee, prodded by the ERA supporters, has approved a 3½ year extension, which the entire congress may approve.

Criticism has been voiced by anti-ERA forces that granting the extension, the first in the nation's history, is tantamount to playing games with the framework of the Constitution. Many have argued that a time limit for amendment ratification is necessary to insure that amendments are ratified by legislatures contemporary to each other.

We agree that it is dangerous to tamper with the mechanism of the Constitution. But the Congress, not the Constitution, has imposed the seven-year limit. While there may be merit to the idea of setting a time limit for ratification, there should also be a means for extending that deadline if the Congress sees fit.

The entire amendment question breaks new ground in constitutional law. Several facets of the problem (such as the congressional denial of a state's ability to rescind its ratification) may end up in the courts.

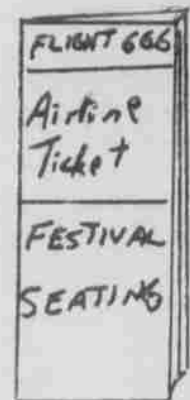
But the law has recognized that no human being is inferior to another. Is this not also true of women? We tend to agree with the pro-ERA forces who say, "Equality has no time limit."

Legal advice

Things that go bump in the night

Editor's note: This advice is prepared by Student Legal Services, which maintains an office in Suite C of the Carolina Union. UNC students have prepaid for this service and may obtain legal advice at no additional charge.

Airline "bumping" is a widespread but little-understood practice. U.S. airlines have worked out mathematical formulas which show that a certain number of people who make seat reservations will not show up. In order to ensure that the plane will fly full, airlines will overbook that aircraft. However, their calculations are often way off. A person holding his ticket, a confirmed reservation, may be bumped before he can board the aircraft.



If this happens to any passenger, government rules now require that the airlines compensate the "bumped" passenger for the flight he was denied, and put that passenger on the next available flight to his destination. All airline and travel agents are required to attach a notice to the ticket itself, stating that the passenger is entitled to this compensation if he is bumped. Signs are also posted at the check-in counter of the airport to remind passengers of this regulation.

The best advice to avoid being bumped from your flight is to arrive at the airport early, especially if you are checking luggage. When the flight is announced for boarding, BE SURE you are not at the end of the line. (Those at the end are usually the unlucky ones who are bumped if the plane has been oversold.) Another good tip is to reconfirm your reservations over the phone before the departure day.

ADVICE FOR THE DAY: 1) When flying anywhere, check in at the airport early, at least 45 minutes before departure time. 2) When the flight is called for boarding, don't be the last in line. 3) If you are bumped, be sure you demand and receive the requisite compensation.

obvious reasons."

If this is an editorial addage and not the words of the author, and if "painfully obvious reason" plays on the weakness of the writing, then I have to ask: why do you print it?

That it appears at all should indicate that the editor endorses its quality. This sort of jibe at the author only serves as a rib-jab to the reader, as if to say, "Let's have us a good laugh at this joker's expense."

Alex Standefor
 10-C University Gardens

Editor's note: The blurb was an editorial addage. So much for tongue in cheek.

Letters? Columns?

The Tar Heel welcomes contributions and letters to the editor. Letters and columns must be signed, typed on a 60-space line, double-spaced and must be accompanied by a return address. Letters chosen for publication are subject to editing for malicious or libelous content.

just as much right to be there as does Mr. Jernigan — however important he thinks he is. How much effort does it take to walk around the snake? It is pure paranoia to believe a snake is going to rush after and strike you down.

Mr. Jernigan's behavior typifies those with the attitude man should dominate all living things around him. It shows a complete lack of understanding of man's relationship with his environment.

The national forests and wilderness areas are valuable treasures to be enjoyed and left as they are. It would be best if ignorant, thoughtless people such as Mr. Jernigan stayed out so that those who do enjoy and value them can do so. If this article was meant to be a joke, I found it tasteless.

Patrick Mulholland
 114 Oleander Rd., Carrboro

Editor's note: We didn't mean to be tasteless, disgusting or ignorant. Some of our best friends are rattlesnakes.

Bad blurb

To the editor:

At the ends of T. Denton's parodies "From Here to Fraternity" and the "Wide, Wide World..." you have printed bio blurbs which inform us that the writer, pseudonym T. Denton, wishes to withhold his true identity "for painfully