

News In Brief

Senate refuses to trim synfuel plan

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate easily defeated an attempt Wednesday to sharply scale down the size of President Carter's proposed \$20 billion synthetic fuels program.

By a vote of 57-37, the Senate set aside a \$3 billion synthetic fuels measure urged by critics of the synthetic fuel program, a crucial element of the president's energy plan.

A close vote had been expected and Vice President Walter F. Mondale was on hand in case his vote was needed to break a tie.

More challenges are expected to the proposal, including attempts to eliminate creation of a five-member independent corporation with authority to hand out billions of dollars in loans and loan and price guarantees.

Supreme Court upholds death penalty law

RALEIGH (AP)—Saying that the death penalty was neither excessive nor disproportionate in the case the N.C. Supreme Court has upheld the state's death penalty law in a hearing on the conviction of a Robeson County woman.

The decision marked the first time the state high court has dealt formally with the death penalty's constitutionality. It also was the first time the court let a death sentence stand under the 1977 law.

Velma Margie Barfield was convicted of first-degree murder in the arsenic poisoning of Stewart Taylor, with whom she lived. She has confessed to poisoning her mother and three others and has said she wants to die.

vigil

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Killing—"Stop The Violence" and "Stop Klan Terror." The group of somber protesters ended their hour of quiet by singing "We Shall Overcome."

Spaugh said her group had received phone calls protesting the vigil because it was non-violent. She said the callers wanted the group to be armed for self-defense against the Klan.

Spaugh said members of the group would not attend the funeral procession for the five slain CWP members because CWP members have said they will carry arms during the procession.

Friends of CWP members came to Wednesday's protest to show support.

"We are here to unite with them and encourage them to attend the march in Greensboro Sunday," said Yonnie Chapman, who is not a CWP member but works closely with the group.

Chapman said he is against violence, but he said he will be armed when he attends the funeral procession in Greensboro Sunday.

"We're going to protect ourselves," he said. "The police actions Saturday are proof we have to defend ourselves."

The Greensboro City Council has called for a full investigation of the police activities on Saturday during the rally.

why?

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Cohen pulled in the third highest vote total. "All of the big names in the liberal community came out for Nassif," he said. "If I had been able to get some of them I could have won."

Most of his support came from black and student voters, and Nassif's support represented the more conservative element in town, Cohen said.

"It seemed to be almost an age spread," Cohen said. "The younger voters went for me, the people in the middle voted for Bob and the older people voted for Joe."

Cohen's loss means he also will leave the council. Before the campaign, Cohen had said he would resign from the council even if his mayoral candidacy was unsuccessful. His resignation becomes effective Dec. 3.

Cohen said that even if the council offers him his seat back, he also does not think he will be interested.

"My resignation wasn't a gimmick," he said. Since neither Cohen nor Epting have expressed interest in the fifth council seat, it is possible the seat will go to Joe Herzenberg, who finished fifth in the council voting behind Mayor James Wallace, R.D. Smith, Jonathan

Hows and Joe Straley.

Both Epting and Cohen said they thought Herzenberg should be considered for the seat, and Cohen said one of his projects will be to see that Herzenberg is appointed.

"I have talked with certain council members and it is possible," Herzenberg said. "I would like it."

Foster, who only won 173 votes after the top three candidates divided their share, said his candidacy was seriously damaged by local media coverage.

Foster objected to the media's reports that he was virtually out of the race even before the election. "It's not that I could have won, but I think it detracted voters from me," Foster said.

"I don't feel bitter about it, but it came too late in the race to get a retraction or to counter it with positive publicity," he said.

Foster also said this picture of him as a sure loser eroded his support in the black community.

"My political opponents in the black community made hay with it on Sunday," he said. The South Orange Black Caucus endorsed both Nassif and Cohen on Sunday.

Bonds' failure

Economy is a factor

By CINDY BOWERS
Staff Writer

The uncertain state of the economy and the increased interest rate were major factors in the defeat of four county-wide bond issues and two of three town bond issues, local observers agreed Wednesday.

"The defeats were a reflection not so much on the issues themselves as on the climate created by people's concern for the economy," said Robert Hanes, superintendent of Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools. "I'm really disappointed, but I knew there was opposition."

County Commissioner Don Willhoit also cited the economy. "It's a mood of the times; everybody's feeling the pinch of inflation. Recent events like the increase in the prime interest rate have made people afraid."

But Richard Whitted, chairman of the Orange County Board of Commissioners, said he was not so sure the economy had anything to do with the defeats. "I thought that it did until I found out this afternoon that three other counties passed school bond issues yesterday," he said, adding that the state of the economy in those counties is not any different than that of Chapel Hill.

Whitted said he believes county officials did not stress the importance

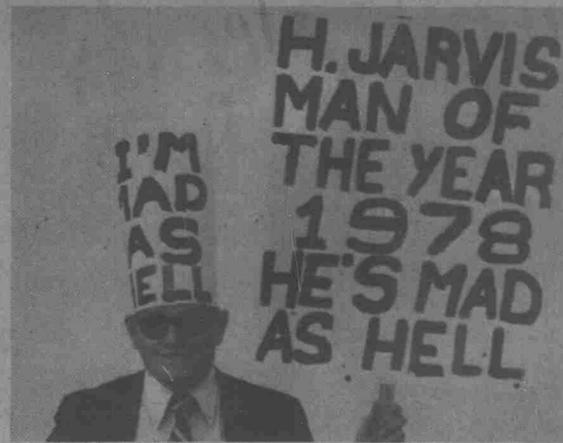
of the bond issues strongly enough to the public. "The government failed to crank up a promotion campaign on these things," he said.

Willhoit agreed. "I don't think we gave it our best shot in terms of publicity."

Voting on town bond issues also was affected by a lack of publicity, Assistant Town Manager Tony Hooper said. "There are two things I would stress if the issues came up again. One is that the parking deck issue would not affect property taxes at all. Another is that the parking deck would not be at odds with the public transportation system. They would complement each other."

Robert Epting, an unsuccessful candidate for mayor of Chapel Hill, said he was not surprised the parking deck referendum was turned down. "Many people didn't realize it was a self-liquidating proposition," he said. The deck might possibly still be financed through revenue bonds, which the new Town Council will have to consider, he said.

Voters turned down the Ridgefield open space land bond issue because there were some substantial objections to it, unsuccessful Town Council candidate Bruce Tindall said. "I opposed Ridgefield not because I opposed the acquisition of land, but because it didn't go through the Parks



One man expresses conservative Howard Jarvis' opinions also ... voters voiced their disapproval of all bond issues except one.

and Recreation Department and the Town Council in the proper way. The two should carefully consider exactly what is needed before taking action, he said.

Whitted, Willhoit and Anne Barnes, another county board member, said that renovations on the county jail will have to go ahead despite defeat of the public buildings bond.

Ben Lloyd, president of the Orange County Farm and Landowners Association and a strong opponent of

the bonds, had another view as to why the county and city bond issues were defeated. "The people of Orange County are tired of these big spenders in government," he said.

The visit of California tax revolt leader Howard Jarvis to Orange County on Oct. 31 also had a large effect on the way Orange County and Chapel Hill voted, he said. "Jarvis was instrumental in bringing knowledge of what was going on elsewhere to the people here and in advising them not to vote for the bonds."

grades

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students would come and argue for an A-minus," Cornwell said. "Now, since they are weighted, they (professors) are more likely to give pluses and minuses because there's not that big a jump from a B-plus to an A-minus."

A 1975 *Daily Tar Heel* survey showed that students approved the plus-minus option by a 2-1 margin. A sampling of UNC faculty and students questioned last week indicates that they still generally approve the use of the option.

R. Don Higginbotham, chairman of the department of history, said he has noticed that more professors are using pluses and minuses in his department.

"In my view, it works to the advantage of the student," Higginbotham said. "You can precisely say what the student has done."

Richard A. Elam, chairman of the department of radio, television and motion pictures, said the plus-minus option allows him to make fine distinctions in comparing the performance of students.

"I think they (pluses and minuses) are great," Elam said. "The students are entitled to as much differentiation as they can get. If I give a student a C-plus, I'm giving him something a C doesn't say."

Elam said he has been using a similar system since 1967. "I do not post letter grades, but I write letters to students at

the end of classes and mail it to them," he said. "I would always qualify what an A, B or C meant."

Elam said he views a grade as a contract between the professor and the student. "I have found that the only time that students seem to have complaints is when a student shows another student his grade and they make a comparison," he said. "But if a student who is little better than a C student gets a C-minus, he has the incentive to work harder."

Weldon E. Thornton, English professor, said he has always used pluses and minuses in grading papers and exams but not as a uniform policy in grading final exams.

"I can't tell what differences it's making in grades," Thornton said. "It is, of course, a burden of sorts because all my grading is done on the basis of evaluation."

No students have come to him with arguments about their grades, Thornton said.

For the record

A story in the Tuesday editions of *The Daily Tar Heel* should have identified Carolyn Klyce as a member of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, which supports the Revolutionary Communist Party.

Klan knew of site change

GREENSBORO (AP)—A man who identified himself as a member of the Ku Klux Klan was given a copy of the parade permit for an anti-Klan rally two days before gunmen killed five persons at the demonstration, police said on Wednesday.

Police Capt. J.W. Hilliard said police conferred with the city attorney before giving the man a copy of the parade permit, which listed the location of the rally.

Several carloads of white men drove up to the anti-Klan rally Saturday morning and opened fire, killing five persons and wounding nine others. Fourteen persons have been charged in the shootings.

Hilliard refused during a news conference to comment on whether police kept the man under surveillance after he got the parade permit. He would not elaborate on the man's identification.

"At the time he talked with personnel of our department, he was asked if he was a Klan member," Hilliard said. "He replied, 'Yes.'"

Hilliard said police were told by the city attorney that they could not withhold the parade permit because it was public record.

The permit showed the location where marchers would be gathering. The address shown was the spot where demonstrators actually gathered—not

the place where the Communist Workers Party had earlier announced the rally would be held.

It had been reported earlier that a man named Dawson was given the permit last week. A Greensboro newspaper said Edward W. Dawson, 60, of Greensboro is an admitted Klansman but that he had denied any involvement in the matter.

Hilliard also said that a white car believed to have been used by gunmen was impounded in Winston-Salem Tuesday night, but he would not say whether weapons were found in it.

And he said authorities are still searching for Jack Wilson Fowler, 27, of Winston-Salem, in the case. Fowler is charged in warrants issued this week with four counts of murder and one of conspiracy to murder.

Spokesmen for the Communist Workers Party vowed Wednesday that they will be armed during a Sunday funeral procession. The party also said it would file a lawsuit accusing law-enforcement agencies of planning the shooting spree.

Meanwhile, police and FBI agents investigating the shooting flatly denied the blanket charge made by the CWP and noted that the radicals are refusing to cooperate in the investigation of Saturday's carnage.

I thought all that talk about Milton's was a lot of malarky, until I checked out my roommate's haul! I didn't know he was into clothes ... heretofore it's been sounds!

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