

The skies will be clearing today, leaving fair, cold weather thru Thursday. Today's high in the 50s, little chance of rain.

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Fame's memories painful for Aaron

By BILL FIELDS
Assistant Sports Editor

DURHAM—After swatting home runs in near anonymity for seasons, one flick of the wrists and crack of the bat for Hank Aaron five years ago earned him baseball immortality. When he connected for home run No. 715 in April of 1974, eclipsing Babe Ruth's mystical mark of 714, Aaron ended almost two seasons of being in the spotlight as he approached the magic number.

But Aaron, 45, said that holding perhaps the sport's most-cherished record had caused problems.

"The only thing (the record) has done so far is deprive me of a lot of privacy," Aaron said Tuesday at a press conference of the Durham Bulls, the Atlanta Braves' new entry in the Class A Carolina League.

Aaron, now vice president for player development for the Braves, said the period in which he chased the record held various problems for him, including innumerable requests of all kinds and inaccurate reports in the news media.

"It should have been the most enjoyable time of my life, but it was probably the saddest time of my life," Aaron said.

"There are so many scars around '73-74 that I'd like to forget about them. I don't ever think about the home run until someone brings it up," he said.

Aaron is also troubled because he said many people wanted to believe Ruth still held the record.

"Generally speaking, they (the public) want Babe Ruth to stay on top," he said. "That's the reaction I get wherever I go."

Aaron, who now directs Atlanta's minor league program, said he was content as an administrator and would not ever consider a managerial position.

"I'm satisfied with my position. I don't ever want to get back on the field. I've gotten more acclimated to my new surroundings. I don't miss the playing field at all."

Aaron, who ended his career in 1975 with 755 home runs, said he disagreed with Major League Commissioner Bowie Kuhn's recent decision banning old rival Willie Mays from baseball after Mays signed a contract with a New Jersey casino firm.

"I thought what Bowie Kuhn did was out of line," Aaron said. "Even though Bowie Kuhn says what he does is always good for baseball, I believe it could have been handled better."



DTH/Bill Fields

Aaron in Durham to promote N.C. team

What he (Mays) was doing was in no way detrimental to baseball.

"If he (Kuhn) was interested in the good of baseball, he should have put the umpires back to work at the beginning of last year."

Although Aaron played 23 seasons with the Milwaukee Braves, the Atlanta Braves and Milwaukee Brewers, he said the United States, especially its youth, had become too sports-conscious.

"We don't give the American people a chance to breathe," he said. "I think that all the (sports) seasons could be cut back."

Aaron advocated that young people—especially black youth—turn to disciplines other than athletics for a future.

"For every ball player that plays major league baseball, there are 10 that fall by the wayside. George Washington Carver did more for peanuts than Jimmy Carter ever could do. Black youngsters need to know these things."

U.S. Embassy contact made through students

The Associated Press

Officials said Tuesday they had established telephone contact with the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, but refused to say whether there had been any significant negotiations with the Iranians who are holding some 60 American hostages there.

State Department spokesman Hoddling Carter said communication with the Iranian students who control the embassy was established several days ago and that the Iranians had been taking messages for the hostages.

The students "have taken verbal messages, taken them down very carefully, and said they would transmit them to the hostages," the State Department spokesman said. "It's been going on for a while."

But the spokesman declined to reveal whether any substantive discussions had been held with the students.

Meanwhile, the Carter administration was studying conflicting reports from Iran about possible compromise proposals that could lead to the release of the hostages.

The Iranians, who overran the embassy Nov. 4, have demanded that the deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi be returned to their country to stand trial as a war criminal. The shah is undergoing treatment for cancer in a New York hospital, and the United States has refused to surrender him.

But according to a Tehran radio broadcast monitored in Washington, the acting head of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, now is proposing that the United States support an international investigation into the "crimes" of the shah and turn over the shah's fortune to Iran. Sources close to the shah have estimated his wealth at \$60 million to \$90 million.

Bani-Sadr was not quoted as repeating the demand that the shah be returned to Iran.

But Tehran radio also carried a statement from the Iranians holding the embassy in which they rejected any conciliatory proposal to the United States.

Spokesman Carter said the State Department had received no official statement about the proposals attributed to Bani-Sadr.

"We don't have a complete, private proposal. There is not enough to respond to," Carter said. "I'm incapable of dealing with something we don't have before us."

But department spokesman Jack Tucey said of the radio reports: "We're giving them a hard look. Any movement upward is welcome."



The Shah

Later, after a briefing for Senate members by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Vice President Walter Mondale, Sen. Howard Baker said the administration had decided to make no reply to Bani-Sadr. Bani-Sadr's proposals were contained in a letter to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

"The administration, and properly, is saying the issue is the release and safe conduct of those American nationals and until that is done we will not consider discussing this matter," said Baker, R-Tenn.

Speaking privately, officials said the conflicting statements from the students and Bani-Sadr raised questions as to who, if anyone, was in charge of the situation in Iran and indicated the nation was sliding toward anarchy.

These officials said they thought the Bani-Sadr statement might be a trial balloon by a faction within the ruling revolutionary council, which may want to end the crisis.

The Iranian radio reports came a day after President Carter, in a nationally broadcast statement, ordered an end to the purchase of Iranian oil. The president said the United States would not bow to terrorism or economic pressure in its efforts to free the hostages.

A short time after Carter's address was aired, Iranian officials said they already had decided to cut off the flow of oil to the United States.

Carter had been scheduled to make a trip to Pennsylvania on Tuesday which was to have included a town meeting in Philadelphia. But the trip was called off and a spokesman said the president wanted to stay in Washington so he could continue to closely monitor the situation in Iran.

In announcing he was cutting off U.S. purchases of 700,000 barrels a day in Iranian oil and oil products, Carter indicated Monday he would welcome parallel moves by U.S. allies.

Vacant apartments increase

By JOHN ROYSTER
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill area apartment complexes, filled throughout the housing shortage of recent years, have experienced some vacancies this fall.

Most complex owners and managers questioned were unsure why the vacancies had occurred but said they felt that the vacancies would disappear with the coming of a new semester in January.

A recent survey conducted by the management of one complex indicates that about 4.5 percent of the apartments in major complexes in Chapel Hill and Carrboro were vacant.

Dan Vogel, owner of Foxcroft Apartments in Chapel Hill, said he had filled some of the vacancies he had earlier in the fall, though not completely.

"We never should have had them (vacancies)," Vogel said. "Our problem was a lack of advertising, a lack of communication."

"I think a lot of people assumed we were filled up and never considered us," he said.

As for citywide vacancies, Vogel said, "I saw the same indications before, in '74, before the 'housing crunch.' Now, there are three or four people in two-bedroom apartments, instead of just two; and in one-bedroom apartments, there are two people quite often."

"I see a general tightening of money," Vogel said.

"That's your answer—it's dollars and cents and nothing more."

Lydia Lewis, University director of off-campus housing, agreed that more apartment dwellers are doubling up. She said she had noted a substantial increase in roommate notices in her office.

"Motivation has become a big factor," she said. Students have become conditioned to the housing shortage and are getting an earlier start in seeking off-campus housing, Lewis said.

Some of them are finding alternatives to apartments. "A lot of people are renting a room in a

private home, and they're finding that very comfortable," she said.

Lewis said this was a new alternative because home owners were more willing to rent to students than they once were. "Landlords are trusting students more," she said.

Betsy Bobbitt, manager of Carolina and Old Well Apartments in Carrboro, agreed. "There are more houses available now, and I don't know where they're coming from."

Bobbitt said another explanation for vacancies in local apartments was that students were moving to less expensive apartments, due to rent increases.

"Students may have gone to Durham or Pittsboro due to the housing scare," Bobbitt said. "And of course, there's the presence of Tar Heel Manor (an apartment complex which opened in January in Carrboro)."

Chapel Hill Planning Director Mike Jennings said, "It's very hard in any housing market to sustain a 95 percent occupancy rate." Even with the present vacancies, occupancy in Chapel Hill-Carrboro remains above 95 percent.

Meanwhile, apartment rent continues to climb, by as little as 5 percent and as much as 53 percent over the last three years.

Only one complex, Northampton Plaza and Terrace, did not raise rent from 1978 to 1979, according to a survey conducted last month by the Department of University Housing. Elsewhere, rent went up as much as 38 percent over same period.

But many landlords said that vacancies were not due to rent increases. Bobbitt of Carolina and Old Well said both of those complexes were filled by July 15 this year, despite a June rent increase.

For whatever reason, Old Well still had vacancies this fall. "We carried two vacancies for a little over a month," Bobbitt said. "We were carrying a lot less than other people."

"If the housing market does become more open, I imagine rent increases will slow down," Bobbitt said.



DTH/Matt Cooper

'Village people' celebrate win ...as council awards cable franchise

Cable franchise

Council chooses Village

By ANNE-MARIE DOWNEY
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill Town Council Monday granted the town's cable television franchise to the locally owned Village Cable Co. despite last-minute efforts by Cox Cable to delay the council decision.

In other action, the council unanimously approved the University's request for a special use permit to build student apartments on the Couch property off East Franklin Street.

The council's cable vote ended months of tight competition among the top three firms vying for the franchise—Village, Cox and Vision Cable. The council must vote approval of Village again on Nov. 19 to award the franchise officially.

Cox representative Gerry Hancock presented a petition asking the council to suspend further deliberations. The petition charged that the recent disclosure of 10 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission suits against the national Cox Broadcasting Co. was a deliberate effort to undermine Cox's local bid.

A letter from the president of the Chapel Hill Cox company, Alice Welsh, stated, "Obviously, they (the charges) are the stuff of a well-organized smear campaign calculated to disqualify one of the principal applicants from fair consideration on the merits."

After reading the letter, Hancock requested that the council delay its vote until there could be "a thorough examination leading to the truth."

But the council denied the Cox request, with Town Council members Gerry Cohen and R.D. Smith dissenting. "They're mighty powerful charges," Town Council member Jonathan Howes

said. "They suggest people's votes may have been affected."

But Howes added, "I just didn't find this to be a factor in anyone's decision."

After a 15-minute discussion, the council voted to grant the franchise to Village, which received five votes necessary. Mayor James Wallace and Town Council members Howes, Robert Epting, Bill Thorpe and Marilyn Boulton voted for Village.

Cox received votes from Town Council members Smith and Ed Vickery. Vision Cable received votes from council members Cohen and Bev Kawalec.

Village Cable is owned by the Village Broadcasting Co., which also owns WCHL radio. The Village proposal states that the system will be in operation within one year.

Cox, although mainly owned by the Atlanta-based Cox Cable Communications, has strong local connections. Several influential Chapel Hill residents, including former Mayor Howard Lee and businessman Watts Hill Jr., own 20 percent of the company.

Vision, represented by a lawyer and Rep. Trish Hunt, has no local ownership. In other business, the council voted to grant a special permit for student apartments. The University plans to build 192 apartments on the 14-acre Couch property off East Franklin Street.

But University Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance John Temple said Tuesday that even though the University had the town's approval for the project, there would be some delays in construction because of the economic situation.

The council also referred a petition requesting funds for several women's organizations to Town Manager Gene Shipman.

Academia, Inc.

By ANNE-MARIE DOWNEY
Staff Writer

• Third in a five-part series.

The University pumps awesome sums of money throughout its own system, but its economic power is not confined to the campus. The University's financial reach extends to and heavily influences the economic life of Chapel Hill.

The University is Chapel Hill's largest employer. It has vast land holdings throughout Orange County. And its need for expansion and growth makes the University one of the town's biggest developers.

"The University is the base for this town," Town Council member Bill Thorpe said. "If it weren't for the University there would be no town. The University is the lifeblood of Chapel Hill."

"I think the town is very definitely dependent on the University for its economic stability," said Mel Rashkis, president of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce.

Because of its dominant economic role in Chapel Hill, the University has been labeled the company in a company town. Outgoing Mayor James Wallace, who has been elected to the Town

Council, said, "The University is a company in the best sense. It's the best kind we can have."

"People who denigrate the University by calling Chapel Hill a company town usually have animosity toward the University," Wallace said. "Yes, it is a company town, but what a company."

Richard Whitted, chairman of the Orange County Board of Commissioners, said he recognizes the University's unrivaled economic role in the county, but he hesitated to equate its position with a company in a company town.



Thorpe

"I would characterize it as a university town and a university county, and not in the traditional sense of a company town when the company owns and controls everything," Whitted said. "That has a negative connotation."

But however the relationship between Chapel Hill and the University is classified, an economic study of the town reveals that the University is far and away the dominant economic factor.

"The University is an economic force in this town," said Mayor-elect Joe Nassif, who takes

office in December. "It is the largest employer...it is a big part of the community."

The University employs 6,269 people. The second-largest employer in the area is the IBM Corporation at the Research Triangle Park with 4,400 employees. But IBM's role as a major employer is dwarfed when the University's employment totals are combined with those of the area's third-largest employer—the University-affiliated N.C. Memorial Hospital, which employs 3,466 people. In total, 9,735 people are employed on the University campus.

No other agency or business even approaches this figure. For example, the local headquarters of Blue Cross-Blue Shield, which is often regarded as a major employer for the Chapel Hill area, has only 888 employees. The town of Chapel Hill has only 366 employees, including police, fire and administrative personnel. The University's employment rolls represent a majority of the working population of the town's 35,230 residents.

Chapel Hill's Population and Economic Analysis, part of the town's Comprehensive Plan, reported in 1977, "The University and N.C. Memorial Hospital represent the major employers in Chapel Hill. The University has indicated that its enrollment has stabilized at

approximately 20,000 students; however, the faculty and staff employments are expected to undergo some increases, reassignments and adjustments reflecting changes in programs. N.C. Memorial Hospital is still expanding."

The hospital already has exceeded its projected full-time employment for 1985. The hospital had expected to have 3,300 full-time employees in 1985.

The University's economic impact as the area's primary employer is also reflected in the breakdown of the type of employment that predominates in both the town and the county.

The concentration of the work force in Orange County, 55 percent, is employed in government work. This fact, the population and economic analysis states, "underlines the importance of the University and N.C. Memorial Hospital."

The number of employees in non-University related industries is very small. In 1974 only 9.5 percent of the county's workers were employed in manufacturing jobs.



Wallace

The 1970 census reported that 76.3 percent of Chapel Hill workers were employed in white-collar professions. There were 15.2 percent in service employment and only 8.5 percent in blue collar work.

The uniqueness the University lends to Chapel Hill's employment profile is revealed when it is compared with statewide employment figures. In 1970 only 38.5 percent of North Carolina workers were classified as white-collar workers, 50.4 percent were blue-collar workers, and 11.1 percent were in service professions.

There have been recent moves to diversify the employment in Orange County. Efforts to attract industry to the area have been spearheaded by the town of Carrboro. Carrboro does boast one significant industry that is not University affiliated and does not cater to the University community—the Ametek-Lamb Division-Triem Plant which manufactures electrical motors and employs 238 people.

But most Chapel Hill officials are skeptical about attracting an industry that could offer an effective alternative to University employment. "Can you imagine what kind of industry it would take to be so large to rival the University?" Town Manager Gene Shipman asked. "It's a possibility but it's unlikely."

See MONEY on page 2

UNC pumps money, life into town economy