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Jack be nimbus

Mostly cloudy. High in the low 70s. Low in mid 50s. Gusting winds with 30 percent chance of rain.

Weekender

Interested in Rainbow Soccer? or tarantulas, maybe? Then see today's tabloid supplement to The Daily Tar Heel.

Space shuttle to be launched early Friday

From staff and wire reports

After two years of delays and all its testing complete, the space shuttle Columbia is expected to rocket into the Earth's orbit before dawn Friday on its maiden flight.

Plans are for the Columbia to carry its two astronaut-passengers on a 54-hour ride, bring them back to earth and be re-used for future flights.

According to Air Force spokesman Maj. Ted Tilman, the shuttle, with its nearly 7,000-square-foot cargo hold, will allow cheaper and easier launching of satellites and will allow experiments to be carried out in space.

Piloting the first mission of the craft will be John Young, 50, who has been on four previous space flights, including one walk on the moon. With him will be Navy Capt. Robert Crippen, 43, who will be making his first trip into space.

There is risk involved in the flight, but a National Aeronautics and Space Administration spokesman said the shuttle was too complex to be flown without a pilot.

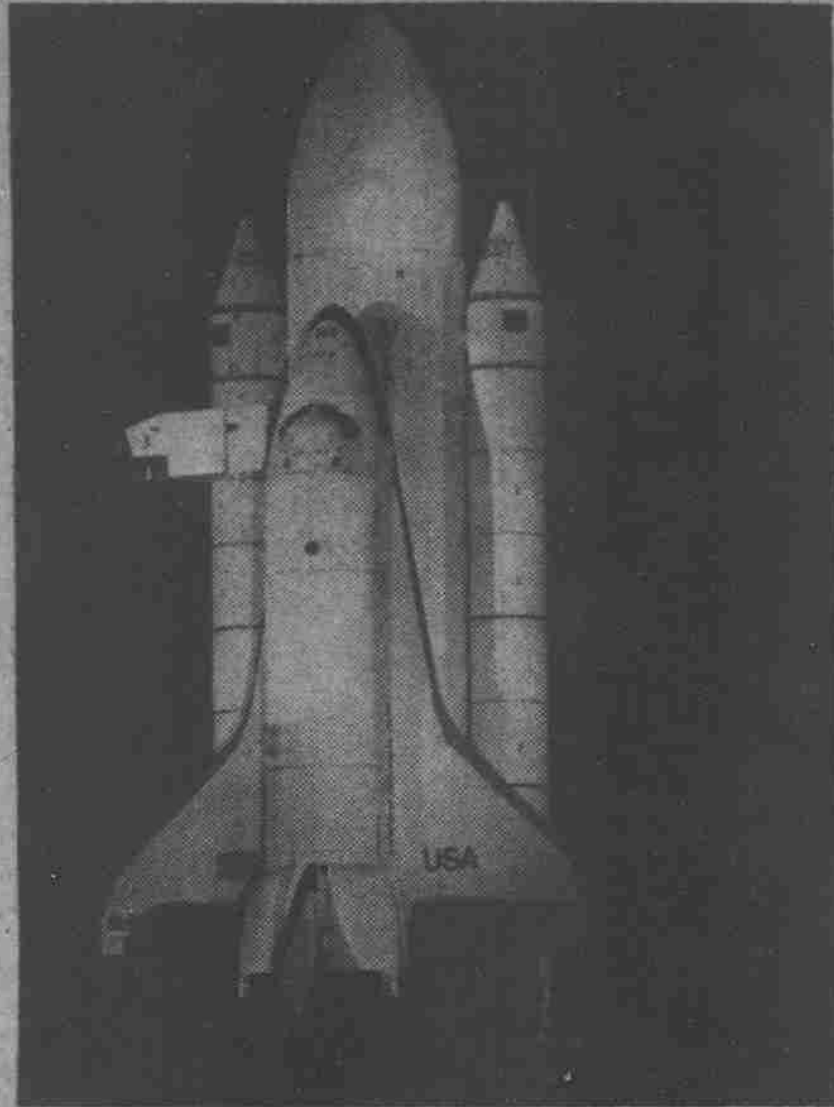
The craft will ride piggy-back on its main fuel tank, which is flanked by two solid-fuel tanks. These tanks will burn for two minutes and then will parachute into the Atlantic Ocean to be towed back in and used for future flights. The main tank will fall away and disintegrate upon re-entering the atmosphere.

A group of UNC students and staff is going to Cape Canaveral, Fla., to "see history being made," said North Carolina Memorial Hospital technician Susan Brady.

A group of 15 people from the UNC Astronomy Club and the Chapel Hill Space Opportunity and Resource Society will be present for the lift-off on Friday morning.

Until recently, the shuttle program had a questionable future. The original appropriation of \$5.1 billion in 1972 has been increased, and estimates of its final cost are between \$8.8 billion and \$9.6 billion. The program is more than two years behind schedule.

One reason for the cost overrun is that the original appropriation did not consider any new technology as being necessary to the project. Chris Adams, a junior physics



Space shuttle Enterprise at launch pad ... Columbia lift-off slated for Friday

major and president of the UNC Physics Club, said the shuttle had to be designed completely from scratch, with more new technology than was needed for the previous flights.

Dr. Morris Davis, a Morehead professor of astronomy, said the impact of the shuttle program would be long-range.

"Astronomers are extremely excited," he said. Davis said a telescope would be placed into orbit by the shuttle, one especially suited for researching information about the beginning of the universe.

The shuttle has been delayed recently by testing problems, including an accident which resulted in two deaths when technicians entered an area that had not been cleared of nitrogen.

But on Wednesday, two days before the anticipated launch, a check of operations and launch managers revealed "nothing but a series of go's," said Brian Duff, director of public affairs for NASA.

Chapel Hill bus ridership increases with gas prices

By NANCY DAVIS
Staff Writer

Deregulation of gasoline prices is a big reason for recent increases in ridership on Chapel Hill Transit system buses and other forms of mass transit, Chapel Hill Transportation Director Bob Godding said.

Bus ridership from September 1979 to September 1980 rose 12.55 percent from the previous 12-month period, according to North Carolina Department of Transportation figures.

The increase was the fifth-largest gain in the state. It trailed only the figures of Charlotte (20 percent), Fayetteville (15.9 percent), Raleigh (13.7 percent) and Gastonia (13.3 percent).

Monthly figures also show an upward trend. Ridership on the Chapel Hill system was 234,753 in February 1981, compared to 230,575 in February of last year, an increase of 4,178 riders.

The increased ridership could cause the Reagan administration to take a second look at its proposed budget cuts in public transportation, Godding said.

"If you could show that more people are interested in the bus system, they might think twice before cutting back on it."

Godding said he expected continued ridership through the summer months of 1981.

Although ridership has usually dropped from about 12,000 a day during the school year to 4,000 a day during summer, Godding predicted a smaller decrease this year because of rising gasoline prices.

"More and more people are going to start examining us as an alternative to driving," Godding said.

Statewide, ridership on public bus systems was 4.5 million higher during the period September 1979 to September 1980 than it was during the previous 12-month period.

As a result of increased ridership and slightly higher fares and fees, transit revenues across the state increased by \$2.7 million over the same period, according to a Department of Transportation release.

That was the most significant increase in transit revenues since the 1973-1974 oil embargo.

Proposed increases in Chapel Hill Transit bus fares will be considered along with the rest of the town's budget in June.

The Transportation Department has proposed an increase in adult fares from 35 cents to 40 cents and an increase in annual bus passes from \$79 to \$90. Students traditionally have received a discount.

House Democrats attack Reagan's planned tax cut

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Democrats labeled President Ronald Reagan's tax cut proposals "the fiscal equivalent of faith in a free lunch" Wednesday and said the spending cuts he wanted would hurt poor and middle-income Americans.

Renewing their attack on Reagan's economic program in an unusual eight-page statement of "Democratic economic principles," party members declared their willingness to back an effort to restrain federal spending, provide tax relief and reduce the size of government.

The statement, approved by voice vote

after a closed-door session of the party caucus, took issue with the specifics of the Reagan approach and said Democrats would reject a program "that puts the main burden of fighting inflation on the backs of the middle- and low-income workers while providing unprecedented benefits for the privileged few."

On taxes, the statement said belief that the administration's three-year tax cut plan would stimulate the economy without fueling inflation was unrealistic.

"In sum, we pledge to develop a lean federal budget — which puts us on the path to balancing the budget and provides for the human needs of our people," said the statement.

It also praised the party as the voice of working men and women and protector of racial and religious minorities.

The statement, akin to a party platform at a political convention, appeared designed to demonstrate Democratic unity as key votes approach in committee and on the House floor on elements of the president's economic program. Coming on the heels of an alternative Democratic budget, it also appeared to be part of a concerted counteroffensive to the administration's program.

At the White House, the ranking Republican on the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee emerged from a meeting with Vice President George Bush and told reporters the party plans to go ahead and push for the full three-year, 30-percent reduction Reagan proposed.

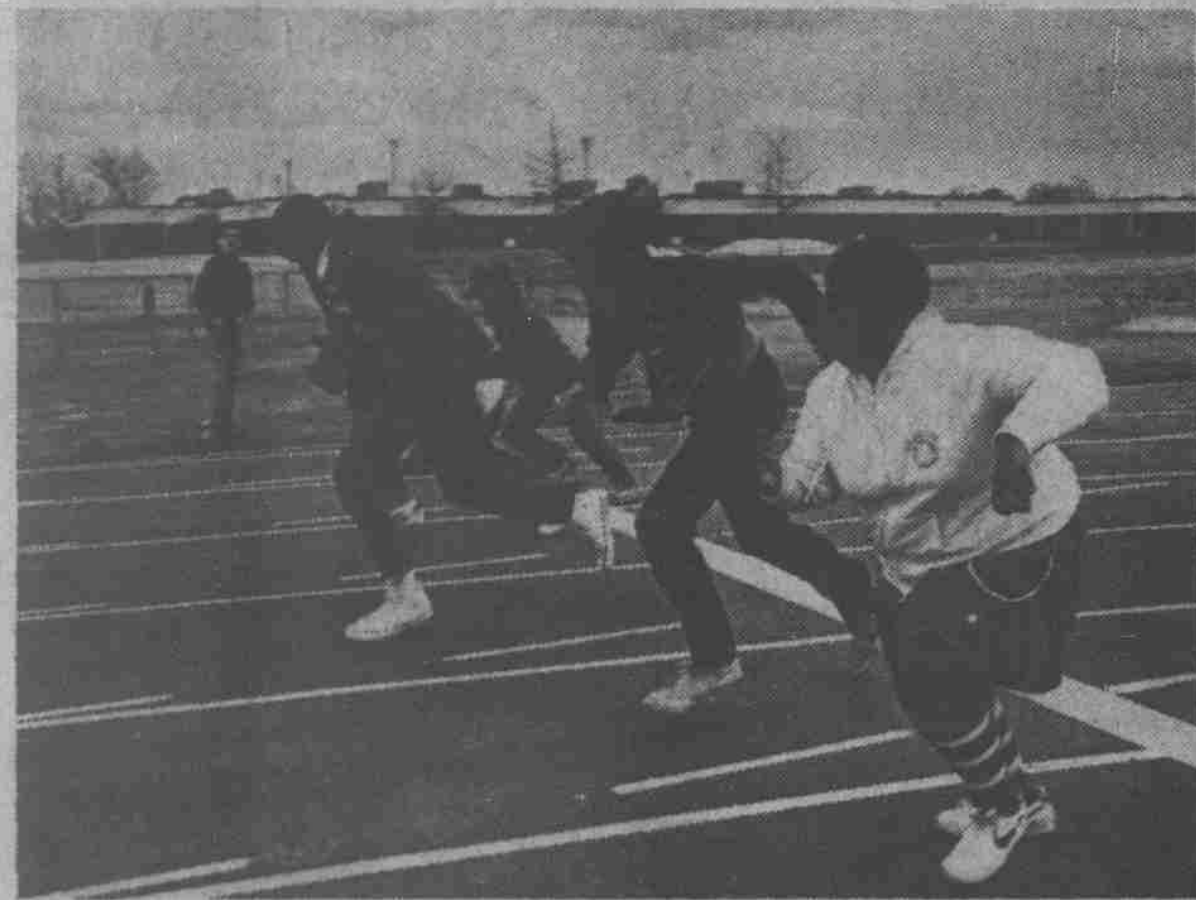
"At this point, nobody is talking compromise" on a tax cut bill, said Rep. Barber Conable of New York.

In the past two weeks, most Republicans on the Ways and Means Committee have been summoned to the White House to discuss strategy with Reagan or — since the president was wounded — with Bush.

Conable said the administration "found a good base of support" and had decided to continue pressing for the full-income tax break despite efforts by House Democrats to put forward alternative plans.

"We're very well satisfied with the president's program and feel that we want to go ahead with it," Conable said.

Virtually the entire Democratic leadership of the House called a news conference to unveil the party document. Rep. Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., said it was designed to show the "substantial differences between our party and the Republican Party."



Special Olympians practice for April 25 competition ... games give handicapped a chance to excel

Special Olympics

Games scheduled

By M.L. CHRISTENBURY
Staff Writer

"Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

That pledge will be said by more than 96 participants in the 1981 Orange County Special Olympics April 25 at Orange High School. Program organizers are currently making preparations for the event, including the recruitment of volunteers for the competition day.

The Special Olympics program, sponsored by the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department, is designed to give mentally handicapped children an opportunity to participate in athletic competition.

"The games provide all the pageantry and excitement of regular Olympic Games — opening and closing ceremonies, awards presentations, and associated cultural activities," said Caryn Messenger, area coordinator for the Special Olympics.

The 1981 Special Olympics will begin at approximately 1 p.m. with opening ceremonies. Activities will include a parade of the participants around the school track, followed by the participants repeating the official Special Olympics pledge. Helium balloons will fill the sky, proclaiming the opening of the games.

"All events are organized into divisions by age and previous performance," Messenger said. "Special Olympians compete only with those whose ability and skill match their own."

Events include the softball throw, standing broad jump, relays and 50-yard, 100-yard and 200-yard sprints.

"Because we want to involve as many children as possible, adapted events have been devised for those who are physically unable to participate in the official events," Messenger said.

Hand running, a game in which contestants and coaches run hand in hand, is one such game.

All participants receive ribbons.

Special Olympics are sponsored by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation and is

operated by Special Olympics Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington. All workers are volunteers and all money for the Olympics is donated by local organizations.

Funds are used not only for the local Olympics, but also for transportation, food and lodging at the regional and state levels of competition.

Money was raised on the UNC campus this year in Granville Towers. Residents of seventh floor East and eighth floor West raised \$348 by sponsoring a seesaw marathon. Residents of sixth floor South raised \$550 by holding a mock kidnapping.

Messenger said that many college students help out with the games. "This year we have about 50 to 75 coaches. Usually, an additional 50 volunteers will show up the day of the Olympics."

"Preparation and training are crucial to Special Olympics," Messenger said. "Almost all programs offer year-round training programs designed to improve the participants' physical fitness and competence in various sports."

Terri Jackson, a UNC industrial relations and psychology major, volunteers one hour each week as a Special Olympics coach.

"These kids aren't always successful academically," Jackson said. "Through successful achievement in sports, they gain confidence and build a positive self-image associated with success rather than failure."

Shannon Cox, a UNC recreation administration major, said, "The children benefit from the Special Olympics program since they get a chance to be recognized. Too many times the kids are pushed into the background."

One UNC student, Karen Marsh, is on the Advisory Committee of the Orange County Special Olympics.

Many people are needed the day of the games to serve as coaches and volunteers, Marsh said. All those interested are urged to attend a coaches and volunteers clinic to be held 7 p.m. Tuesday, in room 207 of the Carolina Union.

Spring fashions display color, different styles

By TERESA CURRY
Staff Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, prepare to enter the hot, sweaty jungle for an enlightening safari. Step into one of the scenes in the Spring/Summer Fashion Show held Tuesday night in Great Hall.

John Root and Company, a local jazz band, sets the mood with music as our announcer, Cindi Johnson, carefully guides us from our comfortable seats to the lush forests of the deepest jungle and to the banks of the Nile.

The Carolina Union, the Black Student Movement and the Panhellenic Council presented the show to let students know what is fashionable for this spring and summer. The program, which drew a capacity audience, featured 23 student models and eight campus celebrities, including sports stars and campus leaders.

The show included nine different sections, each having a wide variety of clothing donated by local merchants.

The canvas look, wrap around shorts and jungle prints in the show reminded many of items worn in the jungle, but they can be worn in Chapel Hill, too.

Johnson said that bandanas were popular this year. "They are great versatile pieces that add a dash of color for a super look. They can function as belts, neck pieces and head bands."

She also praised the virtues of cotton. "Keep in mind that cotton is the most comfortable material to wear in the summer — it breathes, is lightweight and keeps you cool on hot days."

The master of ceremonies, Bill Ragland, then led the audience on to the pants story.

Pants will come in an array of lengths, styles and colors this year. Anything from purple plaid to basic white is sure to abound on campus. The riding pant, puffed out around the waist, is the newest style, Johnson said.



Model Francis Knott displays jungle look ... one of many in fashion show Tuesday

Fashions from India, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Japan, Guatemala, Panama and Mexico comprise ethnic and exotic designs. Students who like clothes made of gauze accented in delicate embroidery or lace will find a variety of items to select from in this area. Kimonos, caftans and drawstring pants definitely will add an exotic touch to anyone's wardrobe.

See FASHION on page 2

See BUDGET on page 3

Schools in Morganton, Wilson

Two institutions for deaf to stay separate after proposed merger draws controversy

By DEBORAH HIRSCH
Staff Writer

A motion to combine the high school programs at the two North Carolina schools for the deaf passed a legislative subcommittee recently but was reconsidered, and reversed after its passage generated widespread controversy and criticism.

Rep. David Diamond, D-Pilot Mountain, introduced the motion to eliminate the high school classes at the Wilson School for the Deaf and combine them with the high school at the Morganton School for the Deaf.

The motion passed the Base Budget Subcommittee on Human Resources by a 9-5 vote. But Rep. Jean Fenner, D-Wilson, who voted against the motion, convinced Diamond to withdraw his proposal.

"In talking with Jean, I decided it was more flak than it was worth. I was suddenly the villain," Diamond said. "I was looking for a graceful way out of it. I decided to reverse the decision."

"It's not one of those issues you're going to stick your neck out on. I don't think I'm such a bad guy. I think I'm pretty reasonable."

Fenner said the high school program at the Wilson School for the Deaf was important to both the students and their parents.

"Our parents want it. They want to be close to their kids and close to their education," Fenner said. "Teenage children should be close to their parents. I think there is plenty of justification for keeping it."

Diamond said he introduced the motion because declining enrollment would pose problems for the Wilson school. In 1985 the Morganton school will have 150 to 160 students while the Wilson school will have less than 80, he said.

"The quality of education is highly in doubt," Diamond said. "My question is not money. My question is the quality of education, which is the same consideration as the parents have."

Frank Bryan, superintendent of the Wilson School for the Deaf, said, "We have sufficient numbers of students to justify a high school in the East."

Bryan said there were about 170 high school students at Wilson and 224 at Morganton. He admitted that in four or five years, enrollment would begin to drop, as Diamond predicted.

"Next year we'll go up to close to 190. Then we'll begin to drop back," Bryan said.

"State schools for the deaf across the country have never had large numbers of high school students," he said. "If we could stay around 100 students, then we could maintain a viable high school."

But Diamond, who is a high school teacher and football coach, had complaints about the high school programs at the deaf schools other than the enrollment figures.

"I feel the sports up there (at Morganton) and the vocational program are keeping a lot of kids there," he said. "It's my contention that if you split the two schools, for whatever reason, you are virtually eliminating athletics."

"I think in four or five years, you're going to go up to Morganton and find empty buildings," Diamond said.

Fenner said, "Other than vocational opportunities, I don't see that Wilson really lacks that much."

To remedy the problem, the Wilson School for the Deaf is planning to build and equip a \$645,000 vocational facility. Bryan hopes it will be under construction this fall.

"I'd estimate we're talking about 12 months minimum to construct," he said. "We'd be fortunate to open by fall 1982."

Fenner is optimistic about the Wilson vocational program's success. "That school, dealing with handicapped children, could offer those services to children with other handicaps," he said.