

# Valid political ideas back novel's fictional account

By LEAH TALLEY  
Arts Editor

Everyone has his own attitude toward Vietnam and American intervention in foreign countries. But unless you were directly involved, then you may not have a strong feeling for the reality of those times and situations. In Robert Stone's *A Flag For Sunrise*, Stone intimates the personal side of such politics. He recounts the fictional revolution of a small South American country, Tecan. And in doing so, he gives insight into American motivation in foreign intervention.

## Review

Stone has written two previous novels, both successful. *A Hall of Mirrors* won the Faulkner Award for a first novel in 1967. *Dog Soldiers*, which won the National Book Award in 1975, is also known as the basis for the film, *Who'll Stop The Rain*.

Stone's third novel doesn't stray from this track record. He fills the scene with vivid characters thrown into a political turmoil. The revolution and politics of Tecan become almost secondary as Stone creates for the reader the people within the revolution, not the revolution itself.

The reader gets to feel each character's motivation for joining or resisting the attempted overthrow of the government in Tecan. This makes a powerful portrait of individuals in the political maelstrom, but sometimes falls short of actually defining what events are the reason for revolution and why everyone is worried. But this may be what Stone wants. Those characters caught in Tecan's turmoil see it from one point of view, their own. The revolution to them is what is happening directly around them, and that is what the reader experiences. So the reader experiences the same confusion as if he were actually in the revolution. The horror, disillusion and mystery are more real — especially the disillusion.

Stone pulls this off through presenting completely believable, entrancing characters, building them carefully through dialogue and action. And as the revolution begins to roll, Stone begins to weave the paths of these Americans in a foreign land together for an unsettling climax.

The story of Tecan and all humans is ultimately one of survival. Even within the grand scale of a revolution, each person can only experience it individually.

Most of the characters in *A Flag For Sunrise* are bent first for individual survival. Stone presents the inside of a



Robert Stone

Vietnam-like situation, reinforcing the comparison by allowing the characters within the book to refer to Vietnam and compare that situation with Tecan. And perhaps Stone is making a statement on American intervention. Within a foreign country, survival comes first for Americans, so intervention is bound to fail, as it did in Tecan and Vietnam. Stone brings this simple statement to life in his novel with intriguing characters and their lives and deaths in Tecan.

# 'Taps' premise might have worked, Hutton's sensitivity well displayed

By GUHA SHANKAR  
DTH Staff Writer

With every role he undertakes Timothy Hutton establishes himself as one of today's better actors. *Taps* is the most recent example of his potential. Hutton's sensitive portrayal of Brian Moreland, the leader of a group of cadets trying to keep their school from being sold to land developers, is the highlight of an otherwise slow, predictable story.

The premise for *Taps*, although a bit far-fetched, might have worked. The intent was to raise serious questions about the values and attitudes that military education fosters in impressionable young minds. The film's early moments promise good entertainment, particularly George C. Scott's performance as Gen.

Bache, the superintendent of the military academy. The general is an old warhorse who inspires awe and hero-worship in his young charges. As he relives his old battles with them, he fills their heads with visions of glory. But Bache is unable to discern the impact of his words on the naive cadets, especially Moreland.

When the threat to the school arouses the cadets, who have swallowed Bache's speeches far too liberally, they begin their defense of the campus—with machine guns and rifles.

Initially promising, the action literally stops halfway through *Taps*. Moreland goes through some soul-searching when a series of incidents rocks his confidence and forces him to question Bache's speeches. This little interlude is far too cliched and unnecessary. The ending has already been predetermined with the ap-

pearance of a National Guard tank. No Hollywood director worth his salt would spend so much screen time maneuvering machine guns and mortars into place and then refrain from using them. And *Taps* director Harold Becker is no exception. When the tanks roll into view, the question becomes not will a battle take place, but merely when it will happen.

*Taps* is a good idea gone astray. The aim was to show the disastrous consequences in placing blind, unwavering trust in leaders and their ideals. One can't help but feel for the cadets as they put up their paper-thin barricades in defense of outmoded concepts and ideals like honor, duty and loyalty. For all its promise though the movie falls far short of its mark, another victim of Hollywood's tendency toward the obvious and the predictable.

# Educator tells story of realizing her dream of child-centered school

By DENNIS GOSS  
DTH Staff Writer

Lucianne Bond Carmichael had a dream. She wanted a child-centered school which departed from conventional educational systems, a school which based its decisions not on economics or test scores, but on what was best for its students.

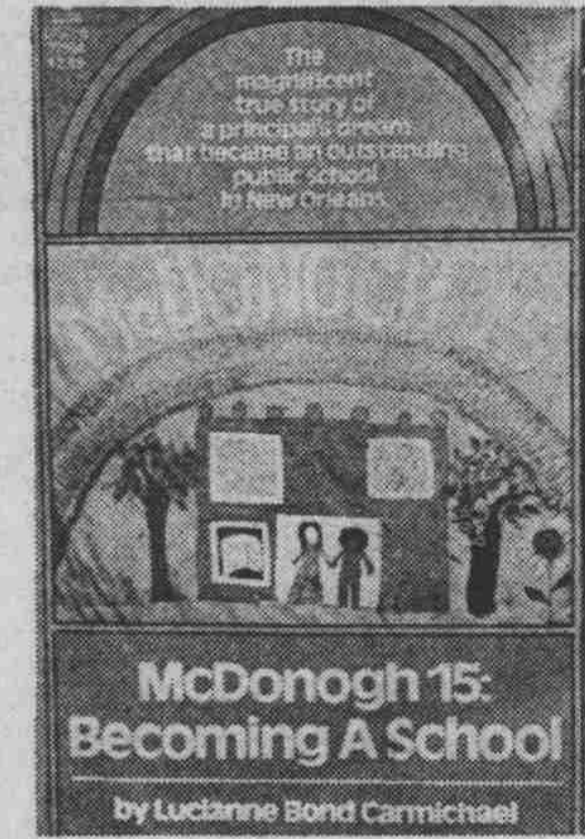
*McDonogh 15: Becoming A School* is the inspirational story of Carmichael's efforts to realize her dream. As principal, she started with nothing more than a bare schoolhouse. The initial chapters of the book deal with her efforts to obtain ideas, materials and faculty for her "lighthouse" school.

Carmichael's child-centered concept is relatively simple, that children learn more by experiencing and actually doing than any other way. There are few textbooks as the children read and write their own stories. They raise rabbits, take camping trips, cook, play music and paint murals.

*McDonogh 15* spans the school's first 10 years of revitalization under Carmichael. The school's success is the result of a combination of factors. Diversity is probably the main reason; diversity in faculty as well as in students. McDonogh 15 attracted an excellent cross section of New Orleans students, and Carmichael selected her faculty on the basis of their various specialties.

The school is also a success because Carmichael insists the faculty members really want to be there and care about the children. Her personal touch is evident in the way the kids of McDonogh 15 conduct themselves and in the emergence of her school as the center of the community.

Carmichael's book works well because of her honesty in conveying her emotions experienced during her ten-year struggle.



McDonogh 15: Becoming A School by Lucianne Bond Carmichael

Her uncertainties, fears, triumphs and even her failures are candidly recorded. *McDonogh 15's* tone is upbeat and hopeful, yet governed by a sense of realism.

Carmichael is by no means a literary master, but her prose is well-written and well-organized. Her story flows well, and she deals with all topics of major concern in education: resources, teachers, school management, community, curriculum, and discipline. One particularly fun chapter, "The Bureaucracy: How To Save The Lettuce," pits Carmichael against a host of "Catch-22" rules and regulations.

But *McDonogh 15: Becoming A School* is not just one big success story. The book's final chapter, "Epilogue: The Albert Williams Story," is a sobering look at the imperfection of any educational system. Despite the faculty's extra

efforts, some children just can't make it in school. Albert Williams was one such child, and his story leaves one with the realization that public education still has a lot of room for improvement.

Overall, *McDonogh 15* is enjoyable, interesting reading. It is encouraging to experience a living example of the results attainable through diligent, patient work and a little caring. Carmichael's work should be a guidebook to future educators.

## Arts, features and university staffs to meet

The arts, features, copy desk and university staffs will have individual staff meetings with their editors at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the *Daily Tar Heel* office. All members are asked to attend these meetings. Important information will be discussed.

## cold

From page 1

Boulder County Sheriff's Sgt. Jim Smith said, "Most of the malls and shopping centers here have been hit, with businesses losing roofs and most of their big plate glass windows."

But numbing cold was the story in the East where many cities posted record temperatures for the date as far south as Nashville, Tenn., were it was 11 below.

It was 34 below at Eagle Rock, Md., the coldest ever noted by Rebecca Harvey in the 17 years she's been checking the weather for the Maryland Forest Service.

# Campus Calendar

Public service announcements must be turned into the box outside DTH offices in the Carolina Union by noon if they are to run the next day. Each item will be run at least twice.

## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

The UNC Karate Club will be holding an introductory meeting for all persons interested in learning karate at 6 p.m. in Room 209, Student Union. Everybody is welcome.

The Human Relations Committee of the Union will meet at 3:30 p.m. in Room 218, Student Union. Here's your chance for campus involvement. All interested persons welcomed to attend.

The UNC Crew Club will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. in 224 Union. A film will be shown of Championship rowing, and new members are welcome.

All those interested in volunteering at John Unstead Hospital must come to one of the organizational meetings at 7 p.m. today or Tuesday in 206 Union. Everyone is welcome.

There will be a COC R&J meeting at 5 p.m. in the COC office to elect a new chairperson.

The Carolina Disc Club will hold a meeting at 4 p.m. in 206 Union. We'll talk about our upcoming ultimate tourney and more. So be there or lose hair.

The UNC Outing Club will begin regular meetings beginning at 7 p.m. Monday in the Union.

The University Counseling Center resumes at 6-9 p.m. Call for appointments for career counseling. Occupational Information Library is open for research and browsing. For more information, call 962-2175 or drop by Nash Hall.

The UNC Media Board will meet at 5 p.m. in 400 New East.

The UNC Model United Nations Club will meet at 6 p.m. in 352 Hamilton. Assignments for Princeton, Jordan, Gabon, Nationals, Uganda.

A lecture titled "Environmental Policy Analysis: The Dartmouth Approach," will be given by Dr. Dennis Meadows, a professor at Dartmouth College and author of the book *Limits to Growth* at noon in 207 Hamilton Hall.

A lecture titled "The Environmental Effects of Increased Fuel Wood Utilization," will be given by Dr. Dennis Meadows, a professor at Dartmouth College and author of the book *Limits to Growth* will be at 2 p.m. in 228 Rosemary Hall.

The Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, will hold the spring invitation meeting at 7 p.m. in 203 Howell Hall. Business will include considering candidates for officers. All new members must attend; all interested persons are invited.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Informational meeting on a six-week University credited Summer Program in Quebec, Canada will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday in Toy Lounge, fourth floor of Dey Hall.

The UNC Racquetball Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Union. We will have courts available in Fetzer gym following the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. Ask at the Union desk for the room number.

The Graduate Student Fellowship will meet for a meal and discussion at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Battle House of the Baptist Student Center.

The Committee for the Freedom of Stephen J. Kablinski will have its first winter wonderland meeting at 2 p.m. Tuesday in front of Connor dorm. Afterwards, we will adjourn inside for hot Kikkie tea. All are welcome.

Phi Delta Phi, the French Honor Society, will have a meeting to discuss upcoming events, including films and Mardi Gras at 6 p.m. Wednesday in 307 Dey Hall.

Organizational meeting to prepare the Carolina United Jewish Appeal Campaign at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Hill, 210 W. Cameron Ave. Everyone is welcome. For information contact Lucy Fried at 933-0149. You too can be a star.

The Friends of the Library will sponsor a speech by Milton Carothers on "Early and Unusual English Bibles and Religious Tracts" at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Newman Center, 218 Pittsboro St., Chapel Hill.

The Operations Research and System Analysis of UNC-CH will sponsor a Colloquium by Professor J. Scott Provan, Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics of the State University of New York at Stony Brook and Operations Research Division National Bureau of Standards, on "Network Reliability Analysis: Algorithms and Complexity" at 4 p.m. Thursday in 107 Smith Building.

CHEC (Contraceptive Health Education Clinic), now meeting at 7 p.m. every Tuesday in the Health Education Section of the Student Health Service and at 3 p.m. every Thursday in the Frank Porter Graham Lounge of the Union, is geared to help UNC students to be responsible partners in matters concerning sexuality. CHEC provides an informative, informal discussion and slide presentation of contraception.

The UNC Juggling Club will hold its first meeting 7-9 p.m. Thursday in the Great Hall of the Union. Membership open to everyone — no experience necessary. Free instruction. Bring balls and/or other anti-gravity devices.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Informational: Organizational meeting for team captains in IM basketball, originally scheduled at 4 p.m. Friday has been rescheduled at 5 and 7 p.m. Monday in 109 Fetzer Gym ... Deadline for IM basketball, faculty-staff basketball and faculty-staff racquetball has been extended to 8 p.m. tonight.

SAVE A TREE  
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It's Happy Hour, after all!  
Mondays thru Fridays, 4-7 p.m.  
Stephen's ... after all  
village plaza, elliot road

## APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR CAROLINA UNION PRESIDENT

A question answer session will be held on THURSDAY, JAN. 21 at 5:00 pm in Rm. 217 Union. Applications are available at the Union information Desk, Deadline THURSDAY, JAN. 28 at 5:00 pm.

## SHAG FOR BEGINNERS

Classes begin Wed., Jan. 20th at Elliot's Nest, Chapel Hill  
6:30-8:00 PM  
Wednesday nights for 4 weeks

\$20 per person

Registration at 6:15 Wednesday night prior to first lesson, or you may call

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## ORIENTATION '82

Applications have been reopened for the 1982 ORIENTATION COMMISSION

Positions: coordinator for the graduate programs; Tar Heel Days, Major Projects, Information Packets, and Public Relations Publications

- \* Applications available at the Union desk and 08 Steele
- \* Return applications to 08 Steele by 5 pm Friday, Jan 15
- \* Q.P.A. of 2.0 or better required
- \* For more information, call 962-2375 or 966-4041

ALL FULL TIME STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO APPLY

## TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

Vance Wilson, Southeast Director of Independent Educational Services (IES), will interview candidates interested in teaching in independent schools Tuesday, January 19 from 2 to 8 p.m., at the Carolina Inn. IES is a non-profit placement service for independent schools in all 50 states. There are no membership dues to teachers new to the profession; placement fees are 6.5% of the first years salary, the lowest fee of any school service in the country. Please call (404) 223-0649 for an appointment.

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