

# Letters To The Editor

## Poor Sports

Dear Editor:

I read with interest and to a certain degree much dismay the article written by Mr. Walter C. Vess, coach of the Mica Mine softball team in the City League this summer criticizing Mr. Roy Pierson and the City Recreation Department for certain actions taken against the Mica Mine softball team in a recent game, but I would like to say a few words in behalf of Mr. Pierson and his associates. If Mr. Vess will just think back when the first meetings were held this summer Mr. Pierson said that should league games interfere with the District or Area Tournament that they could be worked around and that is exactly what he did for the Champions Landscaping team and he did the exact thing for us at Craftspun when we were due to play Carolina Throwing on the night that we were supposed to play in the Area Tournament, and I am sure that he would have done the same thing for any other team in the league should they have been involved in the same manner in which we were involved.

I am sure that most people don't realize what a job it is to draw up a schedule like that and run it perfectly during the summer. It meant just as much to me to have Champions forfeit that game to Mica Mine as it did to anybody else because that meant that Craftspun, Carolina Throwing and Champions were then in a tie for first place, but I personally don't want it that way. The way it was Craftspun, ended up in second place, but I would rather have second place by playing than to have first place given to me. It just doesn't mean that much to me. I say that if some of the teams that have threatened to go to Grover and play next year do that you are defeating the purpose of having a City Industrial League, and poor sports at that.

Kyle Smith  
Coach, Craftspun

## Ramsey & Jane

The recent behavior of Americans such as former Attorney General Ramsey Clark and actress Jane Fonda is highly objectionable to most Americans.

At best, giving comfort to a government and people who have been fighting and killing Americans for some years, they are using poor judgment and exhibiting extremely bad taste, in encouraging and helping that enemy.

At worst, they are guilty of un-Americanism or treason, in aiding a government with which we have long been, in effect, at war.

Americans, and citizens in every working democracy, should not forget that the majority rules, and that each citizen cannot be completely free to act as he wishes, disregarding the elected government and foreign and defense policy. If this were permissible, utter chaos would result.

The principle behind this obligation is sound; while governments aren't perfect, while mistakes will be made, there obviously must be a single foreign and defense policy for the nation. Governments elected by the democratic process therefore deserve a chance until turned out of office by the people, a chance to formulate and carry out national policies. Dissent at home is healthy. Extending aid to countries we are fighting, even though conscientiously, cannot be permitted, in the national interest.

## Perspective

by Jay Ashley



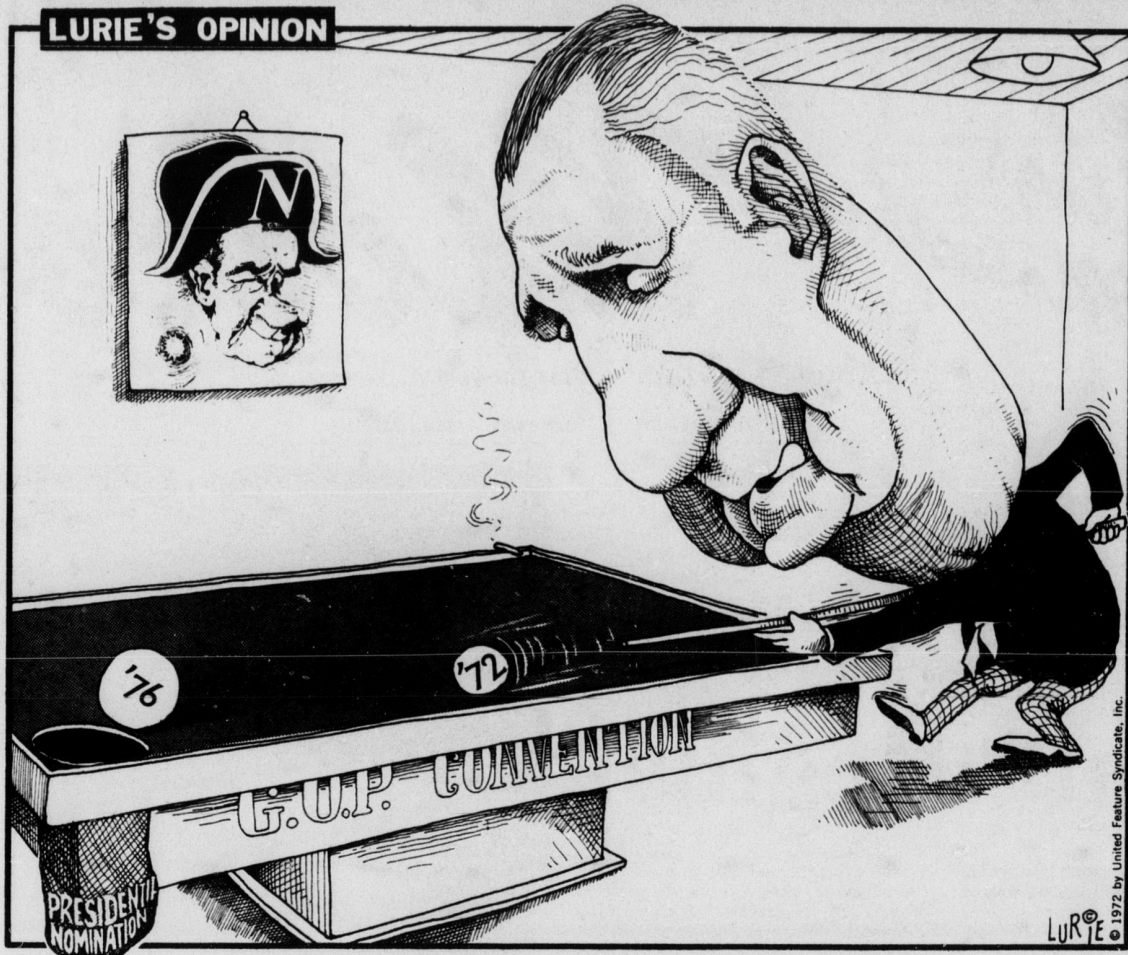
The meeting of teachers, et. al. at the gymnasium at KMHs Wednesday was just one part of the three day program designed for teachers and administrators to prepare for the coming year. I imagine most of the organizational and association meeting can get dull but the two speakers Wednesday woke everyone up. Eugen Causby and Dudley Flood, from the State Department of Public Instruction were on hand to talk about human relations. Both men brought out several ideas that should be pondered by all of us. The notions of involvement, communications, understanding an open-mindedness are all important to everyone in this world. The subject of misunderstanding was exemplified by Flood by a true story. He related that in the third grade he was taking achievement test of sorts. One question read: What color is a banana. Flood, a black who grew up in a rural area where times and money were tight answered: black. For him the answer was quite correct. His father couldn't buy the more expensive yellow bananas so he had to eat the ones that had become almost rotten which we all can admit are black. What Flood was trying to convey is that everything in this world is relative. A right answer by one man may be

wrong for another and for the two to come to an agreement, understanding is in order.

Another method of explaining misunderstanding in communications came in the form of a story about a meeting of deacons in the church. One said that the church needed a new chandler. "Why, that's the last thing we need," answered one, "no one in the church knows how to play one." He went on, "Besides if we buy anything we need to purchase some lights."

Flood and Causby won the applause of the educators for their enlightening and entertaining talk. In the brief time they were in Kings Mountain they stimulated the minds of those present and made us look into ourselves for answers to many problems and for this alone they are to be congratulated.

Even teachers can fall prey to irony. After the morning sessions at the High School, lunch was served in the cafeteria and new teachers were recognized. Names, positions and placements were announced when the speaker said, "The attendance counselor will be Gary Stuart." Everyone looked around to see him stand up and suddenly broke into laughter...he was absent!!



## McGovern Expected To Campaign For Votes In North Carolina

By JOHN KILGO  
KQ SYNDICATE

Sen. George McGovern, far from giving up on his chances of winning in North Carolina in November, has tentative plans to campaign in person in the state on one or more occasions.

McGovern's running mate, Sargent Shriver, also is expected in North Carolina at least once.

That's the word I get from Harold Himmelman, McGovern's assistant campaign manager in charge of Eastern and Southern states.

"I can't say anything is firm at this point," Himmelman told me. "Nothing is firm yet in any state. But I would expect McGovern and Shriver to make one or more appearances in North Carolina."

Himmelman concedes that McGovern is in the underdog role in North Carolina at the present time. President Nixon seems to be strong in the Tar Heel state and he carried it in 1968, with 627,000 votes. George Wallace was second with 496,000, and the Democratic candidate in '68, Hubert Humphrey, was third with 464,000.

What makes Himmelman believe that McGovern can overcome Nixon's popularity in North Carolina?

"In the first place," Himmelman said, "Nixon will have to defend his record this time. He was able to make promises in 1968. Now the people will want to know why he didn't keep those promises."

Himmelman says Nixon has failed to keep his promise to end the Vietnam war. He also says the economy is not flourishing and people are out of work--and he feels McGovern can capitalize on those matters in North Carolina.

Himmelman says the McGovern camp is making "a very serious effort in North Carolina."

"We are serious in our organization and our hopes, as far as North Carolina is concerned," Himmelman said. "Ed Graham has been our state campaign coordinator in North Carolina for several months now and has been working hard."

"We're also getting good cooperation from the party regulars in that state."

That came as a surprise, since most of the Democrats running for elective office in North Carolina say they will steer clear of the McGovern campaign.

Himmelman says the McGovern camp hopes to cooperate and work with all North Carolina candidates for Congress and the U.S. Senate. "But," he adds, "that will be pretty much up to the gentleman seeking those offices."

McGovern will face a stiff organizational challenge in North Carolina. Charles Jonas Jr., who heads the Nixon campaign effort in the state, has been hard at work for more than a year. He also has the experience of having gone through this before in 1968.

Jonas says many of the state's leading Democrats have offered to help in the Nixon effort this November.

Tar Heel Republicans have also been told in private that Nixon and Vice President Agnew will make personal appearances in the state during the campaign.

Says Himmelman, the Mc-

Govern aide: "We were the underdogs in the primary. Just because we're behind in North Carolina today doesn't mean we'll be in that position in November. We're working on the belief that we have an excellent chance in North Carolina and we'll put forth a solid effort in your state."

If the presidential candidates come to North Carolina to campaign this fall (as they almost surely will), look for them to try to hit Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte. They're always thinking of press coverage.

The state's auto insurance study commission is a working one. The 11-member commission has been meeting regularly and has eight no-fault proposals before it. F. O'Neill Jones, who has worked so hard heading the commission, was defeated in his bid for reelection to the State Senate. Jones is a Wadesboro attorney and a very close friend of Lt. Gov. Pat Taylor.

## Reflections

by Rodney Dodson



As any news photographer knows, it isn't always easy or even rewarding to get those accident and wreck pictures that the readers like to see.

I was reminded all too well of this again Saturday night when the train-truck accident occurred here Saturday night. I was at home reading some magazines when we heard this heavy rumble. It sounded like train cars, and I didn't pay much attention till I heard ambulances. A quick call to the police station confirmed that a train had hit a vehicle at the Baker Street crossing.

It was only a short distance from my house, but as I approached the scene of the wreckage, the sightseers had already arrived. Several cars were stopped in the street in front of me, in both lanes. Others were parked on the side of the road making it impossible for me to pull over. Another lane of stalled traffic was forming in the left lane, making it impossible to go around. I considered backing up and going home, but a line of cars was behind mine and I couldn't move. So, there I sat at the mercy of the other sightseers. I couldn't just sit there all night, so I turned on my emergency flasher, stuck a press sign in the window and ran down to get my pictures.

I had clicked off 6-8 shots from various angles when one of our city police officers ran up to me to tell me that my Mustang was in the road, and suggested that I move it before someone else did.

Well, I moved the car--always like to support our local law enforcement officers. Heading back home, to detour around the congestion, I started out one of the narrow unpaved streets I didn't even know was in the city, only to meet a car load of girls who had the same idea. "Hey, you

can't go thru there, it's a dead end street," one yelled out the window. "Well I guess I'll just have to turn around and go back the other way," I answered with deliberate patience. I turned around behind the car, which by then was meeting another pair of headlights... "Hey, you can't get thru, this is a dead end..." a fading voice echoed.

My mind flashed back to another incident I had answering a wreck call last Spring, when a woman crashed into the rear of my car on I-85. I got a ticket for that, although the insurance company decided in my favor.

I've decided that accidents aren't my bag, I seem to get too involved in them. I'm beginning to think all traffic should be banned from the scene of an accident, including members of the press, it would make my job a lot easier for sure.

### SAFETY & X-RAY

Washington--The Government has announced the establishment of a new and stricter radiation-protection standard for diagnostic X-ray machines and components in a move "to make X-ray examinations safer for millions of Americans."

### JOHNSON & MCGOVERN

Miami Beach, Fla.--Former President Lyndon B. Johnson has broken political silence by announcing that he will support the Democratic nominee and the entire party ticket, even though they have "widely differing opinions," particularly on foreign policy.

### WEAPONS COSTLY

Defense Secretary Kenneth Rush reports that spiraling weapon costs may have reached the point where America can no longer afford to give her fighting men the very best of everything.

## Washington Report

by Congressman James T. Brovhill

### Automobile Insurance

Over the past few years, there has been growing public dissatisfaction with the American system of automobile insurance. Increases in rates, termination of policies for insufficient reason, and the inability of some groups to obtain automobile insurance have all contributed to a clamor for reform of the present system.

One of the major reform programs to receive public attention is known as "no-fault" automobile insurance. Under the no-fault plan, a victim of an automobile accident would be compensated by his own insurance company, regardless of who was at fault in causing the accident. Under such a plan, an accident victim would receive immediate payment for losses and would not have to wait out the often lengthy delays in determining fault under the present system.

The present method of compensating automobile accident victims suffers from serious deficiencies. Inefficiency, poor allocation of benefits, overly high costs, and overburdening of courts and the legal system are among the major problems. Two years ago, the Department of Transportation conducted a comprehensive study of the existing compensation system for automobile accident losses. Among the major findings were the following:

--For each dollar put into the system, 56 cents goes for company overhead, court and lawyers' expenses. Only 44 cents eventually gets back to the victims who suffered losses. (This figure seems especially low compared to other types of insurance, such as Blue Cross, which returns 95 cents out of a dollar in benefits, or commercial group health plans, where more than 80 cents on the dollar is returned.

--25 cents of the insurance premium dollar goes to pay the legal expenses of the adversary system for awarding insurance claims. In addition, many argue that such legal proceedings are one of the primary reasons for our overcrowded courts.

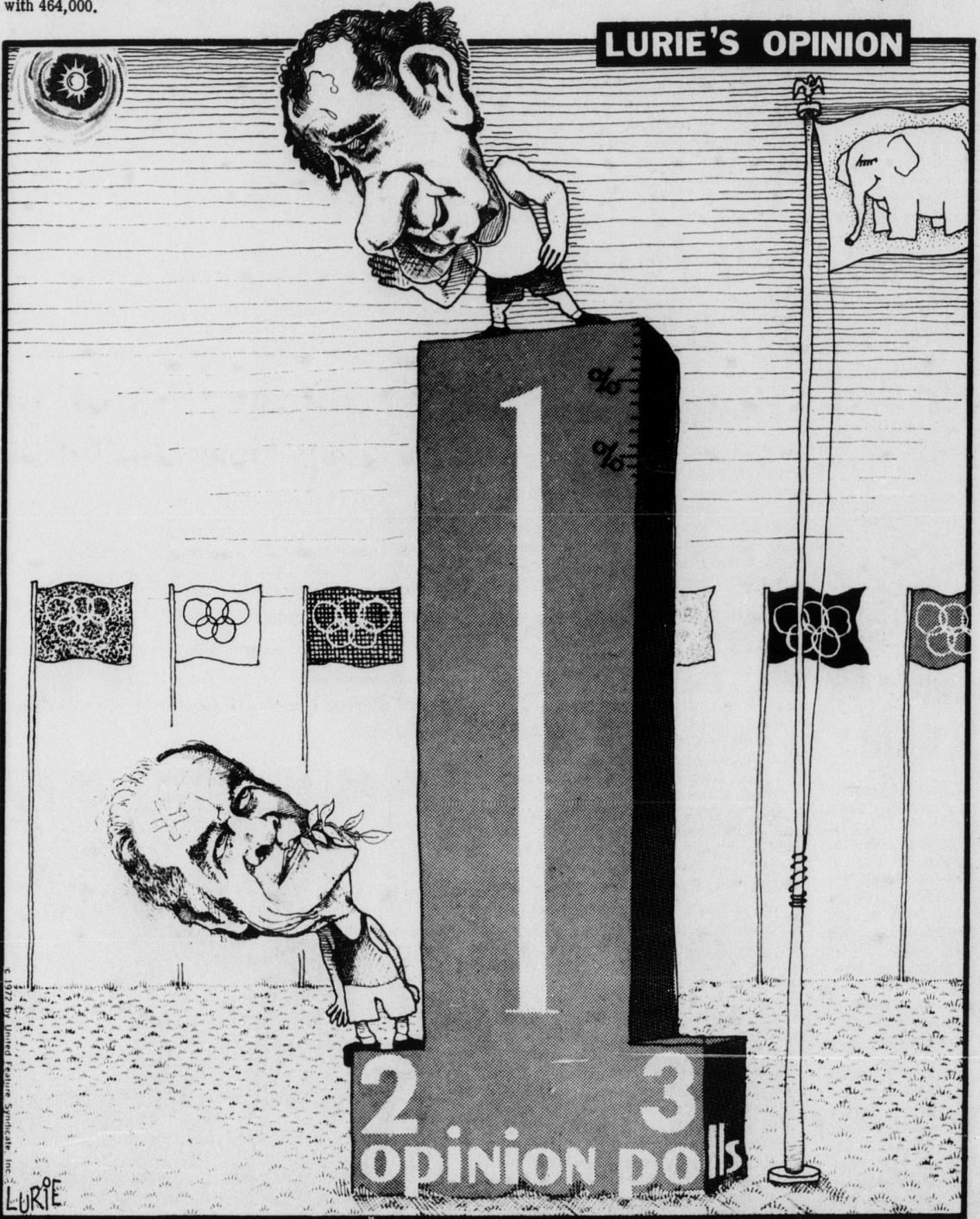
--Many victims go completely uncompensated under the present system, and many more are severely undercompensated for their economic losses. The study found that 45 percent of all those killed or seriously injured in auto accidents benefit in no way from the tort liability insurance system. These would in-

clude faultless victims of accidents where the potential defendant is also faultless, those found to be practically at fault, and those who are injured in one-car accidents.

The American driver needs a system which will deal more efficiently with the compensation of those injured in automobile accidents, without the use of extra, cumbersome procedures which waste over one-half of the premium dollar. I feel that the advantages offered by the no-fault alternative would vastly improve the present system. Some of these advantages are certainly in getting claims paid, elimination of long delays in getting compensation for losses, fewer cases in our crowded court system, possibility of lowered premium costs, and compensation of more accident victims.

Regulation of the insurance industry now falls under the jurisdiction of the state governments. For that reason, much of the talk of reform has been at the state level, and few states have acted to put no-fault plans into effect. At the present time in North Carolina, the Governor's Study Commission on Automobile Insurance and Rates is studying reform of the insurance system and will report to the Governor and the General Assembly this fall. Earlier this month, I was invited by the Commission to testify in Raleigh, and I presented my views in favor of a no-fault plan at the state level.

I was requested to testify by the Commission because I am a member of the Commerce and Finance Subcommittee of the House of Representatives, which has jurisdiction over automobile insurance at the Federal level. There are several bills pending in the Congress which would enact a Federal no-fault program. However, I feel that action at the state level is more appropriate and that the states can better administer insurance programs than the Federal government. I do feel, however, that if the states do not move to enact no-fault programs, there will be increasing pressures on the Congress to enact Federal legislation next year. For this reason, it is my hope that North Carolina, as well as other states, will consider and act upon recommendations to institute a program of no-fault automobile insurance.



"TRY HARDER, GEORGE"

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