

# The Daily Tar Heel

Vol. 83, No. 54

Serving the students and the University community since 1893  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Friday, November 7, 1975

Weather: chance of rain

## Students reject lottery plan

by Bob King  
Staff Writer

Approximately 66 per cent of campus residents polled in a recent survey rejected the housing department's straight lottery plan as the selection method for room sign-up.

A combination of lottery and persistence (line-waiting) was favored by 40 per cent of residents, according to a Residence Hall Association survey conducted last week. Of 2,073 residents polled, 696 said they wanted a random selection (lottery) system used; 939 said they prefer the persistence method; and 1,068 indicated the combination plan as their preference.

RHA took the survey in an effort to educate residents about sign-up and measure their opinion. The Department of University Housing and dorm officials aided in the survey.

Results from Ehringhaus and an undetermined number of North Campus men's halls were unavailable when the survey

results were tabulated Thursday. But RHA Executive Assistant Lee Wallace said the results were indicative of the general student opinion on the issue, and that he expects the other results to concur.

Housing Director James Condie said "the survey was beneficial because of the education it provided on the problems of sign-up."

"I think another thing the survey showed," he said, "was that there is no one system with a clear majority of people who think it's the best."

As another sign-up alternative, Condie said it might be possible to let individual areas determine their own sign-up procedure. "If it's possible to develop a way for each area, with a specific set of guidelines, to determine its own procedure when the facts are clearly in, we think that's desirable."

RHA Co-president Lars Nance agreed. "There was no mandate for any of the systems," he said. "It seems that different areas want different procedures."

Wallace cited Joyner as an example of an area where most residents agreed on one of the sign-up alternatives. A clear majority of Joyner residents chose the lottery, he said.

The combination method will give most spaces to those who wait in line and allot the remainder on a random-selection basis. The system was devised to give sign-up opportunity to those students who would be away from the University on legitimate activities on the sign-up weekend.

According to the combination methods students would not be allowed to form lines until a specified hour Friday night, and the actual sign-up would take place on Saturday.

The plan still has two problems, Wallace said. "We have to figure out a way to keep people from starting to form a line before the given time," he said. "And the percentages of spaces given to the line-waiters has yet to be determined."

Nance said he will lobby for a rule which would allow separate areas to determine their own percentages for allotments to the

line waiters. Wallace said RHA will also advocate a pre-sign-up procedure in which students turn in their contract applications and \$50 deposit before sign-up. Area residence directors could then estimate how many students want to return to each building.

With this procedure, Wallace said, residence assistants will be able to tell students what chance they have of getting a space within the quota. Students could make a decision on whether or not they needed to wait in line, he said.

After meeting with Condie Thursday, Nance and Wallace both said they were pleased at the housing department's reaction to the survey. "From what I can see, he (Condie) feels that the Administration will go along with what the students want," Wallace said.

Condie, Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor, Dean of Student Affairs Donald Boulton and Assistant Dean of Student Life James Cansler will meet to discuss room sign-up on Nov. 14.

## Thorpe makes recount request

by Art Eisenstadt  
Associate News Editor

In response to a recount request based on the ballot counting procedures in the Coker Hills election precinct, registrar Selma Norem said Thursday ballot counting took longer in Coker Hills than in other precincts Tuesday night because of slow counters, a large turnout and a shortage of tally sheets.

William H. "Bill" Thorpe, who came within 49 votes of being elected a Chapel Hill alderman Tuesday, asked the Orange County Board of Elections to recount the ballots Thursday.

Thorpe decided to request the recount when the Coker Hills precinct, the last of Chapel Hill's 15 precincts to report its votes, took approximately 90 minutes longer than any other precinct to announce its returns.

Prior to the Coker Hills report, radio station WCHL announced that Thorpe trailed fifth-place candidate Marvin Silver by one vote.

"We had nine counters, one of the biggest precincts and only six tally sheets," Norem said. "We were late because we had slow counters. I should think anyone would

realize that." The Coker Hills precinct had the second-highest turnout of all Chapel Hill precincts.

Although ballots were counted without interruption, Norem said she had to phone Hillsborough at one point to find out if it was legal to use tally sheets other than those supplied by the county.

Elections board Chairperson Tom Holland could not be reached Thursday to say whether the board would meet to consider Thorpe's request.

"I feel I owe this to myself and to the people who voted for me," Thorpe said Thursday. "I need to do this for the people who are walking around wondering what happened over there."

In Coker Hills, which consists mainly of the affluent neighborhoods between East Franklin Street and Eastwood Lake, Silver finished fifth with 240 votes. Thorpe was sixth with 200 votes.

Overall, Thorpe finished sixth in a 14-candidate field for five alderman seats. He trailed the fifth-place Silver, 2,701-2,652, and had been as high as third place while the returns were coming in.

Although he said he is not trying to make

any implications of wrongdoing, Thorpe noted, "When it's that close, and you've got so many votes and so many people handling the ballots, anybody can make an error."

In his notarized protest, Thorpe asked the elections board to investigate whether any irregularities occurred in Coker Hills "in which said counting of ballots took approximately one hour and a half longer than counting of ballots in any other precinct and . . . after the radio announcement that candidates Marvin Silver and William Thorpe were one vote apart in the ballots then counted thus far."

Thorpe also asked the board to investigate how many ballots were torn, improperly marked or discarded (and for what reasons) in the entire town.

He said he also wants to know whether any ballots were given to ineligible voters, whether any voters were by chance not given ballots and which persons had custody of the ballots at all times.

Thorpe admitted he probably would not win with the recount. "If I had something bona-fide that I could actually go on, I'd be in better shape," he said.

## Passive euthanasia practiced

by Laura Sciam  
Staff Writer

Although active euthanasia has not been used at N.C. Memorial Hospital, many doctors do practice a form of passive euthanasia, Dr. James A. Bryan, professor of medicine at the UNC Medical School, said recently.

Active euthanasia, illegal in North Carolina, refers to actually causing death by a direct means such as drugs. Passive euthanasia is the failure to employ all the technological means to sustain life.

Bryan said doctors at the hospital do not practice euthanasia for moral and ethical reasons. "It is not our job to play God," he said.

While most doctors will not cause death directly, "every day doctors stop active treatment in cases where there is nothing to be gained by sustaining life," he said.

The decision to terminate therapy is usually made by the doctor in conjunction with the patient and the patient's family. All parties involved reach a consensus, but the doctor bears the responsibility of "pulling out the plug," Bryan said.

Treatment might be ceased in cases of terminal cancer or if the patient has a severe infection in addition to illness or age that makes the chances of recovery very slim, he said.

Medical students discuss the ethical issues involved in euthanasia in classes and with doctors on ward rounds. Bryan said euthanasia is treated as "a professional judgment made within the context of a moral and ethical framework."

Because of technological advancements, doctors now have the power to decide when death will occur, and the public should be aware of how and why doctors make their decisions, Bryan said.

The Karen Quinlan case now before the New Jersey Supreme Court indicates that doctors realize they need to expose decisions of life and death to society, he explained.

Karen Quinlan, 21, has been in a coma in a New Jersey hospital for six months. Her parents asked the court to allow her to be removed from a respirator after doctors refused to do so despite a release form signed by both parents.

Nurse Dot Burford, coordinator for

UNC's geriatric nurse practitioner program, said she has seen many cases of passive euthanasia and has often considered it justified.

"Sometimes it (termination of treatment) is not only acceptable but preferable to maintaining life," she said, adding that each case must be considered individually.

The Rev. Tom Polka of the Newman-Catholic Student Center said that although he does not believe doctors should practice euthanasia, a person has the right to a normal, natural death.

There are some cases where extraordinary means, such as a respirator, should not be used to prolong life, but "each case should be considered on its own merits," he said.

The Rev. Charles Bryant, pastor of University United Methodist Church, said a doctor should honor a patient's request to be allowed to die.

"Life is more than a heartbeat, more than just thinking," Bryant said. "It is meaningful. Each person has a right to choose how meaningful his life will be." Employing extraordinary means to maintain life is a form of interference, he said.

## Eno River debate cooling off

### Task force currently considering alternatives

by Miriam Feldman  
Staff Writer

Preservation of the Eno River has stirred several controversies over the past 10 years, but most people agree that the current debate is in a cooling-off stage.

The debate centers on 22 largely unspoiled and unpolluted miles of the river in Orange and Durham counties. The land surrounding the river hosts plaintiffs found nowhere else in the Piedmont.

At the heart of the debate is a question of private property rights versus eminent domain, the state's right to acquire property.

Among the participants in the controversy are the Eno River Group, which opposes any public use of the land; the Eno River Association, which favors preserving the river and developing a park around it; and the state, which has drawn up plans to create a park and to obtain more land in the area.

Also, a task force appointed by the Orange County Board of Commissioners is studying the controversy.

The state now owns 1,260 acres of land in the river area, and last summer it designed three plans for a future park there.

The state became committed to establishing a park when, in 1971, it acquired its first parcel of Eno River land, Brad Davis,

a landscape architect for the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation, said recently.

And until last August the state was committed to extending the land it now owns, which runs from Guess Road and extends up river to Cate's Ford.

But now, Davis said, the state's first priority is to see that a protective plan is established for the Eno River.

"A lot of people are upset about having a state park and having to give up private land," Davis said recently.

In placing the park in the area, the state's main concern is to protect the land against development and erosion because the area has been classified "unique" by the regional planners for its plant life, which includes a variety of rare flowers, ferns and shrubs, according to a pamphlet issued by the Eno River Association.

Furthermore, the proximity of this area to Durham makes it even more unique. Davis said no other wild area in the state is so close to an urban area.

But B.B. Olive, chairperson of the Orange County task force, said that although the idea for a park has been around for some time, "the crunch came when we got to specifics about where to establish the park" and property owners realized that the park was fast becoming a reality.

The Eno River Group, led by S.G. Barbour of Hillsborough, was formed to oppose the state's park plans.

The Eno River Group is composed of land owners in the Eno River Valley, and persons opposed to the state's power to obtain land.

Barbour, who calls himself a "homeowner and a small farm owner along the river," said he considers it trespassing if a person plans, promotes or advocates "tennis courts, softball diamonds, horseback trails, picnic tables, parking lots or any other such usage" on another person's property, without that person's permission.

This constitutes "aggravated assault on that person for the worry, anxiety, loss of sleep, undigested meals and disruption of his life which such a threat to his home and property engenders," Barbour said.

He added that his group's "chief thing is that we don't want (our land) to be condemned or have the state exercise its power of eminent domain."

But the Eno River Association, which sponsors hikes and canoe trips along the river, wants to place a park or a series of parks in the area. But association member Margaret Nygard said, "We can only try to work with the professional opinions of the planners, and the regional plan design should be the one that's put into effect."

Nygard said the park will take many years to come into being and added, "You can count on the Eno River Association to continue to be active."

In August, following presentation of the state's park plans and the subsequent opposition raised to the plans, the county commissioner's task force was conceived by county board member Norm Gustavson.

The six-member task force has been given four months to determine whether the Eno River and its surroundings, or some significant segment of the river, should be preserved. If the answer is yes, the task force will have to decide how to maintain the area.

One problem the task force will have to discuss is not only how property is managed, but, when the time comes to sell it, what will

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## Public Knowledge

A new *Daily Tar Heel* weekly feature, "Public Knowledge," makes its debut today on page two. Written by news writers Vernon Loeb and Tim Pittman, the column contains brief glimpses of obscure and well-known personalities from the campus and community.



This is not an invasion from Mars. This is not a freak show. It is also not an initiation ritual into some obscure campus honorary. It is an experiment in art, conducted under the auspices of Design 42, in which a familiar object—in this case the human body—is transformed into an unfamiliar object by the use of color. Color is also used to attempt to control the emotions of observers. Instructor Cedric said the demonstration was half successful.