

Sirica hears taped pleas of sorrow

Mitchell, Haldeman, Ehrlichman sentences reduced

WASHINGTON (UPI)—U.S. District Court Judge John Sirica Tuesday reduced the prison sentences of Watergate conspirators John Mitchell, H. R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman after each confessed wrongdoings in the scandal and expressed "remorse" and "repentance" in taped pleas.

The chief Watergate judge reduced each sentence from 30 months to eight years in prison to one to four years. That makes Haldeman and Mitchell eligible for parole on June 20, 1978.

Ehrlichman voluntarily went to prison earlier than his colleagues and will complete his year later this month. But before he is eligible for early parole Judge Gerhard Gesell must reduce his concurrent 30-month sentence in the White House plumbers case. Otherwise he cannot be freed before June 27, 1979.

"This is my last ruling," Sirica said. He was not announcing his retirement, but merely an end to

his dealings in the Watergate case which began five years and one month ago when the original burglary crew entered his courtroom.

Now that all appeals are exhausted and no other cases are working their way up, Sirica has no further tasks in the scandal.

Sirica ruled after listening to impassioned pleas for immediate freedom for the three men who were once Richard Nixon's top aides.

Before he announced his reduction-of-sentence decision, Sirica made clear he would not accept the argument that the three men should be freed because Nixon had been pardoned by Gerald Ford.

"I cannot condone or excuse anyone just because Mr. Nixon got a pardon," Sirica said in response to the contention of Haldeman's lawyers that it had been unfair to prosecute and punish Nixon's lieutenants while sparing the President himself.

But Sirica was apparently moved by the willingness of all three men to confess their guilt and express sorrow publicly for the first time, and with their pleas that they are beset by grave financial and family problems.

In the recording, there was none of the hang-tough defiance Mitchell and Ehrlichman displayed during their 14-week trial.

Ehrlichman sounded politely confident in the recording. Mitchell was quiet, almost humble in tone.

Only Haldeman sounded the way he always had — his voice betraying little emotion — neither bravado nor humility.

But Haldeman, 50, once the most powerful man in the White House next to Nixon, seemed to make the most sweeping acknowledgment of wrongdoing and remorse.

"I have the deepest personal regret for everything I have done," he said. "I realize the

damage it has done to the nation and I will carry for the rest of my life the burden of knowing how greatly my acts contributed to this tragedy."

He repeated he had a "very real remorse... I am sorry for the damage to our government system... I have a very strong feeling of repentance."

Ehrlichman, 52, confined in a prison camp in Sanford, Ariz., also expressed remorse, saying he got into trouble because "I had an exaggerated sense of my obligation to do as I was bidden without exercising my independent judgment."

He told of how he began to rationalize that "things will get better" and eventually he saw himself in the White House "as the better of angels."

"Looking back, there were all kinds of red flags," he said, "and had I been wiser, I certainly would have checked out when I realized I was in

a moral dilemma."

But instead he said, "I made a mistake. I abdicated my moral judgments and turned them over to someone else."

"I am guilty in law and in fact and in these months in prison I've come to accept this reality."

Mitchell, 64, reported to be in ill health, said he was "truly sorry for and regretted those actions of mine that resulted in my conviction."

He said that since coming to prison his thoughts "have convinced me that my actions resulted in my conviction."

"I accept that outcome," he said. "My reflections since the trial have led me to considerable remorse and distress."

"I want to give this court the complete assurance that no set of circumstances... would ever again cause me to perform such acts."

Warmer

It'll be a little warmer today with a high in the low 70s and a low in the low 60s. There's no chance of rain through tonight.

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

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Hockey wins

The UNC women's field hockey team beat ECU (9-0) in a game late Tuesday afternoon. Further details in Thursday's DTH.



Carolina's own Charles Kuralt (right) and artist Bob Timberlake (center) were autographing copies of *The Bob Timberlake Collection* at the Intimate Bookshop in University

Mall. Kuralt, a UNC graduate and former DTH editor is famous for his portraits of small-town America in his *On the Road* series for CBS news. Staff photo by Sam Fulwood.

State to use RHA data in Southern Bell case

By AMY MCRRARY
Staff Writer

When the state Attorney General's office presents its case against Southern Bell Telephone Co.'s present installation costs and proposed fee increase, part of the supporting data will come from the UNC Residence Hall Association (RHA).

The Utilities Division staff of the Attorney General's office will present its arguments to the State Utilities Commission in December.

RHA now is circulating petitions expressing opposition to a proposed installation cost increase, which would raise the installation charge from \$20 to \$72.50.

The petitions may be signed at the Y-Court and Carolina Union between 10 a.m.

and 2 p.m. They also are available at South Campus lounges and at Granville Towers.

Other data to be used by the Utilities Division staff will come from a recent RHA survey.

Results of that survey showed that 94 per cent of the 569 respondents to the questionnaire did not believe the hook-up increase from \$7.50 last year (when the University owned the system) to the present \$20 was justified.

"We want to oppose the \$20 installation fee that is now charged to residence hall students because we feel it is unfair to them," RHA President Bain Jones said Tuesday. "The charges don't apply because the phones remain in the rooms all year round. It's just a matter of turning on switches, not total installation."

The RHA will also present a proposal through the Attorney General's office against Southern Bell's proposed installation fee increase from \$20 to \$72.50. "With so many phones remaining in rooms, we feel the increase is not justified," Jones said.

The proposed hook-up rate for students in residence halls would be \$49.55, according to Mike Carson, manager of Southern Bell in Chapel Hill.

"I'm really frustrated at this point," Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Donald Boulton said Tuesday. "I've had two meetings with Southern Bell trying to get a breakthrough, an answer. I'm trying to get the breakdown for installation costs."

Boulton said he believes installing a phone in a new home is different from hooking up a phone in a residence hall. He said University personnel involved with the telephone service when it was owned by UNC estimated that \$10 to \$12 would be a proper cost for installation and paperwork for hooking up residence hall phones.

Although nearly half of the respondents to the RHA survey, or 48.2 per cent, said Southern Bell took four to seven days to hook up their phones, 74.5 per cent said they had had no major problems with the phone

company this year.

"We believe that working with the Utilities Commission in this manner (through the Attorney General's office) will give the student a greater savings than the system with Southern Bell that State is working on," Director of University Housing James D. Condie said.

Condie was referring to a plan to include telephone installation charges in dormitory room rent. N.C. State University is considering the plan, which is the standard one offered by Southern Bell for hooking up dormitory phones.

Under the plan, N.C. State would be billed monthly for service at a rate of \$6.80. The charge would decrease during the summer months. A restoration charge of service every fall, which would be comparable to an installation charge, would be \$11.50.

Under the proposed rate increase, the restoration fee would be \$28.50, Carson said. He said this would be a savings of \$21 for the student.

"We proposed the plan to University officials here a couple of months ago, but they did not react favorably," Carson said. "We're working up a proposal for the University about the plan now and we think it will get more consideration now."

"Using a plan like State's here would take away the student's individual freedom," Jones said. "Some people just don't want a phone in their room."

However, if the proposal to lower installation costs is not approved, Jones said including costs in dorm rent would be the only alternative.

"I don't know what else we can do if the proposal in December doesn't go through. But if we did have to work out something like the plan at State, we'd be totally responsible to Southern Bell."

Boulton said the University would have to conduct a detailed study before it would accept a plan like State's. "In a way, we'd be getting back into the utility business and we just got out of it," Boulton said.

Conviction of Laketree planner's husband revealed

By CHIP PEARSALL
Staff Writer

Court documents revealed by Chapel Hill Mayor James C. Wallace Tuesday show that Dr. Eugene Rodin, husband of Laketree community developer Sylvia Rodin, was convicted in federal and New York state courts last year of second-degree grand larceny.

The conviction came after Rodin and two other men were charged with swindling \$1.233 million from 26 investors in a \$6.1 million real-estate venture.

Rodin's conviction was not mentioned while the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen deliberated whether to authorize his wife and Gertrude Groten, developers of the planned Laketree community, to build the project. On Sept. 14, the board defeated by a 5-to-4 vote six resolutions that would have allowed construction of the 387-acre community.

In a memorandum sent to the Board of Aldermen and the Planning Board Tuesday, Wallace said a copy of the federal court's final judgement and order was found in town

files after the Board of Aldermen's vote. "I am informed that (the court document's) existence came to the attention of the planning staff over a year ago," Wallace said in the memorandum.

He added that he has directed Town Manager Kurt Jenne to investigate why the document was not transmitted to the board.

Both civil and criminal actions were filed against Rodin. The federal court, ruling on the civil suit, ordered that Rodin repay money he received from investors.

The New York state court found Rodin guilty and sentenced him to less than the possible four-year jail term because he cooperated with Nassau County (N.Y.) district attorneys in prosecuting the other two men. Rodin was sentenced to five years' probation.

Rodin, Kenneth Boklan and Seymour Vogel overcharged investors by telling them that a particular piece of land cost a certain amount of money. The actual cost of the land was less, and the overcharged funds went into the pockets of the three men.

Buyers were also told that the men had a substantial financial interest in the land, when actually they did not.

Sylvia Rodin and Groten presented Laketree to the Board of Aldermen as a planned community that would be located south of Chapel Hill. After the plan was endorsed by the town planning staff and the

Planning Board, the aldermen rejected it. Opponents of the project said that Laketree would strain town water supplies and sewer and transportation facilities.

After the Sept. 14 board meeting, an attorney for Laketree said he "would not discount the possibility of investigating grounds for putting the matter in the courts."

Voter registration

Oct. 5 to 9

The following is a schedule for voter registration for Oct. 5 through 9. The deadline for registration for the Nov. 8 election is Monday, Oct. 10. Persons who will have lived at their current address for 30 days prior to the election are eligible to register.

CHAPEL HILL MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Day	Time
Thursday	noon to 8 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CARRBORO TOWN HALL

Wednesday	8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday	8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CHAPEL HILL POST OFFICE (downtown)

Sunday	2 to 6 p.m.
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Yale has more lenient drop policy

By MEREDITH CREWS
Staff Writer

Anyone who is upset about UNC's four-week drop policy can just go to Yale.

Of six universities contacted this week, Yale has the most liberal course-dropping policy. Yale allows students to drop courses with a 'W' grade until the last day of classes.

Yale also has a 10-day "course-shopping" period at the beginning of the semester for students to adjust schedules before submitting them to the registrar.

But UNC students may rejoice that they are not charged course-dropping fees, as are students at Duke, Princeton and the University of Virginia.

Duke students are charged \$1.50 for each course dropped or added after the first two weeks of class. UVA students must pay \$10 for each course added after the first two weeks of class, while Princeton students may be charged as much as \$20 for dropping courses at midterm.

Please turn to page 3.

CGC elections today

Elections to fill the vacant Campus Governing Council seats for Districts 1, 17 and 20 will be held today.

Ballot boxes for all three districts will be open between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and will be located in the Y-Court and the Carolina Union. An additional ballot box for District 1 will be at the law school.

Candidates for District 1, the graduate and professional student district, are Dean

Johnson, Paul Kade and Bruce Indall. Seeking the seat for District 17, the off-campus area northwest of the intersection of Franklin and Columbia streets, are Christopher Adams, David Madison and Trelawny Williams.

Candidates for District 20, the off-campus area south-west of the Franklin Street and Columbia Street intersection, are Tim Beane and Gary Homes.

Shumaker a real character, but did he inspire cartoon?

By NANCY OLIVER
Staff Writer

Editor's note: Journalism lecturer Jim Shumaker recently rose to comic strip stardom when Jeff MacNelly, former UNC student and Chapel Hill Weekly cartoonist, began publishing his new strip, "Shoe", about a colorful newspaperman named P. Martin Shoemaker. Although neither the cartoonist nor Shumaker has formally owned up to it, some say the similarities between P. Martin and Shumaker are too close to question. Unfortunately, the journalism professor is afraid of interviews, and, if the writer hadn't been taught interviewing techniques by the "Shoe" himself, she may not have gotten this one.

"I don't want to be interviewed. I'm trying to lead a private life."

"But, Mr. Shumaker! In class, you tell us not to let an interviewee give you no for an answer when you've been given an assignment. Well, I've been given this assignment."

"I know, but that's why I grew this moustache — so no one will recognize me." "But I thought you said we should not give our interviewees the feeling that we're going to nail 'em. I don't plan to nail you. I just want to do a story on you. My editors gave me this assignment and they won't take 'no' for an answer."

"Everytime I have an interview I always say something I know I shouldn't say. I know all that bull I give you in class, but this is different."

"I'm supposed to find out what you think about the MacNelly strip."

"I think it's great." "That's not enough." "Interview Walter Spearman instead. He's led a more interesting life than I have." "But my assignment was to cover you. And you always told us in class..." "Well, o.k."

In his four years at the UNC School of Journalism, Jim Shumaker has become as well-known to journalism students as the Spelling and Grammar Test and Dean Adams' Law and Ethics course.

With the new comic strip, "Shoe," Shumaker has become even more well-known. Cartoonist MacNelly, who knew Shumaker when both were at the Chapel Hill Weekly, (now the Chapel Hill Newspaper), denied that P. Martin Shoemaker was based on our own Shumaker when the strip first appeared this summer.

But in a recent column in the *Charlotte Observer*, Shumaker wrote that a J-school graduate student saw MacNelly on the "Today" show and he confirmed that Shumaker was the inspiration for P.M.

Shumaker himself says the similarities between himself and P. Martin are slight.

"Several people stopped me on the street to ask if I was really P. Martin Shoemaker and I denied it hotly. I have never in my life used a trash can for a desk — orange crates, yes; trash cans, no."

Although he says, "I still haven't decided what I'm going to do when I grow up," Shumaker has spent the last four years teaching and writing at the journalism

Please turn to page 4.