

Triangle council to expand study committee

By DAVID JARRETT
Staff Writer

The Triangle J Council of Governments is trying to break an impasse on the issue of monitoring potential low-level radioactive waste sites by expanding the committee that is preparing a resolution on the matter, a council spokesman said this week.

A resolution prepared in August was tabled last month after some area officials, including Chapel Hill Town Council member Bev Kawalec, said it supported too strongly the placement of a disposal site in the Triangle area.

In that resolution, the Hazardous Waste Management committee, encouraged "the geologic monitoring of several potential low-level radioactive waste disposal sites located in the Triassic (soil) area." The basin between Raleigh and Chapel Hill is

composed of Triassic soil, a clay considered desirable for a waste disposal site.

Mark Burnham, the council's senior regional planner, said, however, the emphasis of the committee's work was not to encourage the construction of a radioactive waste facility, but to support consideration of more than one site if studies were begun for a disposal site in North Carolina.

Government regulations require that a site be monitored for two years before a radioactive waste disposal facility is placed there, making it wise to have an alternate site in case one site is rejected, he said.

According to the memorandum accompanying the original resolution, the amount of low-level radioactive waste produced in Research Triangle Park and by area hospitals, including N.C. Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, makes the issue one of concern for local governments.

The controversy arose when the resolution's opponents believed the committee was claiming that most of the state's radioactive waste was produced by these research and medical facilities, Burnham said. Almost 90 percent of the waste is produced by nuclear power plants, according to a council report.

"The (resolution) acquired a statewide connotation," he said, explaining that it was intended only to express the interests of the Triangle area.

The committee expansion is designed to provide the committee with more expertise in anticipation of preparing a new resolution of statewide significance, Burnham said.

State Rep. Joe Hackney, D-Orange, said he was pleased with the council's activity on the issue. "Their recommendations will carry considerable weight because they are responsible local officials," he said.

Searchers recover body of Wesleyan cheerleader

WELDON (AP) — The nude body of a young Rocky Mount woman, one of three cheerleaders abducted from North Carolina Wesleyan College Wednesday night, was pulled from a gravel pit near this northeastern North Carolina town Thursday.

A Roanoke Rapids man identified by police as 23-year-old Kermit Smith was arrested at gunpoint while leaving the scene and later charged with first-degree murder, rape and robbery.

Deputies said the woman had been beaten over the head with a blunt object and her feet were jammed into the holes in a cinderblock before she was dumped into the water.

She was identified as Whelette Collins, 20, of Rocky Mount.

The Roanoke Valley rescue squad dragged the pond for her body after Halifax County Sheriff W.C. Bailey was told where to find it.

Bailey said Collins and two friends, Dawn Killen, 19, of Somerdale, N.J., and Yolanda Marie Woods, 19, of Baltimore, Md., were abducted at gunpoint from the grounds of the college at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

The three cheerleaders had left the gymnasium after a junior varsity

basketball game and before the varsity game against Methodist College was to start, college officials said.

Bailey said Killen and Woods were forced into the trunk of a white Chevrolet Camaro and Collins rode with the kidnapper.

The three were taken to a secluded gravel pond adjacent to the Becker Industrial Park.

When the young women were released from the trunk, they fought their abductor with a tire iron and escaped, Bailey said.

Collins, separated from her companions from the beginning, remained behind.

Killen and Woods made their way northwest along the Roanoke River to Interstate 95, where they notified a highway patrolman of the abduction.

Bailey took Killen back to the area along a narrow dirt path and as they approached, the Camaro was leaving the scene.

Bailey blocked the path with his patrol car, drew his gun and arrested the driver of the Camaro.

Smith was being held at the Halifax County Jail without bond.

Bailey said \$7 was reported taken from the cheerleaders.

company

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package includes what the \$800 package offers and an eight-piece setting of crystal, silverware and china.

One student, a junior from Newton, signed the contract for the \$1,000 package. A \$250 finance charge, \$64 in shipping and handling, a \$40 on-the-spot deposit brought the package price to \$1,300. The student later cancelled the contract because she said it was too expensive.

Bernholz said the company used a high-pressure sales pitch in which it discouraged students from calling their parents before signing and told them if they did not sign immediately, they could never take advantage of the offer again. She criticized the company's ability to fulfill its promises. At least one student had been told that the pattern she ordered was no longer available, Bernholz said.

The sales representative denied the criticisms. She said AMA was 25 years old, recognized by the Better Business Bureau and that the company's products were of the highest quality. She also said the company had not received any complaints regarding the free trip in the two years she had been employed there.

Wilmington

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"As to these issues, the facts are undisputed," the court said.

"Hall was a crucial witness for the state and his credibility was the most basic issue in the case," it added.

Had the jury known of the inconsistencies between Hall's two statements, the court said, he "may well have been disbelieved in the entirety of his testimony."

"Indeed, the conclusion is inescapable that Hall perjured himself..." it added.

The appeals court also criticized the trial court's refusal to let defense attorneys have a copy of Hall's psychiatric report.

"If the jury had known that Hall was a borderline defective, it might well have concluded that he lacked the ability to recall accurately events, about which he testified with such exquisite detail, that had occurred at least 1 1/2 years earlier," the court said.

As to the favorable treatment extended to Hall, the court said one of the most important factors affecting credibility was the presence of any incentive on the part of the witness to favor one particular side.

"A defendant in a criminal case must be allowed to impeach the credibility of a prosecution witness by cross-examination," it added.

In addition to Chavis, Wright and Turner, the defendants in the case were Connie Tindall, Willie E. Vereen, Marvin Patrick,

At least one student remained convinced that the products were of high quality. "As far as I'm concerned they're good products and that's the chance I have to take," the Morehead City junior said. "I'm not even concerned about the trip. I doubt if I even go on it."

Still, others, like a sophomore student from Winston-Salem, said they regretted their initial involvement. "I should have told them to forget it in the first place," the student said.

Meanwhile, Jody Harpster, associate director of University Housing, said that most students were unaware that AMA's solicitation in residence halls was illegal. Under the University Solicitation Policy, companies such as Multi-Industries cannot sell door-to-door in a residence hall. However, Harpster said, there was nothing the housing department could do in advance to stop the company from soliciting dorm residents.

Bernholz warned students that it is both expensive and risky to deal with a company long distance. She said it would benefit students more to borrow money from the bank and buy their own china later.

Wayne Moore, Reginald Epps, Jerry Jacobs and James McKay.

The nine men were convicted of charges stemming from the firebombing of Mike's Grocery, a white-owned store in a black neighborhood of Wilmington. Turner was convicted on a lesser charge of being an accessory.

The charges on which the men were convicted were malicious burning and conspiracy to shoot at police officers and firefighters who answered the alarm.

They were sentenced to a total of 282 years in prison, with Chavis getting the stiffest sentence, 25 to 29 years.

Chavis was a field worker for the Commission for Racial Justice at the time and had been sent to Wilmington to try to quell racial disturbances in the city.

The case was appealed through the state court system and the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review it.

The Commission for Racial Justice was among civil rights groups that backed the 10 and continued over the years to push for a reversal of their convictions.

A group of 55 congressmen filed a brief with the appeals court earlier this year, charging that the 1972 trial in Superior Court at Burgaw was conducted in a racially charged atmosphere and was replete with prejudice and error.

News In Brief

Fire sweeps through New York inn

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — An electrical fire flashed through the conference rooms of a suburban inn Thursday, killing 26 people and injuring 40. Authorities said the area where the fire spread was not equipped with sprinklers.

"It appears it flashed up suddenly and these people didn't have a chance," said Purchase Fire Chief Robert Makowski at the scene of the fire at Stouffer's Inn of Westchester, about 20 miles north of mid-Manhattan.

Westchester County Executive Alfred DeBello said there was computer equipment in the room where the fire started, but he said there was no foundation to reports that the fire may have been caused by an explosion of that equipment.

FBI guidelines may OK informant crime

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti Thursday issued guidelines for the FBI that in some cases would allow informants to participate in crimes.

The guidelines say that an FBI informant in a criminal case shall be warned that his relationship with the bureau will not protect him from prosecution for federal, state or local crimes except in specified instances.

According to the guidelines, the instances include situations where the criminal conduct "is necessary to obtain information or evidence ... to establish and maintain credibility or cover with persons associated with criminal activity under investigation, or to prevent or avoid the danger of death or serious bodily injury" and where these needs outweigh the seriousness of the crime involved.

Polish committee may call for Soviet help

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — A member of the Polish Central Committee raised for the first time Thursday the possibility of a Polish request for Soviet assistance in the Polish crisis. But he said it would be imprudent to try to solve the country's problems with the help of military forces.

Josef Klasa, head of the Central Committee department for relations with the media, told a news conference that the Polish leadership would ask for Soviet assistance if authority "slipped into the hands of anti-socialism elements." He said a call for assistance would be made only if "socialism became endangered."

Syria agrees to withdraw

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — A Saudi Arabian mediator reported Thursday that Syria had agreed to gradually withdraw its troops and tanks along the border with Jordan, according to the Saudi news agency. This was seen as defusing at least temporarily the threat of a second war in the Middle East.

The second deputy premier of Saudi Arabia, Prince Abdullah bin Abdul-Aziz, made the statement after returning to Riyadh, the Saudi capital, at the end of a four-day mediation shuttle between Damascus and Amman, the Saudi news agency said.

Syrian Information Minister Ahmed Iskandar Ahmed made comments that observers took to mean Syria had achieved its objectives and there would be no need to maintain the military buildup.

Iskandar told reporters in Damascus, "We are convinced now that the Jordanian regime will seriously take into consideration what Syria wants. This could be what we sought to achieve."

Although details of the reported agreement were not revealed, Syrian observers said they expected President Hafez Assad to issue orders soon to withdraw Syrian troops gradually from the border area.

A spokesman for Hussein's government in Amman said Jordan had

not been informed officially of the reported withdrawal pledge.

Jordanian Information Minister Adnan Abu Audeh was quoted by the official Jordanian news agency as saying: "Our confidence is in what we see on the ground and in facts. We will judge this report when we see the last Syrian soldier ... withdrawn."

Diplomatic sources in Amman said Jordanian officials believed the tension between the two countries had eased in the past few days, mainly because they thought if the Syrians had wanted war they would have attacked by now.

Syrian officials said earlier a "follow-up mediation" by Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Kleibi, due in Damascus Saturday, would complement Abdullah's peace-making shuttle.

Kleibi's mission was seen by observers as trying to work out details of reciprocal withdrawals from both sides of the 180-mile border.

Syria, which sympathizes with Iran in its war with Iraq, began the buildup Nov. 20. It sent 50,000 troops and 1,200 tanks to the border and Jordanian King Hussein, who supports Iraq in the war, moved 30,000 men to positions just six miles south of the Syrian deployment.

For the record

In Thursday's story, "Yack" distribution late, *The Daily Tar Heel* said graduate students who wanted a friend to pick up their yearbooks could leave their student ID or some type of written authorization with the other person. The person who picks up the book, however, cannot use a written permission, but must present some kind of valid identification.

fee

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Council members also said a campaign to inform students on where the money was going and on what other universities with comparable programs charged should be started.

The committee's recommendations will be submitted to Vice Chancellor of

Business and Finance John Temple. Temple will review the budget projections and make his recommendations to Chancellor Christopher C. Fordham III. The figures must then be approved by the UNC Board of Trustees and the UNC Board of Governors.

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