

Coldlocks

The weather turns colder today with a high near 40. The low will be near 20. There is a 20 percent chance of rain today and 10 percent tonight.

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Election

Confused by the myriad elections and the numerous candidates running? See page 3 for an update of several of the campus races.

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UNC opposes proposed hike in phone rates

By TED AVERY
Staff Writer

In testimony before the N.C. Utilities Commission Tuesday and Wednesday, the UNC utilities director said Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co.'s request to increase its rates by 128 percent was unjustified.

Utilities Director Robert Peake told the commission that the basis for Southern Bell's proposal of a 239 percent increase in the charge for central office work was exorbitant and inconsistent with comparable services.

RHA President Peggy Leight also will go before the commission next week with petitions signed by 4,000 students protesting Southern Bell's proposed increases.

"The petitions are a way to say that there are students who are upset (about the proposals)," Leight said.

Similar petitions with 5,000 signatures were presented to the utilities commission when Southern Bell proposed an increase in 1979. The company's initial request was denied, but later a request for 56 percent of the original amount was approved.

Southern Bell requested that charges for central office work — wiring work involved in phone connections — be increased from \$6.85 to \$23.25. In addition, it recommended that the current rate of \$11.35 for primary service be raised to \$16.85 and the current rebate of \$3.00 be increased to \$5.35. That would bring the proposed total bill for installation to \$34.75.

Peake contended that central office work was essentially the same as reconnecting a phone which previously had been in operation (a restoration fee), and therefore neither the \$6.85 charge nor the \$23.25 proposed fee were acceptable. He suggested \$3.85 which is the amount now charged for restoration. He agreed with the \$16.85 charge for primary service and the \$5.35 rebate, which would bring his proposed total to \$15.35.

In an interview Thursday, Peake said the University should receive special consideration since the same number assignments were given to the same phones year after year.

Because of this situation, "wiring work within the central office is somewhat less than it would be if (Southern Bell) were making different number assignments and having to make wiring changes required for that," Peake said.

He said the commission would not decide on the proposed increases until March. "The commission will likely approve something less than what Southern Bell asked for," Peake said.

The commission's public staff, which advises the commission, has recommended that the primary service charge be raised to \$13.00 and the central office charge to \$7.90. Their recommended charge is \$15.55, after subtracting a \$3.35 rebate for on-campus students.

In September, Student Government and RHA representatives toured Southern Bell's Chapel Hill offices so that the company's representative could better explain its reasons for the proposed rate hike. The student representatives, however, said after the tour they still were not convinced that the rate hike was justified, and would continue protesting it.



Man against machine

D.H. Scott Staff

'Gang of Four' trial reveals change in China

By DAVID JARRETT
Staff Writer

The trial and conviction of China's "Gang of Four" — including Mao Tse-tung's widow — reveals that a fundamental change has taken place in Chinese politics in recent years, UNC political science professor Hsi-Cheng Chi said Wednesday.

"The trial of the 'Gang of Four' is itself a very clear indication that after 30 years of silence the Chinese people said they were fed up with the kind of government they lived under until three years ago," Chi said.

Mao Tse-tung, ruler of China from 1949 until his death in 1976, was an ideological purist, Chi said. "Mao tended to regard the greatest threat to the Chinese revolutionary movement as the revival of capitalism."

But the current Chinese leader, communist

party Vice Chairman Deng Xiaoping, insisted for many years that economic development should take precedence over ideology, he said. "The government has now been paying much greater attention to the quality of life."

"Future leaders would find it very difficult to go back to the old way of ruling," he said.

Mao's widow, Jiang Qing, and former Vice Premier Zhang Chunqiao were sentenced to death Saturday in the celebrated "Gang of Four" trial but will be given sentences ranging from 16 years to life.

All faced possible death sentences on charges of frame-ups, persecutions and armed rebellion plots.

Chi said that two-year suspended death sentences, like those given in this case, have been a part of Chinese tradition for centuries. The force of Jiang's convictions and the nature of the repentance expected of

her will make her death nearly certain, he said. "In the Chinese culture, repentance means you have to make an explicit demonstration that you acknowledged that you did the wrong thing."

However, the sentences were not really given for the usual — and reported — reason of allowing the guilty parties to repent but because of political necessity, he said.

A fear that "ultra-radicals" still in power on the local and provincial levels might be galvanized into action by an immediate death sentence is one reason for the two-year suspended sentence, Chi said.

Present Chinese leadership also fears that young people with scientific and technical knowledge who were educated during the Cultural Revolution might engage in acts of sabotage. "They don't have a lot of power, but you can't afford to ignore them," Chi

said. He added that there was also an ideological problem with an immediate death sentence. "To kill Jiang Qing is a direct slap in the face of Mao."

But ideological differences between Mao and Deng were not at the heart of the trial. "You cannot say the 'Gang of Four' trial is a statement about (ideological) spiritualism and materialism," Chi said.

Instead, the force with which the "Gang of Four" insisted upon policies "clearly radical and clearly faithful to the Maoist line" created a bitter power struggle, he said. This struggle for power led to the trial.

Chi rated the chances of Deng's government's survival as "fair." The survival of his government will depend on the

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Fido will forfeit his freedom on the first of February ... Chapel Hill dog owners object to the new ordinance

Dog owners plan to ignore leash law

By ANNE PROSSER
Staff Writer

Many Chapel Hill dog owners do not plan to abide by the town's new mandatory leash ordinance scheduled to go into effect Sunday.

"I'm not going to put my dog on a leash, except for when we're up on Franklin Street," one resident said. "I did that before anyway, though."

"There will be two city animal patrol officers enforcing the new ordinance," said Jean Benson, one of the two officers. "No new staff has been hired," she said.

"We'll probably start out by just warning a lot of people in the beginning, unless they've had several previous offenses under the old ordinance," Benson said.

Under the old ordinance, residents had to have their dogs on a leash in the downtown Franklin Street area, but

could use voice restraint to control their dogs in other areas of the town. Voice restraint was defined as having the dog near its owner and being able to control the animal and make it return using voice commands, Benson explained.

There will be no element of voice control included in the new ordinance, passed by the Town Council in early December. A leash now must be used in all areas of town, except on the dog owner's own property.

"I think it is pretty stupid to have your dog out on a street such as Gingham or Laurel Hill Road and not be able to let it run around," one resident said. "I never take him up on Franklin Street, though, without a leash."

Benson and her co-worker said they did not plan to patrol on the grounds of

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Saturday the deadline to list taxable property

By DIANE LUPTON
Staff Writer

Although the deadline for listing personal property to calculate payment for Orange County taxes is Saturday, most students interviewed said they had not listed their taxable property and did not plan to. "I think my parents are taking care of it," one said.

All residents of Orange County who own personal property — which includes such items as cars, clothing, bicycles, furniture and jewelry — are required to list possessions at the county tax office in Carr Mill Mall during January, county Tax Supervisor Bill Laws said. After everyone has listed, county officials will determine the tax rate.

Laws said freshmen, transfer students or other first-year residents of the county would not have to list taxes for this year but would be required to list next year, if

they lived here most of the year. Although students may claim residency somewhere else, they are required to list in the county where they live most of the year, Laws said.

According to one tax lister, several students have listed their taxes already. "Students knew more about it this year," said Nancy Lloyd at the Carr Mill tax office. "I've had several come in and list."

Lloyd added that some students fail to list because they think their parents claim many of their personal belongings in their listings. Laws said this confusion was always a problem for his office.

Many students list their taxes to avoid problems if their voter registration ever is challenged, Lloyd said.

There are penalties for those who fail to list or who list late, Laws said. A ten percent fine is assessed on total personal property for persons not listing. Laws

said the tax office had checked both motor vehicle registration and apartment complex rosters in past years to find persons not listing and probably would follow that procedure again.

A property tax is assessed directly on goods such as cars, golf clubs, unit air-conditioners, chain saws and other types of tools and equipment. For clothes, furniture and other items, persons can estimate values or list a value calculated as six times their monthly rent.

Persons who are "maintaining a household," which could include student apartment dwellers, have a \$300 exemption on personal property values, Laws said. He said he did not think dorm residents or persons renting rooms would qualify as householders.

Students wishing to list their taxes can go to Suite 215 in Carr Mill Mall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and from 9 to noon Saturday.

Winston women get special 'treatment'

By TERESA CURRY
Staff Writer

"Hey, what's going on?" was the repeated cry heard Wednesday night from 24 freshmen girls in Winston dorm as blindfolds were yanked over their eyes.

"Quiet everybody," yelled one of the captors. "You have just been taken hostage. Line up single file. Hold on to the person in front of you and follow me."

However, the hostages didn't readily comply with their captors. They noisily asked one another, "Where are we? What are we doing? Who's behind all this?"

After being led through a maze of stairways and hallways, the girls were informed they would be freed as long as they agreed to certain demands. The demands: obtain a signature from one of the men on the first, second or fourth floor of Winston for the signs attached to their backs which said, "Help me, I'm a freshman."

The entire mock hostage situation was carried out all in fun by the girls of third floor Winston around 10:30. Following the "kidnapping," the upperclassmen provided refreshments. Also, they decorated the study room with streamers, posters and candles for a "Welcome Twenty-Four Freshmen Hostage" party.

The freshmen thought they were attending a mandatory floor meeting that

had been called by their R.A., Linda Drury.

"We wanted to make it a mandatory floor meeting so no one would end up feeling left out. Also, we didn't want anyone to think this was just another dull dorm meeting," Drury explained.

Lindsay Holmes, president of Winston dorm, explained that she, along with third-floor sophomores Carolyn Fellows and Tracy Wiren, came up with the idea for taking the girls hostage.

"We are not trying to poke fun at the Iranian hostages," Holmes said. "We just wanted the girls to know they are now free of the stigma of being first semester freshmen."

"We had the trust walk to let the freshmen know the upperclassmen are there anytime they need us," Holmes added.

"Last year we had secret pals with the girls on opposite ends of the halls so we could get to know one another. This year we didn't, so we figured taking the freshmen hostage would be a way for us to get to know each other."

Drury was pleased with Holmes, Fellows and Wiren for coming up with the idea on their own.

"They approached me with the idea. I wasn't the one who planned it. The idea was good because it's gotten the girls more involved."

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Winston dorm freshmen are captured by sophomore residents ... one male signature was all that was needed for freedom

D.H. Scott Staff