

New complexes may ease housing crunch

By TRACY ADAMS
Staff Writer

A recent surge of applications for and approval of building permits in Chapel Hill and Carrboro may help the community ease its housing crunch.

Although populations in the two towns and on the UNC campus have increased during the past decade, only one new major apartment complex has been built in that time. Tar Heel Manor Apartments in Carrboro along N.C. 54 Bypass was the last complex to be built, according to town planners.

New multiple-housing complexes are being planned by local developers. The Chapel Hill Planning Board has approved construction of 697 housing units, according to Mike Jennings, Chapel Hill planning director.

The Carrboro Planning Board has approved construction of 436 units, according to Greg Shepard, a Carrboro zoning administrator. Of the 1,133 approved housing units, only 434 will be apartments. The remaining units will be either condominiums or townhouses.

"Since most of the new multiple-housing units will be individually owned, it won't help immediately the apart-

ment situation in Chapel Hill, but it can help in a secondary way," Jennings said.

"I think there is a demand for this kind of housing in the area," Jennings said. There are people who live in apartments now but who would like to own their home and can't afford to buy a conventional house. If these people move into the new housing, it should ease the apartment crunch, he said.

Jennings said he felt the sudden surge to build in Chapel Hill was because of the lower interest rates.

"Developers are more optimistic about the economy," he said. "Investors look at their ability to make a profit, and with the decreasing rates they feel they can do this in Chapel Hill," Jennings said.

In addition to the increase in construction, there has been a move to convert local apartment complexes into condominiums. Hamlin Park, University Gardens and sections of Old Well Apartments have been converted, he said.

Jennings said he thought the conversion to condominiums would continue as long as interest rates fall. Parents of college-aged children also see it as a good investment, he said.

The 699 housing units designated as condominiums and town houses vary in size, location and price. However, most of the complexes are located on the major thoroughfares and cost between \$40,000 and \$70,000, Jennings said.

The condominiums at Summerfield Crossing will cost about \$60,000 to \$65,000, said Felda Hightower of Plaza Associates, developers of the project.

"We've already sold 13 units, and we're just about to start construction. People know what a good price it is for what they're getting," he said. The Summerfield Crossing units come with a range, dishwasher, disposal and microwave oven. The buyer also receives his choice of kitchen cabinets, wallpaper and carpet.

It could take up to five years for all the approved housing to be constructed, Jennings said.

"It's really hard to say how long it will take. It depends on how eager people are to buy the housing units. The developers can only build them as soon as the completed ones are sold," Jennings said.

A new student dormitory, to be completed by fall 1985, according to acting University Housing Director Jody Harpster, will provide additional housing opportunities for students.

Bomb threat makes high school students evacuate

By TOM CONLON
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill High School received its second bomb threat in eight days at 1:09 p.m. Wednesday.

On Monday, a student found a device believed to be a bomb in the school's Cultural Arts Building, but no threat had been called in. The first bomb threat was received by the school on April 20.

Miriam Faucette, CHHS treasurer, said that when she answered the phone Wednesday, an unidentified male told her that a bomb was in the school and would explode in one hour.

"I was scared," Faucette said. "In fact, I'm still scared. I notified administrators, and then the school went about the proper bomb threat procedures," she said.

Students were told to evacuate the building while Chapel Hill police thoroughly searched for the supposed bomb. At 2:51 p.m., students returned to classes, said Thomas Marcy, principal of CHHS.

A rumor that the bomb threats are due to the 6-6-5 course load proposal currently before the Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board was denied by Marcy.

"We do not say in any way, shape or form that any of the threats are related to the 6-6-5 proposal," he said. "We

give our students more credit than that."

The 6-6-5 proposal would require students to take six courses in their sophomore and junior years and five courses in their senior, Marcy said. The current system is 6-5-4.

There is no definite evidence whether the three bomb incidents are related, said Maj. Arnold Gold of the Chapel Hill Police Department.

"We do have some additional information today since the events on Monday and last Wednesday," Gold said. "We have no suspect in mind, but we hope to make an arrest soon. This would probably be a felony offense."

Marcy said that the school day was otherwise normal and that students handled the bomb threats with poise and cooperation.

Some Chapel Hill High School students were amused at the bomb threats. "I laughed when I heard about it," said CHHS junior Heather Hunt. "I didn't take it seriously. It was great to have an hour off."

"Someone must really hate the school," said CHHS senior Claudia Caton. "But I don't think it's due to the 6-6-5."

"We spent an hour out on the law just enjoying the bomb break," said CHHS senior Susan Hamby. "I didn't mind it at all."

Five speakers offer advice to seniors at Last Lecture Series Tuesday

By BETH WALTERS
Staff Writer

About 150 people listened to five speakers offer words of wisdom at one of the final senior gatherings before graduation Tuesday night.

The annual Last Lecture Series, which was sponsored by the 1983 Senior Class, was held in Carroll Hall.

The purpose of the program was to allow seniors one last chance to hear some of the people they had met and grown to admire during their years at UNC, said Senior Class President Scott Phillips.

"Parting is hard and leaves you with nothing to say," said English professor Ted Leinbaugh. Quoting from Beowulf and other literature, he advised students to be willing to sacrifice in order to achieve

wisdom. He also told the seniors to make use of everything they had learned at the University.

"Smiling may you go and smiling may you come again," Leinbaugh said.

Dorothy Bernholz, director of the Student Legal Services, said that her job at SLS had given her insight into the problems of college students. Competition is so much greater in the outside world now than when she was in college that a degree does not seem to mean as much these days, Bernholz said. She added that this change was not a factor that could be controlled, but must be met with determination.

Graduates should always reach a little further than they think they are capable of achieving, Bernholz said. Failures will happen, but the experience will be valuable, she said.

Citing raised expectations as the number one problem not only on campus but in the world in general, Bernholz advised students to be realistic in their goals. Most importantly, students should be upright and honest with people, she said.

Laurence Thomas, a UNC associate professor of philosophy, told the audience to "be great rather than spending your time telling others you are great." While one is not able to choose greatness, he said, they can be careful not to stand in its way.

Graduating students are at a crossroad in their life and must decide now which way to go, Thomas said.

Thomas Downing, pastor of the University Baptist Church, said he has spent the last six years in Chapel Hill. During this time, he has had a chance to get to know

many of the attitudes of the students, he said.

Downing challenged students to decide which path they would like to follow. Whatever decisions are made, the individual will have to abide by them for the rest of his life, he said.

"Nobody can strip character away from you," Downing said.

Julia Wood, associate professor of speech communication, ended the lecture on a serious note concerning relationships. Daily activities are more subtle but no less important than the bigger events in the long run, Wood said.

"Apathy is one of the greatest threats to relationships," she said. Students should resist the urge to let staleness invade their friendships, she added.

For the record

In the article "Four stores offer music at a lower price," (DTH, April 27), *The Daily Tar Heel* incorrectly identified quotes from the part-owner of Richard's Rent-A-Record as Richard Levin. Richard

Levin is part-owner but Bill Lawler was actually quoted in the story. The price of a membership at Richard's costs \$20 a year, not \$25 as reported. The DTH regrets the errors.

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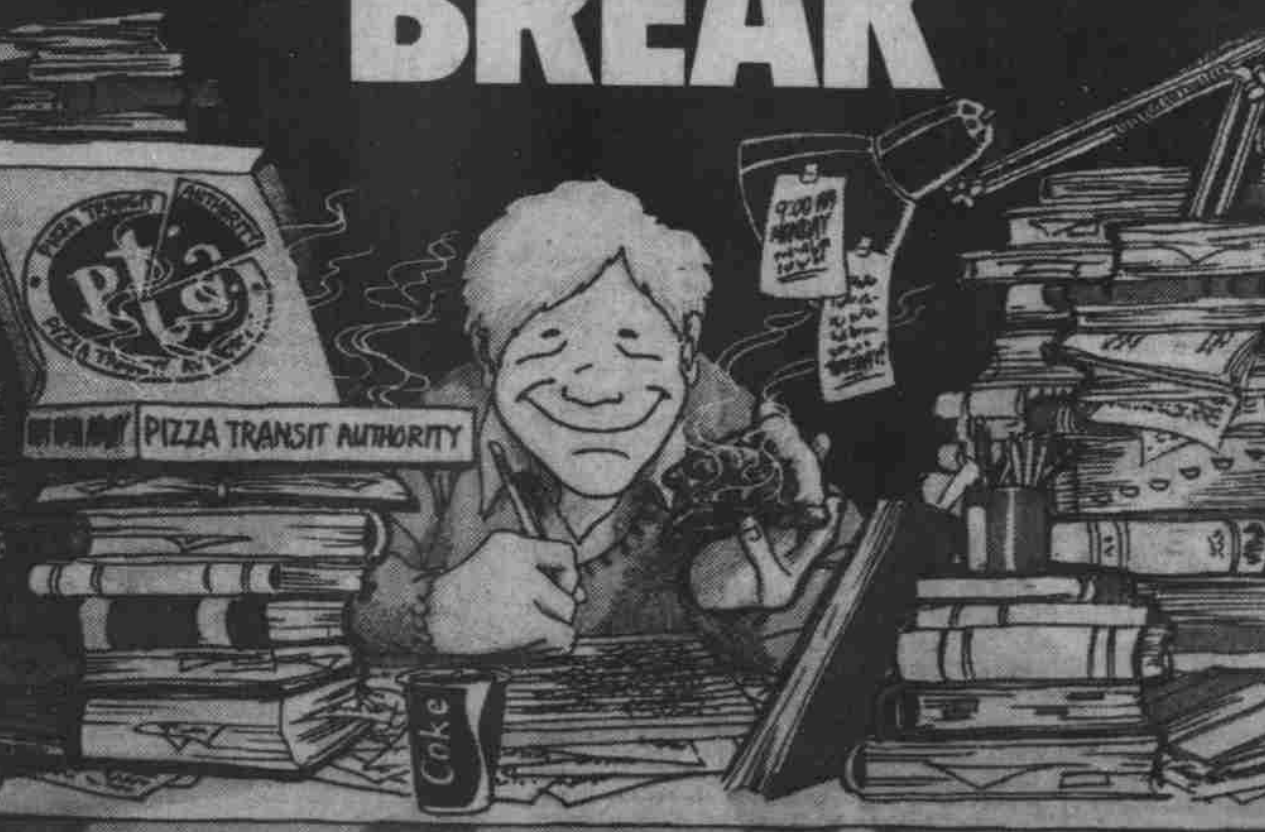
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