

Students get less time for incompletes, absences

By DICK ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Procrastinators at the University beware. Changes in the grading system have reduced the amount of time a student has to remove temporary marks of AB (absent from final examination) and IN (incomplete), said Donald Jicha, associate dean of the General College.

Under the new rule for an AB, a student now must take the final exam by the close of the following regular semester, Jicha said. Failure to do so results in failing the course. With the IN, a student now has eight weeks at the beginning of the following semester to complete the course requirement, or suffer the same consequences, he said.

Previously, students were allowed a full year to complete either requirement.

The changes resulted from a recommendation by the Educational Policy Committee designed to review the quality of undergraduate education, Jicha said. The changes were passed by the Faculty Council last spring.

The previous policy had been in effect "for as long as I can remember," Jicha said. "I think it has always been too long a period of time."

"There is a tendency for a student to procrastinate and simply give up on clearing an AB or IN. This will put the fire under those students," he said.

"There's no reason why, under normal circumstances, a student should have a year to remove an AB. The same is true of an IN," Jicha said. "If only a very small

amount of work is involved, it shouldn't take very long to complete."

Another change is that professors may now give a student an F/AB if there is no way the student can pass the course regardless of his performance on the final exam. "To give a (failing) student an AB and expect him to come back to the instructor and take the exam is ridiculous," Jicha said. To give the same student a chance to repeat the course is unfair to others, he said.

Jicha stressed the fact that exceptions would continue to be made for students unable to complete their requirements for legitimate reasons within the allotted time. "All students will have a fair chance at removing these temporary grades," Jicha said. "There's no way a student can be nailed on this one if it's not their fault."

birds

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regulating whenever they are annoyed. Since the bird was injured, it was annoyed quite often.

Perhaps Gerard's proudest accomplishment has been raising a great horned owl. Since the owl was raised with no mother for a role model, he must now be taught how to survive in the wild at UNC-Charlotte facilities.

Currently, Gerard and another wildlife volunteer Pat Sanford, are organizing a network of volunteers. The Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Network, and offering a series of training workshops, which will last seven weeks.

"Wild life animal care is a new science and a booming business," Gerard says.

Not just anyone can care for wild animals. Volunteers must have a state and a federal license Gerard says. There are strict rules, annual reports and periodical checks.

Gerard is also a member of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Council in California and the Carolina Raptor

Center at UNC-Charlotte.

In cooperation with the Raptor Center, Gerard bands the leg of each bird she cares for before releasing it. Anyone who finds a bird with a band is instructed to contact the center. Using these bands helps evaluate the success of the program.

Although most animals recover and are released into their natural habitats, success is not guaranteed. Gerard once cared for a red-tailed hawk which had been hit by a car and was paralyzed in both legs. The hawk's health did not improve, and he soon developed pneumonia. The bird had to be put to sleep.

Gerard is a true volunteer, compensated only for the use of her car. Dr. Donald Heagren at the Cornwallis Road Animal Hospital in Durham volunteers his time as veterinarian to the wild animals Gerard says.

"The hardest part is having the money to do this," Gerard says.

For the record

The article "Smith wins his 500th; Heels take Invitational" (DTH, Dec. 5), should have read, "While Stanford was disregarding North Carolina's pressure defense, junior guard Buzz Peterson was

5 for 6 from the perimeter, hitting nothing but net and keying 63 percent first-half shooting for the Tar Heels." The Daily Tar Heels regrets the error.

Forums to be held about R.A. positions

This week each residence area will host an RA Information Forum for those students interested in learning more about the Resident Assistant position and the selection process. RA applications and information packets are currently available in the Area Offices, at the Housing Department in Carr Building and at the information forums.

The following times have been established for each residence area:

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|--------|--------------|
| Scott | Parker Parlor | 8 p.m. | Tues. Dec. 6 |
| Olde Campus | Mangum Multi Purpose | 7 p.m. | Wed. Dec. 7 |
| E'haus | Green Room | 8 p.m. | Tues. Dec. 6 |
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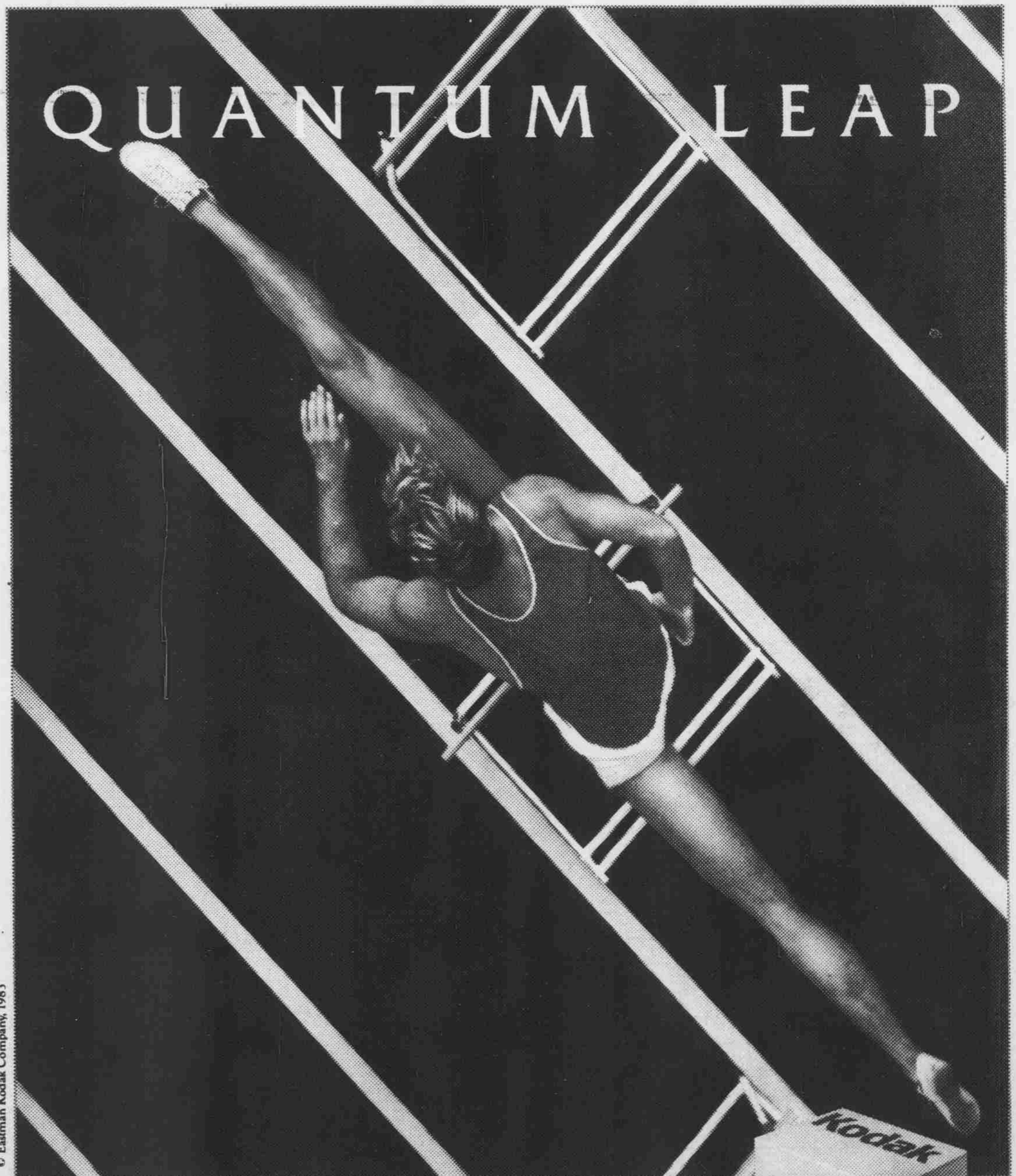
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