

50% chance of rain
High in low 80s
Tuesday: Mostly sunny
High in low 80s

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RHA seeks end to Styrofoam use in dining service

By JASON KELLY
Staff Writer

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) has presented a resolution to Carolina Dining Services requesting an end to the use of Styrofoam and advocating the use of biodegradable packaging, such as paper products.

"We believe that most students are concerned with the environment, and we have student backing on this issue," said Liz Jackson, RHA president. The anti-Styrofoam resolution — passed unanimously by the RHA Thursday — said Styrofoam and plastics were hazardous to the environment because they were not biodegradable and therefore should not be used by Carolina Dining Services.

Styrofoam and other plastics make up a large part of Carolina Dining Services' packaging and serving plates, Jackson said. Take-out meals, salads, yogurt and hot beverages are all served in Styrofoam containers.

Carolina Dining Services is run by the Marriott Corporation, which uses

Styrofoam packaging nationwide.

Jackson said the resolution was not meant to be antagonistic, but to express concern about the environment and to do something about it.

Chris Derby, manager of the Carolina Dining Services division of Marriott, said Marriott had realized the problem of non-biodegradable waste and has been working on it nationwide.

"Marriott as a whole is moving toward biodegradable products," he said. "Over the summer we replaced all of the Styrofoam cold (beverage) cups with paper ones. It's a question of saving forests or reducing landfills."

Marriott is now searching for a biodegradable cup that could be used to serve hot beverages in. "There is not an effective hot cup on the market, not one that satisfies our safety requirements," Derby said. "We need a cup that you could hold walking from Lenoir to class and not get burned."

Erica Kurz, a chairwoman of the Campus Y's Student Environmental Action Committee (SEAC), said the

group stood behind the RHA resolution. "The proposal is a good first step, but the problem is not so simple. With paper products, there is the problem of deforestation. Also, paper cups covered with wax (like the ones used by Marriott) cannot be recycled. Disposable products as a whole cause problems."

Jackson said she thought Marriott might save money by using paper products, but Derby said paper products were more expensive.

Derby said there would not be an increase in food prices as Marriott switched to biodegradable containers. "We will absorb the cost of the changeover. Food prices will not go up. We must be in tune to the environment, and this is the cost."

Marriott is also looking at biodegradable plastics, Derby said. These plastics are combined with organic molecules to allow microorganisms in the environment to break the plastics

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Go Heels!

Cheerleaders Shea Roberts and Brad Armstrong join the crowd in rooting for the football team during Homecoming festivities at the Franklin Street Extravaganza Friday night.

DTH/Kathy Michel

Officer returns to duty after investigation

By AMY WAJDA
Assistant University Editor

The third University police officer to be placed on leave during an investigation of stolen University property was told to return to active duty Thursday night, The Chapel Hill Herald reported Friday.

Capt. Paul Caldwell, who is the third-shift supervisor, was probably taken off duty to facilitate the investigation, said Kenneth Bagwell, Caldwell's at-

torney.

"He was never suspended," Bagwell said. "Paul has been paid all along, he's just been told to stay away from the job."

"It was probably because the officers who were charged were on that shift, but we were never given any specific allegations on Paul's part."

Caldwell still does not know why he was taken off duty, said Officer Keith Edwards. "It's been a trying time for him. But he's glad to be back, and

we're glad to have him back."

Robert Sherman, UNC public safety director, said Sunday he could not comment on the investigation or the employees involved. "I'm not at liberty to discuss it. It's an employee-employer matter."

University police said Thursday that they and the State Bureau of Investigation had completed the investigation, that no further charges were expected to be filed, and that no other action

would be taken in connection with the investigation.

University police removed Caldwell, dispatcher Michael Curtis, and officer Elliott Edwards from active duty Sept. 6 in connection with the investigation of break-ins at the UNC Physical Plant's Distribution Center.

Later that day, Curtis and his wife Nancy committed suicide outside their home off N.C. Highway 54 west of Carrboro.

Elliott Edwards, 28, of 4510 Bumpers Road, Chapel Hill, was charged Sept. 11 by University police and the SBI with two counts of breaking and entering and larceny in connection with break-ins Sept. 3 and Sept. 4 at the center, which is at the intersection of Airport Road and Estes Drive. Three answering machines and two telephones, together valued at about \$720, were stolen. Elliott Edwards was released under

\$2,000 bond and has been fired by University police.

Todd Lyght, 24, of 710 Gomains Ave., Chapel Hill, was charged Sept. 11 with two counts of receiving stolen property. Lyght is not a University police employee.

Keith Edwards said the treatment of Elliott Edwards and Caldwell, who are black, during the investigation showed a discrepancy in discipline of black and white University police officers.

Zeta Psi fraternity works toward normality after fire

By NANCY WYKLE
Staff Writer

Although the Sept. 7 fire at the Zeta Psi fraternity house left the building gutted and members homeless, the fraternity is getting back on its feet with no complaints.

The fraternity, located in Little Fraternity Court, is uninhabitable, said rush

chairman Jim White. Members will probably not be able to live in the house for the rest of the academic year, he said.

"Most everything was ruined," said Cam Walker, Zeta Psi vice president. "With all the water damage on the clothing and stereo equipment, nothing was salvageable."

Fifty percent of the building was charred, and the third floor was destroyed, Walker said.

The fraternity has finished the paperwork for the insurance claim, but has not gotten the check. Members are expecting about \$150,000 from the insurance company.

The national chapter of Zeta Psi gave

members living in the house several thousand dollars to cover immediate expenses such as books, Walker said.

This money will not fully cover the cost of repairs, so alumni from around the state are organizing a fundraising effort this week for the fraternity, he said.

The full cost of repairs will be about

\$800,000, Walker said.

The nine members living in the house lost all their possessions. They will all be compensated under their parents' homeowners insurance, he said.

The Red Cross helped James Hargrave, the fraternity's custodian, Walker said. The fire started in Hargrave's room.

The members who were living in the house have found apartments or houses to stay in, Walker said.

The fraternity has been able to function without the house, Walker said. Members have been mixing with members of other fraternities, and all the Zeta Psi members are still paying house bills for meals and expenses.

Blanks chosen from 8 Queen finalists, crowned during Homecoming halftime

By LYNETTE BLAIR
Staff Writer

Clutching the arm of her father, Oscar Blanks, after she came off the football field, a teary-eyed Tonya Blanks was somewhat oblivious to the light rain that fell during halftime at Saturday's Homecoming game.

Instead, she focused on a whirlwind of flowers, hugs, kisses and congratulations. "Oh my gosh," Blanks said, just after being crowned Carolina's 1989-90 Homecoming Queen. "Oh my god."

Blanks, a senior English education major from Clarkton, was the student body's choice for Homecoming Queen out of eight finalists.

"I didn't realize that so many people had supported me," Blanks said after the excitement died down. "I'm honored that my peers had that much faith in me to elect me as their Homecoming Queen. I want to tell the supporters 'thank you, thank you, thank you.'"

Blanks' road to the crown began when she submitted an application to the Carolina Athletic Association (CAA) along with 22 other applicants. Basing selections on academics, scholarship, character and service, the CAA narrowed the field down to 16.

A panel of judges then chose eight of the 16 as finalists to make up the Homecoming Court. As a final step, the student body voted last Thursday, deciding who would wear the crown.

Bronwen Griffith, vice president of the CAA and chairwoman for the Homecoming Queen selection, helped to tally the votes and said that while she didn't have exact figures,

"My teddy bear is sitting here with the crown on. Maybe if I keep looking at him, the idea will settle in."

— Tonya Blanks, '89 Homecoming Queen

more than 1,000 students voted.

"She (Blanks) was chosen by the students as their representative as to what the queen should exemplify," Griffith said.

Blanks' duties as queen are few, Griffith said. "It's more of an honor rather than duties." At this point, Blanks' only duty will be to help with next year's Homecoming activities if possible and crown the next queen.

Members of one of Blanks' sponsors, the Black Student Movement (BSM), were ecstatic over her win. "We worked very hard to get her to be Homecoming Queen," said Kim McLean, BSM president. "We talked to everyone we knew. I'm just glad that the people we spoke to went to vote."

As for Blanks, the idea of being queen hasn't really hit her yet, she said. "It's going to take some time. My teddy bear is sitting here with the crown on. Maybe if I keep looking at him, the idea will settle in."



Former BSM President Kenneth Perry escorts Tonya Blanks

DTH/Kathy Michel

Participants march on as parade weathers rain

By JASON KELLY
Staff Writer

Cool weather and gray skies couldn't rain on UNC's Homecoming parade Saturday afternoon, as about 400 people gathered to watch the annual event, which this year featured 71 marching units.

Alison Nipp, the Carolina Athletic Association officer in charge of the parade, said the parade was unaffected by the rain. "For the most part, a parade is waterproof."

Liz Jackson, Residence Hall Association president and a judge for the float contest, said the rain did not deter any of the participants. "The parade was a big success, and the rain did not dampen our spirits."

Twenty-seven golf carts and 11 floats participated in the parade. Bands from the Naval Academy and area high schools joined the Marching Tar Heels in the parade.

Stephanie Ahlschwede, leader of the student government Kazoo band — which included Student Body President Brien Lewis — said the rain caused some difficulties, but did not hamper the parade. "I was pleased at how well the Kazoo band did. Our float stayed together, unlike some others, and the band was good. We had some minor technical difficulties because of the rain, though — kazoos don't play when they're wet. So we had to play upside down the whole way. But the parade was really fantastic."

Gene Davis, Student Congress speaker, rode in the parade in his Carolina-blue convertible Volkswagen bug. Davis rode in the back throwing candy to the crowd. An unidentified heckler was seen throwing a water balloon at Davis, but it missed and hit the car.

The parade began in the Ramsgate parking lot at 11:30 a.m., and progressed

to Franklin Street. Between 900 and 1,000 people participated in the parade, Nipp said. The award ceremony presented prizes to Carmichael Residence Hall's golf cart and the Catholic Newman Center's float.

The winning golf cart from Carmichael Residence Hall was designed to look like a ship with a mannequin dressed in sailor's clothes walking the plank. The cart was emblazoned with "Make Navy walk the plank."

Morrison had the runner-up cart, which had the logo "Burial at UNSea." Other golf carts were mostly from residence halls.

Only six of the floats were considered in the judging, because the rules specified no factory-made floats would be judged. This year's winner was the Catholic Newman Center, whose float was a sinking ship with a football protruding from it.

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Ain't nobody never told you to quit. — William Faulkner