

weather

TODAY: 20% chance of showers; high lower 70s
THURSDAY: Mostly cloudy; high near 70

on campus

• Delta Sigma Theta will sponsor a self-defense workshop at 6 p.m. in the Cobb training room.

campus / page 3

ALL-AMERICAN SKIERS

After more than 15 years of experience, two UNC water skiers have earned national accolades

sports / page 5

MAMA MIA

Junior forward Mia Hamm has returned to the UNC women's soccer team from a one-year absence to lead the NCAA in scoring

sportsline

FILED: For free agency, Toronto Blue Jays Jimmy Key and Tom Henke. The pitchers from the World Champions joined 58 other players who had applied by Tuesday, including Oakland A's outfielder Ruben Sierra and first baseman Mark McGwire.

As many as 107 can declare by Nov. 8. Others who might file include pitcher Doug Drabek and outfielder Barry Bonds of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Chicago Cubs pitcher Greg Maddux.



The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

© 1992 DTH Publishing Corp. All rights reserved.

Volume 100, Issue 60

Wednesday, October 28, 1992

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

News/Sports/Arts 962-0245
Business/Advertising 962-1163

Committee decides to maintain dorm lockup

By James Lewis
Staff Writer

Members of the Campus Safety Committee stopped short of calling the 24-hour residence hall lockup permanent Tuesday, but they did decide to continue the controversial safety policy for what was called "the long-term."

Committee members, including Susan Ehringhaus, legal assistant to Chancellor Paul Hardin, and Donald Boulton, vice chancellor for student affairs, met Monday at the South Building to discuss the lockup and other security concerns and decided to maintain the policy despite vocal student opposition.

The lockup, imposed in the after-

math of the Aug. 29 rape of a UNC student in her Granville Towers room, has received mixed responses from residents.

In the wake of the Granville Towers rape and two daytime assaults near Kenan Stadium in early September, some students have questioned the effectiveness of the policy and have suggested that UNC administrators could come up with better ways of ensuring campus safety.

But Major Bob Porreca, a committee member representing the University Police, said he thought the policy was an effective crime-prevention tool. "Most of our crimes are crimes of opportunity, and this lowers the opportu-

nities," he said.

Boulton said complaints about the policy were not a fair assessment of the lockup. He said the University was not trying to "lock students up" as many have maintained.

"We're not trying to lock students in," he said. "Frankly, we don't want to — this is not Central Prison (in Raleigh)."

Porreca said he would like to see the lockup continue for the long-term.

"I don't think it's been in effect long enough to analyze," he said, adding that the UNC policy is less restrictive than those at other universities.

Charles Streeter, Residence Hall Association president, said he thought

the committee should suspend the policy until all of the problems could be worked out.

"As long as it remains as it is, a lot of residents are going to have problems," he said. "Until matters such as convenience can be addressed, we're going to continue to have a lot of complaints."

Members of the Campus Safety Committee rejected a recommendation from the Housing Advisory Board, which called for an end to the lockup until the problems with the policy could be worked out.

Scott Peeler, HAB chairman, said he was disappointed with the committee's decision to continue the 24-hour lockup.

"The HAB basically felt as if the

policy was not doing what it was designed to do, and that was to increase the level of security for residents of housing," he said.

Porreca said relaxing the restricted access policy, as the HAB had suggested, would not be wise. "If we undo the system we have, we've lost the moment to inform and alert students to the security risks," he said.

Al Calarco, assistant director of housing, told the committee that University Housing officials were continuing efforts to make the policy more convenient for students.

He cited one example as new delayed-alarm doors, which allow students to leave through only one door in

the residence hall without triggering an alarm.

"You can go out the door, and if it closes within seven seconds the alarm doesn't go off," Calarco said. Doors equipped with delayed-alarm systems still are locked on the outside, he said.

University officials also are working to install more telephones outside campus residence halls, Calarco said.

Calarco said Upper Quad residents' keys now would access the door of Manly Residence Hall, which has laundry facilities located in its basement. Residents also are encouraged to use the laundry facilities across Raleigh Street which can be accessed without a key, he said.

Learning skills director resigns in frustration

By Steve Robblee
Staff Writer

Margaret Saleeby, coordinator of Learning Disability Services, is resigning her position effective today, due to what she termed a lack of support from some University administrators.

In her letter of resignation, Saleeby cited a lack of institutional support for federally mandated services, violations of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, discriminatory policies and management policies as hindrances that had undermined her ability to fulfill her responsibilities.

Section 504 states, "no otherwise qualified individual in the United States ... shall, solely by reason of ... handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

Saleeby said she was frustrated with certain University administrators, including her immediate supervisor, Dean Bobbi Owen. Carolyn Cannon, acting associate dean of Academic Services, is replacing Owen for the semester, but Owen is expected to return to her position next semester.

Owen, who is out of Chapel Hill until next semester, was unavailable for comment.

"The climate on this campus is as chilly for disabled students as it for black students," said Saleeby, who has worked at UNC full-time for six years.

Saleeby said one of the problems she had with Owen was Owen's unintentional violation of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Because students with severe attention problems cannot work in computer labs, those students had been allowed to work in the office at Learning Disability Services, where there would be fewer distractions, Saleeby said.

Saleeby said she had received a memo from Owen saying that students should not be working in the office.

Saleeby said another reason for her frustration was that despite the fact that she was the coordinator of Learning Disability Services, she was not a member of the Advisory Committee to the Chancellor on Disabilities or the Subcommittee on Disabilities in the admissions office.

As coordinator of the Learning Disability Services, Saleeby's job was to supervise the five other academic consultants and consult with students of her own.

Students who are declared eligible for the learning disability program meet with an academic consultant each semester to review students' class syllabi. A consultant works with each student to develop a plan for the semester so the student will have equal access to materials and performance in class. In addition, the consultants act as advocates on behalf of the students. As advocates, consultants sometimes must negotiate with professors and find special equipment for students.

"For the most part, professors have been very cooperative," Saleeby said.

Students who have worked with Saleeby said they would be deeply affected by her leaving.

Tim Lindsay, a senior in the learning disability program, said Saleeby had a major impact on his academic career.

"I'm glad I'm going to be graduating in December," he said. "If I were two years from graduating, I'd consider dropping out."

"No one can do what she does," Cannon said. Jane Byron, a staff member of Learning Disability Services and the University Counseling Center, would act as interim coordinator until a successor for Saleeby was chosen.

Jail escapee shot after holding hostages

By Jackie Hershkovitz
Assistant City Editor
and Rebecca Moore
State and National Editor

DURHAM — A gunman who was charged last April in connection with an armed robbery in Carboro escaped from a High Point jail Tuesday and held four Duke Hospital employees hostage in a three-hour standoff that ended when police shot the convict.

Durham County police identified the gunman as Ricky Lamont Coffin, a resident of Durham.

Coffin, who escaped from the Orange County courthouse in May, was being held in Guilford County in connection with a Greensboro burglary and for escaping Orange County authorities.

He was one of three suspects charged last April for an April 10 armed robbery at Highland Hills Apartments in Carboro.

The standoff, which began at approximately 1:30 p.m. when the escapee entered the Baker House, a wing of Duke Hospitals, ended at 3:20 p.m. when police shot Coffin in the head and evacuated all remaining employees and students.

Coffin was immediately taken to the Duke Medical Center, where he was listed in critical condition, according to Associated Press reports.

Coffin escaped from Guilford County Jail at about 7:40 a.m. Tuesday and headed to the Durham area in a stolen vehicle. Witnesses said the escaped convict sped into the parking lot of the Baker House and entered the building.

Leo Holleran, a chaplain for Duke Veterans Administration Hospital, said he and three others were in his office two doors away from the room where Coffin was holding the hostages.

After patients and some bystanders were evacuated from the Baker House, Holleran said police instructed everyone left in the building to lock themselves in the nearest room.

"There are lots of mazes inside the building, so they wanted us to stay inside," Holleran said.

Jennifer Epstein, a Duke University senior who was working with a patient when Coffin entered the building, said nurses saw the escaped convict roaming the corridors before he took hostages.



Police wait outside Duke Hospital during hostage situation Tuesday afternoon

"Nurses said that my back was to him when he was getting a drink of water," Epstein said.

Nancy Torre, a Duke University junior, was working in the chaplain's office when Coffin came into the Baker House. Torre, who serves communion to sick patients at the hospital, said she could see the suspect from the chaplain's window.

"There were cops everywhere," Torre said. "Before we knew it, he was in the hallway, and they told us to lock the doors. We could see him in the window across the way."

Coffin released two of the hostages but locked himself in an office with the remaining two.

After the suspect fired two shots through a fourth-floor window at policeman below, officers on the scene tried to appease the convict by asking

him to state his demands.

Molly Welch, an employee in the department of medicine who was in the room with the chaplain, said Coffin asked the officers for a soda and the key to his ankle shackles.

"He was making demands through a window," Welch said. "They gave him a chance to give up."

Scott Rimer, a graduate student in the Duke Divinity School who was also in the chaplain's office, said police tried to persuade Coffin to release the two women who were being held hostage.

"There were a lot of negotiations going on," Rimer said. "The officers were waiting with shotguns."

The four people in the chaplain's office slid the police a note under the door telling them that officers would have a better vantage point if they observed from the office window.

"After the shots were fired, everything took on a whole different meaning," Torre said. "So we sent a note to police saying we had a good view from our window."

Police followed the instructions on the note and moved the four into an adjacent office, Torre said.

"We all got pretty shaky when we heard the shots," Rimer said. "This is something you see on the news and here it was happening to us."

Welch said a police marksman entered the building and fired a shot at Coffin about 30 minutes after the first two shots.

"It got quiet for a while, and then we heard a gunshot," Welch said. "We couldn't tell whether it was from (the suspect) or the police."

See ESCAPE, page 2

Residents question \$52 million bond at forum

By Shakti Routray
Staff Writer

Some local residents questioned the need for the \$52 million school bond at a forum Tuesday night.

The \$52 million bond referendum for the construction of three new schools was discussed in the second public forum since April.

The forum, which was held at Chapel Hill Town Hall, was sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce.

Money from the bond referendum will be used to build two new schools in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro system, to build a new middle school in the Orange County system and to upgrade technology.

Members of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Orange County school systems and members of the Orange County Board of Commissioners headed the panel that discussed the issue of funding the new

schools with local residents.

After a slide presentation about the bond issue, residents were asked to address the panel on matters that concerned the bond.

Some questioned state enrollment projections for the systems, which estimated a 22 percent growth in the school system by the end of the decade.

Mary Bushnell, chairwoman of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education, responded, "Our experience with the current projections is that the only

problem we have is that they are too low."

The enrollment in the schools now stands at 6,830 students, 73 of whom arrived since the first two weeks of school, Bushnell said. She added that the schools were now at 550 students higher than capacity.

"The need is there," Bushnell said. "You don't even have to rely on projections."

See FORUM, page 2

Edwards ruling appealed

By Anna Griffin
University Editor

After five years and countless courtroom hours, the saga of University Police officer Keith Edwards has reached the state's highest judicial body.

University lawyers have appealed a recent N.C. Court of Appeals decision in favor of Edwards to the N.C. Supreme Court in the hopes that the court will end the officer's fight against the University Police force's 1987 reorganization.

Edwards, an 18-year veteran of the University Police and the first black woman hired for the campus force, claimed in a September 1987 grievance that a June 1987 departmental reorganization resulted in gender and racial discrimination against herself and several other University Police officers.

The grievance, which was rejected at every step of the University's four-level grievance procedure, contended that Edwards was improperly denied the opportunity to apply for an inter-departmental transfer.

Because the new position in question included more responsibility and better pay, Edwards and her attorney, civil rights activist Alan McSurely, contended it constituted a promotion and therefore should have been opened to all applicants. UNC officials have denied that the transfer legally qualified as a promotion.

The Court of Appeals ruled 3-0 earlier this fall that the State Personnel Commission and the Orange County Superior Court, both of which refused to rule whether Edwards had been discriminated against, could rule in the case. In the decision, the appeals court ruled that the Orange County court must send the case back to the SPC for consideration.

But in the request filed last week, David Parker, the assistant state attorney general representing the University, asked the Supreme Court to reconsider the Court of Appeals' reversal.

In the document, Parker writes that he is "seeking review by the Supreme Court because of the serious errors of

See APPEAL, page 2

Authorities still searching for suspects in September fires

By Rama Kayyali
Staff Writer

Authorities still have no firm suspects and are hoping to receive more information regarding three fires that occurred in Chapel Hill more than a month ago.

The fires that occurred Sept. 20 destroyed The Intimate Bookshop on East Franklin Street and severely damaged the Food Lion located at Eastgate Shopping Center.

Cameron's in University Mall also

caught on fire, but sprinklers in the store extinguished the flames before they spread.

Authorities released a statement following the fires stating that they suspected arson.

Chapel Hill Chief Fire Marshal Joe Robertson said that information regarding the fire would be evaluated by the N.C. Awareness Council and that an award of as much as \$10,000 would be offered.

Robertson said the investigation was being conducted by a joint effort of the

Chapel Hill police and fire departments, the State Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

"We've had tons of leads," Robertson said. "A lot of people have come to us with information about people in the composite which we have made available to the press."

Chapel Hill police Capt. Barry Thompson said police also still were investigating.

"We have interviewed many people, but we have no firm suspects," Thomp-

son said. "We are still hoping for more information to come in."

Thompson said it was difficult to determine whether the two fires were connected.

"You can always speculate it is the same person," he said. "It makes you suspicious that both fires occurred in close proximity and occurred in areas not accessible to public."

Both Robertson and Thompson urged anyone who had information on people

See FIRE, page 2

Man, if you gotta ask you'll never know. — Louis Armstrong