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## Fire strikes Heilman again

□ **Early morning fire breaks out on Monday**

JENNY COSTA  
News Editor

At 3:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 22, residents of Heilman were jolted awake by the fire alarm.

The Raleigh Fire Department responded to a fire that broke out in the laundry room of the third floor on the south end of Heilman Residence Hall.

As soon as the fire caught, the alarm system went off and notified Campus Police that there was a blaze in one of the buildings. Heilman residence director Kamelah Nelson called the campus security office to let them know where the fire was actually located, said Campus Police Chief Frank Strickland.

Students evacuated in three to four minutes, and there were no injuries, said Strickland.

They were forced outside where it was in the mid-twenties that morning. As the students began to realize it was not a drill they moved to the first-floor parlor of Barefoot.

There they waited while the fire was safely contained.

According to Strickland, the campus police arrived within three minutes of the alarm's sounding and the fire department within six.

As students waited, they

feared what could have happened during the disastrous event.

Lisa Wagoner said at the time of the fire that she would rather not think about the likelihood of losing irreplaceable items like the hundreds of pic-

tures she had in her room.

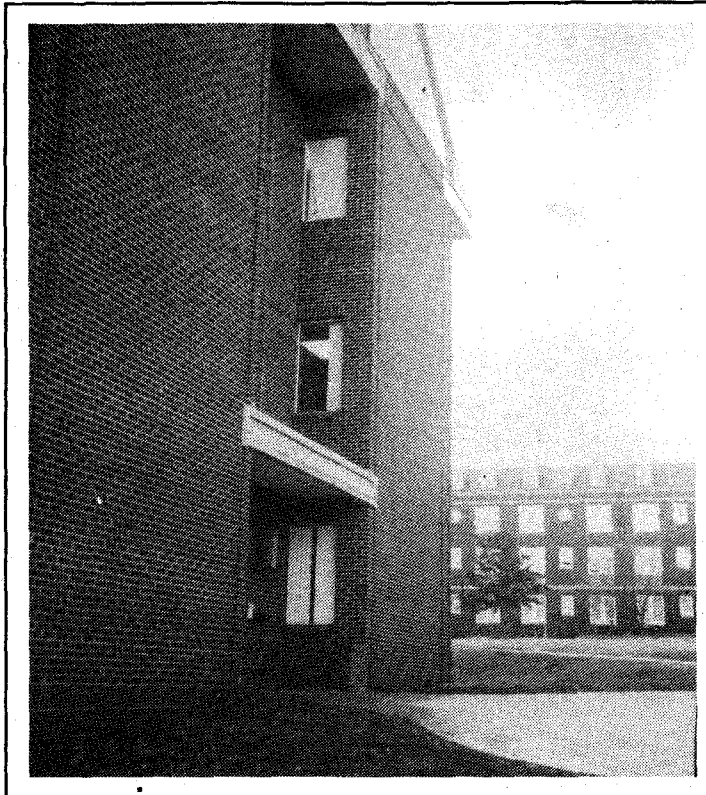
Minutes later, fire fighters were able to contain the blaze with hand held extinguishers, so there was no water damage to the building, nor was there any damage to rooms occupied by students, said Strickland.

However, there was a considerable amount of damage caused by smoke. Strickland reports that damages will run in excess of \$20,000. The school has hired a professional fire clean-up crew, Cary Reconstruction Inc., to repair the damages.

Strickland said the exact cause of the fire is unable to be determined, but it did originate in a trash can in the laundry room and they are "99 percent sure it was ignited by a cigarette."

The Raleigh Fire Department issued a report saying, "the fire is believed to be accidental and is not suspicious."

At 10 a.m. Monday morning residents of the third floor were again asked to leave their rooms for the afternoon because an ozone machine was



Once again, Heilman Residence Hall was the site of a campus fire. A third-floor fire occurred early Monday.

PHOTO BY LESLIE MAXWELL

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## Schoettler revels in everyday life

JAMIE TUNNELL  
Staff Writer

Many people wish they knew their families better. Genealogists study family trees and ancestry endlessly. And Meredith students had the chance to hear a woman interested in her past recently.

Nationally-known fiber artist Ellouise Schoettler told an audience on Monday in Jones Auditorium that what began as her quest to find out about her family heritage, ended in a fascinating lesson on women's history.

Schoettler is an artist who, several years ago, realized how little she knew of her family ancestry.

As she began a search for

her heritage, Schoettler came across stories of incredible women about whom she shared with the audience Monday morning in the form of "Uncommon Threads." She made quilts about each of the four women she told about.

A fiber artist/storyteller, Schoettler makes nonobjective quilts out of small bits of fabric to display as she tells her bright stories. From separated sisters and their homesick letter to a female Revolutionary War patron, they all set up a story that made the audience envision Schoettler's childhood as she related each one. The artist achieves this vision by merging each letter with her own life.

In her artist's statement,

Schoettler noted that her quilt making produces in her a kind of nostalgia: "As I sort through the bits of fabric looking for the just right next color, I remember the magic discoveries when I played with the sewing remnants my grandmother kept in a bag in her closet."

Sophomore Brooke Canaday said after the convocation that her quilts matched with the different personalities of the women her stories were about. "The research for her heritage opened her eyes to these letters that really cover women's heritage, in general," she said.

Schoettler shared her rich treasure of letters and closed with a story of how special it is to wait for those treasures in

the mail. The artist herself learned to write letters during her years at a boarding school during World War II.

She noted, "Working with fabric connects me and my work to women's tradition, most particularly to all the seamstresses I have discovered in my family lines. In my fabric works I honor them and celebrate their lives."

Schoettler is a nationally-known artist who grew up in Charlotte, NC. She now resides in Maryland and is the former president of Maryland College of Art & Design. Her work will be displayed in the Weems Gallery on campus until Feb. 18.