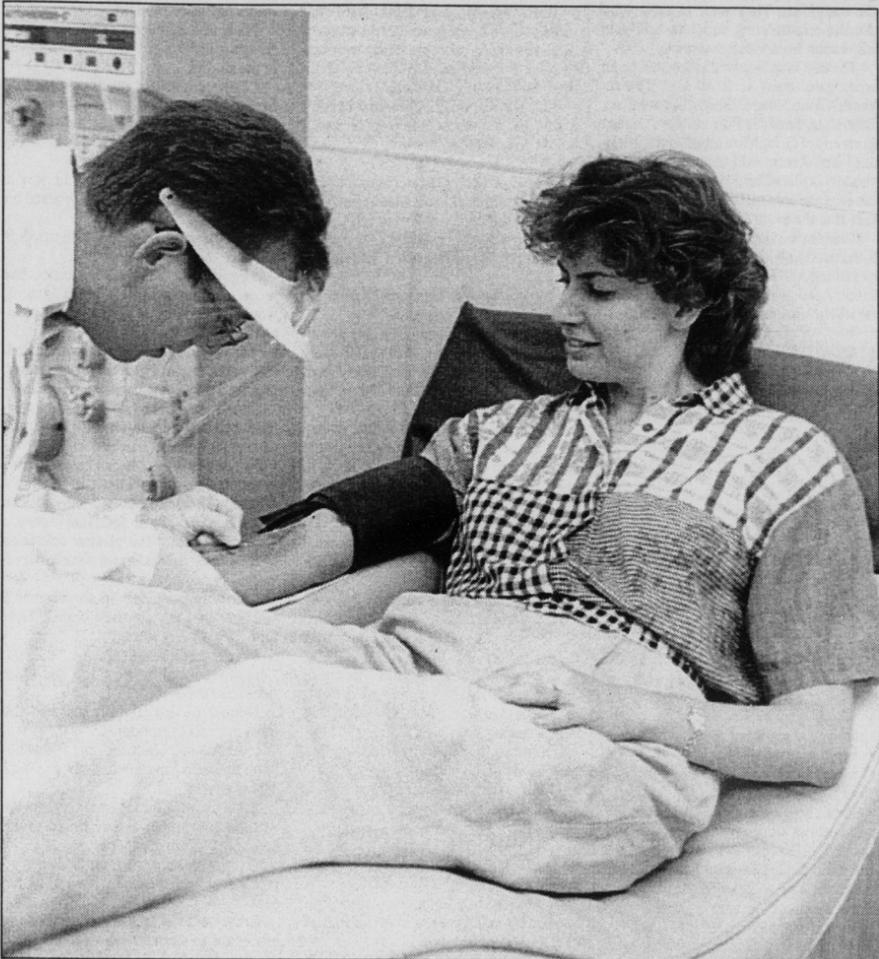


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Michael Collins, a certified phlebotomist at Sera-Tec Biologicals, prepares to take plasma from fellow employee Susan Rozelle Thursday. Many students donate plasma to earn a little extra spending money.

Candle May Have Caused A.M. Blaze in Carmichael

Housing officials might hold two students liable for \$25,000 in building damages.

BY J.C. JOHNSON II
STAFF WRITER

Thursday morning at approximately 2:33 a.m., residents of Carmichael Residence Hall were evacuated because of a fire in room 425. No one was injured.

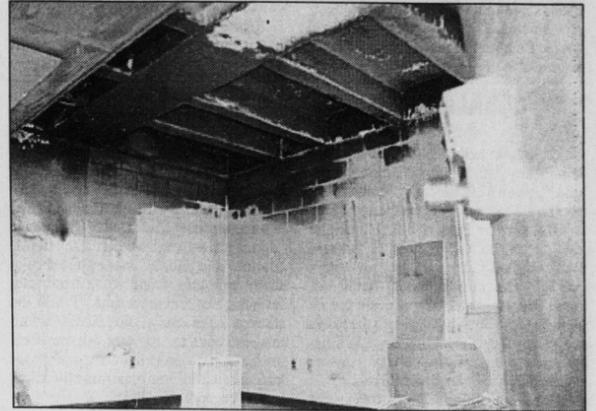
One of the beds in the room apparently caught on fire when a flame from an unattended candle spread at about 2:33 a.m., according to a University press release. The cause of the fire is still under investigation, the releases stated.

According to Director of University Housing Wayne Kuncel, if a candle is proven as the cause of the fire, the student responsible for lighting the candle will be required to pay for the damages.

Officials estimated losses at \$7,000 in personal belongings and \$25,000 in building damages. It will take about a week to restore room 425.

All University housing residents must sign a contract before moving into their rooms that places responsibility for fire prevention on the students. The contract prohibits open flames such as candles and oil lamps. "Open flames are forbidden and can't be used in residence halls," Kuncel said. "It's very clear, and that's one of the major concerns we have."

Kuncel said the two female residents of the room where the fire occurred were being relocated to another room in



Room 425 of Carmichael Residence Hall remained empty after a fire broke out early Thursday. Officials have not yet pinpointed the cause of the fire.

Carmichael. The question of whether the fire was set intentionally will decide whether or not the guilty party will remain in University Housing, Kuncel said. The person who lit the candle will have their case heard by housing officials.

The two residents have told officials they had left the room to go to a vending machine and came back to find it in flames.

The fire alarm went off at 2 a.m., and the building was evacuated. The hall's 485 residents were not allowed to return to their rooms until 4:15 a.m. Three fire trucks, and several ambulances and police cars

covered the parking lot, witnesses said.

The Chapel Hill Fire Department confirmed that the damage to the room was fairly extensive. Wooden cabinets, the bed and bed frame were burned beyond repair while the room sustained water and smoke damage.

Other damage was minimal. The door lock to room 424 was broken, and fire officials said the room also sustained moderate water, smoke and light heat damage like the other rooms in the suite.

The residents of room 425 were unavailable for comment.

MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS PROVIDE QUICK CASH

BY ERICA LUETZOW
STAFF WRITER

Call them noble volunteers or call them the "Pretty Women" of the medical circle, but many UNC students are making good money while helping science progress.

From participating in studies of drugs, asthma and smoking to giving plasma, eggs and sperm, students are selling their time and bodies to earn a couple of bucks.

Gene Oringer, director of UNC Hospitals' Clinical Research Center, said exact statistics on participants were not available but that students comprised a sizable portion of study subjects.

"It's a fair number — a lot," he said. Elizabeth Migoya, a fellow with the Department of Pharmacology who is as-

sisting with a smoking study, said about 90 percent of the subjects were students.

"It's a mutually beneficial relationship," she said. "We get the studies done, and students get the money. That's why a lot of the ads are placed in the DTH."

Jeremy Swinson, a junior from Raleigh who has participated in six different drug studies, admits that many people think volunteering is odd or dangerous.

"A lot of people think I am a freak when I tell them I am doing it," Swinson said. Swinson, who has participated in studies at UNC Hospitals and at Pharmaceutical Product Development in Raleigh, said the studies are usually easy money.

For the first PPD study he participated in, Swinson received \$1,000. The UNC studies typically pay \$100 per night, he

said. Walker Hicks, a junior from Raleigh, said he has participated in two PPD drug studies.

Hicks admitted that he initially had some reservations about participating in the studies.

"I was worried," he said. "My parents were worried."

But Hicks said that the directors of the studies always tell the volunteers exactly what they are going to do.

"They were very thorough as to how dangerous (the studies) were," he said. "They were not dangerous."

Swinson said that he had always been carefully briefed before the studies and

See TESTS, Page 2

Back to School: Johnson Doesn't Regret Turning Pro Despite Getting Passed Over

BY JUSTIN SCHEEF
SENIOR WRITER

The 5-foot-10, 202-pound running back strides out of the Kenan Field House locker room with "Carolina football" on his shorts and T-shirt.

Yet he is not a football player — at least not for the University.

Curtis Johnson is merely a student who happened to be cut by the Dallas Cowboys in July. After giving up his senior year of

eligibility to enter the NFL draft, Johnson is back in Chapel Hill.

"I get to use the facilities, work out, run," he said. "They've got extra lockers in there."

"(Being back) feels different. But I don't let things get to me a lot. It's history, so I might as well let it go. All it's



CURTIS JOHNSON rushed for 1,999 yards and 20 touchdowns in his three years at UNC.

going to do is mess your head up, so I let it go."

Unfortunately for Johnson and the Tar Heels, it's an extra locker that he is using, not the one he used as a star in Carolina blue. But now it's too late. Unlike in basketball, football players cannot return to school and regain their eligibility within 30 days after the draft.

"I think that it's a real tragedy for a young guy," UNC head coach Mack Brown said. "It's not good for our football team, and it's not good for Curtis Johnson."

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Tuition Debate Focuses On Low Faculty Pay

A portion of the possible \$400 increase would go to attract and retain professors.

BY BRONWEN CLARK
AND JAMES LEWIS
UNIVERSITY EDITORS

As the Board of Trustees prepares to meet Thursday to discuss a possible \$400 increase in tuition, controversy and debate on campus are heating up.

Thirty-five percent of the revenue generated by any tuition increase must, by mandate of the General Assembly which approved the plan this summer, be used for need-based financial aid. The remainder will be directed to faculty salary increases and library resources.

"I believe this is nearly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to change declining

faculty salaries," said Interim Provost Richard Richardson.

UNC's faculty salaries have fallen in comparison to its peer Research I institutes in recent years. According to the 1994 Front Line Report issued by Student Government, in 1980-81, UNC ranked in the top fifth of the American Association of University Professors rankings in salaries for professors, associate professors and assistant professors.

By 1992-93, however, UNC had fallen to the third quintile for professors and associate professors and the fourth for assistant professors.

"The salary increase of \$400, if approved, will push us into the top quintile with two ranks and perhaps three," Richardson said.

Calvin Cunningham, student body president, said he thought better faculty salaries were necessary to attract and retain the best teachers in the nation.

"An integral part of our being a nationally-ranked institution, a top quality insti-

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Out of Africa

UNC senior Michael Clontz spent six weeks this summer in Kuer Momar Sarr, Senegal, helping villagers and immersing himself in their culture.



Michael Clontz poses with one of the locals he befriended while performing volunteer work in rural Senegal. Clontz, who spent part of his youth in Africa, went back this summer to teach English and help with reforestation work.

BY GREG KALISS
FEATURES EDITOR

Africa. It is the poorest and least-developed of all of the populated continents.

It is frequently depicted by the mass media as a place of rampant famine, bloody political disorder and an AIDS-ridden populace.

But in the rural village of Kuer Momar Sarr, a town of about 900 people in Senegal, Michael Clontz, a senior international studies major from Chapel Hill, found a little hope.

Clontz spent six weeks this summer in Senegal through Operation Crossroad Africa, an organization that places volunteers in often rural settings where they can aid the local community with tasks like reforestation and irrigation.

And while he didn't have the most glamorous summer vacation, Clontz had roots in Africa that pulled him back. "When I was little, I lived there for a year, in Togo," Clontz said. "And I spent a semester abroad in Ghana in the spring of '94."

Clontz said that he heard about Operation Crossroads through word-of-mouth, and that he decided to go with the program so that he could visit a rural setting, instead of the primarily urban environments he had been exposed to previously.

See CLONTZ, Page 2

What Are You Doing Over Labor Day Weekend?

That's right. You'll be working on your application to join the staff of The Daily Tar Heel. We know you're trying to decide what to do with all of your free time as the fall semester begins, and you need to look no further.

The DTH is looking for staff members — writers, graphic designers, photographers, copy editors and cartoonists.

If you enjoy the paper and are interested in joining the staff, applications are available in

our office at Union Suite 104. So please stop by and get an application to work on at the beach.

— The Editors

Weather

TODAY: Sunny; high upper 80s.
SATURDAY: Sunny; high mid-80s.
SUNDAY: Sunny; high mid-80s.

Always remember to phrase your answer in the form of a question.

Alex Trebek