



BRIEFS

Stories from the University and Chapel Hill

BOG Unanimously Elects Cameron as Chairman

C. Clifford Cameron, a retired Charlotte banker, was unanimously elected to serve a two-year term as chairman of the Board of Governors on Friday.

The board also unanimously elected Winston-Salem businessman Benjamin Ruffin, the former secretary, as vice chairman.

Cameron has been a member of the board's Committee on Educational Planning, Policies and Programs since joining the BOG in 1991. He has also served as chairman of the University Award Committee and has served on several special and ad hoc committees.

Cameron's involvement in North Carolina's higher education is wide-ranging. A former chairman of the UNC-Charlotte Board of Trustees, he currently chairs the UNC-C Foundation Board and the board of University Research Park Inc. He is a life trustee of Wake Forest University and served on the 100-member UNC board before the system's restructuring.

Cameron earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from Louisiana State University. The former Charlotte Man of the Year has chaired North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry and has received that organization's top awards for distinguished citizenship and public service.

Vice Chairman Ruffin also joined the BOG in 1991. He is serving his second term as vice chairman of the board's Committee on Business and Finance.

Ruffin, the vice president for corporate affairs for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, graduated from N.C. Central University. He holds a master's degree in social work from UNC-Chapel Hill and honorary doctorates from several universities.

Ruffin chairs the corporate round table of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and serves as vice president of the board for Mechanic and Farmers Bank. Asheville businessman John F.A.V. Cecil was elected secretary.

Escaped Mental Patient Found on Franklin Street

Clifford Leslie White, 45, an escaped mental patient from Cherry Hospital in Goldsboro, was found walking near the Franklin Street Greyhound/Trailways bus station July 22 at about 1 p.m. He was promptly taken into custody by Chapel Hill police.

White escaped from a locked ward at Cherry Hospital on July 19.

Marshall Smith, chief of Standards Management at Cherry Hospital, said law enforcement agents were called and an APB was released on the police information network. Three days later, White was spotted and picked up by Chapel Hill police.

Jane Cousins, spokeswoman for the Chapel Hill Police Department, said White was not armed and acted cooperatively when the police took him into custody.

White has been placed on a higher security level until hospital administrators can determine how he escaped and got to Chapel Hill, Smith said.

White was admitted to Cherry Hospital in 1984 after being indicted in the murder of Johnny and Bertha Howze, his aunt and uncle. The two were found inside their Wilmington home, which had been set ablaze. Both had multiple stab wounds.

White was found incompetent to stand trial and has been in the state psychiatric system ever since, Smith said.

Student Government To Register UNC Voters

A student government-sponsored voter registration drive will urge students to educate themselves about issues affecting young people and to use this knowledge when they vote.

Student government, along with Project Vote, a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to register and inform voters, will attempt to create a voice in government for college students.

Student Body President Aaron Nelson said registering young voters would be the main focus of student government for the beginning of the 1996-97 academic year.

"Our purpose is to register students to vote, to educate and to mobilize," said Nelson.

Because college students are underrepresented in voter registration, this drive would strive to increase the number of young voters who turnout for the November elections, Nelson said.

Nelson said there would be registrars at all area residence hall offices as soon as students arrive and check in. The registrars would continue to approach students until the end of the voter registration period, Oct. 8.

Nelson said student government would take all measures to reach students, even those living off campus. "We will have people to sit in the Pit and will offer rewards to those who register the most students," Nelson said.

Reyna Walters, executive branch assistant chief of staff, said the nonprofit organization would supply the drive with voting materials such as clipboards and voter registration forms as well as check the forms for accuracy.

Every vote would count in helping students' issues be heard, Nelson said.

"There is nothing more important than exercising our vote."

STAFF REPORT

Hooker Calls for Shorter '96 Rush, More Education

BY JOHN SWEENEY
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

This summer marked what could be a major turning point for the Greek system at UNC, as Chancellor Michael Hooker announced several changes to fall rush procedures, changes that were received enthusiastically by Greek leaders.

Hooker's changes, announced June 24, included reducing the fall rush period and expanding mandatory education periods for pledges.

"Clearly, changes need to be made," Hooker stated in a press release.

Robert Monk, president of the Interfraternity Council, suggested some of the changes. Monk said he did not foresee any difficulties as a result of Hooker's changes.

"It's not going to cause any problems," Monk said. "We're just going to (conduct rush) as we've always done it."

Shortly after the May 12 Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house fire that killed five UNC students, Hooker suggested delaying the rush process, which normally takes place at the beginning of both fall and spring semesters, until spring semester.

But with the fall semester then only two months away and rush plans well under way, Hooker decided to wait for his Task Force on Greek Affairs' study on the effects of delaying rush, to be completed by the 1997-98 school year.

Director of Greek Affairs Ron Binder said the chancellor's committee had already been discussing the delay for at least a year. But he said the discussion needed to be broader. "The issue of deferred rush is an idea that needs to be studied and that requires consultation and consensus," he said. "Studying it in the fall will allow greater time to accomplish that."

Binder said he didn't expect many complaints about the change because many fraternities were not really happy with the old rush procedures. "A lot of chapters

have expressed concern that rush is too long and it's been too expensive," Binder said. "For the most part, students would appreciate that," Binder said.

The second change would emphasize the national and local fraternity policies regarding alcohol consumption. "Everybody's national policy states very clearly that alcohol is not to be present at any recruitment function," Binder said.

Binder said the groups in the Interfraternity Council were the only ones that typically did not adhere to the policy, but he was going to scrutinize them more closely.

The final change would expand the required education sessions to include information on fire safety and substance abuse during Greek rush and freshman orientation. Prospective members already attend sessions on date rape and risk management.

Chapel Hill Fire Chief Dan Jones said he had also discussed the possibility of training a student team in fire safety techniques that they could relay to their peers. "We're committed to it, and I know the University administration is committed to it," Jones said. "I doubt you'll see anyone at the Chapel Hill Fire Department who wants to go through another May 12."

Matt Sullivan, the Substance Abuse Prevention counselor for Student Health Service, is working on the session about substance abuse.

"We'd also like to train one member from each of the organizations as a peer educator," Sullivan said. "If someone had a problem they'd probably feel much more comfortable going to them."

Binder said other planned changes, which would be implemented by the Division of Greek Affairs and the IFC, included a rush seminar where prospective pledges could learn more about the Greek system.

Jeanne Fugate contributed to this article.

UNC System Releases Fire Safety Study

BY JEANNE FUGATE
EDITOR

With all the talk of fire safety in fraternity and sorority houses this summer, many might have missed out on the discussion of similar problems in residence halls.

UNC-system President C.D. Spangler initiated a study to find out how residence halls measure up on fire safety May 16, only four days after five UNC-Chapel Hill students were killed in a fire at the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house.

"Somebody's got to start doing something to keep something like this from happening again," he said.

The study revealed fire safety could cost the 16 UNC-system schools over \$55 million

for the installation of sprinklers and alarms. The figure also includes costs for necessary renovations, like asbestos removal, at UNC-CH.

Spangler said he hoped the information would provoke discussion about improving fire safety on UNC-system campuses.

UNC-CH racks up the highest cost with an estimated \$18 million to upgrade on-campus housing. While all 29 UNC-CH residence halls have alarm systems, only three, Carmichael, Old East and Old West residence halls, have sprinkler systems.

The \$18 million figure arises from an estimate of \$4.32 per square foot. Spangler said the cost could be as much as 20 percent more or less.

Wayne Kuncel, director of the Depart-

ment of Housing, said. "That's probably still a very conservative number."

University planners have estimated \$13 million for necessary renovations to remove asbestos and improve fire safety capabilities. Kuncel said UNC-CH had established a system of renovating the residence halls on a schedule.

Spangler said renovations needed to be discussed now, before the UNC system's luck with on-campus fire safety ran out.

"Nobody can remember there ever being a fatality in a dorm owned by the University caused by a fire," he said. "It seems like an impossible good fortune."

John Sweeney and Sheng Lee contributed to this article.

Town Council Delays Voting On Sprinklers

The council decided to wait on students' return despite legislative approval.

BY RENÉE TOY
STAFF WRITER

In a unanimous decision May 29, the Chapel Hill Town Council postponed voting on a proposed ordinance requiring automatic fire sprinkler systems in fraternity and sorority houses until members of the Greek community could return to town to voice their concerns.

On September 16, the Town Council will vote on the ordinance that would require all existing fraternity and sorority houses to install automatic fire sprinkler systems. A proposed time period for the installation is five years. All newly constructed or renovated houses would also be required to install the systems at the time of construction or renovation.

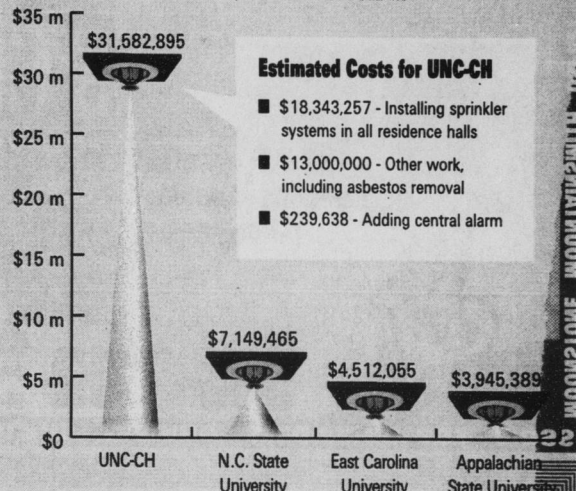
The resolution to adopt the ordinance was proposed by the Town Council a little more than a week after the May 12 fire that gutted the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house. Five people were killed and three injured in the blaze, which fire officials said could have been halted by an automatic fire sprinkler system.

Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf

The \$55 Million Question

This June, UNC-system President C.D. Spangler directed the General Administration to study fire safety concerns in residence halls. The Board of Governors is not expected to act on the recommendations this summer.

ESTIMATED COST OF RENOVATION, IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS



SOURCE: UNC GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

and council member Julie Andresen expressed the need to pass the ordinance quickly, but agreed with requests to postpone a decision until members of the Greek community could return to town to voice their concerns.

The price of installing automatic fire sprinkler systems caused some concern in both the Chapel Hill and Greek communities.

"1994 estimates on new construction said the cost of adding a sprinkler system caused costs to rise by 1 to 5 percent of the total cost of the building," Chapel Hill Town Council member Lee Pavao said.

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DA: New Policy to Cut Down on Underage Drinking With Fake IDs

BY JEANNE FUGATE
EDITOR

MAY 23 — Underage drinkers convicted of using fake IDs to purchase alcohol could lose their driver's licenses for a year due to a new policy from the Orange County District Attorney's Office.

"We are not going to be doing deferred prosecution if you present a fake ID in an attempt to purchase alcohol," said District Attorney Carl Fox. Anyone charged would go to trial instead.

A deferred prosecution allowed a first offender to complete a certain number of community service hours in exchange for the case not being tried. Afterward, attorneys could expunge the deferred prosecution from their clients' records.

Director of Student Legal Services Dottie Bernholz said she had dealt with many students caught with a fake ID. "Normally the students would do community service and we'd expunge their records," she said. "It's not going to be the case any longer."

Fox said the new policy became effective this summer. He said he based the change on the amount of effort it took to obtain fraudulent identification. "Going to the trouble of having a fake ID made or using someone else's ID is much more of a criminal nature than some of the other offenses, such as underage possession of alcohol," he said.

"This is an attempt to deceive owners of businesses that have alcohol permits," Fox said.

Fox said he was also responding to the town's concerns about how to deal with alcohol problems. The Chapel Hill Town Council passed an ordinance in April to allow themselves more

control over the sale of alcohol. Once a bar had an ABC violation, the council would be able to review its alcohol licensing.

Fox also drew upon bar owners' feelings of being unfairly targeted in Alcohol Law Enforcement sweeps. "Part of it is the concerns of bar owners that they are the ones totally blamed when students are going to great lengths to obtain fake IDs," Fox said.

Bernholz said the trials would bring up some interesting gray areas. She said if a student used a fake ID to enter a bar and did not purchase alcohol they might not be in violation of both parts of the citation: having an ID and using it to purchase alcohol.

Fox has also decided that people who lead their IDs to underage drinkers cannot enter deferred prosecution.

Fox said he hopes the stringent measures will make students think more about breaking the law. "If students think those convictions are going to be with them forever, they'll think twice about going out and getting a fake ID," he said.

Local attorneys have had to rethink their advice as well. Chapel Hill Attorney Bill Messengale said he was advising students differently due to the new policy. "When students called me on these cases, I used to tell them to go down to the district attorney's office and do a deferred prosecution," he said. "Now they'll probably have to hire a lawyer."

Bernholz said Student Legal Services would also advise students to hire an attorney. But she said many students would not know to hire a lawyer. "I'm afraid that what most students will do is plead guilty, and they will be unaware that they will lose their license," she said. "I certainly know there are a lot of students who are going to be surprised when they can't drive for a year."

Eternal Flame



BY TANYA K. MERRITTE
STAFF WRITER

JUNE 27 — Moving. Wonderful. Overwhelming. These were just some of the words used to describe the Olympic Torch as it passed through Chapel Hill and Carrboro on June 23 on its way to Atlanta for the centennial Olympic Games.

Thousands of people gathered on Franklin Street to cheer the torch's arrival and the five local citizens selected to carry it. The citizens, called Community Heroes, were chosen because of their contributions and service to the community.

Chuck Stone, a professor of journalism and mass communication at UNC, said he had mixed feelings about carrying the torch.

Neither Rain, Nor Sleet, Nor Snow Can Stop Registrar Now: No More Mailed Grades



STAFF REPORT

The University will save over \$18,000 a year by disbursing grades with a new toll free telephone system introduced in December 1995 or the World Wide Web.

The University will no longer automatically mail out grade reports.

"This change will reduce costs and provide faster, more reliable delivery of grades," stated University Registrar David Lanier in a June 27 guest column in The Daily Tar Heel. "While it is convenient to receive grades by mail, it is the most expensive and the slowest way to deliver them."

Some mailed grades never arrive because of delivery problems — either the address is incorrect, the grades are lost or they are intercepted.

Lanier stated the mailed reports take an average of two weeks to reach students. Students can access grades by telephone or the World Wide Web about 24 to 48 hours after instructors submit them.

Associate University Registrar Donna Redmon said the University had also instituted the new system due to the popularity of the toll free number.

"When we introduced our new grade reporting system, we received over 86,000 telephone calls," she said.

Students can access grades by calling 1-800-473-6112, for up to four weeks after exams. Grades can also be accessed at the Registrar's home page at <http://regweb.oit.unc.edu>.

Redmon said students can still obtain printed grade reports.

Students on campus can have a list of their current semester grades printed in the Office of the University Registrar. Students also can write to the office during the semester and request that a grade report be mailed to their official address.

"It could be misconstrued that we are going to take away something that students have always gotten," Redmon said. "I want to be sure that students do understand that we are going to provide for their needs."

Redmon said she thought students, once they found out about the new procedure, would approve. "We want to be sure that students are aware of it," she said. "We want it to be a positive thing."

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