

# The Daily Tar Heel

**INSIDE FRIDAY**  
SEPTEMBER 13, 1996



**Crowning glory**  
For the first time, viewers will vote for the next Miss America as an "eighth judge." Page 2



**Help is on the way**  
Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf arranged for cranes to aid residents in tree removal. Page 4



**Running the distance**  
UNC's cross country team hosts its only home meet — the Nike invite. Page 7

**Today's Weather**  
Partly sunny; low 80s.  
Weekend: Sunny, mid 70s.

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## Long-awaited vice chancellor to be voted on today

■ The Board of Governors will vote whether or not to approve Susan Kitchen.

BY SHARIF DURHAMS  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

After a search that has lasted more than two years, the Board of Governors might approve the University's candidate for vice chancellor for student affairs at this morning's meeting.

University officials will nominate Susan Kitchen, vice president for student affairs at the University of Maryland at Baltimore County, for the position. Kitchen, who has worked at UMBC for more than a decade, was employed under Chancellor Michael Hooker while he was president of that university.

"I have worked with Michael Hooker

before and know that he is interested in the quality of student life, and I thought I could contribute," Kitchen said Thursday.

Kitchen visited UNC when the field of candidates had been narrowed down to three contenders. She said she respected UNC before she visited and was impressed with the environment she saw.

"I'm particularly committed to public institutions," she said. "As the oldest public institution, it has a special place."

She said one of the best experiences during her visit was a dinner she had with student government officers.

"I think that was one of the things that really sold me on Carolina," she said. "That was a stimulating conversation."

Informal conversations she had with students also influenced her decision, she said. "I thought getting a point of view from students was important."

If selected by the BOG, Kitchen would

take over the position from Interim Vice Chancellor Edith Wiggins.

Wiggins has served in her current position since Don Boulton left in May 1994.

The vice chancellor heads the Division of Student Affairs and works to improve life on campus, including housing, student health, Greek affairs and career counseling.

The University began looking for a permanent vice chancellor when Boulton left, but Hooker's selection as chancellor last summer slowed the process.

Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd said Kitchen made a strong candidate for the position.

"I think that she will do a superb job as vice chancellor for student affairs," Floyd said. "She's a student affairs officer that will bring a lot of energy, commitment and leadership to the position."

Stephen Birdsall, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said last week that the University had picked a quality candidate.

"This is a candidate who will bring a great deal of experience to the University," he said.

Kitchen said two problems she would tackle if selected would be improving the campus climate and reducing alcohol abuse on campus.

Several controversial issues at UMBC were similar to challenges she would face at UNC, Kitchen said.

For example, she had to deal with racial tensions at her university when Minister Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, visited her campus, she said.

"We worked with student organizations, worked with community organizations and, I think, came out of that with a stronger campus community."

## BOG to nominate committees to find Spangler's successor

BY EMILY HOWELL  
STAFF WRITER

The new UNC vice chancellor for student affairs will not be the only appointment announced at this morning's Board of Governors meeting.

During the 9:30 a.m. meeting at the UNC General Administration building, BOG Chairman C. Cliff Cameron is expected to announce members of the committees that will select the next UNC-system president. Last month, UNC-system President C.D. Spangler announced he would retire in June.

Cameron presides over the nominat-

ing committee. Lois Britt, Vice Chairman Benjamin Ruffin, Secretary John F.A.V. Cecil and Chairman Emeritus Sam Neill worked with Cameron.

Other committees include search, leadership and screening committees. One student, three professors, four chancellors and eight at-large citizens are expected to be named to the committees. Twenty-nine BOG members will be named. UNC-CH student and BOG member John Dervin said he hoped to be named to the search committee. "I can't get an answer from anybody."

N.C. House Speaker Harold Brubaker will address the BOG on budget issues.



DTH/KRISTIN ROHAN

A 70-foot white oak tree smashed into Venable Hall on Thursday afternoon. Hurricane Fran's strong winds and Wednesday's heavy rains left several of UNC's trees susceptible to toppling.

## Oak tree falls on Venable Hall; students grumble about safety

BY GRAHAM BRINK  
MANAGING EDITOR

A 70-foot white oak tree's final demise has some students concerned about campus safety.

The tree crashed into Venable Hall at about 2:10 p.m. Thursday, smashing the handrails on the steps leading into the building. No one was hurt and the building suffered only minor cosmetic damage.

"It sounded like an explosion," said Victor Lau, a freshman from Charlotte, who was entering Venable when the tree fell. "It really shook me. It really shook

my bones."

Hurricane Fran's pounding winds and Wednesday's heavy rains left several of UNC's venerable trees susceptible to collapse.

Predicting which trees could fall is a difficult task, and the recent rains only compound the problem, said University Forester Kirk Pelland.

"Sometimes trees will tilt only slightly or parts of the root system will snap, but the tree will remain standing," said

Pelland, whose crews are working to assess and remedy tree problems created by the hurricane. "With the number of old trees on campus, we can't be entirely sure which trees are affected."

Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd said the campus was safe for students, but he requested help in assessing any damaged trees.

"If students see a tree that's leaning or looks like it may fall, we want them to call us," he said.

The balance between campus safety and aesthetic appeal always falls in favor

SEE TREE SAFETY, PAGE 5

## Should colleges use race in admissions?

BY HOLLY HART  
STAFF WRITER

Whether affirmative action should play a role in college admissions decisions is increasingly becoming an issue at universities across the country.

The Supreme Court upheld a decision in July that banned affirmative action in admissions decisions at colleges in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi and set a precedent for future cases.

Last year, the University of California Board of Regents voted to eliminate affirmative action in hiring and admissions procedures.

"The mood of the nation in a variety of ways is pointing to the idea that this concept has run its course and that it will end in a few years," UNC Director of Admissions Jim Walters said.

Educators throughout the country are debating the virtues and vices of affirmative action.

Some see affirmative action as outdated and ineffective, while others see it as the only answer to years of oppression and injustice. Some think it is the only way to create a diverse and representative student body, while others think it takes opportunities away from more qualified students.

Regardless, the country is beginning to move away from using affirmative action programs.

In July 1995, California was the first state to eliminate affirmative action and is seen as a test case, said Terry Lightfoot, the public information officer for the University of California President's Office.

The resolution is already in effect for hiring and graduate admissions procedures and will go into effect in the fall of 1997 for undergraduate admissions.

In 1992, four white students at the University of Texas sued the law school after being denied admission despite having better GPAs and standardized test scores than minority applicants who were accepted.

The Supreme Court upheld a decision



State of the University in America

in July banning the law school from considering race in its admissions process.

The original decision, made in March by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, said student body diversity was not a valid justification for race-based admissions preferences under the 14th Amendment, which guarantees equal protection under the law.

Universities located within Fifth Circuit states — Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi — were affected by the decision.

North Carolina was not affected, but affirmative action is still a major issue in the state. In March, UNC law student Jack Daly filed a federal lawsuit against the UNC system contending that race-based scholarships violated the 1st and 5th Amendments.

Daly, who is a Republican candidate for state auditor, also filed a suit contending that state laws on race- and gender-based quotas were unconstitutional.

Walters said the University's current admissions policies would remain "until the law of the land tells us to do otherwise." But he acknowledged that affirmative action would probably not be around much longer.

Deborah Ross, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina, said affirmative action is an appropriate idea if applied correctly.

"You need two things to use affirmative action," she said. "One, it must be a remedy for past and continuing discrimination. And two, (the universities) must have tried other ways to diversify the student body that haven't worked."

Ross said admissions processes were

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## Fraternity put on review status following break-in

BY ASHLEY HAGLER  
STAFF WRITER

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity was placed on administrative review status Wednesday following an alleged incident of illegal entry and property damage at the Sigma Nu fraternity house.

The Sept. 5 break-in at Sigma Nu, which is located at 109 Fraternity Court, caused \$800 worth of damage. The inci-

dent was reported to Chapel Hill police on Wednesday.

Police suspect three freshmen, who were among Pi Kappa Alpha's 17 fall pledges, in the alleged incident.

Both Pi Kappa Alpha and University officials said they were upset with the behavior exhibited and have acted quickly to resolve the situation.

"(Pi Kappa Alpha) moved quickly because they are sending the message, as

are we, that we are not going to put up with this type of behavior," said Ron Binder, director of the Office of Greek Affairs.

Further actions have been taken against the three individuals suspected in the incident and Pi Kappa Alpha as a whole.

Dean of Students Fred Schroeder said, "It is very regrettable when persons behave in a way which reflects adversely on

the other members of a group."

The chapter has agreed to assume full financial responsibility for damages that occurred during the break-in, and the Office of Greek Affairs and Pi Kappa Alpha's president contacted the chapter's national headquarters Wednesday night to inform them of the incident. The three pledges have been removed from the

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## Housekeepers' supporters say privatization linked to racism

BY MARVA HINTON  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Members of the Coalition for Economic Justice stressed what they saw as the link between racism and the University's proposal to privatize housekeeping at a rally held Thursday in the Pit.

Barbara Prear, co-president of the UNC Housekeepers' Association, said she thought racism was behind Hooker's decision to investigate outsourcing housekeepers.

"What do you want to call it — classism?" Prear asked. "Look who's in that class. Anytime you have supervisors call you niggers, that's racism."

The housekeeping staff at UNC is 90 percent black and 70 percent female.

Currently, a group of University officials appointed by Chancellor Michael Hooker is studying the effects of privatizing housekeeping and 50 other services.

No UNC housekeepers serve on the Outsourcing Steering Team, the group studying privatization.

"The timing of the speakout is forced by the University's refusal to include workers in decision making," said Elizabeth McLaughlin, a UNC law student from Laurel, Miss.

Andrew Pearson, a member of the Student Environmental Action Coalition, said Hooker ignored students' and work-

ers' attempts to talk to him about privatization.

Hooker was unavailable for comment Thursday.

Opponents to privatization argue that privatized workers would not be willing to work during emergency situations such as last week's Hurricane Fran. "You wouldn't find any hired gun out here working for us," Student Body President Aaron Nelson said.

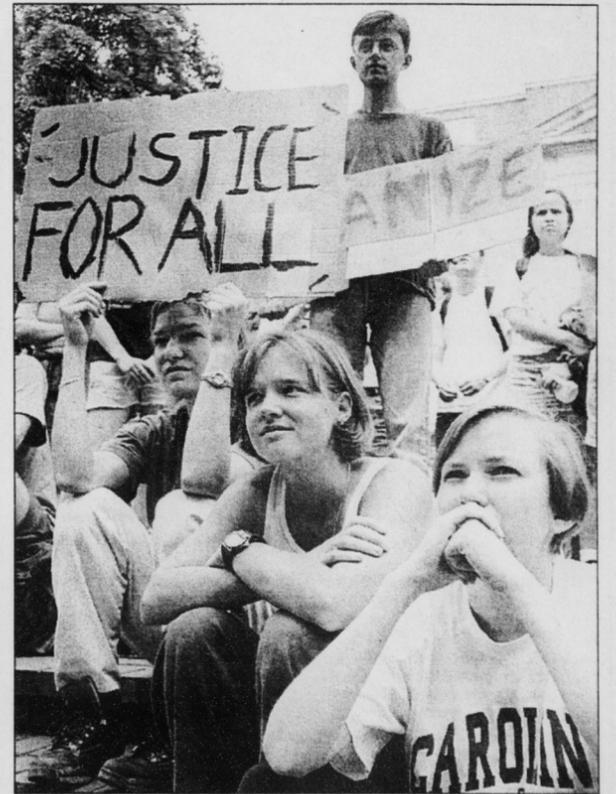
Shanta Morrison, a member of the Coalition for Economic Justice, said the group would become more vocal because the housekeepers' discrimination lawsuit against the University would begin soon. The case goes to court Sept. 23.

"Now it's time for action," she said.

Morrison said the issue of workers' rights did not interest her until she faced discrimination on the job. Morrison worked as a housekeeper herself during the summer of 1995 at Yale University.

"They didn't know that I was a student at UNC," Morrison said. "I was just a regular black person. After having that experience I realized that I was not immune (to racism). When I realized the injustices, I became interested in the plight of the housekeepers here."

Morrison said despite her bad experience, housekeepers had better working conditions there. "At least they have a union at Yale," she said. "I can't imagine working as a housekeeper here."



Carolyn Corrie (left), Matt Robinson, Elizabeth Martin, Elizabeth McLaughlin and others attended Thursday's rally in the Pit.

*There is something curiously boring about somebody else's happiness.*  
Aldous Huxley