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Buildings, students shake during unexplained shock

BY MONICA DEV
STAFF WRITER

Windows in Alderman Residence Hall shook, a loud booming sound interrupted classes in Hamilton Hall and Granville Towers residents feared a crashing elevator in about two seconds Tuesday afternoon during a campuswide "phenomenon."

"It was just like a boom," said Serita Braswell, a sophomore from Bailey who was sitting in class in Hanes Hall during the geological event. "I thought someone was on the roof."

A large booming sound and the ground shaking was heard and felt across campus.

At the same time, an underground seismometer at University Lake picked up an unusual reading around 1 p.m.

The seismometer, the only one in the area, falls under the care of UNC geology professor and seismology specialist Christine Powell.

"We don't know, yet, what the heck happened," Powell said.

She said she could not discover the cause for the shaking Tuesday because the seismometer's reading is automati-

cally sent to Golden, Colo., for study, and Powell cannot retrieve it until sometime today.

Powell consulted with the scientists who received the reading.

The graph reading did not appear to be that of a sonic boom or an earthquake, she said.

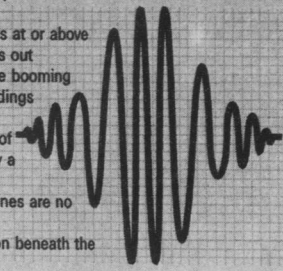
However, Powell said she refused to rule out either option. She also listed subterranean explosions or a large crash, such as a building falling in the vicinity, as possible explanations.

Powell said that if she could rule out a sonic boom, any explosions, or build-

Geology 101

The cause of the shaking felt on campus could not be determined Tuesday. Here's a quick lesson on the geological terms that could explain the phenomenon.

- Seismometer — an instrument that amplifies and records small movements of the ground
- Sonic boom — When an aircraft travels at or above the speed of sound, it sends out shock waves causing a large booming sound and the walls of buildings to vibrate
- Fault line — A break in the continuity of a rock formation, caused by a shifting in the earth's crust, seismologically dead fault lines are no longer active fault lines
- Subterranean explosion — an explosion beneath the earth's surface



DTH/STAFF

ings falling, then, "We have an earthquake."

Although the Triangle sits on several fault lines, they have been seismographically dead for many years. Powell said if the event was an earthquake, it was

probably an isolated event and not the creation of a new fault line.

University Police were also in the dark Tuesday night as to what took

SEE BOOM, PAGE 2

Tuition delay proposed for spring term

■ Officials suggested the payment delay so students can get a new tax break.

BY BRADY DENNIS
STAFF WRITER

UNC-system officials might give students an unexpected Christmas present.

In conjunction with proposals by the Board of Governors, UNC-Chapel Hill is considering delaying spring tuition payments until the new year, delaying the traditional December due date.

This proposal would allow eligible students — who must pay for a recent tuition increase — to reap the benefits of the recently passed Taxpayer Relief Act. "We're working on the feasibility of scheduling student payments second semester so students who are eligible can receive tax credit," said Molly Broad, UNC-system president. "Such credit would help to mitigate the cost of tuition increases."

Taxpayer Relief Act programs, like HOPE scholarships and "life-long learning" tax credits, help students fund higher education.

HOPE scholarships provide students with up to \$1,500 a year in tax credits for the first two years of college. The life-long learning program provides a tax credit that takes effect after the HOPE tax credit is claimed.

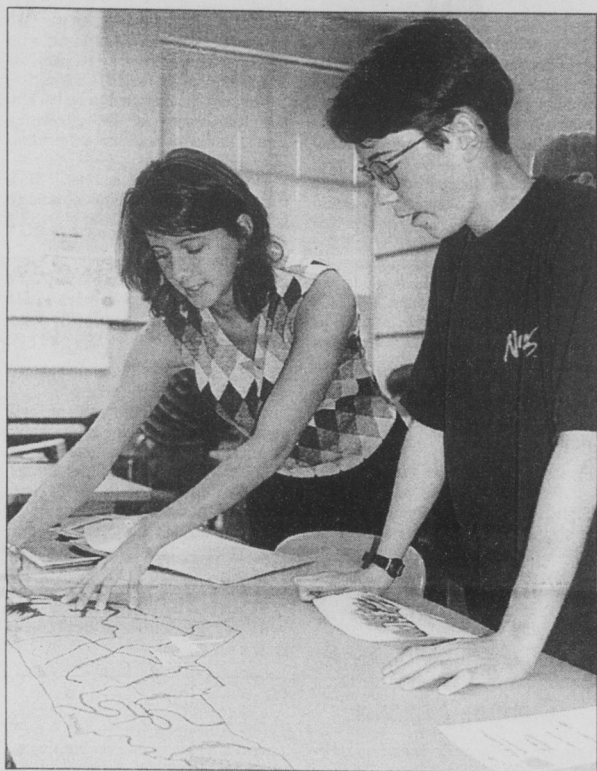
BOG Chairman C. Clifford Cameron said he thought delaying spring semester bills would be beneficial, but added that the BOG could not require schools to delay mailing them.

"I noticed that most spring tuition bills were due in December, and I thought 'why not delay it,'" he said. Wayne Jones, vice chancellor of UNC-Chapel Hill's Department of Business and Finance, expressed the University's willingness to alter the current payment deadline if possible.

"The (UNC system's) General Administration sent an inquiry about the possibility of tuition delays to all 16 universities, and our response was that we could probably accommodate such a change," Jones said.

Roger Patterson, associate vice chan-

SEE TUITION, PAGE 2



DTH/ROBIN SPOONER

Student teacher Jennifer Beatty helps out eighth-grader Chris Elkins with an art project at McDougle Middle School. Beatty is a senior at UNC.

Local middle schools benefit from UNC's student teachers

BY NICOLE WHITE
STAFF WRITER

A University program that places education majors in local middle school classrooms lets students acquire real-world knowledge.

Twenty-five University students participating in the Middle Grades Education program will have the unique experience of teaching at local middle schools for one full year instead of the usual few weeks.

"(University) students are actually going out to their (assigned) schools the first day," said Libby Vesilind, coordinator of the University's middle grade education.

"They were introduced as part of the (middle school) teaching staff," she said. "From the very beginning they established themselves as teachers — not as student teachers."

Currently, the program has placed student teachers at Grey Culbreth Middle School and McDougle Middle School, as well as several schools in Durham.

"Prior to this program, I would have been nervous about having many student teachers at one time," said Charles

Stewart, principal of McDougle Middle School. "But they're so strong and so well supervised that they are another resource for us."

The program gives students hands-on experience that other programs do not offer, said Brandi Cochran, a senior from Mt. Pleasant. Cochran teaches eighth-grade algebra and pre-algebra at McDougle Middle School.

"It's really intense," she said. "We get to know the students really well so we will be more comfortable in the classroom, and they will be more comfortable with us."

But before becoming full-time teachers, students go through a multi-step process. During the spring of their junior year, students begin teaching at middle schools several hours a week. Cochran said that after every lesson the students teach, they regroup with their fellow student-teachers, a professor and clinical instructor Carol Horne.

Horne is a middle school teacher hired by the University to work with the program, a feature unique to the Middle Grades program.

"(Horne) brings the real world into our classes at the University," Vesilind said. "When we talk about a theory, she

is there to show how it applies."

Real life anecdotes and applications from the clinical instructor's experiences accompany theories rather than text book examples, said Horne, a nine-year veteran of the program.

"I think it is a wonderful partnership between those who are training young people to teach, and those who have taught for a number of years," she said.

The program strives to better prepare students for their first year of teaching and to make them aware that teaching is about relationships, Vesilind said.

"Our philosophy is that the learner should be at the center of education," she said. "Our goal is to have students understand how children learn and be able to create caring relationships with students to encourage learning."

The built-in internship also helps students make connections between their classroom studies and their future occupation. "When you're in the classroom, you feel like so much you are learning is theoretical," Horne said. "But if you do not have the applications for the real world, you brush it off. If I can help the education majors see how theory

SEE TEACHERS, PAGE 2

Fraternity raises money to rebuild burned house

■ The house will include a reference to the students who died in the 1996 fire.

BY SHARIF DURHAMS
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Phi Gamma Delta fraternity members have nearly reached the \$1 million mark in raising money to rebuild their house after a fire that killed five students 16 months ago.

The new house, which members plan to start building within the next two months, will look much like the old one from the outside, but the latest in fire-fighting technology will complement the new Internet and cable hookups, library and computer lab in the rebuilt house, said David Joyner, a 1972 alumnus and former president of the fraternity.

"Obviously, fire is of paramount interest," he said. "We want to go forward, and at the same time, we want to remember."

The building will have fire escapes at both ends and will use the latest fire retardant materials, Joyner said. The plans will include fire alarms, sprinklers required by the town and fire escapes at both ends of the house.

It will also include a reference to the students who died in the 1996 graduation day fire.

The building's final cost could reach more than \$1.5 million, but Joyner said construction should start when a few final permits are approved.

In July, the Chapel Hill Town Council gave the fraternity permission to rebuild the house.

"It's been a defining moment in our history. It's taught all of us about being alive, and I think it's been good for us."

GARRETT PERDUE
President of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity

To secure most of their building permits, the fraternity agreed to replace a large central staircase with two smaller ones on either end of the building.

The fire investigation concluded the old house's central staircase conducted smoke and gas to the upper floor bedrooms where the five students slept.

The fraternity hired Stewart Howe Alumni Service, a Pennsylvania firm that specializes in helping fraternities and sororities raise money, to help find funds for the house.

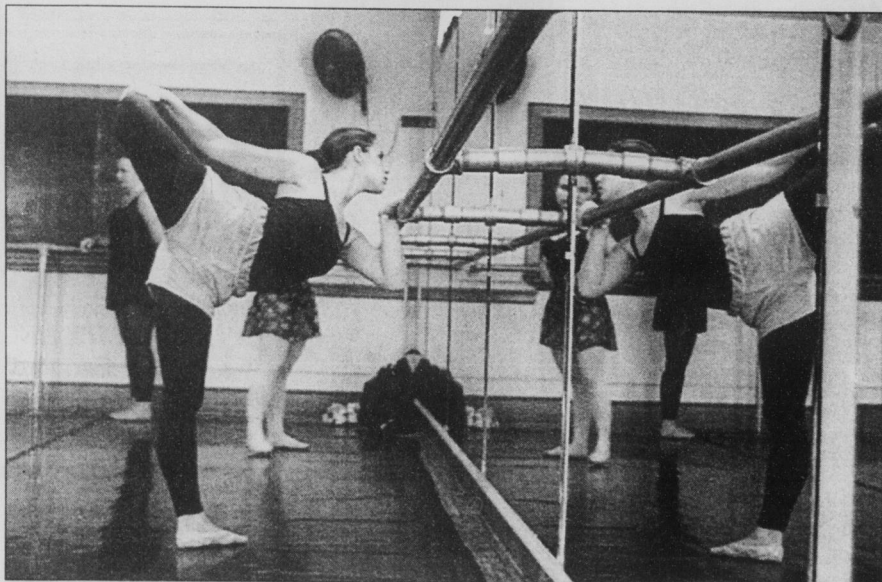
Director of Greek Affairs Ron Binder said hiring professional fundraisers was not unique. Three other fraternities are quietly raising money for improvements.

"These facilities cost a lot of money," he said. "They're basically mini dorms, and housing will tell you dorms cost a lot of money."

Fraternity President Garrett Perdue said members planned to move back in to the house next fall. He was excited about the move, but said members did not want to forget either the fraternity's history or the tragic fire.

"It's been a defining moment in our history," Perdue said. "It's taught all of us about being alive, and I think it's been good for us."

NO HOLDS BARRED



DTH/LAURA GIOVANELLI

Trisha Shores, a sophomore English major, limbers up before her ballet class. The class is taught by professional ballerina Julie Janius Walters, who meshes the traditional virtues of a physical education class with the fine arts.

SILS dean to step down, focus on research

BY KERRY OSSI
STAFF WRITER

Barbara Moran, dean of the School of Information and Library Science, has announced plans to step down at the end of the school year to return to her first loves: teaching and research.

"Being dean has been fun, but I miss having the time to work with students and on my own research," said Moran,

who has headed the school since 1990.

"I've tried to write a book all summer long and came to the conclusion that I can't be an administrator and do my research."

Moran's statement on Monday made her the second administrator in two months to announce plans to move back into the classroom. Vice Provost for Health Affairs H. Garland Hershey said in August that he wanted to return to

teaching in the School of Dentistry.

Provost Richard Richardson, a popular professor who taught in the Department of Political Science, said Moran's return to teaching was not unusual.

"I view administrators as faculty members temporarily away from the classroom and their research," he said.

SEE DEAN, PAGE 2

INSIDE Wednesday

History of 'the Hill'

How did Chapel Hill become Chapel Hill? The



relationship between the town and the University, the integration of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools and a history of Chapel Hill's main drag — Franklin Street — are all explored.

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Working-class crusaders

EmPOWERment Inc. is seeking to save Chapel Hill and Carrboro's affordable housing in four neighborhoods for the area's working-class residents. Page 6

A chancellor says farewell

N.C. State University Chancellor Larry Monteith, announced Tuesday he plans to retire. UNC-system President Molly Broad praised his work. Page 6

Today's weather

Partly sunny;
mid 80s

Thursday: Partly sunny;
mid 80s

How beautiful it is to do nothing, and then rest afterward.

Spanish proverb