

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## UNC officials mull halogen lamp ban

■ Student government does not support the Housing department's idea.

BY MONICA DEV  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR  
AND ANNIE CLIFFORD  
STAFF WRITER

The Department of University Housing is considering banning halogen lamps and smoking on balconies for campus residents next fall.

University housing proposed banning all halogen lamps from residence halls and banning smoking from all residence hall balconies in a memo written by Housing Assistant Director Sue Moore to Director Wayne Kuncel. The Residence



University Housing Director **WAYNE KUNCEL** said the proposal was made because halogen lamps can be fire hazards.

*"We have problems with the banning of halogen lamps because dorm rooms are so poorly lit."*

**EMILY WILLIAMSON**  
Student Government executive assistant

Hall Association and the Housing Advisory Board would have to approve the recommendation.

Housing officials are considering the lamp ban due to recent studies showing that halogen lamps readily start fires.

"(This is a) very strong recommendation based on fire dangers," Kuncel said.

While many University housing officials said they wanted to implement this policy, some students said they would not so willingly give up their halogens.

"I'd be upset if I couldn't use it because it's the best lamp for under my loft," said Fagan Cheatham, a sophomore from Henderson.

Emily Williamson, an executive assistant in student government, said student government members also disagreed with the proposal.

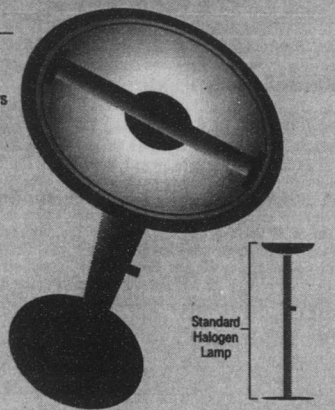
"We have problems with the banning

## Seeing things in a different light

A recent study has shown commonly used halogen lamps can be dangerous. The following are some safety tips concerning the lamps:

### Safety Tips

- New lamps still operate at high temperatures.
- Keep away from curtains, posters and other flammable items.
- Look for a model with a metal grate guard and a thermal protector.
- Avoid using old lamps without new safety features.
- Consider purchasing a lower wattage incandescent lamp.
- Never leave a halogen lamp turned on and unattended.
- Make sure it is stable and will not fall over.



SOURCE: CONSUMER REPORTS

DTH/FILE GRAPHIC

of halogen lamps because dorm rooms are so poorly lit," she said.

Williamson said student government officials planned to fight the policy when it reaches the Housing Advisory Board and to propose requiring all halogens to have safety shields.

Olde Campus Lower Quad Area Director Mike Zeinstra said shielded lamps were still a threat.

"Even with protective covers, there is still a chance of fires starting from halogen lamps," he said.

Williamson said student government also planned to argue against the ban on smoking on residence hall balconies.

Kuncel said banning smoking on balconies would improve the campus' appearance. "Students carelessly drop cigarette butts off balconies which causes more work for groundskeepers."

A smoking ban would create hardships for students who live in high-rise residence halls, Williamson said.

"If trash is a concern, then they need to put out more trash cans or ashtrays."

## Former employee wins back pay from UNC

■ The University has only 30 days to file a fourth objection to the grievance.

BY SHARIF DURHAMS  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A former University employee won an appeal Wednesday against claims she falsified her work record by not recording overtime hours.

The State Personnel Commission agreed with Administrative Law Judge Sammie Chess Jr.'s June decision that Diane Riggsbee-Raynor was held to a different work standard than other University employees.

Riggsbee-Raynor had also won her argument before a grievance board at UNC. University attorneys had continued to appeal the case.

The University attorneys have only had an appeal to Chancellor Michael Hooker ruled in their favor.

"I've won at three levels now," Riggsbee-Raynor said from her supervisory job at Midway Airlines.

"It would be one thing if I had been a bad worker. I got fired for working too much."

The attorney general's office or the

University can decide within 30 days to appeal the case.

Both University Legal Counsel Susan Ehringhaus and Tom Ziko, a state attorney who is handling the case, did not return phone calls to their offices Wednesday.

Riggsbee-Raynor took time off from her job in the School of Medicine's Plastic Surgery Division after her supervisor told her to do so because she had worked so many overtime hours, she said.

Months after she returned to work, she received her walking papers for not documenting the extra hours she worked.

"I'm the one that told them (about working overtime)," she said.

"I'm working my tail off to organize a place that wasn't organized. But it was grounds for misconduct was the way they pursued it."

An investigator found that other employees regularly took vacation time after working overtime hours. Riggsbee-Raynor had been the only one punished.

Riggsbee-Raynor said she would not gain much money from her grievance.

UNC owes her back wages from the time of her September 1995 firing, but a

SEE RIGGSBEE-RAYNOR, PAGE 10

## Police: do not park cars in remote lots for break

■ Officials say criminals target student property during long breaks.

BY SCOTT WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

If you're thinking of leaving your car in the park-and-ride lots during Spring Break, you might want to think again.

After a rash of automobile break-ins three weeks ago in the Southern Village lot, Capt. Gregg Jarvies of the Chapel Hill Police Department suggested students not leave their cars in the lots during Spring Break.

"You should park closer to town in areas well-traveled and that means not the park-and-ride lots," Jarvies said.

Bob Godding, Chapel Hill Transit director of transportation, disagreed with Jarvies. Godding said it was not necessary for students to remove their cars from the park-and-ride lots over the break.

Godding also said the transportation department was doing nothing different during Spring Break.

"The more frequently people monitor their cars, the better off they are," he said.

"But there will be no change in the procedure for the students' break. We'll still have police patrols and cameras monitoring thefts."

However, Godding said the Eubanks park-and-ride lot was the only lot without security camera surveillance.

Chapel Hill Transit provides no other options for people to park over the break, Godding said.

But students may park in the Rosemary Street parking deck if they choose to pay the high cost of the daily rate, he said.

"That's the only service we have

*"The more frequently people monitor their cars, the better off they are. But there will be no change in the procedure for the students' break."*

**BOB GODDING**  
Director of Transportation

available for people leaving their car over an extended period of time," Godding said.

Jarvies recommended students look at other options if they have to leave their cars behind during Spring Break.

"I would suggest students talk with University officials about University lots that aren't being used over the break."

Jarvies also suggested students try to arrange agreements with fraternity houses or ask permission to park in privately owned lots on North Columbia Street.

The reason to avoid the lots, Jarvies said, was that everyone, including criminals knows students will leave for spring break this week.

"The thieves in this town know the school's schedule as well as anyone else," he said.

"If they see a car left unattended for a couple of days they know it's probably a student's. It increases their confidence level that they won't be caught."

Godding cited basic safety as the most important crime deterrent.

"Make sure the car's locked," Godding said. "Make sure you don't leave anything valuable sitting out."

MacGregor Bell, a junior from Raleigh, parks in the Estes Drive park-and-ride lot and said he wouldn't leave his car there during break.

"I just wouldn't feel safe," Bell said. "I would try to put it somewhere else."



## SPIRITED DEMONSTRATION

Shara Lee (above) reaches for a pen as part of a field sobriety demonstration. The Forensic Test for Alcohol Branch of Raleigh brought the Breath Alcohol Test mobile, or BAT mobile, to Union Circle on Wednesday in order to raise awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving during Spring Break. Officer Jack Terry holds special goggles designed to simulate legal drunkenness. One goggle simulates a person with .08 blood alcohol content and the other simulates .17 blood alcohol content.

PHOTOS BY  
DAVID SANDLER



## New fat substitute virtually calorie free, now available to consumers

■ Olestra is predicted to revolutionize the fat-free food market.

BY ASHLEY RYNESKA  
STAFF WRITER

On the supermarket shelves consumers can now find products telling them that they can have their cake and eat it too — without guilt over fat intake.

Procter & Gamble recently developed a fat-based substitute for conventional fat, olestra. The cooking oil is virtually free of fat and calories, but allows food

to maintain its full taste, officials said. Olestra will be used in salty snacks such as potato chips and crackers.

"We are listening to our consumers who want better choices of low-fat snacks," said Sydney McHugh, Procter & Gamble spokeswoman for olestra. "We no longer need to sacrifice taste for low-fat options."

Starting this summer, snack industries nationwide will be using olestra in their products. Companies such as Doritos, Lays, Ruffles and Pringles, will offer their new versions of better tasting, low-fat options.

Nabisco, Inc. also plans to introduce Fat-Free Ritz crackers and Fat-Free

Wheat Thins, made with the new cooking oil.

McHugh said she has received positive feedback from consumers. "People love these new products," McHugh said. "They are finding ways to eat snacks without the guilt."

Jenny Burrows, a sophomore from Winterville, said she tested chips made with olestra to compare them with regular chips. "I thought they tasted like regular chips, they weren't different at all," Burrows said.

But appearances can be deceiving. Olestra, a combination of soybean, cottonseed and sugar, is unlike any other fat substitute. It provides no calories or sat-

urated fat because it is indigestible; it passes through the digestive track without being absorbed in the body.

Safety concerns arose after reports of abdominal cramping and loose stools were made by consumers. Officials said side effects might be attributed to the chemical composition of the product.

After a one-year trial, the Food and Drug Administration will determine whether olestra products can remain on market shelves. "Olestra's safety is the FDA's primary concern," said Emil Corwin, member of the FDA Center for Food and Applied Nutrition.

But the manufacturers at Procter & Gamble are confident that their fat sub-

stitute will pass safety standards. More than 150 studies have been submitted by Procter & Gamble regarding olestra's safety. "The FDA is accusing olestra of having negative effects on the digestive system," McHugh said. "The FDA is simply wrong about olestra."

The FDA will formally review studies of the product over the next year. Meanwhile olestra's promoters said they remained confident about the oil's benefits. "We have sold over 28 million snacks, saving our consumers over 200 tons of fat and 2.3 billion calories," McHugh said. "I think that people in Chapel Hill will soon agree these new snacks are delicious, healthy and safe."

## Lotto to help ball fans with hoop dreams

■ The University will give out tickets for the NCAA Tournament next week.

BY SARAH BECK  
STAFF WRITER

March Madness has hit UNC, and students are scrambling to get their hands on coveted tickets to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, which begins a week from today.

"I've followed Carolina for a long time, and I'm excited to be here in the midst of March Madness," said Michael Bailey, a junior from Charlotte.

Tickets will be distributed via lottery. Students who have their UNC ONE Cards can sign up to participate in the lottery at the Smith Center Ticket Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday.

Names will be drawn and posted by 6 that night. Those people on the list can purchase their tickets Tuesday at the Smith Center Ticket Office.

Some students said they were upset the tickets would be handed out during Spring Break.

"It's unfortunate that they will distribute tickets during Spring Break, but

SEE NCAA, PAGE 10

## INSIDE Thursday

### I want my cheesy poofs

They're shocking, they're vulgar and they're ... funny as hell. This week's Diversions takes a look at those foul-mouthed little kids from "South Park" and the success of cartoons in general. **Page 5**

### Showdown in Greensboro

It's the toughest conference tourney in the country. Check out the coverage of the ACC Tournament. **Page 11**

### Today's weather

Mostly cloudy; low 50s  
Friday: Chance of Rain; high 40s

*I know Kung Fu, Karate and 47 other dangerous words.*

Jo Ramos