

# Athletes look for proximity to gyms, fields

BY DANIEL PRICE  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

As one of the most physically demanding sports at North Carolina, wrestling requires enormous amounts of strength, speed, agility and endurance. But for some on the UNC roster, the workouts don't begin at practice. They start on Manning Drive.

Tar Heel redshirt freshman Thomas Scotton is one of the many Tar Heels that live on South Campus — Hinton James, to be specific — and he said the treks to class and practice every day were the only real drawbacks to living in the building named for UNC's first student.

"Most of my friends live on South Campus anyway," he said. "The only bad thing about it is it just being so far."

In his redshirt year, Scotton lived with fellow freshman Nick Stabile in Carmichael Hall, meaning getting to practice was much less of a workout, but when Scotton and Stabile got home, space was a little tight.

"(Hinton James) has a lot more space," Scotton said. "That's the big thing, having your own space."

Adding to Scotton's spacious dorm in Hinton James is the fact that he has a room to himself, something he said he is enjoying quite a bit.

"It's a pretty nice setup."

While Scotton is living it up in one of UNC's most well-known — and infamous — South Campus residence halls, teammate Kyle Kiss is taking in his first year at Avery Hall, much closer to Fetzer Gym — as well as pretty much everything else.

"I like it a lot there," he said. "It's close to everything. I don't really have to walk too far to get anywhere, and there's a lot of other athletes in there, too."

One of those other athletes is his teammate and roommate, Danny Lopes. Kiss said he is enjoying liv-

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RILEY FOSTER, UNC SOPHOMORE

ing with Lopes, a former teammate at Ocean Township High School in Loch Arbour, N.J., and just about everything else about living in Avery.

"There's nothing that really stands out (as a negative) too much, except privacy sometimes," Kiss said.

Kiss said that he isn't sure if he is going to live on or off campus next year but that if he does decide to move out of the dorms, transportation might be an issue.

Also in Avery is sophomore field hockey player Riley Foster.

The Fort Worth, Texas, native, who lived in Carmichael her freshman year, said the experience in Avery is leaps and bounds above her year in Carmichael.

"Avery is a lot better," she said. "There's more room, and it's a lot more social. ... There's a lot more outdoorsy people. There's a basketball court. We just hang out a lot and have fun."

One thing that did not change for Riley from her freshman to her sophomore year was her roommate, soccer player Casey Nogueira.

Despite the fact that Riley and Nogueira did not know each other before last year and that they don't see much of each other because of hectic academic and athletic schedules, Riley said they have become very close.

"We get along really well," she said. "She's one of my really good friends."

Contact the Sports Editor at [sports@unc.edu](mailto:sports@unc.edu).



Juniors and Sigma Nu fraternity members Ethan Bowers and Christian Mibelli relax in the living room at the Sigma Nu house Wednesday afternoon. Sigma Nu, which houses 28, is located at the end of Fraternity Court. Sigma Nu returned to their house this summer after a five-year absence.

## Greek houses encourage identity

BY DANIELLE KUCERA  
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Fraternity brothers lucky enough to land a room in some of the nicest houses on campus in Fraternity Court say it's all about location.

"I like it because you're with all of your friends, it's so close to classes, there's food right there and you get parking," said Matt Field, a former member of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

It costs \$1,400 on top of standard dues for members of Sigma Chi to live in their house located in Fraternity Court, but Field said it's worth the extra penny.

"If you don't have a house then it's hard to get everyone together to have chapter, go play basketball or watch a game," Field said.

And because some members think the living situation can't be

beat, it's competitive when brothers are trying to get a room, Field said.

At Sigma Chi room assignments are based on how long a brother has lived in the house, when he pledged and what year he is. If a brother has formerly lived in the house, he gets first choice, Field said.

"If you're a sophomore and you've lived in the house for a semester and a senior is trying to live in the house, the sophomore gets priority," Field said.

Field said that usually about half the fraternity brothers are able to live in the house but that it also depends on how many students pledge each year.

But not all fraternities always have the luxury of houses. Sigma Nu Fraternity returned to their house this summer after a five year

absence.

They replaced Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, which was leasing the space from Sigma Nu.

Jason Rentz, the president of Sigma Nu, said fraternity life was not as fun without the house.

"In the very beginning it seemed more like a business than a fraternity," he said. "We had to try a lot harder to get it off the ground without a house, and it takes a lot more effort keeping things together."

Sigma Nu houses 28 brothers, just under half of total membership in the fraternity, Rentz said.

The fraternity uses pin numbers to decide who will land a room.

"The lower your pin number the higher up on the list you are in terms of priority," Rentz said. "Executive officers get first priority."

Pin numbers are handed out according to how much effort a student exerts during the pledge period and how well he gets to know the existing brothers.

Members of Sigma Nu can choose between a single room, which costs \$3,910, or a double room for \$4,410. Both prices include fraternity dues and a meal plan.

Rentz said having a house has helped out Sigma Nu.

"I think my fraternity really enjoys it. When we started back up, we really didn't have a reputation or identity," Rentz said. "Our location in the back of Fraternity Court has really helped us make a name for ourselves."

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