

Student Suicide: Question Of 'Why?'

By PAUL SCHAFFER
Tar Heel Staff Writer

Chapel Hill was shocked recently by the death of a former University medical student who leaped from the fifth floor of the Medical School Building.

And the "shock" struck again only a week later with the "probable suicide" of a 21-year-old UNC student who plunged from a second floor window onto Henderson Street.

Why do students revert to suicide? What facilities are available at UNC to help them? The man with many of the answers is Dr. Clifford Reifler, psychiatrist with the Student Health Service.

Reifler said that suicide is the sixth leading cause of death among those 15 to 24 years of age. He said most of these suicides occur in a

framework of "severe unremitting depression."

Although feelings of depression are common (such as occasional fleeting thoughts of "Life is not worth living"), these thoughts seldom take the form of action.

Reifler said that many so-called "suicide attempts" are carried out impulsively with little possibility of being fatal. The danger is that while they may be done with other motives in mind, such as sympathy seeking or getting back at someone, they might accidentally prove fatal.

Reifler said that those who show signs of apathy, lack of enjoyment, withdrawal and personality change are considered as having a potentially high risk of suicide.

He said it is only a myth that the person who commits

suicide is the one who won't talk about it. Those inclined to suicide often tell someone about it, and such statements should be considered dangerous until proven different, he said.

Consultation

Reifler said it is vital that professional consultation be given to evaluate the risk and possible treatment.

Suicide is often a response to a problem that appears to have no other solution. One of the psychiatrist's functions is to help the individual see alternate solutions to these problems.

This may be accomplished through various forms of psychiatric treatment including hospitalization, medicines and counseling. However, Reifler said, the instinct for survival as an individual is the major

working force for a successful treatment.

Facilities Available

The Student Health Service in the Infirmary is the student's major source of consultation for emotional or personal problems. Many students are hesitant to take advantage of this service because they don't want the term "treatment" inscribed on their medical record.

But treatment, in the usual psychiatric sense, is not accurate to describe the type of professional service rendered. Instead, the health service provides psychiatric consultation and short-term counseling for acute, transient and intermittent problems.

Other Infirmary physicians may refer students to this consultation, but usually this
(Continued on Page 3)

The Tar Heel

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1965



A LITTLE EARLY: Coed Bev Coleman gets a head start on the July 4th celebration by using the Stars and Stripes to keep her company as she tackles a long, long American history assignment. But for those who don't

prefer the Asheville sophomore's quiet celebration, there will be an afternoon of games and food and a fireworks display Monday. See story under Entertainment and the Arts, page 2.—Photo by Ernest Robl.

Dr. Cone Acting Chancellor

UNC-C: It's Official Today

By ERNEST ROBL
Tar Heel Asst. Editor

Today is UNC-C Day. In ceremonies scheduled today, Gov. Dan K. Moore will receive a copy of the deeds of Charlotte College and the institution will officially become the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

For Dr. Bonnie Cone, former president of Charlotte College and now acting chancellor of UNC-C, today's events on the Charlotte campus will mark the happy end of a beautiful dream.

Since she became president of the institution in 1958, Miss Cone has worked on the expansion of facilities with an eye toward the eventual incorporation of the campus into the Consolidated University.

Since 1961, the Charlotte institution has doubled its enrollment, its facilities, and doubled its faculty.

Today Miss Cone gets the chance to talk about her

dream, for her part in the ceremonies is to tell about Charlotte College — how it began, how it developed, and perhaps what is in store for the future.

The aspirations of Charlotte College became reality on

March 2 of this year, when the N. C. House passed the bill making the Charlotte campus the fourth branch of the Consolidated University. The measure had passed the Senate earlier.

The bill was snagged in the House and drew considerable debate. However, when the final vote came, there was only one dissenting vote.

Charlotte's UNC campus is by far the smallest of the four. It consists of four buildings. But each of these buildings is ultra modern, complete with the latest equipment, and every inch of space is used from early in the morning to late at night.

Construction is continuing on several sites, with some of the projects to be ready for the fall session. Today this construction will cease briefly as hundreds of special guests come to the campus.

"We're all very happy and excited," Miss Cone told the
(Continued on Page 3)

Inside

Keep up with developments in the speaker ban controversy, page 4.

Weird airplanes take to the air over Raleigh-Durham Airport. See story and pictures on page 5.

The Johnson Administration goes rock 'n' roll. See page 6.

The Tar Heel basketball team will play a 25-game schedule this fall. Page 9.

Gag Investigation May Be Launched On July 14: Britt

The commission appointed to study the speaker ban law may begin its investigation in two weeks.

Rep. David M. Britt, commission chairman, told the Tar Heel yesterday: "Indications are that we will be able to meet July 14." However, Britt said, he has not cleared that time with two members of the commission.

Britt was picked by Gov. Dan K. Moore to head the nine-member commission which will study the impact of the speaker ban on North Carolina institutions of higher learning.

The appointees were announced last Thursday at Moore's press conference. At that time Britt said: "I knew nothing about it (his appointment) until the Governor called me today and asked me to serve. I certainly did not seek the appointment, and, frankly, I did not want it. But the Governor asked me to and I felt that I should honor his request."

Britt talked in a similar tone yesterday when he said he is "not looking forward to it," but "someone has to do it."

Moore has said that he anticipates a report by November. However, Britt said yesterday that he has set no target date, and that the commission "will have to feel its way along."

Moore, who named a majority of the commission also selected Rev. Ben C. Fisher, chairman of the Committee on Higher Education of the Baptist State Convention; Mrs. Elizabeth Swindell, Wilson editor and publisher; Charles Myers of Greensboro, president of Burlington Industries Inc.; and Col. William T. Joyner of Raleigh, a lawyer well-known in state government circles.

Lt. Gov. Robert Scott appointed two state Senators to the commission. Named were

Sen. Gordon Haynes of Forsyth and Sen. Russell Kirby of Wilson.

Appointees of House Speaker Pat Taylor were Rep. Lacy Thornburg of Jackson and Rep. A. A. Zollicoffer of Henderson.

Moore said his appointees
(Continued on Page 4)

Man Charged With Attack On UNC Coed

Hearing has been set at 9 a.m. Friday for a 30-year-old New York man accused of attacking a 17-year-old coed here Monday.

According to Chapel Hill Police Chief William Blake, Walter Francis Freeman is being held without bond pending the hearing tomorrow.

Blake said the coed had met Freeman at the New York City Greyhound Bus Terminal where he worked at the information desk. According to Blake, the woman "was in his company at the station for some time."

"He showed up here at her dorm on the 23rd and asked her if she would go to dinner with him that night, to which she consented," Blake said. "When he picked her up at her dorm, and they were walking along, Freeman told the girl that he had left his wallet in his room and asked her to come with him to get it so he could pay for his meal."

The girl told police that she wanted to remain outside the room, but was forced inside.

The girl feigned an attack of asthma, and the man took her to the infirmary, Blake said. She told the doctor there what had happened and he called police.