

# The Daily Tar Heel

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Jeff Brown and a friend recently enjoyed some of the hot weather which will soon leave us by rowing across University

Lake. Any student can rent a boat at the Lake, which is located on Highway 54 east. (Staff photo by John Gellman)

## Required by state

## Local utility deposits skyrocket

by Evans Witt  
Staff Writer

The deposits required for water and electric service to private, off-campus living units have risen for many students due to regulation of University-owned utilities by the N.C. Utilities Commission.

Many students requesting utilities be connected to their apartments or houses will be forced to pay a \$25 or \$50 deposit as compared to the \$10 deposit last year.

Compliance with Utilities Commission regulations is the reason for the increase, according to John Temple, assistant vice

chancellor for business.

Lack of regulation over the rates and service of the University-owned utilities — a major source of town and campus disagreement for the past several years — was eliminated by State Senate bill 574 this summer.

That bill changed the definition of "public utilities" in the state to include University-owned facilities, according to Allen Clapp of the division of engineering of the Utilities Commission.

There is still some question as to when the regulation of local utilities goes into effect, Clapp said. Complete regulation

by the commission will take effect Jan. 1, 1973, he noted.

Temple said the University's business division is attempting to change all of its policies, including those on deposits, to bring them in line with those required by the Commission.

While a \$10 deposit was formerly required for all water and electric service, the new, increased deposit is required only of those who cannot establish a good credit rating, Temple explained.

"Unfortunately, this catches many students who simply don't have credit ratings," he said.

Temple added as soon as a customer

established a record of prompt payment with University Service Plants, the deposit would be refunded.

"We're in the process of getting all these changes on computer," he said, "and we can't really say how long it will be before a deposit would be refunded."

The deposit will be returned if service is terminated, Temple said, as long as the customer does not have any outstanding balance due.

The basis for the deposit is essentially the average two-month bill of the type of living unit to be serviced, Temple said.

According to the service representative of the electric utility business office, the difference between a \$25 deposit and a \$50 deposit depends on the residence. If the unit is all-electric, the service representative explained, the deposit is \$50.

This change in the policy brings the University in line with the Commission's regulations and protects the University from losing as much money on bad debts, Temple said. It also reduces the number of people who must pay deposits to roughly 20 per cent of those who paid last year.

Temple said a delay of the deposit increase could not come under Pres. Nixon's 90 wage-price freeze. He said the increase began July 1.

## Weather

TODAY: Partly cloudy and mild; temperatures to range into low 80's; 20 per cent chance of rain this afternoon, 10 per cent chance tonight; showers expected to continue through Friday.

## Project Hinton cancelled; meeting to explain why

by Sue English  
Staff Writer

Project Hinton, the two-year-old co-educational living experiment in Hinton-James Dorm has been cancelled for 1971-72.

A meeting will be held on the 10th floor of James at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 7, to offer reasons for the cancellation.

Claiborne S. Jones, assistant to the Chancellor, will preside at the meeting.

In the meantime, residence advisors and students in James will decide what to do in place of the project.

Split into one wing for men and another for women, the dorm is organizing into "houses." Each floor

sponsors activities for meals and discussion.

Students on the ninth and 10th floors, Project Hinton's home, will meet Sept. 2 to decide whether to continue working together. A faculty advisor has suggested maintaining a "nucleus" on the two floors, in hopes the project will be reinstated for 1973.

A member of last year's project said many students planning to participate in this year's program were not notified when the administration decided to discontinue the project.

"Unofficially, I would say the reason for the cancellation was that the University could not justify giving so

much time to 200 students when the housing situation is so crucial," one student said. He did not wish to be identified.

"The reasons may be valid, but they are poor," he said. "There are more than 200 people interested in the project."

Bob Voitle, director of Project Hinton last year, resigned during the summer.

"I resigned for personal reasons," Voitle explained. "I could have handled the job if there were not so many liabilities involved."

Voitle said if the administration is going to be persuaded to continue the project, it will be at the meeting scheduled for Sept. 7.

of his own. "I've got one drawer right now. There's not even a place to put a toothbrush," he added.

Most students say they will really feel the effects of overcrowding once classes and studying begin. "I don't know what we're going to do when classes start," said Debbie Karte, a freshman from Franklin living in an overcrowded Connor Dorm room. "At least we have two desks. Some girls don't even have any desks."

"I guess I'll use the top of my trunk as a desk," said one of her roommates, Janet Shue, a freshman from Charlotte.

Although the Office of Residence Life notified most overcrowded students of their situations in advance, those interviewed had not expected conditions to be this bad.

"I thought we would at least have our own drawer space," said Sally McCallum, a freshman from Winston-Salem. Lottis rooms with two other freshmen.

"The letter said each girl would have a desk and

dresser for herself," said one girl after pointing out two dressers and two desks.

Miss Hall, who did not know she was being put in the study room until she arrived on campus, said, "When you walk into a room with no beds, you're kind of amazed." The beds arrived soon, but the dressers are yet to be seen. "They (the Housing Office) keep telling us our dressers are coming, but that's about all," she complained.

The Office of Residence Life has told most students extra dressers and desks are coming, but most interviewed expressed little hope for changing the present situations.

Surprisingly enough, the least mentioned problem was conflict among the occupants which might be directly related to over-crowding.

"We all get along just great," says John Lottis, a freshman from Winston-Salem. Lottis rooms with two other freshmen.

"The letter said each girl would have a desk and

were aware of the promised 10 per cent reduction in room rent, many said they paid the full amount, but received no word from the Housing Office about refunds.

In one room three different prices were quoted for the rent paid by each occupant. These prices ranged from \$130-\$150.

One occupant suggested the room rent normally paid by the occupants of a double room be split among the three.

"I think it's pretty bad that we have to pay so much and not have the facilities other dorms have," said Marlene Quinn, a freshman from Kings Mountain living in Connor.

"The money they're making off of us should go into a kitchen for the dorm," she said.

Many of the students stacked their three beds. The person in the uppermost bunk barely has two feet of space overhead.

With visitation only a few days away, some residents expressed despair.

The overcrowding is not only being felt by students in crowded rooms but also those in crowded dorms.

"Everything is so overcrowded," said one coed. "There are just two washers and only one dryer is working. There are no kitchen facilities, not even an ironing board in this dorm, and no dorm refrigerator as far as I know."

"Not only is it inconvenient for us," she added, "but the bathrooms are also crowded for other students on the floor."

The situation does not appear to be easing according to most interviewed.

"They say it was only temporary," noted a coed, "but they didn't say how long temporary is."

One student, however, was glad he had two other roommates. "I thought they would put four in this room," he said. "That would be absolutely unbearable."