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End to housing shortage seen soon, Boulton says

by Janet Langston
Staff Writer

The "crunch" on dormitory housing has been eased through a variety of factors, according to Donald A. Boulton, dean of Student Affairs.

Room cancellations from continuing students, more beds for dorm rooms and decisions from junior transfers and freshmen to attend other universities are reasons for an easier housing situation.

Boulton said he believes he will be able to assign housing to everyone who needs it this fall. Financial need and students on financial aid will receive priority in filling the added spaces, Boulton said.

A few weeks ago, 420 letters were sent to junior transfers, advising them that no

dorm space was available for this fall semester. Totals compiled by departments in Student Affairs showed a lack of rooms for incoming students, other than freshmen, who are required to live in University housing.

About 30 to 35 room cancellations from continuing students have already come in, said Elizabeth Nall from the Housing Department. The letters are in response to inquiries by housing to determine which students want their reserved dorm rooms.

112 spaces have been found for transfer students, said Dean Boulton. 70 additional beds will be borrowed temporarily for tripling and spaces in Craige graduate student dorm will be utilized for undergraduates.

Around 225 transfer students already received dorm spaces on a first come-first served basis.

Boulton cited figures from last year when dorm occupancy dropped from 106 per cent the first day of classes to 98 per cent January 1. Out of 3100 freshmen, he said, at last 50, and maybe 100, freshmen will not even show up for classes.

"As soon as the space is available, we will assign it," Boulton said.

Extra personnel in the Housing Office has been calling Chapel Hill residents who previously rented rooms to students to see if they are willing to rent again.

Nall remarked that the process is slow and the list is two years old, but occasionally, a room turns up. Housing is still tighter for men than

for women students, Nall added.

Sandra Ward, director of dorm Residence advisors (RA's), denied rumors that RA's will have roommates. At this point, she qualified, there are no plans to put in another person.

The waiting list for junior transfers numbers about 30, but Housing has kept all cards from junior transfers who have not contacted the office yet about their plans, to give them spaces, also, if possible.

Dr. Lillian Lehman, registrar, commented that a college trend is for students to graduate between semesters. She said 750 UNC students graduated last Christmas.

The ceiling on UNC enrollment is no more than 20,000, said Dr. Lehman.

Granville Towers reported that its situation is no easier with 200 men and 150 women on its waiting list.

Total capacity in undergraduate residence halls is 5996, and 649 more spaces were made available for this fall. Granville Towers provides 1410 spaces in its three residences; fraternity houses have 735 spaces; and sororities have 313 spaces.

Dean Boulton said the biggest rooms of campus were taken for tripling. The University will triple 625 rooms, although it planned earlier to triple only 405 rooms.



Charred remains are all that were left of this door after an early-morning fire razed a laboratory in the UNC dental school Wednesday. The third floor of the building was damaged, but no one was hurt. (Staff photo by George Brown)

Prof researches heat stress

Environment is studied

by Tom Sawyer
Staff Writer

Construction workers, athletes, military personnel and anyone else engaged in outdoor activities may be affected someday by the research a UNC professor is doing on Franklin Street now.

Dr. Richard J. Kopec, associate professor in the Geography Department, and Dr. Arthur Dodd of the U.S. Army Research Office, are currently engaged in a series of studies to analyze Heat Stress Indices.

Just as pollution level indexes have become a normal part of weather information, it is conceivable that some day heat stress bulletins will be available for public use.

"What we are measuring," said Kopec as he sat beside his neat tripod covered with thermometers, black globes and meters, "are the effects of various environments on dry bulb temperature, (actual air temperature) humidity in the atmosphere, and radiation, all types, as they relate to the body."

According to Kopec, the combination of these data provides a meaningful index figure that can be utilized to determine the extent to which people can work and play under given weather and site conditions."

"For example, football players who are possibly out of condition after a long rest season, would be very unwise to get out into a situation of high humidity, temperature, and radiation; conditions which might promote a stroke."

"Now, our study is not interested in the effects of what we are measuring on the body. We leave that to the medical doctors. We are saying that, here in the central business district of Chapel Hill, the index figure is different from what you would get sitting under a tree on campus, or playing ball on Astro-turf, or playing tennis on an all weather court, or perhaps being under a forest canopy in Duke Forest."

We are trying to provide the physiologist, and anyone else who would apply these indices, with the variation that would occur in different land use environments."

The study is being performed in a variety of locations by Kopec and his student assistant, Jim Holt. While Kopec was explaining the process, Holt was simultaneously taking readings on Astro-turf and on the grass of Navy Field. Natural, open grass is the standard to which their other readings are compared.

An early finding of the study has been that temperatures and radiation over Astro-turf are higher than those over natural grass, but that humidity is lower.

"However," says Kopec, "we can imagine, if Astro-turf were wet down, say, after a rain, then the sun came out, you would probably have a much more stressful condition."

Plans for the study were initiated in early March of this year. It is sponsored by the Army Research Office.

In September, 1971 UNC Student, Billy Arnold died after suffering a heat stroke in football practice. When asked if there were any connections between the study and the Arnold case Dr. Kopec replied, "No, but very definitely this is part of our thinking."

"Again, we are not primarily interested in the physiological consequences, but we would recognize that a football coach (and coaches are, by the way, using these devices to determine the work load placed on players) would be very interested in our results."

The heat stress environments index, called a WBGT index after the types of measurements that go into it, is being determined by three different devices at each location. Each set is of a different design but all work on the same principal. Part of the goal of the study is to compare these systems for consistency and accuracy.

Kopec's work could eventually affect work schedules for outdoor laborers, athletes, military personnel and others involved with outside activity.

Fire hits dental school

by Tom Sawyer
Staff Writer

A fire of undetermined origin destroyed a third-floor laboratory in the Dental School building Wednesday morning. There were no injuries reported. Estimates of the cost of the damage were unavailable at press time.

An unidentified person working in a nearby building turned in the alarm when he smelled smoke entering the air-conditioning system. University policemen arriving at the scene noticed that the fire was coming out of a third floor window on the west side of the building.

Three fire engines and one ladder unit were dispatched to the scene. Entry was

first made through the window, then through the door. Firemen found the fire to be in Room 302, the Coastal Dental Study Room.

Cause of the blaze has not been determined, though officials suspect a faulty heating unit used for melting wax to be at fault. The heating units are being inspected.

Mr. Beaumont of the Campus Police Department reported that the inside door was locked but blown out of the wall by the force of the blaze. Volatile chemicals stored in the room complicated the fight. The fire gutted the lab and smoke and water damage extended to the third floor hall and to some points on the first floor. Extensive painting will be required to repair the damage outside the room.

Ken Dixon of the State Insurance Department arrived from Raleigh to inspect the damage. In conference with officials to discuss the incident, Dixon stated that he will insist on a volatile chemicals storage building to be constructed in the vicinity of the medical complex to reduce the chance of a recurrence.

Physical Plant representatives were instructed to begin the necessary repairs. They began clean-up operations immediately after the fire department departed at 7:25 a.m.

The damage was kept to a minimum by the quick response of the Campus Police and the Chapel Hill Fire Department. The blaze was controlled in 15 minutes.

Columnist returns to UNC

Wicker: impeachment unwise

by Rebecca Denny
and
Seth Effron
Staff Writers

When Tom Wicker, New York Times associate editor and columnist, came to Chapel Hill last week he sat in the Student Store.

Wicker wrote verbal columns all day long. In his rambling style he talked about issues ranging from Attica to impeachment.

Ostensibly Wicker came to promote his new political novel, "Facing the Lions." Actually, he answered most questions about his fiction with flippancies.

Most of the students who came by to talk and to get books autographed asked Wicker about impeachment.

"We have enough political paranoia in this country as it is," Wicker said. "Impeachment of Nixon without irrefutable facts would promote the mystique that the liberals had been out to get Nixon and had succeeded."

In a question and answer session sponsored by the political science department, Wicker said that 90% of the growth in presidential power had been from natural causes. America needs a strong president who can act quickly and efficiently, but Nixon can hardly fulfill that need in the next three years after Watergate, he said.

The not so legitimate growth of the executive branch has been at the expense of the legislative branch "which has lain down to be raped," according to Wicker.

The Cold War came to its "ultimate fruit in Viet Nam. Watergate is just one more outgrowth of this national security mania," he said.

During the 1950's the mass media and the Democratic party did much to promote the growth of executive power and the mystique of the presidency, Wicker said.

In Nixon's tenure you see a "more pervasive, wide-spread and callous use of this kind of power," Wicker said.

"Watergate was a national plan put together to subvert to some extent the electoral procedure on the

authority of the presidency," Wicker said. Nixon himself "doesn't have too many cards to play." He will suffer most in his domestic policies "such as they are," but will retain power in national issues involved in foreign policy, Wicker predicted.

In response to a question on the advisability of "liberating classified documents," Wicker asserted that if all documents now classified were released 99.99% would be useful only for wrapping fish. One per cent would be of sufficient interest to publish and one per cent of those would be of interest to someone somewhere at some time, he said.

Then Wicker moved into what emerged as the central theme of his verbal column writing - his faith in the power of individual dissent and lack of faith in institutional reform.

The theme popped up all day long. In reference to the Pentagon Papers, Wicker asserted that when an individual's self-respect has been violated by a bureaucracy's actions he should be encouraged to speak out.

However, Wicker said, bureaucracies will strike back creating a spiraling situation as seen in the peace demonstrations in 1969-70.

Someone asked about depoliticizing the Justice Department. Structural reform is not necessary, Wicker said. He mulled over the idea of a special prosecutor appointed for a long term. Wicker said he was leery of long terms and people not responsible to the political system. "The problem in America is to get more responsibility not less," he said.

What is necessary to balance the growth of executive power is a new form of checks and balances, Wicker said. In addition, he added, the American people have to exercise a great deal more selectivity about whom they want to occupy the presidency.

In an interview with the Tar Heel later that afternoon Wicker elaborated on the same themes he had been columnizing on all day.

His basic respect for the individual emerged again as he talked with animation about Attica where he was a member of the Citizens' Committee following the riots.

Prisoners need to be put back with their families, given decent jobs and training, he said. The whole system needs changing, Wicker said, but the public is vindictive and politicians unresponsive since prisoners do not vote.

When there are weapons around they will be used, Wicker said as he drew a parallel between Attica and the military situation in America. He advised drastic cuts in the military budget to diminish the power of a "war machine that has commercial and bureaucratic purposes."

Wicker characterized himself as a novelist supporting himself through journalism. In 1951, ten years after he began his career in journalism, he began writing novels again. Four years ago he started his current best-seller, "Facing the Lions."

Very little good fiction has been written about American politics, Wicker said. He felt his experience as a political reporter and columnist not only gave him the background to write a political novel, but also the public reputation to sell it.

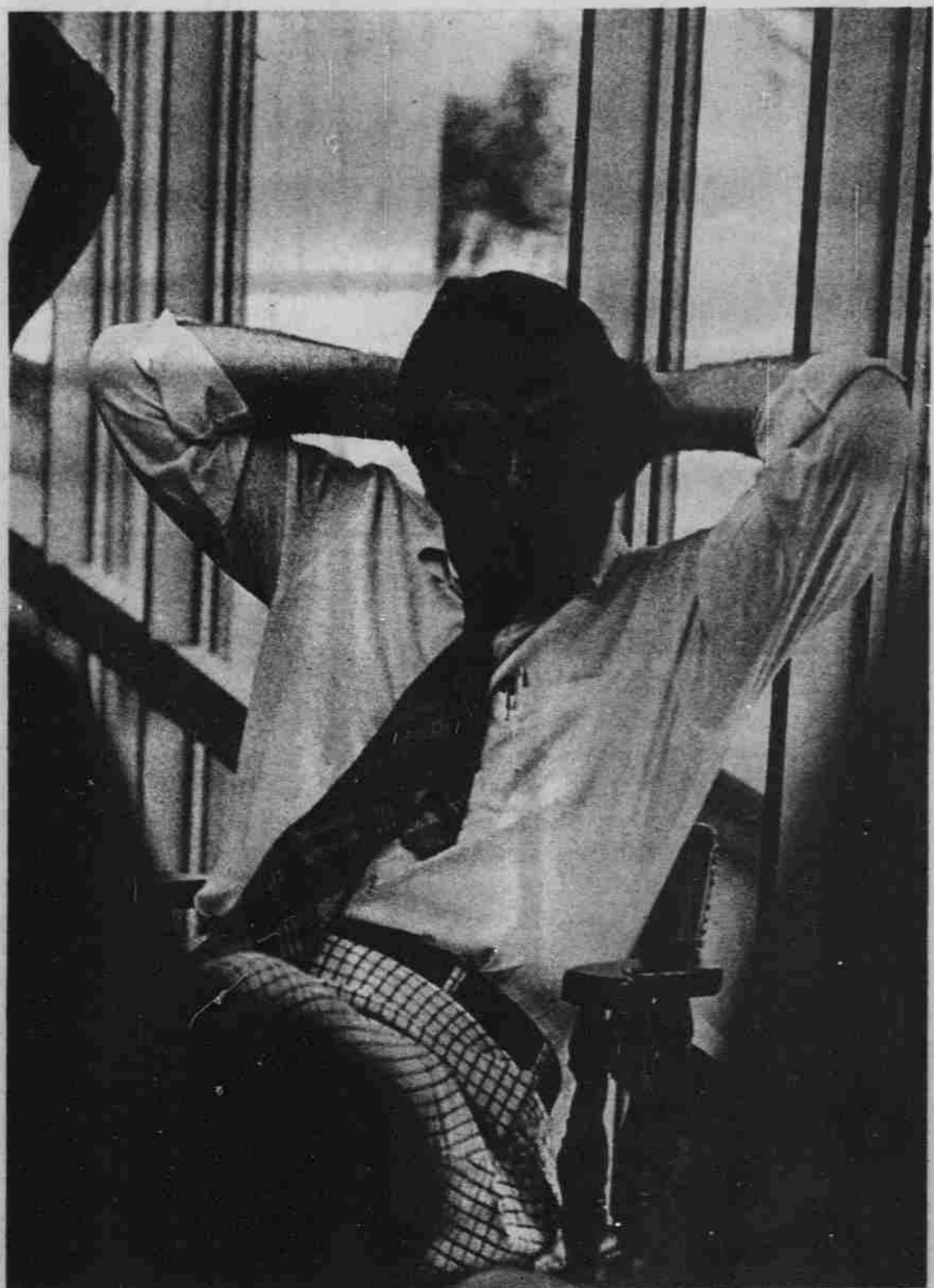
The South has been a strong influence on all of Wicker's novels to date. He plans to get away from that in the future, though.

The South is diversified, Wicker said. "There's no monolithic change. For every Jesse Helms there's a Rubin Askew."

The South is falling subject to the "homogenizing effect of the modern automobile culture," Wicker said. Growing up in North Carolina "I felt part of something distinct. Now I feel that less and less each time I come back."

Wicker ended the interview with an image that came as close to revealing his personal motives as anything he had said all day.

Most Americans are frustrated because they feel they can't express their opinions and be heard, Wicker said. He likened his column to a loudspeaker broadcasting his opinions. Whether the columns have an impact or not he has the satisfaction of having spoken out and being heard.



Wicker talks

Columnist Tom Wicker chats with Carolina students during his recent visit to campus. A UNC alumnus, the New York Times associate editor discussed the possibilities and dangers of impeaching the President. (Staff photo by George Brown)