

It will be cool and sunny today with the high in the mid-60s and the low in the lower 40s. Chance of rain is near zero through tonight.

The Daily Tar Heel

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New albums by Billy Joel, Ronnie Laws and Sea Level meet with varying degrees of success. Reviewer Doug Stone takes a look on page 5.

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Inflation: costs rise less at UNC

By MICHAEL L. BROWN
Staff Writer

UNC students experienced a cost increase less than the national figure this year, according to figures released by the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

The group reported that the median total tab for tuition, fees, room and board charges for students at major U.S. public universities rose 7.8 percent for 1978-79 over the preceding year.

That figure was only 4.5 percent for UNC, said Wayne Jones, assistant vice chancellor for business and finance.

The national figure represents an increase of 1 percent above the 6.8 percent change in the average Consumer Price Index from July 1977 to July 1978, the National Institute of Education reported.

"I think our total figure was considerably less than the national one for a number of reasons," Jones said. "The chief reason is that we did not have any increase in tuition from last school year to this one."

But Jones said he expects some increases in tuition costs next year.

See MONEY on page 6



Autumn silhouette

Memories of a season past are evident in the lengthening shadows cast by this dispairing tree standing tall against the late-afternoon rays of the setting sun. Early autumn's rich golden harvest of color has been displaced by the melancholic reminders of winter's bleak approach.

DTH/Allen Jernigan

Faculty Council to contemplate drop extension

By DINITA JAMES
Staff Writer

Extension of the drop period will get yet another hearing as a result of a vote by the Agenda Committee of the Faculty Council Wednesday to place a proposal concerning the matter before the council at its November meeting.

Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor, who attended the meeting, supported the proposal presented by Jim Phillips, student body president, and Craig Brown and J.B. Kelley, Phillips' executive assistants.

"I see no problem with putting it on the agenda," Taylor said. "I would guess the Faculty Council will vote to refer it to the Educational Policy Committee."

The Agenda Committee rejected a similar proposal in October because the Faculty Council previously had reviewed the same proposal twice. The Student Government representatives Wednesday had new arguments in favor of the extension of the drop period. These arguments include a study of a drop period and grade inflation and that UNC has one of the shortest drop periods among several nationally prominent schools.

"I know Jim Phillips and his staff have put a lot of effort into this matter," Taylor said. "I didn't want to see the effort go unheard."

The parliamentary question of whether a student proposal could be presented to the Faculty Council was raised, and William Hardy, a professor in the RTVMP curriculum, volunteered to present the proposal.

"I'd be glad to sponsor the motion and request the privilege of allowing the president of the student body to speak on its behalf," Hardy said.

Taylor said he felt it would not be necessary for Phillips to speak at the November meeting. He said Phillips should wait and address the council after the proposal has been reviewed by EPC. But Taylor also said he did not agree

that a member of the faculty must introduce the proposal if it was put on the agenda by the Agenda Committee.

"I think the chancellor just didn't want a member of the faculty's name associated with the proposal," Phillips said.

But Taylor said a proposal coming from the students should bear students' names. "It is the proposal of the president of the student body, and that's how I think it should be treated—as precisely what it is."

At the meeting, Phillips presented the results of a survey taken during registration that showed two-thirds of the students surveyed favored an extension of the drop period.

Taylor said he felt the results of the survey were predictable. "If you took a vote on not having Friday classes one week and not having Thursday classes the next for the entire academic year, you'd have the same results," Taylor said. "This is not at all a surprising fact. We can know in advance that the results are going to be whatever has the greatest degree of persuasiveness."

Phillips, however, said students did not choose the longest drop period when asked they recommend and ideal length. "Instead of choosing a drop period of more than nine weeks, most students chose a drop period of between six and eight weeks," Phillips said. "I think this (the survey) shows that they (students) are interested in their education and just want more time to make a reasonable decision before they drop a course."

When the vote was taken, only one member of the committee, Henry Dearman, dissented.

"I was not persuaded by the arguments enough to re-examine issues acted on by the Faculty Council two times in two years," Dearman, a chemistry professor, said. "Their reasons are new, but I am not persuaded to change something that's working well. This is an honest difference of opinion between faculty and the students."

Odum Village conversion to singles shelved

By SUSAN LADD
Staff Writer

Plans by the Department of Student Affairs to convert Odum Village, the only married student housing on campus, to single student housing have been shelved temporarily as a result of a housing study advising against the move.

The conversion move was being considered in an effort to ease the housing crunch which has plagued the campus increasingly in recent years. Odum Village consists of 306 apartments which generally house 380-410 students. But if these units were assigned to single students, as many as 1,072 students could be accommodated, according to the housing department's Odum Village Conversion Study.

The committee conducting the conversion study, led by Jim Osteen, assistant director for residence life, recommended against the conversion primarily because

denying housing to married students to house single students would only result in a tighter housing market in the Chapel Hill community for students seeking off-campus housing, thus causing more students to seek on-campus housing. Conversion would serve to shift students from one place to another without creating additional housing spaces either off or on campus, the report said.

The study also maintained the married student population is a sizable group in need of housing. Statistics from fall semester, 1977, show that 5 percent (710) of undergraduates and 41 percent (2,580) of graduate students were married.

Thirty-five percent of all single students are provided with University housing, while only 10 percent of married students live in University housing.

The study cites evidence that there will be fewer 18-year-olds in the decade of the 1980s, with a possible decline in college enrollment of 18-year-olds being

compensated for by an increasingly older student population. Presumably, this would mean a lower percentage of single students.

James Condie, director of housing, said he believed the University should have low-cost family housing as well as low-cost single student housing. Condie also said the housing shortage is not as serious as it has been described.

"If you look at the statistics you see that many people use their dorm contracts as 'housing insurance,'" Condie said. "They make other housing arrangements, but keep their dorm contracts just in case it falls through."

Occupancy statistics for 1978-79 show that most of the 643 students who were closed out after sign-up could be accommodated due to the high cancellation rate. Prior to the fall dorm openings, 460 dorm contracts were cancelled. Only nine students were on the waiting list when the halls opened this semester.

See ODUM on page 5

Aldermen won't move Mrs. Tripp

By TERRI HUNT
Staff Writer

The battle between the Town of Carrboro and 88-year-old Mrs. J.E. Tripp is over.

One week before the Carrboro bond referendum, the Board of Aldermen unanimously voted not to take Tripp's land by condemnation as the future site of a proposed 40-acre park.

The purchase of land for a park site is part of a \$1.5 million town recreation bond that would include construction of a swimming pool, playing fields and a bike path.

Introduced by Alderman Ernie Patterson, the adopted resolution stated that the town would not seek to acquire the land by condemnation and the landowner would be permitted to live on her property undisturbed for the rest of her life.

The board then unanimously adopted another resolution clarifying the town's position on land acquisition. It stated that, "eminent domain (condemnation proceedings) will be used only as a last resort in acquiring land when all other attempts are exhausted, and such proceedings can be initiated after formal action of the aldermen."

The town will begin examination of alternate tracts of land as a prelude to choosing a new proposed site for the park.

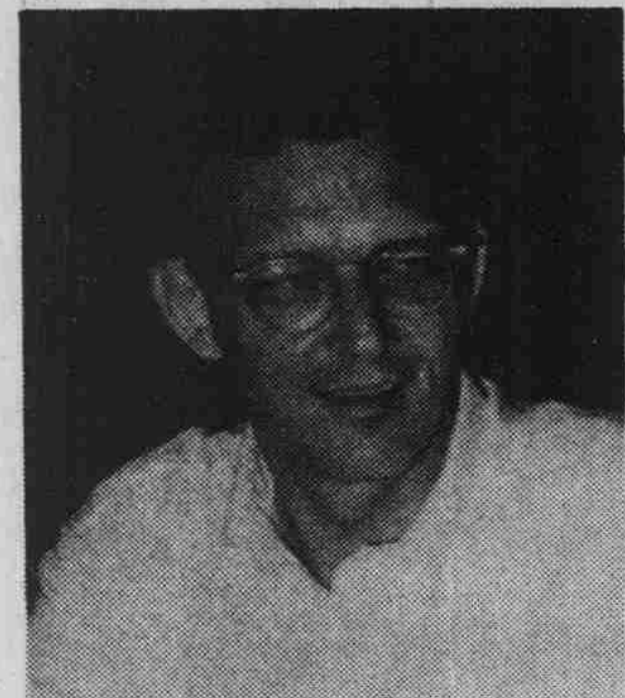
Robert Epting, Tripp's attorney, presented a petition to the board asking that the Tripp property not be condemned and that she be allowed to live on the property in relative peace for the rest of her lifetime.

"I see now that the petition is really not needed," he said. "I think you and Mrs. Tripp thank you for the resolutions."

"We never intended to take the land," Alderman Nancy White said after the meeting. "We don't need recreation that badly to throw someone off their land. It was a staff mistake, a board mistake and a mayor mistake. The first resolution was to relieve everyone's mind that we will not take the land, and the second was to reaffirm our position. Now, we want to go on and pass our bond issue."

Controversy arose when the town published a brochure stating that the Tripp property was the proposed site of the park. However, the property had never been for sale.

See ALDERMEN on page 5



Richard Smyth

Temple says Campus Mail not for politics

By JIM HUMMEL
and KATHY CURRY
Staff Writers

Vice Chancellor John Temple said Wednesday that he will issue directives soon to prevent the use of Campus Mail to deliver political literature.

The announcement came two days after the University chapter of the North Carolina Federation of College Republicans used the mail system to distribute on campus an endorsement of Republican state Senate candidate Richard Smyth.

"I will be sending a directive to the mail employees outlining the proper procedures," Temple said Wednesday.

Temple had said Tuesday that use of the mail system to distribute the endorsement was a clear violation of state regulations prohibiting use of state facilities for political or personal activities.

But in an interview Wednesday, Temple said he believes mail service employees should not have accepted the boxful of endorsements. He said Campus Mail employees, not Smyth or the College Republicans, were in error. Campus Mail officials should not have accepted the letters at the time they were mailed.

Sylvester Brooks, supervisor of the Campus Mail center at Hamilton Hall, said he allowed the endorsements to be mailed because Smyth is a University professor.

"I should have been more alert," Brooks said Wednesday. "We were short-staffed on Monday (when the letters were mailed), and I wasn't alert enough to analyze the situation."

Temple agreed with Brooks, saying University officials probably will not seek criminal prosecution in the case.

Michael Strong, administrator of the Campus Mail

system, said University organizations like the College Republicans frequently use the mail system.

"It is permissible for campus organizations to send newsletters through Campus Mail for University business," Strong said. "The line is drawn when they try to solicit support of persons who are not members of their group. That's what happened with Smyth's literature."

Smyth said Wednesday he believed the letters of endorsement were in order because they were approved by Brooks.

"I felt we were right because a Campus Mail employee checked the letters and let them go through," Smyth said. "But now, Mr. Temple is in a position to censor anything that goes through the mail."

Temple said Campus Mail must be regulated to prevent abuse of the system and to insure its smooth operation.

Chapel Hill writer tries to preserve child's sense of wonder

By RAMONA JONES
Staff Writer

Many people said the house was haunted. He wanted to find out for himself.

So one night, Manly Wade Wellman, Chapel Hill resident and noted author of fiction and ghost lore, went into the New Jersey house to find the ghosts that supposedly lurked there.

"It was a ruinous house, 60 years old and it might have been 600. Another fellow and I decided to go there," Wellman recalls. "We took along a pint of whiskey, flashlights and a couple of heavy sticks. We went up in a room where people said the ones who owned this house hanged themselves, and later a tramp had gone in there and hanged himself."

"We sat and talked to each other for a while. We turned on the flashlights and my thumb was bleeding. I don't know how that happened."

"We kept looking at the door. It was shrinking and shrinking until we wondered if we could get out. Then, in the room was a stir of long spidery legs from the ceiling." The speaker's fixed gaze into space increases the suspense of his tale.

"Eventually we heard a clock chime 12, and we went out into the yard. We turned around and heard laughter. We decided later it was either a man trying to sound like a dog or a dog trying to sound like a man. This was the most ghostly experience I've ever had."

And he has had many. The tall, looming figure with broad shoulders and a distinguished face has spent many of his 75 years looking for ghosts and writing about them in both his fiction and non-fiction. He tells his stories in a deep, rhythmic voice with an almost matter-of-fact style that holds his listener spell-bound. The smoke from his pipe adds a mystical touch to the ghostly tales.

"I really never saw a ghost in my life, but I've tried hard," he says. "I don't know if I believe in ghosts—nobody does. But I'm perfectly willing to be convinced."

Legends of ghosts, tales of murders, superstitions and beliefs are all a part of the nation's culture—it's folklore, Wellman says. "Folklore is a whole mass of story, song and mystical belief of people, or of a class of people," Wellman says. "I'll say right here that I don't think the state and I don't think the University pays enough attention, or the right attention, to folkways. My friends up in the mountains are getting old and even they are forgetting some of these things, yet it is very much a part of this life—a part of our cultural resources."

"North Carolina has a tremendous lot of this sort of thing, and

there have been books about it, both fiction and more or less non-fiction, but where are we now when the state is becoming so civilized and skeptical?"

Skepticism is a result of progress and intellectualization, Wellman comments. But even in an intellectual community like Chapel Hill, tales of ghosts and haunted houses abound.

"I don't doubt that there are people right here in Orange County within hollering distance of the University of North Carolina who believe in ghosts and the supernatural."

People entertain thoughts of ghosts and spirits more often than they usually admit, the author adds.

Wellman's stories, from tales of creatures that eat people to recounts of real events, take in a big audience. *Dead and Gone*, his collection of non-fiction murder stories in North Carolina, is widely read. His explanation: "Isn't everybody interested in murder?"

The collection includes nine murder stories such as "The Life and Death of Chicken Stephens," in which Wellman describes the questionable life, and even more questionable death, of a state senator from Caswell County. He also includes the legend of Tom Dula, a likeable ex-soldier who was hanged for the murder of Laura Foster, one of the women who loved him. For this collection of stories, Wellman received the Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allen Poe Award in 1955 for the best non-fiction study of crime.

Several of his stories that were originally published in magazines have been put together in a book entitled *Who Fears the Devil?*, which also has been made into a movie.

"The man in the stories is called John," he says, "and I don't know his last name. He picks a guitar and goes here and goes there and runs into things. These stories are for the most part things I've heard, sometimes keyed off by hearing a song, a folksong. I mean a legitimate folksong, not 'Blue Yodel on a Saturday Night,' not what those people up in the mountains call music."

Author of 71 novels and histories and 45 anthologies, Wellman has received several non-fiction awards, and was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in history.

"But I like fiction," he says. "I like to think what might be rather than what is. Everyone has a need to believe in something more than straightforward reality. It's universal. Of course, some brush it off, but even they have a sense of wonder. It's a little like an impulse towards religion which is also universal."

"The sense of wonder is born in every child. Every child believes in supernatural things like Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny, and I don't know—if we lose it, then by God we've lost something."



DTH/Billy Newman

Novelist Manly Wade Wellman relaxes in his study