

# Racism charged in NCCU suit

By MARK MURRELL  
Staff Writer

An enrollment decline at predominantly black North Carolina Central University has caused academic standards at the school to fall, Dr. Paul Scagnelli, a professor who has filed a \$1.9 million lawsuit against the school, said Wednesday.

Scagnelli, a UNC alumnus and associate professor in the psychology department at the Durham university, claims he was fired after university officials refused to back his decision to fail a student who had allegedly plagiarized a term paper.

In the lawsuit filed this week, Scagnelli asked the court to forbid his firing, citing "a pattern of racial discrimination" which led to his dismissal.

"The administration is worried about enrollment," he said. "Standards at Central are getting lower, and this message to the students says, 'we're going to keep you here no matter what you do.'"

Enrollment at the school dropped last year by about 5 percent to 4,253.

"We suffer from a loss of resources if actual enrollment is less than projected enrollment," C.L. Patterson, vice chancellor for academic affairs, said. There was a cut in funding for nine faculty members last year.

Scagnelli said a lenient policy towards grades to keep enrollment up is not in the best interest of the students. "A degree from Central will soon not be worth the paper it's printed on," he said.

The professor claims his superiors are guilty of a pattern of reverse discrimination, which began when he disagreed with some policies in the psychology department.

"I did not approve of the quality of the graduate theses," he said. "I didn't think they were up to snuff."

Scagnelli said the chairman of the department, Leslie Brinson, said students had been complaining of Scagnelli's racial bias.

He said Brinson would not be specific about the charges.

The professor was notified in July that he would not be granted tenure, although he had been at the university

for six years. Scagnelli's firing is effective at the end of the school year.

Scagnelli said Patterson told him he was hired as an adjunct professor, one not on the tenure tract.

However, Scagnelli said school personnel records made no mention of his being hired as an adjunct professor. He said he was under the impression he was an associate professor in the department. Patterson, in all further documents, has referred to Scagnelli as adjunct.

Scagnelli, who is white, also maintained he has been denied merit raises and leaves of absence which have been granted to comparable black professors.

"Policies at Central have always been so muddy, just so this type of discrimination can occur," he said. "Part of it is just slovenliness and sloppiness."

A faculty performance review of Scagnelli allegedly had his signature forged at the bottom. The professor said the review was lower than what he had been assured of earlier, but that after he protested, the review was changed.

NCCU Chancellor Albert N. Whiting refused to comment on the matter, as did Brinson.



Another system diminishes group seating

## New bloc seat policy: reserve today, Monday

Group ticket reservations for bloc seating for Carolina's Oct. 6 football game against Cincinnati must be made today or Monday, and groups whose members pick up less than 85 percent of their reserved bloc tickets may be penalized, Carolina Athletic Association President Matt Judson said Thursday.

Group reservations will be limited to 5,500 tickets for the games, and no groups will be given end zone seats unless they are requested, he said.

No definite penalties have been set for groups whose members fail to pick up enough of the bloc tickets. But Judson said possible sanctions include revoking a group's right to reserve bloc seats.

Group tickets will be distributed from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Carmichael Auditorium ticket office. Individual student tickets may be claimed Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Students must present a valid ID and athletic pass to pick up tickets.

The changes in the group ticket distribution system were prompted by problems in distribution of bloc seats for the UNC-Pittsburgh game on Sept. 22. Of 8,000 group seats reserved for the game, approximately 5,000 were claimed.

—MELANIE SILL

## Walkway collapse problem for UNC

By ANNE-MARIE DOWNEY  
Staff Writer

The collapse of the pedestrian walkway on Manning Drive Wednesday night added another complication to the quiet disagreement between the University and the town of Chapel Hill over the opening of the nearly completed addition to the N.C. Memorial Hospital parking deck.

On Wednesday, a car apparently veered out of its lane and struck the support for the frame for the walkway. The steel and wood structure was knocked down and hit the car, but none of its three occupants was seriously injured.

When the Town Council issued the special use permit for the construction of the deck addition in 1978, it required that the University meet certain conditions regarding the construction and design of the addition.

Although the University has not received any statement of compliance with the special use permit from the town,

the addition has been open for more than a week. The University has not complied with several of the permit's stipulations, and one of these is the construction of the walkway.

But Mike Jennings, town planning director, said Thursday that another clause in the special use permit may allow the town to authorize the opening of the addition before the walkway is completed.

The permit requires that all construction on the deck be completed by April 30, 1980, but states the deck can be opened when all essential construction is finished.

"In my opinion and in John Davis' (town building inspector) opinion, the pedestrian walkway is not essential to the operation of the deck," Jennings said.

But even if the University satisfies the requirements of the special use permit, the deck is not supposed to be in use until the Town Council approves a solution to the traffic problem in the Mason Farm Road-Manning Drive area near the deck.



A Wednesday night wreck injured driver, passengers ... delay in walkway construction

The council has not approved any traffic solution, but the deck is open without authorization from the town.

"The official town position is that it is not appropriate for it (the deck addition) to be in use," Jennings said.

Town Manager Gene Shipman has written a letter to University officials stating the town's opposition to the unauthorized use of the deck. The letter was to be delivered this morning.

Shipman said the letter informs University officials that "the town has not given the University the permission to utilize the deck in as much as all the stipulations of the special use permit have not been met."

Jennings said one of the main reasons the town has not taken firmer action against the University is that the Town Council is supposed to consider traffic alternatives for the area on Monday.

## Faculty Assembly debates guidelines today

By MELANIE SILL  
Staff Writer

Proposed guidelines governing outside consultation by faculty members will be debated today at a meeting of the UNC Faculty Assembly, a policy-making body made up of representatives from the 16 state university campuses.

Robert Phay, a professor in the Institute of Government, will represent Chapel Hill faculty at a meeting of the

assembly's academic freedom committee. Phay will raise objections and proposed amendments voiced by faculty members since the General Administration's proposal was circulated on campus.

The five-member UNC-Chapel Hill delegation to the assembly met yesterday to discuss faculty opinion on the external professional activities regulations and to determine specific arguments and recommendations for amendments. Elected members to the delegation

include Phay, City and Regional Planning Professor Shirley Weiss, Assistant Arts and Sciences Dean Gordon Cleveland and Dental Hygiene Professor Eleanor Forbes. Professor Dan Pollitt, faculty chairman is an *ex officio* member of the delegation.

The proposed guidelines include a statement of the University policy toward outside consultation and rules for obtaining permission from academic department heads for any outside

consultation done for compensation. Faculty criticism of the proposals, Pollitt said, centers on procedures and standards pertaining to the permission-granting process.

Although the University until now has no formal policy toward external professional activities by faculty, a section under the heading "Outside Compensation" in the current edition of the UNC Faculty Handbook states that "faculty members are free to perform outside duties for compensation during the period of University employment provided that the duties (1) do not interfere with the performance of University responsibilities, (2) are done with the knowledge of the faculty member's department chairman, dean, or director, and (3) do not involve the use of the University's name."

## Campus Y dinner-discussion today

For students who are tired of fast-food suppers, the Campus Y dinner-discussion at 5:30 p.m. today may spark new friendships and prove educational.

Doris Betts, UNC professor of English, will

be the featured speaker, discussing "Women Writers of the South."

The dinner-discussions are informal gatherings to which each person brings a dish. UNC professors James Leutze, Gerald Unks and Joseph Lowman are among the scheduled speakers at dinner-discussions this fall.

The dinners are open to everyone but interested persons should sign up in the Campus Y office. Today's dinner, the first dinner-discussion of the fall, will be held at the Battle House across from Melver Dorm. The dinner will be followed by the discussion which will end at approximately 8:30 p.m.

## New rock group

### Try some Hard 'Nox

Hard 'Nox, a newly organized Chapel Hill rock 'n' roll band, will make its area debut at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Sugar Lake, about eight miles south of Chapel Hill.

The five-member band performs about 50 percent original tunes and 50 percent "cover" or "copy" music, says lead guitarist Greg Surratt. The band's repertoire includes songs by The Rolling Stones, The Who, Led Zeppelin, Santana and Steely Dan, Surratt says, as well as some New Wave by the Cars and The Knack.

Although the band does play a lot of music composed by other groups, Surratt says, "We're not modeled after anyone exactly. We still do everything our own way, in our own style."

What is that Hard 'Nox style? Surratt says that all five musicians "are equally talented" and take the lead from time to time. No one instrument dominates, and all the band members sing both lead and backup vocals.

He says their emphasis is on developing their repertoire of original songs, and that

they hope to go 100 percent original eventually.

But right now the band is just testing the waters to see if they could ever generate enough interest to make it professionally, explained Surratt, a senior business major at UNC.

His fellow musicians include two graduate students and two Chapel Hill residents employed by the University: Steve Saunders (bass guitar), Danny Coleman (rhythm guitar), Larry Johnson (electric piano and synthesizers) and Matthew Bahr (drums).

To get to Sugar Lake, otherwise known as the rock quarry, take 15-501 South toward Pittsboro (7.9 miles) to Mount Gilead Church Road and turn left. After about 3.5 miles there are signs indicating the turnoff (to the right) toward Sugar Lake.

Admission to the concert is \$2. The band will furnish one keg of beer and a case of beer that will be given away as a door prize. Rain date is Oct. 7.

—ANN SMALLWOOD



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