

Rainy days and Tuesdays?
Partly cloudy skies are expected today with the possibility of showers this afternoon. Warmer daytime highs should be around 54 and overnight lows in the mid-30s.

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Dropping a hint

Today is the last day to drop a course or declare it pass-fail. Stop by Hanes Hall for details.

News/Sports/Arts 962-0245
Business/Advertising 962-1163

Center to treat UNC alcoholics

By GRANT PARSONS
Staff Writer

After four months of negotiations with area doctors and University administrators, UNC will have a drug and alcohol treatment center starting March 11.

The UNC-CH Drug and Alcohol Outreach Program has been developed by brothers Fetzter and Thomas Mills so student alcoholics can seek help without being shuffled around to area facilities. Professional clinicians and trained peer counselors will be on duty Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The center will be in Suite B of the Student Union, in one of the offices occupied by the Student Consumer Action Union.

"We hope to use recovering alcoholics as peer counselors so the student (alcoholic) knows he is not alone and that others have gone through the same thing that he is going through," Fetzter Mills said.

To get funding, the Outreach program will have to go before the budget committee of the Campus Governing Council like other campus organizations, but Student Body President-elect

Patricia Wallace is planning to do some fund raising through the Executive Branch of Student Government also.

"The hardest part of getting the whole thing done was getting in touch with the right people," Thomas Mills said. "I spent a lot of time listening to administrators tell me how other programs of this type were brought into the University, but in this case (those ways) collapsed, so we just brought it in ourselves."

Wallace said, "Fetzter and Thomas are to be commended for going around the system to get this accomplished. They addressed a problem that the University would not, and they got a program that the University needs."

Fetzter Mills said the program was well-received last week by the Drug and Alcohol Task Force that Donald Boulton, vice chancellor and dean of Student Affairs, instituted to study the problems of alcohol use on campus.

Some details still have to be worked out, but the program is expected to open on schedule. Peer-counselor training will begin March 13, and Fetzter Mills said interested students should contact Student Legal Services.

UNITAS supported in SG campus survey

By HEATHER HAY
Staff Writer

More than 150 students responded positively to a campus survey and said they would be willing to participate in an intercultural dormitory project planned for the Fall of 1986.

The Student Government University Relations Committee distributed 6,700 questionnaires last month asking on-campus students to express their views on the proposed project called UNITAS (Latin for united).

Student Body President Paul Parker said the survey was designed to measure student attitudes about living with students of other cultures and to get an idea of how receptive students might be to the UNITAS project.

Since survey respondents were not asked to supply their class, it is not known how many of the 155 students will still be enrolled in 1986. According to Parker, however, the survey was intended to gauge student interest and to see if there were at least 100 students now who would be willing to participate in such an experiment.

Still in the planning stages, the UNITAS project would allow about 100 students of different culture, background or ethnicity to live in the same dormitory and attend one class exploring cultural diversity.

According to University Housing Director Wayne Kuncel, participants would be housed in one of the five dormitories scheduled for renovation after the new dormitory is completed. Those dorms are: Lewis, Everett, Stacy, Graham or Aycock.

"I don't think we can talk about a specific building just yet," Kuncel said.

"We need to determine the goals we want to accomplish, and to coordinate our goals and ends."

Both Kuncel and University Relations Committee members stressed the need for an academic component for the UNITAS project. The University may already have a course in its curriculum that UNITAS members could attend, or a course may be created, Kuncel said.

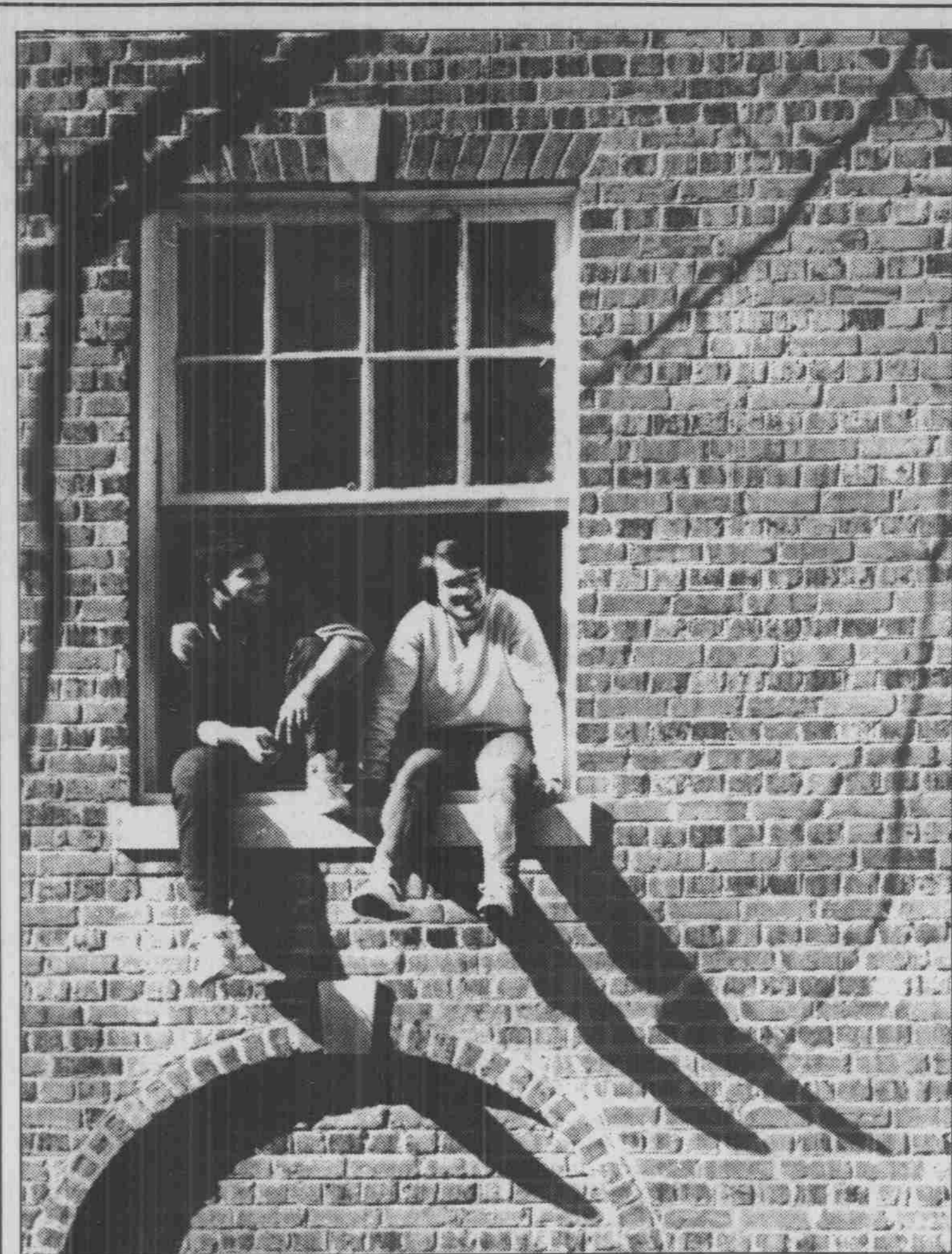
"I would like for faculty to be associated with the project right from the beginning," he said. "I would like to involve them in an advisory capacity with the students."

Kuncel will meet with the University Relations Committee next week to work out the details of the UNITAS experiment, said Robert Titchener, committee co-chairperson.

"We (the University Relations Committee) are very dedicated to the UNITAS project," Titchener said. "This is one of our big goals for the year. We really want to involve four principal actors: the Resident Housing Association, the student body, the student body president and the University Housing Department."

Titchener said most of this year would be spent planning and soliciting support for UNITAS and to developing a large application pool. He stressed that the project was of a broader scope than a race relations project and instead would involve participants of varied backgrounds.

"This is not a solution to racism, and should not be construed as that," Titchener said. "It does attack racism, but only peripherally. This will really be most meaningful for the people involved."



Feeling no pane

Steve Yurko, a freshman from Morehead City, and David Hester, a freshman from Newport, enjoy the sunshine and warm temperatures from a second floor window of Lewis Monday.

DTH/Larry Childress

Banner day for NCSU discovered

By KAREN YOUNGBLOOD
Staff Writer

Two national championship banners stolen from Carmichael Auditorium late last week have been found on N.C. State campus.

The banners, which include the one from the 1982 NCAA Championship, were found hanging upside down and at half-mast inside Reynolds Coliseum before the N.C. State-Carolina game Saturday.

Kim Powell, a UNC senior from Raleigh, found the banners before the game began.

"I saw them in the rafters up underneath the cat-walk," she said. "They were attached to a red hanging tarp which was rolled up with a string so if you pulled the string, it was released."

Powell said the banners were taken down before the game and were not seen by any of the spectators.

"The banners were never unraveled," she said. "They were never seen by anyone but us and the police officer (we reported it to)."

A spokesman for State's campus police, who asked not to be identified, said the banners were put up about 6:30 p.m. the night before the game.

"Apparently, someone had the banners in possession and brought them in for the game," he said.

The spokesman said the banners were not damaged and they were stolen because of the intense rivalry between State and Carolina.

"It was due to the basketball game," he said. "State steals from Carolina and Carolina steals from State. It's almost tradition."

The spokesman said that he did not know who was responsible for taking the banners, but doubted any charges would be brought against the person or people responsible. The spokesman for State said it would be up to UNC whether to press charges.

Lt. Walter Dunn, an officer for University Police, said that it was the responsibility of State to take legal action against the people who stole the banners.

"As far as law enforcement, the law in that jurisdiction would be responsible," Dunn said.

Charles L. Carr, assistant athletic director for UNC, said the Athletic Department was more concerned about getting the banners back than pressing charges against those responsible.

"We'd just like to have the banners back," Carr said. "We're working through the respective campus securities to get them back. Hopefully, it will work out just fine."

Budget cuts target health programs

By VANCE TREFETHEN
State and National Editor

Rapid changes are occurring in the health care system and government health care programs are getting caught in the federal budget squeeze, a consultant on health policy issues said yesterday in Rosenau Hall.

"Government pressures on health care derive from the fact that the government has fiscal commitments to providing health care," said Bill Fullerton, president of Health Policy Alternatives, a Washington, D.C. based consulting firm.

Programs like Medicare and Medicaid are in danger, not because they are fiscally unsound, but because they are the targets of budget cuts designed to reduce the federal deficit, he said. Medicare is easy to cut, he said, because it represents 10 percent of total federal expenditures.

At the same time, the federal government is reducing funding for the Medicaid program, he said. "Medicaid is not growing — it's going the other

way as far as covering the health care costs of the poor," said Fullerton, who has worked in the Social Security Administration and helped plan the Medicare program when it was being considered by Congress in the '60s, along with working on an advisory group associated with Medicare after it was passed.

He said Medicaid provides three areas of service: Health care for the poor, nursing care for the elderly, and funding for state care of the mentally retarded. The program is administered by the states, with the federal government paying about 54 percent of the cost, but Washington is trying to reduce its share of the expenses, he said.

"The federal government over the last four years has taken some steps to reduce its share of Medicaid expenditures," said Fullerton.

The result has been a reduction in government subsidized medical care for the poor, he said. "The level of care provided to poor people is quite less than that provided to everybody else."

The states are also changing their Medicaid coverage in other ways to cut costs. Comprehensive coverage is frequently being reduced to catastrophic coverage, and eligibility standards are being tightened, he said.

Medicare is also undergoing similar changes, he said. The program, traditionally viewed as a right of benefit for all who paid into the program over the years, is now increasingly being viewed as a social safety net for the benefit of the poor, he said.

An increasing emphasis is being placed on military programs under the Reagan administration, which means medical care programs will suffer continued cuts, Fullerton said.

"Non-defense spending is clearly shrinking; defense is increasing," he said. Rising interest payments on the national debt, which will go up \$1 trillion in the next four years, will also crowd out federal spending on health care programs, he said.

After 2 years, Americans still Cabbage Patch crazy

By MICHAEL DeSISTI
Special to the DTH

My parents stood in front of the tree on Christmas Day with synthetic, camera-ready smiles pasted on their faces. "Move closer," I said.

Dad held Milo Payton, whose navy blue baseball cap kept falling off his undersized-honeydew melon of a head. Daniel Cameron, cuddled against Mom's chest, lost one of his plastic baby booties.

"I can't see his face, Dad," I said. "OK. That's good. Smile!"

Click.
It was my parents' first portrait with their grandchildren. In the time it took my sisters to tear wrapping paper off a package that morning, a pair of Cabbage Patch Premies joined the family.

The Cabbage Patch craze celebrated its second holiday season in 1984. Xavier Roberts, the student-sculptor-turned-millionaire who spawned the madness, again had his handwriting in red on the hindquarters of millions of moderately expensive dolls (or extremely inexpensive adopted children) that found their way down the chimney with Santa.

Frank Verno, a 65-year-old retired machinist from Rochester, N.Y., often spent the early morning hours last November waiting outside toy and department stores to try and make it a Cabbage Patch Christmas for his granddaughter.

"I would stand in line every other day of the week," he says. "You just stood in line and took a chance."

Verno's wife, Caroline, recalls one store announcing it would have 50 Cabbage Patch dolls for sale the next day.

"Frank got up at 2 in the morning to try," she says. "He came back at 3:15 without a doll. There were 100 people already in line when he got there. One woman had been there since 9:30 the night before, sitting on her lawn chair."

When Roberts, 29, created the ancestor of the Cabbage Patch Kid in 1977, he was studying soft sculpture at Truett McConnell College in Cleveland, Ga. Encouraged by the sales of his hand-sewn dolls, Little People, Roberts dropped out of school, rounded up five high school buddies and formed a company called Original Appalachian Artworks.

Coleco Industries Inc. obtained co-development and licensing rights in August 1977 and began manufacturing Cabbage Patch Kids at eight plants in the Far East. The new dolls were smaller and more synthetic — Roberts' cloth heads were replaced with plastic noggins — but neither the homely, doughboy look nor the doll's marketability was lost.

"The dolls are ugly," Verno says. "But the little kids — they know 'em. They look for the signature on the can."

The little kids know 'em and the parents buy 'em. In 1983, Coleco sold about 3 million Cabbage Patch Kids for a net profit of more than \$60 million, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

Some 18 million dolls were produced in 1984, yet people still couldn't get enough of the cuddly Cabbage Patch collection, which has expanded to include Premies (dolls pulled prematurely from the Cabbage Patch because of a deadly frost), Koosas (Cabbage Patch pets) and Cabbage Patch twins. Not since the Hula Hoop gave 30

million Americans a case of the wiggles in 1958 has a toy made such an impact on the market. But, while Cabbage Patch Kids are an adolescent status symbol, it's not just children who have made the dolls an overwhelming success.

"It's the parents, not the kids," says Harriet Rheingold, a professor of psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "Suzie says, 'Mommie I want a Cabbage Patch doll.' Mommy doesn't have to go out and buy her one. She can say, 'No, Suzie. They're foolish.' All the kid can do is scream or cry or throw a temper tantrum."

Which appears to be enough, because not many Mommies and Daddies have told Suzie no.

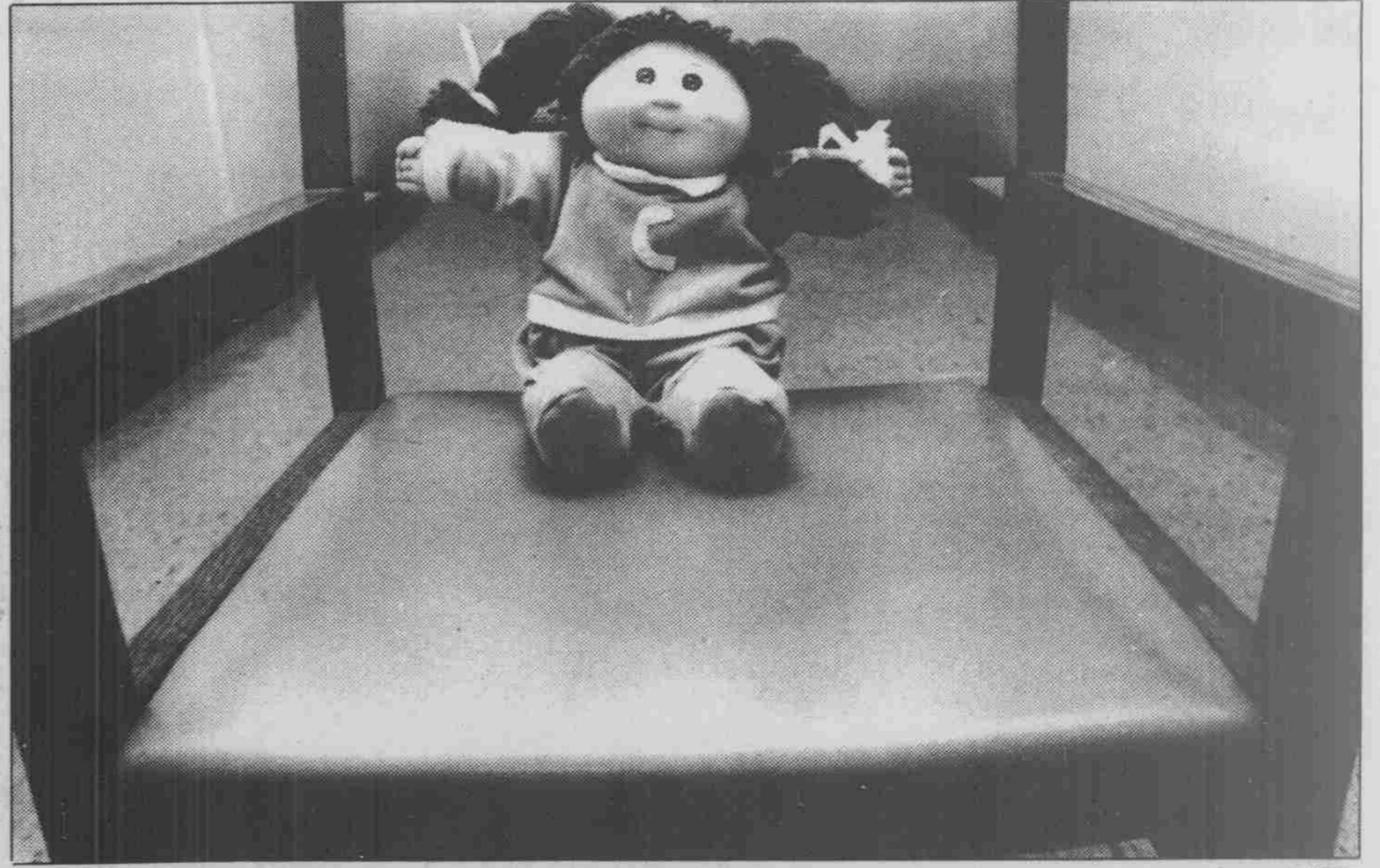
Rationalizing his early-morning vigils, Verno says, "I did it for my granddaughter. Her cousin had one, and she didn't."

Unlike a Barbie doll or G.I. Joe, Cabbage Patch Kids have individual identities. And, despite the \$27 to \$30 price tag, they're not purchased so much as they're adopted.

Every doll comes complete with first and middle names, stamped in bold, black ink on adoption papers. The surname, of course, is supplied by the lucky mother or father.

The official Cabbage Patch oath of adoption: "I promise to love my Cabbage Patch Kid with all my heart. I promise to be a good and kind parent. I will always remember how special my Cabbage Patch Kid is to me."

"Good and kind" parents might be wise to buy a leash. Judging from previous behavior, the nation's first Cabbage Patch kidnapper, longing for



Kristin Nola, adopted daughter of sophomore Karen Roberts, says Carolina Cabbage Patch Kids have more fun.

a Cabbage Patch Kid to call his own, probably is lurking in the shadows.

The scenario at the Cabbage Patch police station:

"What was your kid wearing?" asks a Cabbage Patch cop.

"His poseable action-wear outfit," replies the grief-stricken parent, "the

one-piece leotard that allows Cabbage Patch Kids to stand still for pictures without help."

"Did you get a look at the abductor?"

"It all happened so fast. He stuck a gun in my back, and I passed out. When I came to, he was halfway across the parking lot, pushing Matthew Gregory's

fold-up umbrella stroller and shouting, 'I'm a father, I'm a father!'"

Imagine the headlines the next day.

CABBAGE PATCH KIDNAPPER DEMANDS \$5 MILLION: New York City shopping trip turns to tragedy

"It's just a fad," Verno says. So was the wheel.

Argue for your limitations, and sure enough, they're yours. — Richard Bach