

Cloudy again
Temps will reach 82, and to no one's surprise, there's a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms.

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

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Volume 93, Issue 48

Tuesday, August 27, 1985

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Shooting for charity

Michael Jordan, James Worthy and others join Athletes Against Crime. See page 4.

News/Sports/Arts 982-0245
Business/Advertising 982-1163

Town concerned over kidnapping

Photo of assailant, victim circulated

By RANDY FARMER
Staff Writer

University students and administrators responded with shock and concern Monday to news of a female UNC graduate student who was kidnapped on campus late Saturday night.

Sharon Stewart, 23, was abducted Saturday around 11 p.m. by a black male in the Morehead Planetarium parking lot as she and a friend walked from Franklin Street to her car. As of Monday afternoon, police said they had no leads.

Complying with police requests, University officials sent photographs of Stewart and a composite of her suspected assailant to 52 UNC academic departments Monday morning, asking that faculty members show the photographs to their classes in an effort to obtain more information on the kidnapping.

"We are cooperating with police agencies in any way we can," said Frederic W. Schroeder Jr., dean of students. "The circulation of the photographs will do better than posting them on a bulletin board. We are hoping someone can remember seeing her."

Schroeder said the incident had raised concern about safety on campus. The abduction occurred only a block away from a Chapel Hill Police foot patrol, which was begun this summer in downtown Chapel Hill as an attempt to deter loiterers on Franklin Street.

"Generally speaking, Chapel Hill is a very safe, open community," Schroeder said. "We don't have a history of frequent violence."

Since the kidnapping, however, Schroeder said people were wondering if they had a false sense of security.

"I think there is a fair amount of anger," Schroeder said. "How dare someone do that."

Several students said they were

'We are hoping someone can remember seeing her.'

— Frederic W. Schroeder Jr.

concerned about their safety since the Stewart incident.

"I've never gone out alone," said Julie Braswell, a sophomore from Winston Salem. "I'll never go out alone now for sure."

"I don't know what I would have done (in Stewart's position)," she said.

Heather Banker, a junior from Raleigh, said: "I'm scared. I feel sorry for her. Now I'll be wanting to go out in big groups."

Toby Jurovics, a junior from Raleigh, said he was shocked. "Even though I come from a big town (Jurovics moved from Los Angeles) and I hear about things like this, I never thought that anything like this could happen on campus," he said.

Schroeder offered students advice to avoid incidents such as Saturday night's.

Students should not walk alone at night, lock the doors to their cars and homes, travel in well-lit areas, be aware of people they are out with and leave suspicious scenes, he said.

"Miss Stewart was taking every precaution and was being security conscious," Schroeder said, explaining that she was walking with another person in a well-lit area. "Some things are not totally preventable."



Sharon L. Stewart



Police composite of suspect

Police continue to search for Stewart and abductor

By BETH OWNLEY
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill police are continuing their search for a UNC graduate student who was kidnapped Saturday night at knife-point from the Morehead Planetarium parking lot.

Sharon Lynn Stewart, 23, of Kingswood Apartments, was kidnapped about 11 p.m. by a black male after she and a friend returned to her car in the planetarium parking lot. The two had gone to a movie at The Ram Triple Theater in the rear of NCNB Plaza.

"We have no monumental new information," Capt. Ralph Pendergraph of the Chapel Hill Police Department said Monday. He added that the police were compiling information on people who they knew were in the vicinity of the planetarium at the time of the kidnapping.

Possibly in relation to the crime, the University police and the Chapel Hill police are looking for the owner of a white Gran Torino or Mercury Montego that might have been in a hit-and-run accident Saturday night. The vehicle was possibly parked in the area of Swain Hall.

Stewart, whose permanent address is Cincinnati, and her companion were ordered to drive to a parking lot near Swain Hall where Stewart was handcuffed and led away on foot by her abductor. The police added that the car might not belong to Stewart's abductor.

Pendergraph said that police were concentrating their investigation around Chapel Hill because no evidence pointed to a different area.

Pendergraph added that there was no indication that Stewart knew her kidnapper. He said the police suspected that the man saw Stewart and her friend earlier that evening and followed them to the planetarium parking lot.

Warning people to travel together and to take evasive action if they are approached by someone they do not know, Pendergraph said he wanted people to be careful but not modify their behavior.

Pendergraph also encouraged people to call the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760, 968-2850 or 968-2849 if they had any information on the whereabouts of Stewart, her abductor or the automobile.

Attending filled classes curtailed by departments

By JOY THOMPSON
Staff Writer

Students trying to use an old stand-by method of picking up classes during drop-add might find their efforts blocked this semester.

Secretaries in at least two departments would not release the locations of closed-out classes to students who wanted to attend the classes to obtain special permission from the instructor to enroll.

Both the philosophy department and the African and Afro-American Studies curriculum withheld the information in an attempt to regulate the flood of undergraduate students demanding classes that fill the perspectives of the University's new curriculum, the secretaries said in interviews Monday.

The philosophy department adopted this policy two years ago because of the limited number of seats in classrooms, said Claire Miller, administrative assistant of the philosophy department.

"We just have the impossible situation that we can't meet all of the students' needs," Miller said. "When we close out (classes), we're closing out at the number of students in the room."

The problem began two years ago when the new perspective requirements were approved, Miller said. In the past two years, the curriculum's classes have been filling up during preregistration, Miller said.

"This became a problem because... (our courses) meet a lot of perspective requirements for undergraduates," Miller said.

If the philosophy department gave out the locations of closed-out classes, it would cause "chaos and confusion," Miller said. Students would have to stand in the back of the room, making it more difficult for the instructors to teach, she said.

"Teachers have no way of knowing who's registered and who's not," Miller said. The teacher cannot control whether the registered students get seats in a classroom, she said.

Miller said the department made exceptions for students with special hardships. December graduates, students with personal problems, evening college and transfer students are considered special hardship cases, she said.

Miller said the policy had originated within the philosophy department and was not required by the University. But, she added, the department is following the University drop-add policy that allows a student to pick up a class after another student drops it.

Allowing a student simply to attend the class to ask the instructor's permission to enroll is unfair to students who go through the proper drop-add procedure through the department, Miller said.

Debbie Crowder, the head secretary of the African and Afro-American Studies curriculum, said releasing the class locations to closed-out students prevented the instructors from making an accurate count of the students in the classroom.

"We can't ask people to teach more than a certain amount of students," Crowder said.

Because of the University's new curriculum, Crowder said, her curriculum, like the philosophy department, had received a greater demand for its classes.

"Before, we had been able to accommodate students," Crowder said. But during the past two years, this has become increasingly difficult, she said.

Like Miller, Crowder said she would make exceptions for students with special problems.

Crowder and Miller both said they sympathized with the students.

"We do try to use all the space the best way we can," Miller said. "But the students don't always see it that way. They are told the same thing wherever they go."

Secretaries in other departments, such as the political science department, advise students to attend closed-out classes on the first day and to speak

to the instructor about getting into the class.

Raymond E. Strong, University registrar, said it was the department's choice whether to release the classroom locations.

Strong said he could understand not releasing the class location if, for example, 100 students showed up for class in a 25-seat room.

"The problem is students don't see it like we do," Strong said.

"My reports show that we give 75 percent of the students who pre-registered for classes a full schedule," Strong said. Twenty percent of the students are given four out of five classes for which they pre-register, Strong said.

"When a student is given a different section or instructor, they feel that we didn't give them what they wanted," Strong said. But the people of the registrar's office felt they did, he said.

The registrar's office often is faced with the situation of 300 students asking for the same section of a course, Strong said.

He said that University Provost Samuel R. Williamson was putting together a committee to study how to handle unexpected student demand for classes. The study will determine whether the University should build more classroom buildings, Strong said.

Strong, who is a member of the committee, said he only oversaw half of the classrooms on campus. The other half is controlled by various departments. The committee will study how the University could use these classrooms more efficiently.

The committee also would study ways to shuffle class times and instructors, Strong said, and would try to encourage students to take classes at less popular times — outside the 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. period.

Closed courses create problem in perspectives

By GRANT PARSONS
Staff Writer

While students scramble to finish the drop-add procedure, their chances of receiving a course that satisfies the requirements of the philosophical or aesthetic perspective required for graduation are becoming increasingly smaller.

"There were unusual shortages of cards from the first day," said Christopher M. Armitage, an associate professor in the English department who has worked departmental drop—add for the past few days. "There were only three courses above the 20-level that had cards available, and it was not long before all courses below the 20—level were full."

"I sounded like a broken record," Armitage said. "I was saying, 'Sorry, all closed. Sorry, all closed,' all morning." Armitage said that he had worked drop—add for 19 years and that "there were substantially fewer classes open than ever before."

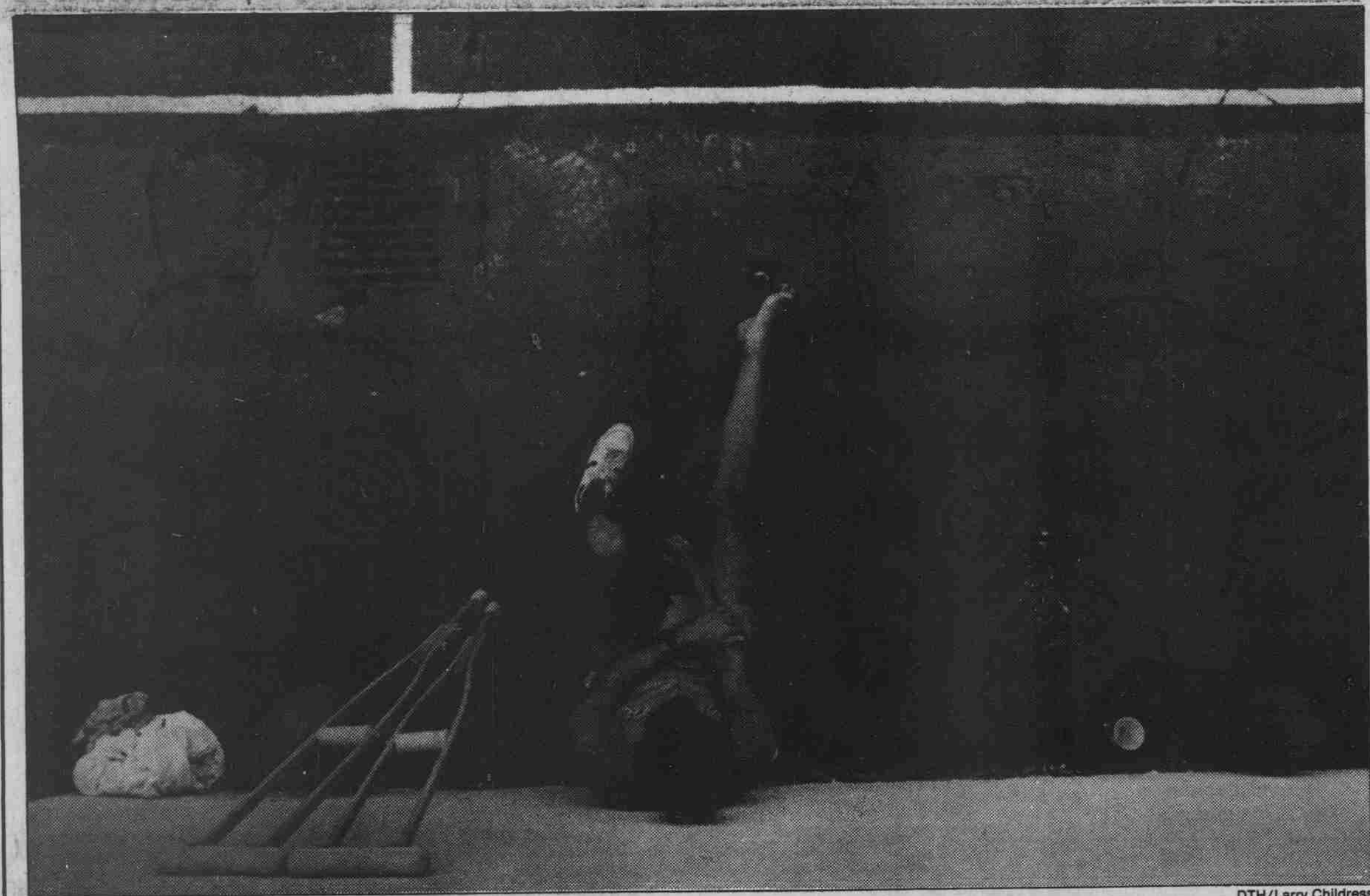
"Traditionally, students look for certain professors, whether for intelligence or ease of grading, but this year students were looking for cards for any professor," he said.

Armitage said a conservative estimate of the number of students he had to turn away would be "certainly over 100."

The University now requires all graduates to choose at least five courses from different areas — perspectives — and regulates the courses that a student can choose to fulfill those perspectives.

All the courses offered by the See COURSES page 3

Sidelined



Greg Sista, a sophomore from Raleigh and a resident of Graham dormitory, enjoyed playing a strenuous game of basketball on Cobb

courts just the day before, but an ankle injury left him in the spectator seat Monday afternoon.

Planning board committee activity criticized by former member

By LEIGH WILLIAMS
City Editor

The Chapel Hill Planning Board has begun meeting in smaller committees to keep up with an increasing work load and as a way of providing more in-depth study of proposed developments, said Planning Board Chairman Alice Ingram Monday in a telephone interview.

Ingram made her comments in the wake of criticism from former planning board member Lightning Brown, who cited the committees as part of the reason for his resigning Thursday.

Brown said in a telephone interview Monday that the committees were really a way of evading the N.C. Open Meetings Law and that there was no reason to believe they would provide more in-depth study.

The Open Meetings Law requires most government bodies to hold meetings in public and to give public notice of meetings held at times other than their regular meeting times. The law has several exceptions that allow private meetings on issues such as personnel matters and property purchases. When discussing the

exceptional issues, the body must meet in public and say why it is going into closed session.

The law does not specifically deal with subcommittees of public bodies, but specifies that when a majority of a public body's members meet to conduct public business — which includes deliberations and discussions — the meeting time and place must be publicly announced.

William F. Chamberlin, assistant professor of journalism and instructor in mass media law, said that while the planning board might not be breaking the Open Meetings Law, it was violating the spirit of the law if the committees' meetings were not announced publicly so that they could be available to the public.

"The emphasis is that public business be conducted in public," he said.

Ingram said there was no danger that anything would be discussed secretly or without public knowledge.

"These things never happen that way because of the ability of members to manipulate each other and ask questions (during the regular

meetings) that bring concerns up and make sure they are discussed," she said.

Although Ingram said public notice was not given of the committee meetings, she said anyone who wanted to attend them would be welcome to get in touch with the planning board members and request that they be notified when the committees were meeting.

Ingram said the committees, which were described in a July 31 memo from Ingram to the board members, had been meeting informally since January and that the memo formalized something that had already been going on.

The committees include a site committee which visits proposed building sites to "pick up on physical considerations including traffic and neighborhood ambience;" a long-range planning committee which looks at proposals in terms of the long-range land use plans; and a council committee whose members rotate going to Town Council meetings to report to council.

Lightning Brown was given the position of community communicator to keep the commu-

nity informed of new or proposed plans.

Ingram said the committees were instituted to take advantage of the different areas of expertise among the board members and to allow them to use their own particular planning interests. She said the board members were able to choose which committees they would join.

Brown said, however, that he was not given the option to choose which committee he would serve on.

"I was told what committee I would be on," he said.

The committees review the plans before the planning board's formal meetings and present their recommendations and findings to the whole board which then can ask questions and discuss the reports.

"None of this means that this (the committees' reports) is the final word," Ingram said. "The board has more material than just that to work with."

Brown said that he was concerned that the committee process was streamlining the board at the expense of open debate and that they

could keep minority viewpoints from being expressed.

During his three years on the board, Brown said he had tried to represent the views of renters and moderate income people in the town. Since his resignation, he said he had been trying to encourage someone with similar concerns to apply for the position.

In his letter of resignation dated August 22, Brown said "I am convinced, however, that the direction of Board procedure since around last January has increasingly resulted in the exclusion of input from citizens, developers and Board members — typically under the guise of expediting 'business.'"

Ingram said that she felt everyone on the board was able to appreciate and speak for minorities' views.

"Just because you have money doesn't mean you don't have concerns about minorities. It annoys me that somebody presumes you have to be poor or be a minority to represent minority views."

Bureaucracy is a giant mechanism operated by pygmies — Honore de Balzac