

# Officials revise housing damage policy

By WILL SPEARS  
Staff Writer

The Department of University Housing has changed its policy on who should pay for residence hall damage when officials cannot determine who is responsible, housing and Residence Hall Association (RHA) officials said Thursday.

In the past, if officials could not determine who was responsible for the damage, all of the hall's residents were liable for damage and restoration costs.

Under the new policy, residents involved will meet with the area director and a student government representative, who will decide who to charge for the damage.

Wayne Kuncel, director of housing, said the new policy should improve the process.

"With last year's policy, students saw it as unilateral decision making," he said. "Now the students are

involved with the fact-finding, and that seems to help a great deal."

Last year, students and RHA officials questioned the legality of the old policy, he said. In February, former RHA President Kelly Clark, RHA President Jimmy Randolph and Henderson Residence College Governor Kurt Seufert met with Olde Campus AD Roger Nelson and Ehringhaus AD Gary Johnson and suggested that housing officials meet with students before they charge groups of residents for damage.

The controversy stemmed from an incident last fall in Winston Residence Hall, where housing officials assessed some of the fourth floor residents \$145, or \$5.50 each, for damage to common areas.

Some residents said they had been

charged unfairly and had done much of the clean-up themselves but were charged for the job anyway.

According to the new policy, the incident should be reported to the area director, who must meet with the involved students and a student government representative appointed by the area's governor, Seufert said.

If the area director and the student government representative determine that collectively billing all residents would be unfair, the Department of University Housing will pay the cost of repair.

But if they decide that collective billing is reasonable, the residents may appeal the decision. The residents must appeal to the area director and the student government representative within 48 hours of billing notification.

This amendment is not in "Hallways and Highrises," the housing department's contract booklet, but was distributed in August to campus residents, Randolph said.

"I think it's a very realistic, workable policy," said Roger Nelson, Olde Campus area director. "I think it will work. It has been very well received."

But making the housing department pay for repairs may cost students in the long run, said Anne Presnell, Scott Residence College area director.

"The goal of the housing department is to provide inexpensive, quality housing," she said. "However, housing costs go up every time the housing department must assume the cost of restoration."

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Both figures are adjusted for inflation.

The percentage of families owning homes decreased in the 1980s after increasing steadily for 35 years, according to the U.S. Bureau of Census. The realtors association

estimated that 1.5 million more families could have bought a home by 1987 had the home ownership rate remained at the 1980 level.

The mock eviction of Helms was part of a national campaign for affordable housing kicked off last week, said Catherine Crabtree of CCNV. Housing groups across the country will go to Washington for civil disobedience acts on Capitol Hill every weekday until the November elections, she said.

Twelve people, including Guernsey, started a 48-day water-only fast last week, Crabtree said.

A Boone housing group is expected to arrive in Washington this week for a protest, Jones said.

"The purpose basically is to demand that Congress replace the 77 percent Reagan has cut from the

housing budget," she said.

Fifty protesters were arrested last week for sit-ins at Congressional offices, blocking an intersection in front of the Capitol and demonstrating in the Capitol's rotunda, said Dan Nichols, a public information officer for the Capitol Police.

If convicted, Jones, Thompson and Guernsey could receive a \$500 fine and six months in prison, Nichols said.

Jones said he was found guilty of the same charges for entering a congressional building July 14 and dropping a banner that read "Housing Now." He was then placed on probation, which he violated by the protest at Helms' office, he said.

"If I am convicted of this one, I will probably end up serving a small sentence," he said.

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Senior citizens' series planned

The 10th annual "Village Elders in Dialogue with UNC Scholars" lecture series begins Saturday and will continue throughout the year.

The six-lecture series, designed for people aged 60 or older, will be held Saturdays at 10 a.m. in Hanes Art Center Auditorium. The series is sponsored by the Orange County Department of Aging, the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department and the UNC Division of Extension and Continuing Education.

Lars Schoultz, professor of political science and director of the Institute of Latin American Studies, will speak on "U.S. Policy Toward Latin America" Nov. 5.

The series will resume Jan. 21 with a discussion about "Undergraduate Education in the Modern Research University" led by Gillian Cell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and history professor.

Although the lectures are free and open to the public, participants should register through the Department of Aging.

Summer program gets grant

The UNC Mathematics and Science Education Network, headquartered at UNC-CH, has received a \$154,000 grant for the National Science Foundation's Young Scholars Competition to support its Summer Scholars Program.

This is the second straight year the foundation has awarded a grant to the UNC program.

More than 300 junior and senior high school minority and female

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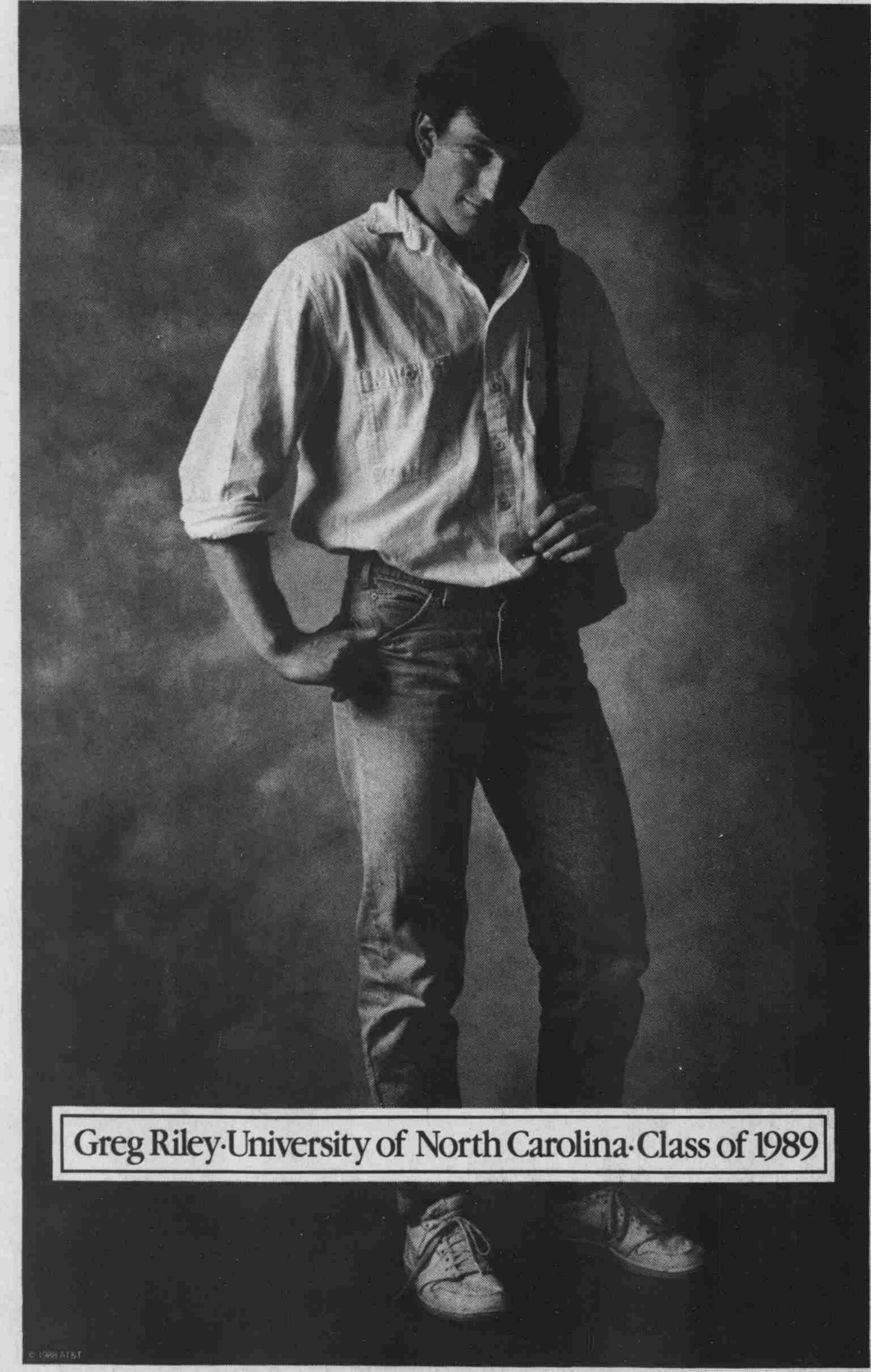
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# Conference to focus on AIDS issue in the black community

From staff reports

"An Awareness of Cultural Norms and Values: the Black Community's Response to AIDS," will be the subject of a conference at N.C. Central University in Durham on Oct. 10.

The conference is sponsored by the School of Public Health at UNC-CH, the Health Education Department at NCCU and the N.C. Department of Human Resources' AIDS Control Program.

The conference is designed to increase awareness of community cultural beliefs and behaviors that help or hinder acceptance of AIDS treatment and prevention strategies. Another goal is to develop approaches for treatment and prevention that will meet the needs of the black community.

Registration fee is \$30. Spaces are still available for the conference, which will take place in the Health Sciences Building on the NCCU campus.

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Police guard 'Temptation' showings

By LYNN GOSWICK  
Staff Writer

Moviefgoers who attended the first local showings of "The Last Temptation of Christ" may have come face-to-face with uniformed Chapel Hill police officers at the Carolina Theatre.

But don't worry, they weren't hauled off to jail.

The guards were there for the public's protection, a spokesman for Universal Pictures said.

The officers worked the early showings of the film in Chapel Hill, but stopped working there later when no incidents occurred at the theater.

Because of many bomb threats to theaters and the Universal Pictures offices, the company found it necessary to hire police officers to ensure law and order at the showings of the controversial film by Martin Scorsese, said the spokesman, who asked not to be identified.

"It's a very serious matter to us," he said of the threats. "You never know about these things."

Although many protesters are organized and "very sincere" in their views about the movie, those causing trouble, such as the vandals in Salt Lake City who stole the film from the theater and slashed the movie screen, probably are not a part of a group, but people seeing an opportunity to make trouble, the spokesman said.

The controversy surrounding "Temptation" stems mainly from objections to a scene in the movie in which Jesus is portrayed making love to Mary Magdalene.

Before the film was released, investigators were sent to study 30 possible cities where the movie might be shown, the spokesman said.

Before the controversy about the film erupted, Universal Pictures had planned to show it in a few cities only, and at art houses and film festivals because it was such an "artsy picture," he said.

People normally don't want to see a serious film; they want to see action-thrillers, he said.

But because so much publicity has been stirred, the film is being shown in markets where it may never have gone before, the spokesman said.

Clergy screenings were held in the studied cities like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Atlanta before the opening of the film.

Many of the clergymen thought that Scorsese had "done his homework" in researching the film, the spokesman said: Others thought the film would be great material for group discussion.

"Nobody walked out," the spokesman said.

The policemen who worked at the Carolina Theatre were off-duty officers who had volunteered to work there after officials at the theater expressed a need for help, said Capt. Ralph Pendergraph of the Chapel Hill Police Department.

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