

## City and Campus

# Tree ordinance would affect costs

BY GABRIELE JONES  
Staff Writer

Within a year the cost of a new home in Chapel Hill could increase by 1 percent because of a proposed tree protection ordinance, say local developers and builders.

Peter Thorn, former president of the Durham-Chapel Hill Homebuilders Association, said the tree ordinance would be regressive to home buyers who already have trouble affording housing. At a public hearing Monday, Thorn said the ordinance should maintain a residential exclusion.

Local businesses and developers don't agree with accusations that they do not care about town trees.

Bill Kalchof, executive vice president of the Durham-Chapel Hill Homebuilders Association, said developers and builders make every effort to do a good job to protect Chapel Hill.

Kalchof said that he supported a voluntary program for tree protection, but that the development of a mandatory plan would raise the cost of housing and raise city costs.

Larry Touchstone, superintendent of engineering for Duke Power in Chapel Hill, said the ordinance would effect the company's above and below ground service because it would be necessary to obtain a permit for everyday service. This permit would delay service and could cause increased and prolonged power outage.

Touchstone said Duke Power could support the ordinance as long as changes are made in landscape specifications and the permits required for tree pruning for overhead lines are eliminated.

Instead of being restricted by permits, Duke Power needs to take an active part in replenishing Chapel Hill's

wooded areas, said Touchstone. "We would like to plant trees around the power lines, such as dogwoods and crepe myrtles, that wouldn't grow as high."

This would encourage the removal of trees now growing under lines, which are unsightly when trimmed, said Touchstone. These trees could be replaced with a suitable variety, and pruning would be needed every four to five years rather than every year. This would be more attractive, he said.

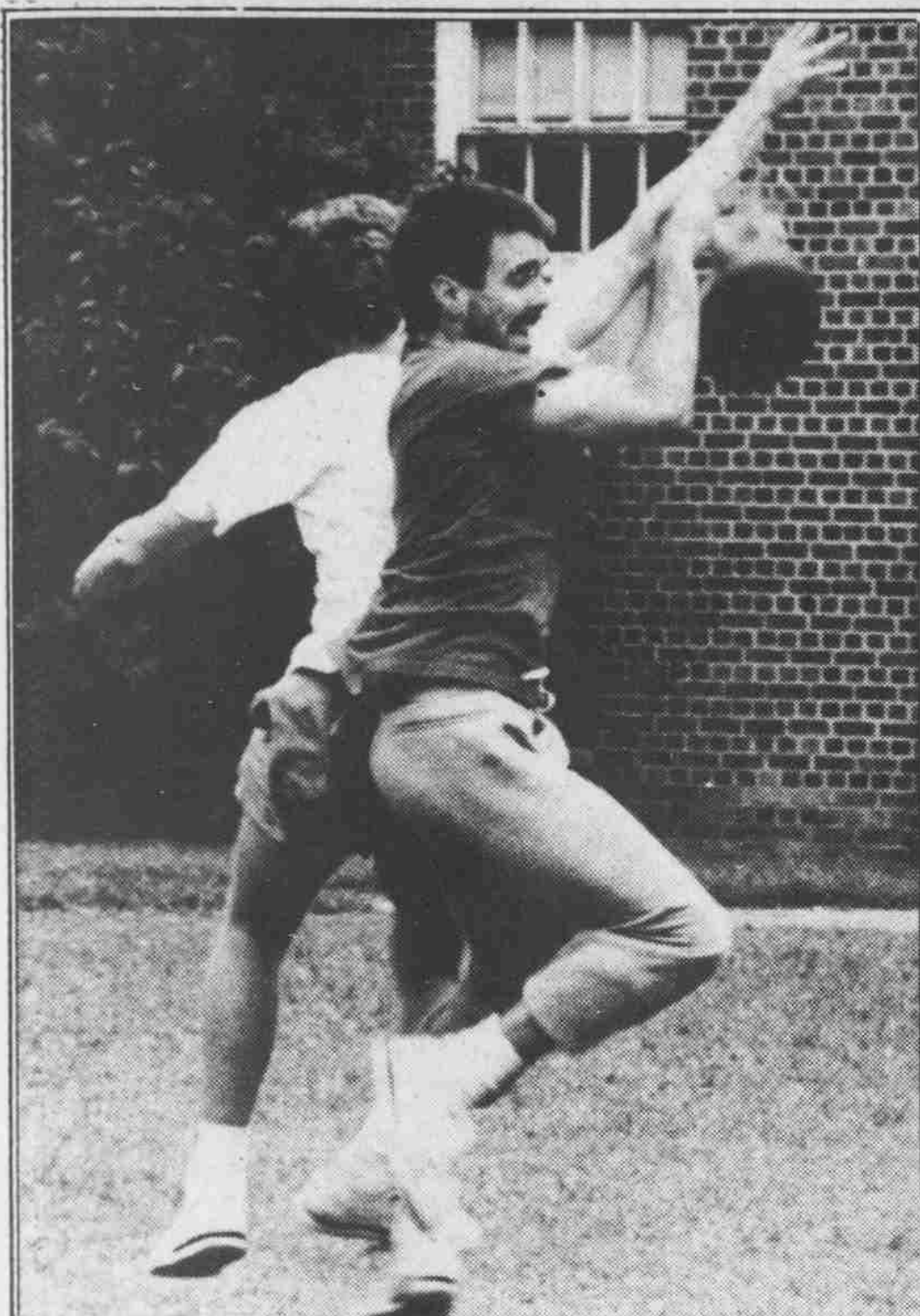
Sierra Club member Claire Cooperstein said the extra 1 percent added to new home costs would pay off in the long run because trees damaged from construction do not always die during construction. Sometimes trees die several years after the home is purchased and the owner is burdened with the expense of removing the tree.

"People complain that trees die and their home is devalued years later," she said. "Trees are cherished and taken care of by these homeowners."

Local environmentalists claim builders and developers damage trees during construction and unnecessarily tear down trees. Gary Bronson of Ludy's Tree Care said half of the dead trees he has removed from people's yards were damaged by construction.

In a video presentation to the town council, town forester Adam Kuby said the developers' earth-moving equipment severely damages trees because it compacts the soil, often leaving trees with viruses and disease. The ordinance is designed to protect these trees.

Jack Gibson, a homeowner in Colony Lake supports the tree ordinance. He said, "It takes less time to build a house than it does to grow a tree."



### Football frenzy

Residents of Connor and Winston take advantage of the break in the hot weather to play an impromptu football game.

DTH/Schuyler Brown

# Student committee to award teachers

By STACEY KAPLAN  
Staff Writer

Student government has formed a permanent standing committee to award four \$5,000 Undergraduate Teaching Awards to UNC teachers.

The awards are the only teaching awards which to students full discretion over the entire selection process.

The committee, chaired by Grant Vinik, will consist of 10 undergraduates selected by Student Body President Brian Lewis, faculty adviser John Anderson and Vinik. Membership applications are available in Room 217, Suite C of the Student Union.

The 1,200 graduate assistants, as well as any other instructors who independently teach a class, will be eligible

for these awards. All other awards given by the University are restricted to tenure-track professors.

These are the only awards not funded by outside benefactors. The money for the awards comes from a 75 cent increase per semester in student fees approved by a margin of nearly four to one in last spring's campus elections.

Ruffin Hall, academic affairs director for student government's executive branch, said faculty base salaries and benefits at UNC were not keeping up with other universities nationwide.

"We are demonstrating that students support them (faculty members) and want to help them alleviate their problems. Faculty recruitment and retention are crucial to an outstanding uni-

versity."

Hall said students from all majors and professional schools were encouraged to apply, particularly from the schools of business, nursing, journalism, pharmacy and the MBA program.

"We are looking for a diverse group of students to give balance to the awards."

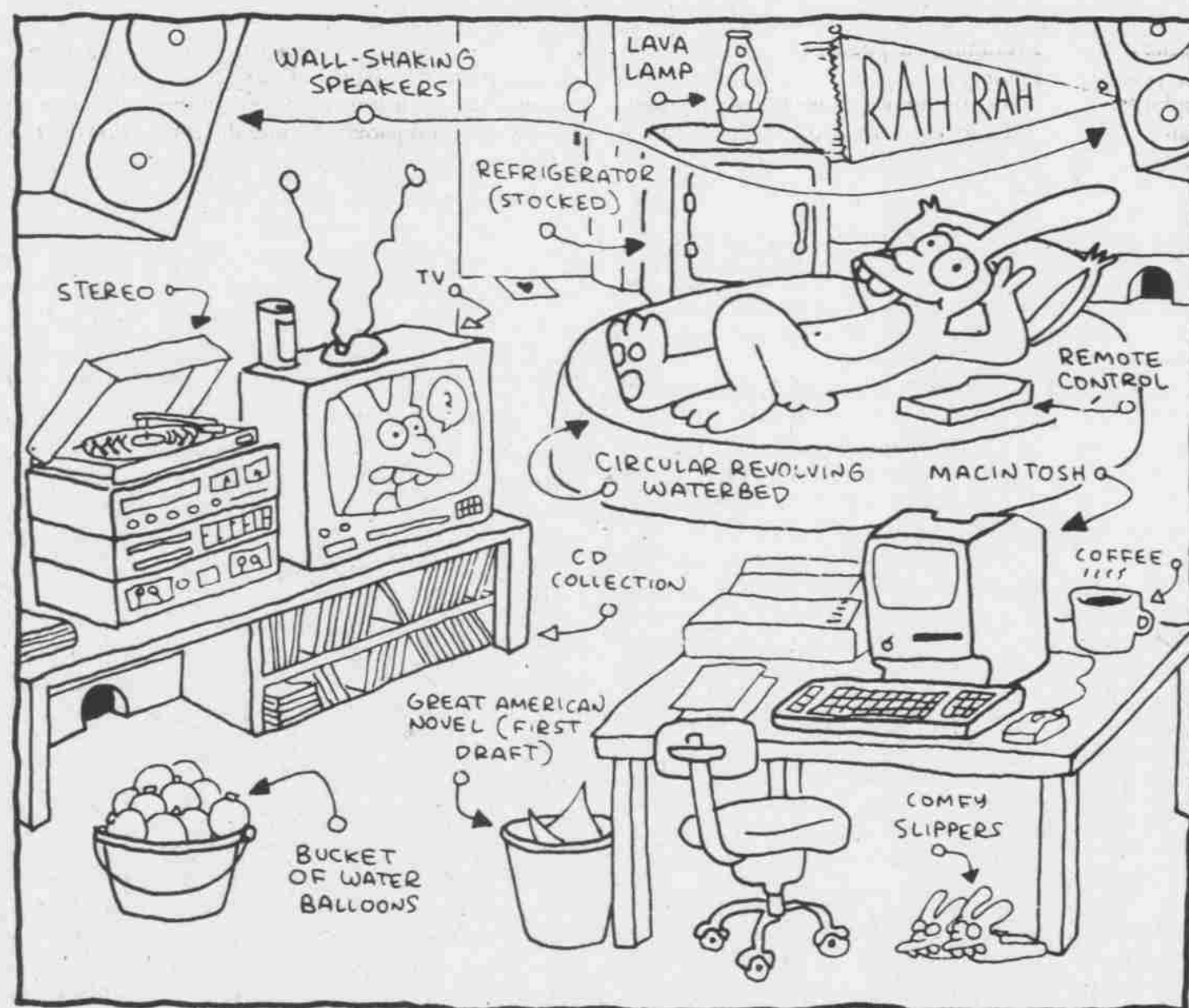
The committee will establish rules for choosing award recipients in the fall, Vinik said.

The faculty selection process will begin in the spring with nominations from students. After the pool of nominees is narrowed down to between eight and 15 finalists, more intense scrutiny will determine the recipients of the awards.

Finalists' names will then be published in The Daily Tar Heel with a form asking students for more information about the teachers. Winners will be announced in April.

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