

Chance of rain

High in 60s

Weekend: Cloudy

High in 50s

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Symposium:

Ethics in Corporate America

7 p.m., 100 Hamilton

Volume 98, Issue 25

Friday, April 6, 1990

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

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



Lithuanian government office seized by Soviets

MOSCOW — About 50 armed Soviet soldiers dressed as policemen stormed the Lithuanian Prosecutor's Office Thursday, expelled its employees and occupied the building, said witnesses and spokesmen for the republic's Parliament.

The incident occurred one day after Lithuania's secessionist government accused the Kremlin of backing forces bent on its overthrow.

Lithuania and Moscow have faced off in a tense showdown since the republic declared independence on March 11. Statements in recent days indicated movement toward a common ground, including a possible referendum by Lithuanians.

But Thursday, men armed with automatic weapons entered the Prosecutor's Office, site of a previous Soviet attempt to seize authority from officials appointed by the breakaway republic's government.

East German parliament works toward unification

EAST BERLIN — East Germany's first freely chosen parliament declared the nation a democracy on Thursday and began building a political system that will lead it to unification with West Germany.

The lawmakers, elected March 18 in the nation's first democratic ballot, convened for the first time and formally dismantled the Communist system that ruled for four decades.

Meeting in the Palace of the Republic built by the former Stalinist regime, the 400-member Parliament began rewriting the constitution to mirror that of West Germany.

The new legislature and the government it creates could be East Germany's last as a sovereign state because of the moves toward unification with West Germany.

The Parliament empowered Christian Democrat leader Lothar de Maiziere, whose party holds the most seats in Parliament, to build a new government from the 11 parties represented in the legislature.

Dr. Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, a Christian Democrat, was elected president of Parliament and urged that lawmakers "do justice to our responsibilities and that we soon sit in a common German Parliament."

Cease-fire quells Beirut fighting on clergy's plea

BEIRUT, Lebanon, — Fighting died down in the Christian enclave Thursday after rival leaders accepted a cease-fire at the request of clergymen, who said their battles threatened to wipe out Lebanon's Christians.

Army Gen. Michel Aoun and militia chieftain Samir Geagea ordered their fighters to put down their weapons late Wednesday.

Police reported intermittent skirmishing with automatic rifles in east Beirut. A police spokesman, who cannot be named in line with regulations, also reported occasional mortar exchanges in the Christian hinterland of Kesrouan province north of Beirut.

However, he said, the cease-fire, the 16th called this year, was "generally holding." No casualties were reported.

— From Associated Press reports

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Police net suspect in Cobb assault

By MARCIE BAILEY
Staff Writer

A man suspected of being connected to crimes in Florida, Maine and North Carolina was arrested by University police at 1:07 a.m. Thursday after a Cobb resident called and reported an assault, attempted rape and indecent exposure.

James Donald King, 32, of 2218 Myers St. and 1615 Sedgefield St., Apt. 10, Durham, entered the residence hall

around midnight by hurrying past two students who were entering the hall. The man then entered a rest room where he assaulted a Cobb resident.

The assault victim did not suffer serious physical injury.

Students promptly called the police and then noted the direction of the suspect's flight. After a pursuit on foot, police apprehended the suspect on Senlac Road in Chapel Hill.

John Devitto, director of Public

Safety, said arresting officer Stokes Barnes and the students involved did a great job in the apprehension of King.

"The students involved in calling and directing the police show the 'neighborhood watch' in effect," he said.

Police added the felony charge of attempted second-degree rape to the initial charges against King, which included breaking and entering, assault and three counts of indecent exposure. The \$3,200 secured bond was increased

to \$32,000 because King has previous records and is now being investigated on other charges.

Devitto said Durham city police were interested in the suspect but could not say whether King was a suspect in connection with several rapes reported in the Duke University area.

In a release concerning the incident, Frederic Schroeder, dean of students, urged students to take precautions to encourage safety and security on cam-

pus. "Anyone aware of suspicious or threatening behavior is urged to report it immediately to University police," he said. Residence hall staff should also be alerted to suspicious behavior in the residence halls, Schroeder said.

The SAFE Escort program should be contacted when traveling about campus after dark, he said, and noted that emergency telephones are located throughout campus and have a direct dial to University police.

Beach Blast canceled

Soggy field conditions sink plans for annual event

By STEPHANIE JOHNSTON
Assistant University Editor

Beach Blast, originally scheduled to be held Sunday on Ehringhaus field, has been canceled because of the wet conditions of the field, said Greg Faucette, Beach Blast coordinator.

"The field is under standing water now and there's supposed to be rain Friday and Saturday," he said.

Ehringhaus Field incurred damage last year when the tractor-trailer used by the bands was brought onto the field despite the wet conditions, Faucette said. "Last year we went ahead and set up and had the event," he said. "There was damage to the field. We had to pay money to the PE (physical education) department."

Administrators in the physical education department made the decision Wednesday night instead of waiting to see if the field dried because many of them would be at an out-of-town con-

ference this weekend.

"The field down there is in very poor condition," said Dwayne Miller, a program coordinator with the intramural sports program. "Last year it was the same type of weather. It (Beach Blast) really tore up the field bad. Those fields are utilized by club sports teams, and it (Beach Blast) would just totally mess it (the field) up for them."

An attempt was made Thursday morning to find an alternative site for Beach Blast, Faucette said, but because of the size of the event and the number of students expected to attend, a suitable place could not be found.

"We're very disappointed," he said. "I've been working on this since September. We don't have any ill will towards anybody. We understand the IM (intramural) department and the PE department are looking out for their interests. We're just upset that all this work has gone for nothing."

Notification of the event's cancellation has been sent to the agent in charge of retaining the bands for the event, Faucette said. "We will definitely lose our deposit (of \$3,500)," he said. "There's a good chance he can get us out of the \$6,000 (the rest of the payment)."

Frederic Schroeder, assistant vice chancellor, worked with Faucette to find an alternative site. Ramshead parking lot, the F parking lot, Memorial Hall and Forest Theater were considered, Schroeder said.

"None (of the locations) are satisfactory to this kind of event," he said. "The dilemma is that in both instances we're talking about student facilities."

Schroeder said he regretted the position Faucette was put in by the cancellation. "He's done a great job of planning," Schroeder said. "Regrettably, he's smack up against a rock and a hard place."

Closure of street uncertain

By SARAH KIRKMAN
Staff Writer

Administrators will meet today to decide whether to close Stadium Drive to make room for construction trucks and materials moving in to work on the new Alumni Center.

Preliminary plans from the Department of Transportation and Parking mentioned closing the street and re-routing buses for about two weeks later this month.

John Gardner, UNC transportation planner, said Thursday that there was still much left to be decided. "There's still some negotiating going on," he said. "Tomorrow morning there's a decision supposed to be made."

Students living in the Stadium Drive area would only experience minor inconveniences, Gardner said. "Under the worst conditions, there would have been some restrictions on parking," he

said. The construction would only make students loading and unloading travel a little farther to their cars, he said.

The transportation department did not have any influence on the construction, Gardner said. "We don't control construction projects at all; that's not our choice," he said.

The convenience of those living around the construction site is often not considered, Gardner said. "Contractors tend not to take into account that people have to live there too," he said.

The delivery may be delayed to avoid traffic problems, Gardner said, but delays in the construction would not be economically wise. "You don't delay \$20 million projects — contractors tend to want money if they have to wait to begin," he said.

Gardner added that whether the project is delayed did not depend on the Department of Transportation and

Parking. "Someone in South Building says, 'Yeah, you can delay it,'" he said. "We don't make that kind of choice."

Douglas Dibbert, director of alumni affairs, said he thought there was confusion about the plans. "At no time were they going to close Stadium Drive; they were going to only limit access," he said. And the planned period of restricted access was less than two weeks, he said.

One decision to be made is whether the delivery of steel beams could be done over a one- or two-day period, Dibbert said. "There would be no need for any further interruption of access after that," he said.

Dibbert said he thought a decision could be made that would be best for all involved in the project. "We're hoping some adjustment can be made that will both assure continuing access as well as maintaining the schedule," he said.

Hildebolt urges election reforms

By SHERRY SHAW
Staff Writer

Student Body President (SBP) Bill Hildebolt released a set of election guidelines Monday calling for clarification and reformation of the current student election laws.

Students running for office need clearer guidelines as to what candidates can and cannot do, Hildebolt said. Many flaws exist in the student government code concerning the election process, he said.

If Hildebolt's tentative goals are approved, the general election period would be two weeks shorter, the Elections Board would have more power to make decisions concerning candidates' campaign procedures and would have to take more responsibility for its decisions.

The Elections Board isn't very powerful now because the laws are not specific and can be manipulated, Hildebolt said. If the board had more power, it would be held more accountable, he said.

Other changes Hildebolt plans to make in the election laws include a requirement that all candidates receive an exact copy of the general election laws. Candidates now only receive a synopsis drafted by the Elections Board.

Hildebolt also proposed that all candidates be notified when the Elections Board made an interpretive decision.

sion, a decision not expressed explicitly in the code, and be given the opportunity to present their interpretation of the law to the board members.

"The Elections Board is not created to make interpretations of the codes," Hildebolt said. "Its job is to run elections."

Elections Board member Jennifer Manning said some of Hildebolt's ideas had already been written into the Elections Board's proposal for changes. Shortening the General Election period by two weeks was a good suggestion, but it may discriminate against candidates who enter the election late, she said.

The Elections Board supports Hildebolt's idea that all decisions made by the Elections Board should be in writing and distributed to all candidates for all offices within 24 hours, she said.

"Candidates need to know what questions were asked and what decisions were made," Manning said. The Elections Board plans to take their proposal to the student government judiciary branch first for review, and then to the Student Congress Rules and Judiciary Committee.

Elizabeth Wheelless, chairwoman of the Elections Board, said the board had mixed reactions to Hildebolt's proposals. She said the board supported Hildebolt's idea for a more explicit

definition of campaign materials. "After the occurrences this year, we definitely need to define campaign materials more clearly,"

Manning said the Elections Board had no jurisdiction over one of the changes that Hildebolt wanted to make. Hildebolt's proposals include having Daily Tar Heel editors appointed by a search committee instead of being elected by the student body.

The Student Congress Rules and Judiciary Committee would have to review such a proposal and present it to congress, or students would have to organize a petition of two thousand signatures and present the referendum to the student body, Hildebolt said.

Jessica Lanning, co-editor of the DTH, said she the editor or editors should not be selected through the election process because the selection of an editor through the electoral process is fundamentally wrong.

"We're not comparable to politicians," Lanning said. However, the proposed student government search committee may not be the best method for choosing an editor, she said.

A selection committee composed of a cross-section of the student body would be a better way to choose the editor of the DTH, she said. The committee should be composed of

See REFORM, page 7

Celebrities to attend pro-choice Pit rally

From staff reports

Activating Awareness for Choice and Equality (AACE), a pro-choice organization of UNC students, faculty and staff members, will hold a midday rally on Friday, April 6, in the Pit.

Speakers at the rally will include

Hollywood celebrities participating in the "Freedom of Choice" campus tour. The tour, which includes stops at colleges and universities across the nation, is sponsored by the Hollywood Policy Center, a non-profit organization.

Ruth Ziegler, director of NARAL-NC, will also speak at the rally. Other

speakers will include students, law professors and local politicians. Entertainment will be provided by the UNC Loreleis and other local performers.

The UNC Young Democrats will provide information on voter registration in conjunction with the rally.

How dry I am! How dry I am! Nobody knows how dry I am! — Anonymous