

CITY and STATE

Off-campus luxuries preferred to campus costs, students say

By JENNIFER DICKENS
Staff Writer

Almost 50 percent of UNC undergraduates chose to reside in apartments or condominiums this year, despite the rising cost of housing in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Students cited scarcity and price increases of campus housing as the main reasons for living off campus. With University housing prices ranging between \$1,570 and \$1,730 per year, students are turning to apartments, which provide students more living space for their money.

Living off campus in Chapel Hill or Carrboro often costs more than University housing, but students said they are willing to pay more because they get more.

Kurt Gilliland, a junior biology major from Nashville, Tenn., said the luxuries apartment life offers are worth his extra \$235 a semester. "It's worth having a less-crowded bathroom, a complete kitchen, more living space and the ability to keep your car near where you live."

Joe Miller, a junior political science major from Syracuse, N.Y., said he

agreed with Gilliland, "An apartment offers all the luxuries of home, including a washer and drier, a full kitchen and cable television."

Living off campus also has its problems. The biggest hassle according to students is transportation to and from campus. "The buses are an inconvenience," Miller said. "You can't trust them to get you to class on time, so you have to make time adjustments."

Keeping the kitchen stocked is also a hassle, Gilliland said. "But the biggest problem for me as an out-of-state stu-

dent was transporting extra furnishings that residence halls used to provide for you."

The University is home to 6,878 of the approximate 15,000 undergraduates attending UNC, Al Calarco, assistant university housing director, said. This figure does not include the 1,400 living in Granville Towers.

Most of the students living on campus are freshmen, Calarco said. "Half the spaces in residence halls are reserved for freshmen. The remaining half are then divided among sophomores,

juniors and seniors who wish to remain on campus."

The return rate for freshmen this semester is 60 percent, he said. "Others have chosen to live in fraternity or sorority houses, apartments off campus or have left the University."

University housing has experienced a 15 percent price increase this year, Calarco said. A non-air-conditioned double or triple costs \$785 per semester. An air-conditioned room costs \$865 per semester.

Most students agree living on cam-

pus during the first two years at UNC is beneficial. The convenience of University housing encourages freshmen and sophomores to meet new people and to get involved in campus activities, Gilliland said.

"It is a great opportunity to meet people from different places," said Al Windham, a junior history and economics major from Chapel Hill.

"But after two years, you have adjusted to college life and have made close friends, so you need a change of pace and atmosphere," he said.

N.C. workplace conditions among most dangerous, deadly in nation

From Associated Press reports

RALEIGH — North Carolina's workplaces sometimes are dangerous and even deadly for employees, said officials with the state's Department of Labor, which regulates on-the-job safety and health.

In the past five years, 356 Tar Heel workers died on the job, 64 of them in 1989. Another 769,000 were injured on the job between 1984 and 1988, with the numbers peaking at 177,500 in 1988, state records show.

Many deaths and injuries occurred because employers ignored proper safety procedures, say officials with the state Department of Labor.

Labor department officials and employee advocates said that repeated violations by some employers show they are more interested in saving money

than in saving lives.

"There's no doubt that there are employers who are willing to take a risk of getting caught and being fined because it's more cost-effective," said Labor Commissioner John Brooks.

The labor department comes in for a share of criticism, too, by those who said it does not effectively guard the safety of workers.

"They allegedly have a state Occupational Safety and Health program in North Carolina — allegedly," said Joseph Kinney, executive director of the National Safe Workplace Institute in Chicago, a private, non-profit group financed by labor groups.

"The program run by Brooks is designed to keep the feds out and the employers happy," Kinney told The News and Observer of Raleigh.

Brooks challenged Kinney and his institute's credibility. "He has no qualifications to make any judgments."

Kinney, who wrote a column on workplace safety published in the Sept. 10 issue of Newsweek magazine, calls North Carolina's safety and health program, along with New Mexico's, the nation's worst.

Labor department officials use the state's lower injury and illness rate to defuse critics. For 10 consecutive years, the N. C. rate has stayed below the national rate. The state rate in 1988 was 8.2 injuries or illnesses per 100 employees, compared with 8.5 nationally.

The department has approval for up to 56 inspectors, half of what federal standards suggest. Of those, the department usually has no more than 35 to 40 positions filled.

The low staffing levels mean inspectors visit less than 2 percent of the state's 170,000 employers annually. In the 17 years the state has inspected the workplace, some employers have never been inspected — and it could be 2030 before a state inspector visits some employers for the first time.

For the Record

It was erroneously reported that the Connells would be performing in the Rock for Gant concert at the Cat's Cradle on Sept. 19. The Connells will not be appearing. Dillon Fence, Johnny

Quest and the Veldt will be the bands performing. The DTH regrets the error. We apologize for any confusion we may have caused.

Charlotte cracks down on drug dealing

From Associated Press reports

CHARLOTTE — A tightly focused effort which uses eviction as one of its tools to fight drugs involves the city housing authority, police and public housing residents who say they are tired of playing the victim.

About three years ago, John Hayes, director of special projects for the Charlotte Housing Authority, and other housing officials began meeting with police, talking about ways to attack the drug problem.

Hayes was convinced that many drug dealers who had begun to infest public housing did not live there.

But they came every day, finding a ready market for their wares and

bringing with them the growing threat of violence.

"They had an attitude that this is public housing — therefore, you have no control. We wanted to say, 'Yes, people do. They do have control over their environment,'" Hayes said.

Housing officials pushed for stepped-up enforcement of drug and trespassing laws. But police quickly discovered that arrests alone made little dent in the volume of drug traffic — particularly the traffic involving teenagers.

"You get a 16-year-old kid who's selling, and he knows they're not going to do anything to him," said Charlotte police officer Michael Crowley.

So police and housing officials de-

cided to try something different.

Concentrating on two public housing communities, police began using two teams of specially trained officers.

Crowley said he and his partner, Andre Briggs, both in uniform, began parking their police car and walking through the neighborhood.

They talked to residents, becoming a trusted and visible presence, seeking support in the war against drugs.

Then housing officials began meeting with residents, asking their help in identifying dealers.

Hayes said officials identified nearly 36 families where one or more members were involved in drugs.

Campus Calendar

MONDAY

11 a.m.: The Black Student Movement is having a membership drive in front of the Union until 2 p.m. today through Friday, \$3 for a year's membership.

Noon: The UNC Child Care Education Committee will hold a video series on "The Nurturing Community," options for helping with child care and the reasons for parents' choices. Also, suggestions for selecting good child care. To be held in 205 Union until 1 p.m.

3:30 p.m.: The Department of Statistics presents "Renormalization Exponents, White Noise Approximation and Optimal Rates of Convergence," with Mark Gordon Low of the University of California-Berkeley, in 324 Phillips. Refreshments in 316 Phillips at 3 p.m. All are invited to attend.

4 p.m.: Career Planning and Placement Services will hold Job Hunt 101: Basic information on how to use the UCPS office for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.

5 p.m.: SEAC Canvassing Committee invites you to come learn how to organize citizen support to put an end to offshore oil drilling, wasteful energy practices, the Middle East crisis, needless roadbuilding and massive cuts to the UNC budget, in the Campus Y lounge.

5:30 p.m.: UNC Women's Club Soccer will begin tryouts at Ehringhaus field. Until 7 p.m. For more info contact Marti, 929-7894 or Stacey, 929-5210.

6 p.m.: Carolina Fever directors will meet. Check outside the office for the place.

The Presbyterian Campus Ministry will hold a graduate dinner at the Presbyterian Student Center, 110 Henderson St.

Opinionated? Come tell us what you think! N.C.

Student Legislature meeting in 423 Hamilton. Great organization for all majors.

7 p.m.: The Gaming Club will hold an introductory meeting in 523 Hamilton. All are invited to attend.

The Student Environmental Action Coalition will hold a meeting in Suite C of the Union for all those interested in working with the national office. Positions include media, outreach, diversity and working for the SEAC magazine. Come work with the biggest student network in the country!

The Writing Center is offering a free workshop on How to Interview People and Gather the Information You Want. The workshop is in 222 Greenlaw and will last an hour.

8 p.m.: The Ebony Readers will hold their first meeting of the Fall semester in Upendo Lounge, South Campus Union. We will have info regarding auditions.

Alpha Kappa Psi invites all Economics, Business and Industrial Relations majors to attend our informal rush in Carmichael Ballroom.

The Executive Branch of the Student Government will have an emergency meeting of the student body in Carmichael Auditorium. All students are asked to attend. Put it on your calendar — your education depends on it. Chancellor, legislators, student body president and others to speak.

11 p.m.: WXYC FM 89.3 will play the new album from Ginger Baker, Middle Passage in its entirety with no interruptions.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
The N.C. Association of Educators Student Program are having a membership drive! Interested in education/teaching? Come by Peabody front lobby

through Sept. 21. Monthly meetings, newsletters, conventions. NCAE!

The Student Supreme Court has applications for Associate and Emergency Justices available in Suite C of the Union. All applications are due by 5 p.m. Tuesday in Suite C.

UCPPS announces a post-internship mandatory seminar for students in SCL 91P, 4, Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 3:30 p.m. in 306 Hanes.

The Opeyo Dancers will have auditions from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Sept. 13 and 6-8 p.m. on Sept. 14 in Studio B of the Women's Gym.

The University Counseling Center is offering a Black Graduate Women's Support Group for African-American female graduate and professional students at UNC. For info or to sign up, call 962-2175.

The University Counseling Center is looking for new members to join its Dissertation Support Group. For information/registration call 962-2175.

Student Health Service announces that a Diabetes Educational Group is now forming. Call 966-6562 for information/registration.

PlayMakers Repertory Company will open its 15th season with "You Never Can Tell," Sept. 12-Oct. 7 at the Paul Green Theatre. For information call 962-PLAY.

UCPPS announces that the Foreign Service Written Exam will be held on Oct. 27. Deadline for receipt of application is Sept. 21. Applications are available in 211 Hanes.

Attention seniors: Senior Class Kickoff, Sept. 17-22. Look for more details in next week's DTH.



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