The Baily Tar Heel

© 1991 DTH Publishing Corp. All rights reserved.

Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Volume 99, Issue 101

Friday, October 25, 1991

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

RHA revises plan for dorm integration

By A. John Ford Staff Writer

A revised plan to increase racial diversity in residence halls received the go-ahead from Housing Advisory Board members Thursday,

The plan now has a four-year time restriction on its use and eliminates participation by incoming freshmen.

Scott Peeler, Residence Hall Association co-president, said freshmen participation was eliminated from the proposal because these students already face a difficult transition coming to

"African Americans who are choosing to live in North Campus right now are taking a risk because they don't feel as if it's a community," he said.

'We didn't want freshmen to make an uninformed choice. We wanted to give them a chance to get here and then

Christy Pons, RHA co-president, said if the plan is approved by the housing department, it would be implemented in the spring when fall room assignments begin. The plan would be used only until spring 1995.

"If it doesn't work in four years, it's probably not going to work," she said.

The RHA proposal specifies that a target number of 15 spaces be reserved for black students in nine North Campus residence halls. These residence halls are Manly, Grimes, Ruffin, Lewis, Stacy, McIver, Kenan, Winston and

These dormitories were selected because they "stand out as particularly lacking in racial diversity," the pro-Wayne Kuncl, director of university

housing, said the 15 spaces reserved for black students under the plan usually were saved for freshmen

But freshmen will not lose spaces

because of the proposal. The housing department already planned to reduce their reserved spaces from 50 percent to 25 percent next year to accommodate changes in the assignment process for upperclassmen, Kuncl said.

Larry Hicks, housing associate director of administrative services, said: 'They're not taking spaces away (from incoming freshmen). They are just taking advantage of the fact that we are reducing those numbers so some spots are available.

Peeler said the plan would not affect students now living in the North Campus residnece halls.

"Nobody will get displaced who is currently living there," he said

Black students who decide to move to North Campus will do so by their own choice, Peeler said.

"We're not asking people to live places where they don't want to," he said. "It's African Americans who want to live on North Campus who don't feel they can right now - we're trying to minimize the risks they're taking in forming a community.

The plan's success will not be based on the percentage of black students who move to the targeted dormitories, but on the strength of the communities, he said.

Pons echoed Peeler's sentiment: Numbers do not make a community. It's going to be based on more of a person-to-person basis

The proposal states that a board comising members from RHA, Campus the Black Student Movement, the Black Cultural Center, the Division of Student Affairs, the Housing Advisory Board and the housing department will oversee the implementation of the pro-

The board also will decide if the plan should continue to be used each year.

See HOUSING, page 2

Loud noises end at plant; report calls for change

Neighbors still unhappy with power plant

By Julie Flick

Neighbors of the University power plant said at a Thursday night meeting with UNC officials that they were dissatisfied with the officials' responses to complaints about noise, lighting and pollution from the plant

Members of the Power Plant Neighbors, a group formed to point out the plant's effects on neighborhoods, also complained about a lack of communication between themselves and University officials.

"There has been a tremendous credibility gap," said Wes Lawton, a realtor who lives in a house beside he plant, "We were basically asking that the power plant be ... as described in the earlier discussion which was a state-of-the art plant, built a little quieter and cleaner than before. That's basically where we're coming from.'

Lawton said the University has not fulfilled the commitments set forth at prior meetings with the area residents

"There's frankly been a deterioration of the issues," Lawton said. "There are a lot of things (UNC) had promised to do that have not been done. There was the statement that the plant, during these tests, was going to be putting out 75 decibels about the amount of noise on the corner of Franklin and Columbia streets. It was double that.

Residents were worried particularly about the noise from present testing, which is carried out 24 hours à day. The plant still is in its construction phase, which is the cause of many of the problems.

Lawton said he called the plant's control room Wednesday evening to inquire when the testing would be

"I was told it would last another 15 or 20 minutes, and yet at 11 or 12 they were still blasting away," Lawton said.

PPN members discussed the noise, which they said woke them up at 6 a.m. Sunday. The testing of the turbo generator requires that both boilers be on full blast and produces 28,000

Tom Grisham, UNC special projects director, said the quick shutdown of steam to meet the 9 p.m. deadline was the cause of last Friday's 145-decibel violation.

"The construction workers pushed it right up until 8:55 and rushed out to close the valves," Grisham said. "There was a lot of steam trapped which set off all of the relief valves. We're doing everything we can to

See PPN, page 7

By Amber Nimocks

The loudest of the UNC power plant's tests may be over, but a town report issued Thursday requested that the University continue to address environmental and special-use permit violations at the plant.

Testing on a turbine generator, which caused noise levels as high as 145 decibels last week, was completed Wednesday, said Tom Grisham, special projects

Plant officials were conducting the tests to determine if the generator would create the amount of energy the manufacturer had promised, he said.

Oliver Orr, who lives on West Cameron Avenue, said noise caused by the weekend tests prevented conversation and caused his house to shake. Martin O'Brien, University special

projects ombudsman, visited Orr's house to observe the vibrations. Orr said O'Brien assured him that the shaking would cease after testing was completed Wednesday night.

"We've gotten full coterms of the problems we were most concerned about since the Power Plant Neighbors was organized," Orr said. The Power Plant Neighbors is a group

of residents who live near the plant and who organized to draw the University's and the town's attentions to their con-Chapel Hill Town Manager Cal

Horton released Thursday the first in a series of reports which will inform the town council about problems between the University power plant and its neigh-"We need to convey the seriousness

of our concerns," Horton said, "We don't have any miracle cures. I wish we did. But we would enjoy the opportunity to work with (power plant officials). The town council will discuss Mon-

day night a resolution requesting coop-

eration between University and town

officials on the issue. Noise, particle matter, night lighting, violations of environmental regulations and compliance with the town's special-use permit requirements are named in the report as the highest-priority is-

The report suggests that University officials meet regularly with representatives from the town and with resi-

"Representatives of the town manager, either planning or engineering staff members, should meet with University officials to find out what's going on, Horton said. "(Staff members) should receive advice from the University officials, and we should give them our best

Staff members then should compile reports to keep the council members informed, he said.

Horton said he expected that the University would be cooperative,

The key concern is that they act on each concern of the residents," he said. Grisham said the University was going to work with the town and the resi-

See REPORT, page 7



DTH/Erin Randall

Really, it's for my mother

Dolly Blunt, a graduate student in library science from State College, Pa., tries to choose a Halloween outfit early Thursday afternoon at Costumes, located at 133 1/2 E. Franklin

St. and owned by Ann Davis. The 5-year-old business still has plenty of costumes available to rent for Halloween, including the sequined bra Blunt is holding.

UNC's course pack sales allowed by law

By Shea Riggsbee Staff Writer

The Umstead Act was used by local businesses in 1989 to prevent Student Stores from selling greeting cards and posters, but it will not prohibit the store rom selling course packs.

The act forbids government agencies, such as the University, from engaging "directly or indirectly in the sale of goods ... or merchandise in competition with citizens of the State.

But educational materials are exempt from the act, University Legal Counsel Susan Ehringhaus said Thursday.

Downtown Chapel Hill merchants led the 1989 campaign against Student

tor, said he had not received any complaints from area copy centers about the ore's decision to sell course packs.

Andy Vanore, N.C. chief deputy attorney general, said businesses would not have a case against Student Stores because course packs fall under the law's exemptions.

The merchandise previously banned from Student Stores was not directly related to the education of UNC students, he said.

The fact that (the course pack) can be purchased elsewhere is not the argument," Vanore said.

from selling textbooks, he said. Jones said professors will submit a

Selling course packs isn't different

Stores and the National Association of College Stores will secure copyright permission for them. Many schools, such as Stanford Uni-

included in course packs to Student

versity, have been producing their own course packs for years, Jones said. But UNC never sold course packs

because the school didn't have a way to secure copyright permission, he said. Some professors already have submitted requests, and the first course

packs from Student Stores will be available next semester. Jones said he thought Student Stores' prices would be competitive.

Course pack prices everywhere prob-

ably will increase because producers

now are required to get copyright permission to copy any portion of a work, he said

But Adrianna Foss, a spokeswoman

for Kinko's Copies, said it had an ad-

vantage over stores now entering the

course pack business. The company has pre-existing copyright agreements with the publishers of more than 800 books and 1,000 journals, which allows them to reprint those materials without contacting the pub-

This makes it possible for Kinko's to produce material more quickly, Foss

Employees at Copytron refused to

comment on the issue.

RHA co-presidents working for racial diversity

Editor's note: This is the last article in a five-part series analyzing the progress student-elected leaders have made on their campaign promises.

By Michael Workman

ulty Fellows Program.

Residence Hall Association Co-Presidents Christy Pons and Scott Peeler believe they have accomplished many of their campaign goals but acknowl-

edge they still have work to do. Students gave them high marks in accomplishing their goals of sensitivity

minority concerns and recycling. But the co-presidents admit they haven't achieved their goals of a minority resource library and a revived Fac-



"As we see it, we still have five months in office, and so for us to have everything done now would be unreasonable," Pons said.

Kristen Davis, STOW area governor, said: "I think they're doing exactly what they set out to do. We're slowly accomplishing all the things that were on their platform."

One of the key points of Pons and Peeler's platform was sensitivity to They believe they have addressed

one of these concerns by trying to attract more black students to North Cam-An RHA plan, approved by the Hous-

ing Advisory Board Thursday, reserves 15 spaces for black students in nine North Campus dormitories. If the proposal is approved by the housing department, it will be implemented in the

Peeler said: "The (black) community is not forming on North Campus. You can look at the facts and see that. This is a proposal to give a shot in the arm to a community for a four-year period."

See RHA, page 7



"Should the town's new smoking restrictions apply to dormitory hallways?"

> YES: 67% NO: 33%

Total Calls: 24