

# Gang trial covers protest event

## Suppression of demonstration led to Xiaoping's downfall

PEKING (UPI) — The trial of the Gang of Four focused yesterday on their suppression of China's biggest spontaneous protest, an event that turned into a riot and led to the downfall of Deng Xiaoping, now back as the nation's strongman.

Also implicitly questioned at the proceedings was the role of Communist Party Chairman Hua Guofeng, who was public security minister at the time of the 1976 "Tiananmen incident" — a turning point in recent Chinese politics.

The day's trial was following in the evening by a television report showing Mao Tse-tung's widow, Jiang Qing, invoking the names of her once almighty husband and the late Premier Chou En-lai in defense against charges she used strongarm tactics to cover up her activities as Shanghai movie starlet "Blue Apple" in the 1930s.

In the courtroom, writer Yao Wanyuan, 49, a member of the Gang that Jiang led, admitted he had used the official media to attack the 2 million people gathered at Peking's Tiananmen Square in April 1976 to pay homage to Chou, who died earlier that year.

The demonstrators also took the opportunity to criticize policies advocated by the Gang, then wielding tremendous power during China's Cultural Revolution. The demonstration was seen as China's first public rally not organized by the authorities and it enraged Yao.

"They (demonstrators) who gathered to pay homage to Premier Chou En-lai) were using very sharp words against the Gang of Four and I was one of those to be overthrown," he told the court.

Yao ordered the press under his control to denounce the mourners as "counterrevolutionaries" and wrote in his diary, "Why can't we have a group of counter-

revolutionaries shot?" the court heard.

The court was told because Yao branded the protesters as "counterrevolutionaries," public security police cracked down on the gathering by removing wreaths placed at a martyrs' monument in honor of Chou.

The action sparked a riot and angry protesters set fire to buildings at the Public Security Ministry, then headed by Hua.

Hua was not mentioned in official reports on the trial. But the public was starkly reminded of whose side he apparently took at the time.

Deng was blamed for the riot at the time and purged from all posts the same month. He regained power in 1977, after Mao had died. Now vice chairman, Deng is regarded as the most powerful person in China.

# Housing services: bedspreads to blankets

By IRIS NAAR  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Residence hall students who were disappointed to learn that the University stopped providing blankets for all students as of Summer Term may be interested to know that bedspreads were also provided for dorm residents several years ago.

Donald Arndt, director of Housing, said bedspreads were provided to dorm residents, but the service was discontinued seven or eight years ago. Arndt said the housing staff learned that the percentage of students who actually made their beds was very low, so many bedspreads were not being used.

In addition, Arndt said, laundering problems made the use of bedspreads impractical.

The old bedspreads were sent to a salvage facility, Arndt said. Blankets not worth keeping were also sent to a salvage or surplus facility, or to a relief agency.

He said the University still keeps blankets for conference groups in the summer.

Arndt said the cost of laundering and replacing traditional wool blankets had risen significantly. He said he approached the Association of Residence Hall Students two years ago to explain that the cost of providing blankets was not practical.

As was the case with bedspreads, some students were not using the blankets provided for them, Arndt said. Some used blankets from their homes, or used them in non-traditional ways.

"It was observed that the blankets were being used outside," he said.

Arndt said the University still provides blankets for students residing in the graduate dorms. Many graduate students are from foreign countries or reside far away, so the blankets are provided for them, he said.

"We will probably reach the point where we can't afford to do that," he said.

The University continues to provide two sheets and a pillowcase to dorm residents. Although Arndt said students are not changing their sheets as often as they did in the past, he said the University has no plans to discontinue the service.

In some residence halls, Arndt said, the exchange rate is as low as 40 percent a week.

"The sheets are available but people aren't exchanging them," Arndt said.

Arndt said the University does not provide fitted bottom sheets because they would have to be handled by hand, and would cost more to clean and fold than standard sheets. This would increase costs, he said, because the standard sheets used now can be folded by machine.

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# Frat claims 'unofficial' zoning victory

By HEIDI BEELER  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

An unofficial victory has been scored in a zoning hearing case, said the president of Sigma Chi fraternity, 400 E. Prospect Ave.

Jeffrey S. Painter, Sigma Chi president, said Tuesday's hearing concerned an old tennis court owned by the fraternity, now used as a parking lot.

The tennis court requires at least \$10,000 in repairs, said Painter, so fraternity members and neighbors started using it as a parking lot. A neighbor noticed it just this year and complained to the zoning board, he said.

"The question was when they started using it as a parking lot," said Louis F. Geschwinder, chairman of the State College Zoning Hearing Board.

An ordinance was passed in September 1978 requiring existing parking lots — which were expanded by 50 percent or more — to add plants, dividing lines and curbs, Geschwinder said.

However, if the zoning board rules the fraternity used the tennis court as a parking lot before September 78, the ordinance would not apply, Geschwinder said. The board's decision will be announced at noon on Friday in the State College Municipal Building, he said.

But Painter said, "It was ruled that we did predate the ordinance."

Fraternity members who attended Tuesday's hearing believed they had proved the tennis court was used as a parking lot before passage of the ordinance, Painter said. The wait until Friday's hearing is just a formality, he said.

The fraternity is planning to add a shrub screen anyway to keep relations with neighbors friendly, he said.

"We didn't want to be legally bound," Painter said.

The new plants will cost approximately \$300 to \$400, Painter said.

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**Frigid**  
The plea goes out not to touch this inflatable snowman in front of Davidson's Florist on East College Avenue.

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