



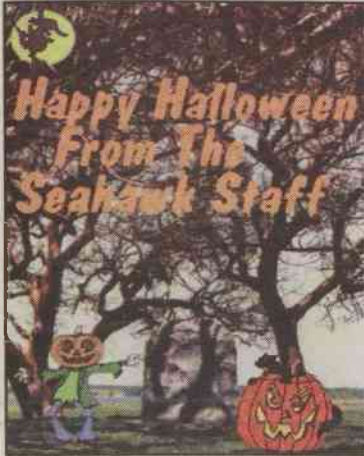
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Inside This Issue...



No tricks, just treats

Greeks go all-out for Halloween activities / 9

Making a splash

Swimming and diving team opens season with win against Richmond / 13



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Safe Ride proves elusive

TODD VOLKSTORF
STAFF WRITER

The Safe-Ride program remains in limbo while committee members explore new ideas and directions for the project. As of yet, no implementation date has been set.

The project has gone through several changes since initial plans were announced by last year's Student Government Association. The original idea for Safe-Ride was to provide students with safe and reliable transportation to and from the downtown area of Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach during the weekends. Originally, vehicles provided by the Safe-Ride organization were going to be driven by volunteers from campus organizations. A lack of organization support and legality issues complicated this plan and since then, Safe Ride has gone

through several alterations.

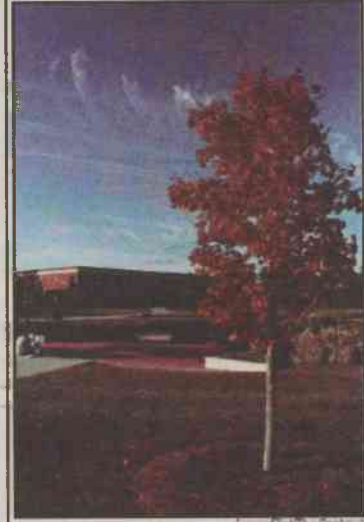
While the idea to provide safe transportation to students has stayed the same, problems with implementation became apparent due to liability concerns associated with alcohol, underage drinking, finding a vehicle or vehicles to use and having enough money to pay for the program.

The latest idea is to hire a local taxi service to provide the transportation.

According to Chris R. Dorre, a Safe-Ride committee member and SGA representative, the taxi cab companies that the committee has contacted, Yellow Cab and Port City Taxi, have not expressed an interest in the program. However, there is a meeting with the two companies planned for Friday, Nov. 3. Dorre

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So much for summer...



Summer is becoming a distant memory, as evidenced by the changing colors of the leaves on this tree in the campus commons.

New Hanover County voter concerns gauged

SOMER STAHL
STAFF WRITER

A recent survey of New Hanover County voters conducted by the Fellows of the Institute of Political Leadership (FIPL) at UNCW revealed that traffic/road problems is the most important county issue for voters in the upcoming election, with education concerns running a close second.

The survey was conducted when the FIPL, a group of students interested in campaigning for political offices, completed 258 random computer-assisted telephone interviews to New Hanover County voters.

Walter DeVries, assistant to the chancellor on political leadership, assisted in the design of the survey. The Fellows of the Institute joined the university in July of last year.

DeVries said that for the past 25 years, the results of voter polls in New Hanover County have coincided with the results of the actual elections.

"It's called a 'statistical weathervane' and it's the reason that so much polling is done in this county," DeVries said.

In reference to the \$3.1 billion

dollar bond issue facing voters, the survey reveals that 60 percent of voters are in favor of the proposal, 25 percent are against it, 5 percent said that "it depends" and 10 percent are unsure. The bond issue is especially important for college students to consider as it will fund \$108 million to UNCW for building construction and renovation.

It also revealed that only 22 percent of voters are in favor of the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners consideration of a proposal to build a 600 unit county jail with an estimated base cost of \$53 million. Forty-four percent of voters are against the proposal, while 13 percent said that it depends and 17 percent are unsure.

According to the survey, "more than half, 54 percent, of New Hanover County's registered voters said they would vote for a proposal to merge or consolidate the New Hanover County and Wilmington governments into one."

The survey also questioned whom voters would elect for governor, if the election was held that day. Democrat Mike Easley led the poll with 49 percent. In the same manner of questioning, the majority of voters said that they would elect Democrat Roy Cooper for attorney general.

DeVries said that the political surveys taken by the Institute get plenty of media attention, not only by local newspapers, but by TV news, such as Channel 6 and 3, as well as publications such as *The Insider*.

The big issues in New Hanover County:

- Traffic
- Education
- Consolidation of city and county government
- University and community college bond
- Only 22% of county voters support a new jail