

Carolina student arrested for conduct in drug raid

by Tom Gooding
Editor

One student was charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, and another student had a camera confiscated following a non-productive narcotics raid by four Chapel Hill Police officers on the ninth floor of James Dormitory late Friday afternoon.

No one was arrested on narcotics charges. Neither the student arrested for disorderly conduct nor the student whose camera was confiscated were involved in the drug raid.

Steve Gothard, a junior from Cary, was charged with "engaging in the act of disorderly conduct by using vile and profane language in a loud and boisterous manner while at a public place—to wit—809 James Dorm."

According to Gothard and four other students, the statement that provoked the arrest occurred when Detective Tom Scott walked in front of Gothard and said, "Do you want to say something to me?" Gothard reportedly said, "Yea, this is a bunch of crap."

The police detective then placed Gothard under arrest. Gothard described the incident as follows: "He jerked my arm behind my back. I said 'what's going

on? Let me go and I'll walk with you'. . . I was trying to bring my arm down when a second officer grabbed my arm. . . They threw me face first into a wall. . . They jerked both of my arms behind my back and lifted me off the ground. . .

"Officer Don Tripp had his arm around my throat. . . Steve Bell told me 'Don't struggle'. . . I said, 'I won't if these god damn sons of bitches will let go of my throat'. . . Tripp moved his arm and put his hand around my throat. . . The reason I was struggling was because I was off the ground and I couldn't breathe."

Chapel Hill Police Chief William D. Blake said, "Briefly what happened was the officers went over to James Dormitory for a search for narcotic drugs. They executed the search warrant and started to leave the room. A group of about 15 to 17 boys and girls had gathered when they came out and were vocally abusive in their remarks to the officers."

"This boy (Gothard) who was charged with disorderly conduct used a great deal of profanity. When he was being placed under arrest the boy (Bell) with the camera came to the crowd and tried to physically interfere."

"The officers have talked to this boy (Bell) and his attitude was good and he will not be charged with any offense. Both of the students involved were released in the custody of the Dean of Men."

Carol Spruill, former student body secretary, witnessed the event and verified Gothard's account.

She also said, "One agent tells him (Steve Gothard) to put his hands on the wall at the same time the other one has his arm wrenched behind his back. Steve says something profane. One agent is

holding Steve by the throat. Two more agents now come up to handcuff his arms behind his back, and he's in a very uncomfortable position being pushed and shoved. Oh yes, the agent who took hold of his throat also jacked him in the legs with his knee."

Steve Bell, a junior from Tuxedo, had gone to get a camera when the incident first started. His camera was confiscated, and he was told he was under arrest. However, he was permitted to leave town for the weekend and upon return was told no charges would be pressed.

Bell said the conflict over his camera began when he snapped a picture of the officers leaving the room being searched.

Bell said, "Officer (Lindy) Pendergrass was threatening to 'smash' my camera. I said, 'On what grounds?' He said, 'Shut up and quit taking pictures.' I asked if there was any law against taking pictures. He mumbled that he would 'smash' my camera. I asked him to quote a specific law against taking pictures, and he just flared up and pushed me aside and walked on."

Bell then went into the elevator lobby until he saw the officers grab Gothard. "I ran back out and met them right at the door," Bell said.

"They slammed into me and pushed me into the wall," he added. "I reached for my camera and at that Lt. Pendergrass grabbed me and slammed me against the wall and someone grabbed my camera. Pendergrass dragged me toward the elevator saying, 'You're under arrest. I told you that you shouldn't take those pictures.'"

"I was in a daze. Nothing like this has ever happened to me. I said, 'Let go of me. What are you trying to do?' He said, 'Shut up, you're under arrest.' I said,

"For what?" He said for obstructing justice.

"One of the officers had his hands around Steve's neck. He was hurting. I yelled for them to leave him alone and was slammed into a corner."

Bell said when he was carried to the police car Lt. Pendergrass said, "I told you not to take those pictures. You're probably the reason the whole thing started up there."

Bell said Pendergrass then asked him "Where's your camera?"

"I said someone had grabbed it from me," Bell said. "Pendergrass said, 'You better go get it, I don't want you to blame us for it.'"

"A little bit later I found out that Dean of Men Fred Schroeder had picked up the camera from the police station."

Bob Hamer, a junior and a resident of the ninth floor of James Dorm, witnessed the incident and gave a similar account to The Daily Tar Heel. Hamer said after the students had been taken to the police station he "ran into Hoke Pollack's room and called Dean Schroeder. I told Schroeder what I had seen and he said he would check into it and call us back. He did call us back, and we told him some more we had learned in the meantime and he said he'd go down to police headquarters and see what was going on."

When contacted about the incident, Schroeder said, "I would hesitate to comment on it. I was not present at James during the incident and I have no first-hand knowledge of what happened. Yes, I did go to the police station to see if I could be of some assistance. You will have to talk to the people involved to see what might come out of it as far as legal action goes."



It's often been said that businessmen find it easy to get ahead in Chapel Hill, but this gentleman seems to be having his problems. As the old saying goes, if at first you don't succeed, don't lose your head about it. (Staff photo by Cliff Kolovson)

Fuel change needed

Smoke stacks in violation

by Karen Jurgensen
Staff Writer

Looming over the west end of Cameron Avenue are two smoke stacks belonging to the University's Central Heating Plant.

Daily, those stacks emit smoke which is in violation of federal air regulations. The regulation states smoke may be no darker than number two (a light shade of grey) on the Ringlemann Scale (number one being white and number two being black).

At certain times of the day, the smoke is virtually black. According to W.E. Knight, state supervisor of air resources, the University installation is "in violation."

Legislature to vote on resolution tonight

A resolution calling for a tax reform making college tuition tax-exempt will be introduced tonight at a meeting of the Student Legislature, Student Body President Tom Bello said Monday.

The resolution, Bello said, would be forwarded to North Carolina congressmen to demonstrate student support. Cathy Roth (WD-VII), a member of the finance committee, will introduce the resolution.

Although passage by Legislature in itself would mean little, Bello explained passage would demonstrate to government officials that students support the issue. If the resolution is

passed, Carolina will join several other universities around the country in supporting the change.

In explaining student sentiment, Bello pointed out the fact that businessmen receive deductions for travel and other expenses. Students should also be allowed deductions for the high cost of education.

The deduction would especially be helpful to disadvantaged students.

Other issues to be discussed tonight will include reapportionment, the change of off-campus districts from 17 seats to 21 seats, judicial reform and election reforms.

combination of the two," Culbreth said.

Scott Gardner, owner of nearby Bay City Gas Company, complaining about what he considers a potentially bad situation said, "It's ironic that the University which is an educational center is allowed to get away with this."

"Here we have a tax-supported institution first and foremost with the problem-makers."

Residents in the Cameron Ave. and Jones Ferry Rd. neighborhood offer varying reactions to the eyesore and its pollution.

A long-time resident of the area said two things bothered him. First, he said, the noise of a release valve particularly bothered him in the summer time. He said the noise lasts up to half an hour at times.

His second complaint is that especially in mid-winter the soot from the stacks is troublesome.

Another woman in the area said she was new in the neighborhood and had not really paid much attention to the plant. She did say, however, if she leaves clothes on the line overnight the whites "tend to be pretty sooty."

On Jones Ferry Rd., a woman whose once yellow awnings are now black with soot said, "This is the way of life. Most Negro (the area is a predominantly Negro neighborhood) neighborhoods have used coal heat, this is the way life was a long time ago. If the clothes get sooty, I wash them again. Why complain about something I've lived with all my life?"

Freshman elections set today

Freshman students will return to the polls today for the second time in an effort to select a freshman class president.

The regular class officer elections were held on Nov. 17. However, the freshman vote for president was declared void by the Student Supreme Court after a candidate's name was discovered missing from the ballot.

Polling places will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with ballot boxes situated in each dormitory housing freshman students. Off-campus residents may vote at the Carolina Union, according to Elections Board member Margo Fletcher.

In the last election, Foster Ockerman, Ford Coley, Jack Knight and Jeff Wood submitted petitions for candidacy to the Elections Board. Wood's name, however, was mistakenly left off the ballot.

The case was automatically forwarded to the Student Supreme Court, which ruled a second election was to be held.

Ockerman won the last election by accumulating 395 votes. Coley placed second with 335 votes and Knight finished third getting 290 votes.

Ockerman, Coley and Wood campaigned in November on "action" platforms hoping to create enthusiasm within the freshman ranks. Knight chose to run on a "do-nothing" slate theorizing class officers are incapable of accomplishing anything through their offices.

Ballot counting will be carried out from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. tonight in room 717 of the Union.

Defendant's statement

(Editor's note: The following is the statement of Steve Gothard, a junior from Cary, who lives in 809 Hinton James dormitory, concerning his involvement in the incident at James Friday night.)

I happened to call a friend on the ninth floor of James and found out there was a bust going on in the next suite. I came upstairs and a group of people were standing by the stairs. The first time I saw the police was when I looked in the door of the suite. They were standing in the hall.

A couple of people went to get cameras. When the police emerged, Steve Bell took one picture. A policeman walked up and told Bell, "I'll bust that camera if you take one more picture." Bell then asked, "Under what authority?" Dick Bradshaw asked, "Yea, under what authority?" I said, "There's no law against taking pictures."

An officer said, "I'll arrest you for obstructing justice." Then officer Tripp walked by and slammed me with his shoulder and sneered, "Get out of the way."

I turned around to him and said, "I have got more right to be here than you because I live here." Most of the officers had walked into the lobby area where they couldn't see the group on the balcony.

The last officer was walking in the lobby when someone shouted an obscenity. Scott and Allison were talking in the lobby after which Scott came walking out again and stood right in front of me. He asked me, "Do you want to say something to me?" I said, "Yea, this is a bunch of crap." He said something like "you're coming with me" and jerked my arm behind my back. I said "What's going on? Let me go and I'll walk with you, just let me know what's going on."

I was trying to bring my arm down when a second officer grabbed my arm. They slammed me into a third officer causing him to drop the things he was holding. Then they kept jerking me toward the elevator. When we got to the elevator they threw me face first into a wall. Then they let me go for a couple of seconds after which they decided they were going to search me.

They started manhandling me again. They decided they were going to put handcuffs on. Steve Bell told me "Don't struggle." I said "I won't if these goddamn sons of bitches will let go of my throat."

At that time Tripp moved his arm and put his hand around

my throat. They finally got the handcuffs on completely and let me down. The reason I was struggling was because I was off the ground and I couldn't breathe. About that time the elevator came and they threw me on it. They wouldn't let anybody on the elevator except those they told to get on (Steve Bell, Skip Blount, a friend of Skip's and Officers Pendergrass, Tripp and Scott.)

We went down to the first floor, came back up to the ninth floor when Allison and Kenny Patrick got on the elevator. Elevator went up to the 10th floor, came back down to the ninth floor and the door opened. At that time Dick Bradshaw was picking up something in front of the elevator and asked them if they were having any trouble.

Pendergrass said, "You wait here, we're going to be back up in a minute." When we got to the first floor the officers took us through the lobby to the street.

The car pulled up and we got in it (Steve Gothard, Skip Blount, Skip's friend, Kenny Patrick, Officers Allison and Tripp.) We rode to the station. When we got there they took the handcuffs off and had us wait in a little office.

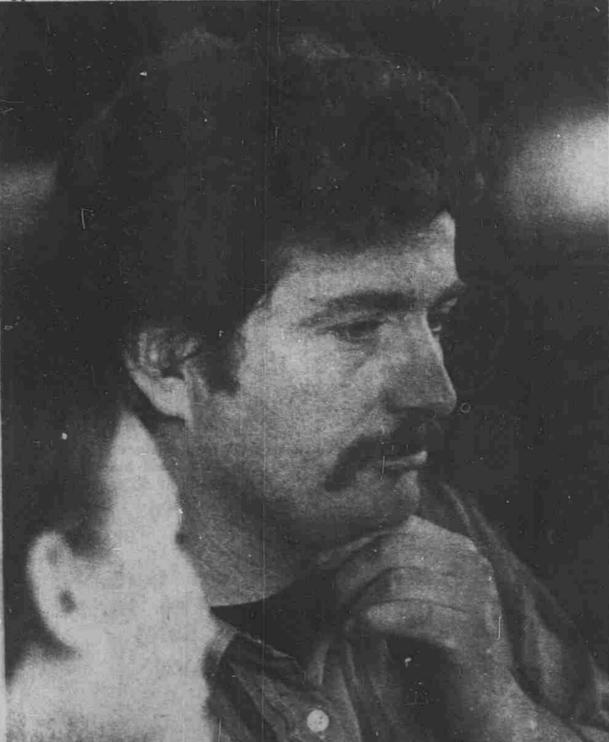
That was the first time I found out what I was being charged with. They asked me "What made you do it" and other general questions. They never informed me of my rights at any time. Tripp took a picture. Bail was set at \$300.

I couldn't pay that and they said for me to try to call somebody. Then they told me Dean Schroeder wanted to see me. I made a call and went back into the office where Schroeder was. Everyone had left the room except Tripp, who left when he was asked.

Schroeder told me that Bob Hamer and Hoke Pollack had called him and told him what had happened and asked me what happened. He was trying to let me know the situation. He said he would do anything he could to help. He said he wanted to talk to the police.

I left the room and they kept trying to take me back to the jail cell, and I told them that Schroeder wanted to talk to me again but he was talking to Officer Tripp. A short while later Tripp came out and said he wanted to see me and at that time they told me I could sign my own bail.

I signed the note. Dean Schroeder asked if that was all and they said yes. Then we left and Dean Schroeder drove me back to the dorm about 2 p.m.



A capacity crowd heard John Froines, a member of the Chicago Seven, speak to Political Science 95A in Memorial Hall Monday afternoon. Froines elaborated on the plan to flood the nation's capital with cars in May proposed by Rennie Davis at Chapel Hill this fall. (Staff photo by Tom Cox)



The girls of Kappa Alpha Theta demonstrate how it's done in the kite flying contest Monday afternoon. The pledges of Pi Kappa Alpha placed first and the pledges of

Tau Epsilon Phi finished a strong second. (Staff photo by Tom Cox)