

# Public defender sought for Orange by Hackney

By DAVID R. RANKIN  
Staff Writer

Despite disagreement from several members of the N.C. bar association, Rep. Joe Hackney proposed the creation of the position of Public Defender in Orange and Chatham counties effective June 1, 1983.

A number of district bar attorneys said they were concerned about the proposal because they claimed they had no voice in the decision.

Hackney, a Chapel Hill attorney, originally proposed that the new position begin January 1, 1983, but decided to change the date to June 1 to allow discussion by local attorneys and concerned citizens.

Some attorneys said they viewed the position of public defender as an intrusion on the duties of the local bar, but others feel that it is welcome relief from a mounting burden of court cases concerning people who could not normally afford legal council.

Doug Hargrave, president of the bar association, and attorney Jim Johnson requested that Hackney withdraw the bill until the bar could make its own recommendation.

Hargrave later said his request for withdrawal was not a show of opposition concerning the bill but that he was concerned about the local bar having a voice in the decision.

"There are widely differing views in the bar," Hargrave said. "They should all be considered."

Hackney said there were many reasons that he proposed the bill. The current system of appointing practicing attorneys to represent indigent defendants is not working well, he said. Many lawyers do not wish to accept these types of cases and the number of attorneys accepting these cases is very low.

Johnson said attorneys turn down indigent defense because of heavy or conflicting work loads, low pay from the state and a dislike of criminal practice. He added that lawyers on the indigent defense list just have to take the lesser money and make sacrifices.

Hackney said the public defender system would allow better representation because it would be his job to defend indigent clients and that public defenders are specialists in criminal law.

One of the main reasons that Hackney proposed the public defender system is that it is more cost efficient than the current indigent defense system, he said.

"On cost justification, the public defender system seems very favorable," said Chris Marks, an official with the state office.

According to state estimates, the present system in Orange and Chatham counties would cost \$187,899 for 1982-83 and \$206,678 for 1983-84.

Under Hackney's system, indigent defense would cost \$173,606 in 1982-83 and \$172,493 for 1983-84.

Using the public defender system, the court would employ an attorney who would be paid a salary of \$44,580. The state would provide and pay an assistant attorney, an investigator and a legal secretary.

According to Dorothy Bernholz, director of UNC Student Legal Services, students who face criminal prosecution are usually appointed a state attorney if they cannot afford legal council.

# CALENDAR

## TODAY

The Campus Y Film Series treating the theme "War and Aggression" continues tonight with *All Quiet on the Western Front*. The film will be shown in 106 Carroll Hall at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

## COMING EVENTS

The Outing Club will meet Monday at 7 p.m. at Forest Theatre (Carolina Union in case of rain). New members are welcome.

The Red Cross is back. Bloodmobile will be in the Great Hall of the Union Wednesday from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Blood is needed as badly in the summer as other times, so please give.

Crises in Central America: Are Past Solutions part of the problem? Dr. Enrique Baloyra from the department of political science will address the diversity of Central American peoples and their problems at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Joyner Dormitory Lounge. Audience discussion is encouraged and admission is free. Sponsored by UNC Campus Y.

The Durham Action Committee for Central America will sponsor a Benefit/Film Showing Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Somethyme Restaurant, 1104 Broad St., Durham. The film *Americas in Transition*, narrated by Ed Asner, will be shown and musical entertainment provided.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Students interested in assisting new international students adjust to UNC and Chapel Hill should sign up to be a Campus Friend for this fall. Information and sign-up sheets are available now at the International Center in the Carolina Union.

Tonight's New Talent is presented every Monday night this summer, featuring stand-up comics, musicians and entertainers from the Triangle area. For talent sign-up information, contact the Art School, Carrboro at 929-2896.

N.C. Arts Council is recruiting professional dancers, musicians or music/dance companies to tour the state in 1983-84. Deadline for application is Aug. 1. Details are available from the music/dance coordinator, N.C. Arts Council, Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, or phone 733-2111.

The National Endowment for the Arts and SECCA announce the seventh grant program of Individual Artists Fellowships for southeastern artists. Application deadline is Nov. 5, 1982. For guidelines and application forms contact Southwestern Center for Contemporary Art, 750 Marguerite Drive, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106. Telephone 919-725-1904.

The 1982 Durham Parks and Recreation Department City/County Tennis Tournament for youth and adults will be held July 30-Aug. 6 at the Rock Quarry Tennis Courts. Application forms may be obtained from the recreation department, local tennis clubs and sporting goods stores.

Thanks Staff

—Bud

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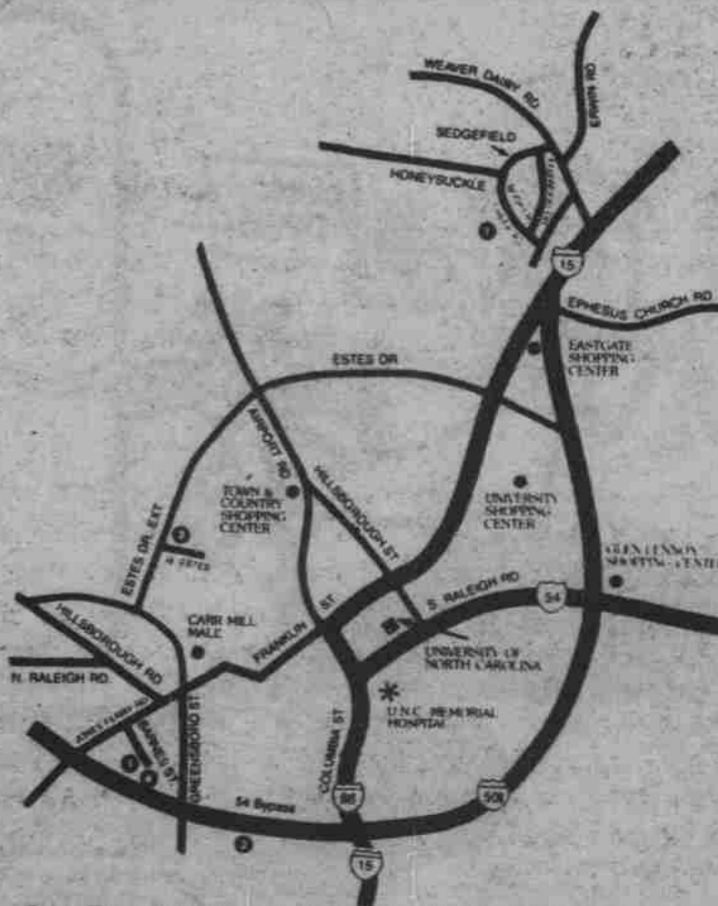
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