Learning about crime the hard way

By NANCY ATKINSON Staff Writer

One early morning when I was a freshman I awoke with a throbbing headache and a head of hair covered with broken pottery. It took a while for me to figure it out, but someone had actually found my unlocked door, came in and coffee-mugged me.

This was not a part of orientation, but the incident made me take notice when safety literature was being passed out how a woman can avoid potential danger on a campus.

Sergeant Ned Comar of the University Police said, "We don't want to scare anyone but we have a good environment at UNC, and we want to keep it that

He recommended several safety tips for female students.

Resident Assistant. "If you want to give

it the old college try, call the University

l. Lock the room when asleep. In dormitories as well as apartments an open door is an open invitation. If a suspicious person is seen around the dorm, the first person to call is not the

Police first," said Comar.

2. Do not walk alone at night, A woman can call the campus rape escort service. A woman can walk with a group of girls when out at night or can call the campus rape escort service. If she cannot find anyone to walk with her, she should take a bus or a taxicab. The University Police are available if all else

Potential danger spots for women alone at night on campus include the woods between the Bell Tower, Parker, Morrison and Stadium Drive and the area near the Forest Theater. The Arboretum has not had any reported incidents but has potential for trouble

3. Be aware of how much alcohol has been drunk and with whom. Comar said, "In most traumatic instances alcohol is present."

4. Be assertive. By speaking out on her own behalf firmly, a woman will leave no doubt of her intent. On a "traditional role" date a woman's no was interpreted as a yes or maybe, and led to many acquaintance and date

Comar said while women are being recommended to speak up, men are being asked to back off, "Any sex without consent is a crime," he said, so men should regard even a tentative no seriously.

If a woman is grabbed, she should yell the two words, "Help me." He also recommended that women fight back, because over 80 percent of women who do avoid rape and harm. The University Police do not hold themselves responsible for this advice, since 20 percent of these women statistically end up hurt.

In response to these attacks against women on campus the University Police Department has made a new orientation presentation, Security Blues. The first showing will be Thursday at 5:45 in Carroll Hall.

Learning to keep your door locked and other useful tips is part of orientation now, so no one should have to find out the hard way ... like I did.



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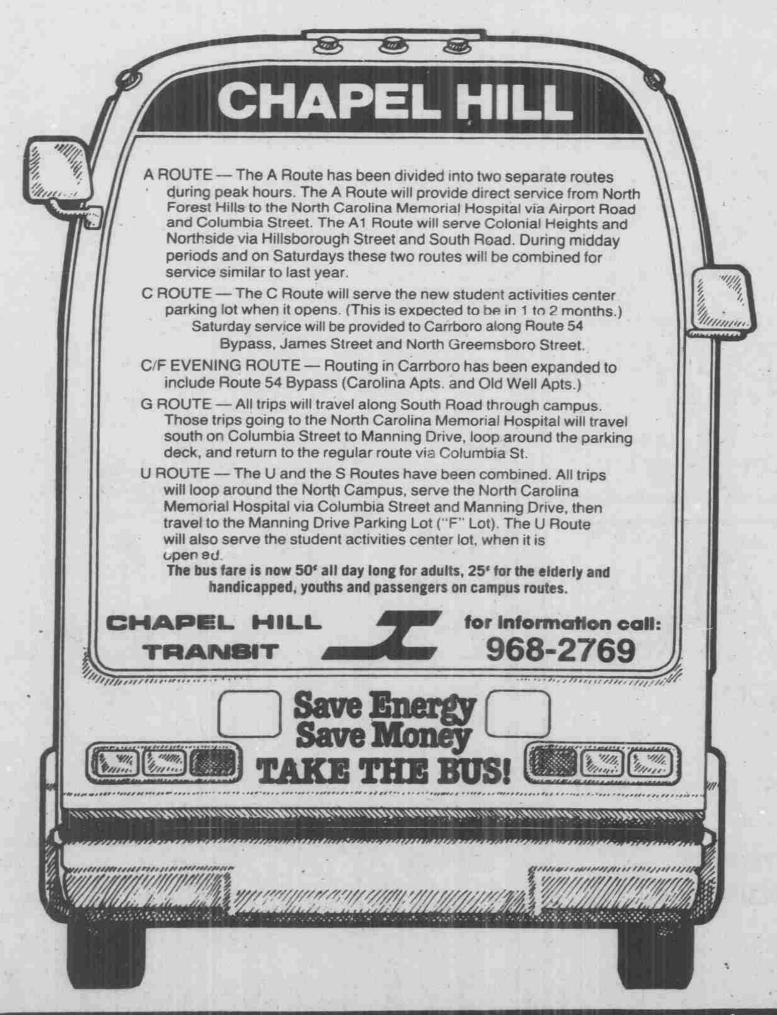
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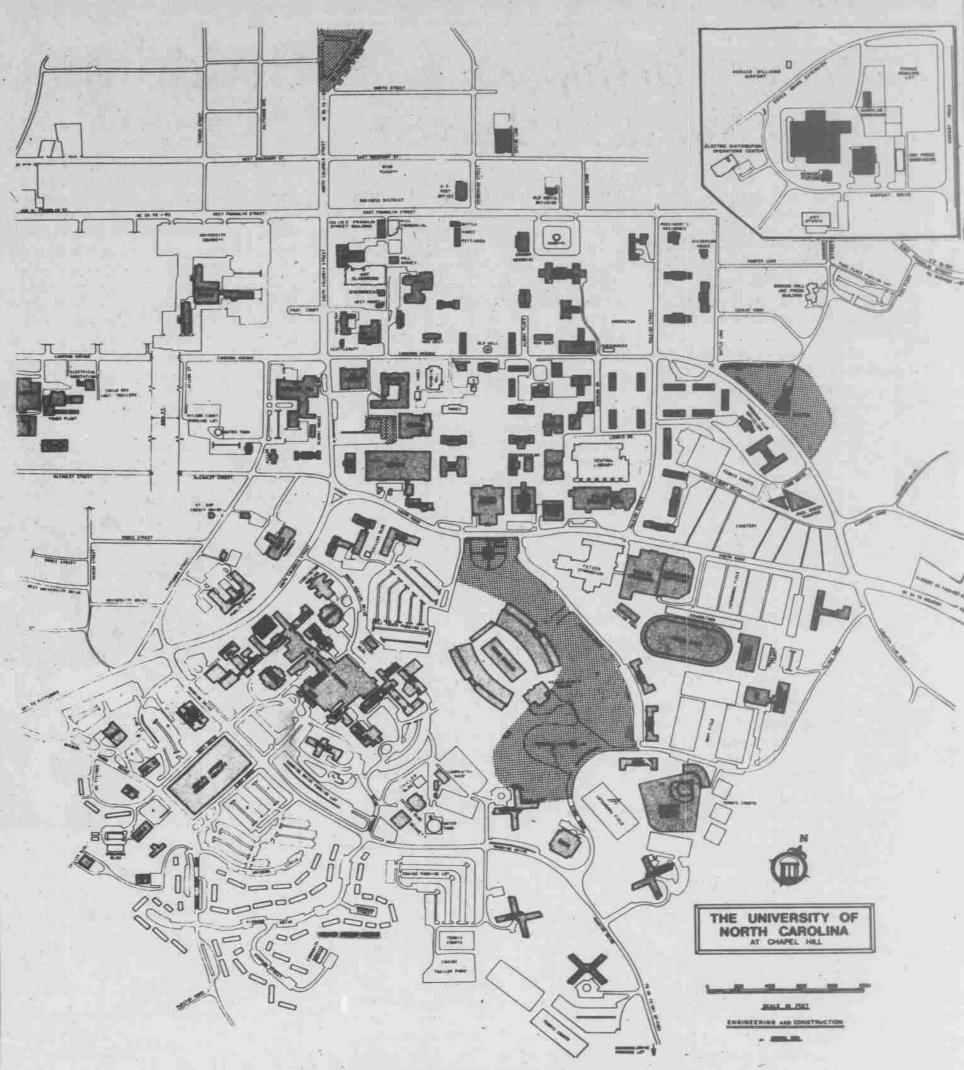
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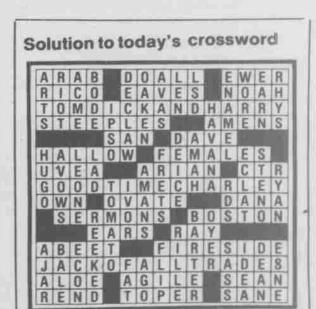
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