

Board OKs Europa Center plan

By LISA BRANTLEY
Staff Writer

The Chapel Hill planning board voted unanimously Tuesday night to recommend that the Town Council approve the site plan for Europa Office Center, a proposed five-story office building and three-level parking deck at the corner of Europa Drive and Legion Road.

The office building, which would consist of two connected wings, is scheduled for construction in two phases. The eastern wing nearest Europa Drive and 215 spaces of the 680-space parking deck will go under construction no later than April 1986.

Discussion on the project by board members centered mainly on improvement of the 15-501/Europa Drive/Erwin Road intersection and its probable cost to Europa Office Center's developer, Fraser Morrow and Company of Research Triangle Park.

According to developer Whit Morrow, intersection improvement necessary to accommodate additional traffic flow created by the office building would cost

approximately \$50,000. By comparison, the cost of completely restructuring the intersection, which traffic engineers predict eventually might be necessary, would be approximately \$150,000.

Board member Alan Rimer said he approved of additional funding coming from the state or other sources in addition to the developer. "I don't see how it's one project's responsibility to restructure a state road," he said.

Board member Don Francisco said he thought that local commuters probably contributed to traffic flow problems at the Erwin Road/15-501 intersection, especially drivers who lived in Durham and commuted regularly to the university because of high Chapel Hill housing costs. "We caused it (traffic congestion at the intersection), and I don't see why we shouldn't pay for it," he said.

In other action, the planning board voted unanimously to recommend that the Town Council deny a zoning amendment that would have allowed the Orange County Women's Center to use the Hill house at 210-212 Henderson St. for its offices.

The house, which was purchased for the Women's Center, is currently zoned residential-3 and would require an office and institutional zoning to allow offices there.

An alternate proposal suggested at the board's Sept. 17 meeting was for the center to apply for an amendment to the uses allowed under residential-3 that would include a non-profit community service agency designation.

The Women's Center would fall under this category because it is a nonprofit organization offering programs and counseling for women.

After denying the rezoning application, the planning board discussed making a request to the Town Council for a zoning atlas revision in its advisory capacity, but decided not to take action. Some board members said that they felt the Women's Center should make a direct application for a textual amendment to the zoning atlas and bypass the planning board. "I think the initiative should come from the people who want the change," said Bill Rohe, board member.

4 charged in Klinghoffer case

From wire reports

DAMASCUS, Syria — The U.S. Embassy confirmed Wednesday that the body of an elderly man washed ashore near the Syrian port of Tartus was that of Leon Klinghoffer, the 69-year-old American man who died aboard the hijacked Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro last week.

The body was put aboard an Alitalia plane bound for Rome, where U.S. officials and Italian authorities will conduct an autopsy to determine the cause of death. U.S. Embassy spokesman John Burgess said that although there were two bullet wounds in the corpse, there had been no autopsy to determine the cause of death. He stressed that Klinghoffer could have died before he was shot.

The four Palestinians who hijacked the ship have been charged by Italian officials with murdering the partially paralyzed Klinghoffer, but judicial sources reported that they had denied the charge.

news in brief

Storm kills 71 in dormitory

DHAKA, Bangladesh — A storm roared inland from the Bay of Bengal Tuesday night, lashing Bangladesh and southwest India with winds of up to 93 mph and sending the roof of a dormitory at Dhaka University crashing down on about 500 students.

Hospital sources said Wednesday that at least 71 people died and rescuers expected that number to increase. Newspapers reported that the death toll at the University could be more than 100, with many still buried beneath the rubble.

The students were in a dormitory auditorium watching television about 9 p.m. Tuesday when the accident occurred. The building was undergoing repairs and one student said the outer coating of the roof had been removed earlier in the day.

The key to success is experience, panel says

By ROBERT KEEFE
Staff Writer

A good background in liberal arts and an ability to communicate well are the most helpful items in establishing a successful career in personnel management, according to a panel discussion sponsored by the University Career Planning and Placement Service Tuesday night in Hanes Hall.

The panel was composed of Hector McEachern, senior vice president with the personnel department of Wachovia Bank; Betty Whitehead, director of the personnel department of Orange

County government in Hillsboro; and Norma Laughton, director of the human resources department with CBS (WRAL TV/radio) in Raleigh.

"You need good communication skills," said Whitehead. "You have to have the ability to write clearly so that other people can understand you."

"You must also be able to articulate to you and will understand what you are saying."

Whitehead said the need for good communication skills stemmed from the responsibilities associated with the personnel department.

"What comes out of personnel is considered gospel, so it has got to be correct," she said.

Laughton said no matter what department a person was going into, it was good to know all you can about that

business.

"I think that it is important that you have a good idea of accounting, finance, human resources, or whatever your business is doing," she said.

A well-rounded degree in liberal arts will give someone a little knowledge about everything, the panelists agreed. But more important than a college degree is background experience.

"When I'm looking for people (to fill positions within the human resources department), I'm not so concerned with degrees or so forth as much as with what you have done in the past," said Laughton.

Whitehead agreed that past experience such as internships and other part-time experience was more important than the type of degree, or the amount of classroom work a prospective employee has done.

Whitehead started out as a personnel technician with Orange County. After working two and a half years, an opening for the directorship opened up,

and Whitehead applied. Contrary to what she thought, she got the position.

"What you've got to sell in order to be successful is your integrity," she said. "You also need to know about your organization, and you need to be flexible."

Whitehead said the starting salary for a personnel technician in the public sector was about \$16,000 to \$17,000 a year. Analysts average around \$19,000 to \$24,000 per year, while the average pay for directors was around \$25,000 to \$48,000 per year, depending on the size and complexity of the organization.

McEachern said the average starting salary for trainees with Wachovia was around \$18,000 to \$22,000 per year.

McEachern summed it up for the panelists by saying: "To be good in personnel, you have to be good in analytical skills, communication skills and negotiation skills."

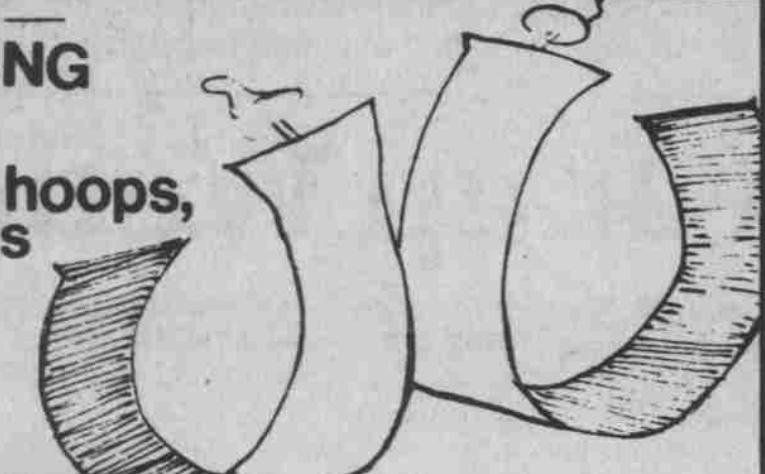
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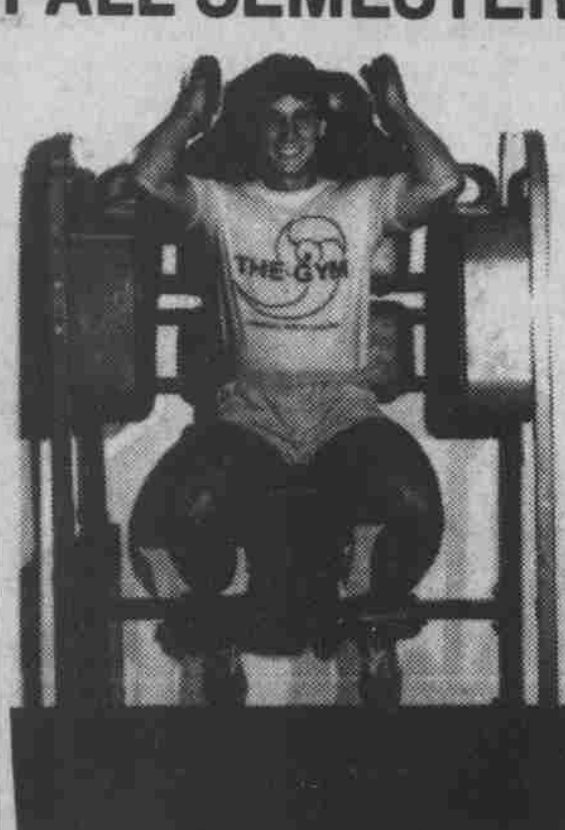
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Promotion efforts studied

By MARK POWELL
Business Editor

Chapel Hill and Carrboro are forming an entity that will organize community efforts to promote the towns, as a result of a conference in Lexington, Ky., held last week.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce and the Lexington Chamber of Commerce met in a Public Private Partnership Conference to discuss combining commerce, community and political factions of the towns to maximize development of the community.

Three resolutions came out of the conference, according to Leonard P. Van Ness, executive vice president of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce. The first is to form a steering committee to organize a body that will represent all segments of the community in an effort to control Chapel Hill's growth.

The organization will be patterned after Lexington's Lexington United, which markets the area to developers. The group also oversees growth and development in the area.

The second resolution is to support the *Chapel Hill Newspaper*, Joe Nassif (Mayor of Chapel Hill) and Jim Porto (Mayor of Carrboro) in their efforts to study the effects of a Chapel Hill Carrboro merger. The final resolution is to form an action group to build affordable housing in Chapel Hill.

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Quit-smoking program offers 'FreshStart'

"FreshStart," a quit smoking program sponsored by the Orange County Unit of the American Cancer Society, will begin Oct. 22 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the unit office, 105 W. Main

St., Carrboro. Participants should also attend the sessions on Oct. 24, 29 and 31. The program is free. Call 942-1953 for registration information.

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