

Dancers despairing in Chapel Hill

By FELISA NEURINGER
Staff Writer

"I think we ought to turn Wilson Library into a huge disco just like the Paladium in New York," said David Dooley giving his solution to the lack of dance places for students in Chapel Hill. Dooley is a junior history major from Charlotte.

Rob Patton, bar manager at Rascals, said that there was "... never a whole lot of dancing" in Chapel Hill, and that most students were into drinking when they went out. However, the demand for dancing has started to pick back up.

Rascals is one of the few places where Chapel Hill students can go to dance without needing a car for transportation. Patton also said that Rascals has done well since they started offering alternate entertainment, including strippers, live bands and drink specials. He added, "People in a college town are on tight budgets."

Patton said that the main reason why there are so many more places to dance in Raleigh is because Chapel Hill has only one university whereas Raleigh has N.C. State as well as many private colleges. He also added that the Raleigh nightclubs attracted an older crowd made up of mostly professionals.

Mark Burnett, manager at He's Not Here, said that in order to run a dance place, there would have to be a steep cover charge — about \$4 or \$5. When students pay that much just to get in, they expect something out of that cover charge, and sound systems

and live bands are expensive. Besides, "... you can buy four beers with \$4," added Burnett.

Because most of the possible sights for nightclubs downtown are in smaller, older buildings, there are very strict rules for opening up a club said Annie Cole, lounge manager at Teddys nightclub at the Holiday Inn in Chapel Hill. She added that it was difficult to charge reasonable prices because the cost is so high to run a drinking and dancing establishment.

Teddys had a Disc Jockey for dancing every Monday through Saturday night, but it attracts a slightly older crowd because no one under 21 is allowed.

In Raleigh there seemed to be a general trend in the public wanting to dance said Charlie Williams, manager at Barry's nightclub. He also said that some UNC students come to Raleigh to dance.

"There's no comparison between Chapel Hill and Raleigh. For real entertainment you have to go to Raleigh. There are great dance floors and popular bands," said Kristin Honeycutt, a sophomore industrial relations major from Statesville.

Honeycutt added that there were mostly N.C. State people at these places because most people do not want to drink and drive in order to get back to Chapel Hill.

"Chapel Hill has a very divided population," added Patton. He said that some people come to Rascals just to dance while others come just to drink.

Students shared similar reactions to the lack of dance

places in Chapel Hill.

"Yes, most definitely there should be more places to dance. I go to Rascals because I love to dance, and the bar scene is not for me," said Pam Duckworth, a sophomore journalism major from Charlotte.

"I don't feel that Rascals is large enough for the Chapel Hill students because so many people go there. The major complaint of most of my friends is that you can't really dance because it is such a tight situation. Besides, who wants beer spilt all over them when they are trying to dance?" commented Leon Staton, a sophomore RTVMP-speech major from Havelock. He was quick to add that only one dance place is better than nothing.

Students are also concerned about the raising of the drinking age to 21 this fall. Most of the nightclubs and bars in Chapel Hill have yet to come up with a solution to this problem.

Patton said that he would like to let those students under 21 in Rascals, but it would be hard to control who is drinking and who is not. "But because we are the only dance club, we will try to find a way," he said.

Deneen Cooper, a senior RTVMP-journalism major from Bronx, New York, had her own solution to the problem. She suggested that students could donate money to turn an old building into a nightclub for dancing. That way "... people don't have to go home every weekend just to party."

Frugal students say no to cover charges

By LAURIE MARTIN
Staff Writer

In Chapel Hill, as in most college towns, bars and nightclubs play a major part in the social lives of students. But students on low budgets sometimes avoid the the cover charges imposed by some night spots because they don't think it's worth it, or because they simply can't afford it.

"I just don't have the money to pay a cover charge," said Michelle Bressette, a freshman from Kill Devil Hills.

Junior Phil Reavis from Troutman said cover charges were all right, as long as clubs provided extra entertainment. "I think that if they charge a cover, they should have drink specials or a good band, and a nicer, more comfortable atmosphere," he said.

Mark Burnett, manager of He's Not Here, says he understands the student's perspective. "Some Thursday, Friday, or Saturday nights when we have a band, we'll charge a \$1 or \$2 cover. But we know kids don't have much money."

"One of the reasons we charge cover is to pay the D.J.," says Jeff Pierce, manager of Rascals. "To justify cover charges, we offer drink

specials." Rascals offers free beer on Thursdays.

"In order to keep the club a little nicer, to have a liquor bartender and to keep up the dance floor, we have to charge a cover," Pierce says. "But we try to keep it as low as possible for students, even on Wednesday nights when we have a band."

He's Not Here makes its profit mainly from the bar, so Burnett says he tries to keep cover charges low. "Charging a high cover just exhausts students' drinking money."

Students' only charges cover to pay for a band or with their Tuesday summer special. "We serve a glass of beer equalling about one-half of a pitcher for only \$1.25 on summer Tuesdays, so we have to charge at the door to break even," Burnett says.

Pierce believes that if people want to have a nicer club, they'll pay the cover. The cover charge is not unfair, he says, because the club makes up for it with their other prices. "If we wanted to get our prices to match similar clubs, our drinks would be at least 25 or 50 cents more."

If bars want to give everyone the best deal possible, they have to charge at the door, Pierce said, just to cover costs.

Insurance hikes promote dramshop law study

By MATTHEW FURY
Staff Writer

North Carolina's food and beverage industry is working for reforms in the state's dramshop law because insurance rates for ABC permittees have soared since the passage of the law in 1983.

The dramshop law allows the victim of a drunk driver to sue the establishment that served the driver alcohol for an unlimited amount.

T. Jerry Williams, executive vice president of the N.C. Restaurant Association, advocated a \$500,000 limit on dramshop liability when there is more than one victim of the drunken driver. If there is only one victim, liability should not exceed \$250,000, he said.

A bill recently approved by the N.C. House of Representatives would extend the amount that an individual could sue for. Although it has the opposite effect that Williams favored, he said it was the perfect vehicle to change the law because it is generating public awareness.

Most restaurants having \$100 insurance premiums in 1983 now have premiums of \$25,000 or higher, Williams said. Many insurance companies

have stopped writing policies for ABC permittees, and 25 percent of ABC permittees in North Carolina are operating without insurance, he said.

Williams is pushing for further changes in the law, such as requiring victims of drunken drivers to bring suits against restaurants within 120 days of the accident and not allowing restaurants to be sued by a victim of a drunken driver unless they are convicted of selling alcohol to a minor or a patron already drunk, he said.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving may oppose changes in the dramshop law. "It is hard to imagine what limitation would be reasonable when you're dealing with human life," said Carol York, victim assistance coordinator of the Mecklenburg County chapter.

Becki Perfect, contact person of the Durham County chapter, said she had reservations about dramshop liability limits. MADD actively supported the passage of the Safe Roads Act in 1983, which contains the dramshop law.

Eighteen states have passed dramshop liability laws and 17 states have had cases involving victim compensation, MADD reported.

Mickey Yuler, president of the North

Carolina Restaurant Association, said there should be a cap on the amount a lawyer can receive for a dramshop case, he said.

"It's a unique situation," he said. "We're being sued, not because of damages we've caused, but because someone else injures a third person."

Insurance problems could worsen when the state drinking age reaches 21, Wade Hargrove, counsel for the N.C. Association of Convenience Stores, told the Associated Press.

"Nineteen- and 20-year-olds will remain just as curious about alcohol as

Swimming

Winde and shattered the bones in her hand, which forced her to drop out of competition.

Friday's swimming was even stronger for the Tar Heels as they increased their lead over Virginia, 610 to 559. It was downhill for Virginia from there on in.

UNC had a pair of individual first-place finishes to get ahead that day. Freshman Wendy Powers won the 100-yard breaststroke and teammate Winde won the 400-yard individual medley handily in an NCAA qualifying time of 4:22.17.

they always have been, and they will probably look for every possible means to break the law. The result will be more unlawful sales and a resulting expansion of opportunities for dramshop liability."

Focusgroup Inc., an independent Chapel Hill research organization, conducted a statewide telephone survey of 807 North Carolina residents on the dramshop law in 1985. Eighty-five percent of those surveyed said they did not think a third party should be responsible for the actions of a drunk driver.

Powers was joined by Susan O'Brien, Buddemeyer and Patty Schultz for a third victory Friday as UNC won the 400 medley relay by 2/100ths of a second over Clemson.

The final day of competition on Saturday, was much like the second day. North Carolina picked up an additional 10 points on the second-place Virginia team to win the title.

"Each year it got harder for our team to win at ACCs," senior co-captain Polly Winde said. "It took a real team

Marcos

troops from advancing. Enrile told reporters he talked with Marcos by telephone Sunday and planned to talk with him again "to convince him that the matter has reached a point where the bottom line is for him to step down."

Aquino, who was in Cebu City in

the central Philippines when the rebellion began, left Sunday for an undisclosed location. Before leaving, she told reporters she would "at some point" visit Enrile and Ramos at their camp, and called on "decent elements" of the armed forces to support them.

from page 1

championships and sealing the victory for the Tar Heels.

Comfort said that the win was a total team victory. "The Carolina way to win is with 17 swimmers and three divers," he said. Swimmers such as Diane Dombay, Jennifer Cline, Tina Culling and Keira Stroupe, who each turned in personal best times, were a crucial part of UNC's victory.

Comfort will now get his swimmers who qualified for the NAAs prepared for the NCAA Championships, which are in Arkansas in three weeks.

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