Students running for council receive mixed reactions

By RANDY ALDRIDGE Staff Writer

When the word got out last week that two UNC students — Charles Balan and Rob Friedman — were running for seats on the Chapel Hill Town Council, their fellow students had different reactions to the news.

Balan and Friedman have officially filed with the Orange County Board of Elections in Hillsborough. Council elections will be held on Nov. 4.

UNC senior Kim Blakeley said that Balan and Friedman will be taking on a serious job if they're elected — a job that has many more concerns than just those of the University.

"These guys have to be careful," Blakeley said. "They can't let things like Burnout and the noise ordinance be their main concerns. If they do, they will lose credibility with the other board members and Chapel Hill citizens."

Denise Killough, a junior from Charlotte, said she thought it would be a good idea to have student representation on the council. "The University is the town," Killough said. "If a student can act responsibly and mature as a member of the Town Council, I feel that it would be good for the students."

Tracy Ferguson, a senior from Eden, agreed. "Students make up a large part of the Chapel Hill population," she said. "It seems only natural that they take part in the town's government."

Most people agreed that a student serving on the council would have a positive effect on the relationship between the town and the University, but few students were optimistic about Balan and Friedman's chances of actually winning the election.

"It would take a lot of student support for a student to be elected to a town post," said Allen McGee, a junior from Greensboro. He said he didn't think there were enough students registered to vote to have an impact on the election.

However, McGee supported Balan and Friedman's candidacies. "It is about time a student ran for a Town Council seat," he said.

The mayor's post and four council seats — currently held by Jonathon Howes, Nancy Preston, R.D. Smith and Bill Thorpe are up for election in November.

Council member Julie Andresen has filed to run in the mayoral race; Howes has announced that he also will run for mayor. Incumbent Mayor James Wallace announced last Wednesday that he would seek a seat on the Town Council instead of running for reelection.

Crime level for summer average, despite recent incidents

By RON CRAWFORD University Editor

Crime on campus has remained at normal levels this summer except for three unusual robberies that occurred July 13-16, according to University Police Sgt. Ned Comar.

"Lightning strikes the same spot more often than UNC has a robbery," Comar said. He cited only three reported robberies in the past 12 months.

According to police reports, Stephen Michael Boggs, Jr., of Snow Camp, N.C., was arrested July 16 after a man reported being robbed of his wallet at 1:25 p.m. near Bingham Hall on the UNC campus. Boggs was apprehended about 30 minutes later and taken to the Orange county jail in Hillsborough. After bond was set at \$10,000, Boggs bolted and ran out of the building.

Boggs was arrested again for robbery on July 19, and released under a \$30,000 bond, said officials at the Orange County jail.

The third robbery was committed in the hospital parking deck on July 13 by a man that did not fit Boggs's description, according to police reports.

Comar said the July 13 robber was probably not a student. "The students are just not the element that does these things," he said. "Rather, the student is the victim of the people who do these kinds of things."

Other types of crimes appear to be occurring with expected frequencies, except assaults, which have increased from 32 in the

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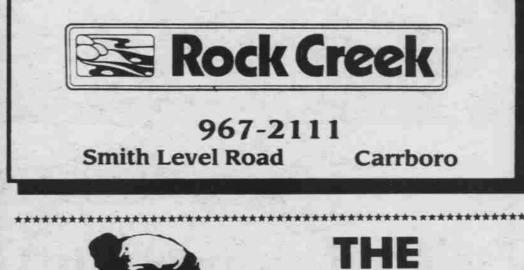
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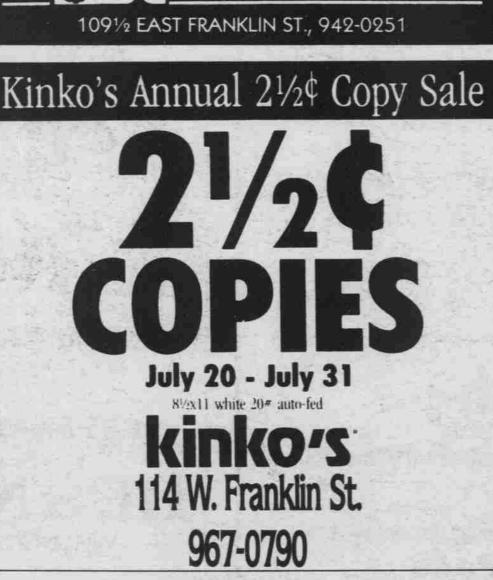
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