

Dancing in Ann Arbor streets

Michigan students celebrate NCAA championship win

By **CHUCK WILLIAMS**
Staff Writer

Just as many merchants on Franklin Street will long remember the chaotic celebration following the Tar Heels' 1982 NCAA Championship victory, merchants and law enforcement officials in Ann Arbor, Mich., will never forget their hometown team's 1989 NCAA championship celebration.

Jubilant Michigan fans took to the streets of Ann Arbor and wreaked havoc on downtown businesses.

The University of Michigan Wolverines defeated the Seton Hall Pirates 80-79 in an overtime battle Monday night. The victory was the first national championship for the Wolverines. The Indiana Hoosiers defeated the team in the 1976 championship game.

University officials only expected about 2,000 fans to celebrate because of a heavy rain Monday night, but about 7,000 people showed up after the Michigan victory. In 1982, 35,000 people celebrated the Tar Heel victory in Chapel Hill.

The Michigan crowd overturned a car, uprooted street signs and smashed windows in a business

district of Ann Arbor located about two blocks from the campus.

"There are windows broken all over the place," said Sgt. Sherry Vail of the Ann Arbor police department. "All we can tell you is that (damage) is extensive."

Lt. Craig Roderick of the Ann Arbor Police Department said his force was not used to handling such events.

"We're definitely not accustomed to dealing with this type of situation," he said. The department made eight arrests for charges ranging from disorderly conduct to felonious assault. None of the charges were against university students.

"As you know, a college town is a magnet. This (incident) is not the kind of image we want portrayed," said Pete Pellerito, a university spokesman. "There's an element of people who always want to create their own scene."

Police finally dispersed the boisterous crowd at about 2:30 a.m.

University and city officials were less than pleased with the revelry. "I think it's totally irresponsible and criminal behavior on the part of some people," said Police Chief William

Corbett. "The last time I saw this kind of behavior was during the 1967 civil disturbances." Corbett was referring to the racial riots that rocked the Detroit area in the late 1960s.

"We've had student demonstrations over the years but never anything destructive like this," Pellerito said. "We've been in this town 152 years, and we're just as sorry as anyone. It is very regrettable."

An 18-year-old woman was hospitalized at the University of Michigan Medical Center after a car hit her as she crossed the street during the celebration. The woman, whose name was not released, was in fair condition Wednesday, said a spokeswoman at the medical center's public relations department. No other serious injuries were reported.

Pellerito said he met with unhappy city merchants on Tuesday to discuss the problem. Michigan officials will meet with the merchants again on Friday to discuss the vandalism. Damage has been estimated at \$75,000 although the figure has not yet been confirmed, he said. Chapel Hill partygoers in 1982 caused \$6,000 worth of property damage. Pellerito said the damage occurred

in a fairly confined area that city workers had already cleaned up by Wednesday.

Although such crowd celebrations are not uncommon in Chapel Hill after big basketball wins, the riot was a novelty to those in Ann Arbor. "The closest thing I've seen to this was the scene with the Detroit Tigers in the 1984 World Series."

Several Chapel Hill merchants compared the Michigan celebration to the Tar Heel victory celebration in 1982. Franklin Street was closed off to accommodate the 35,000 people who celebrated the victory.

"You couldn't move," said Kevin Cook, an employee of Spanky's Restaurant on Franklin Street. "You were just kind of shuffled along with all the other people. Fowler's grocery was completely trashed, and one or two cars were busted up, but other than that there wasn't much damage."

Charles Smith, manager of the Ramshead Rathskeller Restaurant, said he recalled Franklin Street being closed off from the Morehead Planetarium to University Square. "I remember a group of students jumping up and down on a university truck."

City Police Roundup

In Chapel Hill:

■ A rash of license plate thefts continued in the community. Over the past three days, five more incidents were reported — three at Granville Towers, one at Connor Residence Hall and one on South Lakeshore Drive.

■ A woman reported Tuesday that a female followed her from Estes Drive and Franklin Street to her residence in the Sunstone Apartments. The woman threatened her and would not allow her to leave her vehicle. Police could not find the woman.

■ Three Chapel Hill men were issued citations for consuming fortified wine on the sidewalk of Franklin Street in front of the Union Bus Station. Fletcher Scurluck, Apolinar Delgado and Thomas Burnette were found drinking Richard's Wild Irish Rose Wine.

■ An employee of McFarling's Exxon on Franklin Street was accidentally stuck by a used hypodermic needle when he was cleaning the restroom of the station. He did not see the needle lying there. He was transported to North Carolina Memorial Hospital.

In Carboro:

■ Over the weekend, vandals

defaced the Wilson Park Shed and a telephone booth. It was discovered Monday that someone had used a red crayon to write graffiti, including the initials "N.T.K." and "S.M.A.," all over the bathroom walls and the exterior doors. Someone had tampered with a soap dispenser, and whole rolls of toilet paper were thrown into the commodes.

■ Mailboxes near the United States Post Office on Greensboro Street were hit twice in a 24-hour period Monday and Tuesday.

A man's Jeep Wagoneer apparently jumped out of gear and rolled down the parking lot Monday. The jeep hit two mailboxes on the west side of the street. A witness told police she and a friend helped the man put the boxes back but did not know who he was.

Someone moved and damaged the same boxes Tuesday morning. The bolts that anchored the mailboxes to slabs of concrete had been pulled out or removed. Scratches on the concrete revealed the boxes had been dragged about 3 feet. It is not clear whether any mail was removed.

—compiled by Larry Stone

Appearance commission approves rules for newspaper racks

By **JESSICA LANNING**
Assistant City Editor

Adding to a long series of actions to improve the condition of newspaper boxes, a committee of the Chapel Hill Appearance Commission established formal guidelines for newspaper vendors and made future plans for the boxes at its meeting Monday.

The committee, made up of appearance commission members and newspaper vendors, set guidelines for newspaper racks, Chapel Hill Newspaper Circulation Manager Marty Durrance said. Members of the committee will inspect the boxes and notify vendors not conforming to the guidelines.

Chapel Hill was divided into four regions with a member assigned to patrol a region, Durrance said.

The project originally began with complaints from members of the commission that many vendors were not keeping their boxes orderly, which caused health hazards for pedestrians and an eyesore for the town.

Durrance: Doug Rogers, publisher

of The Village Advocate; Kevin Schwartz, general manager of The Daily Tar Heel; and Margie Haber, co-director of the Downtown Commission, will each patrol a different area and report to the appearance commission.

Vendors not complying with the guidelines will be notified in writing and with a phone call with 30 days to comply, Durrance said.

If the vendors do not cooperate within the 30-day grace period, Public Works employees will pick up the boxes upon notification, he said. The vendors will pay a \$5 fine to retrieve their box and after 30 days an additional \$5 is charged.

Vendors will receive a copy of the guidelines and a letter informing them of the program, committee chairwoman Cassandra Sloop said.

The four monitors and the possibility of public works picking up boxes will help enforce the guidelines, Durrance said. "An unsafe or unsightly box can't just be moved (to another side of town), or they will be caught."

A past opponent of the appearance

commission's proposals, Durrance said he believes the program is helpful.

"The whole box situation should improve," he said. "We now have a way of correcting the situation."

Durrance said he felt the program will keep all of the boxes organized and encourage vendors to keep their boxes presentable. "Before, it made no difference if I cleaned up my boxes."

The newspaper vendors will still enforce the uniformity law among themselves, keeping the coin-operated boxes separate from the free publication boxes, he said.

In February, the committee designed a prototype of a rack that would hold several newspaper boxes and attempt to establish some organization for the boxes. The prototype was placed on a trial basis outside Taco Bell on Franklin Street.

To enhance the appearance of the prototype, the committee decided to work with the Chapel Hill Public Works Department and plant shrubs to conceal the newspaper boxes from the street side, Durrance said.

"The whole idea is that we only want the people on the sidewalks to see those boxes, not those people on the street side," he said. Many merchants had complained that Franklin Street looked unrepresentable because of the many newspaper boxes.

The boxes at the post office were moved to the alley to put them out of view from the street because of the complaints, he said. Once shrubs are planted in front of Taco Bell, only the boxes in front of Logos will be seen from the street.

Haber is raising funds for the bushes, and the vendors have been asked to contribute, Sloop said. The public works department has agreed to plant the shrubs.

The committee also decided to deal with boxes placed on private property even though some vendors do not believe the committee has the authority, Durrance said.

"It doesn't matter whether the boxes are on public or private property," he said. "We still want maintained, neat and orderly boxes — nothing shoddy."

The committee is asking the public works department to see what can be done about the boxes in front of Kroger Plaza that are not placed on concrete, Durrance said. When it rains, the soft ground turns to mud, and the boxes fall over.

Taco Bell manager Keith Taylor said he thought the prototype of the newspaper box rack improved the appearance outside the restaurant.

"It was a big help and straightened most of them (the boxes) out," he said. "It looks a lot better than it did."

"I feel that it is also helping store business because it does not look junky out there now."

Planting bushes outside along the boxes and the prototype are good ideas, but they are not new ones, Taylor said.

"We used to not have any flower beds at all," he said. "Then my manager planted some, but the

joggers would run through the flowers, and they would die."

Taylor said he thought bushes would work because they would be too big to be trampled and could be seen from the street.

"I think people coming into town would think it was nice," he said. "It is a public facility and should be neat and clean."

More racks should be used in other places to organize other newspaper box facilities, Taylor said.

"Appearance is a lot," he said. "It (the racks) was a good idea, and whoever had it needs to be commended."

The committee will continue to meet once a month until its members decide it is unnecessary, Sloop said. "The committee wants to continue to get cooperation from the vendors so the racks will be kept in orderly condition and in good repair."

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