

City Police Roundup

In Chapel Hill:

■ A five-car pileup on U.S. 15-501 at Mason Farm Road was reported to police Tuesday evening.

Three cars were stopped in the travel lane waiting to turn onto Mason Farm Road when a 1979 Datsun, driven by William H. Simpson Jr. of Chapel Hill, struck from the rear a 1977 Dodge, which in turn hit a 1987 Mazda and the front car, a 1983 Mercury.

Next, a 1985 Oldsmobile, driven by Wade M. Lehman of Pittsboro, struck Simpson's car which again hit the Dodge, which hit the Mazda.

Simpson and Lehman were charged with following too closely. A total damage estimate to all five cars was about \$8,500, and there were three minor injuries.

■ Someone took a charity candy box from Hector's on East Franklin Street Wednesday morning. An employee chased the thief and recovered the box from the bed of a supply truck. The truck headed west on Franklin Street and was stopped by police at Dot-N-Dash on Smith Level Road in Carrboro.

Leonard L. Long Jr. of Chapel Hill was charged with larceny in the incident.

■ Someone called Subway on East Franklin Street Tuesday and threatened to "turn it upside down." Officers stopped the caller before he entered the store and calmed him down.

■ Ronnie D. Thompson of Chapel Hill was arrested after he struck a woman he knew in the head with his fist.

In Carrboro:

■ Over the weekend, someone entered the Ready-Mix Concrete offices on Guthrie Avenue. The suspect apparently placed a piece of rubber in the latch hole of one of the doors to keep the latch from catching when the door closed. A hacksaw was removed from a locked tool cabinet. Once inside the business, the subjects pried and cut into a vending machine, taking

about \$50 in change and \$50 in candy. A microwave oven was also taken.

■ A former resident of Carrboro, now living in Houston, Texas, was the victim of credit card theft.

The man received his Master Card statement and realized some of the charges were not his. He was late in notifying the State Employees Credit Union of his new address, and his new card was mailed to his former address, Royal Park Apartments. It was apparently removed from the mailbox and used.

Kimmie M. Gore was arrested Tuesday and charged with one count of card theft. She was placed under \$2,000 bond, \$500 of it in cash.

■ A woman was walking through the woods between Jones Ferry Road and Prince Street Monday night when a man began chasing her. The man then threw a rock at her. The woman described the suspect as a white male, in his 20s, with long red hair and wearing a light blue T-shirt and blue jeans.

■ A resident of Estes Park Apartments was involved in a bizarre incident with an apparent drifter from Durham early this week.

The resident reported to police that the drifter, whom he had known about three years, spent the night at his apartment Sunday. The two left together the next day.

Monday morning at about 10:30, another resident at the apartments told the resident that the drifter needed to get in to the apartment. He gave the drifter his key.

After getting off work that evening, the resident could not find the drifter. He broke a window in his apartment to get in and found several items missing from the apartment, including a \$2,000 diamond engagement ring, several pieces of stereo equipment, some jewelry and a VCR.

—compiled by Larry Stone

Park-and-ride lot gets go-ahead

By **BLAKE DICKINSON**
Staff Writer

Despite area resident concerns, the Chapel Hill Town Council voted 6-2 to approve the town's application for a special use permit Monday to allow a 512-space park-and-ride lot on N.C. 54.

The town's investment in the project will be limited due to the provision of the Mason Farm land by the University on a 10-year lease basis and federal grants from the Urban Mass Transit Administration. But residents in the adjoining Finley Forest condominium development

have voiced their opposition.

During the March 20 public hearing and April 10 council meeting on the project, residents and council members had voiced their concerns about the lot's lighting and bus traffic. The Finley Forest Condominium Association also submitted a petition signed by 180 residents, urging Chancellor Paul Hardin to reconsider.

Town planners responded by shifting the lot 60 feet to provide a 163-foot buffer between the parking facility and the Finley Forest community. A search for an alternate site

was unsuccessful, said Bob Godding, director of transportation.

Council member Roosevelt Wilkerson was not satisfied with the changes.

"We were first led to believe that we would have a different location on the lot," he said. "And it is an invasion of the community right beside it."

Joined by James Wallace in voting against the application for the special use permit to build the park-and-ride lot, Wilkerson spoke against the proposal.

"Too often we are bound by the

power of the University; we are held captive," said Wilkerson. "This is a situation that I think is indicative of that."

The lot will be accessed from the Laurel Hill Parkway, which is now under construction by the University as an element of the Continuing Education Center.

This project is one of four park-and-ride facilities included in the adopted 1988-1993 Capital Improvements Program for Chapel Hill to help alleviate parking demand and commuter traffic in both the town center and University areas.

Housing to become town council focus

By **JESSICA LANNING**
Assistant City Editor

The Chapel Hill Town Council will face the difficult decision this summer of whether to allocate more money toward public and affordable housing by sacrificing other projects.

In Town Manager David Taylor's recommended budget for 1989-90, he suggests several ways the town could take action on affordable housing.

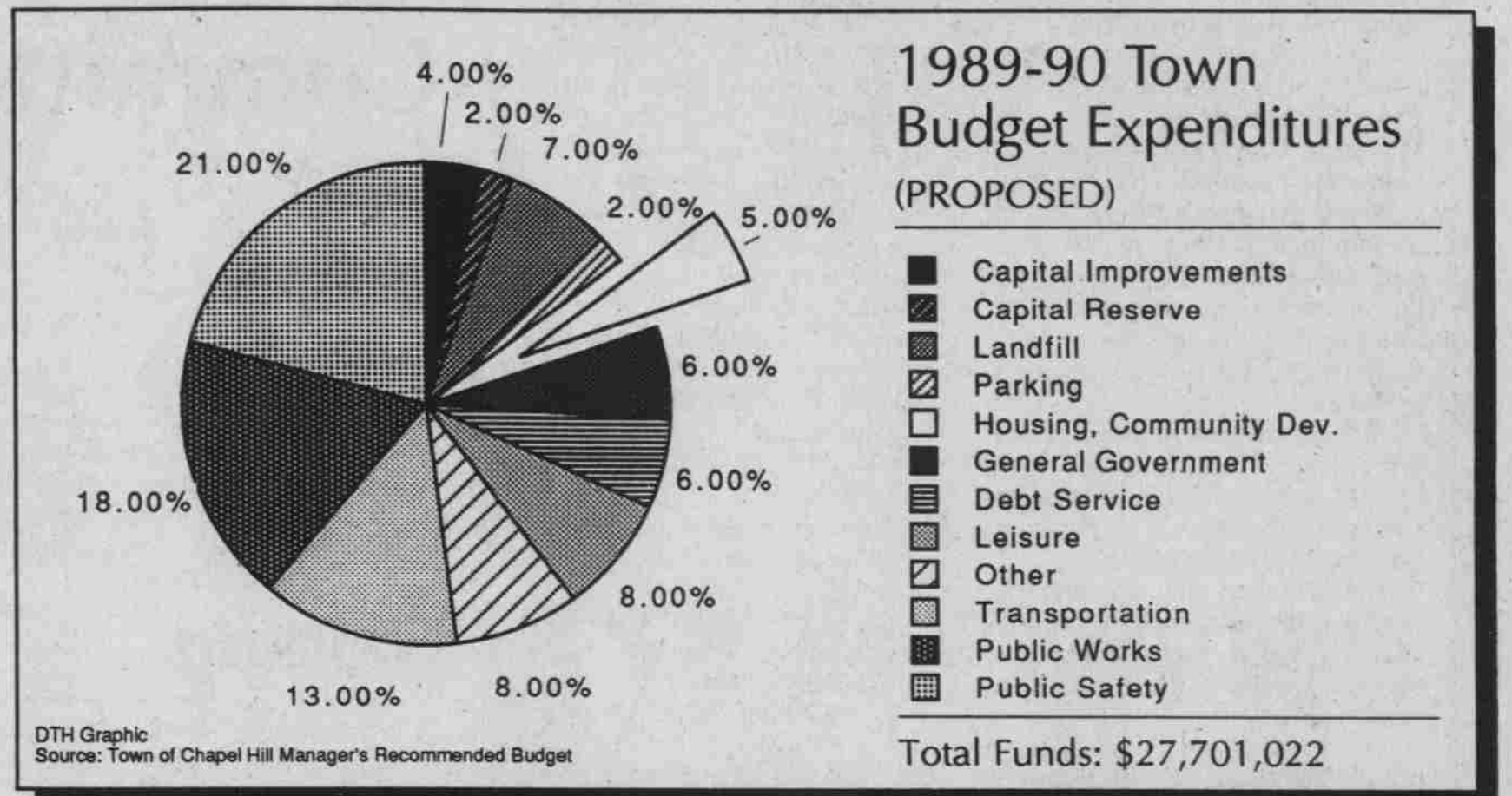
The recommended budget sets aside \$1,360,979, 5 percent of the town's total \$27,701,022 budget expenditures, for housing and community development needs.

Taylor recommends allocating \$130,000 from the General Fund to improve the existing stock of public housing and allocating \$120,000 from the General Fund to assist in the development of 234 units of new public housing.

He also said the town could continue to support the Inter-Faith Council Emergency Shelter with \$25,000 and allocating \$250,000 for second mortgages for homeownership initiatives.

The report also suggests the additional steps of considering a bond referendum in 1990 to fund a land acquisition and development program and to begin work leading to the creation of a non-profit housing development corporation.

Mayor Jonathan Howes said these recommendations were not part of



the original budget but are an addition.

The council expressed concern on the problem of public housing back in January at a planning retreat, Howes said. This was before the council knew about the 1.5 cent tax increase now proposed in the budget.

The council will have to consider how they want to spend money on housing projects and if they want to allot money as an addition to the

budget.

"First of all we have to decide what the money can usefully be spent for," he said. "We haven't had a chance to focus on that."

This will be one of the issues the council will consider during the work sessions on May 10 and 16, Howes said. The issue will also be addressed at the public hearing on the budget and during the final approval.

If the council chooses to include

the addition to the budget, the tax increase will have to be larger or other programs will have to be cut, Howes said. In January, the council was not in favor of a bond referendum and preferred to use existing funds.

Howes said he was unsure what the council would decide to do, but they would deal with the issue in the work sessions, he said. "It's a chance to informally discuss the budget and reach some consensus."

Fee hike

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the University, but Matt Lotspeich (Dist. 15) said even though it was a slim chance the loan would actually go through, it was a statement that students were trying the best they could.

"It may be a small sum but it's a very large gesture," Buchenau said. "It sends a message to the General Assembly and to Gov. Martin that students here are concerned about the cutbacks."

Phillip Thompson (Dist. 14) said it was unwise financially to loan the

money to UNC when congress could invest the money.

But Lotspeich said, "We are not here to make money but to help people."

Congress also approved a bill appropriating \$100 to the Executive Branch to aid in lobbying the administration for higher graduate teaching assistant stipends.

The \$100 is for printing fliers and other forms of publicity to be posted in all academic departments, Buchenau said.

"TAs here make \$4,500 for nine months work," he said. "The stipend is inadequate even with a second job such as making minimum wage at the library or on Franklin Street."

In other business, congress approved Student Body President Brien Lewis' appointment of David Smith, a junior from Banner Elk, as Elections Board chairman. Congress also approved the appointment of Asa Bell, a law student from Wadesboro, as Chief Justice of the Student Supreme Court.

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