

Mostly cloudy
High in lower 60s
Thursday: Cloudy
High in 60s

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University police get mixed review



Ron Zuniga presents report Tuesday morning

By MYRON B. PITTS

Staff Writer

Despite personnel problems and questionable promotion practices, the University police department still serves the UNC community well, according to a report released Tuesday by two outside consultants.

Ron Zuniga, associate director of the Arizona department of corrections and Asa Boynton, chief of police at the University of Georgia at Athens, were hired in November to investigate employee relations in the department.

Zuniga said at a press conference Tuesday that they had found favoritism in the department concerning management decisions and that discrimination in the department was not based on race but on "long-standing" friendships.

There are also signs that officers distrust the areas in the department that determine promotions, Zuniga said.

In the report, Boynton and Zuniga also recognized outside influences that adversely affect operations and place special emphasis on the personnel unit of the department, which they claim has become too involved with the general business of the police force.

Despite some personnel problems and the refusal of some in management positions to take responsibility for decisions, the report praised the University police for being a good, produc-

tive department.

At the press conference, Zuniga said, "We can not identify the reason why the service delivery continues to be a quality product."

"We know they (the department) are providing the service that is expected. One of the things I was impressed with was the quality of personnel."

University police officers could operate in virtually any setting, even a metropolitan one, he said.

The report commended the department for mostly using officers who have recruit school education and suggested that UNC set up its own training program.

The report made several suggestions for departmental reform, including:

- re-examining all those who have been promoted since 1987 because of a series of management decisions that caused a lack of confidence in management;

- rotating shifts;

- acknowledging that the department needs more than short-term, or "band-aid" solutions;

- identifying and correcting some existing salary discrepancies;

- creating an advisory council composed of students, faculty members and administration that would help the department by giving feedback on certain University matters;

- redefining the mission of the department;

- re-establishing the personnel unit in a strictly advisory capacity;

- stating specific requirements for promotion and using a time frame for employee advancement;

- reorganizing the current rank hierarchy;

- and issuing to all officers a copy of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

Zuniga said that they had not called for specific personnel changes because that would have been "beyond the scope" of their study. Improvements for the department would have to be enacted by the University, he said.

Zuniga said he felt that department employees had had many of their suspicions confirmed by the report. "They have a sense of a validation of some information they felt has been going on."

Sgt. Ned Comar, University police spokesman, who said he was speaking for himself and at least one other officer, said, "We thought that it was a good report, an accurate reflection. It dealt with the relative things."

The examination was comprehensive and addressed issues that needed to be considered, Comar said. He also said he hoped the department would follow the suggestions.

The 16-page report was based on

interviews with police employees, UNC students, faculty and staff members, as well as observations of daily office operations and departmental relations with the University community.

Most of the information for the consultants' report was gained through interviews with department members who were either chosen or requested to interview.

"We felt that they were very honest," Zuniga said of the interviewees.

Ben Tuchi, vice chancellor for business and finance, who played a major role in hiring the consultants, said he was pleased with the results. He has already made a 10-point memorandum on department improvement based on a preliminary report by the two.

The memorandum was not as comprehensive as the final report, but many of the points in the two are similar, Tuchi said. His plan has been distributed to the top 10 department officials.

Zuniga and Boynton used their time and freedom well, Tuchi said. Their study showed sensitivity to the department and avoided compromising the department's individualism, he said.

"One of the things it (the report) demonstrated was Zuniga's and Boynton's experience," he said. "It had specific things for improvement."

Lid still tight on police records

University refuses request to open incident/investigation reports

By STEPHANIE JOHNSTON

Staff Writer

The University has denied The Daily Tar Heel's request for access to the incident/investigation reports filed by campus public safety officers.

In a letter to Chancellor Paul Hardin dated Nov. 27, 1989, Sharon Keschull, DTH editor, and Kevin Schwartz, general manager, requested that University police make the incident/investigation reports public to comply with the N.C. Open Records Law, N.C.G.S. 132, Sections 1-9. The DTH now receives daily summaries of departmental activities edited by department personnel.

The University's denial is based on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), also known as the Buckley Amendment, which prohibits the disclosure of a student's academic record.

Hardin could not be reached for comment Monday or Tuesday.

Susan Ehringhaus, assistant to the chancellor and senior University counsel, said that because the Public Safety Department makes the reports available to other University departments, the reports are part of students' educational records and are therefore pro-

hibited by the FERPA.

"This is not the same as being in a setting other than educational," she said. "Students' records are shared with law enforcement people, and they share records (with the University). The act speaks specifically to this."

Wayne Kuehl, director of housing, said his department does receive a copy of the investigations report. "They routinely inform us with a copy of what the officer fills out."

After receiving the DTH's request, Ehringhaus wrote Andrew Vanore, N.C. chief deputy attorney general, to request his advice on the matter.

Vanore refused to comment on his report, but Ehringhaus said he agreed that the reports were protected by the FERPA.

Keschull said that the newspaper was not accusing University police of hiding crimes but that the DTH was concerned about the details that are not being released.

"We are disappointed, but not surprised, at Mr. Vanore's refusal to let the University open the records," she said. "Few issues on campus are as important as this or affect as many students."

"Students, faculty and staff should all be concerned with what the Univer-

sity won't show us. ... We want to see complete reports, not just abbreviated versions. We're not going to run rampant with rape victims' names."

Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center in Washington, D.C., said university police departments are bound by the same laws as law enforcement agencies in the public sector.

"Public access laws require public schools to give incident/investigations report. There is a good possibility the federal law will change."

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act has been presented to the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. William Gooding, D-Pa. This bill would require all colleges and universities that participate in federal student assistance programs to submit campus crime statistics to the FBI, state police, students, employees, prospective applicants and their parents.

"(The bill) is not intended to provide incident statistical information so it's not the total solution," Goodman said. "Last Wednesday the student newspaper at Southwest Missouri State University filed a lawsuit against the university for the incident reports. A lot of campuses around the country are fight-

ing the battle for this issue."

Keschull said one of the things that prompted her request was the realization that the problem of undisclosed records is nationwide and not just at UNC.

"It's been a problem for years and was something I was concerned about when I came in as editor," she said. "We waited until things calmed down at the police department before we took any action. Reports about how serious this is nationwide spurred me to action. It's a bigger problem than I thought."

In December, UNC-system lawyers, lawyers from other universities, system public safety directors and police chiefs met and discussed methods of distributing crime information, according to John DeVitto, UNC-CH acting public safety director.

Sgt. Ned Comar, the officer responsible for summarizing University police reports, said, "To my understanding, each school presented how they release information, and the consensus was we had the best and most appropriate method."

Billy Dawson, UNC-Wilmington public safety director, said his department had followed the same method as UNC-CH for three to four years.

Frye mounts bid for 2nd CAA term

By STEPHANIE JOHNSTON

Staff Writer

Lisa Frye, a junior history major from Conover, has announced her candidacy for re-election as president of the Carolina Athletic Association (CAA).

Frye said if re-elected her focuses for next year would be a responsive, well-known ticket policy, the expansion of Homecoming and the further expansion of support for non-revenue sports.

"It is a tradition with the CAA of polling students to get an idea if students are pleased (with ticket distribution)," she said. "We want to set the policy in the spring and focus education in the fall on freshmen if the policy hasn't changed much, or on the entire student body if it has."

Frye said she would like to use the Franklin Street Extravaganza during Homecoming next year to raise money for a worthy cause within the University or for a local charity.

Frye said she was proud of the members of Carolina Fever and hoped to see the group grow next year.

"They made a real impact in non-revenue sports. Next year I'd like to see Fever become a staple like the



Lisa Frye

CAMPUS '90
Elections '90

band and become a new tradition." Frye said she decided to run for re-

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Martin declares plans to run for president

By WILL SPEARS

Assistant University Editor

Jonathan Martin, a sophomore economics major from Greensboro, has announced his candidacy for student body president.

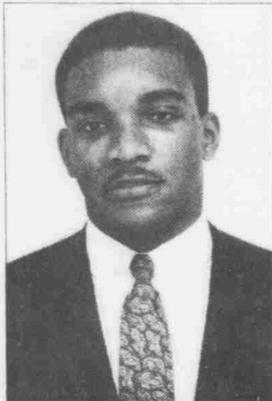
Martin's campaign, "Ideas in Motion," focuses on several issues affecting the University and the community. His seven-point plan will attempt to tackle problems students face in areas such as security, minority issues, health and education, he said.

Martin said he was already familiar with these issues. "A large percentage of things in the platform are not just ideas; I've been working on them for quite a while."

Martin would like to see a formalized system of evaluating UNC teaching assistants. In cases in which the assistant teaches with a professor, the assistant is not evaluated even though he may be responsible for grading exams and essays, he said.

Martin said he hopes to extend the shuttle service. The shuttle should run at midnight in place of the J-bus, which shuts down at that time, he said. The shuttle could run from midnight until two a.m. for those students who want to stay at the library or on Franklin St. after midnight.

Student government should also back efforts by the Student Health Service to prevent program cuts by the N.C. legislature, Martin said. "Student government, along with the student body, needs to play a role in



Jonathan Martin

CAMPUS '90
Elections '90

advocating the Student Health Services. We need to show the General Assembly that we don't want these programs cut."

Martin has served as a Student Congress representative (Dist. 8), and was the first to hold the position of administrative liaison for the congress.

"As a congressman, I've made great efforts to reach out to students."

Students may control fees directly

By ROBERT BROWN

Staff Writer

UNC students may have the chance to become some of the first in the nation with direct control over how their student activities fees are spent if a proposed referendum is included and passed on the upcoming spring ballot.

Student Congress will decide tonight whether to include the proposed referendum on the Feb. 20 election ballot. The referendum would call for the creation of the Student Choice Funding Process and would allow each student to distribute a portion of his student fees to the organizations of his choice, said Student Congress Rep. Andrew Cohen (Dist. 7), co-sponsor of the bill.

Cohen said the plan would guarantee that the money distributed to campus organizations was the direct will of the student body. He said he felt that Student Congress was not funding groups in a fashion that students would approve of.

"There has been over- and under-funding (by Student Congress)," Cohen said.

Student Congress Rep. Mindy Friedman (Dist. 12), co-sponsor of the bill, said she felt it was a fair way to decide where student fees were spent.

The idea is unique among national universities. Only a few schools let students have any direct voice in how their money is spent. "I'm not sure that it's been tried before," Cohen said. "We're starting from scratch."

Stanford University has a similar program allowing students the opportunity to approve or deny money to an organization, said Ed Sasaki, Student Senate chairman. Students enjoy hav-

ing a say in where their money goes, but the Student Senate still has the control over how much money an organization receives, he said.

Under the Stanford system, the Appropriations Committee meets with the organizations requesting funds, and the committee determines the amount of money each group should receive. The budget of each group is then placed on the spring ballot, and the students vote to grant or deny the organization of that money.

Those organizations receiving more than 50 percent approval receive the money allocated by the Student Senate. Those who receive less than 50 percent approval get no money. About 90 percent of the groups requesting money receive it, Sasaki said.

The process has run smoothly except for one hitch, he said. If a student wishes to deny money to a group that receives approval, that student can request that a portion of their student fees be returned.

"That leads to a lot of problems," Sasaki said. Many students deny groups money in order to get it back for themselves, he said. A plan may be devised to keep the money from getting back in the student's pockets.

Student Body President Brien Lewis said Tuesday he opposed the bill. "I understand the intent behind the bill, but I disagree with it to an extent," he said.

"I still believe very strongly in representative government," Lewis said. He said he encouraged students to vote for representatives who would represent their interests.

Lewis said he thought students would

have difficulty in making an informed decision about how to allocate student fees. Student Congress members have a hard enough time allocating money, he said.

Cohen and Friedman said they had received mixed reactions about the proposal. However, they said, most of the students they spoke with outside of Student Congress were excited about the possibility of having a say in how their money is spent. Many Student Congress members, on the other hand, were apprehensive of the idea, Friedman said.

Most of the students interviewed Tuesday were against the idea.

"It just doesn't sound like a good idea," said Jeff Samz, a sophomore from Asheville. Students would not be as informed as the people who would be making the decisions, he said. "Certain groups would get all the money."

Chris Barrett, a senior from Seaboard, agreed. "If students can choose what they want only the most visible will get the money they need," he said. Student Congress has allocated money in the past and knows where it needs to go, he said.

Other students supported the proposal. "I think it would definitely be better," said Kim Cameron, a junior from Pinehurst. "There's a lot of organizations on campus that (students) may not support."

In other referendum developments, Student Congress Rep. Jeffrey Beall (Dist. 7) has decided to drop a bill that called for a referendum ending funding for the Graduate and Professional Student Federation.

Beall, a graduate student, had charged that the GPSF is a little-known organization that spends graduate fees without checks on social activities.

The bill called for a student referendum ending constitutional funding of the GPSF.

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This is what entertainment is all about — idiots, explosives and falling anvils. — Calvin