

Grand Strand braces for bikers

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police will be doing a similar noise crackdown, but bikers shouldn't worry too much if they have the proper equipment on their motorcycles, Myrtle Beach spokesman Mark Kruea said.

"Having a functioning, factory-installed muffler is pretty foolproof," he said.

The city also has outlawed other special events planned for May, which means a long-standing feature, the Orange County Choppers, won't be coming to this year's rally.

The city has restricted vendors and outdoor activities to the city's Convention Center and Broadway at the Beach.

Gene Lummus, president of the Carolina Harley-Davidson Dealers Association, said he agrees the event needs to be regulated and he has tried to work with county officials to reduce the length of vendor permits from 10 days.

"Nobody seems to want to listen to this idea," he said. "I know that will help control the rally if they control the

vendor permits, even if they cut them to five days, it will help the traffic."

Outside the city, however, almost 400 vendors have gotten permits for the rally.

Despite all the changes and restrictions, the number of people booking hotel rooms is up, said Gary Loftus, director of Coastal Carolina University's Center for Economic and Community Development.

For the final weekend of the rally, occupancy is 6 percent ahead of last year at this

time.

Loftus projected the Grand Strand hotels could surpass last year's occupancy of 90 percent for that weekend.

"The Harley-Davidson event has grown from year to year for the last five or six years," city spokesman Kruea said. "I know there are rumblings in the biker community about how welcome they are, and that is understandable, but I don't think that's going to dissuade anyone from coming."

Duke rebuffs Black Panthers' protest plans

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expression. They were able to conduct their protest," he said. "What they wanted to do was to conduct a march on private property and during final exams. I don't have the freedom to conduct a march in your living room if you don't want it."

Attorney Malik Zulu Shabazz, national chairman of the Panther Party and a graduate of Howard University Law School, said "This is yet another example of how blacks still have to go through the back door."

The woman in the case alleges that she went to the fraternity house, which is

owned by members of the lacrosse team, to perform a \$400 strip show, but was later pushed into a bathroom by three men who raped, choked and beat her.

Duke's Reade Seligmann and Collin Finnerty were indicted last month.

The Black Panthers laid out 10 demands, which include convictions of the indicted and expulsion of anyone else involved.

As an attorney, Shabazz is well aware that people are innocent until proven guilty, but said "We have conducted our own investigation, and we have found them guilty."

The Dr. Huey P. Newton

Foundation was founded in 1993 in Oakland, Calif., by David Hilliard and Fredericka Newton. The foundation has objected to the NBPP using its name

because members view the new party as more of a hate group against white people instead of a group protesting the white government or establishment.

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Rice: Minority in Oval Office

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Texas attending an annual Washington conference of Latino and Latin-American students asked the secretary whether she thought it possible that "a Latino or Latina person or an African-American person or a person from any other minority" might become president.

"Yes," she said, prompting first the knowing laughter, then applause.

"I think it will happen, and I think it will happen in my lifetime" - more laughter - "but it won't be me."

She said she bases her opinion on a course she used to teach as a professor at Stanford University: "The Politics of Elites."

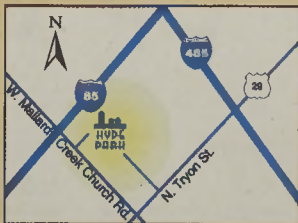
The title means, she said, that candidates advance to the presidency by serving in some other capacities, such as a state governor or a senator.

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