

**JJR**  
FROM PAGE 1

Most of the new buildings will be within a five minute walk of each other, Christman said.

Christman said surface parking would not be prevalent in the Mason Farm tract. Instead, a five story parking deck will be built to accommodate 1100 cars.

Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Capowski said he was quite pleased with the idea of a parking deck versus standard surface parking lots.

Capowski said he was also pleased that one-third of the Parker property, including environmentally sensitive wetlands, was set aside as protected land.

"The termination of the drainage sewers is 2400 feet from the wetlands through land that is very heavily wooded. Fifty-three acres of the area will be developed," Christman said. "The thought is that you could still develop one unit per five acres. This would preserve a larger area."

The fate of the Horace Williams tract, a satellite University campus, was also discussed last Wednesday. JJR Representative Dick Rigerink said the major changes from the previous set of plans to the current one for the development dealt with transportation issues.

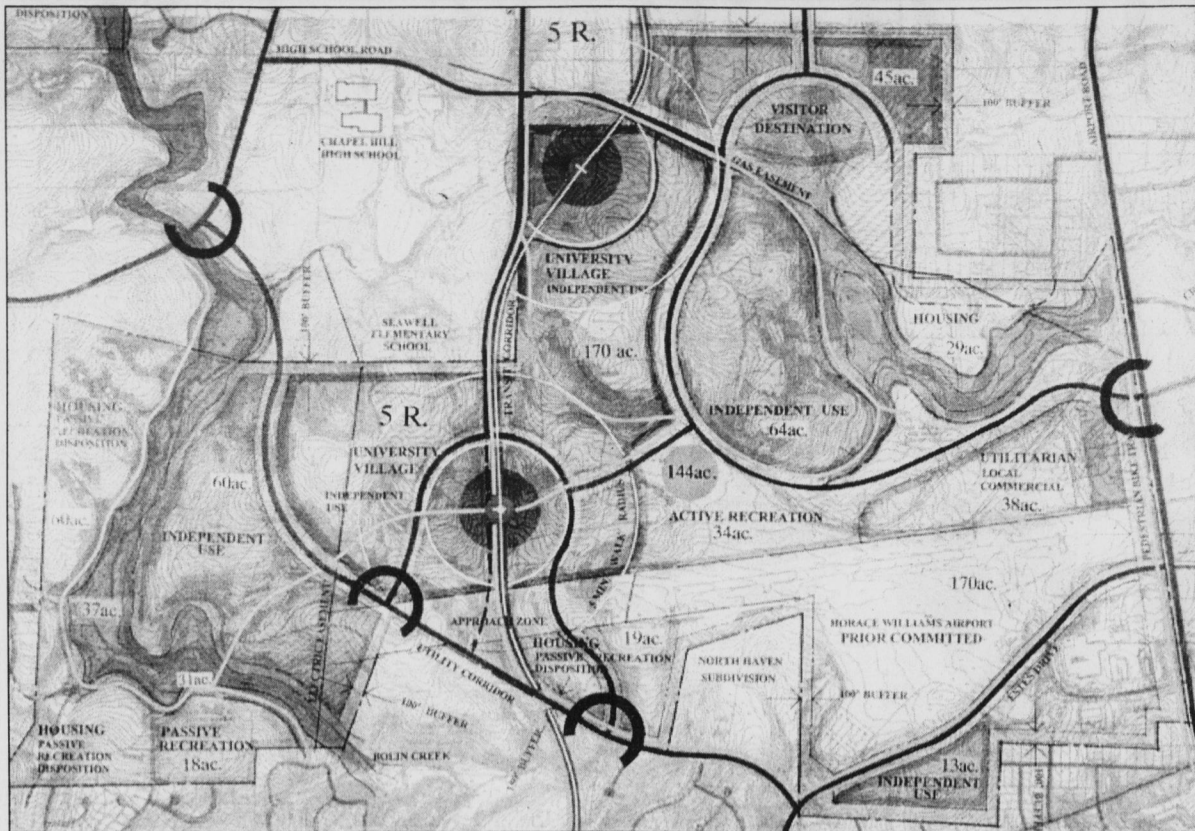
Rigerink said the maximum number of car trips per day the development could handle would be 45,000. He said other forms of transportation, such as mass transit, should be stressed to keep to this number.

To encourage other forms of transportation, the campus will also be internally linked by bicycle and pedestrian paths, Rigerink said. He said the plans also contain a transit corridor which can be updated with future technology to accommodate newer transportation modes.

JJR representative George Alexious outlined other transportation possibilities.

"We support a mixed use of transportation activities — bicycles, internal shuttles and transit," Alexious said. "The connection between the development and central campus is crucial to how much can be done here."

Rigerink said while there were many different possibilities for connecting main campus to the satellite campus, the ultimate decision rested with Orange County. "We believe the three parties should come together to figure out how the main



The Horace Williams Tract, a 973-acre piece of land, will be developed by the University as a satellite campus. The area will include faculty housing, research facilities, an airport, commercial services, recreational areas and a Visitor Destination District.

transit connection from campus will be made," Rigerink said.

Chapel Hill Town Council member Lee Pavao said the prospect of a co-operative effort on the issue of transit delighted him. He said the planning committee's transportation sub-committee would probably work with the University on the transit issue.

While residents applauded additional protection of environmentally sensitive areas around Bolin Creek and Crow

Branch, Nelson said he was very disappointed that any housing was being planned for the area around Bolin Creek.

"Carboro was very explicit in opposition to developing that land," Nelson said. "We wanted to see it preserved and we were clear and consistent in our opposition to its development."

"Otherwise, they appear to have listened to many of the suggestions from the two citizen committees. Generally speaking, it appears to be a pretty good plan."

Rigerink said 125 acres of hardwood trees were identified on the map in six places with cross-hatching.

"Where there is cross-hatching on the map, when we need housing, we will build on the non-cross-hatched areas first," Rigerink said. "As we move forward, then we will take a look at the cross-hatched areas as a last resort."

Capowski said he was also pleased that the tract's Utilitarian sector will continue to house the town's municipal facilities.

"Public works, the bus garage and animal protection are out there," he said. "We were worried that we would lose that lease in 2001 and have to find another place in town. It's not glamorous, but it's very important."

Pavao said both plans pleased him greatly. He said he believed co-operation between the parties was the key to the development's success.

"If you were to say I was extremely pleased, it would not be an exaggeration."

## Drive-by Shooting Suspect Waives Right to Hearing

BY JON WILLIAMS  
STAFF WRITER

A suspect in the drive-by shooting following the April 14 Greek Freak Step Show waived his right to a preliminary hearing Friday.

Plimpton Lee Robinson is expected to be indicted June 10 on charges of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and driving while under the influence.

The preliminary hearing Robinson waived Friday was meant to establish that he had legal counsel.

Attorney at Student Legal Services David Crescenzo said this hearing was a minor step leading up to the actual trial date.

Robinson also waived his right to a probable cause hearing in April.

Crescenzo said one reason Robinson would waive this hearing was that he would already have a good idea of evidence that

the district attorney would use. "A probable cause hearing is held so that the defendant has an opportunity to see the district attorney's case against him," Crescenzo said.

The two other men who were in the car with Robinson at the time of the shooting have been identified as Anthony Lamont McEachin and Zell Everette Harris Jr.

They are expected to be charged with aiding and abetting in the assault.

Both men had probable cause hearings Friday that were continued until June 28.

Possible reasons for the continuation are to "give the district attorney or the defendant's lawyers more time to prepare their cases," Crescenzo said.

Crescenzo said another possible benefit was that the grand jury might be ready to hear the case by June 28 and eliminated the need for a probable cause hearing.

Robinson is expected to have his next court date in July.

## ALCOHOL

FROM PAGE 1

"That (the task force) is not going to stop underage drinking. It's going to happen somewhere else," said Brian Dement, a sophomore biology major.

Senior Marcus Donie said that he agreed, "Students enjoy it and will do it no matter what."

The task force will work together with a Faculty Council committee on the intellectual climate, exploring ways to elevate the University's academic environment. The intellectual climate panel has continuously targeted alcohol as a problematic tool used by students to socialize and reduce stress.

Hooker acknowledged the role of alcohol during fraternity rush as a means to socialize that distracts students from getting "academically grounded."

Pledging a fraternity during fall rush begins days after students arrive on campus.

"When freshmen come in and are subjected to the pressures of fraternity rush in the first weeks of school, it probably sends an inappropriate message about the importance of social acceptance to success at Chapel Hill," he said.

Hooker informed the board that he is considering delaying rush until spring semester. He plans to discuss the matter with Ron Binder, director of Greek Affairs.

"I will not proclaim a policy until talking with him, but in my judgment (this) is something we should do, and I will have to be persuaded otherwise," Hooker said.

Fraternity members are divided on the issue of delaying rush, although most are against it.

Sophomore Olaf Zerbock said he thinks it will have negative effects on the fraternities by limiting the number of students joining. He also said it will be harmful to the students.

"They wouldn't have time to look around the fraternity and decide what's best for them. Since many people don't pledge first semester, they would rush into it with 'only one opportunity.'"

# Schools Might Feel Impact of Fee Increase

BY JEANNE FUGATE  
EDITOR

Residents debated a \$3000 impact fee on new housing before the Orange County Commissioners Tuesday night. The fee would be used to offset Chapel Hill-Carboro school construction costs.

According to the 1995 Technical Report, each new house in Chapel Hill and Carboro has an \$11,593 impact on school construction. Orange County Commissioners Attorney Geoffrey Glenhill said the commissioners might raise the current fee of \$1,500 to \$3,000 to help fund the demand for new schools.

Mary Bushnell, vice-chair of the Chapel Hill-Carboro School Board, said the new impact fees would generate about \$850,000 a year, while capital construction costs hover around \$54 million.

Though the impact fees might not supply the major source of funding, they still provide an integral portion. "We could not have opened McDougale Middle School without \$716,000 generated from impact fees," Bushnell said.

Bushnell said the commissioners should look at increasing the number of refunds for impact fees to certain non-profit organizations that build houses, such as Habitat for Humanity.

Matthew Barton said the county should put aside about \$50,000 to use for such rebates.

Other citizens felt the impact fees were unfair. Chapel Hill home owner Linda Mews said, "New construction does not impact the schools. Children do." She suggested taxing residents for the number of children in their households, similar to including pets in property tax appraisals. "That'd be a true impact tax," she said. She also suggested a transfer tax whenever property changes hands to get a broader tax base.

Other voices were raised for a broader tax base. Wayne Parrish, a member of the

Home Builders' Association said, "A broad-based funding source is better than a narrow one." He suggested a half-cent sales tax that would generate \$3 million from everyone's pockets.

Residents said more was at stake than money. Builder Ron Webber said many sub-contractors would feel adverse effects.

Greg Isenhour, a home builder, said the impact fee would push Chapel Hill farther away from its goals of affordable housing. "Perhaps the rhetoric about affordable housing is just that — rhetoric," he said.

Peter Margolis, a Chapel Hill pediatrician, said he thought the tax was only fair, considering new home owners also pay an impact tax on water and sewage.

"If we're going to pay impact fees to flush our toilets, we should be willing to pay impact fees to educate our children."

The commissioners will decide on impact fees at the June 3 meeting.

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