

Fran breeds swarms of dangerous mosquitoes

BY CHARLES HELLWIG
STAFF WRITER

All along the North Carolina coast and coastal plain, residents and emergency management officials are fighting a battle against an army of flying blood suckers spawned by Hurricane Fran.

Stagnant water left from the hurricane's flooding became the perfect breeding ground for more mosquitos than officials can count.

"The standard test for whether or not an area has a mosquito infestation problem is simple," said Johanna Reese, spokesperson for the N.C. Division of Environmental Health. "Two people stand outside and one person counts the number of mosquito bites per minute the other researcher gets. Anything more than four is classified as a problem.

"Right now, we are getting between 50 and 60 a minute," Reese said. "We have a real problem."

Byrd Quinlivan, assistant professor in the Infectious Diseases department of the UNC Department of Medicine, said this was initially alarming to some health officials and parents. "Encephalitis is not a common infection, but when the size of this mosquito infestation became apparent, many people became concerned about a potential outbreak since this is a disease often transmitted by mosquitos."

Encephalitis takes many forms, some relatively harmless and others potentially fatal. Quinlivan said the name itself meant inflammation of the brain, which was what happened in the extreme cases.

"It can begin as a simple headache or fever and progressively worsen the victim from a confused state to unconscious-

ness. But again, this is not very common even in areas which are heavily infested with mosquitos, and we have not had any cases here."

Eastern Equine Encephalitis is a dangerous strain that mosquitos in eastern North Carolina have spread. An outbreak of the strain hasn't occurred.

"We haven't seen any cases (in Orange County)," Quinlivan said. "In fact, you don't normally find the kind of mosquitos that spread the disease in this area."

Reese added that while there were reported cases in eastern North Carolina, the number was not higher than normal. "We are not that concerned about encephalitis or related health problems from these mosquitos; we've just got a major nuisance problem," Reese said.

The state, working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has

begun spraying the worst-hit areas with insecticides to fight infestation. FEMA is paying 75 percent of the costs and North Carolina is paying the remainder.

"We are only spraying towns and counties which request it, because we thought localities should decide what they want done," Reese said.

"They have to meet the criteria, such as being in a declared disaster area, having a major infestation problem, and they must specify the area to be sprayed. Some localities are taking care of it themselves, and we are reimbursing them."

Reese said he expected spraying to be finished in a week or two. In some areas, environmentalists have protested the use of chemicals to spray. Reese said that although the state was using low concentrations of commonly used pesticides, it would not spray in those places.

Town to help seniors still cleaning up Fran debris

BY ALEX PODLOGAR
STAFF WRITER

Despite overcast skies and cooler temperatures, a little sunshine was spread for two residents of Carrboro last week.

The town of Carrboro is getting involved in helping senior citizens climb out from under debris since the American Red Cross has discontinued coordinating efforts to clean up remaining debris, Alderman Hilliard Caldwell said.

Carrboro is setting up a "clearing-house" where senior citizens in need of clean up can call town hall and receive assistance, Caldwell said. Town hall would then in turn find volunteers and send them to the area in need, Caldwell said.

"Most senior citizens have family around that can help them clean up," he said. "This is a service that is provided for senior citizens who have no family members to help them. I don't think we'll be bombarded with requests."

Carrboro, in addition to the Federal Emergency Management Administration, has continued efforts to clean up remaining debris around the town, Town Manager Robert Morgan said.

"There are still trees down in Community Park and some minor repairs that need to be completed," he said. "With the town of Carrboro and FEMA, about 90 percent of the town has been covered at least once. At the first of next week we plan to begin our second sweep of the town."

The Sunshine Rotary Club of Carrboro also initiated its annual service project Saturday, cleaning up debris that re-

mained from the wrath of Hurricane Fran.

"One of the yearly goals of any Rotary Club is to do a service project of some kind," Caldwell, who is also a member of the club, said. "We realized that senior citizens could not clean up heavy brush and limbs in a timely fashion. We are here to help."

The club decided at a recent meeting to implement its project, remembering to focus on the needs of senior citizens. Caldwell knew the perfect candidates.

"The two houses that we worked on are right next door to me," he said. "I noticed last week that nobody had done anything. It dawned on me as something to suggest to the club."

Nobody is more grateful than Carrboro resident Pearl Brockwell.

"I am so thankful for the Rotary club," she said. "I had several trees down and I couldn't even see my daughter-in-law's house and it's next door. There was no way I could have done it."

When club members found out that the house next door belonged to Brockwell's daughter-in-law, they decided to clean up their debris as well, Caldwell said.

Ten members of the club showed up ready with chain saws to cut and move debris from around the houses and deposit it at the end of the driveway. From there the town of Carrboro took care of it. Though taxing, the task proved quite enjoyable, Caldwell said.

"We spent two-and-a-half hours cutting up six huge trees," he said.

"But we really had a good time. In fact, we decided to take on a couple more people."

FORUM

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trends are going to change, Morris said. "I would urge you to learn as much as you can about the issues, about things that affect you and your friends, let your

voice be heard, and vote," Morris said.

Education is not a priority in the legislature though, Nathan said. "We need to go out to elected reps and let them know what students want."

Jon Sanders of the Pope Center for Higher Education said in order to induce

interest in education, schools must be accountable to parents and legislators. He said there was no adequate criteria for testing schools and the level of education that students received.

Students who attended the forum questioned tuition increases and budget cuts.

Ali responded to the relationship between tuition increases and cuts to financial aid by saying that the two were not directly related. Nathan said despite North Carolina's healthy economy, money was not being allocated to education.

MCDADE

FROM PAGE 1
"In the long run, the property is very valuable to the town," Epting said.

Epting said even if the town and FGI agreed to let the house be moved to the lot, the matter was not resolved.

"In all probability, the house would not survive the move," he said. "It's built with soft, 19th century North Carolina brick ... in all likelihood it would crumble."

Epting said he felt the church was being unreasonable in not considering

the option of putting their addition on the south side of the property, away from the street and the McDade house.

Humphreys said he was hoping the town would agree to putting the house on the parking lot. Though other sites have been offered, Humphreys said he feared the house would not survive moving a great distance. And besides, he said, the house is part of the downtown.

"This is the last historic residence in downtown," he said. "If it's moved to Meadowmont, it's just an old brick house. Off Franklin Street, it loses its importance."



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Campus Calendar

Thursday

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Student Body President Aaron Nelson will hold office hours in the Pit. Stop by and let him know what you think about what student government is doing and what problems you'd like to see them solve.

3:30 p.m. - University Career Services will conduct a workshop entitled "Introduction to UCS Services" in 307 Hanes Hall. UCS will also hold "Introduction to Internships" for undergrads in 209 Hanes Hall.

4 p.m. - The School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Kenan-Flagler Business School BSBA Program will sponsor a Sports Marketing Panel in Howell Hall Auditorium to give students the opportunity to meet professionals in sports marketing and learn how to get into the field. All are welcome.

4:30 p.m. - The Study Abroad Office will hold an ALL APPLICANTS meeting for students who are applying for study abroad programs for the spring of 1997 in Union 224. This meeting is mandatory for all applicants.

4:30 p.m. - The Campus Y Human Rights Committee will have a meeting in the Campus Y basement. This will be followed by an organizational meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the basement; organizations interested in doing programs for Human Relations Week should attend.

5 p.m. - The UNC Figure Skating Club will meet in 104 Fetzer Gymnasium. Come be involved in a new club on campus!

5:15 p.m. - The Hellenic Students Association will meet in Union 226.

5:30 p.m. - The Vietnamese Students As-

sociation will hold a meeting and volleyball practice in Fetzer Gymnasium A. All are welcome.

6:30 p.m. - The March of Dimes Collegiate Council will hold a meeting in 108 Bingham Hall.

6:30 p.m., 9 p.m. - The Carolina Union Activities Board Film Committee will present Cameron Diaz, Jason Alexander, and Bill Paxton in "The Last Supper" in the Carolina Union Auditorium. Admission is FREE.

7 p.m. - Larry Knopp, associate professor of geography at the University of Minnesota-Duluth will hold a public lecture titled "Critical Geography and Queer Studies: The Practical Economy of Space Meets the Cultural Politics of Sexuality" in the Toy Lounge of Dey Hall.

7 p.m. - The Senior Class of 1997 is sponsoring an information panel for students who are interested in learning more about attending school in the area of Health Affairs. It will be held at Spanky's Restaurant. The attire is casual and refreshments will be served. Come and have your questions answered.

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - The Office of N.C. Fellows & Leadership Development will present Geriel Thornburg, a graduate communications student, in a lecture titled "Public Speaking: a Leader's Medium" in Union 205.

7:30 p.m. - The Carolina Production Guild will meet in Studio 2 of Swain Hall. Local filmmaker Norwood Cheek will be the special guest speaker and will discuss Super filmmaking and show several of his own short films.

8 p.m. - The Carolina Civil Liberties Union will meet in 210 New West. All interested students are welcome.

Attention Seniors:

Health Affairs Information Panel

TONIGHT!
at Spanky's Restaurant from 7-9pm
(on the corner of Franklin & Columbia)

Come have your questions answered about attending Health Affairs Graduate School from current students in these programs!

Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Casual attire.



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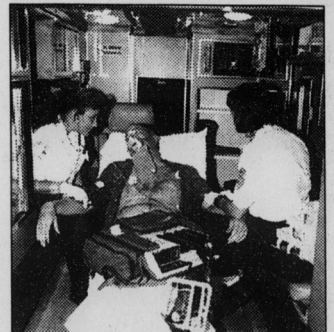
You Can Be A Part Of 9-1-1 Emergency Rescue

The South Orange EMS and Rescue Squad is holding an information session

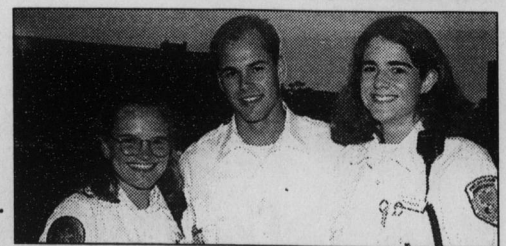
TONIGHT! OCTOBER 3 at 7:00pm
Dean E. Smith Center,
Skipper Bowles Room at court-level

This ONCE-A-YEAR information session is aimed at fully informing everyone who may be interested in joining the squad.

To reserve your seat call Kim at 382-9909



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