

Case of accused stabber continued until mid-July

■ Robert Pratt is accused of stabbing a former UNC men's lacrosse player.

STAFF REPORT

The man accused of stabbing a UNC lacrosse player will have to wait at least another month before finding out what his fate will be.

Robert Warren Pratt of 201 Oakmont Court in Mebane was arrested April 13 in connection with the stabbing of UNC defender Peter Murphy, a senior from Garden City, New Jersey, at Players, located at 159 E. Franklin Street.

Pratt was charged with one felony count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to inflict serious injury.

He was originally scheduled for a May court date, but that was continued.

Monday, the case was again continued, this time to July 21. That means six more weeks of waiting for Pratt, a 25-year-old bail bondsman.

The incident occurred April 13 at 1:26 a.m. According to a police press release, officers on a routine foot patrol heard a disturbance inside Players and went in to investigate. There they found Murphy stabbed.

Pratt was arrested a short time later at Papagayo restaurant.

Murphy was taken to UNC Hospitals, where he underwent surgery to repair the damage to his abdomen. He was released a few days later.

Steve Woodham, manager of Players, said in April that he did not see the incident, but had been informed of it by bouncers soon after it happened. He said he found Murphy lying on the fire escape at the back of the bar.

"(Pratt) was a normal-looking kid," Woodham said in April. "It could have happened anywhere."

Woodham said he had no idea how the fight had started.

"From what I understand, they had been arguing," Woodham said. "There were not many words said."



Photos from Paul Caponigro's 1967 to 1972 "Stonehenge Portfolio" will be included in "Circles of Divinity: Cross-Cultural Connections," a new exhibit at Ackland Art Museum. The exhibit runs from June 14 to October 12.

New exhibit looks at 'divine' circles

■ An Ackland showing examines the significance of circles and spirals.

STAFF REPORT

The Ackland Art Museum will present a look at nature's varied patterns in "Circles of Divinity: Cross-Cultural Connections," an exhibit on display June 14 to October 12.

"Nature's designs and patterns—the spiraling and circular forms of plants, animals, the sun and the moon—inspired the world's finest artists," Curator of Exhibitions Barbara Matilsky stated in a press release.

The exhibit will include more than 40 objects from the museum's permanent collection, objects as diverse as a Chinese Neolithic funerary urn and a 1955 abstract painting by Hans Hoffman. The objects come from five continents and span a period of 4,000

years. Also, Cherokee artist Sarah Bates will create an honoring circle 12 feet in diameter for the exhibition.

"(The circle) represents the continuity of life and the promise of rebirth," Matilsky stated.

Matilsky pointed out that the circle has age-old meanings that seem to be common to all cultures. Both Christian and Buddhist traditions use the halo as a symbol of divine enlightenment, for instance.

Much of the circle's perceived power comes from the sun, the source of all life, Matilsky noted.

It is this diversity of significance—the eponymous "cross-cultural connections"—that makes the exhibit so important, Matilsky stated.

"The presence of the circle and spiral as a spiritual form in so many cultures indicates the common bond that link the human species," she stated.

"Understanding the shared meanings

"The presence of the circle and spiral as a spiritual force in so many cultures indicates the common bond that links the human species."

BARBARA MATILSKY
Curator of Exhibitions

conveyed through this form helps point us toward the possibilities of peace within and between people, the essence of divinity."

The Ackland will sponsor several educational programs in conjunction with the exhibit, including a mask-making session for children, "Mystical Masks," on June 14; a participatory sacred circle dances led by members of Dances of Universal Peace on June 24 and September 14; and gallery talks throughout the duration of the exhibit.

CABINET
FROM PAGE 1

cent increase. To some students, it was not just the increase in tuition that presented problems, but also the disparity between in-state and out-of-state students.

"Fifty dollars compared to \$500 seems unfair and ridiculous to me," said Scott Schweitzer, a UNC junior from Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

"The price tag attached to tuition is a huge factor when deciding a school," he said. "If passed, this budget could have some serious long-term effects on how many out-of-staters choose Carolina."

Such long-term effects of the tuition hike are exactly what Nathan and his cabinet are trying to stay away from and, what he says, the General Assembly is vying for.

Nathan added that most people do not realize a higher tuition does not mean more revenue for the University, but rather for the state.

"If the increase should happen to pass," Nathan said, "none of the money gained is going back to the University."

The proposed tuition increase would not only affect undergraduate students. Because more than half of the out-of-state population at UNC-CH is made up of graduate students, they would be, statistically speaking, affected more than undergraduates.

"The increase would not just be an injury, but an insult," said Graduate and Professional Student Federation President Katherine Kraft. "It will definitely reduce out-of-state graduates."

Until a final decision about the budget is reached, student leaders from both schools agreed students voicing opinions would help kill it.

"I think we can defeat this bill," said John Dervin, president of the association of student governments. "If N.C. State students start calling, (senators) will take note. Even just a few phone calls will help."

Also, Nathan and Kraft have been taking advantage of the opportunity provided by C-TOPS programs to ask C-TOPS parents to contact their local representatives.

"Response has been good," Nathan said.

"Many parents have already gone back home from the first C-TOPS session and called their senators."

Nathan also said he plans to hold an all-campus informational meeting for any interested persons next Tuesday evening.

Cut wires found on airplane hours before takeoff at JFK

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Cut wires were found underneath the cockpit of a Pan Am plane undergoing routine maintenance checks at Kennedy Airport Wednesday, but the safety of the plane was not compromised, officials said.

Pan Am spokesman Jeff Kriendler would not say which wires had been cut. But he said the A300 Airbus "would not have left the gate."

"It would have been discovered by the cockpit. The systems would not have worked."

However, a law enforcement source said the tampering apparently took place earlier in the week, since a problem was noticed Sunday.

A transportation official said Flight 21 was canceled three hours before it was due to take off for Miami at 8:30 a.m.

The 102 passengers who had tickets on the flight were rebooked, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kriendler said the cut wires were discovered in the belly of the plane, beneath the cockpit, in the middle of the night by maintenance workers and authorities were immediately notified of

the incident.

A law enforcement source said the Pan Am crew on Sunday had noticed "annoyance problems" — glitches that don't indicate any lack of safety — involving "tiny wires."

Those problems involved things like the windshield defroster and a light, not to any vital part of the aircraft, the source said.

The plane made two round trips before the problems were reported. The source said maintenance workers investigating the complaints found some severed wires today and contacted the Port Authority, which runs the airport.

That agency contacted the FBI with the information.

FBI spokesman Joseph Valiquette said his agency, the Federal Aviation Administration and Port Authority Police were investigating. He said the plane arrived at Kennedy Airport at 9:10 p.m. Tuesday from the Dominican Republic as Flight 6 and landed without incident.

The original Pan Am World Airways went bankrupt and shut down in 1991 in the wake of the 1988 bombing of Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, which killed 270 people.

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