

VOTE TODAY

The Daily Tar Heel

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Grievance procedure escalates to next step

■ UNC police officer Lt. C.E. Swain first filed a grievance three weeks ago.

BY JESSICA GALAZKA
STAFF WRITER

A complaint by a University Police officer that his supervisors obstructed justice was deemed unsubstantiated by the University official in charge of the investigation.

Lt. C.E. Swain has taken his complaint a step further in the University grievance process. He originally filed a grievance three weeks ago after finding that an underage consumption of alcohol citation he issued to a daughter of a Board of Trustees member was removed from police records.

He received a written response Monday from Carolyn Elfland, associate vice chancellor for auxiliary services, that states, "It was completely proper to withhold the citation in question until various issues raised could be reviewed in more detail."

Swain said he was very dissatisfied with Elfland's findings, which happened at the Step II level of the University grievance process. He said he filed the grievance in Step III intervention on Monday. In Step III he will go before a panel of three University faculty and staff members.

"She said I would not like the results," Swain said. "I went ahead and

filed (Step III) because I want them to answer everything I asked for, and I want them to tell the truth."

Elfland said Monday, "We just can't comment on personnel issues."

The alleged violations stem from Swain's and Capt. Danny Caldwell's complaints about the department's handling of an alcohol citation written for Caroline Hancock, 18, daughter of Billy Armfield, a Board of Trustees member.

Swain, who wrote the citation, said his supervising officer, Capt. Jeff McCracken, had the citation removed from the computer system, obstructing justice. The citation was later reinstated.

University Police Chief Don Gold took a personal leave last week. Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd said Monday he did not know when Gold would return.

But Swain said the problem never should have begun. He said that along with the response, Elfland sent him a massive packet of information used in the investigation. "I think what is going on with the packet Ms. Elfland gave me (is that) she's trying to make me look like a bad guy."

Elfland's response letter states that she wanted McCracken to "develop performance standards for patrol officers which provide guidance on the various aspects of the job of patrol officers."

The new approach would not work, Swain said. "She doesn't know anything about law enforcement," he said. "They are trying to fix a work plan to benefit what South Building wants."

Crashing the crime wave



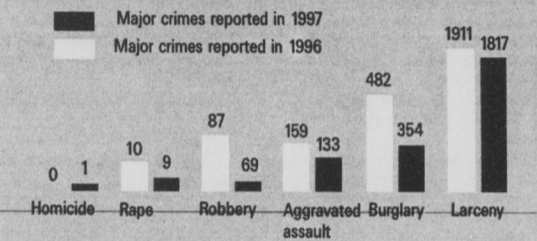
BY SUNNY SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The Daily Tar Heel asked students which five elections issues were most important to them. The DTH now presents a five-part series detailing the issues students chose.

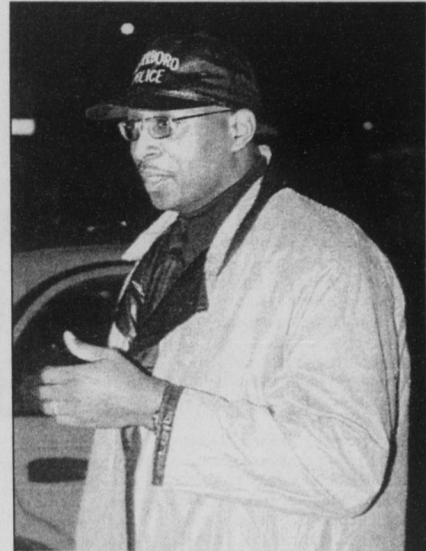
- Issue 5: Taxes
- Issue 4: The environment
- Issue 3: Education
- Issue 2: Town-gown relations
- Issue 1: Crime

Chapel Hill crime decline

Chapel Hill has experienced a reduction in major crimes over the past year. With the exception of homicide, major crime fell by an average of 16 percent.



SOURCE: CHAPEL HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT



A Carrboro police officer is on the move, helping to maintain the lower crime rate in the area.

Officials and candidates seeking election have many opinions on how crime should be fought.

Elizabeth Boisson, Carrboro Board of Aldermen candidate, said the key to reducing crime lay in engaging youth in community activities.

"We need activities that gets them involved in something they want to do," she said.

"(With) the NiteFlite basketball league ... People that these kids respect tell them they've got to stay off the street. These kids are in a safe environment, and they can do something that they love to do."

The NiteFlite basketball league is also a program Chapel Hill Town Council candidate Madeline Jefferson would like to see in her community.

"We need to get our youth busy," she said. "If we could get the local mid-night basketball in town ... that would help get our youth occupied with something other than idleness."

Carrboro mayoral candidate Judy Anderson said one of the ways to

reduce crime was through reaching out to the youth of the community. "I'd like us to come up with programs where our young people are not on the streets," she said. "We need to show them that they can be productive citizens in the community through (a) young entrepreneurship (program)."

UNC Senior Jason Jolley, Aldermen candidate, said improving the relationship between students and the police department was important.

"I have a concern about the

SEE CRIME, PAGE 4

Rides to sites free to area voters today

■ Some officials questioned whether the free bus rides would increase turnout.

BY SEJAL VORA
STAFF WRITER

Get on the bus. This is the message Chapel Hill Transit is sending to local residents who wish to vote today but are in need of transportation.

Bus routes will run as regularly scheduled and take voters to voting precincts in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area, such as Chapel Hill Community Center, Chapel Hill Town Hall and the Lincoln Center.

"This was an idea that was germinated by our transportation board," said Scott McClellan, administrative analyst for Chapel Hill Transit.

McClellan said the service would be free, despite the thousands of dollars generated daily by the system's riders.

"The intent of the transportation board when they conceived this idea was to promote election day and for transportation not to be an excuse for why (voters) can't get out to vote," he said.

"We are making a service fare-free and hopefully people will take advantage of it and get out to vote. It will also give them a chance to try the transportation system."

Diane Brown and Melvin Beasley, two members of the Orange County Board of Elections, said they approved the transit system's efforts. "I think it is wonderful," Brown said. "What a great idea. I hope it gets people's attention and gets them out to vote."

Beasley had an opinion similar to Brown's on the strength of the idea but said he did not think voter turnout would be highly affected. "I think it is great on the part of transportation," he said.

"I think it may make some difference but not a tremendous amount. We will just have to wait and see what the turn

SEE RIDE, PAGE 4

Court decision could exclude minorities from medical schools

■ Minorities are being admitted to medical schools in declining numbers.

BY MATT DEES
STAFF WRITER

The Supreme Court's decision Monday to uphold California's Proposition 209 struck another blow to affirmative action practices in medical school admissions, officials said.

Many fear that the lack of support for affirmative action provided another obstacle for minority students who want

to pursue post-graduate medical education.

"Our biggest fear is that minority students who see what's going on are going to take that as a signal that they would have an even more difficult time getting into graduate programs," said Hector Garza, vice president of Access and Equality Programs for the National Council on Education.

According to a study conducted by the American Association of Medical Colleges, the level of minorities applying to medical schools declined 17 percent in 1997 in California, Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, which are all affected by anti-affirmative action legislation.

The acceptance rate of minority students in these states subsequently declined by 27 percent.

The number of minority applications

also declined by 7 percent in other states.

"The message that this clearly sends is that institutions of higher education are not interested in racial diversity on their campuses," said Keith Sutton, executive director of the N.C. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Sutton said affirmative action was crucial to ensure a proportional number of minorities in the medical profession.

"There needs to be more concentrated efforts to get people to understand (affirmative action's) purpose and its intent, which is not to bring in unqualified minorities, but to make the extra effort to recruit and retain minority applicants," he said. "This is especially key in the medical profession."

Garza said he feared that the Prop 209 decision could set a nationwide

"It is extremely important to have diversity and to produce doctors of all racial and cultural backgrounds."

HECTOR GARZA

Vice President, National Council on Education

precedent.

"This has given license to other states who are less devoted to the need for diversity," Garza said.

Dr. James Peden, director of admissions at East Carolina University Medical School, said anti-affirmative action laws were not solely responsible for the decline in minority applicants.

"It is unlikely that it is entirely due to the challenge to affirmative action, but it isn't helping matters any," Peden said.

Both Garza and Sutton cited the importance of maintaining diversity in the medical profession. "It is extremely important to have diversity and to produce doctors of all racial and cultural backgrounds," Garza said.

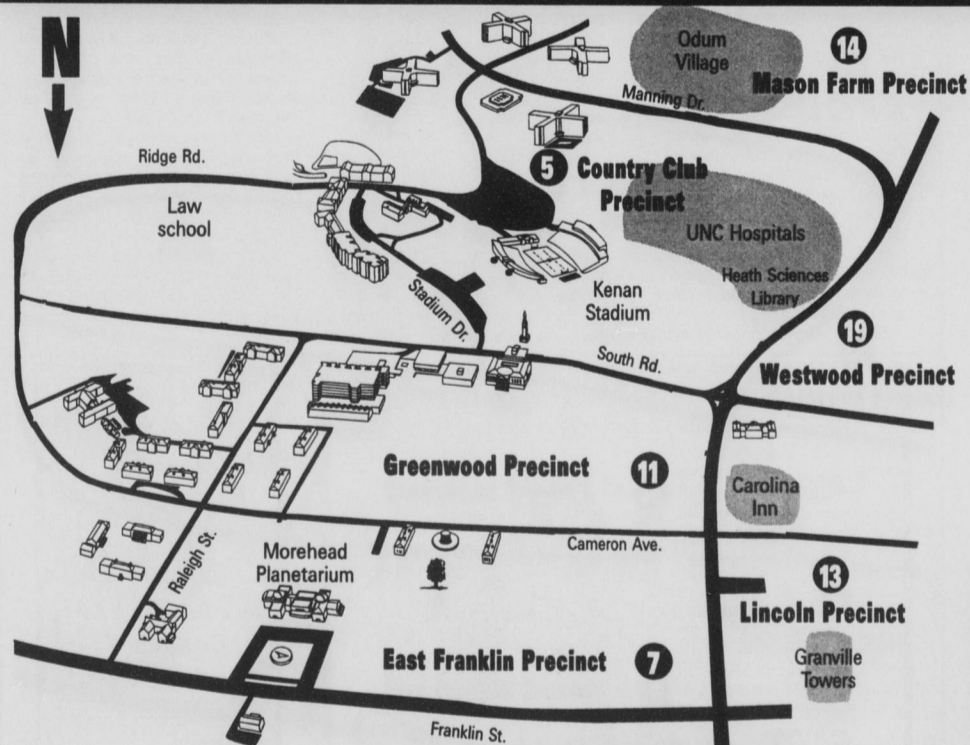
"You are less apt to want to go to urban or other problem areas if you don't have the background to work in these types of areas."

Sutton also said anti-affirmative programs harmed the medical profession.

"It is obvious that health issues effect everyone differently," he said.

"We need to have a diverse pool of medical professionals who are able to address the health needs in their particular communities."

Voting precincts for campus residents



Poll sites

- 5 Country Club: Fetzer Gym, UNC campus
- 7 East Franklin: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
- 11 Greenwood: UNC General Administration Building
- 13 Lincoln: Lincoln Center Administration Building
- 14 Mason Farm: Community Church Building, Purefoy Road
- 19 Westwood: Frank Porter Graham Elementary School

■ Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 8:30 p.m.

■ Buses will run fare-free all day.

INSIDE Tuesday

Easy reading

The Avid Reader on West Franklin Street offers a cozy place to find good books or hear local authors read from their works. Page 8

Policing the 'net

Sen. Lauch Faircloth, R-N.C., introduces a bill that would prevent access to the Internet for sex offenders. Page 5

Today's weather

Mostly sunny; upper 50s
Wednesday: Partly cloudy; upper 50s

Vote for the man who promises least; he'll be the least disappointing.

Bernard Baruch