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Task force to patrol towns' shared border

BY ANGELA LEA
STAFF WRITER

The Chapel Hill and Carrboro Police departments are making a run for the border — the towns' shared border, that is.

The two police departments announced Thursday that they had developed a task force to target drugs and drug-related crime along the Rosemary Street boundary between Chapel Hill and Carrboro, said Ben Callahan, Carrboro police chief.

The idea for the task force came

about because of the rising occurrence of illegal activity along Rosemary and Sunset streets, Callahan said.

"We were seeing open-air drug deals, loitering, harassment of citizens and littering," he said.

The task force will include police officers from both towns, and its activities will be supervised by Callahan and Chapel Hill Police Chief Ralph Pendergraph, Callahan said.

He said the task force was not yet organized and that he did not know exactly when the force would begin patrolling.

Callahan said he did not want the task force to limit its efforts to the Rosemary Street area, although that would be its initial focus.

"When we target one area of town, that might force the drug problem into another area," he said. "We want to move when (drug dealers) move or even before they move."

Jane Cousins, Chapel Hill police spokeswoman, said having a formal agreement to jointly patrol the border area would improve the efficiency of both departments' crime fighting methods.

"Because the two towns share a problem, it is best for them to share resources," Cousins said.

Cousins said the task force was important not only because of its potential to reduce drug-related crime but also because of the message it sent to the community.

"(The task force) is announcing to both communities — to the people who cause the problem and those who have to deal with it — that (fighting drugs) is a priority of both towns," she said.

Some local residents who have witnessed the drug problem along the

towns' boundary say that message is comforting.

Harold Mullis, who was a West Rosemary Street resident for five years, said he moved last August because of what he saw going on around him.

"There was a lot of dope there and a lot of stealing there," he said.

"When my TV was stolen, that was the straw that broke the camel's back. It just wasn't a desirable place (to live)."

"I would have liked to have seen things get better when I was there, and I hope (the task force) will help others who are in the position I was."

Tenure policy faces change after firing

Chancellor Michael Hooker said the change would ease tenure disputes.

BY LAUREN BEAL
STAFF WRITER

The University has asked to change its tenure policy regarding faculty termination, calling for more discussion before final decisions are made.

A proposed amendment presented to the Board of Trustees on Thursday would allow the chancellor and the University Personnel Committee to discuss recommendations in cases of faculty termination.

The issue arose after Chancellor Michael Hooker discharged law Professor Barry Nakell last March for misconduct.

Nakell was fired after being charged with shoplifting in October 1996. He was also convicted of shoplifting in 1991.

Hooker's decision contradicted the recommendation of the five-person committee.

"Last year, I wanted to discuss my decisions with the committee, but that went against policy," Hooker said.

"This amendment would enhance communication between the chancellor and faculty."

With the current policy, Hooker can submit only a written decision to the committee if he rejects its recommendation.

The new amendment would require communication between the chancellor and committee members before final action.

"I think that (the proposed amendment) is great, and it's long overdue. But it's not enough," said Dan Pollitt, Kenan professor emeritus in the School of Law and counsel for Nakell.

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Former tenured law professor BARRY NAKELL was fired last year after being convicted of shoplifting.

Referendum not to appear on ballot

Congress denied students the chance to vote on student body vice president.

BY LAURA STOEHR
STAFF WRITER

UNC students will not decide whether to elect the student body vice president — at least this year.

After limited debate Wednesday night, Student Congress voted not to hold a student referendum on student elections.

The referendum would have allowed students to decide whether to elect the student body president and vice president on a single ticket. Under the present system, the newly elected president appoints the vice president and other staff.

Members said the present system was effective and that there was no reason for it to change.

Student Body President Mo Nathan spoke out against the resolution and said he was concerned the issue had not been appropriately researched.

"It is an important decision and an important discussion," he said. "It shouldn't be shoddy work."

"This (resolution) came out of left field for a lot of people. Our job is to work through issues — to pick them apart and put them back together again."

Some members of Congress agreed. "More than anything, more research needs to be done," Rep. Angela Merritt, Dist. 18, said.

But Speaker of Student Congress James Hoffman, who introduced the resolution, said members knew he intended to bring up the issue during the spring semester.

"People knew I had been planning to do this for some time," he said. "All of a sudden, when they realized it was going on, they started crying foul."

Hoffman said he was disappointed in the lack of discussion about the resolution during the session.

"There was no talk about the pros and cons of this idea," he said. "People were concerned about this because it was a change. (But) change is how things get better."

However, Hoffman himself voted against the resolution. He said that only a person voting with the majority could call for the reconsideration of a bill. He did not bring up the resolution again.

But Hoffman said the double ticket proposal would be brought back later. "This issue is not over," he said.

Nathan said the issue was important and should be discussed more thoroughly later.

Congress also passed additional elections legislation that increased candidates' spending allowance by 25 percent. The bill was amended to take effect in the 1999 general elections instead of February's elections.

Members were concerned that making the change for this year's election

SEE CONGRESS, PAGE 4

Breakfast celebrates pro-choice decision

Planned Parenthood of Orange and Durham counties hosted the event.

BY EMILY CRAMER
STAFF WRITER

With decorative balloons and confident voices, local officials gathered Thursday morning at Duke United Methodist Church in downtown Durham to celebrate and reflect upon the 25th anniversary of the landmark Roe vs. Wade decision.

State and national figures N.C. Rep. Verla Insko, D-Orange; N.C. Sen. Eleanor Kinnaird, D-Orange; U.S. Rep. David Price, D-N.C.; and Gwendolyn Chunn, director of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, joined in the "Breakfast of Champions — Champions for Choice," sponsored by Planned Parenthood of Orange and Durham counties.

Price spoke of the importance of the Roe verdict, expressing his hopes for the future and highlighting the adversity the pro-choice movement has faced.

"On the silver anniversary of Roe vs.

Wade, we need to remind each other of those who have labored and sacrificed for this cause," he said. "Some have forgotten what it was like to risk life in a back-alley abortion."

Price said he was thankful to be a factor in the festivities, and he pledged to continue fighting for the rights of women to make their own decisions.

"I am grateful to be a part of this celebration, and I hope to work with you to ensure that the provisions of the Roe vs. Wade decision are not compromised in any way," he said.

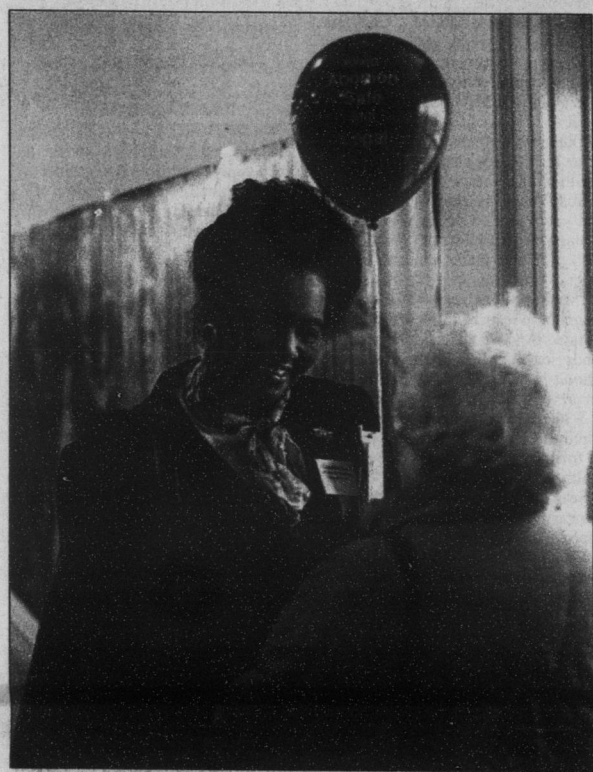
Chunn remembered the pains of the days before the 1973 verdict, recalling the dangerous methods women used to reverse unwanted pregnancies.

"I remember a young woman on my hall who had an abortion that led to one of those back alleys, ... which led to hemorrhaging," she said. "I remember when a woman jumped out of a high rise dormitory because she was pregnant and was ashamed to tell her parents."

She spoke of her experiences with Youth Services, where she is involved with many mothers who regret giving birth to their children.

"As I reflect on what it means to be wanted by looking at the children in Youth Services, I see how important this decision is," she said. "I remember a mother saying to a child, 'I wish you had never been born. ... You have been nothing but trouble.'"

In a brief statement, Insko emphasized the true essence of the Roe vs.



Gwendolyn Chunn, director of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, speaks with a guest at the breakfast for the Roe vs. Wade decision.

Wade decision as expressed in the arguments of Jane Roe's attorney, Sarah Weddington.

"I'd like to reiterate what Sarah Weddington said in her argument to the

Supreme Court: 'We are not advocating abortion. We are advocating that women should have a right for choice and the right to decide on their own bodies.'"

Double Teaming

Little Tar Heels coaches Matt Pohlman and Eric Mabee taught their players sportsmanship and teamwork.

BY TIFFANY AMBER FOSTER
STAFF WRITER

Only three seconds remain in double overtime, and the team is down by two points. The coach paces the sideline, focused on the play that could tie the game. A win would propel the team into the championship game.

In his fifth year as coach of the Little Tar Heels, Matt Pohlman says it takes patience to coach 8- and 9-year-olds in basketball.

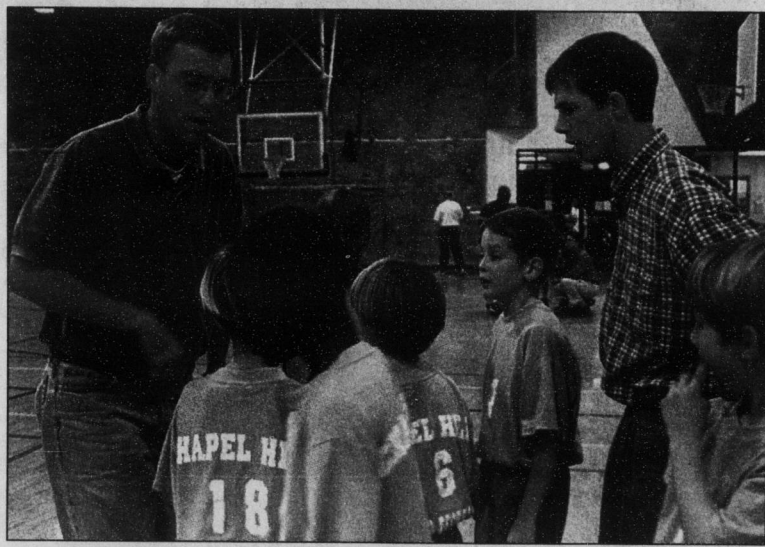
"This is really my favorite part of my school year." During his first year at the University, Pohlman, now a graduate student in the Kenan-Flagler Business School, learned from a friend about volunteer coaching with the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department.

"I called them because I thought it would be cool to do," Pohlman explained. The 8- and 9-year-old boys little league basketball division is divided into eight teams. The teams are named after ACC schools. The only one missing from the division is the Virginia Cavaliers.

Last season, Pohlman knew he would probably miss the little league tournament because he had an internship in Seattle. He asked his roommate and friend, Eric Mabee, to co-coach with him in case he had to leave. It started a new tradition in their friendship.

"It's great co-coaching," Pohlman said. "Eric really is there to help as much as he can. It's very difficult to coach alone."

Their coaching strategies worked well together, and they decided to co-coach for another season.



Matt Pohlman (left) and Eric Mabee discuss their game plan during the Little Tar Heels' basketball game Tuesday. Pohlman has coached 8- to 9-year-olds for five years.

Once the buzzer signals the start of the game, Pohlman paces up and down the sidelines cheering, clapping, sometimes arguing with the referees. Mabee, meanwhile, sits with the players talking to each one as he makes his way down the bench.

No. 20's dad, Marion Phillips stands up during a timeout, applauds and cheers, "Alright Heels! Alright Heels!"

Mary Phillips said, "I think Matt and Eric are real patient working with the kids, and they are

good at teaching the basic game strategies and skills." The Phillips' 9-year-old son, Marcus, in his second season as a Tar Heel added, "They are great coaches and led us to two great years."

Mary Phillips said, "Basketball practice is the highlight of Marcus's day."

Mabee said, "You are there for the kids to have fun. We want the kids to learn valuable lessons, not neces-

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INSIDE

Ronald serves it up at dinner

Local volunteers were wined and dined by the man in the big red shoes at the annual Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill awards ceremony Thursday night at the Alumni Center. Page 2

Denying the charge

President Clinton continued to refute allegations Thursday that he asked former White House intern Monica Lewinsky to lie about his actions. Page 4

Hatchell reaches 500

UNC women's basketball coach Sylvia Hatchell earned her 500th career win Thursday as North Carolina defeated No. 8 N.C. State 67-64 at Carmichael Auditorium. Page 5

Today's weather

Rainy;
low 60s
This weekend:
Partly cloudy; mid 50s

Greatness is a zigzag streak of lightning in the brain.

Herbert Asquith