



The University and Towns
IN BRIEF

RHA to Offer Students Fall Exam Study Break

The Residence Hall Association will be providing students with a break from hitting the books from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Great Hall.

The Fall Exam Study Break will feature free food, music and massages for all residents. Bagels from Bruegger's Bagels will be served for breakfast and pizza from Papa John's and subs from Subway will be available for lunch.

Dance Marathon to Aid Children's Hospital

The Residence Hall Association is sponsoring an event titled "Dance With Me!", to benefit UNC Children's Hospital Dance Marathon. The event will take place from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday in the Great Hall.

Dance instructors from the UNC Shag Club and Carolina Hispanic Association will be on hand to teach dancers the Shag, Swing, Salsa and Meringue. Refreshments will be served and participants are asked to give a \$1 donation at the door.

Questions regarding the program should be directed to RHA President David Jernigan at 962-3901 or Erika Hamilton at 914-4006.

Holiday Open House Begins in Carrboro

The Downtown Carrboro Holiday Open House will be held tonight through Friday night. Participating businesses will hold an Open House, and a trolley will offer rides from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Carolers will sing, and the holiday tree lighting will take place at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Carrboro Town Hall.

'Community' Essays Eligible for Contest

An essay contest open to all elementary and middle school students in Orange County is being sponsored by the Carrboro Branch Library.

Essays should follow the topic, "What Community Means to Me," and be 200 words or less. Two winners will be awarded \$25 gift certificates donated by the Friends of the Carrboro Library.

Winners will read their entries at the 2nd Annual Community Dinner at McDougle Middle School March 21, 1999. Deadline for submission of entries is Feb. 1.

For more information, call 969-3006.

'Charlie Two Shoes' Authors, Subject Speak

Michael Peterson and David Perlmutter, co-authors of "Charlie Two Shoes and the Marines of Love Company," and the book's subject, Tsui Chi Hsiu, also known as Charlie Tsui, will join in a reading, signing and discussion at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, located at New Hope Commons in Durham, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday.

The story about World War I and its aftermath was recently released. Tsui is the proprietor of Charlie's Chinese Restaurant in Chapel Hill.

Joining the authors will be Don Sexton of Greensboro, a friend of Tsui and one of the Marines instrumental in bringing him to the United States.

'Wish List' Provides Gifts for Foster Kids

The Orange County Department of Social Services asks volunteers in the community, churches, civic groups and local businesses to sponsor foster children this Christmas season.

A 'Wish List' is compiled for each child, and donors are asked to spend \$50 on new items as holiday gifts.

Any amount can also be donated and pooled to buy gifts.

For more information, call 968-2000.

— From Staff Reports

New Investigator to Focus on Sexual Assault

Gail Smith was promoted to investigator and will receive special training to deal with assault cases on campus.

By CHRIS HOSTETLER
Staff Writer

University Police broke new ground Wednesday when officer Gail Smith was promoted to investigator and named the department's first sexual assault officer.

To begin her new job, Smith will receive special training to investigate sexual assault cases that take place on campus.

University Police Chief Derek Poarch said he promoted Smith because she was the most qualified applicant. The decision to have her trained for sexual assault came later, he said.

"I think it was just fortunate that we can have a female investigator who can deal with these cases," Poarch said.

Smith said her training, which would begin with two classes in March and April, would benefit the University. She will take her classes at the North Carolina Justice Academy.

"I think if you have a victim, if I'm specially trained, they'll feel more comfortable," she said.

Poarch said it was common for modern law enforcement agencies to have

female officers with sexual crimes training.

"Obviously, I hope we never have to use these expertise, but I want to be prepared," Poarch said.

Smith is the only female investigator working for University Police.

Poarch said if an assault was to take place on campus, the University



Investigator Gail Smith, who will work with sexual assaults, is the department's only female investigator.

would benefit from an investigator trained specifically for sexual crimes.

He said no recent cases of sexual assault occurred that prompted him to push for this training. He said he just wanted the University to be ready before the need arose.

"I like to be prepared," Poarch said.

Liz Deans, a sophomore from Hickory, said having a specially trained University investigator on hand to deal with sexual assault cases was a great idea.

"It'd be more comfortable to talk to someone who's trained for that, who can understand how the victims feel," Deans said. "Sexual crimes are very hard to deal with, and I think it'd be nice to

have a woman there that the victim can talk to."

Smith will add this training in sexual assault to a résumé that already includes a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from N.C. Central University. Poarch said Smith was also studying for a master's degree.

After she graduated from NCCU, Smith worked for the Department of Corrections at the Women's Prison in Raleigh for seven months before coming to Chapel Hill as a patrol officer.

She lives with her husband in Durham.

The University Editors can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

AUTUMN PLAYGROUND



DTH/LAURA LEIGH PAGE

Nina Moiseiwitsch (right), four years old, takes advantage of the abundance of fallen leaves in McCorkle Place under the watchful eye of her baby sitter Katie Parker, a sophomore political science major. The recent, unseasonably warm weather has allowed many to continue spending time outside.

6 Finalists Remain In Law Dean Hunt

The committee plans to pass its recommendations on to the chancellor by early January.

By MICHAEL ABEL
Staff Writer

On-campus interviews are taking place as a search committee for a new School of Law dean has narrowed the number of prospective candidates to six.

The search committee began interviewing these finalists at the end of November and will continue until the middle of December, said Richard Cole, chairman of the search committee and dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

The six candidates represent universities and law schools throughout the United States. Frank Alexander is a professor at Emory University's School of Law, while Joel Seligman is the dean and professor at the University of Arizona's College of Law.

Others in the running are Nancy Rogers, a professor at Ohio State University's College of Law; Stewart

Schwab, a professor at Cornell Law School and John Conley, a professor in UNC's law school.

Joe Knight, vice provost of the University of Iowa and another possible selectee, said, "I think all of the candidates could bring tools to the job. If I'm selected, I want to try and involve the law school more actively in the overall aspect of the University."

Committee members plan to give their recommendations to Chancellor Michael Hooker and Provost Richard Richardson by Christmas or early January, Cole said.

"They have asked for three names with a rank on each one," Cole said. "We haven't decided whether to rank our choices, but we probably will."

Judith Wegner, the current law school dean, has already announced her resignation, which is effective June 30. The new dean is scheduled to be selected by Hooker and Richardson by July 1, Cole said. The six nominees for the position were selected from 91 applicants, he said.

Members of the committee said they were looking for a variety of different

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Further Study Needed To End Parking Debate

By KEITH TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Results from recent Department of Public Safety studies on parking in four campus lots could result in students without permits finding tickets on their windshields.

The department started counting the number of cars without permits parked in campus parking lots on Sundays as a result of a resolution passed in Student Congress.

The resolution called for police officers to start ticketing cars parked in the lots at 11:30 p.m. Sunday instead of 7:30 a.m. Monday. It stated that students with permits for the lots had trouble parking their cars because of the number of students using the lot on the weekend.

University Police Chief Derek Poarch said he planned to conduct a third count Dec. 6 of the number of cars without permits before deciding to enforce Congress' resolution.

He said there was a drastic increase in the number of cars without permits parked in the lots between the counts conducted on Nov. 22 and Nov. 29.

The counts were done at the A lot near Aycock Residence Hall, the K lot near Ehringhaus Residence Hall, the M lot by Morrison Residence Hall and the L lot by Hinton James Residence Hall.

Poarch said since a greater number of cars parked in the lots on Nov. 29, pos-

sibly because of the Thanksgiving holidays, the department would conduct a third count. "We did two different lot-counts the past two Sundays, and the numbers were grossly different."

He said the increase may have been a result of the Thanksgiving holiday, but the change was more drastic than he expected.

"You would think that it would not have jumped as much as it did," he said.

Rep. Jason Arnold, Dist. 13, who introduced the resolution, said he wasn't surprised by the different results of the count. Crowded lots did not occur every weekend, he said.

However, many weekends throughout the year, it is a problem, Arnold said.

"I guess I'll just have to be content with whatever Chief Poarch decides," Arnold said.

He said the idea to take the average number of cars parked in the lots during the three counts was probably the best way to study the problem, but adding another lot-count on Dec. 13 might be even more helpful.

University Police Maj. Jeff McCracken said the lot-count system used the past two weekends included counts at four varying times throughout the night.

Poarch said the same system would also be used for next Sunday's count.

Rep. Evan Sloan, Dist. 16, recently

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Judge Sued for Harassment

By JENNIFER PERKINS
Staff Writer

A suit filed against Orange and Chatham counties Chief District Court Judge Joe Moody Buckner by a former employee alleges that he created a hostile and offensive working environment.

The lawsuit, filed by Peggy H. Riley in Orange County Superior Court on Nov. 25, accuses Buckner of making "sexually suggestive and other inappropriate comments about female employees," according to court documents.

The comments were "veiled propositions for sexual relations," the suit states.

Buckner is also accused of using profanity and suggestive language and keeping sexually explicit materials in his chambers in sight of female employees

and staff members, the suit states.

Robin Lackey, a partner in the law firm Epting & Hackney where Buckner was a partner until he became a judge, said the accusations were unbelievable.

"I've known Joe for at least 15 years. I can't imagine him doing anything intentionally to hurt or harass anybody."

Buckner referred questions to his lawyer, Jim Maxwell. "(Buckner) obviously denies the charges, and I will vigorously defend him," Maxwell said.

Larry McDevitt, Riley's attorney, was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

In an April 1997 incident outlined in the suit, Buckner was mad about a malfunctioning computer when Riley suggested he use a Dictaphone to create a document, the suit claims.

Buckner responded by saying "I'll

show you a goddamn Dictaphone!" while placing both hands on his genitals, according to the suit. Riley resigned from her position following this episode.

In the suit, Riley also challenges the state of North Carolina because the state "knew or should have known of the conduct."

Riley has requested compensatory damages for economic loss and emotional and psychological distress in excess of \$10,000, as well as punitive damages determined by a jury and payment of reasonable attorney's fees.

Riley also asked for a trial by jury and Buckner's removal from office or monitoring by the state, the suit states.

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Town Offices' Computers 'Outdated'

Some town computers need to be replaced because of old age, not the year 2000 problem, officials say.

By PAUL HOLSCHER
Staff Writer

Guarding against a year-2000 bug is not the only reason 48 computers in Chapel Hill town offices will be replaced, officials said Wednesday.

"A secondary issue was the fact that our computers are somewhat outdated," said Bob Avery, network administrator for the town. "There are some software programs that we would like to use but

are unable to."

At a Nov. 23 Chapel Hill Town Council meeting, a proposal was made to begin replacing some of the computers to help address problems that could arise on Jan. 1, 2000.

As calendars turn to 2000, the internal clocks for some computers might not change, causing glitches in systems worldwide.

The computers will be replaced to address the year 2000 problem and because many of them are outdated, Mayor Rosemary Waldorf said. "I think it's both. It's kind of the same problem."

Avery said part of the reason for the upgrade was to make technological improvements. "The typical lifespan of a computer is three to five years," Avery

said. "The 486's are easily within that range."

John Oberlin, executive director of Academic Technology & Networks at the University, said a 486 model was extremely outdated.

"There are cheaper alternatives other than simply replacing a 486 because of the Y2K problem," he said. "But if you have a 486 it's time to upgrade anyway."

Applications exist that test whether a computer will malfunction in 2000, Oberlin said. If the test shows potential problems, an upgrade can be made to avoid buying a new computer.

"In many cases the BIOS can be upgraded and a new computer does not

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