

Student Leads Caravan to Indy

Senior Leo Orlov says carpooling to Indianapolis and sharing hotel rooms will save students money.

By SHAHRZAD REZVANI
Staff Writer

This afternoon, one UNC basketball fan will attempt to lead a caravan of students to Indianapolis in an effort to keep some cash in students' wallets and boost Final Four hype.

Senior Leonid Orlov submitted a letter to the editor of The Daily Tar Heel on Tuesday soliciting carpoolers to make the haul to the tournament together.

"It wouldn't make sense to run 50 cars over there when we can go with 25," Orlov said.

He encourages students with available car seats to e-mail him. He posts information on his Web site where Indy-bound fans can view the latest updates and find a match. "I don't assign anyone. I'm just a mediator," Orlov said.

With 383 students lucky enough to

snag tickets in the Carolina Athletic Association lottery hosted Monday and Tuesday, Orlov said the response so far was not as high as he had hoped.

But a handful of students with sports utility vehicles had contacted him offering available seats for the 655-mile, 10- to 12-hour roadtrip.

He said he was aware some students had made previous plans. "I'm trying to emphasize that their plans may not be the best thing."

Orlov wants to squeeze 1 1/2 carloads of students into each hotel room to further save cash.

To increase awareness among students, Orlov said he posted fliers on campus with tear-off tags including his name, e-mail and Web site address.

Orlov said fans would begin the 10- to 12-hour trek this afternoon or early Saturday morning to arrive in time to hunt for a hotel. "I know the hotels are sold out, so we'll probably stay an hour away from the city," Orlov said.

Orlov said he had expected the CAA would provide some type of support for the students making the trip but that they could not offer him any help.

"I asked CAA if they'd help us out and they said no; you're on your own," he said. "So I said, hey, I can take the matter into my own hands."

Orlov encourages students to e-mail him at pycckuu@email.unc.edu or visit his Web site at www.unc.edu/~pycckuu.

Once in Indianapolis, fans can show off their Tar Heel fever at the Carolina Headquarters at the Holiday Inn Select Pyramids at 3850 DePauw Blvd.

The center of action will be the Tar Heel Fan Center, where fans can stop by and sign a good luck banner for the team, view video highlights and get the spill on Tar Heel happenings.

The center will be open Sunday and Monday if the team advances to the National Championship.

Orlov, who transferred from High Point University last year, said he wanted to seize the opportunity to be a part of the excitement. "I was never a fan of college basketball until I came to UNC," he said. "I probably won't ever get a chance (to go to the Final Four) again."

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



DTH/JEFF POULAND

Fans rally around a bonfire Friday night after North Carolina advanced to the Final Four. With the Tar Heels two steps from a national title, those not making the trip to Indianapolis are planning hometown celebrations.

ALE Plans Downtown Crackdown

By JON HOFFMAN
Staff Writer

If last weekend's Franklin Street celebrations were a preview of this weekend's possible excitement, Chapel Hill's basketball enthusiasts should prepare to face stricter alcohol enforcement.

Chapel Hill police reported 13 alcohol-related incidents last weekend after the Tar Heels gained a berth to the Elite Eight and then the Final Four. Local Alcohol Law Enforcement officers issued an additional 23 citations for alcohol-related crimes.

Ken Pike, assistant district supervisor for ALE, said there was no leniency when it came to violations, and this weekend would be no exception. "If we receive complaints, whether it be underage drinking or drunkenness, we go to the scene," Pike said. "We expect the action. Certainly, this is a unique situation, and we want all to enjoy the success of Carolina athletics. Clear-cut violations, however, will be addressed."

The standard punishment for 19- and 20-year-olds cited for alcohol possession is commonly a class three misdemeanor. Offenders 18 and younger will be served

with a class one misdemeanor and a mandatory court date, Pike said.

There were 33 different locations that were checked and monitored through the weekend, and the Chapel Hill Fire Department issued a citation to one bar for overcrowding.

Pike said ALE officers planned to step up patrol for Saturday night and that he would keep 10 agents and a number of police officers at the new ALE offices on Franklin Street. The officers will be roaming the streets before, during and after the game.

"There are certain places we will go, mainly the areas that have been a problem in the past," he said. "But I put the responsibility on the individual businesses - hire added staff if necessary. They need to do their part."

Pike said the criminal penalty for a bartender or clerk who sells alcohol to minors is a mandatory \$250 fine plus community service. The penalty for aiding and abetting an underage individual in the purchase or possession of alcohol is a \$500 fine plus community service.

The ALE, along with the Chapel Hill Police Department, Public Works, Chapel Hill Fire Department and

Transportation Department worked overtime to control Friday and Sunday's victory celebrations. Maj. Greg Jarvis of the Chapel Hill Police Department said the town had become accustomed to downtown celebrations.

"We have done this for years," Jarvis said. "It is pretty much standard protocol. Events such as Halloween and NCAA tournament wins prepare us for situations such as these."

Pike said that Friday night and Sunday afternoon four ALE agents were on full-time duty, with others on standby. In addition to law enforcement officials, other agencies will be on hand for crowd control.

The Chapel Hill Transportation Department will control rerouting traffic from Franklin Street. Fire Department officials will watch for fires, and Public Works employees will make sure the streets are kept clear. Jarvis said law enforcement officials were not interested in suppressing students' excitement. "Our overall mission is to allow people to celebrate, but to celebrate safely."

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

Fans Set Saturday Game Plans

Regardless of where they view the game, students hope to finish their night partying on Franklin Street.

By KATE MACER
Staff Writer

Even before the basketball team left for Indianapolis on Thursday, students were already making plans for the upcoming excitement of UNC's weekend duel with Florida.

Although plans for Saturday night's game vary, the final destination for most is the famous Franklin Street party.

"(I plan on) just watching within running distance of Franklin. It's going to be unbelievable (if we win)," said sophomore Lauren Klug.

Junior Ken Keech and sophomore Jess Kehler plan on watching the game together. "We're thinking about hanging out at (a friend's house). If we win, I might go to Duke and burn one of their benches," Keech said. "I was here last time they went to the Final Four, and it was a really big deal."

And while the Tar Heels won't be playing in their own house, students can still watch the game from home court.

Campus organizations are hosting a free event at the Smith Center where students can watch the game on a 15-by-20-foot television screen. The center will be open on Monday if the Tar Heels advance to the big dance this weekend.

Large-screen televisions will also be set up in Student Union lounges.

Sophomore Whitney Renfurm, who will view the game from Smith Center seats, said she hoped to experience the feel of a live game. "I might go to the Dean Dome because I would be with the rest of the Carolina fans," she said.

A select few UNC students have tickets and will travel to Indianapolis to witness the hype first-hand.

Freshman Mark Shortliffe plans to leave with friends today for the tournament game. He said the group was ready for the long drive ahead.

"We think it's gonna be worth it to go and support the team," he said. "We just consider ourselves very fortunate to get to go and see this Cinderella story play out."

Some students said they would opt to stay on campus and join in the mass celebration or mourning process, depending on the game's outcome.

"People want to stay here because the atmosphere on Franklin will be crazy when we win Saturday," said sophomore Debbie Grafman, showing off her new Final Four T-shirt Thursday.

Some students will spend the game with good friends and good food in frat houses, apartments and residence halls.

After last week's victories, fans flocked to Franklin Street to party en masse. The celebration was akin to the revelry witnessed at Halloween but with a rowdier atmosphere.

Sophomore Denise Gonzalez told of her friends' exploits last weekend.

"(One friend) said she partied like a rock star, which is what I plan to do," Gonzalez said.

The Tar Heels' unexpected turnaround has electrified the UNC community. "I closed the store (I work at) when we won against Tennessee and my boss walked into the bar where I was drinking," said senior P.J. Puryear. "He said to have another."

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

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Public Service Grants and Awards

The Carolina Center for Public Service invites Faculty, Staff, and Student Organizations to submit proposals for collaborative public service projects. The Center will award \$80,000 through the 2000 Public Service Grants.

The Center also invites nominations of students, faculty, and staff for the Robert E. Bryan and Office of the Provost Public Service Awards. These cash awards will honor individuals who have performed extraordinary public service.

Finally, the Center invites proposals from students for the Robert E. Bryan Public Service Fellowships. These \$5000 fellowships will support innovative and potentially high impact public service projects.

Requirements for proposals and nominations are available online at www.unc.edu/cps.

All nominations and proposals are due April 19.

Winners will be recognized at the Public Service Awards Banquet on May 4.

Questions: call or email the Carolina Center for Public Service at 843-7568 or cps@unc.edu.

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