

POLICE ROUNDUP

University

Monday, April 24

■ A resident of Kenan Residence Hall told police that her purse was stolen from the Student Recreation Center, reports state.

The student reported leaving her purse in an unsecured locker in the SRC at noon. The victim said she walked away and returned about 10 minutes later to find her purse missing.

The purse contained a camera estimated to be worth \$75, a UNC ONE Card, an ATM card, personal checks, sunglasses and two silver and two gold rings valued at \$250.

There are no suspects at this time.

Saturday, April 22

■ Officer K.W. Holt spoke with a resident assistant on duty at Hinton James Residence Hall about a broken window in the fourth-floor lounge, reports state.

The RA told Holt that she had just completed her rounds at 9:30 p.m. without problems. She said someone told her at about 10:15 p.m. that the window busted out in the lounge.

Holt reported that most of the glass from the window was inside the lounge. There was nothing left at the scene to indicate what may have broken the window, reports state.

Reports state that there was no one in the area of the lounge at the time. There was no blood or any other sign that there may have been an injury involved.

Holt speculated that someone might have fallen through the window.

Reports state that Holt cleaned up as much of the glass as he could and advised the RA to put up a sign warning residents of broken glass. There are no suspects at this time.

Friday, April 21

■ A UNC student reported that someone broke into his vehicle and stole an estimated \$250 worth of items. Reports state that entry was gained through the left rear window of the vehicle with a brick.

The vehicle was parked between Woolen Gym and Fetzer Gym.

Items stolen included cash, a Master Card, a calculator, a book bag, an ATM card, the student's driver's license, Social Security card and UNC ONE Card, wallet and various notebooks.

There are no suspects at this time.

■ According to police reports, while Lt. C.E. Swain was securing the chain at the 440 North Parking Lot on Rosemary Street, his patrol car began rolling south across Rosemary Street with no driver.

When Swain stopped the car, it had apparently slipped out of gear from park into drive.

City

Friday, April 21

■ A Chapel Hill man was arrested on four felony charges stemming from a traffic violation.

Reports state that Thomas Earle Cotton of 108-B Bright Sun Place was charged with possession with intent to sell, possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of stolen property and carrying a concealed weapon, all felonies.

Late Friday night, Cotton was stopped by local police for speeding and brake light failure.

He was stopped on Caldwell Street and Mitchell Lane. When confronted, officers noticed a plastic bag on the passenger console.

The bag contained multiple dosages of crack cocaine.

While conducting a body search, police discovered a concealed .357 revolver in the driver's seat.

It was later found out the gun was stolen.

Cotton was taken to Orange County Jail and held in lieu of a \$10,000 secured bond.

Thursday, April 20

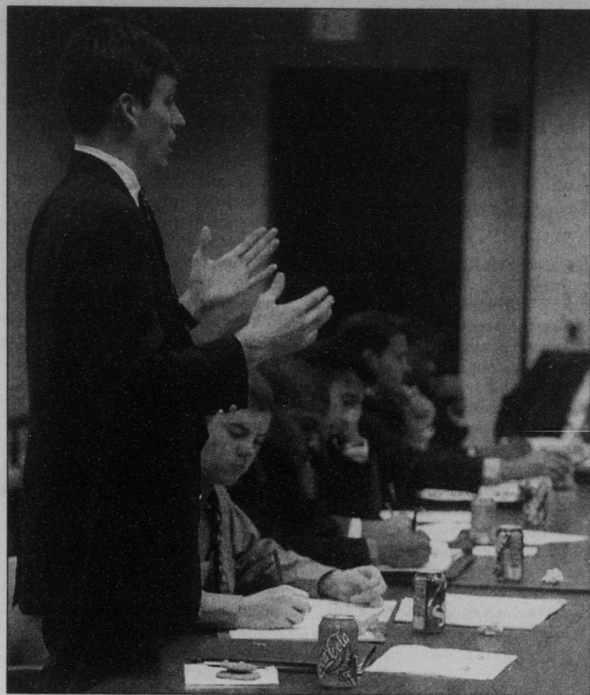
■ After a store employee reported a larceny from the Belk department store at University Mall, 201 S. Estes Road, James Leon Atwater of 517 Roosevelt St., Durham, was arrested for larceny of several men's apparel items.

Mall security initially responded to the incident and followed the suspect out of the mall. Police arrived and arrested Atwater for one misdemeanor count of larceny and took the suspect to the police department.

Reports state that mall security pepper-sprayed the suspect.

He was seen by EMS, and then taken in front of a magistrate.

Atwater was released on a written promise to appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on May 15.



ASG President Jeff Nieman, student body presidents and administrators met Monday to discuss improvement for the UNC system.

Students, System Officials Outline Legislative Goals

By ALEX KAPLUN
Staff Writer

As the school year winds to a close, student leaders and administrators from across the UNC system gathered Monday to discuss legislative lobbying priorities for the summer.

The Student Advisory Council to the President, which consists of the 16 student body presidents from each campus and UNC Association of Student Governments President Jeff Nieman, held its final meeting of the year with UNC-system President Molly Broad and other officials.

The group identified three items it would like to see passed during this summer's session of the N.C. General Assembly, which begins May 8.

Nieman said the approval of a \$31 million need-based financial aid package, a multibillion capital improvements package and faculty salaries funding would top the group's lobbying effort.

Gary Barnes, UNC-system vice president for program assessment, said the financial aid package was critical because many UNC students graduated with a high debt — despite relatively low in-state tuition compared to peer systems across the country.

He said the average UNC-system student had to borrow \$11,600 to pay for his or her education.

The discussion then turned to the need for capital facility improvements.

Last summer, Broad proposed in the General Assembly a multibillion dollar bond package for construction and renovation projects. But the legislature adjourned before its two houses could come to an agreement on the issue.

J.B. Milliken, UNC-system vice president for public affairs and university advancement, said it was imperative that the General Assembly take action on the capital issue this summer.

One point of contention last summer that has not yet been resolved is whether the legislature should pass the bond proposal or if it should go to referendum.

UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President Brad Matthews questioned whether system advocates could mount a massive lobbying effort if the proposal went to a referendum. "Are we ready to run a statewide campaign for November to tell North Carolina voters that they should vote for this issue?" he said.

Former UNC-CH Student Body President Nic Heinke urged incoming student body presidents to push the capital package in areas surrounding their respective campuses and in Raleigh.

The group also discussed the approval of a \$28.5 million faculty salaries package, which will be funded largely through tuition increases at five system schools, including UNC-CH.

Broad said it was important to urge legislators to couple tuition increases with state support. "It's not feasible for UNC to think of tuition as a long-term solution in our need for funds."

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Breaking Ground on a Touchy Issue

Transportation, affordable housing are among several factors discussed before developers obtain permits.

By SABINE HIRSCHAUER
Staff Writer

Meadowmont and Southern Village — these names ring repeatedly through the halls of local government, marking the continuing growth of Chapel Hill.

Expansion creates a dilemma for government officials trying to find a balance between maintaining the character of the area and allowing for continued development.

A proposed development must pass through several facets of government before ground is broken. Existing protocols require planning officials and Town Manager Cal Horton to give their input on expansion issues before the Town Council sees a proposal. Finally, the town must get public input.

Meadowmont, a 435-acre mixed-use development site on N.C. 54, belatedly started construction activities last summer after a lengthy permit battle with the town of Chapel Hill, which had approved the development's original Master Plan earlier in 1993.

Town Council member Edith Wiggins said several factors contribute to the developing decision. "With Meadowmont we had the choice to either use the land for expensive, large single family homes or to use the land for mixed-use, which included apartments, but also condominiums, schools and health care facilities," she said.

Officials with the Chapel Hill Planning Department said construction at the Meadowmont site had been delayed because of court challenges and additional permit requirements.

"After (Meadowmont's) Master Plan

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Chapel Hill Planning Director Roger Walden addresses the Town Council to discuss development plans. The council scrutinizes such proposals in phases to balance the town's and developers' needs.

Developers Face Challenges in Town

By NISHANT GARG
Staff Writer

Despite facing occasional opposition from the Chapel Hill and Carrboro town governments, developers in the area say they are reluctant to take their business elsewhere.

In the past, the Chapel Hill Town Council and the Carrboro Board of Aldermen have placed obstacles such as rejected special-use permits in the way of development, but developers say a rise in consumer and business activity makes the towns prime locations for growth.

Laurie McClure, director of marketing of Real Property Development Inc., located at 405 W. Franklin St., said she anticipated beneficial prospects for the town of Chapel Hill in the future due to development.

"My inclination is that the cost of living will continue to rise in Chapel Hill," she said. "Property value and real estate will continue to grow, and the town of Chapel Hill will continue to attract the rich."

She said developers should consider this growth in the region as an incentive to increase sales revenue.

"This is what should provide a boost to developers," she said. "People are willing to pay significantly more — in some

cases, \$50,000 more annually."

Lyle Gnagey, secretary-treasurer of Value Building Services, located at 403 E. Main St., Carrboro, said town intervention in development issues led to increased hassles and unnecessary delays. He said developers were better off without the help and guidance of town officials.

"I am not looking for any town help because I am not a newcomer here," he said. "I am 75 years of age; I might not make it to 100."

"But I don't want to go anywhere else," he said. "I really don't plan to move. If I get money and land, I will build."

Chapel Hill Town Council member Pat Evans said developers in the neighborhood were excluded from any sort of grants or town funds, but that this was not meant to drive developers from the area.

She justified her claim by saying that the nature of the town as a growing force in the area should result in spontaneous development in the region.

"When there is a strong community, developers should get attracted automatically," Evans said. "There should be no need for an incentive."

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Easley Says Lotteries Help States

Some officials say favoring a lottery might damage Easley's image among some religious voters in the state.

Editor's Note: The Daily Tar Heel will profile the top five contenders in the N.C. gubernatorial race this week. State primaries are slated for May 2.

By RACHEL LEONARD
Staff Writer

When some people think about politicians, they see somber faces giving speeches.

But Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mike Easley has another side, said Matt Burgess, Easley's campaign spokesman.

"He's really a laid-back, funny guy," Burgess said. "Not a lot of people expect politicians to be like that."

Burgess said Easley, currently N.C. attorney general, wanted to lower class size in public schools, strengthen environmental laws and start a state lottery.

He said Easley also planned to continue his fight for consumer rights by cracking down on "predatory lending," — offering loans to the poor and then charging high interest rates exceeding 30 percent.

Burgess also said Easley planned to clean up "hog lagoons," pools containing exposed hog farm waste.

He said Easley supported the death penalty but wanted every case scrutinized for possible racial bias.

An N.C. native from Nash County, Easley is a 1972 UNC graduate with a B.A. in political science. He received his law degree from North Carolina Central University in 1976. In 1982, Easley became one of the youngest N.C. district attorneys in history at the age of 31. He was elected N.C. attorney general in 1992.

During his tenure as attorney general, Easley paid special attention to crime prevention, tobacco issues and hurricane relief.

As attorney general, Easley lists among his accomplishments helping to remove a cap on the number of prisoners allowed in N.C. prisons and strengthening structured sentencing requirements.

Easley claims that since the regulations were enacted the average time served by violent N.C. felons doubled and the crime rate has dropped.

In November 1998, Easley helped reach a landmark tobacco settlement protecting the N.C. industry from lawsuits, bringing millions of dollars in tobacco settlement money to the state.

A state committee decided to distribute the money to tobacco farmers and shareholders as well as communities dependent on tobacco.

Easley also supported victims' rights and school safety initiatives including "weapon-free" school zones. He has also led campaigns against drug trafficking and underage smoking.

Jack Fleer, Wake Forest University political science professor, said Easley's past involvement with state government

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Fonda: Empower, Educate Women

Actress Jane Fonda says the woman's movement aimed to improve the role of both men and women in society.

By ALLISON FORD
Staff Writer

Jane Fonda pushed UNC women to appreciate their own voices and to not compromise themselves when she visited campus Monday night.

In a speech titled "Girls!", Fonda spoke to a lively Memorial Hall audience and advocated women's independence and freedom of expression.

Fonda directly addressed the oppression of women's voices. "When I was young, my voice was thin and high and didn't express anything," she said. "We're conditioned and taught from an early age that if we make our voices heard, no man will love us."

GROWISE President-elect Laurel Varnado introduced Fonda as a woman of many talents. GROWISE sponsored the

event.

The actress is a fitness guru and activist.

Fonda opened her speech with a story about girls in Egypt who empowered themselves despite restricting traditions. These girls were trapped in a "crippling cycle of cultural norms," she said.

But Fonda saw girls working, learning and respecting themselves when she traveled to a poor community in Egypt.

"Girls had achieved a goal on their own," she said. "They could read, learn and feel proud of themselves."

Fonda said she believed this story was proof that if girls' lives were changed, the community could also be changed. She said the most influential person in the world was a 12-year-old girl.

"As her future is reconfigured, so is ours."

Fonda also cited the impact that edu-

cation could make in reducing the number of teenage mothers around the world.

She has been working in Georgia for the past five years with her charity, Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention. "Making sure girls are educated in this country is as important as in a developing country," she said.

Fonda backed her convictions with facts about teenage pregnancy. Almost 80 percent of teenage mothers come from exceptionally poor families, she said.

Fonda said middle-class girls were more apt to postpone sex because they saw a future for themselves. "Hope is the best contraceptive," she said.

In addition to social classes, she said child abuse and sexual abuse were major factors in cases of teenage pregnancy.

"We're conditioned and taught from an early age that if we make our voices heard, no man will love us."

JANE FONDA
Actress and Activist

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