

Porn Site Target of UNC Probe

BY ELIZABETH BREYER
Assistant University Editor

A pornographic Web site that has stirred up legal trouble at UNC continues to arouse suspicion and spur investigation.

University legal officials have taken legal action against the owners of the uncgirls.com domain name in January, citing unauthorized use of the UNC abbreviation and other trademarks.

But the University has not yet resolved the matter, and the site continues to undergo changes that make the identity of the responsible party unclear.

"I don't know the status of the lawsuit, but we thought (the site) would be gone by now, and we asked our lawyers at the Collegiate Licensing Company to get back on it," said Rut Tufts, director of auxiliary services. "We are still very concerned about it and are still pursuing it."

The site features pictures of Chapel Hill locations, models engaged in sexually explicit or provocative positions and several captions that refer to University-related activities.

Theodore Maloney, a UNC law student previously listed as the owner of the site, has removed his name from the site's registration since University officials contacted him.

Maloney told The Daily Tar Heel in March that he felt he had no responsibility for the page's content. He could not be reached for further comment.

Jack Roberts, an Arizona resident, is now listed as the administrative, technical, and zone contact for the uncgirls.com domain name.

He works at the Scottsdale, Arizona-based company Value Holdings, Inc., which provided technical and design support to the Web site under Maloney.

Roberts, who also goes by the name Jack Erickson, claimed the registry changes are cosmetic and the leadership of the site is the same, although he refused to disclose identities.

"Nothing has changed administratively - it's the same as it was last year," Roberts said. "It has only changed in the fact that I'm the contact person, which I wasn't before."

But Roberts said he makes decisions regarding what appears on the site.

"I approve what goes on the site," he said. "We have some people involved, a group that makes decisions of what goes up, but I have the final word."

Thomas Field, professor at the Franklin Pierce Law Center, said any individual deciding content could be at fault for copyright violation.

"To the extent that it's content that the webmaster put up, the webmaster is responsible," he said. "It has to do with issues of control - if you're in control, you're liable."

Minor changes have been made to the Web site throughout the summer, but the site still features the same images of the Pit and Franklin Street.

No University-related graphics have been taken down since January, when the CLC, the University's licensing watchdog, sent a letter to Maloney asking him to comply with trademark rules. The letter prompted the removal of several objectionable pictures.

The letter also requested that the owner of the site relinquish the domain name.

Although Roberts said it is not his sole responsibility to make content changes to the site, Field said anyone with the ability to alter the site should heed the University's requests.

He said, "It may be a fuzzy issue, but I would say if it was me and I heard it might be a problem, I'd take it off the site."

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

New CHHS Principal Takes Helm

Mary Ann Hardebeck said she is not intimidated by the pressure of leading one of the nation's best schools.

BY KELLIE DIXON
Assistant City Editor

During her first week at Chapel Hill High School, Principal Mary Ann Hardebeck has already taken steps to build strong staff and student relationships.

Hardebeck said one of her primary goals will be to build trust with her staff so they can work together to decide the needs of the school.

"You have to be prepared to hit the ground running, but as a leader you have to look back and make sure that people are with you," she said.

Mary Jones, exceptional education transition facilitator at CHHS, said Hardebeck is making her presence known.

"Already we have seen her out in the hallways," she said. "She's being visible."

Jones also said Hardebeck is keeping the faculty better informed about meetings by giving a copy of the minutes to each of the faculty members.

"I do know (faculty) meetings were once every two weeks," she said. "Now she has the policy they will meet weekly. It's great communication."

Karen Stone, member of the School Governance Committee, said Hardebeck's communication efforts, such as a newsletter designed to keep faculty informed, will be key to her success.

"I think she's just wonderful," she said. "I felt she really understood high school students and would understand our school. I feel like she would never be surprised by anything."



Chapel Hill High School's new principal, Mary Ann Hardebeck (left) discusses scheduled classes with counselor Judy Andrews.

CHHS, known for its competitive nature and high standards for student achievement, presents Hardebeck with a challenge to maintain the level of excellence.

The school placed 100th in the nation among high schools, boasting high SAT scores and graduation rates.

Hardebeck said she is not worried about the pressure of stepping into her leadership role at a school with such rigorous academic standards.

"I came from a school that was one of the largest in Virginia," she said. "I'm used to a school with high expectations and a record of excellence. That's one of the things that attracted me to Chapel Hill High School."

"I think it's a good match for my experience and knowledge."

Although CHHS has a poor history of retaining principals, Superintendent Neil Pedersen said Hardebeck will be a stable element in the high school.

"She really wanted this position," he said. "She researched us quite well. I think she sees it as an opportunity to not only be a principal, but to be a principal in (a system like) Chapel Hill."

Stone said Hardebeck's personality would keep her in the position.

"I think she'll stick because she'll be effective while being warm, human and approachable," she said. "She's telling people she's holding them accountable."

Last April, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools advertised for the position, and nine appointments were made. Stone said the School Governance Committee and members of the Parent Teacher Student Association worked together to narrow the list to five.

The Board of Education chose Hardebeck following Pedersen's recommendation.

Hardebeck, who holds a master's degree and a doctorate from Virginia Tech in educational administration, went from being a substitute teacher to an assistant principal at Woodbridge Senior High School in Virginia.

She said she is prepared to tackle issues that affect both students and staff head on.

"As a new principal you have to come into the idea with a commitment that you will stay and work thought the problems," she said.

"I see each one of the students as my own."

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KAREN STONE
School Governance Committee Member

Bar to Reopen With New Name

BY KASEY BENSINGER
Staff Writer

The space that Henderson Street Bar & Grill occupied still stands empty almost 11 weeks after the owner's suicide in June, but plans are in the works to reopen the bar soon.

Thomas Kirkpatrick, who owns the building that housed Henderson Street Bar & Grill, said he does not plan to change much about the bar, but he does want to find a new name.

Kirkpatrick took over the business soon after a bar employee found owner Kevin Clyde, 34, dead from a single self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head at approximately 9 a.m. June 7.

Kirkpatrick said the new bar and grill will be similar to the old business, but he must first complete renovation of the bar, which is located at 108 Henderson St.

Kirkpatrick plans to run the new bar himself.

He did not say when the new bar will open, but the renovated facilities will have the same atmosphere and hours as Henderson Street.

The suicide of Clyde, a well-known local businessman and restaurateur, took his friends and colleagues by surprise.

Those who worked with him described Clyde as selfless and a generous employer.

Many of Clyde's employees said they considered him a close friend and a part of their families. In 1998, Clyde treated his employees and their families - 38 people in all - to a Christmas vacation in the Bahamas.

"He was so giving and so generous," Stewart Simpson, co-owner of the Dead Mule Club, which Clyde was also an owner.

Clyde also donated bicycles to the Chapel Hill Police Department and served as a sponsor for the department's golf tournament that raised money for N.C. Special Olympics.

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