



## The University and Towns IN BRIEF

### Memorial Service Set For Local Principal

A memorial service will be held for Alton Cheek on Saturday at East Chapel Hill High School at 11 a.m.

Cheek was the principal of Phillips Middle School and died unexpectedly, apparently of natural causes, at his home Tuesday.

A reception will follow the service. The reception will be in the school commons area. School staff members and the school Parent-Teachers Association, in conjunction with the family, are organizing the reception.

For those who would like to remember Cheek, the family has established the Alton Cheek Scholarship Fund with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public School Foundation. Memorial gifts may be sent to the foundation at P.O. Box 877, Carrboro, N.C. 27510. For more information, contact Kim Hoke at 967-8211, ext. 227.

### Youth Baseball Needs Coaches for Fall Season

The Carrboro Recreation and Parks

Department is accepting applications for volunteer baseball coaches for the 2000 Youth 13-to 14-year-old league.

Coaches must be able to teach proper playing skills and fundamentals, sportsmanship and communicate effectively with parents and players.

To receive an application and for more information, call the recreation department at 968-7703.

### Area Church Sponsors Clothes Giveaway

Mount Zion Christian Church is sponsoring a "Fall Clothes Giveaway" from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 2.

The event, sponsored by Elder Nora Fozard and the Women's Fellowship, is open to anyone who is in need of clothes.

The clothing ranges from children's clothing to men's and women's clothing.

The church is located at 3519 Fayetteville St. in Durham.

For more information, contact Ethel McCullum at 686-0043 for more information.

### Free Eye Screenings Set for September

UNC Health Care will offer free eye screenings from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 27 from the N.C. Lions' Vision Van.

The screenings take 15 to 30 minutes and are sponsored by the UNC Department of Ophthalmology. No appointment is necessary.

They will be held in the parking lot of Homestead Market Shopping Center.

For more information, contact Billie Ramsey at 966-5296.

# Town, Schools to Split School Officer Funding

By KELLIE DIXON  
Assistant City Editor

Area schools will have to start looking elsewhere for funding if they want to keep police officers walking their halls once the town withdraws financial support.

The Chapel Hill Town Council has equally split the \$220,000 cost of school resource officers with the local school system this year only. By next year, the school system will pay 75 percent and will be forced to cover the entire bill if grants are not available in 2002-2003.

SROs interact with students and stay on site in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School system to prevent or solve any problems that might arise. Until the past school year, the program was funded by a combination federal grant. The grants paid 75 percent, and the school system paid the remaining 25 percent.

But that federal funding has since run out, and Superintendent Neil Pedersen said he worries about finding money to support the program in coming years.

"We will have to look at adding money to the local budget or consider cutting back on SRO positions," he said. "That leaves us a funding problem."

Cutbacks will likely occur in middle schools, Pedersen said. "I consider SROs in the high school to be essential, and I'm committed to keeping those positions there," he said. "At the middle schools it is advantageous, but not of the same priority."

Council member Kevin Foy said school district needs to allocate their assets. He added that the appropriate source would be through the school district tax. "The school system can come up with the money by raising taxes," he



Town Council member Kevin Foy said SROs should be funded through school taxes.

said. "We had to tell our citizens we are providing a service to residents who don't pay taxes in Chapel Hill. It's not fair, and we can't afford it. People need to realize this is not a hostile act by the town council."

But Pedersen said SROs serve a dual purpose, warranting town dollars.

"They help to avoid calling the police into the schools, and they are more efficient at handling violent issues when they arise," he said. "The town should feel they are a good investment."

Steve Scroggs, assistant superintendent for support services said the federal Cops In Schools Grant expired last year, and now the schools must fund the program for 12 months. Next year the school will reapply for the CIS grant.

A U.S. Department of Justice Community Policing Grant also expired last school year. Prior to 1998, the money was used to hire police officers in the community, not SROs. Once the funds run dry, schools can reapply for another grant.

"Right now, there aren't any applications available," said interim Police Chief Gregg Jarvis. "We don't intend to apply for other policing grants."

In Carrboro, however, the town has taken a proactive stance on SROs.

Carrboro Police Capt. John Butler said Carrboro stations two SROs in its schools.

The town pays for one officer in full and the CIS grant subsidizes 75 percent of the cost of the second officer, Butler said. He also said each officer costs Carrboro about \$50,000 and the CIS grant provides around \$45,000. "It's a gradual increase on the town and a decrease on the (federal) government," he said.

Butler also said the program, while costly to the residents of Carrboro, will ultimately save them money. "They get to know these kids before they become a real burden on the taxpayers," he said. "In the long run, it pays for itself."

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

### Campus Calendar

#### Saturday

noon - Lab! Theatre is holding its annual general interest meeting in the Kenan Theatre (in the Center for Dramatic Art next to Cobb Residence Hall).

This is a great way to learn how to become involved with Lab!, UNC's most active student theater group. Food and fun will be provided.

#### Monday

7:30 p.m. - UNC Club Roller Hockey will hold a general interest meeting for all old and new players in 109 Fetzer Gymnasium.

The public is invited to learn more about roller hockey.

7:30 p.m. - The first regular meeting of the first session of the 206th year of

For more information, call Charlie Todd at 942-9598.

the Dialectic and Philanthropic societies will be held in the Dialectic Society Chamber on the 3rd floor of New West.

Guests are always welcome to listen and/or speak.

This week's program will be impromptu debate topics pulled from a trophy, ranging from the serious ("Chivalry Is Dead") to the inane ("Pimpin' Ain't Easy").

For more information, call Charlotte Stewart at 914-4122.

7:30 p.m. - Former UNC basketball player Danny Lotz will speak at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' first meeting of the fall semester.

The meeting will be held in the Ram's Room of the Old Kenan Field House.

The event is free, and the public is welcome.

8 p.m. - There will be a general interest meeting for the Carolina Production Guild in Studio 2 of Swain Hall.

The public is welcome.

### The Daily Tar Heel

Friday, August 25, 2000  
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P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515  
Matt Dees, Editor, 962-4086  
Advertising & Business, 962-1163  
News, Features, Sports, 962-0245



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