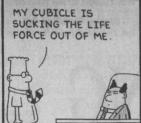
Dilbert©



MEAN, IT ALWAYS HAS, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S HAPPENING FASTER NOW.



Trading their handcuffs and handguns

By MANDY MELTON

for pencils and paper, local law enforcement officers met Tuesday for a training

session that focused on improving inter-

officers from UNC, Duke University,
N.C. State University and other surrounding communities attended the sem-

inar led by master police officer Robert Kipper of Newport News, Va.

Kipper discussed how older officers relate to Generation X, which makes up

about 25 percent of the adult population in the United States and includes people

The majority of the officers said they wanted to learn how to motivate and

communicate effectively with younger

quality candidates, but in being able to

retain them for a long period of time,

said Jeff McCracken, deputy director of UNC's campus police. Kipper said the largest part of mis-

understanding in the workplace stems from cultural differences among gener-

ations. The differences, Kipper said,

result from changes in commerce, trade

and popular culture.

But Kipper was quick to acknowledge

that there are also similarities found in the various age groups. "There are connec-

"I'm interested in not only recruiting

born between 1960 and 1980.

workers for retention purposes.

THE Daily Crossword By Jim Page

ACROSS Early TV jungle

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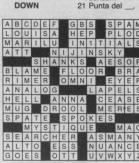
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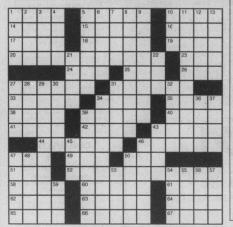
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tions between generations," he said. "We just have to get over the stereotypes." Kipper used the session to challenge

Police Training Program

Addresses Generation Gap

to re-examine conventional modes of communication between veter-an employees and fresh recruits. "There is not a question that you're going to have to hire people from Generation X," he said. "I want to make you look at the traditional modes and rethink them."

Kipper warned the officers about a "recruiting war" that is sweeping the

He said that because every employ-er wants the best and the brightest staff, it is going to become more difficult to attract and keep skilled employees. To combat this problem, Kipper said employers should include their staff in

decision-making processes on a regular

"If you treat them fairly and focus on making them an active part of your organization, then they are probably not going to leave you," he said.

Kipper also encouraged the officers to maintain an open mind when dealing with younger workers. He noted that sometimes it is hard for younger gener-ations to identify with the procedures of elders, and vice versa

"Everything that has been set in stone is not easily understood by everyone,"

he said. "There's nothing wrong with the old school, but you have to realize that these employees haven't had the chance to go through the old school. They only have experiences from their lifetime."

Giving rewards and acknowledge-ment of hard work are incentives that Kipper readily supports. He said employees of Generation X thrive on the possibility of advancement.

"Traditionally in law enforcement, we've lived by the standard that excel-

lence is not rewarded, but expected," he said. "We need to change that philosophy. We need to let people know that if they go beyond the daily norm, then their efforts will be rewarded."

UNC Director of Public Safety Derek Poarch said he planned on meeting with the other campus officers who attended the meeting to hear their reactions and brainstorm ideas for areas that might need improvement.

"I hope this session will say to the University community that we are continuing to look at a number of different things to improve our department," he said. "We are constantly exploring new ideas and approaches."

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



TODAY

Carolina

Softball vs. Campbell 2pm at Finley Field

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Cities

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Moscow Festival Ballet

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DAVE EGGERS. live at the Bull's Head Bookshop, WEDNESDAY APRIL 18TH AT 3.30 PM. The author of A

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