

# Trouble Brews in Neighborhood

By SALLY FRANCIS  
Staff Writer

JUNE 7 - A familiar problem is rearing its head yet again in Carrboro, one that is pitting students against permanent residents.

An influx of student housing in residential areas has some Carrboro residents concerned about maintaining their neighborhood's close-knit feel.

Pine Street residents are worried that the traffic on the narrow and sidewalk-less street will be increased by the stresses and strains associated with about 20 undergraduate college students living in four houses.

In protest of the construction, neighbors have posted signs in their lawns that read, "Now Showing: The Rape of Pine Street at 106 and 108," and "This Isn't a Dorm."

Residents claim that none of the signs are directed towards undergraduates.

"Our concern is for town density," Pine Street resident Jennifer Hay said. "We are concerned that developers and landlords have no control over how many tenants live in their properties."

Residents claim that the two new student houses will cause an increase in noise, street traffic, late night activity and litter, negatively affecting the families and the Pine Street neighborhood.

Area residents believe that Pine Street landlord Armin Lieth is turning the neighborhood into a family-versus-student issue to avoid being at the center of the controversy. "He is trying to take the heat and focus off himself," Hay said. "We are not anti-students."

But Lieth said the neighborhood behavior has turned into a discrimination issue against student housing.

"People are trying to find ways to complain about students," Lieth said. "The problem is fueled by the fear people have about what a minority of students have done."

Student renters on Pine Street agreed that the residents have wrongly judged them and suggested the neighborhood not take their landlord's development plans out on the students.

"I wish they would get to know us first before they judged us," UNC senior and Pine Street resident Whitney Isenhour said. "They should stop stereotyping us."

But what is frustrating for the Pine Street residents is that Lieth's plan falls safely under legal protection. Under the town's zoning ordinance, Lieth is within his jurisdiction to build additional houses on his two properties.

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen is now examining alternative solutions that include changing the parking and



Two-year-old Connor Hay plays in the driveway of his home on Pine Street. Connor's parents worry about the increased traffic on the street.

traffic in the neighborhood, increasing police patrols, changing the notification process, re-routing nearby elementary school traffic and asking the landlord to include behavior clauses in his leases.

Dane Alamassy contributed to this story.  
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# UNC Misses National Student Conference

By GEOFF WESSEL  
University Editor

JULY 19 - The University was forced to cancel early plans to send a delegation to the United States Student Association's 54th National Student Congress this summer.

Although the UNC-system Association of Student Governments holds membership rights in the nationwide political lobbying organization, finances prevented the ASG from sending any student delegates to the conference, to be held in Milwaukee, Wis. from July 22 to 29. Because funding was unavailable, the ASG left it to the system's 16 individual campuses to send delegates, ASG President Andrew Payne said.

"The problem we have with participating in those events is the ASG doesn't have the financial base to send students to events like that," Payne said. "We can't afford that, so we have to rely on the individual institutions to make the commitment."

But although Payne expected UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC-Wilmington to send at least a few students to the event, UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body

President Justin Young said no students UNC-Chapel Hill students could attend.

"Basically, we were trying to create a group of people to go," Young said. "Because of the timing and funding, it was a tough situation and our plans pretty much fell through."

Payne said he understood that timing and financial commitments make it difficult for students to represent the system. But he said he hopes UNC will be able to send delegates to future conferences, because the USSA is valuable to students.

"The value of (the USSA) is that it provides us a connection with what's going on in Washington from a student perspective," Payne said. "We do have some UNC students who sit on the board of directors of USSA. So the system will be represented in some capacity."

Young said UNC-Chapel Hill senior Erica Smiley is one of those board members, and will be attending the conference in that capacity. He said Smiley will be the Chapel Hill campus and the ASG's representative at the conference.

The conference, which will focus on setting the USSA's agenda for the coming year, aims to bring together students from across the country to organize grass-roots lobbying campaigns around common issues, according to the official program.

Young said he hopes to learn more about the USSA, which came under fire recently for focussing on politically liberal agendas, rather than purely on issues of concern to students and education.

"It has been a heated issue on campus," he said. "I want to be able to get enough information about the organization so we can answer the age-old question of what USSA could do for Chapel Hill and what our involvement should be."

"We'll look into it and try to find out more, but again there are bigger issues here on campus, like tuition increases and campus safety, that occupy my time - those are the things on my mind."

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