

POLICE ROUNDUP

University

Monday, Sept. 4

Police reports state that three pairs of Nike athletic shoes, valued at \$360, were stolen from the women's basketball office in Carmichael Auditorium.

Reports state that the shoes, which were stored in a cardboard box in the office, were last accounted for around 10:30 p.m. on Aug. 28 and were missing when the complainant returned the next day at 6 a.m.

A Hinton James Residence Hall resident reported that she received five prank phone calls between 10:01 p.m. on Sept. 3 and 8:10 p.m. on Sept. 4.

According to police reports, the caller would sometimes say nothing and at other times breathe into the phone.

The victim said the caller was male and she had no idea who it could be, reports state.

A Chapel Hill resident reported that his wife had lost her cell phone in the Ambulatory Care Center of UNC Hospital on Aug. 31 at 12 p.m.

The phone is valued at \$200, reports state.

A Wake Forest resident reported that her cell phone was lost in Morrison Residence Hall on Aug. 31 at 11 p.m. The phone is valued at \$150, reports state.

City

Wednesday, Sept. 5

A Carrboro woman reported at 12:40 a.m. that an unknown person broke into her residence and caused \$115 worth of damage.

Police reports state that when the victim arrived home, she noticed several lights on.

After entering the residence, she found several items out of place, but nothing was missing, reports state.

Upon further investigation, the victim discovered a lawn chair had been used to smash a window and gain entry into the home, reports state.

Police officers dusted the chair for fingerprints, but were unable to lift any, reports state.

The case is under further investigation.

Tuesday, Sept. 4

An employee at an Eastgate business reported at 10:56 a.m. that an unknown person passed counterfeit money, reports state.

Police reports state that a \$100 bill and a \$20 bill, both found to be counterfeit, were passed to the Subway located in the Eastgate Shopping Center.

The case is under further investigation, reports state.

An unknown person vandalized a school sign at Ephesus Elementary School, located at 1495 Ephesus Road, reports state.

Police reports state that the incident, which caused \$1,000 worth of damage, was reported at 7:57 a.m.

The case has been closed with all leads exhausted, reports state.

A Durham resident reported at 10:21 a.m. that an unknown person stole a \$125 weed-cutting machine from the bed of his truck, reports state.

The vehicle was parked in a parking lot located at 100 W. Rosemary St. when the theft occurred, reports state.

Chapel Hill police arrested and charged David Perry, 46, of Durham with one misdemeanor count each of driving with a revoked license, displaying fictitious tags and providing fictitious information, reports state.

Reports state that officers stopped Perry for an expired license plate tag. Upon further investigation, police discovered the tag to be fictitious.

When the officer interviewed Perry he also gave a fictitious name, reports state.

Perry was released on a written promise and is scheduled to appear on Oct. 23 in the District Criminal Court in Chapel Hill.

A Carrboro man reported at 7:45 p.m. that an unknown person called him at home and communicated threats of physical harm to him, reports state.

Police reports state that the unknown caller told the victim he was going to kill him.

Police advised the victim to report immediately any suspicious persons or activities around his home, reports state.

An employee at the Crown Fast Fare convenience mart, located at 1401 W. Main St., reported larceny of gas at 7:39 p.m., reports state.

Reports state that the thief pumped \$21.51 worth of gas into a green minivan and drove off without paying for it.

The employee was unable to give any further descriptions of the vehicle or the direction it traveled after leaving the mart, reports state.

UNC Responds to Town's Growth Stipulations

By MATT VISER
Senior Writer

University officials said Wednesday that they will submit an addendum to UNC's Development Plan to the town in hopes of clearing up a discrepancy between the University's Development and Master plans.

In the Master Plan, a 50-year blueprint for internal campus growth, the University indicates that a four-lane road and a 60-foot transit corridor eventually will be built on the southern perimeter of campus.

But in the Development Plan, an eight-

year summary of how campus growth will affect the town, there is no mention of an access road or a transit corridor.

The discrepancy was brought to the forefront when the issue took center stage at Tuesday's Chapel Hill Planning Board meeting.

At the meeting, the board recommended that the Chapel Hill Town Council — not the board itself — determine if the discrepancy should be clarified.

The town now has to decide before Oct. 3 whether it will require UNC to clarify how the University will manage traffic under the Development Plan without creating an access road.

But University officials announced Wednesday that they would not wait to see whether the Town Council would require the clarification.

University officials said they did not originally include plans for a four-lane road in the Development Plan because they do not yet own some of the property where the road would eventually go.

"We clearly intend to build (the road)," said Jonathan Howes, special assistant to the chancellor. "We didn't include it (in the Development Plan) because there's property that we haven't acquired yet, but we're actively interested in those properties."

The properties Howes refers to are three houses in the area where the access road later would be added.

Howes said the road could be built within the next eight years if the University can acquire the land it needs.

Town Council member Pat Evans said that despite any tension, both sides were striving to meet the early October deadline. "There are times when more and more information is requested as a delaying tactic, but I don't think that's happening here," she said.

Chancellor James Moeser addressed the plan in Wednesday's State of the University address, saying the town is

imposing unfair regulations on UNC.

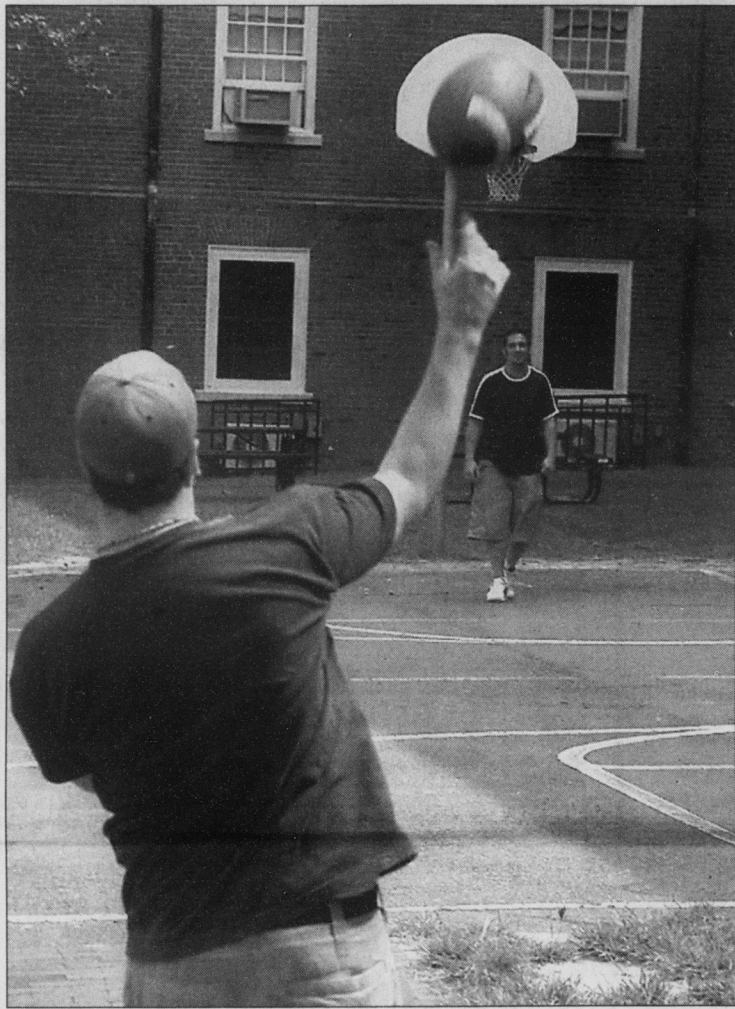
"We have learned recently of additional stipulations that go beyond mutually agreed upon guidelines and standards that described the University's responsibilities for mitigating the impact of growth," Moeser said.

"These stipulations appear to shift costs disproportionately to the University, its students and ultimately the state."

A public hearing is set for Sept. 19 to give residents a chance to air concerns.

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

TOUCHDOWN OR 3-POINTER?



Marc Hennes (left) passes the football to Justin Amos (right) on the basketball court behind Teague Residence Hall where the two sophomores live. Amos is a member of UNC's club football team.

DTH/KIMBERLY CRAVEN

ASG Gets Grant to Boost Youth Voter Registration

One of the ASG and NCPiRG's main goals for the \$11,000 grant, given by the Pew Charitable Trusts, is to raise public debate within the state.

By ALEX KAPLUN
State & National Editor

The UNC Association of Student Governments in conjunction with N.C. Public Interest Research Group recently was awarded an \$11,000 grant to improve youth voter registration and education in the state.

The Pew Charitable Trusts — an organization that encourages citizen participation in political and social issues — jointly awarded the grant to both organizations.

The partnership's tentative goal is to register 4,000 voters by Sept. 14 — the deadline to register for the November elections, said Tony Caravano, an N.C. State University sophomore hired by the ASG to run the programs.

Although NCPiRG is a liberal-leaning interest group, members from both agencies have vowed that the joint effort will be strictly nonpartisan.

Amanda Kifferly, Youth Vote Coalition organizer who works with NCPiRG, said the main effort of the two organizations is to register the younger segment of the population to vote and increase the level of public debate in the state.

"While there's no presidential election and no congressional election, there are a lot of local elections this fall, and we want students to be involved in those," Kifferly said.

But Kifferly said NCPiRG will try to ensure that the nature of its drive is balanced and the organizations will not push certain political ideals.

ASG President Andrew Payne also said members of his organization have made it clear that they

will not support specific causes.

"We've made it clear to them that we are a nonpartisan group," Payne said. "They know we're not here to push any particular agenda."

Payne added that one of the chief benefits the ASG would receive in registering as many students as possible is that it would give the group more clout when dealing with state legislators.

"It's important when we go down to the General Assembly next spring — it's important that we can show them that thousands of people across the state support us," Payne said.

Although Caravano said the organization's goal is to register 4,000 voters by Sept. 14, he said those numbers could be revised because there are only 10 days left before the deadline and the effort is just getting off the ground.

Caravano said members of the ASG as well as students from local campuses will begin a voter registration drive this week at N.C. State and will then move on to UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University.

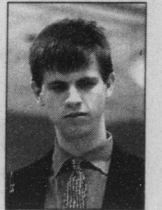
Caravano says the group's more long-term plans include organizing several forums and using publicity from local events to increase interest in politics and social issues.

He also said the organization will try to move beyond registering just college students and would like to attract all types of young people.

"It's pretty easy for us to get students registered," Caravano said.

"But we want 18- to 30-year-olds, not just 18- to 22-year-olds who attend our universities."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.



ASG President Andrew Payne insisted that the grant will not compromise ASG's nonpartisan stand.

"There are a lot of local elections this fall, and we want students to be involved in those."

AMANDA KIFFERLY
NCPiRG Organizer

Letter Questions Growth Rate Area Officials Resurrect Bus Advertising Debate

A letter by State Treasurer Richard Moore has raised questions about inflated estimates of state growth.

By JENNIFER HAGIN
Assistant State & National Editor

State legislators spent Tuesday examining the validity of a recent prediction that North Carolina's economy might grow at a slower rate than previously projected.

But members of the General Assembly are unfazed by the prediction and say it will not influence debate on a tax proposal the legislature is considering.

State Treasurer Richard Moore sent a letter Tuesday to Gov. Mike Easley, Senate Pro Tem Marc Basnight and House Speaker Jim Black stating his concern that North Carolina might have overestimated

its growth during the next two fiscal years. The state's economy is projected to grow 4 percent this fiscal year and 4.5 percent in 2002-03. The letter states that this figure is well above the average projected growth rate used in other state budgets this year.

"The National Conference of State Legislators has recently indicated that the average growth rate used in state budgets this year is less than 2.5 percent," Moore stated in the letter. "In light of stock market declines, consumer confidence declines, our unemployment rate and other recent economic indicators, it may be worthwhile to rethink the 4 percent and 4.5 percent growth rates currently being projected."

Senate leaders met Tuesday to discuss the issues raised in Moore's letter. Rob Lamme, spokesman for Basnight, said Wednesday that it is important for the growth rate to be as accurate as possible.

If the projected rate is inflated, it could lead to a budget shortfall similar to the

\$800 million shortfall that was created earlier this year. But if the projected growth rate is too low, the General Assembly could make unnecessary budget cuts or tax increases.

Last week the House approved a \$390 million tax package that calls for a half-cent increase in the sales tax, a 6 percent sales tax on liquor and a temporary income tax on the wealthy.

Senate leaders have been pushing for a larger tax package, but Black has struggled to build a consensus in the House with Republicans and a small group of Democrats opposing a sales tax increase. "Clearly we need to be conservative in the estimate, but we can't be over conservative," Lamme said.

Senate leaders met Tuesday with Mike Walden, an N.C. State University economics professor, to discuss the state's economic outlook.

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By BEN GULLETT
Assistant City Editor

Chapel Hill and Carrboro officials have renewed discussion of placing advertisements on the exterior of transit buses, a move that some aldermen say could help Carrboro fund fare-free busing.

Carrboro Alderman Joal Broun sparked discussion on the issue at Tuesday's Board of Aldermen meeting after Chapel Hill Town Council member Joyce Brown initially suggested the idea at last week's council meeting.

Although the issue has been discussed in previous years, officials have never approved similar proposals.

Broun requested that council staff compile a report examining transit advertising and make it available to the

full council by the end of the month.

The Board of Aldermen also will receive a written transcript of the council's discussion and its report on the matter.

Broun said she hopes to use the revenue generated from advertising on buses to fund alternative fuel vehicles for the town.

But Broun said she hopes Carrboro would use the revenue to fund its share of fare-free busing costs when transit service becomes free Jan. 1, 2002.

Fare-free service will be financed by transit funds from Chapel Hill and Carrboro and a student fee increase, expected to go into effect by fall 2002.

"We need to look at every avenue so we can support the bus system," Broun

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Ice Cream Social Aims to Remedy GPSF's Slow Start to Year

By KARA EIDE
Staff Writer

Graduate and Professional Student Federation officials hope six flavors of ice cream helped melt away students' concerns about a lack of communication from the organization Wednesday.

After two students raised questions Tuesday about the GPSF's plans for the year on the group listserv, GPSF President Mikisha Brown responded with an e-mail apologizing for being out of touch and announcing an ice cream social at the Bell Tower on Wednesday for all graduate and professional students.

Broun also set the date of the first GPSF Senate meeting for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 11.

Broun said the lack of GPSF publicity and communication until this point is

normal because the GPSF leadership transition usually takes place from late spring to early fall.

She also said the organization was delayed by a lack of interest in filling empty seats in the GPSF senate. "It was difficult in the spring to get positions filled, but now most of the positions are filled," Broun said. "The momentum has picked up a lot with the start of the new year."

But some students are concerned about the apparent absence of GPSF initiative. "I haven't heard anything about an agenda or what we're going to be concentrating on," said Dave Ruddell, a graduate student serving his fifth year on the GPSF senate. "I'm concerned about whether or not GPSF will be able to get anything done this year, because you really have to hit the ground running at the beginning of the semester."

GPSF Senator Thomas Pegelow said that the presidential position is quite a lot of work but that he's optimistic about what Broun will do. He said he hopes Broun will get the GPSF involved in issues that former GPSF leadership shied away from. Pegelow cited working with UE-150, a local labor union, as an example.

Pegelow also said he thinks women and minority issues are important and that he hopes Broun will address them.

Broun said Wednesday that the main issues she hopes to address are GPSF's benefits to students, enhancement of GPSF senate representation and quality of life for graduate and professional students. She is especially interested in how to enhance student experience for minorities in terms of recruitment and retention.

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Jane Smith, a School of Education doctoral student, hands a cup of ice cream to Jane Moran, a physics and astronomy graduate student.

DTH/KARA ARNDT