

# Zorbas Owners Making Effort to Regain Business

By MAGGIE KAO  
Staff Writer

The owners of Zorbas Restaurant have seen a sharp decline in business after an incident last October in which they denied entrance to a blind man's guide dog.

Oct. 7 of last year, Iris Andros, one of the owners of Zorbas Restaurant, on 105 S. Elliott Road, refused service to David Oberhart and his guide dog, Cooper, citing health concerns of other customers.

Louis Andros, Iris' husband and an owner of the business, was not present to assist her with the matter.

But Iris, a native Egyptian, said she was not aware of a law requiring the admittance of guide dogs into public areas.

Oberhart initially filed suit against the couple, but the case was settled out of court, with Louis and Iris agreeing to pay \$100 dollars per month for 55 months to the Leader Dog School.

As part of the settlement, the couple issued a public apology to Oberhart and invited him, his wife, two guests and

Cooper to dinner at Zorbas.

The Androses also initiated a Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce event to explain their experience and discuss the rights of the disabled with the business community.

The event is in the works, said Barry Nakell, the Androses' attorney.

"We are willing to do more than this \$100 settlement to recover from this," Iris Andros said.

After the incident, Zorbas has continued to extend a 25 percent discount to disabled customers.

Iris said the loss of customer patronage began in November of last year after the first publication of the incident.

"There are big financial problems that we're going through, and it has affected my personal life. We have lost a lot," Iris said.

Of the business repercussions, Andros said, "Last night, we had only three tables for dinner through the night."

Nakell said the restaurant suffered a big drop-off in business and received angry phone calls and letters.

He added that the Androses' financial

situation is not beyond repair, and he hopes the community will be understanding of Andros' mistake and continue to be patrons of Zorbas.

Nakell said the restaurant staff has remained supportive of the couple, some going without pay for two weeks.

"(I think) that says a lot about the Androses," Nakell said.

"They're really good people. Mrs. Andros made one mistake on one occasion, and they've worked hard to overcome it."

Iris expressed that in addition to financial problems, she has been experiencing emotional distress because of the incident.

In June, Iris had a minor heart attack and has been experiencing panic attacks.

"I am on antidepressants, and I have to take sleeping pills to go to sleep," she said.

"I just hope that people will understand that it was a simple mistake and that we never meant to harm anyone."

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

# Assault Suspect May Face Jail

By JON DOUGHERTY  
Staff Writer

A UNC student could be facing jail time after he was arrested early Sunday morning for throwing glass bottles at students in Fraternity Court and fleeing police.

Adam Davis, 19, of 748 Morrison Residence Hall, was charged with two felony counts of assault inflicting bodily injury, three misdemeanor counts of assault with a deadly weapon and one misdemeanor count of resisting arrest, reports state.

Reports state that Chapel Hill police apprehended Davis on Pritchard Avenue at 4:51 a.m. after he ran from the scene at 109 Fraternity Court.

Jane Cousins, Chapel Hill police spokeswoman, confirmed that alcohol or drugs were involved in the incident.

Chapel Hill police officials say they are searching for two other unknown individuals who they believe also were

involved in the incident.

"We are investigating further," Cousins said. "Two suspects fled in one direction, and Davis fled in another."

Cousins said the victims only had minor cuts and bruises.

None of the victims required hospital care.

Reports state that the incident occurred in front of the Sigma Nu fraternity house.

Matt Honeycutt, president of Sigma Nu, said he had no idea what prompted the assailants to become violent outside the fraternity house.

"There wasn't a fraternity event," he said. "It was 5 a.m. in the morning."

"I have no idea why we were targeted."

Davis refused to comment Wednesday.

Davis' attorney, Kirk Osborn, of Osborn & Tyndall, P.L.L.C., said his client could face jail time if convicted.

"Adam is a great kid from a good

family who made a mistake," Osborn said.

"He is in a lot of trouble."

Davis served as president of the local chapter of the National Honor Society for his high school in Orlando, Fla., Osborn said.

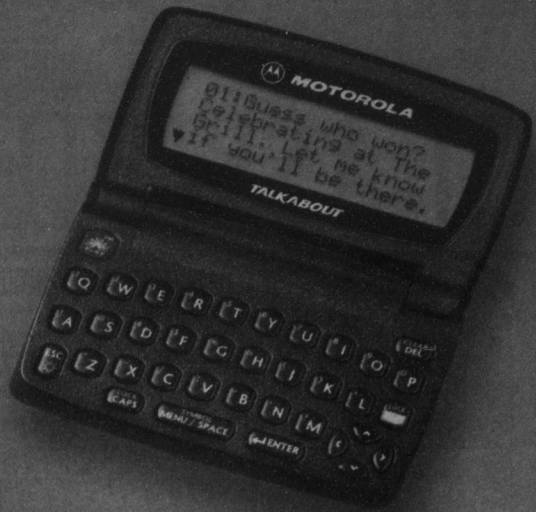
Osborn also said University officials could take action against his client.

Student Attorney General Brad Newcomb said Wednesday afternoon he could neither confirm nor deny that his office would be conducting an investigation in this particular case.

"All I can say at this time is that as of yet, no charges have been filed against Davis," Newcomb said.

Davis was released under a \$10,000 unsecured bond and was scheduled to appear Monday in the Orange County District Court in Hillsborough. Further details were unavailable at press time.

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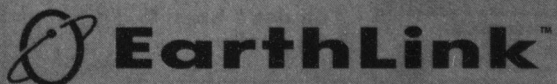
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