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• Students encourage quitting smoking
• Research doctoral degrees decline
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Bringing in the Bucks
NCPlenty, a local currency program, gains greater acceptance in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.
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Free Falling
UNC's Skydiving Club takes to the skies.
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Weather

Today: Partly Cloudy; H 57, L 34
Wednesday: Partly Cloudy; H 63, L 37
Thursday: Partly Cloudy; H 60, L 32

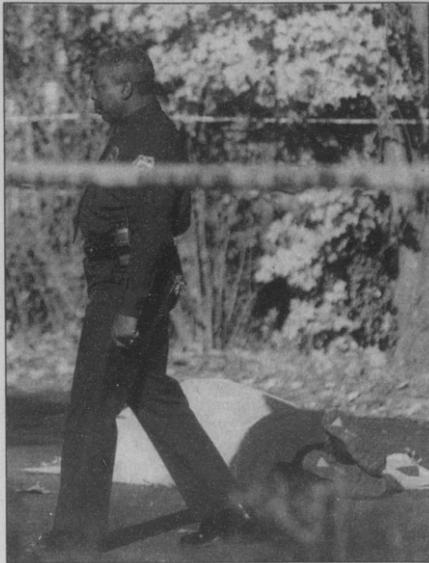


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Man Shot to Death Off Rosemary Street



DTH/KIMBERLY CRAVEN

Lt. Bobby Smith of the Chapel Hill Police Department walks past the body of James Earl Thompson, who was murdered Monday. Smith helped secure the scene.

Monday afternoon shooting is 1st homicide in Chapel Hill in 2 1/2 years

By JOHN FRANK
Assistant University Editor

A heated argument between two Chapel Hill men escalated to gunfire in broad daylight Monday afternoon, leaving one dead and the other charged with murder.

Chapel Hill police arrested Sherman Albert Tate Sr., 65, on charges of the first-degree murder of his son-in-law James Earl Thompson, 34, on Monday, said Carl Fox, Orange County district attorney.

One witness, who only identified herself by her initials K.W., said two men — later identified by police as Tate and Thompson — were arguing loudly in the door of Tate Realty & Construction Co., at 342 W. Rosemary St.

"It worried me because I thought someone was going to be hurt soon," she said.

The argument soon escalated to violence, and Tate allegedly opened fire on Thompson in the vicinity of the parking lot next to the office building, witnesses said. Thompson was shot once in the head before he tried to run, taking two shots in the back before he collapsed in the middle of Mitchell Lane, about 75 yards from West Rosemary Street, they said.

Police would neither confirm nor deny witnesses' accounts and would not say how many

shots were fired.

"All I know is that there was more than one shot," said Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins. "It is still under investigation."

Police responded to reports of gunshots at 1:18 p.m. in the area of West Rosemary Street and Mitchell Lane, near a popular student off-campus parking lot and apartment complex.

When Chapel Hill police officers arrived on the scene, Tate, of 104 Apple St., was identified by a witness and quickly taken into custody.

Thompson, of 410 Knolls St., was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police were interviewing two potential witnesses, a man and a woman, who told police they saw the shooting.

Officers obtained a handgun believed to be the weapon involved in the shooting. Police also removed a champagne GMC Envoy and a green Lincoln Navigator from the parking lot next to the building but would not comment on any other evidence gathered from the scene.

It was unclear Monday night to whom the cars were registered, but the Envoy was an Enterprise rental car. An Enterprise spokesman would not comment about whom the car possibly was rented by.

Later Monday evening, Tate was taken to Orange County District Court in

Hillsborough, where he was charged with first-degree murder. Bond was set at \$25,000, which Tate posted that night.

Fox said that he asked the judge for a \$100,000 bond but that the judge lowered the amount because Tate has no prior record, is 65 years old and lives in the area.

Tate is the brother of the late George Tate Jr., a prominent Chapel Hill real estate broker who died nine days ago at the age of 70.

Calls to the Tate family were not returned Monday night.

Fox hadn't received the report from the police department, and he wouldn't comment on the sentence he might pursue. But due to the nature of the incident, he said, it is possible the charge will be reduced. "It's not every day you have a 65-year-old man commit a crime like this," he said. "It just doesn't happen that often."

The homicide was the first in Chapel Hill in more than 2 1/2 years and has left the community in shock.

Heather Viscusi, who works across the street from the crime scene, said she was alarmed by a murder so close to home. "It's scary, especially because it was in broad daylight."

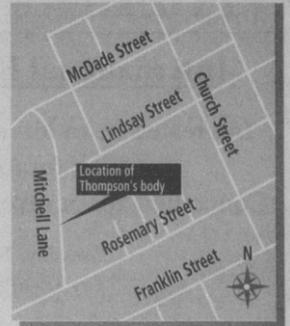
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THE SUSPECT



Police arrested Sherman Albert Tate Sr., 65, on charges of first-degree murder late Monday evening. He is suspected of gunning down James Earl Thompson, 34.

THE LOCATION



DTH/STAFF

Habitat Proposal Concerns Residents

Worries are over density, impact

By ALYSSA FINE
Staff Writer

A preliminary development plan that would add up to 100 units of low-income housing in northeast Chapel Hill already has sparked opposition from some area residents.

Chapel Hill staff will present a report at Monday's Town Council meeting regarding a request from Habitat for Humanity of Orange County for funding to buy a tract of land for the development of affordable housing.

Habitat for Humanity is petitioning for \$300,000 to help purchase 16.5 acres of land on Sunrise Road off Weaver Dairy Road.

The negotiated price for the lot is \$400,000. Habitat for Humanity will raise \$100,000 on its own to supplement the requested funds from the town.

Susan Levy, executive director of the local Habitat for Humanity chapter, said she is confident the group can raise the \$50,000 it needs in donations to receive a matching grant from a private fund.

The plans the organization gave the council for review are still temporary. "The proposal we have put on the table is a very preliminary one," Levy said.

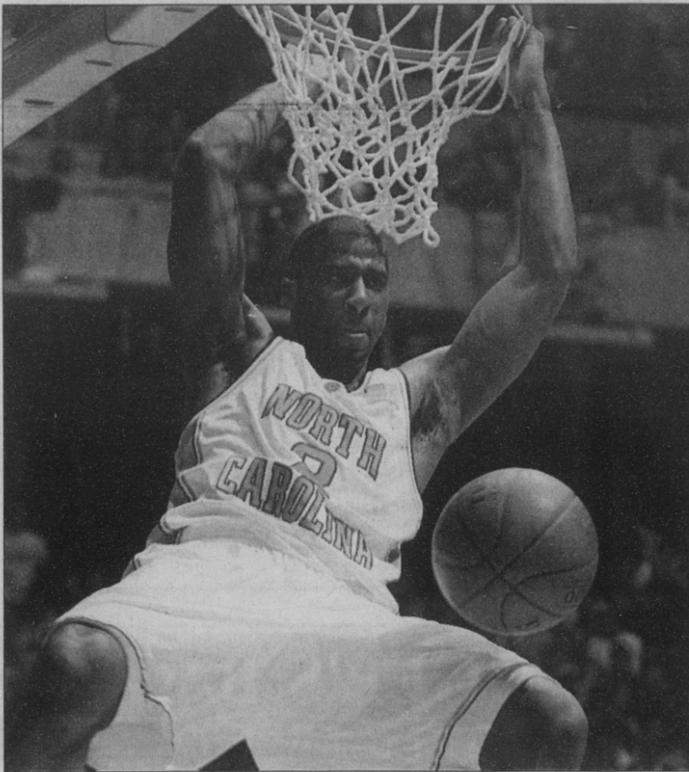
She said single-family housing and rental options are part of the organization's multiuse outlook. The group also might collaborate with another organization that provides housing for families with slightly higher incomes.

See HABITAT, Page 4

"What we are opposed to is high-density housing in an area not suited for it. It's really going to be ... like a housing project."

SANDRA CUMMINGS
Resident

UNC 85 | PENN STATE 55



DTH/JOSHUA GREER

Freshman point guard Raymond Felton dunks in the Tar Heels' 30-point victory against Penn State. Felton scored nine points and dished out 10 assists, a record for a UNC debut.

UNC Exudes Confidence In Season-Opening Win

By IAN GORDON
Senior Writer

Perhaps the start of it all came before they hit the court, a bit before they even got on the floor.

On the first day of practice, former North Carolina men's basketball player Jason Capel returned to Chapel Hill to talk to the Tar Heels.

His message? Bring back the tradition.

"That struck home with me," said freshman Sean May. "I felt that."

Apparently so did May's teammates. Monday night, the Tar Heels breathed life into a new chapter of UNC hoops lore and gave

another generation of fans hope for an exciting, and maybe successful, season.

Led by freshman wingman Rashad McCants' 28 points — the most points ever scored in a UNC debut — the Tar Heels trounced Penn State 85-55 before 16,282 at the Smith Center.

UNC (1-0) advanced to the second round of the Preseason NIT with the win. The Tar Heels will host Rutgers, a 60-36 winner against Columbia, at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

"I couldn't envision us up by 20 or 30, but I could envision us getting a win," said freshman point guard Raymond Felton.

It was apparent from the start that these were not the Tar Heels from Capel's final year at UNC.

See BASKETBALL, Page 4

3 Freshmen Make Historic 1st Start
See Page 7.

GOP Leader Faces Fight for Speaker

By JAMIE MCGEE
Staff Writer

Legislators say that despite his party's slight majority in the N.C. House of Representatives, speaker nominee Leo Daughtry, R-Johnston, likely does not have the votes to gain the speakership.

Rep. Connie Wilson, R-Mecklenburg, whom Daughtry defeated for the Republican nomination in a 36-20 vote, said although Daughtry was victorious, he does not have enough votes within his party to gain the highest House position.

"There are enough people saying under no circumstance will they vote for Daughtry," Wilson said. "It guarantees he won't be the next speaker. People who have worked with Daughtry for years for some reason don't want to vote for him."

Daughtry, the House minority leader, will face House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, who is seeking re-election, and Rep. Richard Morgan, R-Moore, a former House minority leader who plans to run in January as a bipartisan candidate.

The House speaker has the responsi-

bility of making committee appointments and setting the legislative agenda.

With Republicans holding only a slim 61-59 majority in the House, the speaker election could swing any way, said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

"The vote for speaker wasn't completely settled by the vote in the Republican caucus," he said. "The nomination gives (Daughtry) a strong claim to speaker, but I think there is still time for intraparty and interparty negotiation."

Guillory added that Black, known as a consensus-builder, remains a strong candidate for House speaker. "(Black) tried not to move on things until he could assemble the majority," he said. "He tried to give the House room to speak, debate, to offer ideas — very pragmatic."

Black spokesman Danny Lineberry said Black is confident he will remain in his position, largely through appeals to legislators on both sides of the aisle. "He will be working until January 29 to build a

See SPEAKER, Page 4

Student Leaders Address Concerns at Fall Forum

By SARAH KOTT
Staff Writer

Campus safety, high textbook prices and Honor Court concerns headlined Monday night's Fall Forum.

More than 40 student government representatives, organization leaders and interested students missed UNC's basketball game to voice their opinions and concerns for nearly 1 1/2 hours.

Safety issues took center stage as Alexa Kleysteuber, chairwoman of student government's Safety and Security Committee, discussed plans to cut funding for the SAFE Escort program at the end of the semester.

SAFE Escort, which transports students from libraries to residence halls at night via golf cart, required nearly \$32,000 per semester to operate.

"It wasn't the most efficient way to

See FALL FORUM, Page 4



DTH/LIZ WINTER

Jennifer Orr, a member of the textbook committee, addresses the issue of textbook pricing.

Tradition never graduates.

Scott Sieling