

POLICE ROUNDUP

University

FRIDAY, JULY 18

■ An officer responded to a call from Fetzer Gym at 10:41 a.m. in which a woman alleged that a black man in his 20s, approximately 6 feet tall and wearing a white or gray shirt and dark sweatpants, stole her purse, reports state. The woman provided a list of items in the purse that included \$220 in cash, credit and debit cards, checks, a driver's license and her Social Security card. According to reports, the officer searched the area but was unable to locate the suspect.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

■ Police arrested Joshua Spadaro, 32, of 105 Virginia Drive and charged him at 1:11 a.m. with possession of cocaine and drug paraphernalia, littering and second-degree trespass, reports state.

An officer found Spadaro in the grass near Hanes Art Center and discovered that he had an active trespass warning, reports state. Spadaro was arrested and charged with trespassing, and a search of the area in which he was laying yielded a black crack pipe and a small crack rock concealed in a pack of cigarettes, reports state.

He was released on a written promise and was scheduled to appear in court Monday.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

■ A woman reported that her bicycle was stolen from outside Davis Library sometime between 9:30 and 10 p.m., reports state. The bicycle, valued at \$500, was left unattended and unsecured.

MONDAY, JULY 21

■ According to reports, an Aramark Food Services employee stated that the Lenior Dining Hall safe was \$560.50 short of the amount counted on July 11. Officers are scheduling interviews with anyone who has access to the safe.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

■ Reports state that officers on foot patrol issued citations to four people riding in a Jeep early in the morning. Allison Herman, 19, of 105 Caldwell St. and Leila Ann Martin, 19, of 20204 Teak Court in Cornelius each were charged with underage possession of a malt beverage. Daniel Carl Vick, 22, of Longwood Drive in Durham was charged with having an open container in a vehicle, and Kelly Weeks, 21, of 105 Caldwell St. was charged with littering, reports state.

The officers observed the vehicle passing through Porthole Alley at midnight. Reports state that the officers saw bottles of Smirnoff Ice in the hands of Herman and Martin and that Weeks threw a bottle outside the vehicle upon noticing the officers.

City

FRIDAY, JULY 18

■ At 9:34 p.m., police responded to a hit-and-run involving a bicyclist at the intersection of East Main Street and Rosemary Street. The cyclist was hit from behind by a unknown female driver in an 80s-model gray Honda Civic, reports state. The driver of the vehicle told the bicyclist that she was getting her insurance information and drove off. The license plate of the involved vehicle might be RPH-7953, reports state.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

■ Police arrested Simon Rosser Curtis, 19, of 3813 Regent Road and charged him with misdemeanor simple assault, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and DWI, reports state.

Police arrested his passenger, Andrew Martin Moon, 19, of 20 Chancery Place and charged him with misdemeanor simple assault, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and misdemeanor possession of fraudulent identification.

Police noticed the odor of alcohol and said Curtis's speech was slurred when they pulled the two men over after a fight occurred on Church Street at about 2:35 a.m., reports state. Police noticed a clear plastic bag filled with a "green leafy substance" lying on the car's floorboards, reports state.

A witness to the fight positively identified the men as the assailants, reports state. Both were released on written promises.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

■ A 21-year old female UNC student was abducted after a man hijacked her car at Mill Creek Apartments at about 10:15 p.m., reports state. A friend reported the student's disappearance less than an hour after she left, police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said.

The man forced the student to drive outside town limits and later released her, reports state. She drove back to Chapel Hill and notified police. The case is under investigation.

— Compiled By Staff Writers Alesia DiCosola, Nick Eberlein and Joseph Schwartz

County OKs development ordinance

BY JON DOUGHERTY
SENIOR WRITER

After four years of debate and revisions, Orange County has an ordinance linking school capacity and housing development.

The Schools Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance, in the works since the late 1990s, met the approval of Hillsborough and the two area boards of education last week, finalizing the approval process for the regulation.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education's approval always has been unanimous, said Gloria Faley, vice chairwoman of the board. The

Orange County Board of Commissioners, as well as Chapel Hill and Carrboro, approved the ordinance last month.

The passage of the ordinance was welcome news to Craig Benedict, planning director for Orange County. "This ordinance allows us to knock out peaks in the schools' budgets by planning ahead for when we will build new schools," he said. "It will free up money for other services and needs that may unexpectedly arise."

The ordinance specifies that before developers can apply for a building permit from any of the

three towns or the county, they first must receive a Certificate of Adequacy of Public Schools Facilities from the school district that will be affected.

No local government will begin to review a developer's application unless a CAPS has been procured. A school district will not issue a CAPS until it has determined that a proposed development will not drive the number of students above the limits set forth in SAPFO.

The service limits are set at 105 percent for elementary schools, 107 percent for middle schools and 110 percent for high schools. The

school districts will evaluate their capacity annually on Nov. 15.

Carrboro Aldermen Jacqueline Gist and Mark Dorosin said they thought the ordinance will not curb the schools' rising populations.

Dorosin believes a merger of the two local school districts would lessen the severity of the problem.

"I feel we should have at least looked at the possibility of a merger before going with this heavily bureaucratic ordinance. It doesn't even feel like this is about schools overcrowding. It's about development," Dorosin said. "If we combined the school system, not only is

there no overcrowding, you remove the societal differences from having separate school systems."

Benedict said the ordinance is not about controlling development. "This ordinance is about how we allocate our resources, determining what demands most need to be met, how we can best spend our dollars," he said.

Benedict also said the idea of a system merger has been raised within the county government and is being investigated. "We have to first evaluate the pros and cons," he

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Alumnus donates 26,000 comic books to University

Coincides with a rebirth for comics

BY BRIAN MILLIKIN
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

They're invading movie theaters with web slingers, X-heroes and an unjolly green giant. They're attacking televisions with Saturday cartoons and hit series such as "Smallville."

And now they're swinging into the library with a superhero's salvo. Comic books are back in a big way, if they were ever gone, at UNC's Rare Book Collection in Wilson Library.

On July 16, the library received some 26,000 comics weighing more than two tons from local alumnus Dan Breen.

The library has built a strong pop culture contingent over time. "But I've been concerned for a number of years that the one literary format we've been missing is comic books," said Charles McNamara, curator of the Rare Book Collection. "For quite a few years I've been hoping someone would come forward with a gift, and when Mr. Breen did I was quite excited."

The collection's library relies almost entirely on such gifts, and Breen's is a serious gift, one of the largest donations the library ever has received.

Breen first proposed the donation, which contains comics and publicity art dating from 1980, three months ago. For the last 10 weeks, Breen has devoted almost all his time to preparing it, a task he describes as daunting but necessary to conclude his collecting career.

"I had done it for close to 20 years, I'm pushing 60, and if I was going to have an opportunity it was time now to put it aside and focus on other things," he said. "I'm pushing that time of life when accumulating things is less attractive than giving them away; hence the 26,000 comics to UNC."

Breen's ties to UNC are made of steel. He moved from Manhattan to Chapel Hill in 1975 for graduate school, after which he worked at the Rare Book Collection for a number of years.

He even set up a scholarship in the Department of English in his parents' name.

After leaving the University, he moved a few hundred yards and took over Rosemary Street's Second Foundation Bookstore, the comic book shop he owned for 20 years until last November.

The comic book industry has been on a roller coaster in that time, having declined for several decades — a decline that hit bottom when an early-'90s boom crippled stores. Investors began buying comics like stocks, devaluing many issues. Comic stores closed, comic makers went bankrupt — it all nearly capsized.



Charles McNamara, curator of the Rare Book Collection, looks over a few of the 26,000 comic books donated to UNC's Wilson Library last week.

"Characters like Superman and Batman are icons, recognized all over the world."

DAN BREEN, UNC ALUMNUS WHO DONATED 26,000 COMICS TO UNC'S RARE BOOK COLLECTION

But now a resurgence has occurred and comics are gaining in popularity — if in relatively minor movements.

"It still is not anything like it was 10 years ago," Breen said.

"Unit sales figures are still something like 50 percent of what they were to the early '90s, and that pales in comparison to their popularity during the war years, 1935 to '55, when million-selling issues were commonplace, if not unusual."

It's unclear if the new popularity is tied to recent major films or something else.

"The times are pretty odd; a lot of people are losing jobs," said Anne Allison, chairwoman of the

Department of Cultural Anthropology at Duke.

"And maybe when things are so uneven in everyday life, maybe that's when people crave these superheroes who are larger than life."

Andrew Neal, the new owner of Second Foundation, has felt the resurgence in his business. "We're doing pretty well currently," he said. "After having had the business for a couple months, we're doing better this summer than we expected to. It makes me a little less nervous about my future as a comic shop owner."

The books are becoming popular

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Cobey steps down to run for governor



Bill Cobey announces his resignation Monday as chairman of the N.C. Republican Party and his intention to run for governor during a press conference. Cobey is a former UNC director of athletics.

BY ARMAN TOLENTINO
SENIOR WRITER

Former UNC athletic director Bill Cobey announced Monday his desire to be the next governor of North Carolina.

Cobey, who resigned from his position as chairman of the N.C. Republican Party, enters a field of six Republican candidates hoping to unseat incumbent Gov. Mike Easley.

"I'm in this race and I'm in to win," Cobey said at the press conference. "I'm applying for the job and I'll be asking the voters to hire me."

Linda Daves, vice chairwoman of the state Republican Party, will serve as interim chairwoman until the NCGOP executive committee elects a new chairman at its Aug. 2 meeting.

Cobey, 65, steps down from a position he has held for the past four years. "The experience has been wonderful," he said.

He went on to address the future of North Carolina and how it can be a bright one. "Doing that will require strong and capable leadership at the top of state government," he said. "The truth is: We need a leadership change here in North Carolina."

SEE COBEY, PAGE 5

Local schools struggle on national level

6 of 25 meet standards set by new federal legislation

BY DAVID KIM
STAFF WRITER

Few area public schools met new testing standards laid out by the No Child Left Behind Act, a federal law signed by President Bush in 2001 meant to ensure academic proficiency for all students.

Of the 14 schools that comprise Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, Glenwood, McDoughe, Mary Scroggs and Seawell elementary schools met the new federal standards, according to a CHCCS press release from last Friday.

Among the 11 schools that comprise Orange County Schools, only Central and Hillsborough elementary schools achieved the new goals, said Anne D'Annunzio, OCS public information coordinator.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools met 92 percent of the new standards, while the Orange County district met 88 percent of federal goals.

For a school to achieve "adequate yearly progress," 95 percent of eligible students must participate in math and reading tests and meet state-set standards. An academic indicator tied to attendance or graduation rate also figures into the math for meeting the standards.

This year, the standard in reading was a 68.9 percent pass rate on state tests, and the standard in math was a 74.6 pass rate. These rates were set by the state with the aim of reaching 100 percent proficiency by 2013-14, D'Annunzio said. Legislators then worked backward to set targets in three-year intervals, she said.

The new standards also monitor student subgroups, including classifications by race, economic background, English proficiency or disability. A subgroup must consist of at least 40 students.

A school receiving Title I federal funds will be subject to sanctions after failing to meet the new standards in two consecutive years, D'Annunzio said. Such schools must allow students to transfer to schools that are meeting standards.

Title I schools receive federal aid geared toward helping students from low-income families. Seven CHCCS and six OCS elementary schools classify as Title I. If a Title I school failed to reach standards for a third year, it would be forced to offer supplemental learning programs that could place a financial burden on that school, D'Annunzio said.

To meet standards, CHCCS has been aligning its curriculum and closing the minority gap, said Steve Scroggs, CHCCS assistant superintendent. Finally, Scroggs said, "We also need to work closely with economically disadvantaged students."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

2,000 in N.C. may lose chance at Pell Grants

New change in tax tables means less money for some

BY NICOLE STRACHAN
STAFF WRITER

The U.S. Department of Education has changed its formula for calculating eligibility for Pell Grants, causing about 2,000 North Carolina students to lose their eligibility for the federal awards, said an aide for Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C.

The Congressional Research Service estimated in a report that the change will affect 84,000 students nationwide.

Such an eligibility adjustment, brought about by a change in tax tables, has not occurred for about 10 years, a period during which the Department of Education awaited data from the U.S. Treasury.

The new tax tables are based on 2000 data, according to the Congressional Research Service report. The more recent data creates an increase in the amount of money the families of the 84,000 students will be expected to pay, making them ineligible for the Pell Grants.

"What's unfortunate now is that they relied upon old data that indicated that state tax burdens were going down and that therefore families have more money to pay for college," said the aide, who asked to remain unidentified.

Shirley Ort, director of the UNC-Chapel Hill Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, said roughly 12 percent of UNC-CH undergraduate students receive Pell Grants.

"Given the needs of low-income students, we need to keep pressure on Congress to adequately fund that

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