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Council says yes to renaming



DTH/MIRANDA HARPLE

Garland King Jr. of Chapel Hill was one of many to speak in favor of changing the name of Airport Road to honor Martin Luther King Jr.

BY ADAM W. RHEW
STAFF WRITER

The emotion that characterized an 11-month saga about renaming Airport Road in honor of a civil rights leader spilled into the topic's final chapter Monday night.

The Chapel Hill Town Council received a standing ovation from members of the community when it voted unanimously in favor of changing the name of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

"Dr. King fought just for this," said Brenda Brown, an at-large member of the Special Committee to Consider Renaming Airport Road.

The committee's recommendation of the name change by a 15-3 vote helped drive the council to approve the renaming Monday.

Brown wept with joy after the council approved the committee's proposal, which calls for the road to be renamed by July 4, 2005.

That recommendation also calls for the placement of separate street signs with the designation

"Historic Airport Road" along the road.

But some people were not as pleased as Brown. Catherine Holland, who served on the committee and owns a business on Airport Road, expressed frustration with the committee's final recommendation, which evolved during three November meetings.

"To (committee members in favor of the renaming), Airport Road seems like the only solution," she said.

Before voting on the proposal, council members heard a presentation from two of the facilitators hired by the town to ensure that the committee's meetings stayed focused.

The presentation highlighted the committee's final report, which discusses the group's 10 total recommendations and its decision-making process.

Council members then heard comments from community members standing on both sides of the issue.

"It would be nice if we could just wave a magic wand and everybody would be happy about this,"

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Police train with Tasers

Tools gain favor in local agencies

BY MATT HANSON
SENIOR WRITER

When Carrboro police used pepper spray on a knife-wielding suspect in a Harris Teeter in 2003, the man told them the chemicals tasted good and then chased them down with beer.

When an Orange County deputy was launched from the rafters of a building during a scuffle with a suspect who was high on crack cocaine, the officer was out of work for weeks.

In both cases, police faced the dilemma of stopping a dangerous aggressor while minimizing injuries.

"Historically, law enforcement has had limited tools to deal with hostile suspects," said law enforcement training expert Ken Cooper, who is also director of security at Bard College.

Most police tools developed before the Taser use pain to stop an attacker. But drugs, alcohol and mental disability can dull pain and, along with it, the effectiveness of less-than-lethal weapons. Sometimes they render the tools useless.

As an alternative, local departments are joining more than 5,000 other agencies throughout the country in adding Tasers to their arsenal.

Chapel Hill and UNC police issued Tasers to officers for the first time last summer. The Carrboro Police Department probably will use federal grant money to buy Tasers early next year.

Though the Orange County Sheriff's Office bought Tasers three years ago, few deputies are trained

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Talk on tuition choice persists

Officials to work throughout Dec.

BY STEPHANIE JORDAN
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Some University officials will spend time hitting the books this holiday season as students head home for Winter Break.

Members of the Board of Trustees reviewed recommendations from the University's Tuition Task Force during their November meeting. Now, they will reconvene Jan. 27 to decide which proposal to send to the UNC-system Board of Governors.

"All of the conscientious board members will review Tuition Task Force proposals," said Trustee John Ellison.

The board will discuss three proposals recommended by the Tuition Task Force: \$350 for residents and \$800 for nonresidents; \$300 for residents and \$1,000 for nonresidents; and \$250 for

residents and \$1,200 for nonresidents.

"The task force did a very thorough job," said Provost Robert Shelton, co-chairman of the task force. "It's really in the hands of the trustees now."

Nelson Schwab, vice chairman of

the BOT and a member of the Tuition Task Force, said he thinks the trustees have done most of their homework and reviewed the task force's report.

He said he expects trustees to talk in early January before their monthly meeting.

"The preparation from the last meeting was what we needed," Schwab said. "What we did last year makes this year easier."

Although the board does not have any official meetings during Winter Break, Ellison said he will review and analyze the completed research to decide which plan will best serve the University.

"I really care that we continue to ... not place an undue burden on (students)," said Ellison, who sat on the task force.

Student Body President Matt Calabria, co-chairman of the task force, said he also will review research and start planning forums for students during the break.

A public forum regarding tuition hikes has yet to be held this year.

Calabria added that it is important to examine how tuition affects not only the applicant pool, but also how increases will change the face of the University.

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VISIONS OF SUGAR PLUMS



DTH/LAURA MORTON

High school sophomore Elizabeth Dias (right) dances the role of Sugar Plum Fairy with her partner, Eugene Barnes, in the Triangle Youth Ballet's production of the Nutcracker on Sunday. The show, performed at Chapel Hill High School's Cultural Arts Building in the

Robert C. Hanes Theatre, was the company's 10th anniversary production. Dancers from several companies participated; Barnes performed courtesy of the Carolina Ballet. Three more performances will take place at the Carolina Theatre in Durham, at 7 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday.

ASG looks for lobbying role

Leaders analyze group's priorities

BY ERIC JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

As the UNC-system Association of Student Governments works to create a more comprehensive lobbying structure, the group will have to determine what kind of advocacy role it can — and should — take on.

In working to establish a greater presence at the N.C. General Assembly, ASG leaders want to create a student initiative distinct from the system's administration.

"I envision it as more of an independent thing," said Amanda Devore, ASG president. "Where our interests are similar, clearly we would be working on the same issues. But I don't think it's so much of a coordinated effort."

UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President Matt Calabria, who has been a key advocate of an intensified lobbying role for the ASG, said it is fairly clear that the organization would not always agree with system administrators.

"I think everyone has a healthy understanding that the student voice is not identical to the administrative voice, even though we complement each other very often."

Sabra Faires, chief of staff to House Co-speaker Richard Morgan, said the UNC-system Office of the President already has "a very visible presence here

through its regular government relations staff."

The head of that staff is Mark Fleming, vice president of government relations. As the university system's state government advocate, he is a constant presence in Raleigh, working to cultivate relationships with legislators and advance the agenda set out by the UNC Board of Governors.

While recognizing that students and system administrators will not always agree on their priorities, Fleming said the ASG should focus on teamwork in advocating at the General Assembly.

The different constituencies in the university system — whether faculty, administrators or students — should work to present a unified message to legislators, he said.

"I'm the one person authorized by the board to represent the university system and coordinate legislative activities," he said.

While praising the work of Fleming and his staff, Devore said students and administrators won't necessarily share all their legislative priorities.

Issues such as same-day voter registration and lowering the age at which people can run for office to 18 don't necessarily gel with the system's priorities, she said. But ASG advocates would

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"Part of the Jewish experience has to be one of excitement, engagement and enjoyment." RABBI ZALMAN BLUMING, DIRECTOR OF CHABAD

Menorah ignites Hanukkah

BY STEPHANIE NOVAK
STAFF WRITER

The course of Jewish history has seen bloodshed, injustice and miracles — but until today, not a public menorah lighting at UNC.

Hanukkah, which begins at sundown today, is an eight-day celebration of miracles.

The lighting, meant to celebrate the Festival of Lights, will occur at 6:15 p.m. today at Polk Place and feature a 10-foot ice sculpture in the shape of a menorah.

Rabbi Zalman Bluming, director of the Jewish organization Chabad, said the lighting of the ice sculpture gives a modern spin to an ancient tradition.

"Part of the Jewish experience has to be one of excitement, engagement and enjoyment," he said.

Bluming said the lighting of the sculpture has special significance because the ice symbolizes apathy and the fire represents enthusiasm.

In its entirety, the sculpture represents the merging of the two elements.

Chancellor James Moeser will speak at the lighting along with prominent leaders in the Jewish community, including Bluming and Lew Borman, former head of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill.

Bluming said he expects a turnout of between 200 and 250 people, making today's event one of the state's largest-ever public menorah lightings.

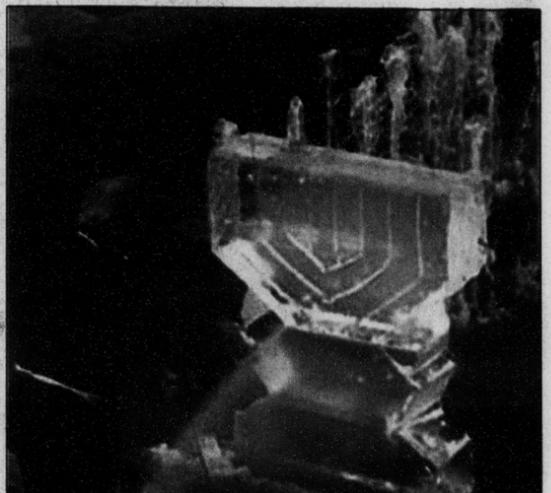


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHABAD

Chabad, a campus Jewish group, will host UNC's first public menorah lighting tonight. A sculpture similar to the one depicted above will be lit.

Overall, students said that they are pleased with the University's recognition of Hanukkah and that the ceremony, which also will boast Jewish food and music, will be exciting as well as meaningful.

The lighting will allow students at the University to get a glimpse of Jewish culture, said junior Sam Stafford.

"It's important for (students) to see Jewish life on campus in a creative and fun, yet traditional

way," he said. He added that he is excited about the ceremony, as it is part of an ages-old tradition.

The menorah lighting also will encourage togetherness in the Jewish community, said Francisca Reines, a graduate student in philosophy.

"It's a way for Jewish students to be Jewish together," she said. "(It is) a way of bringing warmth

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WINTER BREAK

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Today's paper is the final DTH of the semester; the paper will resume publication on Jan. 11, 2005. Look out for our special Exam Survival Guide section tomorrow.



INSIDE

WORK IT

Kristine Lilly and UNC student athletes encourage third-graders to work out, stay in shape PAGE 11

WEATHER

TODAY P.M. showers, H 73, L 51
WEDNESDAY Mostly sunny, H 68, L 40
THURSDAY T-storms, H 66, L 58

