

RENAMING

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said Billy Madden, who lives near Airport Road and was opposed to the change.

After the vote, facilitator Calvin Allen said he knew some people would not be happy with the decision. "It's hard that there are still some questions out there," he said.

One of those questions relates to a concern that the committee was "hand-picked" by the council in order to achieve a certain outcome. "I can't help but think that the committee was stacked," said Bruce Johnson, an Airport Road business owner and one of the three committee members who voted against recommending the name change.

Holland expressed similar displeasure.

"I am very disappointed and discouraged by the actions of the members of this council," she said.

In a pre-meeting press conference, Mayor Kevin Foy said the council picked people who wanted to engage in discussion.

"We didn't need to stack the committee," he said. "We didn't have to have the committee at all."

At Monday night's meeting, Foy requested that Town Manager Cal Horton review the committee's nine other recommendations, including the promotion of further discussions on race relations.

Council members will likely hear those proposals, and Horton's report on the name change, in January.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

TASERS

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to use them.

"We haven't used them in any form or fashion," said Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass, adding that his office keeps Tasers in case of emergencies.

A controversial variation on the stun gun, the Taser debilitates suspects long enough for police to get them under control without causing permanent injury.

"Seeing one man beat another man with a stick is ugly no matter how it's being used," Cooper said.

Law enforcement agencies herald Tasers as revolutionary new tools that allow police to minimize injury to both suspects and officers.

But human rights groups — including Amnesty International — decried Tasers' questionable involvement in the deaths of more than 70 suspects around the country.

"Many U.S. police agencies are deploying Tasers as a routine force option to subdue noncompliant or disturbed individuals who do not pose a serious danger to themselves or others," stated an Amnesty report issued last week.

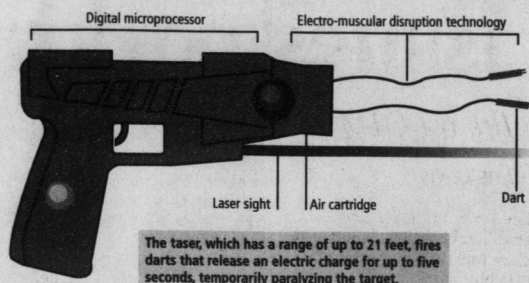
The group called for a suspension of Taser use and an in-depth study on the devices' ethical, legal and medical effects.

The M26, the model used most often by police, looks like a handgun and fires two darts as far as 21 feet. The darts remain attached to the Taser and deliver 50,000 volts of electricity over a five-second jolt.

The shock creates intense pain and overrides the muscular system, causing a suspect's muscles to clench up involuntarily.

But the shock is much weaker than one from a home electric socket or a medical defibrillator because of the

THE TASER: MORE THAN JUST A STUN GUN



The taser, which has a range of up to 21 feet, fires darts that release an electric charge for up to five seconds, temporarily paralyzing the target.

SOURCE: BBC NEWS

DTH/MICHELLE FURLER

way the gun delivers the electricity. It is designed not to damage a suspect's heart or other body systems.

"Could I continue to resist when I was shocked? No," said Chapel Hill police officer Jim Orbich, who took a full five-second Taser hit as part of a training exercise. "But I could still hear, and I could still see everything going on around me."

"After the five seconds, I was right back on my feet like nothing had happened at all."

CHPD officers have used Tasers in four incidents since June. In two of these incidents, officers simply pressed the Taser onto the aggressor to administer the shock instead of shooting the darts.

On any given night, nine or 10 CHPD officers are on patrol — three or four of these are carrying Tasers, said Chief Gregg Jarvis.

For now, officers keep them in the trunk of their car, though the Tasers eventually will be carried in the front seat and, possibly, on officers' belts.

"The Tasers are new — I wanted to take it slow," Jarvis explained. "If you had them on the hip to begin with, there would be more

cases where they could be used when they shouldn't"

This week the CHPD received two more Tasers, increasing its total to six. About 25 percent of the department's officers have been trained to use the tools.

All of the University's on-campus police have been trained in Taser use, said Maj. Jeff McCracken, the Department of Public Safety's deputy director. Only once, though, has a Taser been used on UNC's campus.

Daniel Smith, a UNC senior, and his mother, Celia Hooper, complained that University police acted with excessive force by using a Taser on Smith and breaking his jaw during on-field celebrations after UNC's football win over Miami.

McCracken maintained that his officer acted within reason to get Smith off a downed goal post in the middle of a crowd several thousand strong.

To pacify critics who worry that Tasers will be used in excess, each gun has a computer device that records the date and time of each time that it's fired. Several tiny discs also are discharged so the location of the firing can be traced.

Cooper said that he is highly critical of ineffective law enforcement tools, but that he sees no problem with Tasers. "For Taser guns to be effective, they should be issued to the average police officer."

Ignorance and cost are the two main reasons that Tasers are not used by all policemen, he added.

At as much as \$1,000 apiece, a Taser costs more than twice as much as the typical semiautomatic carried by most officers, throwing up a legitimate roadblock for most departments.

"We probably will never have enough to give one to every officer," Jarvis said.

Contact the Projects Team at mbhanson@email.unc.edu

TUITION

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UNC hired the Durham-based consulting firm Art & Science Group LLC to conduct a price-sensitivity study, which found that the University can increase tuition at the pace of its peer institutions without severely harming its applicant pool.

The task force discussed the firm's findings toward the end of its five meetings this semester, and trustees also were informed of the study during their November meeting.

Last year, the Tuition Task Force met only once. Calabria said increasing the group's number of meetings also raised the amount of research discussed and students' input into the proposals.

"(We've taken) every opportunity ... possible to work with tuition before it goes to the board," he said.

BOT members said they are looking to find a compromise during their January meeting to satisfy both students and the University.

Trustee Paul Fulton said, "We (want to come to a) reasonable conclusion that meets the needs of the University and its constituents."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

MENORAH

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to the coldest and darkest time of year."

Junior Margaret Teich said the history of Jewish culture has been long and hard. Events such as the Spanish Inquisition and the Holocaust resulted in the deaths of countless Jews.

"We're still around, and that in itself is a miracle," she said.

She also said Hanukkah is not a materialistic holiday. Instead, she said, its importance lies in the miracle of being and the miracle of survival.

Bluming said public menorah lightings are a Chabad trademark and are meant to instill pride and identity in the Jewish community.

Chabad, a new Jewish organization at the University, is linked to an international Jewish group, Chabad-Lubavitch.

Bluming said the group has received a phenomenal response from Jewish students since its creation at the beginning of the semester.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

ASG

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be able to pursue these goals more effectively outside the system with a higher presence in Raleigh.

The BOG declined to adopt those priorities at its November meeting on the grounds that "there wasn't a direct enough correlation to the university," Devore said.

"Even on issues where we do agree, I think it's sometimes good for students to have a different mechanism and a different approach."

Matt Liles, ASG vice president for legislative affairs, agreed that students need a separate outlet for influencing events in Raleigh. "We represent student opinion, and sometimes that differs."

He said the association would coordinate with administrators when appropriate. But he said the ASG would not be the "student branch" of the system's government affairs office.

At its meeting Saturday, the ASG Council of Student Body Presidents worked out a tentative plan to designate at least two weeks each month for specific campuses to send a delegation of students to Raleigh.

The group already has an active legislative affairs division under Liles' direction. Through a renewed focus on this initiative, he and ASG leaders hope to increase the involvement of campuses throughout the state.

Fleming welcomed the idea of student groups visiting the legislature, saying a broad range of students at the Capitol would benefit the lobbying efforts of the university system.

"I think it's very important for legislators to be able to put a face on what we do," he said.

But Faires cautioned that having different students visit each time might be an obstacle for the association.

"A lot is driven off of relationships, and with the students, it's going to be like a revolving door," she said.

But the ASG is barred by state rules from using its budget to hire a professional lobbyist, and leaders said statewide student involvement would be a key part of the initiative.

Liles said that he hopes to attract participation from as many campuses and students as possible, but that he wants a core group that would return frequently. "I want to also get a lot of the same people going so you can get a rapport going with legislators."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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