

POLICE LOG

FROM STAFF REPORTS

■ A forcible rape that occurred at 11 p.m. Oct. 25 was reported Wednesday afternoon, Chapel Hill police reports state.

According to a blind report to police, a woman in her mid 20s missed a Triangle Transit Authority bus at a stop on East Franklin Street and accepted a ride from a stranger.

The man drove her to an alley, where he strangled, raped and sexually assaulted her, the report states.

He then drove from that site and let her out of the car on U.S. 15-501 past the Interstate 40 bridge, the report states.

The man was described as olive-skinned and muscular with a scar on the left chest, brown eyes, thick eyebrows, long hair in the front and short in the back and was wearing cowboy boots, the report states.

His car is described as a 1989 or 1990 "box-style" Toyota Tercel with a manual transmission and the radio removed. It was described as rusty and red, the report states.

A blind report is anonymous information given to police by someone who might not want to prosecute or go to court. Filing a blind report is not uncommon in sexual assault cases, said police spokeswoman Jane Cousins.

Anyone with information should contact the Chapel Hill Police Department at 968-2760.

■ A waiter at Ming Garden Chinese Restaurant, at 1826 Airport Road, was arrested at 3 p.m. Wednesday at his residence at 501 Jones Ferry Road CC-8 and charged with armed robbery, attempted armed robbery and attempted first-degree burglary — all felonies — Carrboro police reports state.

According to reports, Joseph Bernard Hunter II, 19, also known as JB, was arrested on warrants issued from two separate incidents on Jan. 24.

In the first incident at about 6:50 p.m., a suspect attempted to rob a 34-year-old man through closed sliding-glass doors at the Carolina Apartments, at 401 N.C.

54 Bypass, reports state.

According to reports, when the suspect displayed a handgun and demanded that the victim open the doors to his patio, the victim ran down the hall and called police.

In the second incident at about 6:55 p.m., a suspect robbed a 30-year-old of \$100 outside of a building at the University Lake Apartments, at 200 Barnes Street, reports state.

According to reports, the suspect put a gun to the victim's head and demanded the money.

Hunter was taken to Orange County Jail to be held on a \$1,000 secured bond. He will appear at the first opportunity in Orange County District Criminal Court in Hillsborough.

■ A break-in occurred at midnight Wednesday at 705 N. Columbia St. when an unknown suspect entered a UNC student's vehicle through an unlocked door, Chapel Hill police reports state.

According to reports, more than \$3,000 in property was stolen, including a computer, a wallet, a backpack and cash.

CORRECTION

■ Due to a reporting error, the Feb. 24 article "Town Council whitelisted down list of developers" misattributed a quote to council member Edith Wiggins. The quote — "That is a disgusting piece of architecture. If they repeat that downtown, I think we should just pack up," in reference to the Meadowmont development off N.C. 54 — was spoken by council member Dorothy Verkerk.

To report corrections, contact Managing Editor Chris Coletta at ccoletta@email.unc.edu.

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P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515
Michelle Jarboe, Editor, 962-4086
Advertising & Business, 962-1163
News, Features, Sports, 962-0245

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Odum spots slow to fill up

BY DANIEL WILKES
STAFF WRITER

The 150 undergraduates who toured the Odum Village residential apartments last November were given the first shot Tuesday to reserve spaces for fall semester.

But only 20 took advantage of their priority status. Rick Bradley, spokesman for the Department of Housing and Residential Education, said officials were hoping for five times that number.

"(Tuesday) was disappointing," he said.

On Wednesday, any undergraduate student living on campus was allowed to recontract for a fall spot in Odum Village.

Bradley said 80 students reserved housing in Odum Village that day, bringing the total to 100 students and 50 reserved apartments.

When campuswide recontracting opens at the end of March, 175 apartments will be up for grabs.

Two students sharing a bedroom each will pay between \$2,150 and \$2,200 per semester. Students will pay \$2,950 to \$3,000 per semester to have a private bedroom. Those rates include furniture, utilities, wireless Internet, basic cable and local telephone service.

Bradley said he expects Odum Village to be filled by the fall because any open spaces will be available to transfer students and then to graduate students.

Students who received recontracting priorities by attending the November tours but who chose not to said the cost was the main deterrent.

"I really think that the price had a lot to do with it," said freshman biology major Tera Batts. "I



DTH/WHITNEY SHEPTE

Freshmen Chase Rice (left) and Connor Barth look at photographs Thursday of model apartments at Odum Village. The two UNC football players will live there next fall when the complex opens its doors to undergraduates.

thought it was too much for what they were giving."

She also said that she had wished the official price ranges were released in November so she could discuss finances with her family. The housing department released price ranges about two weeks ago, Bradley said.

Natasha Adams, a junior from Gastonia, also said she found apartments off campus for cheaper rates and was not willing to pay more to live in Odum Village, given its location south of UNC Hospitals.

"I could either live off campus and take a bus or live on campus and take a bus," she said in reference to Odum Village.

Bradley said he was surprised by the relatively small number of spots reserved Tuesday and Wednesday because students have responded favorably to the possibility of on-campus apartments.

"It was a combination of factors: (students) not understanding the value of an all-inclusive rate, location, price and parking," Bradley said. "They look at rent off campus and compare it to our

rent but don't factor in the cost of utilities."

He said Chapel Hill Transit and UNC's Department of Public Safety have planned bus routes to accommodate the new Odum Village residents.

"I think that information has been put out to students, about transportation in particular, but there is so much information being put out on campus that some may not hear that information."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Alliance to ease teacher shortage

BY ASHLEY SIMMONS
STAFF WRITER

The UNC system is set to join forces with community colleges in the battle against a statewide teacher shortage.

Under a plan announced by Gov. Mike Easley during his State of the State address Monday, the system's 16 universities would collaborate with the state's 58 community colleges on the "2+2 Program," which UNC-Chapel Hill helped pilot in

1999. The program allows students to pursue a teaching degree through two years at local community colleges followed by two years at a four-year university through distance learning.

The idea is to make teaching accessible to the general public as other fields.

Easley said Monday that he hopes the program's expansion will help the state reach his goal of

increasing the number of teachers it produces by 64 percent each year.

"We know that when our children have access to good teachers, they succeed," he said. "But right now, we only produce one-third of the teachers we need. This business model will not work. We must change it."

The idea originated in 1999 as part of the Learn NC program, a project at UNC-CH's School of Education. The University now works with several community colleges to provide aid to people seeking their teaching degrees.

Now, those efforts are expanding statewide.

"All of our university campuses will begin programs with community colleges, in every corner of this state, so that teachers can get their degree from a licensed university in their community and children can get the teachers they need in their schools," Easley said during

his speech.

Martin Lancaster, president of the N.C. Community College System, said the program would provide potential teachers with the chance to earn certification locally.

"Studies show that teachers like to return to where they were taught," he said. "This is especially helpful in rural areas where teacher retention is a problem."

UNC-system President Molly Broad also said the agreement will prove key for the students of North Carolina.

"It is imperative that every child have access to a good public school education provided by highly qualified teachers," she said.

"We simply can't afford to fail in these efforts."

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

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