

POLICE LOG

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A Chapel Hill man was arrested at 7:30 p.m. Friday and charged with felony assault with a deadly weapon and misdemeanor assault on a female at his residence at 800 Pritchard Ave. Ext. C17, Chapel Hill police reports state.

Reports state that Richard Wayne Chavis, 35, was arrested after officers responded to a call to the residence.

He was taken to Orange County Jail and was not given a bond. He will appear today in Orange County District Criminal Court in Hillsborough.

A UNC student and a Pitt Community College student both were arrested at 1 a.m. Sunday and charged in relation to an event at 201 E. Franklin St., Chapel Hill police reports state.

William Samuel Cox Jr., 19, of Pitt Community College was charged with simple assault, damage to property, being drunk and disruptive and resisting arrest — all misdemeanors — reports state.

Cox threw a beer bottle through the front door at East End Oyster & Martini Bar, shattering the window above a police officer, reports state.

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

James Jeremiah Buck, 21, a UNC senior sociology major, was charged with being drunk and disruptive and resisting arrest in the same incident, reports state.

He was taken to Orange County Jail to be held on a \$500 secured bond. He will appear today in Orange County District Criminal Court in Hillsborough.

A UNC junior sociology major was arrested at 3:30 a.m. Saturday on Roberson Street and was charged with driving while intoxicated, Chapel Hill police reports state.

According to reports, Marilyn Brooks Carlson, 20, of 409 N. Columbia St., was involved in a vehicle collision while she was driving a 2001 Jeep SUV.

Her blood alcohol content was measured at 0.15 percent by the Intoxilyzer 5000, reports state.

She was released on a written promise to appear April 5 in Orange County District Criminal Court in Chapel Hill.

Officials tackle statistics, issues of area homelessness

BY MELODY GUYTON STAFF WRITER

Two-hundred thirty — it's the number of homeless people counted in Orange County on the night of Jan. 6, a number that some homeless aid workers say is an underestimation of the true extent of the problem.

Perhaps more startling is that 30 percent of those counted were labeled "chronically homeless" — a label given to those who have a disability and have been homeless for more than a year. That percentage is three times the national average.

Those and other statistics were announced Friday morning by local officials and homeless aid workers at a press conference at the HomeStart campus in Chapel Hill.

The announcement was followed by remarks from Philip Mangano, executive director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, who spoke of his vision for the region: "... To ensure that every citizen of Durham and Orange County — every citizen — is known by a single name, 'neighbor,' and treated like one."

Craig Chancellor, president and chief executive officer of the Triangle United Way, echoed Mangano's optimism.

"When we look back at how we got here, how did we end up in a place of 600 kids being homeless?"

Chancellor said. "Our vision may be blurry, but as we look forward, our vision is clear."

Those 600 children account for one-third of the 1,800 homeless people in the Triangle area.

Billie Guthrie of the Community Initiative to End Homelessness said children are the fastest-growing part of the homeless population.

To try to bring down those numbers, local officials are working with the Interagency Council on Homelessness to develop a 10-year plan to end homelessness.

The plan, which has been endorsed by Orange County and the town of Chapel Hill, focuses on increasing funding for preventative programs, expanding shelter space and pooling the resources of governmental, faith-based and assistance agencies.

Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy expressed his confidence in the community's willingness to get involved in the plan.

"These are our neighbors who are most vulnerable. They're part of our extended family," he said. "Let's not treat them as someone other than that."

Foy also expressed hope that UNC and Carrboro will get involved in the plan. Carrboro is scheduled to discuss the plan Tuesday.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Cadets get taste of combat

BY KATIE HOFFMANN STAFF WRITER

Flat against the ground with guns in hand and disappearing into the earth, cadets from UNC's Army ROTC were in their element Saturday morning.

"I love this," said junior Warren Green. "I was always the one to sit on my dad's lap and watch the war movies."

Clad in camouflaged Army fatigues and 4-pound Kevlar helmets, 38 cadets stood in formation at 0830 hours Saturday at Duke Forest, raring to begin their first strategic tactical exercises.

The training exposes cadets to the atmosphere and missions of war. It is designed specifically to place the juniors in leadership positions, preparing them for training camps they will attend this summer.

"We're making them be leaders now so they learn their strengths and weaknesses under stress," said Lt. Col. Elizabeth Agather.

At 1030 hours, cadets from one of the five squads hid among trees and grass, silently waiting to complete their first mission: ambush.

When the two enemies walked by a few minutes later, the atmosphere suddenly filled with shouts of "bang, bang, bang!" as cadets simulated gun shots.

Instead of real weapons, cadets were armed with fake guns made of high-density rubber called "rubber ducks" — one of the few reminders that this was not real combat.

The squad then conducted the routine procedures of checking the dead for weapons and securing their surroundings after the ambush.

Cadet Tyrel Keplinger was the first of the juniors in his squad to lead a mission.

Keplinger had listened intently, rapidly taking notes of the details, as Master Sgt. Ronald Haley explained the squad's ambush mission about an hour earlier.

Building on this base, Keplinger planned the route of attack with a fellow cadet and then called his squad together.

He then pulled out laminated pink and yellow cards with words such as "objective" on them and laid them on the ground to form a map — one of the first of many signs that the army is not always tense and drab.

"Well, we've got to have color somewhere," joked Amy Rutkowske, one of the seniors on hand to help supervise and manage the younger cadets. "Puts a little spice in our life."

During the meeting with Rutkowske and Haley after the mission, superiors evaluated the cadets' performance and pointed out minor errors.

"There are rules to the game they have to learn," Rutkowske said. "When someone is counting on you, you really have to get things done."



DTH/RACHAEL HYDE Cadet Marshall Tucker, a junior, stakes out the perimeter of a safety zone during an Army ROTC exercise in Hillsborough on Saturday.

For the cadets, these training exercises will soon become reality — they are required to serve at least four years of active duty after graduation.

While some cadets said they plan to make a career out of the military, others said they want to pursue other goals.

Junior Marshall Tucker said he plans to teach middle school English, and junior Nick Armstrong said he wants to pursue a career in venture capitalism.

Others cited different issues

they have to take into consideration when they contemplate a military life, such as the effect it would have on their families.

But the thought of serving four years did not seem to phase some cadets, even with the war in Iraq looming over their heads.

"If anything, it makes me anxious to go," sophomore Chris Sheehan said. "You just want to get out there and help the people who are already there."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Local leaders seek transit funds

Mull tax hikes to aid fare-free system

BY MICHAEL TODD STAFF WRITER

The leaders of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Orange County governments discussed Friday the area's mutual interest in alleviating rising costs in its fare-free transit system.

Growth in the area has caused demand for public transportation to climb — a trend that is the stimulus for several potential legislative requests from the municipalities.

"Demand for transit has increased exponentially," Carrboro Mayor Mike Nelson said following a meeting with Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy and Moses Carey Jr., chairman of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

Carrboro intends to submit a formal legislative proposal to increase its motor vehicle tax by \$10 to meet that rise in demand.

Foy said he thinks the towns' bus system should be expanded to serve

residents who do not have access to free transit.

"You can't ignore the fact that we are being crippled by a lack of good transportation," he said, adding that traffic congestion is lessened by public transit services.

While no formal agreements were made Friday, both Foy and Nelson shared enthusiasm about increasing the towns' motor vehicle tax to stimulate funding.

They agreed that a joint effort by both towns might carry more weight with the General Assembly. Foy also said he is interested in pursuing other possible revenue raising options such as levying a 2-cent gasoline tax or a sales tax increase.

"We all have limited ways of raising money," he said.

Carey said public transit is a primary concern for other cities as well. He said people all over the Triangle are discussing alternative funding for transit costs.

The Chapel Hill Town Council also is considering a \$1 luxury tax on event ticket sales at the University in its legislative requests.

If passed, the tax would be earmarked for public transit.

High-profile events such as UNC men's basketball games, with ticket prices exceeding \$35, would be targeted.

Some University officials have opposed this tax in the past on the grounds that it undermines their rights to determine ticket value.

"The University has always opposed it, and I don't see any difference in the current situation," said Jonathan Howes, special assistant to the chancellor and former mayor of Chapel Hill.

Donald Luse, director of the Carolina Union, said the tax would force ticket prices up.

"Obviously, an increase in performance price would increase the cost of production. It's simple mathematics," he said.

Director of Athletics Dick Baddour said he thinks the town already profits from visitors attending sporting events.

"This core group of people that have a positive impact on the community would be further exploited by this tax," he said.

But Baddour said University approval of the luxury tax is not required for implementation.

Although that is the legal reality, Foy said, University support is key to the success of the luxury tax.

Proponents of the tax argue that it would help reduce the burden of high transit costs for both the University and Chapel Hill.

"Some tickets are on a seller's market for hundreds of dollars. A \$1 increase wouldn't increase event cost," said Roland Giduz, a resident of Chapel Hill and long-time supporter of the luxury tax.

Giduz has advocated for the idea for about 25 years.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

The Daily Tar Heel

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CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, the Feb. 25 article "Campuses to duke it out through food drive" stated that Duke University took donations for the Beat Hunger, Beat Duke competition last year. It did not.

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

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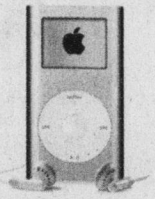
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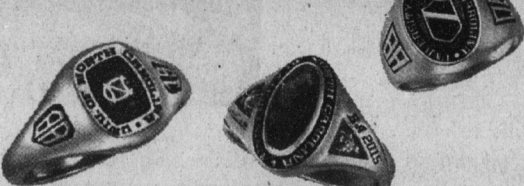
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