

## POLICE LOG

■ Hoover Leon Byrd, also known as Hoover Leon Pot, of 401 N.C. 54, in Carrboro, was arrested at 2:39 a.m. Tuesday at 600 Craig St., on charges of possessing a schedule II controlled substance and drug paraphernalia, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

Police found half a gram of "crack" cocaine and a pipe — valued at \$1 — on Byrd, who was released on a written promise to appear in Orange County District Criminal Court in Hillsborough on Tuesday.

■ A Burlington man reported the theft of \$2,500 in tools from his trailer located in a parking lot at 11:29 a.m. Monday at 108 Crosscreek Drive, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The tools included an air compressor, three drills, a skill saw, a reciprocating jamb saw, a small jamb saw and a \$600 Hitachi roofing gun, reports state.

The reports also indicated a \$7 master lock was damaged in the

incident.

The theft was discovered at 9 a.m. Monday and the tools were last known secure at 6 p.m. Sunday, according to reports.

■ A University senior reported the theft of several music-related items at 11:29 a.m. Monday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

According to reports, eight compact discs valued at \$125 and a radio face plate valued at \$300 were stolen from the 1999 Honda Civic, which was entered by breaking out the rear window.

Reports valued damage to the car at \$300.

■ University Presbyterian Church, 209 E. Franklin St., reported a light fixture behind the building vandalized at 11:22 a.m. Monday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The fixture was last known to be secure at 5 p.m. Sunday, according to reports.

Damage was valued at \$100,

reports state.

■ American Fibers and Yarns Company, 55 Vilcom Circle, Suite 300, reported two doors pried at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Chapel Hill police reports state.

The damage to the doors, which occurred sometime after 6 p.m. Thursday, was valued at \$200 and the facility was not entered, according to reports.

Police have no leads.

■ The front door of North Carolina Chiropractic, 212 W. Rosemary St., was reported damaged at 9:59 a.m. Monday according to Chapel Hill police reports.

According to reports, the door, which appeared to have been kicked in sometime after 5 p.m. Saturday, sustained \$100 in damage.

Police have no leads.

■ A large glass window at the Dogwood Parking Deck was found shattered around 8:45 p.m. Monday, police reports state.

Public Safety employee Raymond Milan reported the vandalism Monday night, according to reports.

Damage to the window is estimated at \$800, reports state.

Police currently have no leads, but are continuing the investigation.

■ A UNC student reported damage to his 2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser on Monday, police reports state.

The vehicle was left on Country Club Road on Friday night, and when the owner returned Monday, there were large dents on both the hood and roof of the car, according to reports.

The incident is similar to others reported by students to the Department of Public Safety, reports state.

The vehicle sustained about \$1,800 worth of damage, according to reports.

There are currently no suspects and the incident is still under investigation, reports state.

## BASKETBALL FEVER



DTH/GALEN CLARKE

Graduate student Brian Fuller (front) distributes bracelets Tuesday for the first men's basketball ticket handout of the year this Saturday. Check back in Thursday's DTH to read about how sophomores are upset that the distribution date coincides with registration.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ The Downtown Partnership safety task force will meet at 8:30 a.m. today at Panera Bread, 213 W. Franklin St.

■ Commencement Information Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today in the Union Multipurpose Room.

■ The Young Democrats will hold a rally to promote early voting at noon today outside the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center. Rep. Verla Insko, D-Orange, will speak at the event.

■ The chancellor's advisory committee will meet from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. today in South Building 307.

■ Carol Woods will host a forum for candidates in the Chapel Hill Town Council race at 3:30 p.m. today in its meeting hall.

■ The Carolina Women's Center director search committee will meet at 5 p.m. today in South Building 105.

■ Def Jam recording artist Ghostface Killah and three other hip-hop artists will speak at 6:30 p.m. today in Manning 209. Their talk is titled "Is Music Making the Money or Money Making the Music?"

■ A vigil to honor the 2,000 soldiers who have died in Iraq will be held at 6:30 p.m. today in the

Durham Central Park.

■ Student Congress will host a facilities-use forum for student organizations from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. today in Manning 209. The groups are invited to come and express their concerns about the availability of meeting space on campus.

■ There will be a Peace Corps information session from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in Hanes Hall 239.

■ The Chapel Hill Band Dirty30 will play at 10 p.m. at the Local 506. Tickets are \$6. Visit [www.local506.com](http://www.local506.com) for more information.

■ Get free T-shirts and informational flyers today in celebration of Pedestrian Safety Awareness Day. The UNC Highway Safety Research Center and the Department of Public Safety are sponsoring Yield to Heels Day.

The event will be held at the following crosswalks: South Road at the Bell Tower, South Road by the SRC, South Columbia at the big fraternity court, and Manning Drive between the School of Dentistry and the Thurston-Bowles Building.

To make a calendar submission, visit <http://www.dailytarheel.com> for a list of submission policies and contacts. Events must be sent in by noon the preceding publication date.

## Analysts say Black still key politico

Examined for contributions, advisers

BY ERIN FRANCE  
STAFF WRITER

Even as investigations by state and federal authorities continue, N.C. House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, is still a powerful player in state politics.

But the outcomes of those investigations, which include questions about campaign contributions and the activities of one of his former advisers, could determine his political future, analysts said.

"Clearly Speaker Black is lying

in the hot seat right now," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

He said Black's power might have been challenged if the N.C. General Assembly was in session.

Other analysts said the investigations have affected Black's image, but not his power.

"There is no question Speaker Black has taken some public relations hits," said John Hood, president of the John Locke Foundation.

He said some Republicans already had mentioned Black stepping down as speaker. But regardless of whether the House was in session, legislators would not rush to find a replacement for Black, Hood added.

"His control of the House is not immediately affected."

Jennifer Roberts, a member of the board of county commissioners for Mecklenburg County, said Black's history in North Carolina will guard him from hasty judgements.

"He has worked in the best interests of the people for a long time," she said. "He still has a lot of influence."

She said that although there are questions Black should answer, the state is very appreciative of his leadership.

Bob Hall, the research director of Democracy N.C., said the information analyzed by his organization found that video poker interests made illegal campaign donations to Black and other legislators.

But he said there is no evidence Black knew the donations were illegal.

"More than \$100,000 from video poker interests went into the Jim Black campaign for the 2002 election cycle," he said.

Besides questions about campaign contributions, Black has undergone scrutiny regarding his subpoenas from the U.S. attorney's office and his political relationship with Meredith Norris, who some claim worked as an unregistered lottery lobbyist.

Norris worked as Black's unpaid political director while also employed as a consultant for Scientific Games, one of the country's largest lottery vendors. Black dismissed Norris from his staff several weeks ago.

Guillory said other legislators might learn to avoid confusing the roles of advisers and lobbyists.

"They can use this episode to examine procedures," he said.

"Lobbyists ought to represent their clients, and legislative assistants ought to represent their legislators," he said. "You can't do both at the same time."

Bob Phillips, the executive director of Common Cause North Carolina, said clearer lobbying laws might have prevented the confusion surrounding Norris' position on Black's staff.

"Common Cause does believe there should be no dual roles for a lobbyist," he said.

Phillips said an individual's participation in both government and business often makes the public suspicious.

"It sends the wrong signal to the public," he said. "People can't help but question what kind of connection that gives the lobbyist."

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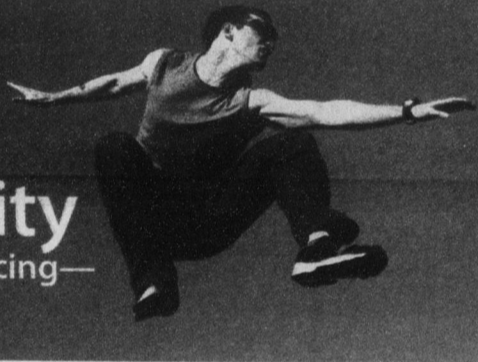
The Daily Tar Heel

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One copy per person; additional copies may be purchased at The Daily Tar Heel for \$2.25 each.

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