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Voters asked to turn out to polls today

YOUNG PEOPLE DON'T VOTE BUT VOLUNTEER IN DROVES

BY NICOLE NORFLEET
STAFF WRITER

Tables line the Pit. Fliers litter the ground. Every day, students are on campus fighting against hunger, oppression and cancer.

While young people are notorious for not voting, a study released in October recognizes that they are contributing to their community in other ways.

According to the 2006 Civic and Political Health of the Nation Survey, more than 36 percent of people ages 15 to 25 volunteered in the last year, and almost 20 percent were involved with solving community problems.

The report was conducted by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at the University

of Maryland and examined how young Americans involve themselves in the community.

The study focused on different measures of civic engagement, such as volunteering, boycotting and fundraising.

At Chapel Hill, students are active in more than 600 officially recognized student organizations. Students are bombarded with ways to get involved.

"There are an overwhelming level of choices, I don't know how people sort it out," said Virginia Carson, director of the Campus Y.

In a 2003 survey of UNC first-year students, 88 percent of the 434 surveyed said they volun-

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Groups gear up to support electorate

BY ERIC SHEPHERD MARTIN
SENIOR WRITER

Today is the day for Orange County residents to place their votes at one of more than 40 available polling locations.



Members of campus political organizations will be on hand to make sure the process runs as smoothly as possible.

Kris Gould, chairman of voter advocacy group Vote Carolina, said members of the organization will greet students in the Pit with voting guides and cotton candy.

Gould said this year's election is vital to students, as many Orange County offices are on the

Where to vote

To find out where you should cast your ballot visit www.sboe.state.nc.us/votersearch/seimsvot.htm

The 2006 elections also will include candidates for national and state positions, such as a seat for the U.S. Congress and the N.C. Supreme Court chief justice.

But most candidates will be competing for local positions, including county commissioner and district superior court judge.

"Because these are much more

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 8

Contested Races in Orange County

County Commissioner, pick three:

- Alice Gordon DEM
- Barry Jacobs DEM
- Mike Nelson DEM
- Jamie Daniel REP

N.C. Superior Court Judge District 15B, pick two:

- Charles Anderson
- Allen Baddour
- Carl R. Fox
- Adam Stein

U.S. Congress District 04:

- David Price DEM
- Steve Acuff REP

N.C. Senate District 23:

- Ellie Kinnaird DEM
- E.B. Alston REP

N.C. House District 54:

- Joe Hackney DEM
- Alvin Reed REP

N.C. Court of Appeals:

- Linda Stephens
- Kris Bailey
- Donna Stroud
- Robert Hunter

N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice:

- Sarah Parker
- Rusty Duke

N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice:

- Rachel Hunter
- Mark Martin
- Eric Levinson
- Patricia Timmons-Goodson
- Ann Calabria
- Robin Hudson

Orange County Sheriff:

- Lindy Pendergrass DEM
- William Parker REP

SOURCE: Orange County Board of Elections

Officers face repeat crimes

Downtown force hits streets today

BY MEREDITH MILLER
SENIOR WRITER

Chapel Hill police will have a greater presence downtown starting today, as more officers are added to the area.

The 12-unit force, which includes five new officer positions, is intended to help police create a safer downtown. But much of the business district is plagued by repeat offenders for minor property and nuisance crimes, side-tracking officers from their overall goals.

"We have a lot of needs in the community. ... And we spend a lot of time dealing with the same people," Chief Gregg Jarvies said.

From Jan. 1 to Oct. 26, 24 people have been either cited or arrested on more than three occasions in the downtown area, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

Those 24 people made up 196 of the 1,017 crimes reported during that period, or about 19.3 percent.

The majority of repeat offenders were cited on charges of minor property and nuisance crimes, such as misuse of public seating or second-degree trespassing.

"A lot of the time that (officers) spend dealing with these same nuisance crimes is time they could use preventing crime," Jarvies said.

Not a full picture

According to the most recent downtown crime report, which was presented at the late-September Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership meeting, crime downtown has declined.

The report included the number of reported crimes in the area and the number of nuisance/disturbance calls.

In the first six months of the year, personal crimes, which include murder, robbery and aggravated assault, had decreased in the central business district by 13 percent, compared to the numbers from July through December 2005.

Likewise, property crime, which includes larceny and burglary, declined 9 percent downtown.

Police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said there can be a gray area in using crime statistics as a way to determine the safety of an area.

"Representing crime and arrests does not always reflect people's perception about their safety," she said.

Cousins said the department does deal with a number of calls reporting things that are not illegal.

"We do get reports about people getting intimidated by people. ... That's an example of something that is not quite a crime but makes people uncomfortable."

The statistics also do not show how many property crimes and

SEE CRIME, PAGE 8

THE GIFT OF GIVING



DTH PHOTOS/SARAH NEAL SIMPSON

Renee Bailey presented a new computer and more than \$600 worth of books and gifts to the children enrolled in the Hospital School.

Oprah's money used for students

BY EMILY GALLIMORE
STAFF WRITER

Oprah Winfrey gave Renee Bailey a debit card with \$1,000 on it when she attended the taping of her show.

She also gave Bailey 10 days to use the money for a charitable cause and record her experience.

On Monday, Bailey fought back tears while presenting the Hospital School at UNC Hospitals with gifts purchased using the money.

The Hospital School is part of Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools. It serves UNC Hospitals' patients from kindergarten to 12th grade.

Bailey was selected to be one of 300 audience members on the Oct. 30 episode of The Oprah Winfrey Show after submitting an essay that described her desire to help others.

Her daughter, Melissa Bailey, is an N.C. Teaching Fellow at the University and a Hospital School volunteer.

"It was Melissa who told her mother ... about Hospital School," said Flicka Bateman, principal of the Hospital School. "When Renee was told, 'Find your favorite charity,' she knew just what it was."

Winfrey instructed the audience to spend the money helping others and to capture the experience with the recorder. The DVD recordings

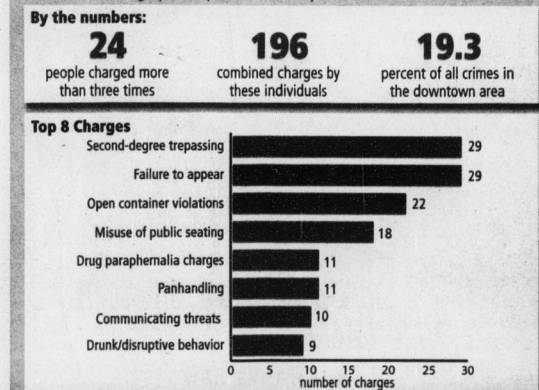
SEE GIFT, PAGE 8



Bailey presents Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools' Hospital School at UNC Hospitals with \$1,000 of gifts courtesy of Oprah Winfrey.

Downtown usual suspects

Twenty-four people have been charged more than three times between Jan. 1 to Oct. 26, making up 19.3 percent of all reported crimes in downtown.



Three students infected by E. coli

BY ERIN ZUREICK
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Three UNC students have developed illnesses related to E. coli bacteria in recent days, University officials said Monday.

The students have confirmed cases of gastroenteritis, or inflammation of the stomach and intestines, according to an e-mail sent out to University students at about 5:45 p.m. Monday.

Health officials also are investigating additional possible cases among University students, said Mary Covington, associate vice chancellor for campus health services. She said the number is "a small handful."

Neither Covington nor Lisa Katz, director of UNC News Services, were able to confirm the statuses of the students or release their names.

"We think this is isolated," said Margaret Jablonski, vice chancellor for student affairs.

The sickness, which is caused by a particular type of E. coli bacteria, can cause severe diarrhea, abdominal cramps and occasionally is associated with severe complications — particularly among young children and the elderly.

"Most people come to medical attention because they have the acute onset of severe diarrhea — oftentimes it's bloody," Covington said.

The affected students developed symptoms between Oct. 26 and 29, according to the e-mail. The bacteria usually makes people sick within 10 days of infection.

The investigation has not identified any common source of exposure so far, and there is no indication that other students are at risk, according to the e-mail.

Covington said the illness generally is foodborne.

Most cases are caused by eating undercooked, contaminated ground beef. People also

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CLARIFICATION

The Monday front-page story, "UNC streaks to conference title," states that the UNC women's soccer team has lost two ACC Tournament games. The team has lost two penalty kick shootouts, which count as two ties in the standings. The Daily Tar Heel apologizes.

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ART ATTACK Residents can submit ideas for public art projects, PAGE 10

LOOKING BOTH WAYS Group presents ideas to help pedestrian safety, PAGE 11

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GOING SWIMMINGLY UNC's swimming and diving team wades through a successful weekend against tough competition at a double-dual meet at Koury Natatorium.



this day in history

NOV. 7, 1987 ...
UNC dedicates Katherine Kennedy Carmichael Residence Hall. Carmichael came to UNC in 1946 as dean of women and in 1972 became associate dean of student affairs.

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