

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Town names new police chief Shift a maybe for law school

BY KAYLA CARRICK  
CITY EDITOR

When Brian Curran and his college roommate came to Chapel Hill to see Michael Jordan play on weekends, Curran never thought he would one day lead the town's police force.

"I got out of the Navy, came to town for a weekend, and I'm still here," he said.

In the 21 years that followed, Curran has worked his way from a public safety officer to the department's head post.

During a Chapel Hill Town Council meeting Monday, Town



**Brian Curran** was named Chapel Hill police chief Monday after six months as interim chief.

Manager Roger Stancil officially named Curran chief of police, after a lengthy search that kept Curran in the interim position for six months.

Curran has led the department temporarily since former police Chief Gregg Jarvie's April retirement.

A national search for a replacement for Jarvie began in January, but Curran didn't apply for the job.

"I just didn't feel at that time that I was really prepared for it," he said.

After a selection process, Stancil decided to hire former Fayetteville police Chief Tom McCarthy. Just before he was supposed to be sworn into the position, McCarthy learned he had health problems that kept him from becoming chief.

When McCarthy was unable to accept the position, Curran decided he wanted to lead the department. "I just decided I was going to

embrace the job, and I've been having a lot more fun since," he said.

The town began accepting a second round of applications in July, when about 50 additional applicants submitted their names. Most of the other job candidates were external.

After a panel interview, Stancil decided Curran possessed the attributes that residents said they wanted in their police chief, including honesty, experience and a knowledge of the community.

"His behavior is consistent with who he says he is," Stancil said. "Chapel Hill is a unique community, and he knows what it's like."

Stancil said he has asked Curran to assess the department, develop a leadership program for nonsworn officers and become a member of the town's management team.

Stancil also wants Curran to expand the community policing concept to the entire town. Curran implemented community policing in the Northside neighborhood.

Curran said he will spend his time improving a great department.

"One of the good things I like about the police department is we're not broken," he said.

SEE POLICE CHIEF, PAGE 9

## Shift a maybe for law school

BY WHITNEY KISLING  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

As the Board of Trustees preps to make an approval decision about Carolina North conceptual plans, the School of Law is getting feedback about moving to the satellite campus or renovating its current facility.

The school recently received a review, conducted by the architectural consulting firm SmithGroup, that considers the cost and time it would take to renovate the law school building, located near the School of Government on Ridge Road.

The review estimates that the renovation would cost \$91 million and take four or five years to complete through four phases.

Because of the costly forecast, several law school officials are expecting to lean toward a move off campus, which could change the school's climate.

"The law school values being on campus — being halfway to Davis Library, Lenoir Hall and the School of Government," said Jack Boger, dean of the law school.

But the building, which was

SEE LAW REVIEW, PAGE 9

### Details of the law school's possible expansion

- Add 75,000 square feet of new space to the existing 165,000 square feet.
- Include a 250-seat auditorium, classrooms and more faculty offices.
- Update facilities with improved technology in smaller classrooms.

### Three possible designs:

- Student Interaction — components are organized around a central atrium.
- Campus Space — share green space with School of Government.
- Outreach — moves law clinic, library and auditorium along Ridge Road.

SOURCE: Executive summary of the SmithGroup

## HOMAGE TO INTEGRATION

BY DAVID GILMORE AND  
STEPHANIE METZEN  
STAFF WRITERS

Students were shocked when a group of protesters carrying racist signs and screaming racial slurs burst out of Lenoir Dining Hall and into the Pit at noon Monday.

Holding satirical posters with messages such as, "Separate is not equal, but it's easy" and "Race mixing is communism," the white protesters surrounded nine black students as they were led by mock federal troops.

The scene was part of a re-enactment of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, a pivotal civil rights moment that celebrates its 50th anniversary today.

Organized by the Mu Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Inc., the event commemorated the integration of nine black students into the previously all-white school.

"We want to remind people of where we've come from," said Bryce Jenkins, a principal organizer of the event and member of Alpha Phi Alpha. "We've made progress, but in lieu of recent events, there is more that can be done by both black and white people."

The performance came in the wake of the Jena Six protests in Jena, La., in which six black students were charged with counts of attempted murder for the beating of a white student. Many have decried the charges, which followed the hanging of nooses from an oak tree in front of the local high school, as excessive and racially motivated.

More than 100 students witnessed Monday's re-enactment and the poetry reading that followed. Members of the Ebony Readers/followx Theatre presented poems filled with poignant questions and lyrical descriptions of the forced integration.

"In an era when rocks were being heaved through rock windows, these nine little rocks sought to change the face of class windows," recited Maya Mitchell, vice president of the group.

Observers said they found the poetry espe-

cially moving. "I felt as if they put their hearts into what they were saying. You could tell these struggles were meaningful to them and were something they were passionate about," UNC senior Chandni Patel said.

Students said they were most surprised by the way the performance started.

"We wanted to have definite shock value," said Jarrette Pittman, another member of Alpha Phi Alpha.

"It was real," freshman Antoinette Lecky said. "The poetry reading brought it to life."

The desegregation of Little Rock Central High School has become a symbol for the struggle that characterized the forced integration of American schools.

The black students entered their new high school with the protection of federal troops Sept. 25, 1957, despite opposition by many white protesters and the Arkansas governor.

"This posed a constitutional crisis. The governor thought it was a state's right to decide whether or not the schools should integrate," said Scott Carter, public relations manager for the city of Little Rock, Ark.

The governor's opposition conflicted with the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling that all schools must integrate. It was only after President Dwight Eisenhower intervened by sending federal troops to back the court's decision that the governor temporarily relented.

The governor later closed public high schools in Little Rock for a year before the state finally allowed integration efforts to continue.

Harry Watson, director of the Center for the Study of the American South at UNC, said the integration of Little Rock Central High School was an important first step in the civil rights movement.

"At the time, 1957, it looked like it was the beginning of something," Watson said. "It really was starting the enormous consequences of demonstrating what a local black community could do."

Watson said the Little Rock Nine helped fuel the sit-in movement, brought aid to Martin Luther King Jr. and spurred the creation of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The courage of those nine students

SEE LITTLE ROCK 9, PAGE 9



Students re-enacted the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School on Monday in the Pit by acting out the parts of protesters and the students, called the Little Rock Nine.

## Chatham's growth increases commuters

BY TRACEY THERET  
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

The eastern portion of Chatham County is growing, and an increasing percentage of its residents work in Orange County.

Both counties' government officials are concerned about the effects the commuters' traffic might cause.

"The big issue is how we can get people efficiently and with a minimum of pollution and traffic from the parts of Chatham that have a lot of University employees to the campus," said Barry Jacobs, vice chairman of the Orange County Board of Commissioners.

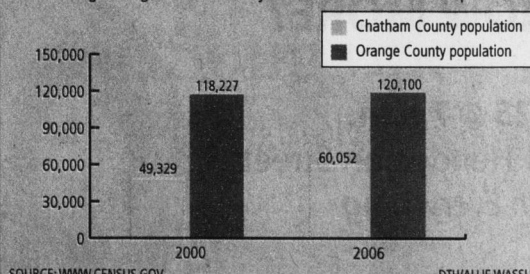
There are 1,258 employees affiliated with the University and UNC Health Care and Hospitals that commute daily from Chatham County, according to UNC News Services. That accounts for about 7 percent of a total of 18,771 employees.

"The proportion of UNC employees that live in Orange County is declining," Jacobs said.

With thousands of housing units popping up in eastern Chatham, local governments will have to use time and resources to adjust for the population shift.

### Orange County and Chatham County growth

Orange County's population increased at a rate of 1.6 percent during six years, whereas neighboring Chatham County's increased at a rate of 21.7 percent.



Chatham County Planner Keith Megginson said the county first saw a population surge in the mid-1970s from Orange County spillover.

"As other areas got more crowded, people looked to move from an urban area to a more rural or suburban area," Megginson said.

He added that the widening of highways in Chatham, such as U.S. 64 and U.S. 15-501, accelerated growth because of the reduction in time for commute.

According to the Office of State

Budget and Management, about 4,206 employees commuted each weekday into Orange County in 2000. That number accounts for about 17 percent of the entire Chatham work force that worked within the state and about 31 percent of the workers who commuted into 30 other N.C. counties.

In the same year, Chatham had a total out-of-county employment rate of 55.3 percent, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Census data also shows that only 0.2 percent of the



A truck drives southbound on the four-lane U.S. Highway 15-501 from Orange County into Chatham County on Monday.

Chatham work force utilized public transportation to commute.

Jacobs said Orange and Chatham government officials are discussing how to integrate Chatham residents

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## Congress to consider fees increases, veto

BY EMILY STEPHENSON  
STAFF WRITER

Student Congress will face off with the executive branch of student government on two issues in the legislative group's meeting tonight.

Representatives of both branches said the showdown should be exciting, as Congress will attempt to override a veto by Student Body President Eve Carson and will consider three proposed fee increases.

"It should make for a lot of debate," said Pedro Carreno, chairman of the finance committee.

Carson vetoed a bill Sept. 11 that would increase the number of votes required to submit fee increases to the student body by referendum.

The bill — which was authored by Speaker Tyler Younts and passed by Congress on Aug. 28 — would increase the necessary number of votes from a simple majority to two-thirds of representatives.

If Congress overrides the veto, the executive branch could chal-

### ATTEND THE MEETING

Time: 7:30 p.m. today  
Location: Peabody 08  
Info: congress.unc.edu

lenge that vote, taking it before the Student Supreme Court.

Carson vetoed the referendum bill because she thinks its passage would reduce student input on fee increases. Because she vetoed it after Congress' agenda for that day's meeting had been set, Younts postponed the vote until tonight.

Because of differences in interpretation of the Student Code, some members of the two branches said the delay is a violation of the Code.

"Congress didn't act on it when they should; therefore the veto stands," Rep. Val Tenyotkin said.

But Younts said pushing back the override vote was justified because Carson's veto was announced too late.

"I can't make them believe any-

SEE CONGRESS, PAGE 9

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**LIGHT IT UP** The Town Council approves new blue-light locations in Chapel Hill.

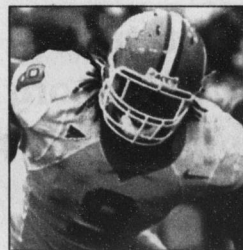
**NO SMOKING** Students will hold a forum to discuss a possible smoking ban.

**BREAST CANCER** UNC study finds that a healthy weight increases cancer survival.

arts | page 3

### ONE SONG

A performance group led by Chapel Hill-Carrboro-area high school students is holding auditions today and Wednesday for its production.



sports | page 7

### THE ROAD AHEAD

UNC's football squad faces a challenge in Saturday's game against the athletic Va. Tech. The Tar Heels are looking to avoid a fourth-straight loss.

this day in history

### SEPT. 25, 1973 ...

The RHA announces a \$2 semester enhancement fund charge for on-campus students to go to housing upgrades and community activities.

weather

Sunny  
H 91, L 60

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