

Retrofitted P2P ready for action

Functions as mobile command center

BY ANTHONY MCPEEK
STAFF WRITER

After final renovations and utility work wrapped on an old P2P bus this week, it's ready for action as the UNC Department of Public Safety's new emergency mobile command center.

The new command center returned to campus in December, after being outfitted in Greensboro.

The transformation cost \$180,000, not including the original cost of the P2P bus that UNC already owned, plus \$15,000 in extra upgrades, said Randy Young, spokesman for DPS.

The money came from central University funds, Young said.

The addition of the command center is another aspect of the University's increased approach to campus safety, which includes a cell phone alert system and a greater amount of sirens around campus.

Lt. Matt Ferguson, who is overseeing the command center, said he considers the new center a standard unit because of the wide array of options offered by the outfitting company, Matthews Specialty Vehicles.

A mobile command center can be any modified vehicle that police use to conduct operations on location at the site of their emergency investigation, whether that is a tornado, public shooting or anything in between.

"It enables us to provide a comprehensive presence in the case of emergencies," Young said.

Ferguson said UNC also has plans to use its center at home basketball and football games, starting with the Feb. 6 game against Duke.

UNC's new center is loaded with its own customized features — LCD monitors, fax lines, four wireless telephone lines, DirecTV satellite, a generator, mobile computer terminals with Internet and a police radio, among other tools.

"We're kind of on the cutting edge here," Young said. "We have a lot of aggressive tools at our disposal."

Having a state-of-the-art resource on campus greatly aids University law enforcement officers in the face of a crisis situation, Young said. For instance, DPS used the trunk of a car as a command center when Mohammed Taheri-Azar drove a Jeep through the Pit in 2006, injuring nine people.

Officials at Purdue University discovered the value of having a command center firsthand when an airplane crashed on the border of its campus. Indiana-based RV manufacturer Coachmen Industries Inc. had just donated an RV command center to Purdue several months before.

"We do deploy it quite often," said Carol Shelby, senior director of environmental health and public safety at Purdue.

The retail value of the RV model that was donated to Purdue was roughly \$25,000, and the University added its own



DTHANKIT GUPTA

The emergency mobile command center is the latest addition to the campus safety program, which includes a phone alert system and sirens.

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RANDY YOUNG, SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

upgrades in the form of computers and radios, which increased its cost.

Duke University also acquired a command center in August, said Maj. Phyllis Cooper of the Duke University Police Department.

Because it is significantly smaller, Duke's center — which is in the back of a decommissioned ambulance — cost much less than UNC's, although it has some of the same capabilities.

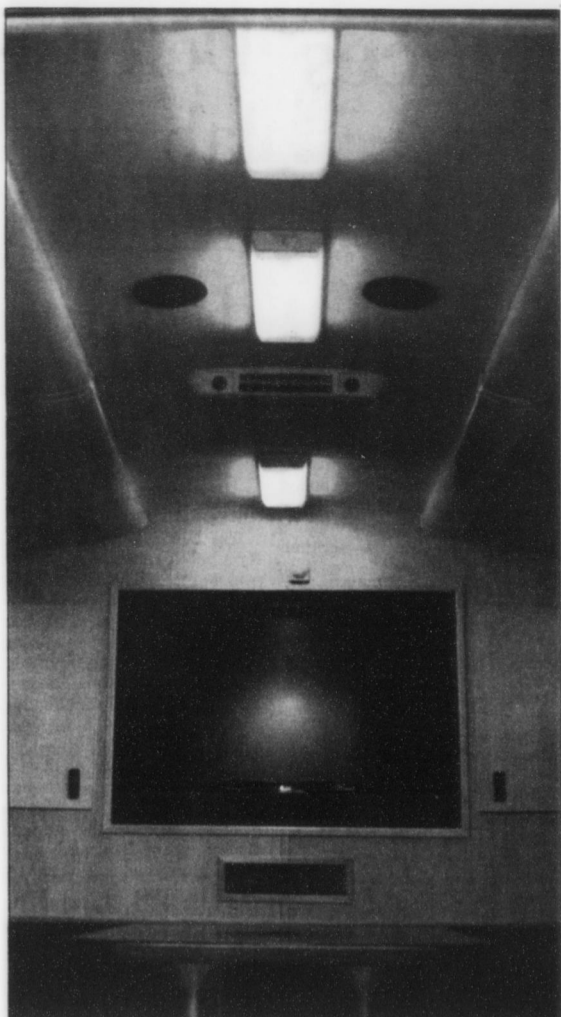
Duke also was able to cut costs

on its vehicle by getting its ambulance out of a salvage and surplus operation. Duke also did not send its center off to an outfitting company, choosing to self-outfit instead.

Officials requested that the center's cost not be disclosed.

"It suited our needs for what we could afford at the time," Cooper said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.



DTHANKIT GUPTA

An old P2P bus was converted to a Department of Public Safety mobile command center, including a conference room, for use in emergencies.

WAFFLES

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"We want to consistently have good food, good service and a good atmosphere."

And Maness said the small size cultivates a strong sense of belonging.

"We're all a family here," she said. "We have a really good working relationship. We try to treat people like they are coming into our home and they are our guests."

Jock Lauterer, a lecturer in the School of Journalism, eats a bacon, egg and cheese biscuit at the shop five days a week.

"It is unequivocally the best in town," Lauterer said. "It's not just the food. I love the way it feels to

"We're all a family here. ... We try to treat people like they are coming into our home and they are our guests."

DAISY MANESS, YE OLDE GENERAL MANAGER

be in proximity to the people who work there."

He said each day he goes to the restaurant, he has a unique learning experience. He said he particularly enjoys conversations with head cook Carlos Hernandez to brush up on his Spanish.

Hernandez started out at Ye Olde as a dishwasher in 1998 but moved up to cook position two years later.

Maness said it seems to be a

trend for staff members to find a niche in Ye Olde and stick with it.

"Over the years we've had a tremendous staff," Maness said. "They must enjoy it, or they wouldn't stick around."

Both Maness and the Chrises said that they hope to be running the shop for about five more years but that they won't be handing over the helm to just anyone.

"I hope that whoever takes over keeps the tradition because 35 years is a long time," Maness said.

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu.



DTHELWYSSA SHARP

A cook prepares breakfast inside Ye Olde Waffle Shoppe. The Franklin Street restaurant celebrates its 35th anniversary today. Owners Jimmy and Linda Chris are bringing back the shop's 1972 menu.

liquid assets

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coffee	Reg.	Sale
Weatherhane Blend	\$12.50	\$9.59
Snickerdoodle	\$10.95	\$7.99
Decaf Moka Java	\$11.50	\$8.19
Organic Guatemala Huehuetenango	\$12.50	\$9.49
Jamaican Me Crazy Blend	\$11.50	\$7.89
Tanzania Peaberry	\$12.95	\$8.99
Carnavale Blend	\$12.50	\$7.79
Decaf Crème Brûlée	\$12.50	\$8.99

tea	Reg.	Sale
Republic of Tea, A Super Fruits Tea, 50-ct		20% off
Carolina Breakfast Loose Tea, 4-oz	\$5.50	\$4.10
Adagio Teas, 15-ct		25% off
Mayan Chocolate Chai Loose Tea, 4-oz	\$5.00	\$3.75
Teaposo Flowering Teas, All Styles		20% off
Organic Ginger Peach Loose Green Tea, 4-oz	\$5.50	\$4.10

wine	Reg.	Sale
Domaine de Brau Organic Cabernet Sauvignon	\$11.99	\$3.99
Skouras Greek White	\$13.99	\$8.99
Le Calle Campo Rombolo Tuscan Red	\$15.99	\$8.99
Bidoli Tocai Friulano	\$9.99	\$6.99
Santa Barbara Sauvignon Blanc	\$13.99	\$11.99
Laila Verdicchio	\$14.99	\$9.99
MAN Vintners Chardonnay	\$8.99	\$6.99
Mas St. Joseph Cuvée Aventure Syrah	\$11.99	\$9.99
Stella Pinot Grigio	\$9.99	\$7.50
Catena Chardonnay	\$17.50	\$13.99
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EPA

FROM PAGE 1

"We will respond at an appropriate time, in an appropriate manner. This isn't that time," Jacobs said.

The town of Chapel Hill also received notification, the only one town attorney Ralph Karpinos said he had seen in 20 years in the town.

"We don't really have much to say about it right now because we're just starting to look at it," he said.

The EPA's Office of Civil Rights evaluates all complaints based on four criteria, said Yasmin Yorker, assistant director of the external compliance program.

For an investigation to take place, the complaint must be mailed, concern an organization that receives EPA money, occur within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory act and describe an event that violates discrimination regulations.

"When they take the money ... they agree not to discriminate," Yorker said.

The county decided to put its landfill next to the historically black Rogers Road community in 1972.

Howard Lee, Chapel Hill's first black mayor, said at the time it would be open only 10 years, Campbell alleged in the complaint.

Lee, now commissioner of the N.C. Utilities Commission, could not be reached for comment.

Campbell filed the complaint last summer after months of community meetings to plan opposition to a waste-transfer station that would have replaced the landfill when it closes next year.

In November the board decided to reopen the search for a site but keep the Eubanks site as an option.

But the complaint still is relevant, Campbell said, because the county and town officials have not done enough to protect Rogers Road residents from health dangers.

"It opens the eyes of the residents of Orange County," Campbell said. "Now they know where their trash goes, and they understand that there's a neighborhood out here that needs help."

"We're not asking them to build us a mansion; the only thing we're asking them is that we get a little help."

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