

Parking dispute may resolve

BY MAX ROSE
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Additional downtown parking might be on the way.

The Chapel Hill Town Council heard plans at a public hearing Monday which could create up to 130 parking spots off South Roberson Road.

The spaces have been part of an ongoing battle between Spencer Young, owner of the office and retail facility The Courtyard at 431 W. Franklin St., and P.H. Craig, the owner of the parking lot next to it.

The current plan requires that Craig rent the spaces to Young.

Scott Radway, who said he was speaking on behalf of Craig, asked the council to consider releasing Craig from the special use permit and rezoning the parking lot area.

"Mr. Craig hasn't been paid for two and a half or three years," Radway said.

Craig has closed the spaces off to patrons and tenants of The Courtyard, causing the council to issue parking permits.

The parking lots have remained

closed despite efforts by the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership to mediate a resolution to the conflicts between Craig and Young.

"This application gives Mr. Craig an ability to move forward, too, and we think that's really important," Partnership Executive Director Liz Parham told the council.

The council and mayor expressed optimism that the application would be quickly approved and would help add parking to downtown.

"One of our requests tonight is to go forward with an expedited review," Radway said.

Parham suggested that the council rezoned even more space than Radway proposed from residential to downtown zoning.

"It's actually a nice little footprint that could be extended," she said.

The Downtown Partnership is paying for a comprehensive parking study to address resident and business concerns of access to free parking, although there are already more than 3,000 spots downtown.

"Part of that parking study is to look for under-utilized sites," she said.

Last week the council heard public concerns about changes to the downtown towing ordinances which would make it more difficult for tow truck operators to work in the area.

Towing is a major concern downtown, where many park illegally when they can't find legal parking spaces.

The council had already given patrons of The Courtyard, which includes LocoPops and coffee and wine shop 3Cups, several spaces to help ease what owners have said is a threat to business.

The beginning of the council meeting Monday was filled with people in orange shirts who showed up to support the application of the Orange United Methodist Church to build a new sanctuary and parking, which may be used as a park and ride lot for the University.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

DSI FESTIVAL

FROM PAGE 3

school's improv group, Witt's End, frequently attends the festival.

"One of the biggest draws for us are the workshops," Ashley said. "It's really cool for us to watch other groups. Performing in front of so many other people gives you this nervous but really exciting energy."

John Reitz, assistant coach for UNC's Chapel Hill Players, said one of the most beneficial aspects of the festival is the opportunity for student improv groups to interact.

"Improv is a collaborative art form. When you're up on stage you're

creating something with someone else," he said. "You can learn from someone who you never would have gotten to meet otherwise."

And university improv groups aren't the only ones that have made the festival an annual ritual.

"The first year we did the festival we were also a new group, so now we consider it a mini anniversary for ourselves," said Curtis Gwinn, a member of New York City improv troupe, Death by Roo Roo. "You make these friends that you only see at this festival, and one of the great things about it is to get out of New York and go somewhere else."

The festival also will feature many

newcomers, such as the 10-member Chicago group Blue Shampoo.

"Between the 10 of us, we're connected to nearly every other improv group in Chicago," said Lindsey Falls, a member of the troupe. "But in a place where we are one of 60 groups, it's a whole different playing field."

Ward said while he is pleased with the festival's expansion, he wants the growth to continue.

"Staying the same is not good enough," he said. "I'm in a place where I'm excited that I don't know what's going to happen next."

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

CAMPAIGN

FROM PAGE 3

mum amount necessary to receive matching funds and how to factor in election capital, such as campaign signs and stakes. Many were concerned about making the process prohibitively complicated.

"I don't want candidates to feel like they have to get a special person to do this correctly," said Mayor Pro Tem Jim Ward. "Simple is valuable."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

LAW SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 3

commit, and a design and physical plan have yet to be confirmed.

"One of the things that weighed against this choice was a lack of specificity about Carolina North," Boger said.

But Boger's decision to make the law school one of the first tenants could be enticing for others.

"The fact that the law school is there as an academic unit would make it more appealing to us and ... any academic unit," said

Mike Smith, dean of the School of Government, adding that the law school would give Carolina North a "less corporate-partnership feel."

Boger said he thinks other professional schools and a planned Centers and Institutes building would be appropriate neighbors.

But it will be several months, at the least, before another decision is made. So until then, the law school remains the only academic group to tie its name with Carolina North.

Contact the University Editor at udeak@unc.edu.

National and World News

FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

H.W. Bush lends name to McCain

HOUSTON (AP) — John McCain picked up former President George H. W. Bush's support Monday, a critical blessing by a pillar of the Republican establishment whose members aren't completely sold on the party's next standard-bearer.

In endorsing McCain, the patriarch of the Republican political dynasty sent a strong message to a party base wary of the Arizona senator because of his reputation for bucking the GOP on several high-profile issues.

Obama accused of plagiarizing

DE PERE, Wis. (AP) — Top advisers to Hillary Rodham Clinton accused Democratic rival Barack Obama of plagiarism Monday, the latest effort by her campaign to undermine the Illinois senator's credibility.

The Associated Press reported in January that Obama had borrowed ideas and speech points from Massachusetts Gov. Duval Patrick, often without attribution. Clinton's campaign is using this example in an attempt to chip away at the premise of his candidacy.

U.S., European powers recognize Kosovo, widening rift with Russia

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The U.S. and the European Union's biggest powers quickly recognized Kosovo as an independent nation Monday, widening a split with Russia, China and some EU members strongly opposed to letting the territory break away from Serbia.

The rift was on view for a second day at the U.N. Security Council, which was holding an emergency session to discuss the declaration of independence issued Sunday by Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority.

Ethnic Serbs rallying in north-

ern Kosovo angrily denounced the United States and urged Russia to help Serbia hold on to the territory that Serbs consider the birthplace of their civilization. Protesters also marched in Serbia's capital, and that nation recalled its ambassador to the U.S. to protest American recognition for an independent Kosovo.

The dispute is likely to worsen already strained relations between the West and Russia, which is a traditional ally of Serbia and seeks to restore its influence in former Soviet bloc states.

Elections favoring opposition parties

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — President Pervez Musharraf appealed for national unity Monday as early unofficial returns showed the opposition doing well in parliamentary elections aimed at bolstering democracy and calming political strife.

But after fear and apathy kept millions of voters at home, there were worries no clear winner would emerge, resulting in a government too fragmented to rally the nation against Islamic extremists.

Final official results were not expected before Wednesday.

Gun laws could have had impact

CHICAGO (AP) — Illinois lawmakers moved swiftly after last year's massacre at Virginia Tech to make it harder for anyone with a history of mental illness to buy guns, fortifying what were already some of the nation's toughest weapons laws.

The new measure does not take effect until June. Whether it would have prevented last week's bloodbath at Northern Illinois University is far from clear.

The measure will require health professionals to inform state authorities about patients who display violent, suicidal or threatening behavior.

PERDUE

FROM PAGE 3

in our state is one of the best in the country, we all know that. And the shared vision now ... not just of workforce training and retraining, but also in terms of outreach for teaching educators and helping them grow the educational personnel and quality of teachers across the state — it's critical.

I believe our public schools are moving in the right direction, I really do believe that. ... We need to work on, work seriously on giving kids a reason to stay in school rather than encourage them to be so disenfranchised they drop out.

My North Carolina college promise will help give them that

hope, I believe. You've got to pay teachers more, too.

DTH: In North Carolina there's solid health care in the metropolitan areas, but it's lacking in rural areas, and everywhere it's expensive. What should be done?


Perdue: Health care got me into politics. It's why I first chose to run for public service, public office. And it's been a passion of mine. As the next governor, I'm going to make sure that every child in this state has health insurance.

I'm going to be sure that low-wage, hardworking North Carolina families have access to health insurance and that we make health insurance available at a different

kind of level — premium for small business and single employers — and we do whatever it takes to recruit and retain a core of physicians and nurses ... to serve rural and inner-urban city areas ... that we train them in recruitment to serve in rural North Carolina or to serve metropolitan areas by allowing them to pay off their medical school or nursing school debts.

I serve as North Carolina's leader of the health commission ... so I understand that health care is part and parcel to how you build a North Carolina from the mountains to the coast with hope and opportunity for everybody.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.



CAMPUS RECREATION UPDATE

ALWAYS COCA-COLA. ALWAYS CAROLINA!!

Intramural Sports

SOCCER

Men's, Women's, & Co-Rec • 5 Players
Today is the LAST DAY to sign up!

PRIME TIME BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Men's & Women's • 5 Players
Today is the LAST DAY to sign up!

SOFTBALL

Men's, Women's, & Co-Rec • 10 Players
Sign up Feb 18-26

SCAVENGER HUNT

Teams of 4
Sign up Feb 18-26

Sign up for all Intramural Sports in 203 Woollen Gym.

Carolina Fitness

WORK WITH US!


FEB 25 & 26, 5pm in Fetzer 109:
Attend an Interest Meeting for EMPLOYMENT at the SRC & RHRC.

TEST YOUR FITNESS

FEB 27, 3pm at the SRC
SHOW OF STRENGTH & ENDURANCE
One-repetition maximum bench press and push up endurance competition

TRY SOMETHING NEW!

FEB 28, 4:30pm:
YOGA for Beginners at the SRC
CYCLING for Beginners at RHRC



campusrec.unc.edu/events.html

Carolina Adventures

EXPEDITION PROGRAM

CLIMBING • PILOT MT
March 1 (7 spots available)

KAYAKING • ROANOKE RIVER
March 29-30 (4 spots available)

BACKPACKING • WILSON CREEK AREA • April 4-6

Register in 203 Woollen Gym.
<http://www.campusrec.unc.edu/OEC>

Sport Clubs

CAROLINA RUGBY

► First Home Match • Feb 23
UNC vs University of Georgia
Location: Ehringhaus Field
Time: 1pm / 3pm (B-Side Match)

UPCOMING EVENT:

Women's Club Soccer
Heels vs Rams • Feb 24, 2pm
(Location: Ehringhaus Field)



Carolina's FINEST

our 12th Annual Awards Issue
chosen by YOU, the readers
of the DTH.

Vote Online Now at
dailytarheel.com

CAROLINA SPORTS

- Best excuse to skip working out
- Best female athlete
- Best male athlete
- Most underrated athlete
- Favorite sports Web site
- Favorite intramural sport
- Favorite coach
- Best off campus work out
- Most despised rival
- Best place to watch a game on TV
- Most popular phys ed class

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- Best up & coming artist
- Favorite campus music group
- Favorite radio station
- Favorite local group
- Favorite place to see a band
- Favorite Web site (not sports related)
- Favorite movie in 2007
- Best place to find that new CD
- Best place to see a movie
- Favorite reality show
- Favorite album in 2007


THE SCENE

- Best place to shop on the web
- Favorite place to people-watch
- Best place to get a mixed drink
- Cleanest bar bathroom
- Best meal after midnight
- Best place for a microbrew in the Triangle
- Best new hangout (bar or restaurant) from 2006

OUT 'N' ABOUT

- Favorite place to get your caffeine fix
- Favorite place to get a frozen dessert
- Best restaurant for a healthy meal
- Best restaurant to impress a first date
- Best delivered meal
- Best burger
- Best ethnic restaurant
- Best lunch bargain
- Best place to stock up on Carolina paraphernalia
- Best place to shop
- Best new restaurant experience
- Best place for students to live
- Best salon or day spa

Choose your campus favorites
and win a \$50 Gift Certificate to

chapel hill restaurant group.

All completed forms must be submitted by Monday, March 3, 2008 at 5:00pm. One entry per person.

One winner will be chosen in a random drawing and announced in our special Carolina's Finest Award issue Wednesday, March 19, 2008.

Any DTH reader is eligible to win.