

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 116, ISSUE 18

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2008

www.dailytarheel.com

ILLUMINATING SAFETY

Not all blue lights fully functional

BY SARA GREGORY
CITY EDITOR

The only time Eve Carson stepped before the Chapel Hill Town Council's podium was to ask for increased emergency call boxes and lighting off campus.

"There is really no issue which concerns everyone — students or citizens — more than safety," the student body president told the council in September.

"There's nothing which concerns us more than our security."

As representatives from student government made their case, Carson stood behind them, nodding her head in support of the initiative that began with her predecessors' administrations.

The project's \$80,000 cost came from student-approved fee increases, something Student Body Outreach Director Christian Mibelli said was a reaction to increasing fears.

"For us not to feel safe when it's dark outside is pretty sad," Christie Cunningham, Carson's senior adviser, told council members.

And it was Carson who faced their worst nightmare.

After police found her shot to death in an intersection on March 5, students are paying more attention to both their surroundings and the setups in place to keep them safe.

A Daily Tar Heel analysis shows that areas with more blue lights have less reported crime. At the same time, the survey found gaps in the blue lights system that could challenge its effectiveness.

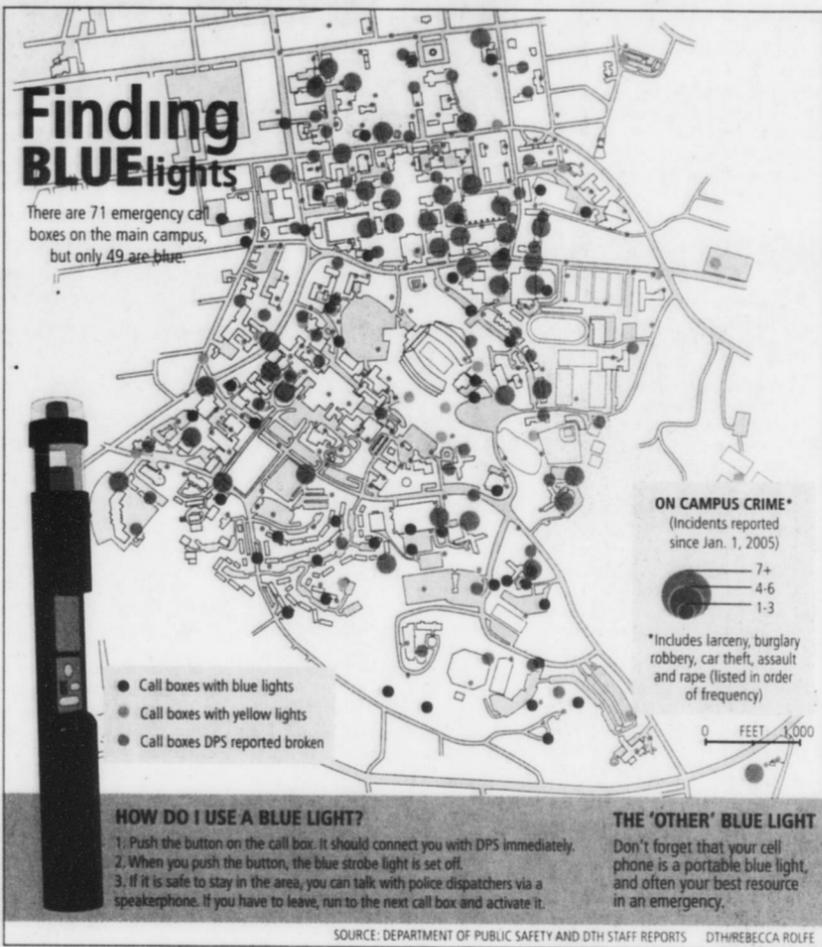
A survey of the lights

Student government proposed adding three new off-campus call boxes last March to the just more than 200 located on University property throughout Chapel Hill.

The 9-foot-tall black poles have blue strobe lights that are set off whenever a button is pushed.

The Department of Public Safety can track which call box is activated, and officers respond each time.

"This is a means for anyone on campus to be able to use call boxes



to have a direct link into the police department," said Lt. Angela Carmon in DPS's crime prevention office.

The DTH tried to follow the blue light path from one to the next. By design, each should be in sight of another. The results show inconsistencies in visibility, accessibility and placement of the blue lights. In a survey of 71 call boxes:

■ Only 49 had blue lights, while 22 had yellowed with age.

■ Only 13 were in sight of another call box. At the remaining 58, no other blue lights could be seen.

SEE BLUE LIGHTS, PAGE 4

Other N.C. campuses

Colleges across the country face similar challenges when trying to keep their campuses safe.

Of the 16 UNC-system universities, while all boast emergency call boxes, the number of blue lights varies from as few as 11 to as many as 400.

N.C. State University has about 400 call boxes in the form of traditional freestanding poles and wall units in parking decks and elevators, said Steve Carlton, a senior officer in crime prevention.

"We try to put them so at

least they're visible from one to another," Carlton said. "We look for the needs around the area as the university grows."

In Durham, Duke University has about 500 call boxes, of which about 140 are poles with lights, Maj. Gloria Graham said.

Duke's campus police works with other offices on campus to add blue lights in areas of both new construction and high pedestrian traffic.

"It's kind of a holistic approach," Graham said.

WATER WATCH

OWASA to re-examine water rates

May move back to Stage 2 rules

BY JESSICA STRINGER
STAFF WRITER

With tighter water restrictions and higher rates in place, the University and residents are feeling the effects of the continuing drought. And both are doing more to conserve water.

Because lake levels have risen to almost 60 percent, the Orange Water and Sewer Authority will meet today and could decide to roll back water restrictions.

Stage 3 water rules took effect March 1, restricting uses such as topping off swimming pools.

The OWASA Board Of Directors said it would discuss a move back to Stage 2 if levels rose to 60 percent by April 1.

The University started paying 137 percent more for all the water it uses from OWASA because of the rate increases, Ray DuBose, director of UNC's energy services, stated in an e-mail.

He estimated that if Stage 3 restrictions were in place for six months, the University's water costs would increase by about \$1.2 million.

Conservation efforts have helped with a decrease in water consumption, DuBose said.

The University has reduced water use in a number of areas. It stopped spray irrigation on landscaping and installed dual flush valves on toilets in more than 50 buildings, he said.

In her environmental science class, senior Meredith Morgan said she learned about the University's measures to conserve water through measures like water-free urinals.

"The drought has created a heightened awareness about how much water I use," Morgan said. "It's been three days since I've showered."

Morgan also said she catches rainwater to water the plants at her apartment and flushes the toilet only when necessary.

Freshman Erin Davis said she has been more conscious of her water use ever since posters were hung and dual flush valves were installed on toilets around campus. She said she takes shorter showers and waits until she has a large load before doing her laundry.

"Our (resident adviser) encouraged us to use less water, especially during the water competition," Davis said, referring to the water competition between UNC and N.C. State University students.

Residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro also are making efforts to cut their water use.

Carrboro resident Jill Grant said she doesn't wash her car, water her lawn or leave her faucets running.

"I am really thinking about getting drought-resistant plants," Grant said.

And Grant said she has seen her own water bill go up. "You actually think about your water consumption when

SEE OWASA, PAGE 4

UNC's Sweet 16 foe a tough team to top

Game will be a contrast of styles

BY JESSE BAUMGARTNER
SENIOR WRITER

When Washington State coach Tony Bennett took over the program last season for his father, Dick, there wasn't much reason for optimism.

An 11-25 record in the Pac-10 during the previous two years with a program historically mired in defeat typically will do that.

But using his father's groundwork

INSIDE
Check out the prediction for tonight's Sweet 16 showdown. **PAGE 4**

No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament with Dick's slow-down, defensive-minded style.

The team has backed that up this season with a preseason top-10 ranking and two dominating victories in the tournament.

So now Bennett, whose roster contains no Hansbroughs but a bundle of overlooked glue guys, will get his shot in the national



Derrick Low is one of four to average more than 10 points a game for Washington State.

spotlight with a chance to knock off the streaking No. 1 Tar Heels — who boast the All-Americans and superstars to go along with the legendary coach.

"I know nobody's giving us much of a chance," Bennett said Monday. "That's fine. But we're in a pretty good league."

The turnaround started and has continued with the various names, who still remain so — at least on the East Coast.

There's Derrick Low, the Great Hawaiian Hope with the sweet stroke who Roy Williams saw as more of a point guard while recruiting him at Kansas. And Kyle Weaver, the athletic, do-everything guard from Wisconsin who slipped under everyone's radar.

Then came Taylor Rochestie, the junior point guard from Tulane who ended up at Wazzu after Hurricane Katrina. Plus the

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 4

N.C. hip-hop groups dance for top honors

NCCU dancers take first place

BY SETH WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

It was a night filled with crowd interaction and intense competition, as host Kel Mitchell's antics helped bring down the house Wednesday in a packed Memorial Hall.

But the crowd didn't just come to see Mitchell; the main attraction was the second annual "Show Us What You Got" hip-hop dance competition.

hop dance competition, which showcased the talents of four dance crews from several North Carolina universities.

The event was sponsored by the Carolina Union Activities Board's performing arts committee.

After Mitchell kicked off the night with comedic singing about an evening where his date had food stuck in her teeth, the audience participation and dance battles began.

Two teams from UNC, OPEYO! Dancers and Misconception Dance Company, joined N.C. Central University's Underground Legendz and Unanimous from UNC-Pembroke.

But perhaps the most energetic



Tishya Hill and Xaviera Williams, freshmen at N.C. Central University, perform with their dance squad Underground Legendz at the second annual "Show Us What You Got!" show held in Memorial Hall.

moment of the night was when Mitchell brought members of the audience on stage to have their own dance competition.

"I really enjoyed the improvisation of random dancers added to the show," said Kelly Patterson, who attended the performance.

"It gave people a chance to show off things you wouldn't expect them to be able to do."

And although the night's events focused on the dance competition, Mitchell took the crowd back by delivering lines from his famous Nickelodeon characters.

"Welcome to Good Burger home of the Good Burger! Can I take your order?" Mitchell quoted from his performance in the 1997 film "Good Burger."

"I used to watch (Mitchell) on

SEE HIP-HOP SHOW, PAGE 4

online | dailytarheel.com

sports | page 11

diversions | page 5

this day in history

weather

UNIVERSITY Student Congress held a public forum to discuss student publications.

ARTS The play "Still ... Life" uses real-life stories to talk about the death penalty.

SPORTS The men's swimming and diving team competes at nationals starting today.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
The No. 7 Tar Heels beat Virginia Tech 16-6 Wednesday night. Freshman Corey Donohoe had three goals. The team is 8-2 overall and 2-1 in ACC play.



THE MUSIC BLOGOSPHERE
Blogs are increasingly reviewing music before magazines and other print products, helping to level the playing field between the two mediums.

MARCH 27, 1958 ...
Student Body President candidate Bob Furtado says, if elected, he will try to add a recreational element to the Student Union, giving UNC's 7,000 students a place to hang out.

Partly cloudy
H 75, L 53
index
police log 2
calendar 2
sports 11
games 13
opinion 14