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Weather: clear and chance of warmth

Four area residents accuse veterinarian of unethical conduct



by Vernon Loeb
Staff Writer

RALEIGH — The N.C. Veterinary Medicine Board heard sworn testimony from four Chapel Hill area residents alleging unethical veterinary practices by Chapel Hill veterinarian Louis Vine and three associate veterinarians.

Allegations made during the eight-hour hearing Tuesday ranged from the prescription of unnecessary medical treatment to negligence which led to the death of two puppies. One witness, UNC senior Roscoe Stephenson, alleged Vine took advantage of his ignorance by misrepresenting the facts concerning his dog's illness, and said "it would please me to see Dr. Vine's license revoked."

But Vine said under oath that neither he nor his associates at Vine's Veterinary Hospital, owned and operated by Vine on East Franklin Street, were guilty of any unethical practices.

The board could remove Vine's license to practice if they find him guilty of unethical veterinary practices. If the board decides that the charges do not warrant license revocation, but are too serious to dismiss, it

He, too, denied any unethical practices by himself or his associates. Veterinarians Richard Chesnutt and Ahmed Said, Vine's junior associates, were also allegedly involved in unethical practices at Vine's hospital, but neither was subpoenaed.

The board called the hearing after it had received five complaints last fall concerning Vine's hospital. Four of those complaints were forwarded to the board by the UNC Student Consumer Action Union (SCAU).

After the hearing, SCAU Investigations Committee Chairperson Ron Mack said he was disappointed because the board did not subpoena certain witnesses he thought would be crucial to the case. "It seems to me that the board wasn't interested in hearing all the facts," Mack said.

Mack also questioned why Carrboro veterinarian Robert Chambless and Durham veterinarian J. Frederick Glassford, whose professional opinions were cited by two witnesses, were not subpoenaed by the board.

Charles R. Swearingen, secretary-treasurer of the board, said the board did not consider Chambless' appearance necessary.

Comments attributed to Glassford and Chambless contradicted some of Vine's and Pshyk's testimony, but were later stricken from the record.

Alice Bins, a UNC graduate student, was the first to testify before the board and a crowded gallery made up primarily of character witnesses for Vine. She charged that Dr. Said had applied a bandage to her cocker spaniel's ear flap too tightly, resulting in tissue death and the eventual amputation of the ear.

After Said had treated the dog's ear for an infection, Bins said, fluid began to drain from the ear, soaking the bandage.

Bins said she then took the dog to a Carrboro animal hospital where she learned that part of the ear flap had fallen off, and that the remainder would have to be surgically removed.

Two veterinarians from the Carrboro hospital, Charles Ward and Ann G. Samsell, testified that they told Bins that her dog's ear should not have been bandaged and that adequate veterinary care could have saved part, if not all of the ear.

Bins added that Ward and Samsell also told her that no previous surgery had ever been done on the dog's ear. Although Pshyk had supposedly removed growths from the ear four months prior to the occurrence of the infection, both Carrboro veterinarians testified that no suture lines, which would indicate surgery, were visible.

Vine and Pshyk denied Bins' allegations as well as the testimony of Ward and Samsell.

Vine said the dog's ear flap was infected and needed to be bandaged to keep it from moving. He said his specialty was ear surgery and told the board, "If there's anything I know in veterinary medicine — it's ears."

Pshyk testified that he had in fact performed surgery to remove large growths from the dog's ear. Before Pshyk's testimony Greensboro veterinarian David M. Harley, a professional acquaintance of Pshyk's, read a passage from a veterinary journal which said "little or no scoring" occurs after such an operation.

"It would appear to me that if no scars were visible, the operation was a success," Harley said. He added that he would routinely bandage a dog's ear, as Said had done.

Catherine Raynor, a secretary in UNC's biostatistics department, told the board that a 15-year-old boy employed at Vine's hospital gave her medical information about her dog because Chesnutt allegedly did not have time to speak to her.

She said the boy, after checking with Chesnutt, said her dog was given a shot for tapeworms. However, Raynor said she later

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UNC forward Tommy LaGarde jumps for a shot from the baseline against Virginia's Mark Javaroni in the Tar Heels' 85-82 win three weeks ago in Charlottesville.

Terps return Sunday to challenge Carolina

by Susan Shackelford
Sports Editor

What dedicated Tar Heel basketball follower can forget what happened last year. There was television coverage, and Carmichael Auditorium was packed with its traditional 8,800 fans. But the UNC banners, cheering and play on the court couldn't sidetrack the steamroller style of the Maryland Terrapins, who pounded the Heels for a 22-point loss, 96-74.

Sunday, the Terps return to Carmichael for the first time since that drubbing, which stood as the Tar Heels' most severe loss season. This 1 p.m. game will be nationally televised. The Terps are ranked second in the nation, but most significantly need the win to speed a recovery of their confidence and standing in next week's polls. Wednesday the Terps were stunned by Clemson in an 85-77 setback at College Park.

The Tar Heels are also seeking a lift after dropping a last-second loss to State last Sunday. Carolina owned a 10-point lead in the second half, but couldn't hang on as State kept its poise in a steady rally that climaxed with sophomore guard Al Green's free throw with less than a second remaining.

That was Carolina's first Atlantic Coast Conference defeat, putting it at 4-1. Maryland is 1-2. Carolina, fourth and fifth ranked, is 12-2 overall and Maryland, 13-2.

UNC Head Coach Dean Smith said in an interview this week that he is most

concerned with his team's execution. Wednesday, Thursday and today the Tar Heels are "going back to working like a preseason practice," Smith said.

"I feel like we're playing the best team in the nation," he continued. "I'm confident we will come back and play well. Our loss to State did not knock us out of contention for the regular season title. But it certainly did not leave us in a great position either."

"Maryland has excellent talent," Smith said. "Not many teams could afford the luxury of having Mo Howard as a sixth man. Maryland has a nice blend of veterans (Howard, All-ACC John Lucas, Steve Sheppard and Brad Davis) and outstanding newcomers like Larry Boston, Larry Gibson, James Tillman and Brian Magid."

Maryland, which boasts a 57 per cent field goal mark (just ahead of Carolina's 53 per cent) is led in scoring by Lucas, who had 23 against Clemson and averages about 20, and Sheppard, who usually totals about 18.

With such comparable field goal shooting, the key feature may likely be rebounding.

Carolina's Mitch Kupchak (16.7 points, 11 rebounds), Tommy LaGarde (14.7 points, 8.1 rebounds) and Walter Davis (15.8 points, six rebounds) seek to counteract the Sheppard-Gibson-Boston inside game, while Carolina's Phil Ford and John Kuester take on Davis and Lucas. Ford is the top UNC scorer at 19.7 points.

Thomas charged with embezzling University funds

by Dan Feserman
Staff Writer

A former Carolina Union official has been charged with embezzling approximately \$40,000 of University funds, and his attorney has since charged a state justice department investigator with purposely not sending him necessary information concerning the case.

Jon Thomas, former assistant director of the Carolina Union, was arrested Tuesday in Indianapolis, Ind. on a fugitive warrant.

Thomas, facing 16 counts of embezzlement, was released from an Indianapolis jail on \$1,000 bond.

The arrest followed a month-long investigation conducted by the UNC Department of Internal Audit and the State Bureau of Investigation.

Mills Bridges, a UNC systems accountant who handled the matter for the audit department, said the investigation was begun at the request of Union Director Howard Henry.

Henry said Thursday, "I noticed there were irregularities in the accounts and called in the Department of Internal Audit."

The SBI then joined the investigation at the request of an undisclosed university official.

Troy Green, as SBI investigator, said Thursday, "For all practical purposes, the investigation is complete."

Thomas' attorney, John Hammond of Indianapolis, said Thursday he knows very

few details of the case or the investigation. "I haven't received any information or affidavits yet, but Troy Green from the justice department told me he was going to send me some."

Green denied Thursday that he had told this to Hammond. "I told him that the information he could obtain was being sent to the law enforcement officials in Indianapolis."

When told of Green's denial, Hammond said, "He didn't say any such thing. He told an outright lie."

"They (the Department of Justice) are obligated to send me certain things. I have been told there are 16 affidavits, but if I don't get any then I certainly can't be ready for any trial or hearing."

Hammond also complained that Thomas' arrest had been overpublicized by an Indianapolis newspaper. He said a scandal last year surrounding funds for the construction of Market Square Arena, where Thomas works in Indianapolis has caused undesirable news concerning the arena to be blown out of proportion.

Thomas, who could not be reached for comment at his home, will face an extradition hearing Feb. 17 in Indianapolis.

Hammond, who is also a personal friend of Thomas, said, "He's from a very good family up here, and they are taking it hard."

A UNC student who once worked for Thomas said, "I was really shocked. He doesn't seem like the type of person to do that."

Decision of court does not affect Chapel Hill ticketings

by Russell Gardner
Staff Writer

A recent Wake County Superior Court ruling which declared Raleigh's enforcement system for nonpayment of parking citations invalid has had no immediate effect here, Chapel Hill Police Chief S.M. Hilliard said Wednesday.

"We will continue to prosecute a few habitual offenders through the district court," Hilliard said.

Superior Court Judge Jerry S. Alvis ruled last week that if Raleigh continued to criminally prosecute parking violators, the city cannot receive revenue from the fines collected.

Under the North Carolina Constitution, all criminal fines collected are deposited in the appropriate county's school fund.

Raleigh City Attorney Broxie J. Nelson has recommended the city use civil lawsuits to collect fines for parking and other on-street violations. The Raleigh City Council has not taken formal action on the proposal.

Meanwhile, the city is not accepting any revenue for parking tickets already issued, Assistant Finance Director Paul Warren said Wednesday.

Beginning Monday, the city plans to issue regular criminal citations carrying court costs of \$25 for parking violations that obstruct the traffic flow or present a safety hazard.

"When a parking ticket is issued, an offender has an opportunity to pay a small

fine and avoid a court action," a spokesman for the Raleigh Public Information Bureau said Thursday.

Citations, however, are automatically sent to district court, and the city receives a portion of the court costs levied.

Capt. C.H. Haswell of the Raleigh Police Department said the citations will be issued only after ample time is allowed for media publicity.

"The citations will be issued for such violations as parking in loading zones, bus zones and other no-parking zones. There has been an increase in these violations since the city temporarily suspended parking tickets Monday," Haswell said.

Presently, Chapel Hill prosecutes habitual parking offenders in district court, but Chief Hilliard said he objects to this system because "parking offenses put an additional work load on an already crowded court docket."

Hilliard said he favored establishing a separate traffic court to handle moving as well as parking violations.

The town received voluntary payments on 45 per cent of the tickets issued between July and December 1975.

If an offender fails to pay a ticket, a notice is sent to him by the town. An additional 15 per cent of the offenders respond to notices.

Although revenue from off-street parking lots has increased approximately 25 per cent, total revenue from parking tickets is down, Hilliard said.

Revenue received from on-street parking citations is sent to the town's general fund. A total of 8,093 on-street citations were issued on Franklin Street between July and December, Hilliard said.

Revenue received by off-street parking lot collectors goes into the parking facilities revenue fund, Assistant Town Attorney Dave Drake said.

As does Raleigh, Chapel Hill receives a portion of the court costs when fines are collected through the district court.

Parking tickets issued on the UNC campus are issued by the Campus Police and collected by the Traffic Office.

"Students and employees who fail to pay a ticket within 72 hours after it is issued are automatically sent a letter," W.D. Locke, administrator of traffic and parking, said Wednesday.

If a student fails to pay the ticket within 10 days, the cost of the ticket is transferred to the student's account in the cashier's office.

When a University employee fails to pay a parking ticket promptly, the cost of the ticket is subtracted from his paycheck.

Persons not connected with UNC are contacted by letter if the ticket is not paid within 72 hours.

Failure to pay the ticket subjects the offender to a maximum fine of \$50 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days or both, according to Article 4 of the University Ordinance Governing Parking and Traffic.

Only slight parking problems expected

Theatre construction to begin shortly

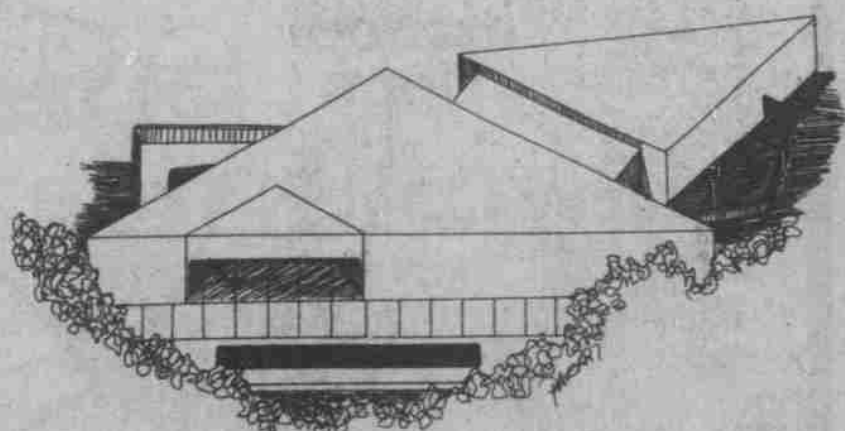
by Dan Feserman
Staff Writer

The long-delayed construction of the Paul Green Dramatic Arts Theatre on the varsity tennis courts near Cobb Dorm will cause only slight parking problems for nearby residents, UNC Director of Operations and Engineering Allen Waters said Tuesday.

Construction of the facility, which will be the new home of the Carolina Playmakers, will begin shortly after bids for construction contracts are completed Feb. 3. Approximately 10 parking places will be closed due to the construction, Waters said.

Waters also said that no additional parking spaces will be needed to accommodate audiences in the 503-seat theatre. "We feel that the number of automobiles for 500 people is far less than the number for a Carmichael Auditorium crowd," he said. Spectators attending theatre events will be

Artist's representation of the new fine arts buildings



able to park at the nearby lot next to the Institute of Government Building on Raleigh Road or along Country Club Road.

The Institute of Government lot holds 152 cars, and Country Club Road has about 100 parking spaces.

"There are probably more than enough spaces," Waters said. "Everyone in the crowd will obviously not drive their cars, and some of the students will walk to the events."

Construction of the theatre was originally scheduled to begin in 1971 after

approximately \$2.2 million was appropriated for that purpose by the State Legislature. A special trust fund increased available construction revenues to \$2.46 million.

Construction was then delayed for three years, and set to begin in January 1974. By this time, the costs for the project had zoomed to \$4.7 million, more than twice the original estimate.

The inflated costs forced major changes in the theatre plans.

An elaborate audience platform that would have revolved around the stage was scrapped in favor of a less expensive and more conventional thrust stage with a theatre-in-the-round concept. The original design would have made the theatre the only one of its kind in the Western Hemisphere.

The new design also has no practice stage, and calls for smaller shop, costume and dressing areas. The 500-seat capacity is unchanged from the earlier plans.