

Campus jurisdiction does not reach apartments

By Kaleh Myers
Layout Editor

UNCP is ranked one of the safest schools in the UNC system and has the lowest crime rate of any of the 16 UNC schools. The University Police Department provides campus protection 24 hours a day. However, campus jurisdiction does not cover all of the student apartment complexes.

The only student apartment complex that is considered on-campus housing is University Village Apartments. Pembroke Place, Pembroke Pointe,

University Courtyard and The Commons are outside of campus police jurisdiction. University Courtyard and Pembroke Place are under the Robeson County Sheriff's Department jurisdiction while Pembroke Pointe and The Commons are covered by the Pembroke Police Department.

Campus police is not able to extend jurisdiction to the student apartments because the apartments are privately owned properties. However, UNCP is considering to extend campus police jurisdiction to University Courtyard.

"The UNCP foundation owns Courtyard. It is up now before the Board

of Trustees as far as do we want to extend jurisdiction or leave it with Robeson County Sheriff's Department," Police Chief McDuffie Cummings said. "It means a manpower increase and a total change in staffing levels to be able to incorporate Courtyard in our patrols."

UNCP safety concerns

On-campus safety issues that campus police are concerned with are breaking and entering and panhandling.

"The biggest thing we face as police officers would have to be breaking and entering and it has reduced, at least it did this year, because the campus community became more involved in picking out people who didn't belong," Cummings said.

"Residents in residence halls were willing to call in and say 'there is a person in the building and we don't recognize them as a resident, can you send someone to check them out.' I would like to say that has reduced a lot of breaking and entering in the residence halls," Cummings said.

Because UNCP is not a closed campus, anybody is able to enter the campus at anytime of the day.

"We are not a closed campus, and we do have issues with people panhandling on campus and begging for money. The campus community has been good about calling and letting us know where these people are at and giving us a description so an officer is able to arrive and deal with the situation," Cummings said.

"The first time we deal with an individual, we will bring them into the office, get their basic information and take a picture. The first time the officers give them a verbal warning saying they are not to be back on campus, and if they're caught back on campus they will be charged with second degree trespassing," Cummings said.

UNCP does have 220 closed-circuit TVs located throughout the campus, including parking lots and buildings, that are designed to prevent criminal activity and assist campus police in solving crimes.

There are also 24 emergency phones located on campus that allow students to directly reach the campus police office in case of an emergency.

Escort service

If students feel unsafe walking alone on campus,



Photo by Kaleh Myers
Sgt. Stephen Brooks of campus police parks near the white fence in front University Courtyard that is considered the representation of the jurisdiction line. The Campus Police Department is unable to respond to calls located off campus.

the campus police department does offer an escort service. However, police are not able to provide an escort outside of campus jurisdiction.

"We will transport up until our jurisdiction ends," Cummings said. "We do everything reasonably possible to get that person where they

need to go. Officers will make every reasonable attempt, including Pembroke and Robeson County Sheriff's Department, to make sure the escort is completed."

Students should always travel with someone if possible and tell someone where you are going.

"Take advantage of the escort service. Officers are here and they provide you with an escort to make sure you get to where you are going safely," Cummings said. "Officers are here when a student needs help, and if we can't help we will find someone that can."

Fire engulfs vehicle at Village apartments

By John Lerma
Staff Writer
William Stanback
Staff Writer

According to the crime report provided by University police on Feb. 21 an officer observed a

male that was acting suspiciously. After further investigation the officer found the male to be in possession of a weapon on campus. The suspect was charged and banned from the campus.

On Feb. 28, campus police received a call

around 8:15 p.m. regarding a vehicle fire located in front of building 200 at Village Apartments. When the officers arrived on the scene, the fire was fully evolved within the vehicle. Corporal Ricardo Bell and Patrol Officer Johnny Chavis immedi-

ately called the local fire department to assist in the situation.

During the police investigation, the owner of the vehicle stated that unspecified maintenance had recently been performed on the vehicle that may have caused the fire. No other vehicles in the area were damaged by the fire. According to Corporal Bell, building 200 was evacuated until the fire was under control. No injuries were reported, and charges were not brought against the owner of the vehicle.

Also on Feb. 28 a student requested that officers check in lot 22 for suspicious people walking around the parking lot looking into vehicles. An officer patrolled the location and did not see anyone suspicious.

University police responded to a smoking policy violation on March 1. The officer responded to the violation in the courtyard between Pine and Oak halls.

Also on March 1 an officer responded to a domestic disturbance at Oak Hall. The officer spoke to the female and male parties. No charges were filed.

Students playing soccer on the tennis court on March 1 were told to disperse by a university officer.

On March 2, a female UNCP student reported to campus police that her ATM card had been used in fraudulent activity. After using the Cash Points located in Lot 12 to check her balance, the victim realized that money was missing out of her account and immediately notified campus police.

During the investigation, the officers were able to obtain the video surveillance from the ATM and discovered that the suspect involved was the victim's brother. After the investigation, the suspect was arrested and charged with financial card fraud on both campus

and state levels.

Also on March 2, a complainant advised that someone vandalized the ceiling tiles on the second and third floors in Pine Hall. An officer responded and spoke with the person who made the claim. A report was later filed.

Just three minutes later security was advised of a disturbance between a student and a security guard. An officer responded and spoke with the security officer. On March 4, a report was issued that a non-student was roaming in Oak Hall. A officer responded to the report and escorted the unidentified suspect off the University property.

A visitation violation was reported March 5. The incident took place in Pine Hall. An officer advised the two students that they were in violation of the visitation policy for residence halls. The students received verbal warnings.

University mourns death of a well-known figure

By Kayloni Wyatt
Managing Editor

Former Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs John B. Chavis died Feb. 26. Chavis was also a 1963 UNCP graduate.

Chavis worked at the University for 34 years. In 1987, the University Center was named after Chavis. The Board of Trustees at the time voted for the name change.

Chavis graduated from the Hargrave

Military Academy. He received a bachelor's degree from UNCP, a master's degree in educational administration from East Carolina University and doctorate from Duke University.

Chavis was a public school teacher before he worked at UNCP.

He served with Student Affairs for 21 years. He began as director of the student center.

He was also a church leader at Mt. Airy Baptist Church and the Pembroke

Kiwanis Club. He was heavily involved in town, community and business affairs.

He lived in Fayetteville, N.C.

The funeral was held March 1 at Reedy Branch Baptist Church. He was later buried in the Lumbee Memorial Gardens.

Chavis is survived by his wife, Judy; his sister, Joanne Wray; his son, James B. Chavis Jr.; a daughter, Bridget Parker; and five grandchildren.

The Pine Needle

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