

news

# Construction presents few apparent problems

By David Thompson

Construction is in progress on three new buildings on campus, with no major problems apparent, officials said.

The work is on Fetzer Gymnasium, an addition to the Carolina Union and a new central library.

Fetzer gym, originally scheduled for completion this spring, now is scheduled for opening in November, said Jake Bryant, Director of UNC Engineering and Construction. He cited this year's harsh winter as a major cause for the delay.

The new gym is projected to cost \$5.9 million. Little Construction Company of Wilson, the building contractors for the project, will absorb the extra costs caused by the delay.

T.A. Loving Builders is contracted to build the new library, located beside the Union. The projected cost is \$22 million. March 1982 is the target date for its opening.

Construction of the library created a mild controversy on campus in October, when most of the Union parking lot was fenced in. Students, particularly those living in Henderson Residence College, protested the consequent closing of the walk between the Union addition and the existing library area.

The addition to the Union building should be completed in September 1981 said Bryant. Estimated cost for that project, contracted to Security Builders, Inc., is \$2 million. Funding will come primarily from student fees.

"The student Union addition and the library are on schedule," said Bryant. "Things have been pretty good on those two jobs."

"We're moving along pretty much on schedule, maybe a little behind," said Kyle Cave of Security Builders. "We're hoping to be out by the end of the year."

Cave blamed the delays on rocks in the foundation and bad weather. Also, there have been some material problems.

The Union addition will hold, among other things, the International Student Center (now in Bynum Hall); the *Yachety Yack* offices; the Campus Governing Council; WXYC; two suites of Student Government; and the *Daily Tar Heel* offices. Originally, a restaurant was planned for the basement, but that idea was abandoned.

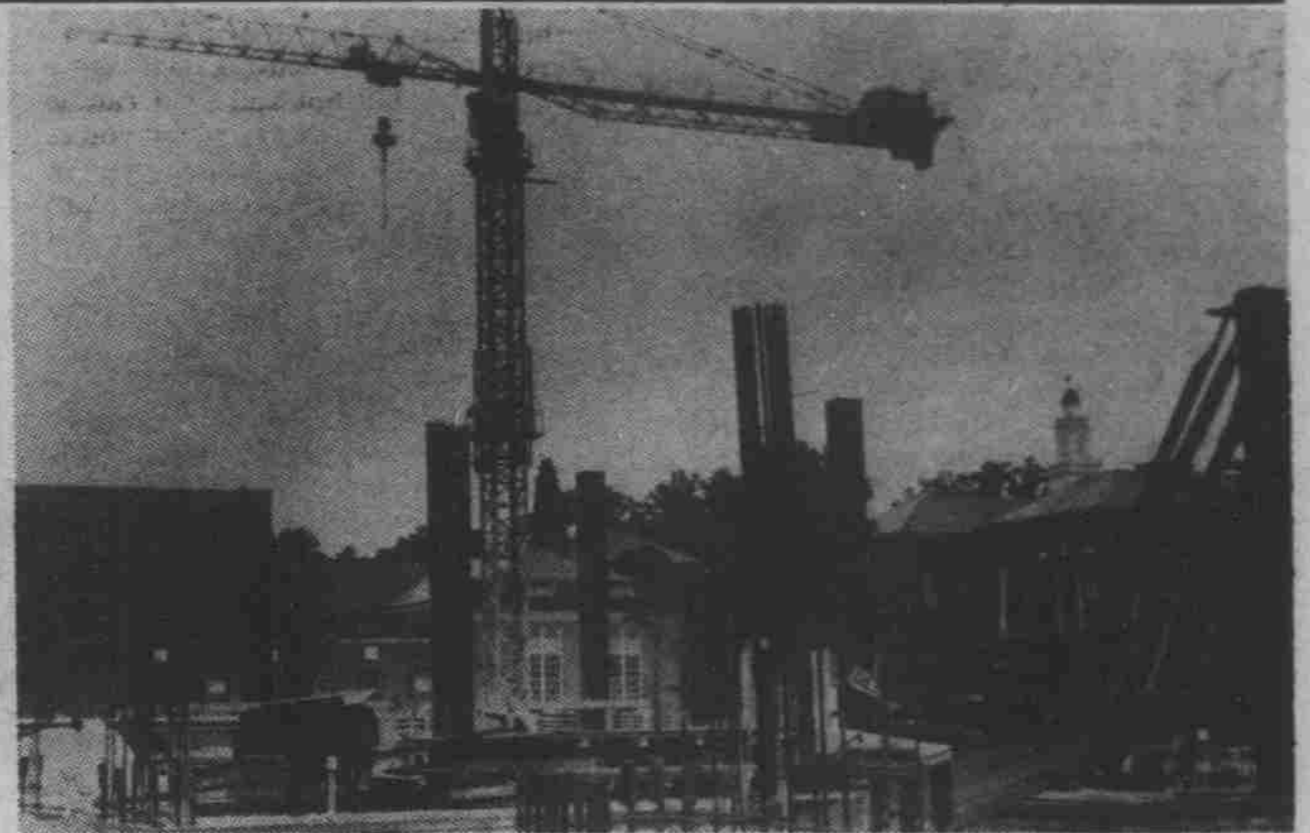
No additional parking spaces are scheduled to be taken for construction use in the area, Bryant said. Presently, Security

Builders controls the circular lot behind the Union during working hours.

Another part of the Union addition will house a 400-seat auditorium that will become the home of the Union-sponsored "free flick" series, said Howard Henry, Carolina Union director. This auditorium will be built next to Great Hall. In addition, the auditorium will house meeting, readings and lectures now in the Great Hall.

Free flicks are now shown in the auditorium of Carroll Hall, which also seats 400, Henry said.

"We can't ever use (Carroll) in the day," Henry said. "It is better related to be done in the Union. You have a place to get a Coke, a place to go before the show, and it is simply more convenient."



Staff photo by Flora Garrison

Construction site of new central library

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