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Alumni Center architectural plans nearly finished

By BRIAN McCOLLUM

Architectural plans for the new alumni center on Stadium Drive should be finalized within a few weeks, General Alumni Association

(GAA) officials said Thursday. Douglas Dibbert, GAA president, said he expects to have the plans by spring break, which begins March 4. Construction should begin sometime this summer, Dibbert said.

The George Watts Hill Alumni Center will contain GAA offices, as

Heels' rally

falls short to

Duke, 70-69

Thursday night's North Carolina-Duke game had all the trappings of

The usual scenario goes something like this: UNC, playing about as poor as poor can be, falls far behind early

to a sky-high opponent. Gradually, the Tar Heels climb back into the

game, taking advantage of their

opponent's mistakes to pull even in

Finally, according to the mythical

UNC comeback handbook, the home

team is supposed to pull ahead in the

final minute, perhaps on the game's

final shot, sending the crowd into a

frenzy and the upstart visitors home

ranked Blue Devils should have

ended like that. But unfortunately for

North Carolina's No. 2 national

ranking and its 18-game Smith Center

Trailing 70-69, the Tar Heels fired

four potential game-winning shots in

the final 32 seconds. None of the four

went in, however, and the score stood.

game winning streak snapped, fell to

13-2 overall and 2-1 in the ACC.

Duke, which was coming off a close

loss at home to Maryland last

Saturday, improved to 11-2 and 2-

ticks left, when Jeff Lebo tried a

desperation 17-foot jump shot from

the left corner. The ball had barely

left Lebo's hand before Duke forward

Robert Brickey deflected it straight

up into the air. By the time it came

back down, the buzzer had sounded

and the Blue Devils were already

beginning an impromptu victory

The last — and only other –

opponent to dance in the Dean Dome

celebration.

UNC's last gasp came with two

North Carolina, which saw its nine-

Thursday's game with the ninth-

the latter stages of the contest.

disappointed — again.

winning streak, it didn't.

By MIKE BERARDINO

well as a dining room, lounge, library and alumni hall.

Plans for the center have been in the works for close to two years, project chairman Ralph Strayhorn said. The building will stand on a site between Kenan Stadium and the Ramshead parking lot.

Original plans called for a location near the Smith Center, but the GAA Board of Directors approved the Stadium Drive site in September after Chancellor Christopher Fordham offered them the land.

Hundreds of Scott Residence College residents signed petitions against the site last fall, citing the loss of parking spaces, destruction of the wooded area and disruptions of student life due to construction as objections.

Petition organizer Carol Huffman said she has conceded the fight to the

"The students were interested, but the administration wasn't," she said.

"We aren't happy about the construction, but it's going to happen."

Students should realize that construction disturbances will be minimal, Dibbert said. "It will be unlikely that any disruption will be greater than Carmichael dorm," he said.

Construction on Carmichael Residence Hall was completed in 1986. Strayhorn said decreasing the number of existing parking spaces will not be a problem, because the center will have its own parking area.

"I don't think anyone will be affected," Strayhorn said. "We hope to be a very good neighbor."

Fund-raising efforts for the building have been underway since mid-1987 and have netted over \$7 million, said Karen Arwe, associate campaign director. A test phone marketing campaign conducted in November and December raised \$283,000, and a large-scale telemarketing campaign aimed at out-of-state alumni will begin Sunday, she said.

Arwe said original estimates placed

construction costs at \$8.5 million, but that figure has probably risen due to changes and delays.

Construction is expected to take 18-24 months, and the building should be completed in time for the University's bicentennial celebration, Dibbert said.

"We're making really good progress and getting good response from all quarters now," Dibbert said. "A lot of people are curious why we waited 200 years to do this."

Toxic spill forces hall evacuation

By JUSTIN McGUIRE and BRIAN McCOLLUM

A hazardous chemical spill in Beard Hall forced the evacuation of more than 300 students and faculty Thursday afternoon.

Stock clerk Leroy Clark was treated for eye and respiratory irritation at North Carolina Memorial Hospital and released Thursday, hospital officials said. University police officer Marcus Perry and fireman Sam Price were also treated and released.

Emergency units were called to the scene about 1:30 p.m. after Clark dropped a 500-milliliter bottle of thionyl chloride in the stockroom of the pharmacy school building.

Officials said Clark immediately tried to neutralize the chemical by pouring bicarbonate of soda on the spill but was overcome by fumes before finishing.

Bill Homovec, hazardous waste manager for the University's Health and Safety Office, said Clark managed to walk down the hall and find another lab worker, who contacted the Orange County Rescue squad.

Thionyl chloride is a common lab chemical used in acidic experimentation, Homovec said. If mixed with water, hydrogen chloride vapors are released, causing potential skin burns and mucous membrane damage.

Clifton Stone, pharmacy school supply supervisor, said the pharmacy school, which uses the chemical for organic chemistry, never keeps more than 500 milliliters at the Beard Hall

Chapel Hill Fire Marshal Joe Robertson said the building was evacuated by emergency officials before the Orange County hazardous materials team went inside to prevent the fumes from spreading throughout the building.

Fire officials were alerted to bring breathing apparatus for those who might have ingested the fumes and to clean up the spill, Robertson said. Blood pressure and respiration checks were given to some of the evacuees, he said.

Linwood Futrelle, chief of the hazardous materials team, said there were no major problems containing the spill. Workers used soda ash, made up of sodium bicarbonate, to neutralize the acid.

Robertson said the contained spill and the broken thionyl chloride bottle were put into sealed plastic bags and would be disposed of according to federal regulations.

The entire building was then

ventilated, Robertson said. Activities in Beard Hall were expected to resume as usual today, according to reports Thursday afternoon. Efforts to reach pharmacy school officials Thursday evening were unsuccessful.

Futrelle said he was pleased with the cooperation exhibited by the various emergency units which responded to the spill.

"We came from all over the county, and we came fairly quickly," he said. "We did what the Chapel Hill Fire Department asked us to do."



Proposed constitutional amendments to be placed on spring election ballot

By JUSTIN McGUIRE Senior Writer

Two proposed amendments to the Student Constitution will be placed on the February election ballot as referendums, Student Congress members voted Wednesday night.

One amendment would change the inauguration date of elected student leaders and the other will try to redefine the role of the student body treasurer on the congress.

The inauguration referendum, if passed, will move the inauguration date of all elected officers, except the editor of The Daily Tar Heel, from within 15 days of election to the first Tuesday in April, about four weeks later.

Stuart Hathaway, chairman of the congress Rules and Judiciary Committee, said the change was being proposed in order to allow elected students more time to become familiar with their office.

"Right now, the student body president comes in right after he or she is elected and has only sketchy

ideas of what he or she wants to do,"

Transition between the presidential administrations would be much easier because the president-elect would have a month to confer with the outgoing president, Hathaway said. "The new administration will be able to hit the ground running," he said.

The later inauguration date would also allow members of Student Congress to have a year in office before they have to participate in the lengthy budget process, he said.

The other referendum would make the student body treasurer a financial adviser to the congress, rather than a non-voting member. But the treasurer would be allowed a non-voting role on the congress Finance Committee.

Hathaway said the new role will be a compromise between the the role held now and the one held prior to

Before 1986, the treasurer could others on the ballot.

only advise the congress on financial matters, Hathaway said. The treasurer was made a non-voting member by a referendum that year.

Hathaway said the referendums are part of a lengthy project by the Rules and Judiciary Committee to change the Student Constitution.

Six other bills making constitutional changes were passed by the congress Wednesday. Several more will come before congress at its next

In order for the referendums to be passed, a majority of students, encompassing at least 10 percent of the student body, must vote in favor

"I don't worry that they won't be passed," Hathaway said. "I worry that people won't vote."

There will now be a total of four constitutional referendums in the spring election. The congress previously approved bills to place two

Poston joins lineup of SBP candidates

DTH/Tony Deifell

By MARK FOLK

Keith Poston, a junior political science major from Fayetteville, has announced his candidacy for student body president.

Bringing accountability to the budget process, creating a co-op program between the University and local school systems and expanding the student part-time employment service are the major issues Poston said he plans to address in his campaign.

Poston said he would propose reducing student fees and allocating funds to student groups more efficiently to improve the spring budget process.

"I think Student Congress has been reckless in allocating student fees," Poston said. "They're allocating our fees to groups they haven't examined close enough."

The Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association (CGLA) should be examined more closely during the budget process, Poston said. He said he would do everything possible to make sure the group is not granted student fees.

Campus Elections

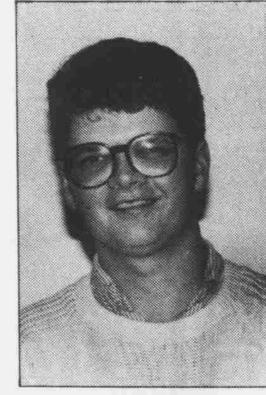
"I promise that I'd veto anything that would give a dime to CGLA," Poston said. "I view my election as whether or not students want to see CGLA on this campus."

A co-op program between the University and a local school system would give students the opportunity to go into a school and work with younger students, Poston said.

"This program would give students experience and improve the image of the University," Poston said. "Plus, it would help produce college-minded students in the local schools."

Poston said he feels the student part-time employment service is too limited. Increasing its money supply would expand it throughout the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area, he said.

"By expanding the employment service, we would create more jobs for students," Poston said.



Keith Poston

Although Poston has never held a position in the executive branch of student government, he said he doesn't see this fact as a

disadvantage. "I've always been active in campus politics," Poston said. "Not being in Suite C (Student Government offices) means that I don't

owe any favors." Poston is a former president of the UNC chapter of Students for America, a national organization.