

# The Blue BANNER



Water pipe bursts in Southridge Hall. 8

Coffee shop opens in Ramsey Library. 4

UNCA to play Heels here. 5

Jill Young returns to lead the women's soccer team. See story p.5.

## University campus takes on a new look for a new year

### Library addition has added bonuses for students and faculty

Tracy Singleton  
Staff Writer

UNCA's Ramsey Library reopened its doors on Aug. 18 after a \$3.9 million, nine-month renovation process.

"There is a cost to opening a building on time, and the cost was that we opened it without everything being finished," said Malcolm Blowers, University Librarian. "But it was open on the first day of class."

The library experienced some problems with door locks and electrical wiring during the first week of classes. According to Blowers, some areas needed adjusting, detail work, and finishing touches. The main staircase is also being fixed, and some furniture is missing.

"It is still not finished. We are working on it," said Blowers.

According to Noel Jones, a library employee, workers are still in the process of "laying down carpets, moving around equipment, and getting shelves in place."

According to a UNCA news release, the main floor of the library contains service desks, study and lounge areas, periodicals, the reference desk and collection, a cafe, and classroom and conference-room space. The ground floor houses the media center. The upper story will hold most of the books, along with special collections, archives, and offices.

Blowers said the process of renovation began 11 years ago, when Chancellor Bill Highsmith asked him to write a justification for the project. This was the basis for requesting funding. The project started last September, according to a UNCA

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Photo by Marti Parson

Students returned this semester to find the newly renovated library nearly complete.

### July 1996 proposed as completion date for gym construction

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Staff Writer

Renovations to UNCA's Justice Health and Fitness Center should be completed by July 1996, and ready to open next fall. The new gymnasium, which cost an estimated \$5.2 million, will offer several new accommodations to students and faculty, according to Ron Reagan, director of facilities planning.

"There's going to be a multi-purpose room that will house three basketball courts. Each court will be lined off for tennis, badminton, and volleyball," said Reagan.

Other plans for the center include four new racquetball courts, a large weight room, and locker and laundry facilities. According to Tom Hunnicutt, athletic director, one of the highlights of the new gymnasium will be the elevated indoor track.

"We'll have the longest indoor track in the state of North Carolina," said Hunnicutt. The track will enable UNCA to host intercollegiate and high school indoor track meets.

Hunnicutt believes that by hosting high school track meets in the new addition, prospective students will get a better chance to visit UNCA and see what it has to offer. "I think that will assist in the overall university recruitment," said Hunnicutt.

Currently, the Justice Health and Fitness Center houses an indoor swimming pool, dance studio, basketball court, and a weight room.

"We have a new weight room, and are hoping to come up with enough money to put a complete universal weight system in there," said Hunnicutt.

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## Computer meltdown causes delays during registration

Paul Buttes  
Staff Writer

Students waiting in line to register on Aug. 22 faced delays due to a wiring problem which disabled the registration terminals located on the first floor of Lipinsky Hall and the business office terminals in the lobby of Karpen Hall.

"For students and staff it was a very long day," said Caroline Miller, assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management. "We lost 45 minutes right at the start, and so that backed up close to 175 students. When you back up that many people, it gets difficult to recover from. We fried a squirrel one year, and that backed us up pretty badly when a transformer blew, but we've had very minimal computer problems in the last several years."

"The communication line from Robinson Hall to Karpen Hall went out on us," said Kern Parker, director of university computing. "On Friday the line looked fine, but we got there for our set-up on Tuesday morning and we couldn't get the terminals to communicate. It took two hours to get things started again."

Parker said when the computer center staff tried to get the Karpen business terminals back on-line, they inadvertently caused the Lipinsky terminals to crash. "That was just one of those bad luck things that happen," said Parker.

The registration terminals in Lipinsky Hall were down for 45 minutes, while the Karpen business terminals experienced a two-hour outage.

"We were ready to go at 8 a.m. but the computers never got up," said John Neuse, director of business services. "Finally, around 10 a.m., we moved to a location downstairs in one of the computer lab rooms, and went ahead and took care of people down there."

At 2 p.m., business services personnel were able to return upstairs to their original registration location, in the lobby of Karpen Hall.

"It was really backed up, and I felt really bad for my group," said Kim Walker, a student orientation leader. "They had to wait outside, and it was really hot out there."

Walker said when she registered as a freshman last year, it

only took her 20 minutes, but that the group she led through registration took two hours to complete the process.

Many of the students registering were incoming freshmen living on campus. They were placed into orientation groups based on their dormitory assignments, and their registration appointments were scheduled at 15-minute intervals.

"There were more people coming every 15 minutes, coming, coming, coming, so it just kept backing up," said Josh Tan, a student orientation leader. "We got there at 1 p.m. and finished at about 5 p.m."

According to Tan, the registration line in Lipinsky Hall stretched down through the basement of the building, forcing students to dodge in and out of the line as they went from room to room looking for courses that weren't already filled.

Brandon Bunn, a freshman biology major, said that his group became so weary of the orientation process that they didn't care about the long delay.

"We just wanted to do it," said Bunn. "It didn't matter how long [it took]. We knew that was the

very last day [of orientation]."

Bunn said his group had been unaware of the computer problem, but thought the process was overcrowded and understaffed.

Stephanie Skinner, a freshman, said when she reached the lobby of Karpen Hall, it was so crowded that she and her group had to join the line which had formed outside the building.

"It was really hot," said Skinner. "There was water outside, but that was all."

According to Miller, if students aren't cleared through the business office their class schedules are canceled. Because of the long delays and the other obligations registering students faced, they were allowed to pay their tuition fees later in the day.

"We've had so many successful registrations in a row," said Parker. "Sometimes you roll the dice and things don't go your way."

"We are looking at our procedures," Parker said. "We test the lines before we start registration, but we're going to make the test a little bit more involved to make really sure that the communications are up."



Photo by Lat Ray

Students faced long lines in the hot sun due to registration computer problems.