

## *Morrison: Drilling, Detours and Red Dirt*



It's Saturday morning. You've waited all week for this day. You finally have a chance to get seven hours of sleep, until hammering, drills and loud music awaken you. You run to your window to see what's going on and all you see are construction workers attempting to create a new dorm while at the same time inconveniencing the lives of students in Morrison Residence Hall.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill deemed it necessary to build new dorms on the infamous South campus. Along with the South Campus reputation for numerous fire drills, broken elevators and no air-conditioning, the construction project has become another complaint for many students living on this area of campus. The construction has been labeled as an "eyesore" not only by students, but parents as well.

Traveling down Manning Drive you see an overflow of concrete and mounds of red dirt. Due to the construction, we have been forced to take a detour through the bushes at Chase Dining Hall in order to catch the U-Bus, P-2-P, or make a purchase at the Mini Mart. Not only is the detour an inconvenience, it is also a safety hazard. We had

to step over yellow nets and walk through soggy mulch and rocks.

As a resident of Morrison, I feel that the needs of students were not taken into consideration. Even though Morrison does not have 24 hour quiet hours, I personally find it hard to study with the sound of drills echoing and hammers pounding constantly. Within the dorm we are required to respect others by controlling noise volumes, but the construction workers have been heard blasting their music as early as 7 a.m. on a Saturday morning. The inconvenience

of the construction is quite disturbing, but the completed project will be even more bothersome.

The location of the new dorm is extremely close to Morrison. Due to the close proximity of the dorms many students are going to become uncomfortable completing normal "rituals". For example, the act of raising a window may become questionable to some individuals because they may not want to take the risk of having their privacy invaded. Most importantly, taking a shower may become troublesome because one may have fear of an indecent exposure or seeing another at one of their most vulnerable moments. The locale will allow the residents of both dorms to have a perfect view of the lives of other residents.

The University does need to increase the number of dorms because of overcrowding and higher freshmen and transfer acceptance rates, but adding them to South Campus is not the answer. South campus already has numerous trouble spots that need to be dealt with, without the addition of more dorms. During the brainstorming process, another location should have been discussed. Although it is necessary to build new