

Seahawk Village apartments fill up for fall 2006

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Chilly winds couldn't drive away the mass of over 200-plus hopeful freshmen who lined up outside the office of the newly-constructed apartments of Seahawk Village on Wednesday Feb. 1.

Huddled in groups, the students waited for their chance to reserve a room in the university's newest residence buildings for the 2006 school year. The apartments, six buildings in all, are located directly behind Wagoner Dining Hall and offer 524 bedrooms for students, roughly 12 to 14 of which are first assigned to residential coordinators, graduate assistants and resident assistants, said Assistant Director of Resident Life Larry Wray.

Brad Reid, the director of housing and resident life walked down the line, informing the freshmen of the 24 four-bedroom apartments and seven three-bedroom apartments that were still available in Seahawk Village. "The idea is to fill every bedroom today," he said.

Students wishing to live on campus for the 2006 school year needed to comply with a housing contract and pay an up-front payment of \$100. The 31 remaining rooms not taken by upperclassmen were then offered to current freshmen.

"Freshmen were camping out in tents by four [p.m.] on Monday even though they couldn't actually sign up until two days later," Reid said.

"We were concerned with the students' safety," Wray said. "We didn't want to have them out here overnight, through the rain and the cold."

Understanding their dedication to reserve their spot, the members of the Residential Life Department started a priority list to offer placeholders for the freshmen so they could return on Wednesday at 1:00 pm for sign-ups.

For those students who were not able to reserve a Seahawk Village apartment for the fall 2006 semester, there are two options: the university can keep their housing contract and \$100 up-front payment and have the student be placed at the top of a prioritized waiting list for the on-campus apartments or suites, or

students be placed on a different waiting list for the 2007 school year, granting them first pick at an apartment in the Seahawk Village's second phase.

The second phase, consisting of an additional seven buildings, will add 609 new bedrooms. Construction is expected to begin for the second phase behind Cornerstone Hall in late April. They are projected to be ready by the 2007 fall semester.

While finances are somewhat of a concern with the second phase, "everything is basically on schedule," Reid said. "We're just waiting for the last approvals before we start construction."

"Everyone is really eager to get into these new apartments," said Michelle Rodems, residence coordinator. Rodems, who manages the Cornerstone Hall and Honors and International Houses, was there to help organize the registrations. University police Lieutenant M. T. Cook and Sergeant T. R. Curry also stood by to help organize the registration.

Move-in for the Seahawk Village apartments will begin Aug. 1, 2006.

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According to their Web site, Delta Chi was founded as a law fraternity in 1890 at Cornell University. They have 121 chapters and colonies in the U.S. and Canada, and list prominent alumni like the 23rd president Benjamin Harrison, actors Ashton Kutcher and Kevin Costner, ESPN analyst Sean Salisbury and several congressmen and financial leaders.

North Carolina currently has two chapters of Delta Chi at Appalachian State and East Carolina University, and a colony at Western Carolina University.

ECU and Delta Chi alum Brad Borst said his leadership in the fraternity helped him mature through college, and aside from the fun, he was able to join in charity events and fundraisers. He said the benefits and kinship did not end at school; now living in Washington, D.C., he has more than 600 brothers living in and around the city.

"Delta Chi is not just a one-time college thing. It is a brotherhood that will last your entire life," Borst said.

Davis said those wanting to join can find him in the University Union until March 3, or can contact him by email at ReedD@DeltaChi.org.

Working for UNCW: finding a profitable and convenient on-campus job

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Does working for the university mean being trapped in the minimum-wage sphere for the duration of your college career? Or is there hope yet for a more lucrative and worthwhile way to spend the precious 20-30 hours a week a college student can devote to making ends meet?

With the flexibility most students require in a work schedule, job possibilities are limited. Those who live on campus or without a car face even more limited opportunities. Many UNCW students turn to the university to find work, sometimes by choice, but often by necessity.

Mark Werbeach at UNCW Career Services said the main hirers on campus are Housing and Residence Life, Campus Recreation, Randall Library, Food Services and the Campus Bookstore. However, students must do a bit more legwork than simply show up at Career Services expecting to be placed in a job.

"We are the middleman between student and employer and funnel as much as we can through the UNCW experience Web site, but it is up to the students to seek out employers," Werbeach said. This means students must go to each individual employer to seek employment.

Before students decide on applying



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Many UNCW students find on-campus jobs in order to complement their schedules. The Student Rec Center and Randall Library are two of the most popular work places.

at whichever employer is closest to them, expecting the same pay rate all over campus, they should keep in mind that there is quite a discrepancy in pay from one on-campus job to another. Knowledge about pay rates at each university department may help students prioritize the jobs they seek.

The Student Recreation Center has the widest range of pay, from \$5.25 to \$9.00 per hour. However, most positions, such as lobby desk assistant, office assistant and working in the fitness center, pay the starting rate of \$5.25. Students must have certain skills or certifications to qualify for the higher paying positions, such as group exercise instructor



with a \$6.30 starting rate for student employees. However, maintaining a job at the Bookstore is more difficult than at most departments on campus. Phil Kazmierczak, assistant store manager, said the bookstore uses a 90-day probation period for most employees it hires and decides at the end of the 90 days whether to terminate or keep the student as a permanent part-time employee.

"We hire about 25 more people than we need around our busiest times, the beginning of the semester and buy-back, and then cut down after these periods," said Kazmierczak. For students looking for temporary or seasonal employment, this may be a good option; however, students looking for more long-term employment should be aware that the bookstore operates on this temporary system.

Students have the option of utilizing UNCW as an employer as well as a school, and for many students, this is the most convenient option. However, before settling on a university job, students should be aware that pay may be slightly lower than many off-campus employers, and that pay can vary greatly from department to department. But if students do their homework on on-campus employment, they can find sustainable and potentially profitable part-time jobs at UNCW.

(\$9.00 per hour), or lifeguard (\$6.00 per hour). However, the rates for the skilled positions are among the highest of all on-campus jobs, and these rates could increase for students with the standard 25 cents per year raise at the SRC. "It might be a wise idea for students to invest their time in courses that would certify them for these positions to maximize their potential earnings on campus," said Ann Bullard, office manager of the SRC.

The starting rate at the rest of the on-campus hiring departments, Food Services, Randall Library and Housing and Residence Life, ranges from \$5.25 to \$5.50 per hour. The University Bookstore is the exception,