

Chiller renovated, temperature rises

□ **Chiller to be "on line within the next three weeks." In the meantime, students make do.**

TIFFANY ADAMS
Staff Writer

A new chiller plant is under construction on campus causing buildings to reach sweltering temperatures.

All the buildings on campus are heated by steam and cooled by chilled water, both provided by a plant located behind Belk Dining Hall. Approximately three weeks ago, the chiller plant, which produces air conditioning by using chilled water, was shut off for renovations and upgrades.

According to Tom Sherry, Director of Facilities Services, "the new Science and Math building will require about as much water for air conditioning as the rest of the buildings on campus."

In order to meet the new demands for air conditioning, the chiller plant needed an upgrade.

Prior to renovations, the College was cooled by two chillers. The oldest chiller was removed, and two larger units will replace it.

According to Sherry, the other chiller will remain as it is because it was upgraded about five years ago.

The new chiller plant will consist of three chillers that will be housed in a two-story

building behind Belk Dining Hall. The construction of the building is underway and moving right along.

The water treatment facilities will remain where they currently are.

"The existing chiller should be back on line within the next three weeks," says Sherry.

The College purchased the two new chillers about one month ago, but they are not on campus yet because the building is not completed. They will be stored with the general contractor, William C. Vick, until they are ready to be moved on campus.

According to Sherry, the air conditioning in the buildings was scheduled to be turned off until March 22; however, it has not been turned on yet.

Sherry says that the project was scheduled for this season because of the mild temperatures so that discomfort could be kept to a minimum. In order to compensate for warm temperatures, the steam has been turned off, so there is also no heat in the buildings.

Although there have been few complaints to Facilities Services, some students have experienced discomfort in the dorms due to warm temperatures.

However, most students are coping well.

According to sophomore Laura Bates, a resident of Brewer, "Rather than turning on the air conditioning, I turn on fans and open the windows to cool my room off."

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