



College spends thousands on rented units

College rents portable air units to cool cafeteria and buildings with planned events.

CHRISTINA HOLDER
Editor-in-Chief

As the hum of the campus-wide Chiller finally filled the air around 8 p.m. on Friday night, faculty convened for an awards dinner in a cool Weatherspoon Gym.

A 20-ton portable air conditioning unit pumped cold air into the gym--the same portable unit that was used to cool down Ledford Hall two weekends ago for the Carolinas Psychology Conference.

Meanwhile, students who had been without air in the dorms during last week's record 90 degree temperatures would have to wait until Saturday to feel cool air blowing their way.

According to Chiller project manager Jason Aycock when the Chiller began running again, it took at least one full day for the



The temperature was cool inside Weatherspoon Gym on Friday afternoon before the Faculty Awards Dinner. Above, one table stands beside the door where the 20-ton portable air conditioner pumps air into the room. The Chiller came back to life later that night shortly after 8 p.m., but temperatures inside the dorms did not fall until Sunday.

STAFF PHOTO BY CHRISTINA HOLDER

dorms to cool down. Even then, he said students should "expect cooler temperatures...not frigid."

By Sunday, the temperature in the dorms was comfortable.

Last week, crews worked around the clock to get the existing Chiller --the campus-wide air conditioning unit that had been turned off in March--running again.

Aycock and his crew of approximately 30 men worked in 12-hour shifts with 6-8 men per shift, clocking over 100 hours in overtime.

Aycock never went home. This past week, he spent the night on a mattress in the company trailer outside of the Chiller plant.

"I nap," said Aycock. "I don't sleep."

Earlier in the week, Tom Sherry of Facilities Services posted on the campus E-News that the Chiller would be running by Friday.

The administration's push to get the Chiller running placed extra pressure on the

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Director of Learning Center leaves Meredith

Roberts leaves position to pursue doctoral degree.

TIFFANY ADAMS
Staff Reporter

The current director of the Learning Center has decided to leave her position in order to pursue a doctoral degree in English at the University of

North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

For the past year and a half, Kelly Roberts has served as the Learning Center director. After she graduated from Meredith with a degree in English and a secondary education licensure, Roberts took an adjunct teaching position in the English department at Meredith four years ago.

She taught English 111 for three years and then was hired

last year to replace Nan Miller, the former director. Miller started the Learning Center in 1987 and served as the director until 2001, when Roberts was hired.

Roberts said that she has been attending graduate school at UNC-Chapel Hill for the past year, and she realized that it was extremely difficult to attend school and serve as the director of the

Learning Center. She decided to leave her position so she could focus on her graduate studies.

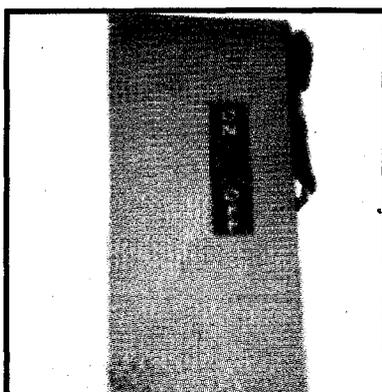
According to Roberts, her contract expires in May 2002, and she will leave as soon as the annual report is complete.

Roberts added that ideally, the position requires a full-time position as the director of the Learning Center and assistant professor of English to

begin in August 2002. She stated that the College plans to hire someone for the position in May.

Her short-term focus is on completing her graduate studies and earning her doctoral degree. She said she has

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CAMPUS SNAPSHOTS

The switch is on for the two portable air conditioners the College rented this week.

Students sought refuge in cool places. Some went to the Chapel, like these two sisters.

