

THE HILLTOP

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THIS WEEK

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Fox to reopen in April, water damage caused by natural acids eroding pipes

by Kelly McElveen
assistant editor

Fox dorm, which flooded over Christmas break, forced over 100 students to move, and caused over \$100,000 in damages, will be open sometime in April according to Physical Plant director Joe Cerminaro.

Work crews have been repairing the damage since a water line burst on the second floor. Cerminaro expects it will take at least six more weeks for the crews to be finished and hopes to possibly reopen the dorm the second or third week in April.

Outside contractors have been hired to replace the water pipes and the damaged ceilings for the entire dorm. Physical plant employees will then repaint and put on the finishing touches.

The break apparently occurred due to the acidity of the water in this area, according to Cerminaro. Fox was equipped with copper pipes, but copper is a soft metal and prone to acidic water. The water is especially corrosive when hot.

"The pipes just got weak," Cerminaro said. "We were lucky to find it when we did."

Contractors are installing new copper pipes but this time the hot water will flow through a treatment system to lessen the acidity.

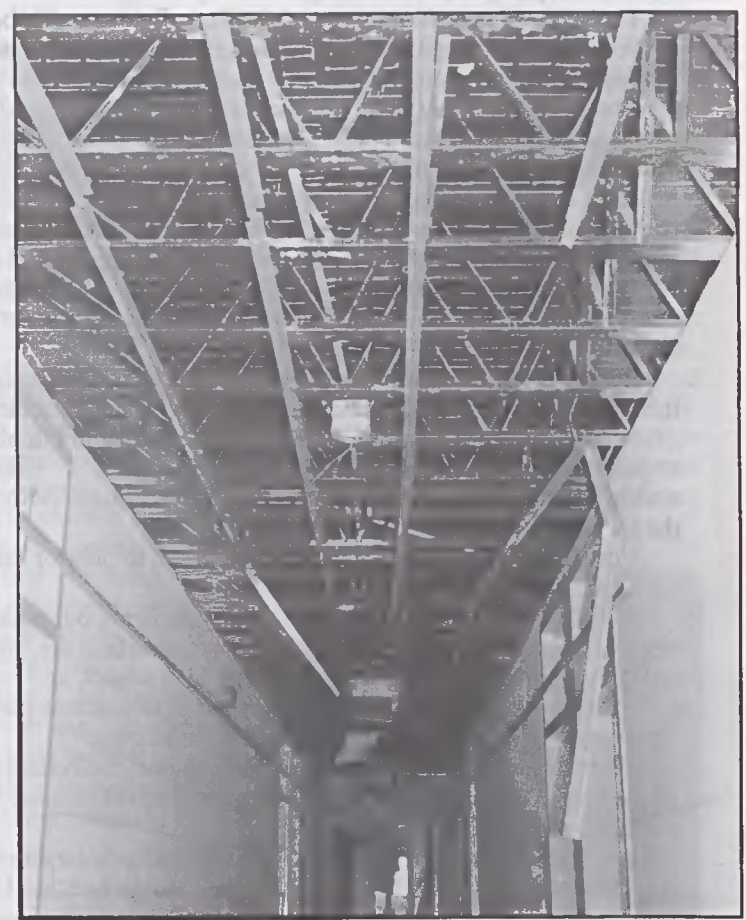
"We had this kind of problem in several places before, and we intended to re-plumb Fox this summer," Cerminaro said. "We already had planned to close the dorm for the summer."

The college is responsible for paying some \$59,000 for new plumbing, and the insurance company covers approximately \$100,000 in water damages.

"We came out of it a lot better than we thought," Cerminaro said. "Hopefully we will have eliminated this kind of problem from happening again."

Water problems still exist in the other dorms on women's hill. Edna Moore and Stroup are equipped with galvanized pipes that are beginning to plug up with silica deposits from the water (another water characteristic of Western N.C.).

Cerminaro also has a plan to replace plumbing in the other dorms over a five year period.



Ceiling panels have been removed in Fox to help in the process of replacing acid damaged pipes.

The stars say Romance will be yours in March!

From Staff Reports

Love will definitely be "in the air" when the national tour of "Romance/Romance" plays Moore Auditorium Thursday, March 4 at 8 p.m.

The Broadway comedy is actually two romantic American musical comedies in one.

Act I, The Little Comedy, is based on Schnitzler's Viennese tale about a pair of worldlings who disguise themselves for an amatory adventure and then run into unforeseen complications - they start to care for each other. It is set at the turn-of-the-century and the decor is elegant European Art Nouveau. Songs include waltzes, polkas, and several ballads.

Act II, based on a Jules Renard play, is entitled Summer Share. Set in a contemporary Long Island chic getaway spot in the Hamptons, it concerns two married

couples, enjoying summer refuge from the hustle and hassle of NYC, each wondering if an affair might bring them happiness.

"Romance/Romance" began its journey to Broadway after a well-received Off-Broadway showcase production. When it eventually opened on Broadway in 1988, the show snatched five Toney Award nominations, including Best Musical.

The New York Times said "The evening sparkles with charm and intelligence...this show delights" and the New York Post said it was "outstanding". Variety Magazine has even said it is "a sleeper hit."

Tickets are for the show are \$7 General Admission. Mars Hill students are free with valid ID and it is a green card event.



The national tour of "Romance Romance" comes to Moore Auditorium March 4. This two part Broadway show centers on love through the years. MHC student admission is free.