

Church now popular student watering hole

By Theresa Herlevsen

The opening of the restaurant/pub Mine Shaft Too on Dec. 27, 1977 has brought more than an easily accessible, fairly-rated, and "good-time" drinking establishment to the UNCC students and community. It also fulfilled the dreams of owners and managers Jimmy James and Jerry Francis to open a bar and restaurant, and more importantly, one that could cater to the needs of UNCC students.

"When we first had the idea for a restaurant/pub type place, we were looking for a location close to the campus and thus easily accessible to the students," Jimmy James, co-owner/manager and also a 1966 graduate of UNCC, commented. "When I attended UNCC, we (the students) always wished there was a bar or pub close to the campus where we could congregate. We felt this need was probably still prevalent among the students, and when we heard the church was for sale we decided the location met our needs and we began planning.

The Mine Shaft Too, named after UNCC's own Mine Shaft, was once a Baptist church

which closed doors and was put up for sale in 1977.

Has the Mine Shaft Too fulfilled the preconceived expectations of success? "At first business was a little slow, but it soon picked up, and yes, I'd say we are happy with the way things have gone," James said. "Our slowest time is from 3-8 p.m., and that is our top priority right now—increasing business during those hours."

Immediate plans include running beer specials during the afternoons and providing entertainment such as cards, backgammon, etc., and possibly sponsoring tournaments in these areas. "We want to know what the students' desires are. If it's more specials, then we'll offer more; if it's cards and backgammon, then we'll provide it," James said. Another beer chugging contest, met with great success last year, is also scheduled.

Plans also include specials for UNCC clubs and organizations. James said specials can be offered to specific groups on certain afternoons, with size and prestige of the club or group being of no importance. A group as small as 10 to 15 persons will

be eligible. James encourages students to contact him and express their wishes.

As with any business there are both positive and negative aspects. As far as personal satisfaction is concerned, James and Francis find the Mine Shaft Too very rewarding. "The atmosphere the students bring, and of course, the business, makes our job both interesting and enjoyable." On the negative side, James sees slow afternoons as the only problem, and hopes present plans for increased activities will solve any shortcomings.

Future plans for expansion include turning the adjoining downstairs outdoor patio into a disco which James sees as possibly being completed by summer. And directly upstairs, above the



(Photo by Bob Henderson)

Students take time out from classes to enjoy a round at the Mine Shaft Too.

disco, plans for expansion of the restaurant are in the making. The additional room will have a see-through dome

roof and will service another bar. The additional room will also be used as a room for large groups and parties.

So, UNCC students, plans are in store, the semester is young, and good times are waiting ... down the road.

"Let's Go To The Movies" 8th Annual 49er Festival Schedule of Events

Monday, January 22

—"Banner Competition" may begin at 6 a.m.

—"Blazing Saddles Day" (High noon-congregate at Belk Tower)

—Meeting of club representatives at 4 p.m. in Caucus

—Women 49ers versus Coker, Mine Shaft, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, January 23

—"Klinger's Beauty Contest," 1 p.m., Cone Center Cafeteria

—All banners must be down by 1 p.m.

—49ers versus N.C. A&T, Coliseum; Women 49ers, 5:45 p.m., men 7:30 p.m.

—"One On One Competition" during halftime of basketball game at the Coliseum.

Wednesday, January 24

—"Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum," 12:30 p.m., Cone Center Cafeteria, Toga Contest

—"Let's Go To The Movies Competition," 8 p.m., McKnight Lecture Hall (skits)

Thursday, January 25

—"The Candidate" (voting for Homecoming Queen)

11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4-6:30 p.m., Residence

Hall Cafeteria

11 a.m.-2 p.m., Commuter Cafeteria

5-7 p.m., Denny/Garinger overpass

—"American Graffiti Day" (dress up fifties style)

—"Hula & Gum Competition," 1 p.m., Belk Tower

—Atlanta Dance Company, 8 p.m., Rowe Arts

Friday, January 26

—"Towering Inferno-Pep Rally," TBA

—"Midnight Express Disco," midnight, Cone Center Cafeteria

Saturday, January 27

—"The One And Only Parade," 10 a.m., downtown

—49ers versus South Florida, 1:30 p.m., Coliseum, Homecoming Queen to be crowned at halftime

—Women 49ers versus UNC-Asheville, Mine Shaft, 6 p.m.

—"Saturday Night Fever," Homecoming Dance, 9 p.m., Quality Inn (McDowell St., Downtown)

Tickets for Homecoming dance may be bought from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Caucus room, \$5.50 per couple, \$3 per person.

Retreads

By Gary Nelson

A new year, new semester and new face in the Awareness Resource Center. Rene Gaddy, a junior, has joined the Peer Counseling staff. We welcome Renee and are looking forward to working with her. Drop by and get acquainted with her.

We published the tentative list of programs for this semester, but did not give the dates in the last issue of the *Carolina Journal*. Jan. 25—Human Sexuality; Feb. 1—Marital Health; Feb. 8—Battered Women, Children Abuse and Rape; Feb. 15—Time Management; Feb. 22—Assertiveness Training. Mark your calendar for these dates.

In addition to these programs, we would like to remind all re-entry students that many services here on campus are available to you that you may not be aware of. For instance, programs sponsored by Free U, the Craft Cellar and Venture are all open to re-entry students, as well as free athletic tickets. Each month the Cone University Center develops a collage of activities occurring on campus. These may be picked up in the Evening Program Information Center (EPIC) during the hours of 5-9 p.m. each Monday through Thursday.

If you have any questions about your return to school or would just like to have some friendly conversation or a place to study, drop by the Awareness Resource Center on the main floor of the Cone University or call 597-2558.