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Students crowd Pit, Union during lunch

Problems at Chick-Fil-A contributed to long lines at other campus eating spots.

BY MARVA HINTON
SENIOR WRITER

Students jammed the area between the Undergraduate Library and the Student Union during peak hours Tuesday, giving University officials a first glimpse at how the renovation of Lenoir Dining Hall will affect traffic flow.

The first days of class always mean congestion in the Pit, but Lenoir Pavilion, reduced access to the Pit and fenced-off construction zones contributed to the crowding.

Long lines greeted students at most dining facilities, and a mechanical problem at Hanes Pavilion caused part of the dining facility to close Tuesday in the middle of the lunch rush.

The Chick-Fil-A venue was forced to close around 11:30 a.m. when the motor burned out on an exhaust fan.

It reopened at 1 p.m. after officials obtained another fan.

In addition to Chick-Fil-A, Hanes Pavilion features the Marketplace Grill. The grill remained open while dining officials corrected the problem.

Scott Meyers, director of Carolina Dining Services, said he didn't expect a problem with a new fan.

He said he did not foresee any more problems with the facility, and he encouraged students to give the new venue a try.

"We want to take some of the heat off the Union Station," Meyers said.

With so many students heading to



The foot traffic near the Pit around lunch was heavy Tuesday since construction on Lenoir Dining Hall has narrowed the path between Davis Library and the Undergraduate Library.

Union Station for lunch, the Pit quickly filled with students trying to maneuver around the altered campus.

Students lost a large amount of sidewalk and Pit space due to Lenoir renovations.

"It's a little annoying and kind of

chaotic," said Matt Tapley, a sophomore from Monroe.

"There's nowhere to sit."

But Fred Roselli, a sophomore from South River, N.J., was a little more understanding.

"I think they mean well, but it's caus-

ing problems," Roselli said. "The good thing is people don't necessarily have to be in the Pit all day."

While some students might be annoyed by the lack of walking space, University Construction Manager Bob Beke said there was not much that could

be done.

"We have looked at some alternatives, but we were unable to provide any safe way to students and the University community," Beke said.

SEE LUNCH RUSH, PAGE 4

Plan to close UNC-system meetings dies

Lawmakers could not agree on how to change the state's open-meetings law.

BY SHARIF DURHAMS
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

State senators decided Tuesday not to amend the North Carolina public records law to restrict access to University records, correspondence and committee meetings.

The proposal could be taken up again when the legislature's short session begins next spring.

Prompted by several UNC-system administrators, Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange, introduced a bill in April that would have gutted last year's agreement between the University and the N.C. Press Association to open certain committees' meetings to the public.

Several UNC-CH committees, including those that suggest alcohol policies and decide employee benefits, could have closed if the law changed.

"This started out as a bad bill that would severely restrict the public's right to certain records now public, and there was no way the press association was going to let that happen," said Bill Hawkins, chairman of the NCPA's legislative committee.

"It's a good thing the General Assembly didn't pass bad legislation." Senators on the Judiciary Committee disagreed on exactly which meetings should remain open.

"For now, this issue cries out for more public discussion and no last-minute decisions," Lee said.

UNC-system administrators, including Chancellor Michael Hooker and former UNC-system President C.D. Spangler, have supported closing some public meetings, saying the public scrutiny stifles discussion.

But current system President Molly Broad said Tuesday she would continue to negotiate with the press rather than unilaterally change the agreement.

"While these issues could not be resolved statutorily during this legislative session, we do feel that genuine progress has been made and that the University and press have developed a platform upon which to build," Broad stated in a press release.

Broad said the UNC system has come closer to an agreement with the NCPA on some of their differences.

Whitney Moore contributed to this story.



Diana Gonzalez (left), a sophomore from Raleigh, changes her schedule with Assistant to the Dean Karen Binder in Steele Building on Tuesday.

UNC to hire consultant to restructure advising

BY JESSICA GALAZKA
STAFF WRITER

Student government's efforts to address changes to the academic advising system are beginning to bear fruit.

Next week, Student Body President Mo Nathan and executive assistant Lacey Hawthorne will meet with administrators to work out the details of bringing in an outside consultant to look at the system.

Over the summer, Provost Richard Richardson and Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd decided to bring in a consulting firm, following a report prepared by student government.

Students and faculty applauded the move. Tom Warburton, a professor of music and an Honors adviser, said, "I've been told advising is weak, but I've never been told what to do."

Warburton said he welcomed anyone who could shed some light on the issue because advisers were just as frustrated as students.

Hawthorne said outside assistance could bring in a new perspective. "We'd gotten very tunnel-visioned and focused," said Hawthorne, who researched advising this summer. "We needed to bring new life to this."

A consulting group that specializes in evaluating advising programs at universities nationwide will provide a detailed look at UNC's program and a guide for implementation soon, Hawthorne said.

Western Carolina University brought in a consultant to revamp their advising system and UNC could benefit from the same process, Hawthorne said.

"(A consulting group) has the tools to devote their primary attention to this," she said, adding that UNC officials have too many projects to give the advising problem the attention it deserves.

When one specific problem is looked at, six more seem to appear, she said.

"We needed a group capable of looking under all the stones," she said.

Hawthorne said a source of funding for the evaluation has not been secured.

Rebecca Welk, a sophomore biology and anthropology major from Fayetteville, said advisers need to have an advised opinion. "A person from the outside would have a better outlook as to what we need and see the process more clearly," Welk said.

A recent survey conducted by Joseph Lowman, a UNC psychology professor, stated that 94 percent of students were satisfied with advising. Yet another, conducted by the UNC-system General Administration, reported only 52 percent of students satisfied with advising.

Hawthorne said the first survey was given to students who regularly visit their adviser and like their adviser, while the General Administration surveyed a broader group of students.

"There are tons (of students) who are not going. That's who we have to reach."

The tuition riddle

BY ERICA BESHEARS
EDITOR

As classes started two years ago, the Boards of Trustees at UNC and N.C. State University had been handed a tricky question by the N.C. General Assembly: Should they raise tuition \$400?

The terms — and the battlelines — were clear. The extra tuition money would go to fund library improvements and faculty salaries. And students who receive financial aid would automatically receive a "tuition grant" to cover the increase.

C.D. Spangler, then UNC-system president, campaigned against the increase as a barrier for students, while then-UNC student body president Calvin Cunningham supported the increase as a necessary evil.

Others argued that the General Assembly was setting a dangerous precedent by delegating the decision to the BOT, a body not directly accountable to voters. And everyone worried that the increase would create a slippery slope for future changes in UNC's low-tuition, high-public funding tradition.

Both boards voted for the increase. This year, as legislators split on whether tuition should keep up with inflation, students and university supporters know the tuition question is one that won't go away.

Classes have started without a budget decision, but a 4 percent tuition increase appears likely.

North Carolina has managed to keep its low-tuition, high-public funding model so far, although per capita tax spending on higher education reached a 20-year low in 1997, according to data compiled by Tom Mortenson, a higher education policy analyst.

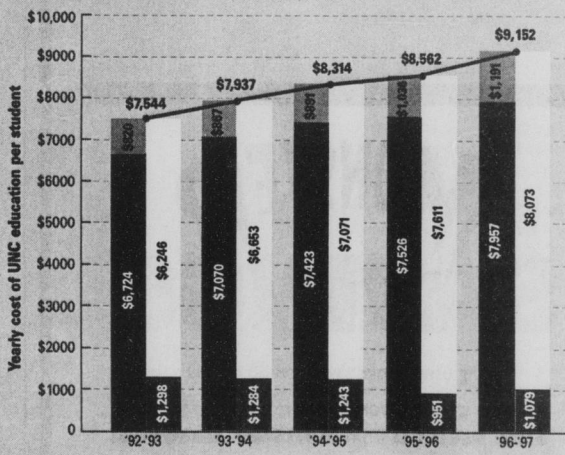
While many university supporters see raising tuition as a way to accommodate the schools' ever-growing needs, the view shared by most UNC-system policy makers is that low tuition is a question of access.

The concept that cost should not be an issue for N.C. students if they want to attend a UNC institution is written into the state constitution.

"We still have a college-going rate lower than the national average," UNC-system President Molly Broad said. "In that context the most effective strategy to increase

Rising cost, rising tuition?

The average cost of providing a UNC education rises each year. The state bears the brunt of that cost for in-state students. The difference between cost and state funding is met through tuition and education fees.



SOURCE: UNC-SYSTEM GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

DTH/JAKE ZARNIGAR



Turning Point

accessibility is through low tuition."

Even with financial aid, the sticker price of high tuition institutions can keep people from applying, said D.G. Martin, vice president for public affairs for General Administration, who works with legislators on behalf of the system.

"Our feeling has been that increasing costs acts as a barrier to people who are stretched financially."

Martin called high-priced public schools "the ultimate elitism" because they compromise their mission by being subsidized by the state's residents, who often can't afford the tuition.

But Mortenson takes the view that low tuition policies are socially regressive because all students, rich and poor, pay the same tuition. "The states don't target resources on the neediest students," he said. "(They waste) resources on fairly affluent students who could afford the cost of college."

But that tuition model must be accompanied by focused, need-based financial aid to work, Mortenson

SEE TUITION, PAGE 5

INSIDE Wednesday

Charting a new course



Orange County's three new charter schools are preparing to open. Charter schools offer students an alternative to the traditional public school education. Page 2

Today's weather

Cloudy, showers; low 80s
Thursday: Cloudy; upper 80s

Interested in the DTH?

Ever wonder how all these stories, photos and graphics made it into the paper? They were produced by UNC students like you. Learn about the DTH at interest meetings in the Student Union on Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Union 226 and Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Union 210. If you can't make the meetings, applications are available at the DTH front desk in Suite 104 of the Student Union.

To be loved is very demoralizing.

Katharine Hepburn