

East Chapel Hill High saves millions

■ The addition to the high school will add classroom space, as well as an auditorium, recreation fields, tennis courts and a gym.

BY CHRISTY CLEMMONS
STAFF WRITER

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools has 1.1 million reasons to be happy. Bids for an addition to East Chapel Hill High School came in at \$1.1 million less than the expected budget, said Kim Hoke, spokeswoman for Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools. "We thought the actual construction would cost about \$12.4 million," Hoke said. "The bids came in at about \$11.3

million." The project will provide additional classroom space, as well as an auditorium, fields, tennis courts and a gym, Hoke said.

"We're certainly very pleased that it came under budget, which is very unusual," said Superintendent Neil Pedersen. "We're about to embark on a series of major projects, so it's good to have the first one to come under budget."

Nicholas Didow, vice chairman of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education, said he was excited about starting the second phase of ECHHS. "I'm delighted that we're finally able to complete the second phase," he said.

Currently ECHHS has a capacity of 1,000 students, so the addition will bring capacity to 1,500. "We've had a couple of projects over-budget and we had to cut out certain projects we wanted," Hoke said.

Didow said the school board went through the bidding process twice before unanimously approving the present bids at its last meeting. "In one of the areas, we only had two bidders, and we're required by state law to have three," he said.

The \$11.3 million contract is a combination of bids from four companies. The general contractor, Penn Company, bid \$8.2 million. The plumbing contractor, ABL Plumbing and Heating Corporation, bid \$518,900. Commercial Electric Company, the electric contractor, bid \$1.4 million, and the mechanical contractor, Cooper Oil Company, bid \$1.2 million. After the bids went in, the qualified bidder with the lowest cost was awarded the contract, he said.

"Construction site work will begin immediately after the final contracts are signed, which should be happening as we speak," Didow said. "We hope that it will be completed by the summer of 1999."

As far as the \$1.1 million left in the budget, Pedersen said it was unclear what the extra money would be used for at this time. "I would want to hold it in reserve to supplement funding for other projects," he said.

Didow said there were many construction projects in the system in need of the money. "I hope that we'll put any available funds into energy efficiency improvements, because they translate into lower operating costs for the system."



Board of Education member NICHOLAS DIDOW said there were many projects in the system in need of money.

'Hard-working' biology class earns professor's admiration

■ Frank Church suggested his Biology 134 class based on its devotion and caring.

BY ALEXANDRA BUCKLEY
STAFF WRITER

Professor Frank Church is in such awe of his Biology 134 students, that for the first time, an entire class has been chosen as Seniors of the Week.

"(These students) are intelligent, intense, devoted, caring, concerned, hard-working and fun-filled," Church said.

As a volunteer in the Emergency Room, psychiatric unit and Recovery Room of UNC Hospitals, as well as for Habitat for Humanity; as a co-captain of UNC's intramural soccer team, member of the Chancellor's Committee for Greek Affairs and the National Psychology Honor Society Psi Chi, Amber Lineback is one example of the "ideal undergraduate" that Church described.

"Biology 134 is the most fascinating class I've taken at Carolina. (Church) has nominated us, but the nature of our class is only a reflection of his character," Lineback said.

Brielle Kelly is a Biology 134 student and a resident assistant in Spencer Residence Hall, affiliate of the Residence Hall Association, player in The Dubliners, member of the organizational staff of Pauper Players and co-captain of an intramural soccer team.

"My class is really dedicated to medicine — research and volunteer work — yet also has time to make public service announcements to advocate groups and events that they are involved in," Kelly said.

"I sense real dedication in the class — (students) are doing amazing things."

Students in Biology 134 embody an astonishing and diverse array of interests and involvements.

"These students are very dedicated to events involving educational, philosophical, charitable, athletic and intellectual activities," said Church.

Yet in an interesting twist, it seems

Seniors of the Week

Name
Professor Frank Church's Biology 134 class
A weekly series spotlighting UNC seniors who have made significant contributions to the University

that it is the members of Biology 134 who are astonished by their professor.

"I am awed by his ability to balance this class, his lab research, graduate students, medical school involvement, and numerous other activities and still maintain the type of disposition and decorum with the students for which all professors should strive," said Lineback.

"I have been challenged by (my students') dedication, and I have been moved by their thirst for life," said Church.



ACCESS

FROM PAGE 1

Travis Lewis, a junior from New Bern.

Nathan Stowe, vice chairman of Common Sense, the student group that sponsored Connerly's speech, said he hoped the issue would be discussed more. "I just hope the Ward Connerly speech will open up the lines of communication," he said.

Several ACCESS members said they

thought the effects of this protest would reach more than the people at the University or in the state.

"What is going on in North Carolina, people are watching across the nation," said ACCESS member John Dervin, former president of the Association of Student Governments. "We need to understand that Proposition 209 can come to North Carolina. We need to spread the word in North Carolina that we won't tolerate this."

FEES

FROM PAGE 1

need to increase fees during the three following years if students pay and increase next year.

But many students said the source of the funds bothered them — not the amount or use.

Nathan suggested the money could come from a reallocation of funds or from a decrease in educational fees.

LAWSUIT

FROM PAGE 1

has paid his daughter's fine.

After Swain filed grievances in regards to the incident against the University, he began to speak to the media, sharing copies of his grievances as well as the University's responses.

Ashley Osment, an attorney representing Swain, said University officials violated state statutes that protect Swain

for exposing what he considered wrong.

"Swain blew the whistle on what he thought was improper conduct," she said. "We believe evidence is clear that he was retaliated against."

In a telephone interview Tuesday, Swain said he filed his suit to make it easier for other University employees to report conduct they consider wrong.

"Things were just not right, they were not right at all. I hated to have to expose a blemish on Carolina's history."

Campus calendar

Wednesday

3:30 p.m. — University Career Services will sponsor "Introduction to Internships," in 209 Hanes Hall. This meeting is mandatory for all students who plan to register for the UCS Internship Program and is open to all interested students.

6 p.m. — The Carolina Campus Civitan will have a meeting in 301 Greenlaw Hall. We hope to see everyone there!

Items of Interest

CarolinAnime: The Japanese Animation Club will meet in 08 Gardner Hall at 7 p.m. Thursday.

This will be the last meeting of the semester! Be there!

Applications for the Class of '38 Summer Fellowship are now available at the International Center on the main floor of the Student Union.

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