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Tamica Lyons (bottom right) faces the gathering crowd at Union Station on Monday during the lunch rush. Union Station business may soon come to a halt with the opening of the new Lenoir Mainstreet.

Lenoir Opening Forces Vendors To Exit Campus

Food cart owners are asking students to sign petitions to help them stay on campus for the rest of the year.

BY LAUREN BEAL
Staff Writer

Students accustomed to stopping at Big O' Drink for cheese fries and corn dogs soon might not have the option.

The opening of Lenoir Mainstreet has caused changes at other campus dining facilities. Within the next two weeks, Union Station will be converted back into a television lounge and snack shop. And the food carts stationed throughout campus may no longer exist.

"We were told that when Lenoir opens and gets going, we have to leave," said Robert Creka, co-owner of the Tony Jr.'s Hot Dogs cart located near Hanes Hall. "But we'd like to stay. Lenoir can't hold everyone, and we were here when they really needed us." Big O' Drink cart co-owners Kevin

Ziegler and Larry Carswell said they signed a contract with Marriott Corp. last Monday that will allow the cart to remain on campus two more weeks. But Ziegler said that is not long enough. "We want to stay on campus and feed students for as long as we can," he said.

But Carolina Dining Services Director Scott Meyers said the carts will not stay on campus unless a clear need for them arises. "Currently, the feeling is that those kinds of carts don't fit with the overall picture of campus," he said.

Carswell said officials were more concerned with the image of the campus instead of feeding all students. "You know what they're worried about?" he said. "They're worried about how we look. But students like the fact that they have an alternative place to eat."

Carswell and Ziegler plan to petition customers within the next few days in order to stay on campus.

Union Station is also about to undergo a major change and return to a lounge with an adjoining mini-mart.

See UNION STATION, Page 4

Safety Gate Incomplete In PR Lot

Officials in the Department of Public Safety say the gates to the PR lot will be put up in about four weeks.

BY KATIE ABEL
Staff Writer

Although safety officials told students during the summer that UNC's PR lot would feature secure gates, students who park their cars in the Estes Drive lot are still waiting for the Department of Public Safety to come through on its promise.

Deborah Hawkins, security enforcement operations manager for Public Safety, said she hoped the gates would be finished within the next four weeks. "It is a high-priority project," she said.

Hawkins said the original idea for the security gates came about in late February 1998 after a large string of break-ins at several PR lots. Southern Village PR lot suffered several break-ins before cameras were installed to curb the crimes.

But she said security officials continuously monitored the lot to make up for the lack of a gate, she said.

"We are trying to have someone on site 24 hours a day," she said.

Parking and public safety officials said the delay was due mostly to normal problems and scheduling delays that come about with any renovation project, Hawkins said.

Since students who have permits for the lot keep their cars there on an overnight basis, safety is an important issue, said Randy Young, marketing and public relations specialist for the Public Safety Department.

Usually, students who park there only access their cars once or twice per week and on weekends, he said.

Students agree that the gates will ease some of their concerns about leaving their vehicles in the lot.

"I definitely think it's good for security and safety reasons," said Brandy Burris, a sophomore from Mt. Gilead.

Hawkins said once the gates are finished, the security guards will patrol the lots from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., but will not be needed as much during the day.

The University Editors can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

N.C. Prepares as Bonnie Moves Toward Coast

The hurricane's slow speed is making it difficult for forecasters to predict where and when the storm will hit.

Staff and Wire Reports

Hurricane Bonnie kicked up pounding surf and deadly rip tides along the East Coast on Monday as it churned out in the Atlantic with 115 mph wind, its course so erratic that forecasters could not say when or if it might hit land.

"It's driving me bananas," said Jerry Jarrell, director of the National Hurricane Center near Miami. "I've lost almost all my hair just this morning because of that."

A hurricane watch was issued Monday afternoon for much of the Southeast coast, including North Carolina.

The unexpected fervor with which Hurricane Fran moved into the Triangle two years ago, causing damage to the University campus and the area, has put some area residents on alert.

"I don't think that people understood what the warnings meant last time or what impact (the storm) would have," said Rod Gonski, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Raleigh.

"Now people are being prepared."

In Wilmington — where Fran stormed ashore two years ago on its way to causing a total of \$6 billion in damage and leaving 1.3 million people without power — equipment rental stores were all but cleaned out of generators.

Vernon Tart opened A to Z Rentals in Wilmington at 7:30 a.m. Monday with 15 portable generators available.

They were all gone by 7:45 a.m.

"It's pretty hectic," said Chris Eason at Bame Ace Hardware in Carolina Beach, where plywood, batteries and gas cans were big sellers.

"We had people actually coming in with a list of what went wrong last time and are doing it right this time," he said. "That's making it a lot easier on everybody."

Other essentials such as batteries, flashlights and bottled water flew off Wal-Mart shelves Monday, said assistant manager Mark DellaRatta.

In order to meet the demand for such items, Wal-Mart ordered a hurricane supply truck to deliver more necessities.

"Because of Fran and Bertha, people aren't taking any chances this time; they are storing up on important things," DellaRatta said.

Fran's destruction and the area's slow recovery forced the state to develop a strong plan for long-term reoperation and rebuilding in case of another storm, said Philip Berke, professor of city and regional planning at UNC.

"(North Carolina) is a lot better prepared, and they have a much better handle on what to do," he said.

Berke said the biggest danger was residents thinking the hurricane won't hit close to home.

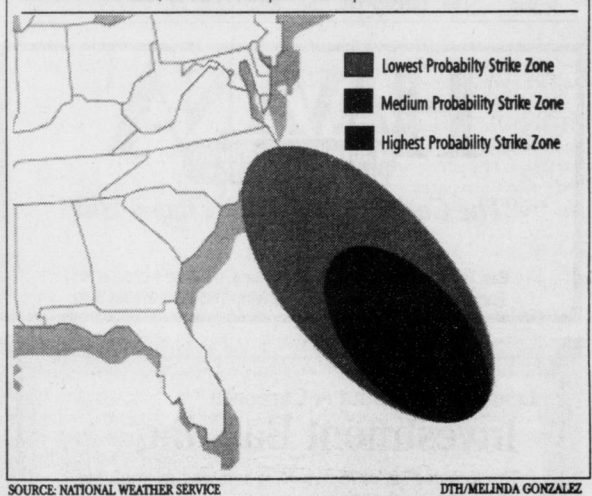
"People shouldn't have it in their heads it's a cry-wolf situation," he said. "They need to pay attention to the warnings."

Fran flattened part of North Topsail Beach, and Bonnie's slow movement left some residents wondering what would happen this time — and when.

See BONNIE, Page 4

Inch By Inch

Hurricane Bonnie is slowly making its way toward the North Carolina coast. Less than 600 miles off the East Coast, the storm's exact path is still unpredictable.



SOURCE: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

DTH/MELINDA GONZALEZ

Dogwood Residents Fuming Over Smoke



The charred remains of trees and brush lie on property being cleared for luxury townhomes in southern Orange County. Local residents complained about the constant smoke and soot the construction caused.

BY NICOLE WHITE
Assistant City Editor

Dogwood Acres resident Mike Vaught said he can't leave his windows open at night because he never knows when smoke from nearby Southern Village development will flood his home.

"I woke up and the windows were full of smoke," said Vaught of 441 Northside Dr. "It was a cooler day, too. It would have been nice to be able to open the windows."

"I'm very irritated about it." Smoke started inundating Vaught's residence two weeks ago. After a lull, the air was thick with the stench again this weekend.

The smoke was caused by burning in lots being developed by Brian Properties in Southern Village.

"They've been doing some construction burning," said a spokesman for the Chapel Hill Fire Department. "They did have a permit for the burning. They're going to start shipping it instead of burning it."

Jeff White at Brian Properties Office in Southern Village did not return.

See DOGWOOD ACRES, Page 4

INSIDE

A Decade Strong

The Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center celebrates its 10th birthday all this week.

See Page 2.



Today's Weather

Sunny; Mid 90s
Wednesday: Sunny; low 90s.

Up To It?

Anyone interested in reporting, editing, designing or taking photographs for the DTH, don't forget that applications are due Friday by 5 p.m. If you've been slacking off and haven't picked one up yet, get moving to the DTH office in Suite 104 of the Student Union.

There will be an interest meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in Room 226 of the Union. Only the strong should attend.

We cannot command Nature except by obeying her.

Francis Bacon