



DTH/FILE PHOTO

The Ram Cafe in Lenoir Dining Hall is the only campus eatery that stays open past midnight. Carolina Dining Services officials said the cost of 24-hour facilities was a factor in the lack of those services at UNC.

Schools Mull 24-Hour Dining

By COURTNEY HATHAWAY
Assistant State & National Editor

Campus dining facilities' limited hours have long been an issue of concern for students with late-night cravings during marathon study sessions.

Dining officials at UNC-system schools as well as other colleges across the country have faced similar student complaints, and are taking steps to alleviate those gnawing hunger pains.

Christine Ziemak, marketing manager for Carolina Dining Services, said UNC-Chapel Hill did not offer 24-hour dining facilities because students did not demand round-the-clock service.

But Abi Sommer, speaker pro tem for Student Congress, said UNC-CH officials did not know their market well. "(CDS does) not know whether or not there is a demand because there is nothing open on campus 24 hours," she said.

The school does offer two late-night eating outlets, the South Campus Mini Mart, open until midnight, and the Ram Cafe at Lenoir Dining Hall, which closes its doors at 1 a.m.

Ziemak said UNC-CH had the resources to have a 24-hour dining service, but she thought CDS would lose

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ABI SOMMER

Speaker Pro Tem for Student Congress

money. "We do understand that there is a need for it with some students who are studying in the library or something. But that is why we stay open until 1 a.m."

Ziemak pointed out that Franklin Street had numerous restaurants open for the late-night grubber.

But Sommer said those eateries were not adequate, as walking at night posed safety threats for students, especially those who live on South Campus.

She said it made more sense to keep Lenoir open later because the dining hall was at the center of campus. "This is a college campus," Sommer said. "If you walk into the computer lab at 3 in the morning, it's full. That shows you that students are up late at night."

Other U.S. university officials cited money as a consideration for dining

hours. "Obviously people would love for facilities to be open 24 hours a day," said Wyne Paschke, food service director for the University of Chicago. "But there's a cost factor involved."

University of Chicago dining facilities are open until 7 p.m. Paschke said the dining halls were open during hours when most people eat. He said they currently were not planning to make any changes in operation hours.

UNC-Wilmington worked out an alternative solution to respond to students' pleas. Though UNC-W also closes its doors at 7 p.m., food service director Tom Williamson said The Hawk's Nest, an on-campus eatery that closes at 9 p.m., allows students to use their meal cards to eat if they couldn't make it to the dining hall during regular hours.

"Overall it's been received very well by students," Williamson said. "Cost is an issue, but we already had an operation open that people weren't using. We've seen an influx of business."

Sommer said UNC student government would lobby administration to keep dining services open later.

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

University Internet Use Soars With 4,000 Surfing

By LAURA STOEHR
University Editor

Students are plugging into the Internet from their University residence hall rooms in droves.

More than 4,000 computers on campus have been registered to use UNC's Ethernet connections this semester, according to ResNet statistics.

"It's been very, very busy," said Mike Phillips, ResNet director. "It's been busier than we expected."

ResNet is a program supported by Academic Technology & Networks and the University Housing Department that helps on-campus students get connected to the UNC network.

UNC residence halls can accommodate 6,800 connected users — one per resident.

Last year computer registration peaked at 2,800 machines.

More than 1,100 freshmen bought reduced-price computers through the Carolina Computing Initiative, a pro-

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MIKE PHILLIPS
ResNet Director

posal introduced by late Chancellor Michael Hooker that will require freshmen who enter the University in the year 2000 to purchase their own personal laptops.

UNC chose IBM as its initiative vendor in summer 1998.

And about 600 additional students purchased initiative computers in August.

ResNet officials also credited the increased registration to the completion of residence hall wiring for Ethernet connections.

All halls were wired in January, but

this year will be the first complete academic year with total access for all residents.

To accommodate the increase, ResNet hired 17 additional residential computing consultants, student employees who service the computers, pushing the total to 53.

Linwood Futrelle, director of ATN, said more RCCs would be hired next year.

Futrelle said ATN had also toyed with ideas to help members of the Greek system at UNC to get connected in their fraternity and sorority houses.

ResNet helped to register about 1,000 students through its ResNet Rush programs, which were held at seven residence halls: Hinton James, Morrison, Carmichael, Connor, Kenan and Whitehead.

Students interested in getting help from ResNet should call 962-HELP.

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

Campus Calendar

Today

1 p.m. — **Jumah, the Islamic Friday Prayer** will be held in the chapel of UNC Hospital.

12:30 p.m. — **The University Center for International Studies** will begin a free weekly public seminar series at the center at 223 E. Franklin St. The sessions will deal with topics including the salience of region and regionalism and the South as a place of globalization. Those wishing to enroll should call the center at 962-3094.

7 p.m. — **One God. One unfolding religion?** Come shape your views and hear the **Baha'i perspective** in an open environment where diversity of thought is encouraged. The group will meet in the Frank Porter Graham Lounge, upstairs in the Student Union.

Monday

6 p.m. — **Pi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity** will have an information session downstairs in the Student Union. If you are interested in the field of law, please join us.

7 p.m. — **The Carolina Photography Association** will hold its first meeting of the year in 103 Bingham Hall. Anyone interested in photography is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

7 p.m. — **The Public Policy Analysis Majors Union** will hold its first meeting for returning and prospective majors in 103 Hanes Hall. Officers of the Majors Union, faculty and the Student Services Manager will be there to talk about the program and answer questions. Agenda items include the internship program, information on the graduate school application process and funding, as well as other concerns to PUPA majors. Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday

5 p.m. — **The Student Environmental Action Coalition** will hold its first general meeting. All are welcome!

5 p.m. — **The United Nations Organization** will hold a general information session in Union 208. All students interested in participating in Model UN or discussing international issues are

welcome. Please call Carrie Callaghan at 914-7058 with any questions.

6 p.m. — **Pi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity** will have an information session downstairs in the Student Union. If you are interested in the field of law, please join us.

7 p.m. — **The Computer Science Club** will hold its first meeting in 014 Sitterson Hall. Anyone interested in a computer science major or computers is welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Wednesday

3:30 p.m. — **The Association of English Majors** will hold its first general meeting of the year in Donovan Lounge in Greenlaw Hall.

The meeting will invite English majors to take part in the association's activities throughout the year.

Matt Spangler will dramatize a James Joyce story. Refreshments will be served.

6 p.m. — **Pi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity** will have an information session downstairs in the Student Union. If you are interested in the field of law, please join us.

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CALL 684-6259 for more information

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