

Condemned Library Serves Music Majors

By ERIN WYNIA
Senior Writer

Imagine a senior oboe player trying to locate a book of orchestral excerpts in UNC's music library.

After getting the book's call number, she walks downstairs into the library's basement, stoops under a brick archway to the right and ducks under pipes running chest-level across the stacks room.

Fans drying the rainwater off the floor blow dust into her eyes. And as she searches for her excerpt book, she tries not to think of the condemned room she stands in.

Housed in Hill Hall, the University's music library contains the largest collection of music scores, books, journals and theses in the Southeast. Valued at \$26 million, the library's contents sit primarily in the building's cramped basement, an area declared condemned by the N.C. Department of Insurance.

"We're willing to send students down there to use a facility that's not only shabby but condemned," said Daniel Zager, UNC music librarian. "I think that's scandalous."

By definition, a condemned area cannot be occupied once its contents are removed. The only reason it remains open now, Zager said, is because the library has nowhere else to go, and closing the building's basement would effectively shut down a state agency.

But being located in a condemned area is just the beginning of the music library's current problems.

The 18-inch-thick white pipes that hover inches above the library's book stacks carry water to the building's sprinkler system and the steam that heats other campus buildings. But the pipes pose a danger to library users because they hang lower than an average adult stands.

"There's a lot of potential for damage to the collection," Zager said of the pipes. "But a damaged steam pipe, for



example, would be catastrophic."

Catastrophic because the state has not insured the library, and many materials in the 70-year-old collection are irreplaceable, Zager said. Catastrophic because heavy rain storms cause water to leak into the stacks. As a result, mold could grow, and bugs could begin nesting in the books.

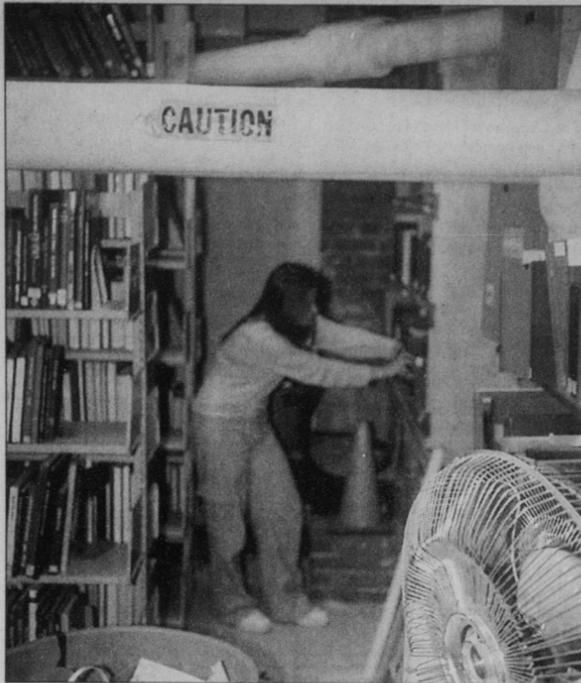
The collection needs a new home, Zager said, because it lends too many materials to remain in its condemned home. The library handles a large amount of traffic as the third-highest circulation on campus, behind Davis and Undergraduate Libraries, he said.

To accommodate patrons and protect the valuable collection, University administrators bounced alternatives to housing the library in Hill Hall. They considered moving materials to Wilson Library, which already holds overflow materials from the Music Library, but said they did not want to risk the wear and tear during transport of the materials, said Department of Music Chairman Thomas Warburton.

"It's the finest academic library in the Southeast," Warburton said.

But the future could bring a change for the library. Although the N.C. General Assembly has not heeded music faculty members' past requests to improve the library's space, the University's Master Plan, the campus blueprint for growth during the next 10 years, includes a separate building for the music library, said Darryl Gless, senior associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"The plan in its current state calls for an arts complex near Hill Hall and the Ackland Art Museum and Hanes Art



Freshman Angela Blotzer shelves books among the clutter in the Hill Hall Library. This corner of the library floods each time it rains.

Center," he said. "This is anticipated to have stacks, offices for staff, a listening lab, a seminar room, reference, reading and periodical rooms, a circulation area and faculty and student study carrels."

The current library has little room for study, and even less for listening to music, a requirement in most music classes. Zager said it did not adequately meet music students' study needs.

"When we study music, we need to sit down with a score, a recording and books and journals ... and there's just no way we can do that," he said.

Sara Cassidey, a senior music performance major from Slidell, La., said the state of the library caused her concern.

"It's not lit very well, so finding call numbers down there is hard," she said. "And you're always afraid you're going to bang your head."

But building a new library depends on money from state legislators and private donors. Already, private donors have pledged \$600,000 to the project, Zager said. Gless said UNC-system administrators would include the library as a project for their upcoming bond request to the General Assembly.

Until a new facility is built, however, music students will continue scores, CDs and books from a library in constant danger of destruction.

Cassidey said she wished the legislature would act soon to provide money for a new building. "It's just scary that we have all that music down there, and there's a sprinkler head right next to, like, Bach's complete works."

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Chapel Hill Plagued By Armed Robberies

A local Jiffy Lube and a pedestrian fell victim to armed robbers in the latest in a string of armed attacks.

By JENNY ROSSER
Staff Writer

Police are still searching for suspects in two unrelated armed robberies, one that landed a Chapel Hill man in the emergency room.

The incidents are the latest in the area, as police are still investigating five other armed robberies that occurred within the past two weeks.

The first robbery occurred Wednesday around 7:10 p.m. at Jiffy Lube, located on 1746A N. Fordham Road.

Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins said three employees were getting into a parked car when two men appeared from behind the building and demanded money.

"Both men pointed handguns at the employees and demanded the money-bag one employee was carrying," Cousins said.

The employee then gave the assailants the money and the two robbers fled the scene on foot.

The victims did not give clear descriptions of the assailants, but did say they appeared to be in their twenties.

Cousins said no one was injured in the incident.

Although the incident occurred in the same area as three other recent armed robberies, police did not believe this robbery was related.

The second robbery occurred on Sunset Drive on Thursday at approximately 5:10 a.m.

Cousins said a Chapel Hill police officer noticed the victim walking on Rosemary Street because his face was drenched in blood.

"The victim said a man robbed him at gunpoint on Sunset and then kicked him and beat him," Cousins said.

According to police reports, the robber stole \$200 from the victim. The victim was taken to UNC Hospitals where he was treated and released.

The victim did not have a clear description of the robber.

Cousins said armed robberies generally occurred less frequently than they have in recent weeks.

"To have this many armed robberies in such a short period of time is unusual."

The City Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Court to Hear Bias Law Case

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court will referee a dispute over how to punish hate crimes, setting the stage for a ruling that will affect anti-bias laws in most states.

The court said Monday it will decide whether state judges can impose longer prison terms based on their own determinations that crimes were sparked by prejudice. A decision is expected by late June.

At issue in a New Jersey case is whether a jury should decide if racial hatred prompted a man to fire shots into a black family's home.

Nearly all the states enacted hate-crime laws in the 1980s. They provide extra punishment when crime victims were selected because of their race or religion, or in some instances, sexual

orientation.

New Jersey was one of the first to adopt such a law, in 1981.

The state bans the burning of crosses or placing of swastikas on public or private property with the intention of terrorizing others through threats of violence.

Also outlawed is placing such graffiti on houses of worship or in other holy places, such as cemeteries.

The state's law was expanded in 1990 to provide stiffer penalties for such common crimes as assault and harassment if prejudice played a part in selecting the victim.

Charles C. Apprendi Jr. of Vineland, N.J., was arrested in 1994 after shots were fired into the home of a black family living in his "otherwise all-white neighborhood."

No one was injured in the shooting.

Gridlock, Protesters Might Doom WTO Meeting

Associated Press

SEATTLE - When President Clinton issued the call for 135 nations to assemble in Seattle to kick off a new round of global trade talks, he was hoping for a stunning success that would showcase the benefits the world receives from tearing down trade barriers.

But now with everything that has gone wrong, he may be lucky just to avoid a stunning fiasco.

The failure at the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle could come either by total gridlock among the countries trying to launch the new negotiations or from televised scenes of thousands of protesters demonstrating

against what they see as globalization run amok, trampling over human rights and environmental protection.

The administration professes not to be worried either by the protesters, who the president has promised to "bring inside the tent," or the negotiating gridlock.

Seeking help in pushing the negotiations forward, Clinton quietly explored the possibility of issuing last-minute invitations to other world leaders to join him in Seattle. But the president said Wednesday he had abandoned the idea after leaders who had been approached begged off due to scheduling problems.

"We decided to do it so late, it was more a logistical problem than anything

else," Clinton told reporters, rejecting suggestions that leaders from Japan and Europe were staying away because of fears of failure in Seattle.

Other world leaders may not show

up, but up to 100 members of Congress and representatives of many of America's largest corporations will be holed up at the hotels of Seattle, trying to influence the outcome of the talks.

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