

Greeks Ready for Deadline

Most University Greek organizations say they will meet a fall of 2001 deadline for sprinkler system installation

JENNIFER BROWN
Staff Writer

At a council meeting last week, the Town of Chapel Hill failed to extend a fall of 2001 deadline mandating that all University fraternities and sororities have sprinkler systems installed at chapter houses.

But Ron Binder, director of Greek affairs, said none of the University's Greek organizations sought out a deadline extension.

"No one (from the fraternities or the sororities) would have asked for more time," Binder said.

In 1996, the Town of Chapel Hill passed the resolution requiring all Greek houses to be outfitted with sprinkler systems by 2001 following a Phi Gamma Delta house fire that killed five students.

At present, 17 houses have finished installing the systems. The number is expected to rise to 23 by the end of this summer.

All but two of the University's Greek organizations will have complied with the deadline, Binder said.

Delta Upsilon and St. Anthony's fraternities will not meet the deadline because both will be undergoing extensive updates to existing facilities.

"These two fraternity houses will be under major renovations in the fall (of 2001) and will be closed," said Binder.

All of the renovations are paid for by private money raised by alumni, parents and friends, said Binder.

Mike Klein, president of Tau Epsilon Phi, said that the fraternity had raised almost \$600,000.

"In 1996, when the town passed the ordinance, we started a capital fund raising campaign with our 900 alumni where we sought donations for our house," said Klein.

All greek houses need extensive renovations about every 30 years. Binder said that \$10 million in renovations

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Housing Director to Be Named This Week

COURTNEY MABEUS
University Editor

The second round of searching for the University's new director of housing and residential education is expected to draw to a close this week, following several weeks of on-campus interviews with prospective applicants.

The search began in September, following the departure of the former director, Wayne Kuncl, who held the office for 16 years. Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services Dean

Bresciani is currently serving as interim director.

"I thought it was time to call it quits," Kuncl said.

The housing department is one of the largest departments on campus. The new director will be in charge of over two million



Wayne Kuncl left as housing director last September.

square feet of space that comprises a \$20 million annual operation, Bresciani said.

News of the post's availability was circulated in trade magazines and list serves, which drew in over 50 applicants from around the country.

Former Residence Hall Association President Murray Coleman said results from the first search failed to turn up a candidate who meshed with the University's expectations.

"The candidates were highly qualified, but they didn't have the leadership and charisma that the position needed,"

Coleman said.

The first official candidate review began in March, following the two rounds of searching. Bresciani identified three candidates that passed the initial screening: Philip James, director of housing services at Tulane University; Christopher Payne, director of housing operations at the University of Denver and Meaghan Brune, director of housing and residential services at Catholic University.

Bresciani said the search committee was looking for a candidate that could

balance an "unusual" combination of skills. The new director will have an academic background, as well as a knowledge of business and management.

"It's a very big business that we feel happens to be a big component of student experiences here at Carolina," Bresciani said.

Unlike the searches for the University's new chancellor and provost, which allowed student representation from only the student body

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Construction Finally Begins on Student Union

MICHAEL ABEL
Staff Writer

This week, following weeks of speculation, it finally began.

Incoming students will experience first-hand a familiar sight around the University as more of the campus will fall under the wrecking ball. For the next 23 months, major renovations to the Frank Porter Graham Student Union will be under way.

The Union, where hundreds of UNC students visit daily, is home to numerous clubs and provides students with a convenient place to go bowling, take in a flick or just hangout with friends.

Renovations were originally slated to begin June 1, but a legal technicality forced administrators to push the start date back to June 15.

The renovations and additions, which will total \$13 million, consist of three phases, with the first phase scheduled for completion in the spring of 2001, said Don Luse, director of the Union. Students voted in February 1998 for the increase in student fees that are funding the improvements.

Additional construction phases will take place in the summer of 2001 and the spring of 2002. During Phase II, the top and bottom floors of the Union will be renovated, while Phase III consists of construction on the main level.

The Union will not be closed at any time during the renovations, Luse said. "Services won't be stopped or interrupted, and we won't ever shut the doors," Luse said.

The University has had a place for student groups and clubs to meet since 1932 when Graham Memorial Student Union opened. As the University continued to grow, students called for a big-

ger facility. In 1969 Frank Porter Graham Memorial Student Union replaced Graham Memorial.

Students come to the Union for a number of reasons ranging from recreational activities to meetings. The basement of the Union features a bowling alley and a number of pool tables. The Union Cabaret, also located on the bottom floor, features student performances and shows.

Many students also take refuge in the Union during breaks between classes to grab a snack at Union Station. Still others choose to pull up a seat on one of the lobby's many couches and catch up with the outside world with CNN, which constantly plays on the lobby's big-screen television.

The Union's main floor is home to organizations such as The Daily Tar Heel and the Yackety Yack, UNC's yearbook. The floor also contains a theater that shows films for about \$2.

Luse said the Union is a place where many students come to relax.

"We want to provide space for student interaction because we certainly believe that all learning does not take place in the classroom," he said.

The renovations will help to provide students with that space for interaction. Students will benefit with an increase of 35,278 square feet of space. Not only will the building gain a twenty-four hour computer and copy center, Internet and laptop connections will be added throughout.

Student organizations also will benefit, as ninety office spaces will eventually be available for organizations, up from 37 current spaces.

Senior Aisha McGriff, a student worker at the Union desk, said she thought the renovations made sense and

that space was definitely an issue plaguing the Union.

"Currently we have up to three organizations sharing one very small office," McGriff said. "We have outgrown our meeting room."

The enhancements, however, will not come without inconveniences for some students. Students walking to and from Mid and South Campus will have to revamp their route to the Union and Pit, as construction fences will be placed along the corner of Raleigh and South roads.

Other changes include the closing of the stairwell connecting South Road to the Pit and the relocation of the bus stop to the area behind the undergraduate library.

The stairwell, which receives heavy foot traffic every day, will not reopen until the completion of Phase I next June, said Bob Beke, the University's construction manager.

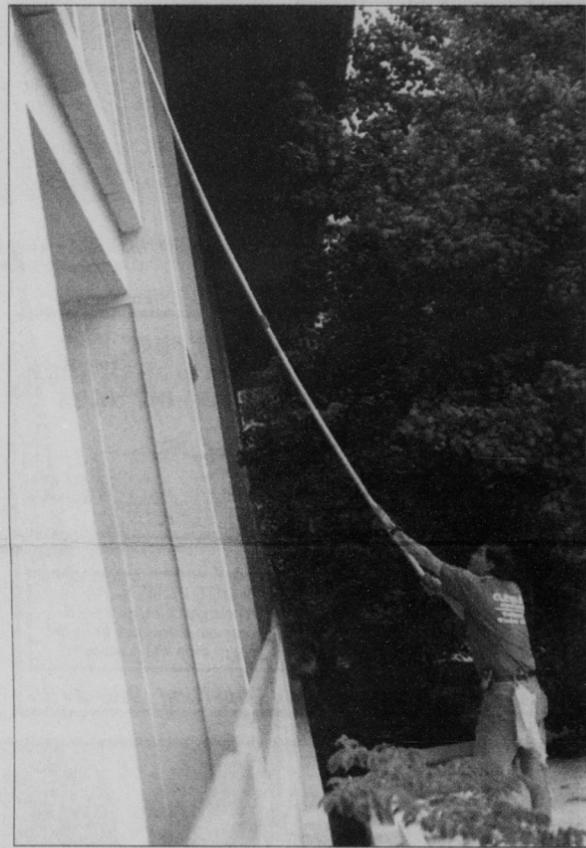
Karen Whichard, a junior from Charlotte said she expected the construction to cause some problems.

"I think the renovations are a good idea, but it will be a mess around here," Whichard said.

Luse said communication would be a key factor in placating complaints during the construction periods.

"We want to make sure people are not surprised about the renovations and that they bear with us, understanding it will be worth it in the future," Luse said. "We have tried to get the word out through mailings to faculty and staff, and by having models of what the Union will look like after the renovations."

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



DTH/EMILY SCHNURE

Gil Pareisa of Clear Day Inc. in Greensboro cleans a window of the Student Union Tuesday as the building's renovations begin.



Linda Woods, Director of Basketball Operations, sits among trophies in the Dean E. Smith Center office.

'Professional Mother' of Carolina B-Ball

BRIAN FREDERICK
Editor

Linda Woods has been called the "nucleus" of the Carolina Basketball office.

As Woods leads you around the office, she reminds you of a point guard. She's short, but always aware of what's going on around her.

Dean Smith, in his autobiography, "A Coach's Life," compares her to one of Carolina's greatest point guards.

"Giving Linda an assignment was sort of like putting the ball in Phil Ford's hands and going to Four Corners," he writes. "Nothing but good things were going to happen."

Her formal title is Director of Basketball Operations, but she could be called the "professional mother" of the Carolina Basketball family.

Woods, the professional, takes care of distributing the tickets to friends and family. She is most often seen at games, where she sits at a table just inside the doors of the arena, whether it's the Dean Dome or an arena the Tar Heels are visiting. On special occasions, such as ACC and NCAA tournament games, she offers Oreos and cookies that have Carolina blue cream inside.

This past season, Woods sat inside the RCA Dome in Indianapolis for the Heels' 15th trip to the Final Four. "It was totally unexpected," says Woods. "But the coaches and the players never ever gave up."

Every season the Carolina Basketball fami-

ly grows larger. Since Woods joined the basketball office in 1978, she's known more than 130 players and managers.

Carolina has won two national championships, nine regular-season ACC championships and eight ACC tournament championships. Players like James Worthy, Michael Jordan, Jerry Stackhouse and Vince Carter have worn Carolina blue on their way to the NBA.

Young men arrive in Chapel Hill from places like Bulgaria, Puerto Rico and New York. Their mothers can rest easy, though. Woods will take care of their boys.

"When you came through there as a player, you were really one of her babies," says Scott Williams, a former player and son of Roy Williams, head coach at the University of Kansas and former assistant at UNC.

"I'm with them a lot," she says of the players. "I'll sew on a button if it comes off their coat or make sure they have enough to eat and drink."

Woods, the mother, says her responsibilities include "whatever we have to do."

Of course, asking Woods if she has a favorite player is like asking a mother if she has a favorite son.

She loves them all. But she has grown closer to some. And she feels especially close to Pat Sullivan, a former player who is now an assistant coach for the Tar Heels.

"Pat's my child," she says quietly and it seems she's thinking about him at that moment. "He's my son. I worry about him as if he were my son."

It is clear Sullivan has thought of Woods as a second mother since he arrived from Bogota, New Jersey in 1991. As a player, Sullivan remembers that Woods would always "make

you feel real special."

For instance, "When it's your birthday, they make a sign for you," he says. "I don't know how, but she finds out what your favorite cake is and then, boom, you got your favorite cake."

The cakes, hugs and love provide the extra boost the players need as the season progresses. "The coaches are breaking you down and then Ms. Woods and the other secretaries are pumping you up," Sullivan says.

Woods says the other secretaries in the office are just as valuable as she is, which, if true, may help explain the success of the program.

Woods cares for the players' families, as well. This brother of a former player receives the royal treatment from Woods. She has a hug and kiss and a warm smile. (Most basketball players have to bend down far to hug her, but all are happy to do it.) With just a slight nod to the question, "Are you hungry?," Woods is in the kitchen of the basketball office, packing me a bag full of homemade lasagna and enough peanut butter cookies for an entire season.

She even offers to entertain me. "We should take you down to the special sites of Carolina," she says.

And Woods would certainly know where to go. A Durham native, Woods has spent only one summer outside of the state.

"I'm really a southern redneck who enjoys the finer things in life," she jokes. She pulls out a picture of Elvis and raves about a local Elvis impersonator she enjoys seeing perform.

Woods cares for the players' friends, too. "She really has more of an extended family than you would think," Williams says. "She got

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INSIDE Thursday

Life in the 'Burbs



Southern Village is a town within a town. With shops and schools all

within walking distance, stepping into the neighborhood is like entering Pleasantville. And many residents like it that way. See Page 14B.

Year in Review

UNC athletics has had many ups and downs this past school year. One highlight was the women's soccer team winning its 15th NCAA championship. For a complete roundup of last year's athletic programs, check out Sports. See Page 11B.

'Shut Yo' Mouth'

Samuel L. Jackson plays John Shaft in the remake of the 70's cult classic. Jackson stars as the nephew of the famous namesake of the first film. The film also stars Vanessa Williams and Christian Bale. Check out Arts & Entertainment for a full review. See Page 6A.

The imagination is a
William Carlos Williams