

# Officials Work to Balance Renovation, Parking Needs

By JEFF SILVER  
Assistant University Editor

University officials are taking steps to ensure that parking goes smoothly while several campus lots are undergoing renovation and construction.

Construction of the S7 parking lot, located on Ehringhaus Field, is not complete. But S7 permits will be honored in S5 until construction on S7 is complete. Cheryl Stout, assistant director of parking

services, said the Department of Public Safety undersold the S5 lot to prevent overcrowding. "There will be enough room to accommodate both," she said. S5 will close spring semester, she said.

DPS has posted a sign in the S5 lot and sent e-mails to permit holders to explain the modified policies.

Another large construction project is the expansion of the park-and-ride lot on Estes Drive. Stout said work will be complete for student parking beginning today.

She suggested that students park on the western side of the lot where security and lighting will be concentrated at first. DPS sent out this information via e-mail to holders of PR lot permits.

Sophomore Megan Bearrows said she is not worried about parking in the lot but added it would be unfair if she cannot find a spot. "If they oversold the parking spaces, I would be pretty upset," she said.

Once all work is complete, which Stout said would take a couple weeks, 600

spaces will be offered to students in the PR lot. Students can sign up on the waiting list for these spaces on the DPS Web site.

This year, many campus lots will be gated - a move officials said will keep enforcement costs down. Gating the S1, N1 and N2 Morehead lots will be done by the end of August, Stout said. S1 and N1 will be for permit holders only, while the N2 Morehead lot will offer permit and hourly pay spots and will be a manned lot.

Gating the N2 Porthole and N4 lots is

projected to happen by the end of September, Stout said. N4 will lose spaces to gating and to renovation on three North Campus residence halls.

Student parking also will be impacted by steel-coating in the Morrison lot Aug. 24 and 25. Cars will not be allowed for those two days. Stout said she is not concerned about the temporary space loss because all lots are free on weekends.

The loss of spaces also has affected hardship parking. Pamela Barone, who

heads student government's hardship parking committee, said the total allotment of 428 spaces is down from previous years.

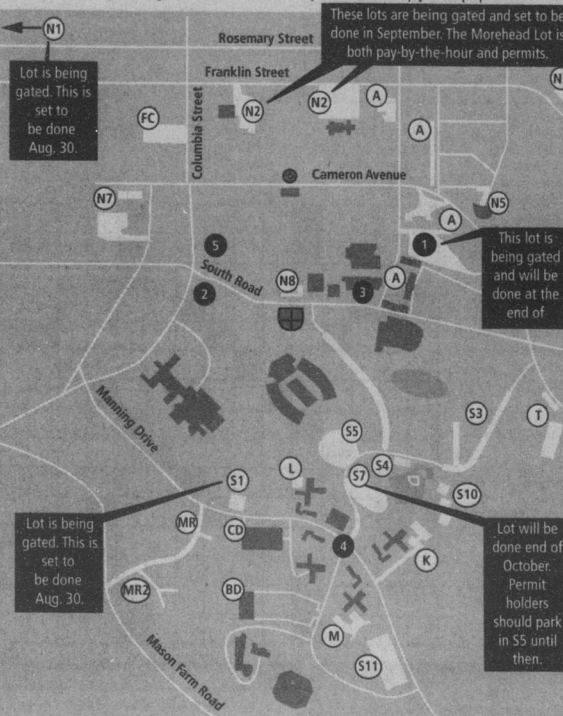
Barone said the committee will have to be more selective of applicants this year. "The number of students that need hardship parking aren't decreasing," she said.

Hardship applications are due Aug. 26, and permits will be distributed Sept. 6.

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

## Put Your Hard Hat On!

Campus has been busy with many construction projects. Some projects will be completed by the year's end, although many are long-term in nature. Here's an update that will help you keep up-to-date.



### Construction Update

- 1 Alexander/Connor/Winston Residence Hall Renovations: Start: 7/10/2002 Est. Completion: 12/3/2003
- 2 Sonya H. Stone Black Cultural Center: Start: 6/24/2002 Est. Completion: 2/4/2004
- 3 Student Union Addition: Start: 6/19/2000 Completed: 7/29/2002
- 4 New South Campus Residence Halls: Start: 11/2000 Completed: 7/2002
- 5 Science Complex Phase I: Start: 7/29/02 Est. Completion: 8/04/05  
Science Complex Phase II & III: Est. Start: 10/12/05 Est. Completion: 9/30/08

SOURCE: <http://www.unc.edu> AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DTH/COBI EDELSON

# Construction Abounds on UNC Campus

## Ramshead is scheduled to open in 2005

By MEREDITH NICHOLSON  
Assistant University Editor

Students arriving on campus this week were greeted by more orange fences and fewer trees, and officials say this will not be an uncommon sight on campus this year.

Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for planning and construction, said that projects on campus will be stepped up this year and that there are more than 90 projects in the works.

Campus construction is gaining steam in part because the Chapel Hill Town Council approved the first projects this summer under the new development ordinance, which gives the town 15 working days to review applications for construction of projects under UNC's Development Plan.

In July, University officials submitted a request to begin work on six projects, including the renovation of Alexander, Connor and Winston residence halls and the new science complex. The town approved all six projects a week later.

Runberg said many of the projects will affect parking and transportation on campus this year, but officials will be

posting signs on campus and alerts on UNC's Web site with alternate routes.

Runberg said one of the biggest construction projects this year will be the beginning of the Ramshead, which will contain a three-level parking deck with 700 parking spaces, a grocery store, a dining facility and a recreation facility. Officials anticipate that Ramshead will be completed January 2005.

Runberg said that Ramshead will be the linchpin between North and South campuses and that it is part of an effort to make South Campus more appealing.

Dean Bresciani, interim vice chancellor for student affairs, said projects like the new Ramshead building will help transform the image of South Campus.

Officials are trying to dispel the stigma of living on South Campus with projects like Ramshead, the new residence halls, a proposed student and academic services building and renovations like landscaping.

"The goal is not to make (South Campus) better than North Campus," he said. "It's to level the playing field."

Runberg said the construction of a new science complex will be another major project on campus this year.

The first phase of the complex, which

consists of a new building between Wilson Library and Kenan Labs and an addition to Phillips Hall, is expected to be completed by August 2005.

Another major project under way is the Sonya H. Stone Black Cultural Center on South Road between Coker Hall and the Bell Tower.

The new 44,500 square-foot, \$9 million center - funded entirely by private donations - will include seminar rooms, classrooms, a 10,000 volume specialized library, a 400-seat theater, an art gallery and administrative offices for the center, the Institute of African-American Research and the Upward Bound Project. It is scheduled to open February 2004.

After eight delays in the first phase of the Student Union project - the opening of the Union addition - officials evaluated the performance of the contractors and decided it would be best bid out the remaining work to new contractors, Runberg said.

Runberg said Phases II and III - the renovations of the old Union - will be

packaged as one 10-month project stage than two six-month stages.

Preliminary work is expected to begin after classes end in December and actual construction will begin in January.

Chancellor James Moeser said officials also probably will move forward this year with some privately funded projects that were delayed last year in order to prevent appearances that the University was spending unwisely during the state's ongoing budget crisis.

Construction of a large video board for Kenan Stadium and lighting the Bell Tower were among the projects delayed.

All projects under way are a part of the Master Plan, a long-term plan for campus growth.

Runberg said the University is actually ahead of schedule because so many of the bond projects were able to begin work earlier than anticipated.

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

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