

Grants aid renovations

Morrison to see green improvements

BY MARTA OSTROWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Environmental renovations to Morrison Residence Hall now have a surge of new energy with the acquisition of a \$137,500 grant from the State Energy Office.

Leaders say the grants will provide more opportunities to expand renewable energy projects at UNC.

"This money will primarily go to the renovation of Morrison and installment of the new energy sources," said Robin Sinhababu, chairman of the University's Renewable Energy Special Projects Committee.

"We are constantly on the lookout for other projects, but this is our current one."

The Department of Housing and Residential Education, along with members of the renewable energy committee, has spearheaded efforts to install photovoltaic panels on

the roof of Morrison, which will provide the residence hall with solar-heated water.

Along with other renovations, which will begin this spring and are set to be completed in 2007, Morrison also will have new elevators, furniture and central air conditioning, said Rick Bradley, spokesman for the housing department.

"This renovation and installment of new energy will be cool for students," Sinhababu said. "The dorms will be better looking, easier to live in and probably cost less."

The renewable energy committee was created in April 2003 after the student body overwhelmingly voted in favor of a "green energy" referendum.

Under this referendum, student fees were increased by \$4 per semester to support renewable energy projects on campus. The

RESPC uses these funds, which amounted to \$184,932 this year, in a manner approved by students.

"It is the students who approved this referendum, and since it's their money, we make sure we know what they want to do with it," Sinhababu said. "The Morrison project is great because students will actually get to see their money at work."

Proponents of the renovations said Morrison will benefit from solar-powered water because it creates less pollution and is more environmentally friendly than traditional energy sources.

The project also will increase awareness about energy conservation, said Chris Payne, director of the housing department.

"Students will definitely benefit from this new renovation because using more energy-efficient techniques could potentially lower room rates for students."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Bush praises ties with Pakistan

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Bush on Saturday defended Pakistan's cooperation in the hunt for Osama bin Laden despite the inability of U.S. and Pakistani troops to find the al-Qaida leader who, Bush once declared, was wanted dead or alive.

The trail has gone cold in the more than three years since U.S. forces toppled the Taliban, bin Laden's patrons in Afghanistan, after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Bin Laden, who masterminded the strikes, is believed to be hiding in the wild mountainous region along the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The Oval Office meeting between Bush and President Pervez Musharraf came just days after Pakistan's army said it was pulling out of one important area along the border. Still, Bush had nothing but praise for Pakistan and Musharraf as critical to the search and the overall fight against terrorism.

"His army has been incredibly active and very brave in southern Waziristan flushing out an enemy that had thought they had found safe haven," Bush said.

U.S. officials have praised Islamabad for its operations around Wana, the main town of the lawless and fiercely autonomous Waziristan region.

Heavy resistance this year led to speculation that a high-profile fugitive — possibly bin Laden's deputy Ayman al-Zawahri — was cornered.

"His army has suffered casualties and for that we want to thank their loved ones for the sacrifice that their family has made," Bush said.

Musharraf came to the White House with a committed belief that resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is essential to combating terrorism. At Bush's side, Musharraf said the dispute was "the most important issue ... in the interest of peace in the whole world."

Musharraf succeeded in securing a strong commitment from Bush that the United States would take a more active role in the Mideast.

"I told him this would be a priority of my administration," Bush said.

Afterward, Musharraf told reporters that Bush had agreed that settling the Middle East conflict "is the core issue, the core of fighting terrorism." A senior Bush administration official, however, said Bush did not go that far.

Grateful for Pakistan's hard line against Islamic extremists and for the capture of al-Qaida suspects, the United States nonetheless has a delicate relationship with Pakistan and is aware of the need to avoid roiling Pakistan's internal politics. Musharraf's support of the United States threatens to endanger him at home.

U.S. officials have praised Islamabad for its operations around Wana, the main town of the lawless and fiercely autonomous Waziristan region.

DEDC

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appointed members and one member appointed by the other six.

Epting's resignation and the holiday season have thrown the board off its track. But board members remain positive. "The board will move ahead briskly to get back to its two times a month schedule and elect a new chair," said member Roger Perry on Friday.

Mayor Kevin Foy said that though the council is responsible for replacing Epting, he hopes it won't have to. "Epting's objection was that the corporation should abide by the open meetings law," Foy said. "It is unfortunate that someone of that quality resigned, but maybe his role can be revisited."

Foy said that if Epting doesn't return to the board, the council will replace him with someone who

understands downtown's vitality.

"It's sad because (Epting) had a lot of qualities that are valuable to the position," he said. "He has served as an elected official, lives downtown, is a strong supporter of the town and University, has a long history in Chapel Hill and donates a lot of time to service."

Didow said that although he has heard that the council might not accept the resignation, Epting's decision might be irreversible.

"According to DEDC's laws, (Epting's) resignation took effect when the other members heard that he resigned," he said.

"There are some speculations that the mayor might not accept his resignation, but his resignation is not subject to acceptance or nonacceptance by our laws."

Didow said he would like the council to appoint someone to the board before its Jan. 12 meeting.

"It's unfortunate that someone of that quality resigned, but maybe (Epting's) role can be revisited."

KEVIN FOY, CHAPEL HILL MAYOR

"This question about open meetings is a big question facing the DEDC," he said. "I hope our new member can participate in our meeting concerning this issue."

The corporation has petitioned people familiar with open meeting laws to make a presentation to the board on Jan. 12.

Foy said the corporation's recent problems shouldn't be criticized, adding that he is confident that the group will start making progress in the next couple of months.

"I think that very few new organizations face no roadblocks in the first couple of months," he

MEALS

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dents said they want the option.

"I would definitely buy (the 75-block) meal plan," said sophomore Emily Fairley, an exercise and sports science major who had 20 meals left as of Sunday.

"That would be so great. I would even buy a 50-block plan because eating in the dining halls just gets so old, and it's so unhealthy."

Other students said they probably would not choose a smaller option.

"I have pretty erratic eating habits, so I always get the block plan, and the bigger meal plan works for me," said sophomore Doug Weiss,

a business and international studies major.

With the opening of the Ramshead Center in March, Simon said that on-campus eating will change drastically, and that the desire for a smaller option will not be an issue.

"With Ramshead, six or seven meals a week will not be enough for students to eat on campus," he said. "Lenoir, and eventually Ramshead, will make Carolina one of the top dining facilities in the country. Students will want to eat on campus."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

ASG

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ipating schools would be assigned dates to visit the legislature, with ASG providing talking points and reimbursement for travel. The hope is to have student lobbyists at the legislature at least twice a month.

"This is probably the biggest benefit that UNC-Chapel Hill students see coming out of ASG," Calabria told the council. "This is one of the big things that ASG can really do well that individual campuses probably couldn't."

He cited the UNC-CH Lobby Corps, created at the start of his term, as a model for student advocacy. "A lobby corps was really effective for us, but if we could get that kind of information-pooling across the state, I think that would be tremendous," he said.

N.C. State University is the only other system school with a formal student lobbying force, so an ASG effort would break new ground for many campuses.

"I articulated some pretty high standards of lobbying activity for the ASG, and I think if we can even

come close to meeting those, then we will be well on our way to having a very effective lobbying organization," Calabria said.

ASG President Amanda Devore said she would work with Matt Liles, a UNC-CH student and ASG vice president for legislative affairs, to develop a schedule for campus visits beginning next semester. The proposal will have to be drafted into a resolution and presented next year to the ASG General Assembly.

Contact the State & National Editor at stndesk@unc.edu.

WALLACE

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could add to the Wallace Deck might have an impact on how other aspects of the project are funded.

Revenue from the expansion could be used to help fund the transfer center, Stainback has suggested.

Stewart Engineering will continue with a lateral load analysis next week to see how wind and other factors could affect the Wallace Deck expansion.

The project will also take another step in soliciting developers tonight, as Stainback will present a finalized draft of a request for qualifications document to the council for approval at its meet-

ing. Stainback will send RFQs to various developers starting Dec. 13 if the council approves the document.

The committee will then welcome various developers to a pre-proposal conference Jan. 11.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

"That's a noise," grinned the Grinch,
"That I simply MUST hear!"
So he paused. And the Grinch put his hand to his ear.
And he *did* hear a sound rising over the snow.
It started in low. Then it started to grow...

QUOMODO
INVIDIOSULUS
NOMINE
GRINCHUS
CHRISTI NATALEM
ABROGAVERIT

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Cookies
Latin & English

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STOLE
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