Largest incoming freshman class stretches on campus housing beyond capacity

By Hayley Burgess
News Editor

This year, UNCP wel-
comed its largest fresh-
man class ever, with more than 1,220 students. This has been a great thing for the University, but it has also caused some prob-
lems with finding a place to live for on-campus stu-
dents.

The first indication that there might be a prob-
lem with housing came early in the summer when the Office of Housing and Residence Life realized they had 1,768 applica-
tions and only 1,701 per-
manent beds for on cam-
pus housing. Some stu-
dents were placed on a waiting list until space opened up while some withdrew their names and went to the apartments.

As of Aug. 24, there were 1,725 assignments for on-campus housing. There are 454 freshmen living in the dorms, an increase from last year of 748. At this time, there were 1,651 students living in the dorms, so this year is up by 74 students. “We’re really excited about having a record breaking freshman class as well as a record break-
ing number of transfer students,” Director of Admissions Leila Clark said.

Some changes had to be made in order to accommodate the students who wanted to live on campus. The first change was converting 10 rooms in Wellons Hall into triple rooms. This is not the first time Wellons has assigned three to a room. They have done this during the last few years.

There are four stu-
dents living in the West Hall lounge. The lounge has four beds with dressers and wardrobes. All the Resident Administrators were assigned a roommate. One of the perks of their job was having a single room. There are also some students who have not checked into the University. If they do not show up, their room assignments will be given to others. That also holds true for students who decide to leave the University.

“We accommodated the best we could,” said Director of Housing and Residence Life Preston Swiny. “We’ll do what we can to find a safe place for students to live.”

Plans are in the works for a new 396 bed resi-
dence hall to open fall 2011. Until then, Swiny said they will not turn any of these rooms over to students as well as transfer students, to a

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Students attend Convocation in GPAC. The largest incoming freshman class ever, with more than 1,220 students, filled on-campus housing to capacity.

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