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## HOSPITALS BUILD FOR THE FUTURE

Construction at St. Joseph's and UCI Medical Center will incorporate advances in health care technology.

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THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**ORANGE** • Improved technology, new surgical suites and additional beds are part of major plans to modernize two major hospitals.

Both St. Joseph's Hospital and UCI Medical Center are progressing with multimillion-dollar projects to revamp their facilities and take on the industry's evolving technology.

The \$75 million St. Joseph's Patient Care Center is scheduled to open in mid-October. UCI Medical Center's \$371 million new building is slated to open in early 2009.

### ST. JOSEPH'S PLANS

The Patient Care Center will be the first project to be completed in the hospital's master plan, which also includes the \$50-million refurbishment of the original building to begin in July.

Each Patient Care Center floor will be equipped with its own central hub for advanced technology. Also, a café-style lobby will offer free WiFi for guests.

"We built this to make sure that it can keep up with the changing industry to provide the best care," Chuck Coryell, director of construction, said.

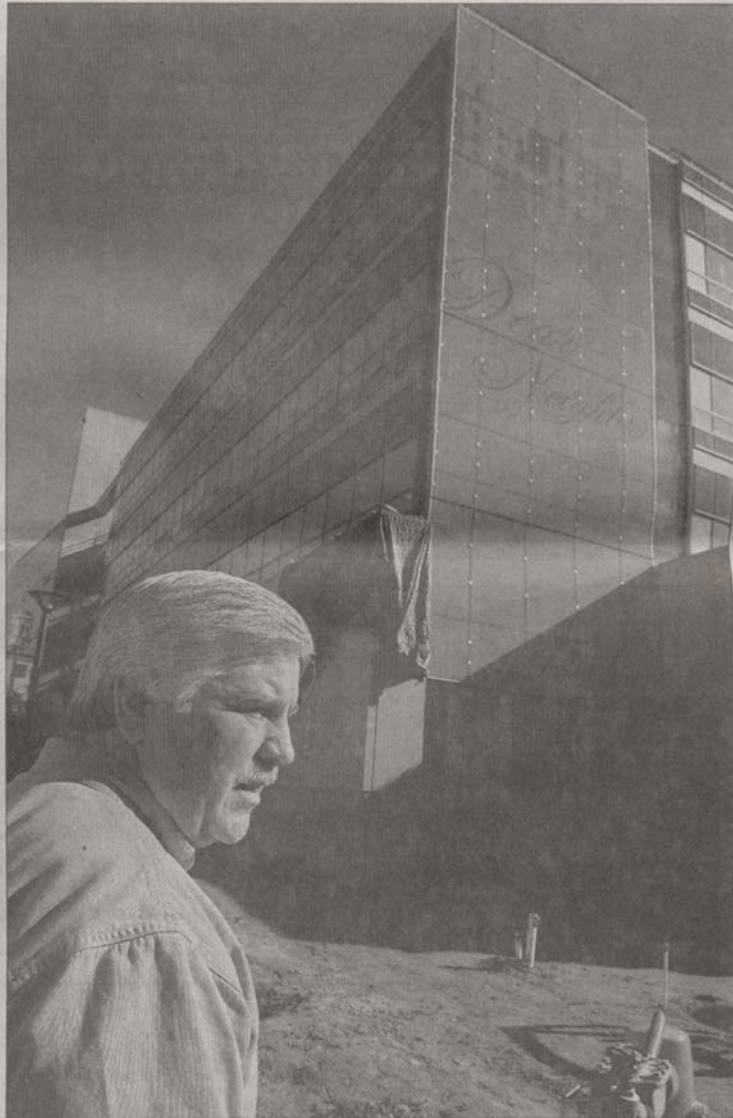
The new building, which will serve about 130 in-care patients, also features a healing garden.

Excavation for a new, three-story cancer center began last month and will be complete in the spring of 2008.

"It's amazing to see how the nuns planned and built the original hospital," Coryell said. "It was so advanced at the time. But we just have to continue to build to keep up with the future."

### UCI MEDICAL CENTER'S PLANS

Construction at the UCI Medical Center has pro-



JOSHUA SUDOCK, FOR THE REGISTER

**SURVEYOR EVALUATION:** Saint Joseph's director of construction Chuck Coryell says the multimillion dollar expansion project will help the hospital keep up with changing technology.

gressed since it began in February 2005.

Crews have placed more than 128 panels on the exterior of the new, seven-story building, which will replace the hospital's decade-old main structure, Ned Reynolds, senior director of planning, said.

The new, 480,000-square-

foot hospital will feature 191 rooms and 13 state-of-the-art surgical suites, in addition to intensive-care units, treatment rooms and laboratories.

The medical center is using \$235 million in state bonds to help build the hospital. The rest will be funded through the university and private dona-

tions.

"It's going to be a beautiful building," Reynolds said. "I think everyone in the community will be proud of it."

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