

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES FUTURE RENOVATION PLANS

The flurry of building and renovation activities underway across campus is not likely to be repeated on such a scale for quite a few years, President Perkinson told THE LANCE yesterday. "There remains a moratorium on new buildings set up by the Trustees," Perkinson said. "This work represents the culmination of attempts to recognize several people and groups which have done many things for the college."

This does not, however, mean that renovation and refurbishment of existing structures is over, however. Indeed, the improvements planned for the next several years will encompass the expenditure of over \$800,000. The input for deciding on the nature of these improvements

will come from several different sources.

A committee under Dr. Rodger Decker has already prepared a report on modifications necessary to improve access to all sections of the campus for the handicapped. The majority of the proposals relate to changes which need to be made on the academic side of campus. The LA building is only accessible to wheelchairs from the parking lot via a long, uncovered sidewalk leading to the front entrance of Avinger Auditorium. One proposal under consideration would cover that route of access and repave a portion of the parking lot. Other points covered include improving the wheelchair routes bet-

ween the LA building and both DeTamble Library and Vardell. "It is inappropriate for a campus which prides itself as much as we do on accessibility for the handicapped to retain such hindrances," Perkinson noted.

A second source of input has been provided by Physical Plant Director Charles Westburg. This

consists of a comprehensive list of all the improvements which could be made, both necessary and desirable across campus. The list ranges from minor repairs to major renovations.

The Residential Life Office is also providing considerable input, particularly as regards living conditions within the residence halls (see the ac-

companying article on dorm renovation).

These recommendations go ultimately to both the President and the Campus Planning and Space Utilization Committee. The committee reviews all these recommendations and those gathered by its members and makes a separate recommendation to President Perkinson. Final responsibility for any renovations lies with Perkinson and the Board of Trustees.

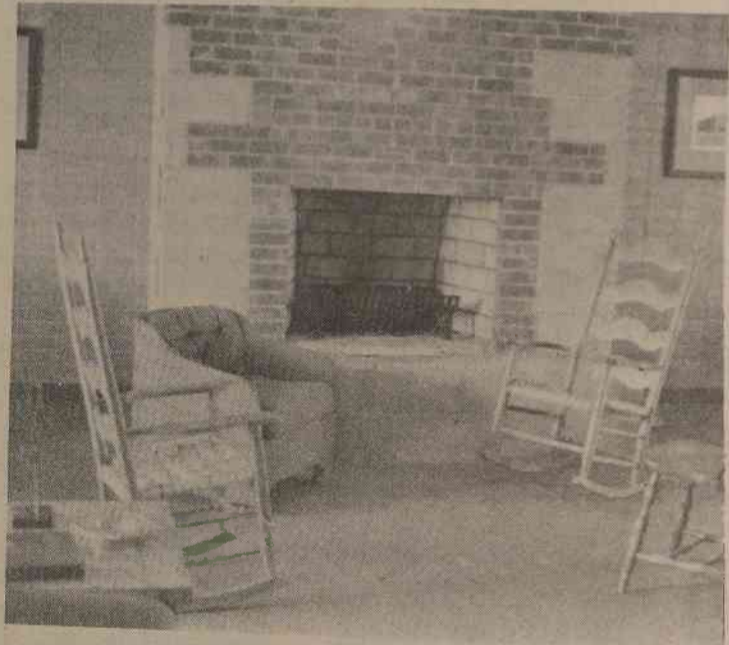
Committee Endorses Decision

By Terri Heyman

The Space Utilization committee met on Tuesday, February 21 at the request of President Perkinson. The meeting was held so that President Perkinson could explain his reasons for deciding against the committee's previous recommendation on the preferred location of campus wide parties.

The committee had recommended in its November meeting that the Student Union lounge remain the place where campus wide parties be held. The committee also suggested that the lounge should be adapted for this purpose. It would have been adapted by putting up sound baffles and by putting in new flooring.

The proposal that President Perkinson has adopted (Continued on next page)



THIS CHEERY FIRESIDE SCENE is one that will doubtless be enjoyed by guests of the college. (Photo by David Swanson.)

The Long Odyssey to the Small Gym Renovation

Work has not yet begun on the remodeling of the small gym in order to render it suitable for entertainment purposes, but enough of the plans have been made to enable an accurate picture to be drawn to just what the results will be. The description should allay a number of fears as to the effects of allowing alcoholic beverages in an academic building and doubts about the acoustic feasibility of holding dances and concerts within a gymnasium.

When the changes are completed, another set of doors will be added to the hallway inside the PE building allowing the small gym area to be cut off from the remainder of the building when being used for entertainment purposes. Bathrooms will also be added. A movable platform or stage is envisioned for use within the room. The ceiling will be modified to improve the acoustics, and if necessary the walls.

The conversion, though it seemed to fit nicely with the

other renovation projects reported first by WSAP, is not a product of the same rationale that lies behind the Bell Tower, the College Union, and Pate Hall. Indeed the work to be done on the small gym will come as a result of a process begun in early Fall.

At that point the question of where to stage large scale entertainment was considered by the Campus Planning and Space Utilization Committee. This group considered the option of using the small gym and sought opinions from both the Student Life Committee and the FEC Sub-committee on Athletics. Both these groups reported unfavorably, with Student Life sending back a counterproposal that more work should be done on Farrago instead. The Space Utilization Committee subsequently did not recommend the use of the small gym for entertainment purposes.

In January however, an adhoc committee consisting of part of the Residential Life Staff and a subcommittee from the CUB Executive

Board met and submitted another recommendation to the President. This report listed what President Perkinson described as "compelling" arguments, and was eventually accepted by him. The report did not go initially to the Space Utilization Committee

because, due to scheduling problems, the Committee could not meet during January. The report was presented to them by the President at the last Committee meeting (see the article on the meeting) and was endorsed.

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