

It's not just any telephone building

By Janet Spoon

How would you like to talk with two of your friends on the telephone at the same time, or push one number to call someone in a hurry? These are two of the custom calling features you can receive when the new electronic switching station is completed on West College Avenue here at Elon College in 1981. The new switching station is one of the many being built by Bell Telephone Company throughout North Carolina to give its customers one of the most modern telecommunications systems available.

Four custom calling features will be available to customers at a reasonable cost. These features are call forwarding, call waiting, three-way calling, and speed calling. Call waiting is used when someone else is trying to call you while you are talking on the telephone. You will be alerted by a beep that someone is trying to get through to you.

Call forwarding will enable you to forward calls to you by dialing the number of the telephone wherever you will be. With the three-way calling feature, three people may talk together from different phone numbers. Speed calling allows for a convenient way

to dial frequently called local and long distance numbers. It will enable customers to dial a code of one or two digits instead of the usual seven or 10 digits. Therefore time is saved with more accuracy in dialing.

The electronic switching station being built at Elon will contain the high speed computer 2B electronic processor. The 2A processor has the capability of producing thousands of calls instantaneously. It also has the ability of monitoring and correcting problems which had previously had to be fixed manually. The new station will lessen the difficulties with the central telephone office on East Davis St. in Burlington where all cables from residences and business come together.

Preceding the Elon College conversion to ESS, the larger East Davis Street central office will be converted by mid-May 1980 to a 1-A processor. That processor will handle 226, 227, 228, and 229 exchanges. The Elon College 584 exchange is scheduled to be converted in 1981.

The previous system, located next to the building site on West College Avenue, was electro mechanical with moving switches called No. 5 cross bar dials. The ESS can



Elon's new switching station will enable persons to make all sorts of multi-party calls, or to push only one number to call a frequently-used number. Service from this station will begin in 1981. Photo by John Hurd.

handle many more calls than the previous switching system and in the same time. It is much more energy efficient in that it uses only a fraction of the space and power required for the old system. It incorporates computer-like memory solid state technology and stored program control.

The transistor of the ESS was developed by Bell Labs and is manufactured by Western Electric. The Electronic brain can perform more than two million repair operations

in the same time it normally takes a customer to dial one telephone number. Because of this it still has time to locate and fix problems. It can locate a customer's problem and repair it often before the customer is even aware of it. Customers may expect at least one problem though. Because of the tremendous speed capability of ESS if one is calling from a Davis Street number there will be a delay of four to six seconds before it rings. Cust-

omers may also expect the dial tone and the ring to sound different. The new ESS will also be able to monitor and repair cable problems which may occur, particularly in bad weather.

The arrival of the ESS to Burlington will bring to the area the benefit of a modern and more efficient telecommunications system along with the four modern custom calling features which should be something to look forward to.

Photojournalism starts March 5

An intensive five-week workshop in photojournalism will offer photographers and writers a chance to sharpen their skills with a camera.

The course will meet on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9:50 from March 5 through April 2 in the Learning Resources Center classroom, Mooney 105. It is open to anyone interested in photojournalism who has a camera

for the five-week course. One semester hour of academic credit will be given upon successful completion of the workshop.

The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Mary Ellen Priestley, professor of English and journalism, and Craig Stanfield, photographer. Objectives of the course include production of news

and feature photos as well as photo-features for newspapers and magazines.

The workshop is limited to 20 persons. Interested persons should register for Communications 272-A, Photojournalism Workshop.

Seat open in 3rd precinct

Students interested in running for the recently vacated third precinct Senate seat can get information and forms from the SGA office. Applicants must live in West, North, Staley, and Moffit Dorms and Zeta House and have a

2.0 average. Filing deadline is Feb. 15 with elections to be held the following week.

Unopened mail piles up

Many students apparently do not know that they have mail boxes at Elon College. Judy Wrenn, acting supervisor of the mail room, says that when the mail personnel cleaned out boxes during the holidays, they filled seven trays with mail that had to be returned to the sender, chiefly back to professors, admissions office and to financial aid officers.

"Everyone who attends Elon College has a mail box," Ms. Wrenn says. All any student has to do is to come to the mail room in the East Building on Haggard

Avenue and ask for his or her box number and combination. Hours there are from 9 to 12 and from 1 to 4 Monday through Friday.

**Student Workers
Wanted**

for Dining Halls

Contact

Connie Southerland

8:30 to 2:30

Ext. 263

Recruitment Schedule

Representatives from various companies and school systems will visit Elon this spring to interview seniors for employment. Below are employers who have confirmed visits in February:

FEBRUARY

Monday, 11

Wednesday, 13

Thursday, 14

Tuesday, 19

Wednesday, 20

Wednesday, 20

Thursday, 21

Thursday, 21

Thursday, 21

Thursday, 21

Tuesday, 26

Tuesday, 26

Wednesday, 27

St. Paul Property and Liability Insurance

Students interested in scheduling an interview should contact the Placement Office, 104 Alamance for an appointment.

Rose's Stores

Pizza Hut

United Methodist Camps [all students eligible]

Suffolk Public Schools

Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co.

Burlington Industries, Inc.

Burlington City Schools

Wachovia Bank and Trust Co.

American Defender Life Insurance

Greenville City Schools

Henry County Schools

Patrick County Schools

St. Paul Property and Liability Insurance

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