

Editorials

New Fine Arts Center to be valuable addition

The ground has finally been broken for the new Fine Arts Center, a building which President Young said "will add an exciting new dimension to the college and the community."

Area residents, students, faculty and administrators watched eagerly as the first shovels of dirt by the old track were turned at last Thursday's ceremony. Community representatives as well as college officials took part in the ceremony because the center will not only be valuable to Elon College, but also to the entire county of Alamance.

Perhaps the biggest advantage of the new Fine Arts Center will be the auditorium it will contain. Although it will not seat that many more people than Whitley Auditorium does, there will be other advantages to the new facility. For one thing, the stage will be larger and better equipped for performers, and the acoustics should also be better. With better conditions, Elon will be able to accommodate more well-known performers and lecturers. The center will certainly be more appealing to guests than Whitley Auditorium is now. And most performers consider the conditions of a facility before agreeing to use it.

The Fine Arts Center will also provide much-needed music and art classrooms. These classrooms will be designed especially for the courses which will be taught in them and will undoubtedly have more space than the existing fine arts classrooms. The center, with its special rooms and studios, will allow the fine arts curriculum to expand, and will thus make the department more attractive for recruiting new students.

The building, in addition to benefiting the college, will also be a welcome addition to the community. Area residents will be able to attend most functions at the center. And without a college nearby, a town the size of Elon College or even Burlington would not be likely to have such a facility.

The Fine Arts Center will also improve the appearance of the campus and should draw more favorable attention to Elon. We are fortunate and should be proud to have at our school what President Young said will probably be "the most important building in Alamance County this century."

-By Jane Kidwell

Letters to the Editor

Perkins responds to editor

To the editor:

Please allow me to expand on your editorial of Oct. 31, "Money for Greek court should go elsewhere." Two very important facts were not pointed out.

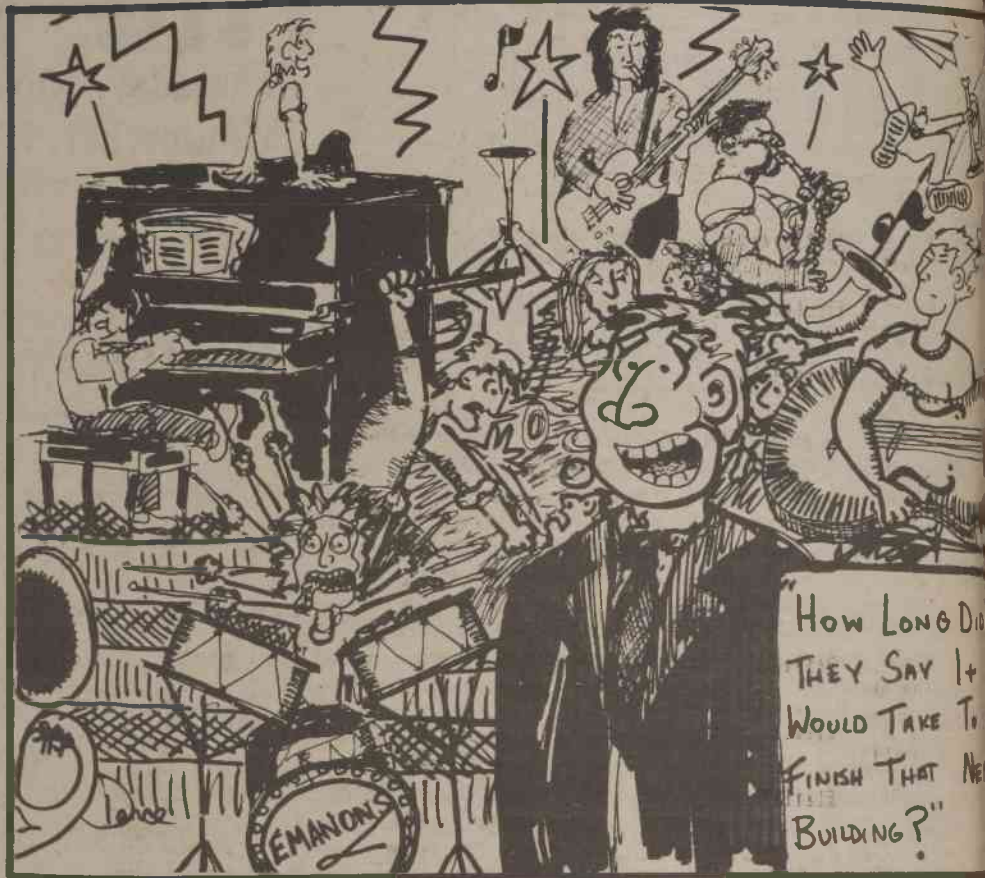
First, each of the six houses will accommodate 12 students, for a total of 72 additional spaces on campus. While some of these will be filled from current inadequate fraternity houses, the majority of the spaces will be filled by dormitory students, freeing spaces for students housed at the Best Western.

Second, no college general fund money will be used in the

construction of the houses. Each house will cost an estimated \$100,000 and will be mortgaged over a 15-year period. The mortgage will be paid through a housing surcharge for Greeks, estimated to be approximately \$50 a student each semester. In effect, the Greek organizations will buy their own housing with their own money.

It is incorrect to assume that the college is providing Greek organizations with new housing at the expense of other students.

Nan Perkins
Director of Public Information and Publications



Dorm resident notes housing problems

To the Editor:

Several recent letters to the editor have argued persuasively against the point of view expressed by the editor of *The Pendulum* on the wisdom of constructing a Greek housing court. However, the editor is very correct in saying that the money could be spent on handicapped students or those living in the Best Western.

Both of these groups have to go to great inconveniences each day. The Greek supporters may be correct when stating that the three existing fraternity houses "are dilapidated fire hazards and cannot be proper housing for anyone."

Supporters for both sides failed to mention the living conditions for freshmen in Virginia and Sloan dorms.

Both of these dorms were built to house two students per room. Because of overcrowding, almost all freshmen rooms house three students.

Perhaps the Sigma Pi President overlooked the fact that the 30 to 40 spaces will be filled by students from Virginia and Sloan dorms. This process has already been started by the administration seeking to correct the housing problem by relocating individual students from these two freshmen dorms.

Housing has definitely become a problem at Elon. The funds allocated to Greek court could most definitely be used in other areas such as the handicapped facilities and student housing.

These areas should be priorities to the administration and the Board of Trustees.

Terri Barnes

Go Fightin' Christians!



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