

Arts

Fine Arts Center is eagerly awaited

By Yvonne Evans
Arts Editor

On Nov. 7, 1985, a ground breaking ceremony marked the beginning of construction of the new fine arts center, a building that could bring important artists, speakers, and dramatic performances to the college and the community.

Since that day, everyone has watched the center grow, eagerly anticipating the day when it will accommodate new classrooms, practice rooms and more technically advanced theater productions.

According to Robert Poindexter, vice president for administrative services, the center will be completed by the summer of 1987 and will open for students in the fall of that year.

"It is a great facility and a landmark that the college and the community can be proud of," Poindexter said.

"It is something we have needed for a long time," said Dr. David Bragg, chairman of the fine arts department and associate professor of music. "We have a large number of students involved in fine arts, including band, art, drama, chorus and orchestra. It will be great to have adequate space, but one of the major advantages will be that everything will be under one roof."

The new center will certainly have more room than existing facilities. There is a two-story sec-

tion on the right wing which will house practice rooms and studios for teachers on the second floor. Located on the first floor will be classrooms and a band and orchestra rehearsal room, which is acoustically designed.

The one-story left wing is the art center which contains a ceramic studio and a sculpture room. There will be additional office space and areas for displaying art.

Found off the main foyer area will be the chairman's office, the boardroom and a fine arts library.

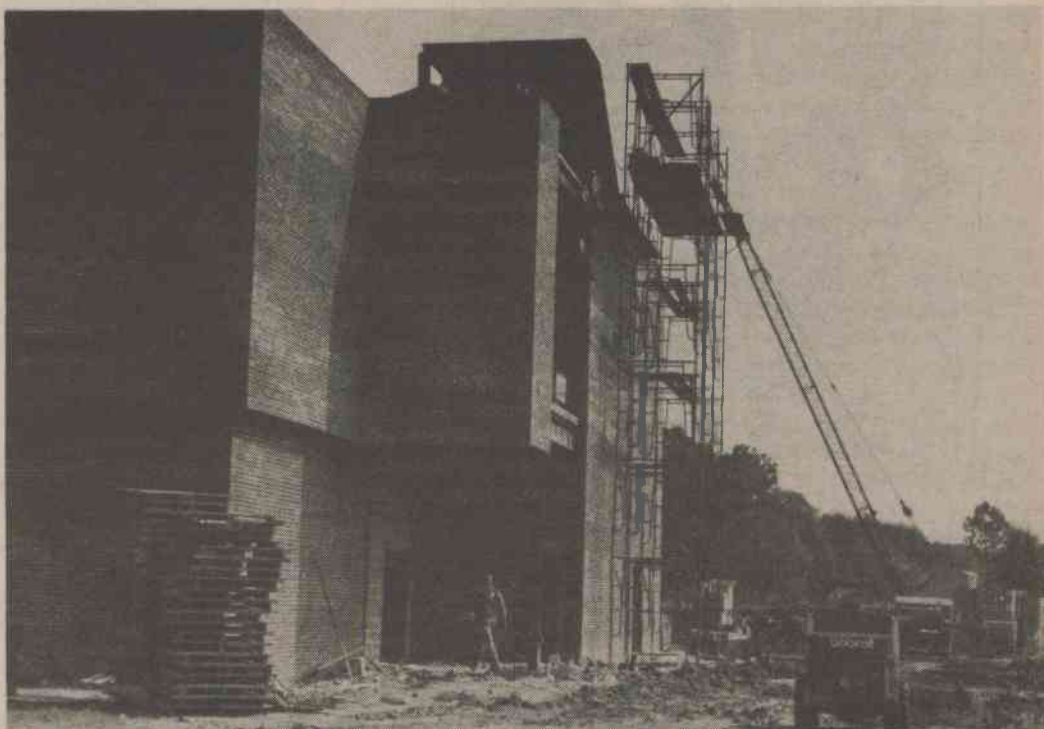
The largest room in the building will be the auditorium which will have a seating capacity of 625. While this is only 250 more seats than in Whitley Auditorium, it will adequately serve most of Elon's productions.

Dr. Gerald Francis, dean of academic affairs, said that there is really no need for a high capacity auditorium at Elon.

"If you have an auditorium large enough to seat the entire student body, you might only use it at capacity twice a year," he said. "At the average Elon production an auditorium of that size would appear half empty."

There will be a recital hall that will seat 200 people for smaller productions and accommodate fine arts classes.

According to Poindexter, the stage in the auditorium will be equipped with sound, lighting and rigging equipment capable of facilitating a Broadway production. "It will truly be a



UNDER CONSTRUCTION: The Fine Arts Center will house classrooms, practice rooms and technically-advanced auditorium. It will be completed by the summer of 1987.

working stage," he said.

Poindexter indicated that the center will also be technically equipped with "state-of-the-art" electrical wiring for telephone, computer service and cablevision.

Another feature of the center will be a centralized main entrance for loading and unloading equipment.

All of these features will enable the fine arts department to expand its boundaries of teaching and performance. There have been questions, though, as to why there are no appointed dance facilities in the center at this time.

According to Pat Gray, part-time instructor of physical education and fine arts and director of the Construction Company dance ensemble, "the East Gym houses a nice dance studio, but the fine arts department could be more cohesive with dance as a part of the center."

"The building is being constructed for 150 years or more and will enhance a growing fine arts department," Poindexter said. He added that the facility was designed to accommodate the most students while remaining within a certain budget.

"As the fine arts department grows, I am sure that the center can be modified to include various classes that are taught in the fine arts area," he said.

The center will cost between \$7.5 and \$8 million. "When the center opens, 75 percent of its cost will be paid for," Poindexter said.

Poindexter indicated that the center will be named after someone who provides a donation between \$500,000 and \$2 million, which he said would just about complete the cost of the center.

NCSF performs 'Love's Labour's Lost' Wednesday

By Yvonne Evans
Arts Editor

The North Carolina Shakespeare Festival will present *Love's Labour's Lost* on Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium. Admission is by ticket only; Elon students with tickets get in free, but the public will pay \$8.

The play centers around the King of Navarre and his followers as they attempt to lead a celibate life devoted to scholarship for three years. Each must fast for one day a week and see no woman. Their task becomes more difficult when the men fall prey

to the charms of the Princess of France and her three attendant ladies as the women attempt to gain entrance into the city.

Love's Labour's Lost will feature a cast of Festival regulars, including Lucius Houghton as Nathaniel, Max Jacobs as Holfernes, John Woodson as Costrad, Michael LaGue as Boyet, Eric Zwemer as Berowne, Johanna Morrison as the Princess and Mary Hopeman as Katherine.

The play is directed by David Pursley, who played Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew* on last year's tour. This is Pursley's first

directorial undertaking with the Festival.

The NCSF's performance of *Love's Labour's Lost* is part of the outreach program established by NCSF. This touring program was originally structured in an Actor-in-the-School format to lead students and teachers to a fuller appreciation of Shakespeare's world and works through a performance/residency design.

According to Pedro Silva, managing director of NCSF, the Festival was founded in 1977 "as a professional repertory theater dedicated to serving the cultural

and educational needs of the region with a quality program of classical theater productions, particularly those of William Shakespeare's plays."

The NCSF's 10th anniversary season opened July 24 in the High Point Theater with a production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. *Love's Labour's Lost* is the fourth production this season and is the longest fall tour the outreach program has attempted. Also included in this season's lineup of plays is Moliere's *Tartuffe* and C.P. Taylor's *And a Nightingale Sang*.

In a recent article, Silva in-

dicated that in the future, "the company anticipates establishing a major residency relationship in key North Carolina locations while maintaining its operations base in the Triad." He added that "developing 'second homes' at our state's eastern and western borders and at the population centers represented by Charlotte and the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill Triangle appeals to NCSF because it will allow the company to make its main repertory program totally accessible to the state's citizens."