

## Construction Projects Receive Go-Ahead for Summer Start

By Jeff Cherry

After years of careful planning and frustrating delays, the secondary phase of campus development at N.C.S.S.M. is beginning, with two projects slated to be completed over the summer.

In a recent interview, Braughn Taylor, Associate Dean of Operations and Institutional Advancement, explained that the lengthy delays in the construction of the athletic field had been caused by unforeseen technical difficulties. In addition to contractual problems, an unexpected zoning variance permit had to be obtained from the city of Durham since the school is located in a residential area. In addition to the multipurpose grassy field, the project will also include an irrigation system and a biological pond to be created by damming a low-lying area of campus with fill excavated from the field site. Stands of large hardwood trees along Maryland and Sprunt Avenues will be preserved throughout development of the area, which is scheduled to be completed by fall of 1984. However, to allow the sod to root, the field will not be used until the following spring. The project, costing approximately \$230,000 is being funded entirely by contributions to the school's private foundation.

The second major project for this summer is the replacement of the steam boilers. These boilers were installed when the school campus was the Watts Hospital. Since steam was needed year-round for sterilization of instruments, the boilers are much larger than what is presently needed and are operating at only ten percent efficiency. Installation of two smaller package boilers is set to begin July 1, with Associate Dean Taylor hoping for a quick completion (and a late winter). A Federal Energy Department Grant of \$150,000 is paying for the boiler replacement.

In addition to a new school year, September will also bring the long-awaited renovation of the 1908 complex, consisting of Watts Hall, the former Surgery, and the Breezeway connecting the two. Funds for this three million dollar project have been appropriated by the General Assembly of North Carolina, with private contributions providing ten percent of the total amount. Taylor emphasized that the building's exterior walls and foundation were structurally sound and only interior walls would have to be removed. New

heating, air-conditioning, plumbing, and electrical systems will be installed, with the expansion of the air-conditioning system to be extended to include Reynolds D and E Pavilions. After renovation is completed in about two years, the Math Department will move into the third floor and half of the second floor. The Development and Business Offices will occupy the remainder of the second floor, and first floor will contain various administrative offices. The ground floor areas (behind the Assembly Hall) will contain classrooms and offices for the Humanities Department. Though the student laundry will be removed, the lobby will be meticulously restored to its former splendor. The former Surgery, located across the Breezeway from Reynolds Pavilion, will become the new Art Department. After this complex is renovated and occupied, fourth floor Bryan-North will become a Physics facility, completing the school's science wing.

The only other project scheduled for next fall is the conversion of the Durham County Hospital laundry after it is vacated in September or October. No major changes will be made in creating areas for athletic facilities and the Maintenance Department.

Though these are the only projects for which money is now actually on hand, Taylor expects the General Assembly to appropriate money this summer for two other projects: construction of a new male dormitory and a maintenance building. At the regular session of the General Assembly in 1985, funds for the fourth floor Physics facility and a new gymnasium will be requested.

Barring unexpected barriers, the sights and sounds of construction will return to campus next fall as N.C.S.S.M. enters a period of exciting expansion and change.

## Changes Planned for Residential Life

By Kristen Milligan

Internal restructuring and long-range planning have been occupying Dean Kathleen Benzaquin and Residential Life Manager Warren Basket's itinerary as of late, and major changes include redesigning the residential life program for the 1984-85 academic year. These changes, although being instituted immediately, are designed to expand with the school during the future years of student population growth. The new structure will include different Resident Advisor positions: 5 Head Residents (one per dorm), 5 full-time Residents/Coordinators, 5 part-time Residents, and one intern resident.

Head Residents' duties will be of a supervisory nature in each respective dorm, and they will perform administrative duties associated with the residence hall. Next year's Head Residents have been chosen from applications from this year's residence staff. The full time resident advisors, as well as head residents, will also accept responsibilities as program coordinators, such as Parent Contact Coordinator, Staff Development Coordinator, Internship Program Coordinator, Programming Coordinator, Intramurals Coordinator, Academic Liaison, Publications Coordinator, Student Activities Coordinators (one for on-campus events and one for off-campus), and Work/Community Service Coordinator.

A special program being initiated next year is the resident advisor intern program. Under this program, one graduate student, studying gifted education, guidance and counseling, or recreation will serve as a Resident Advisor for one year, providing adult supervision in one of the dorms, while gaining valuable hands-on experience working with high school students. Future plans include the accommodation of 16 interns to supplement the residential life full-time employees.

