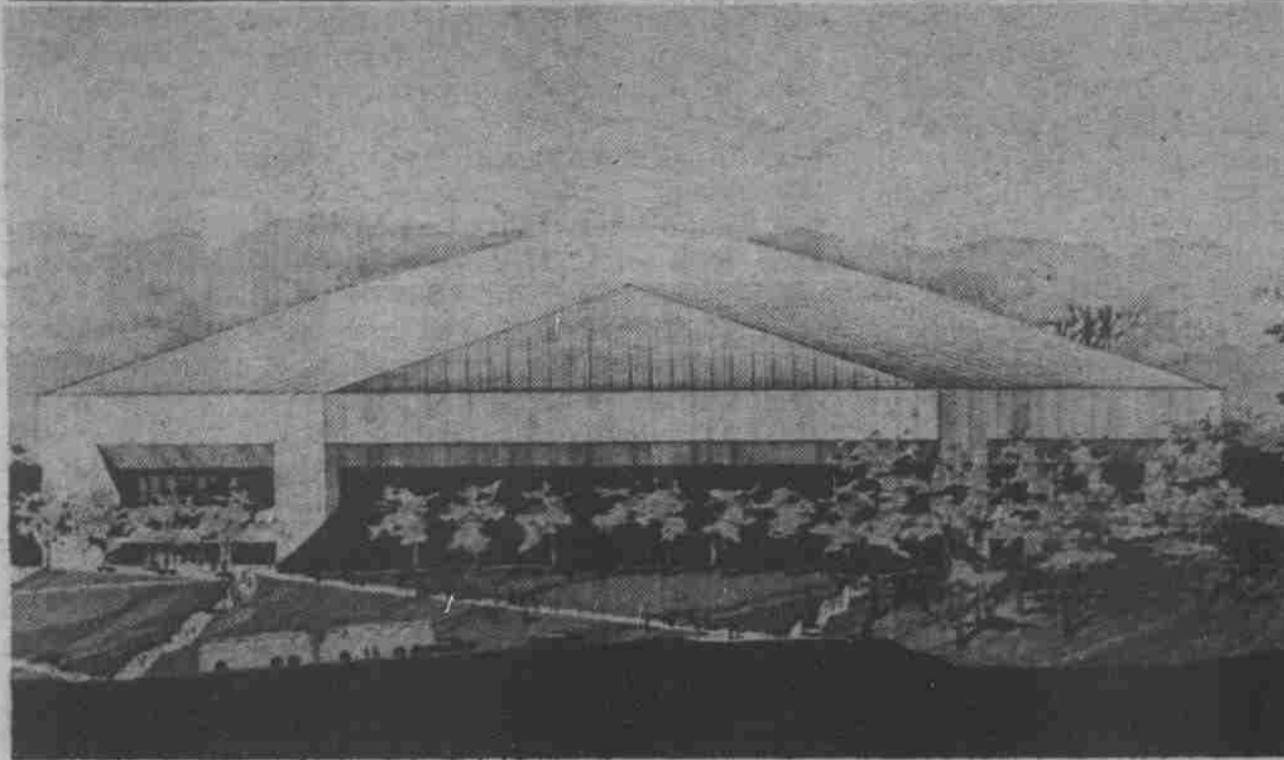


The Tar Heel

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Sketch of proposed athletic center

Photo by Jack Mohr

Town approves permit for new athletic center

By David Thompson

The Chapel Hill Town Council approved plans for a student athletic center Monday night by granting the University the special use permit it needs before construction can begin.

Approval for the permit was recommended earlier by the town Appearance Commission and the Planning Board.

Council member Joe Herzenberg cast the dissenting vote in the 8-1 decision.

The coliseum, to be located between Manning Drive and Mason Farm Road, will be the new site for men's basketball games, concerts and other University-related activities. It will seat approximately 22,000 people.

The council amended the permit to limit the sound level coming from the center. The noise amendment states that the sound level at any position on Mason Farm Road closest to the area must not exceed 50 decibels without a permit, or 70 decibels with a permit. Council member Jonathan Howes said, "There's nothing to prevent a rock concert every night there is no basketball game." He said he thought there should be a stipulation on the number of concerts permitted each year.

Student Body President Bob Saunders said he was dissatisfied with the noise requirements. "I would have preferred that Student Government discuss the matter with the Town Council. This problem needs to be addressed," Saunders said.

"In the past the student body president has set up a committee of students and town members to discuss the issue. I think this approach needs to be done with this issue," Saunders said.

Saunders added that he would prefer a conventional roof on the coliseum instead of the proposed fabric roof if the noise problem could not be worked out. Discussions on the issue will begin soon with John Temple, UNC vice chancellor of business and finance, he said.

The Planning Board previously had requested the Town Council to examine the amount of protection given under the present town ordinance. Obtaining permits to exceed the legal noise level requires only asking for a permit whenever

desired.

To help the noise problem, a fence will be built around the coliseum. A noise control consultant has said that the building would cause no threat to residents.

Another problem addressed was parking. Council member Bev Kawalec said, "The situation at Carmichael and Kenan has been truly intolerable for the town. Sometimes we have gotten the answer, 'There's nothing we can do about it.' I wonder if we're getting in the same situation."

A 900-plus parking facility will be built near Hinton James dormitory as part of the project. In addition, Gordon Rutherford, University director of planning, said that original designs were made using other facilities as much as possible. The Bell Tower parking lot, and other areas, were not included in original studies, he said.

Council member R.D. Smith raised the question of using the additional parking during working hours. Rutherford said no events would be planned during regular working hours, although the possibility would always exist.

Residents also feared devaluation of adjoining property with the new coliseum. However, a study has shown that the nearby land would not decrease in value with the addition of the coliseum, say two realtors.

Part of the proposal by the Transportation Board calls for improvements in neighboring roads. Included in this plan are widening Manning Drive to four lanes from Ridge Road to the 15-501 Bypass, widening parts of South Columbia Street and removing parking on Manning Drive.

Curbing and gutters will also be installed on the part of Manning Drive to be widened.

Another stipulation was that a sidewalk plan be designed to connect the coliseum to South Campus and to parking facilities associated with the coliseum.

Regulations require that trees and vegetation too close to the coliseum will be replaced in a nearby area, in hopes of achieving a dense screening area. Planting

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Stone gets tenure; vote may be illegal

By Jac Versteeg

Sonja H. Stone, former director of the African and Afro-American Studies curriculum, won at least a partial victory in her battle with UNC-CH Friday when the Board of Governors of the UNC system voted to grant her permanent tenure.

The board's action is not a total victory for Stone because she had sought promotion from assistant to associate professor as well as tenure.

Raymond H. Dawson, UNC vice president for academic affairs, said the board acted on a report from the UNC-CH board of trustees recommending tenure for Stone. He said the vote, which was taken in closed session, was unanimous.

Stone, who has gone to Ohio State on a nine-month research fellowship, could not be reached for comment Wednesday morning.

Stone's father, Wendell Hanes, said that he did not know whether Stone would press for promotion to associate professor. "She is very happy to have been granted tenure," he said.

Stone was first denied tenure in February 1979 when UNC-CH claimed she did not have the proper research credentials. Stone charged the University with racism and sexism, and appealed to the Faculty

Hearings Committee. That appeal failed, as did another in the summer of 1979.

After a three-member committee of the UNC-CH board of trustees reported last December that there was "reasonable doubt as to the objectivity of the tenure review committee" in Stone's case, a special faculty committee was appointed to review the case.

That committee, headed by history Professor George V. Taylor, presented a report to the UNC-CH trustees in June recommending tenure for Stone. That report has not been made public, but Stone said in June that the report denied the original decision not to grant tenure was based on racism or sexism.

She said the Taylor committee report's favorable tenure recommendation was based on a reassessment of the old evidence as well as an examination of her activities since the appeal began.

The board of trustees apparently voted by mail some time last week to approve the report and recommended that the Board of Governors grant Stone tenure. Trustee chairman Ralph N. Strayhorn said Tuesday that he did not know whether the trustee vote was unanimous. Trustee secretary Virginia Dunlap refused to allow a *Tar Heel*

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Stone



Staff photo by Sharon Clarke

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