

Abel Hall to offer coed living floors

By Charles Johnson

An open living environment for both sexes will be offered on at least two floors of Abel Hall next year, according to Elizabeth Griego, complex program director at Abel-Sandoz Residence Halls.

The second, third and possibly eighth floors of Abel Hall will be converted to house both men and women. The opportunity for coeducational living units arose from the differentiated housing proposal passed by the regents last month.

Griego emphasized that it will not be "a big sex orgy thing. I feel they (floor residents) have the right attitude. The floors chosen demonstrated that they wanted increased opportunities of friendship with people of the opposite sex, and a different type of environment."

Representatives from second and third floors and, alternately, eighth floor will be meeting in women's residence halls this weekend to explain the proposal and recruit women residents, Griego said.

She said she was not certain enough women could be found to fill the 40 spots on each floor. Each floor in Abel Hall accommodates 80 people—40 men and 40 women on the coed floors. If enough residents apply, eighth floor will also be coed.

"I think there will be more men that want to live on the floors than there is room," she said. "I think we'll have enough women for two floors, but probably not enough for three."

"But the response has been pretty good so far," she added. "I think the chance for involvement is great."

Rick Johnson, second floor student assistant (SA) said, "We're hopeful—the housing office thinks we'll have trouble—but we're hopeful we won't have any trouble at all getting enough women."

Johnson, one of four SA's for the coeducational floors, said Abel Hall was chosen for the experiment in coeducational living because it has two wings with separate bathrooms and lounges.

The wings are separated by fire doors, which will be open except between 1 a.m. and 11 a.m., when there will be no visitation. The proposal, approved this month by the regents, allows for only 14 hours of coed visitation.

Griego said not having 24-hour visitation would present "a hassle to work around." Some floors would not be able to live with the hassles, she said.

"Each floor interested presented arguments to their RD (Residence Director) and myself," she said. "Second and third floors indicated they would be willing to work around the hassles."

Johnson said students wanting to apply should indicate it on the sheet that comes with the housing contracts, which should be available this week. Students will be able to list the priorities they want considered for their residence assignment for next year, such as choice of hall and certain visitation policies.

Students wanting to live on a coed floor should list second or third floor Abel Hall as their first priority. They also should list the associated living priority and if they have a preference, they may list a specific room number.

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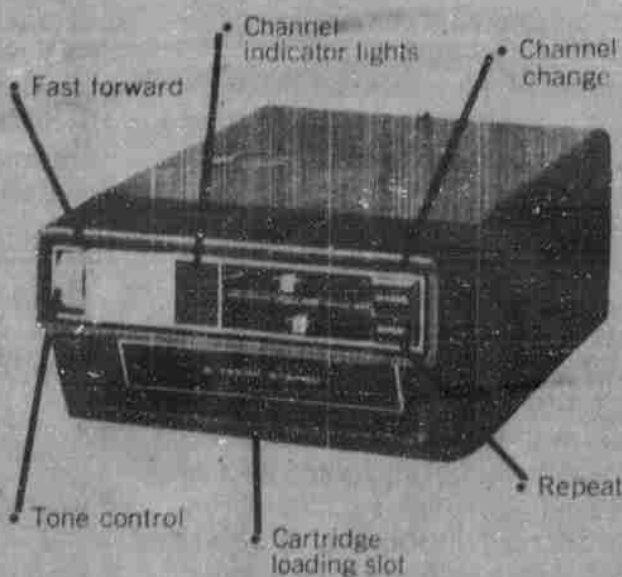
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