

270 New Students At WPCC

Western Piedmont Community College was as busy as the proverbial ant hill this morning as the school welcomed some 270 new occupational students. New college transfer students were invited for 1 p.m.

Following general session meetings, the students got together with faculty advisors for some pre-registration. Many old students have already pre-registered. Generally, registration will be Sept. 9-11 with regular classes beginning Sept. 14.

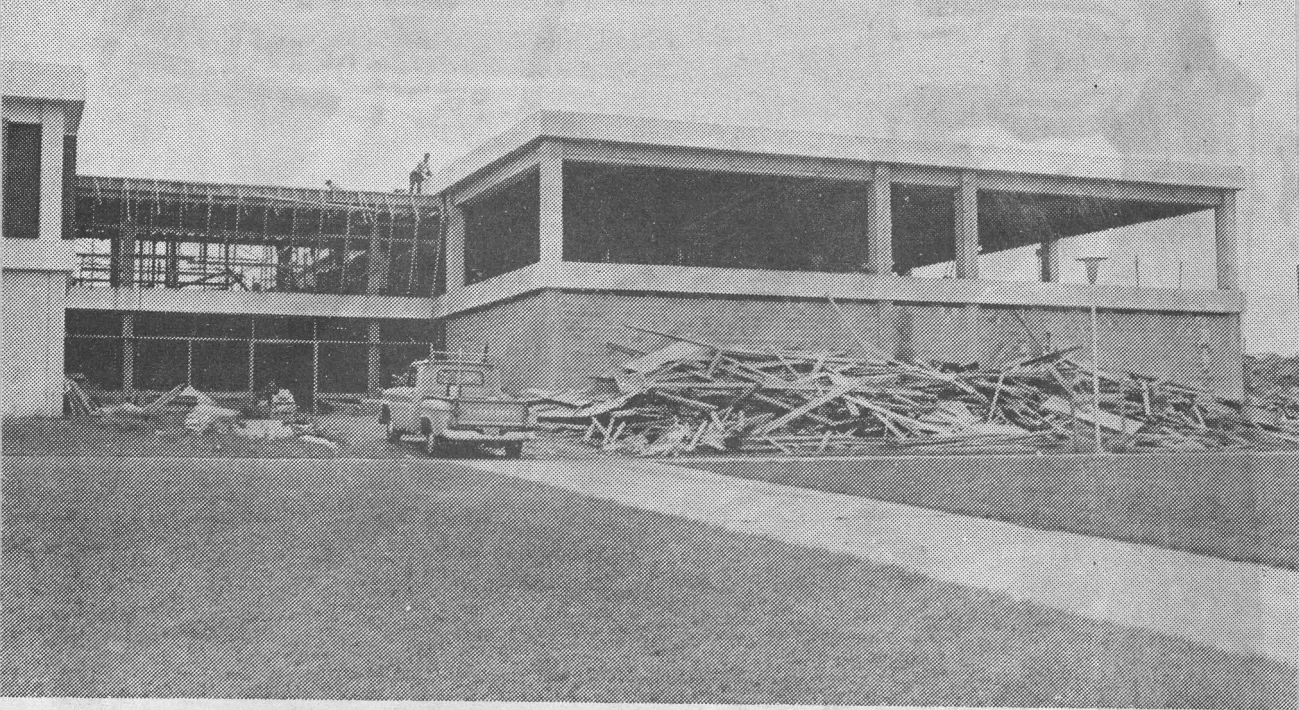
Dr. Gordon Blank, president, said that students no longer are limited to Burke and surrounding counties. Some are coming from out of state and a few foreign students, mostly from India.

"We're beginning to see an increasing number of veterans — some of them coming to us right out of Vietnam," he said. Of these a number are college transfer students. Others want industrial engineering, police science, or work in medical and health related fields.

The police science course started last September, a two-year program leading to an Associate in Applied Science degree. The first class which will graduate next spring proved attractive to a number of officers in this area.

Among students is Morganton's new community relations expert, Bob Benfield.

The Mental Health Associates program will graduate its first students this spring. This also is a two year course that originated in September a year ago.



New Look At Western Piedmont

Students on campus for orientation today are finding opportunity to see the two new buildings under construction at Western Piedmont Community College. This is the new Building E and its two-story corridor connecting it to the existing Science-Technology Building. The new structure will house additional classrooms, laboratories, offices, and the Student Services

Center. Right now the center is housed in the lower level of the Science-Technology Building. The college expects to occupy this new building about January. This view is the east side and off behind is Highway 64 which is soon to be widened. (Staff photo by Benny Orders)



A Changing Scene

At Western Piedmont Community College the whine of saws, the pounding of hammers, cement mixers turning slowly, and the trucks coming and going as work progresses on two new buildings and a parking lot. Altogether it's the hurley burley of any large construction scene, fascinating to the onlooker, frustrating sometimes to the workmen, and a matter of impatience to college officials who wish the facilities could be finished overnight. Above — Here's Building E as seen from a point near the main building. This office and classroom building is scheduled for January completion. It is built on two levels and will contain some 16,000 square feet of floor space. Center —

Work continues on the new 244 space parking field which will serve both new buildings. Steps at right lead up to the new vocational shop building. Below — The new vocational shop building, a single level structure with 9,000 square feet of floor space, will be ready for use sometime in October — as far as contractors can tell now. This is connected to the existing automotive shop building (right). The new building will house a basic machine shop, materials testing lab, welding shop, classrooms, offices, and showers. These last are available for students both in vocational programs and in physical education. (Staff photos by Benny Orders)

