

The Signal

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Construction Zone

Evans Student Center: New restaurant, expanded seating area

By **TANNER WARD**
News/Features Editor

Evans Student Center will look very different in the fall, thanks to extensive renovations planned for this summer. The upgrade — which is paid for through gifts to the university — includes a new restaurant, a relocated Starbucks, expanded seating areas, a concert stage and movie screen. And the demolition of walls will provide a more open floor plan.

"We have two primary goals —

to create a better space and to add to and improve dining options for students," said Dr. Brett Powell, vice president for administrative services. "We're really opening up the second floor more ... and renovating the whole area."

Perhaps the most anticipated change is the addition of a new restaurant. The restaurant is not a national chain like Chick-fil-A, but is instead a concept designed by Sodexo. Powell said the decision on what the new restaurant will be a s

not been completely finalized, but it will most likely be a flatbread venue that will offer many options.

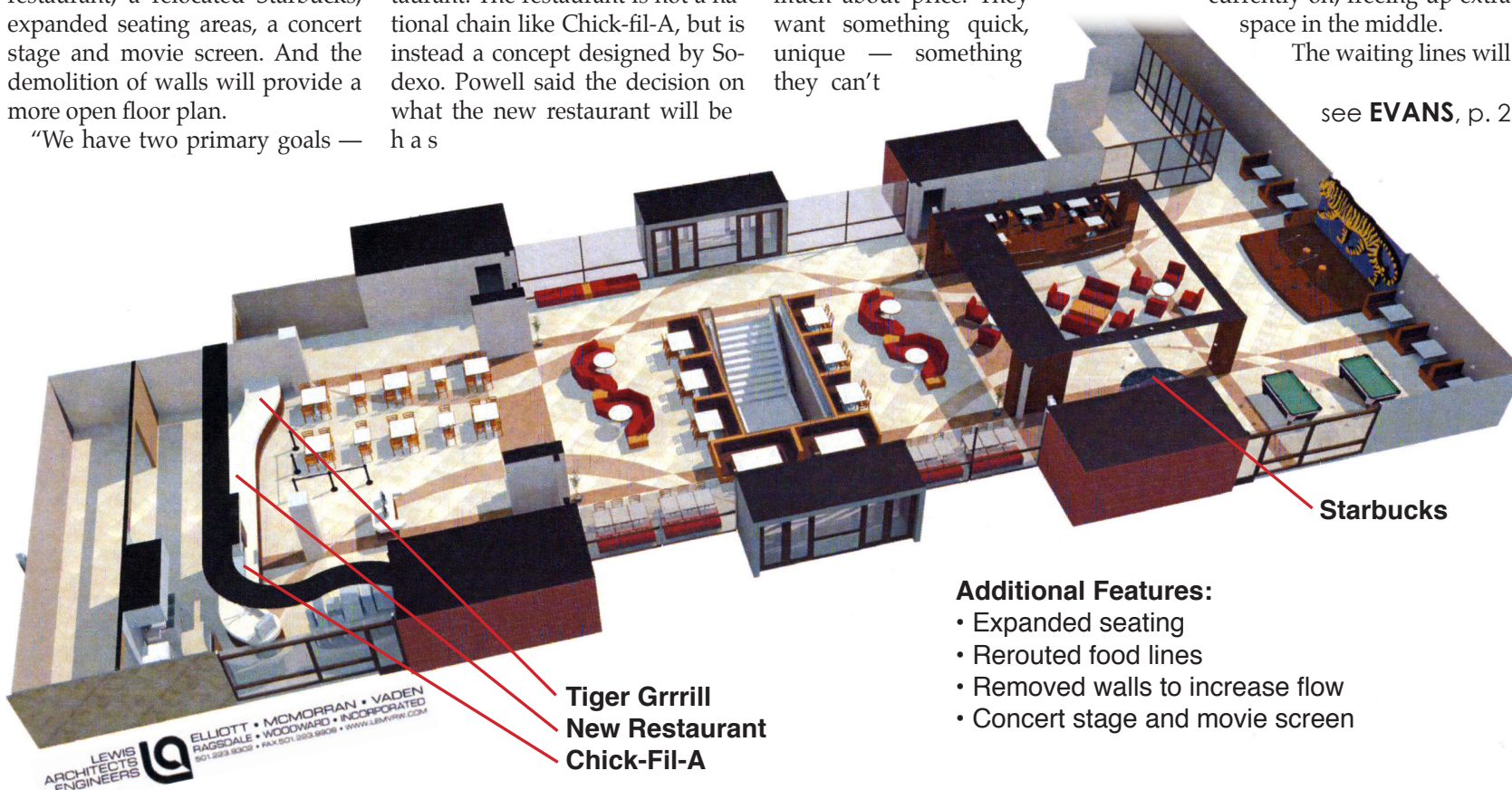
"We got a lot of good information from the focus group and the surveys in the Caf about what students want as far as dining goes," Powell said. "Overall, we think they care most about quality, not so much about price. They want something quick, unique — something they can't

just go somewhere else in town for — and they want healthy options."

The new restaurant will be located between Chick-fil-A and Tiger Grrrill. The counter will be enlarged and Chick-fil-A will move further towards the end it is currently on. Tiger Grrrill will move further towards the end it is currently on, freeing up extra space in the middle.

The waiting lines will

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Additional Features:

- Expanded seating
- Rerouted food lines
- Removed walls to increase flow
- Concert stage and movie screen

Blueprint courtesy of Lewis Architects & Engineers

Lile Hall: TV studio, newsroom, communication office, classrooms

By **LEAH GARAVELLI**
Editor-in-Chief

After 22 years of calling the dungeon-like basement of Mabee Fine Arts Center home, the mass communications department is moving to Lile Hall.

"We have over 100 mass communications majors, and a number of speech majors as well. We just need more space," said Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the School of Humanities. "It also would provide for a way to enhance our TV studio and the newsroom for our publications, and we will have new and better classrooms."

The Lile Hall move has been planned for six years, but a number of factors worked together to make this semester the one to renovate the area.

"We had been raising money for a period of

time, and we got to a place where we felt like we had enough money to make a real difference — build a new TV studio and newsroom for our publications," Root said. "Those areas will be larger than we've had in the past."

Currently, the communications department's publications (yearbook, newspaper, photo lab and video) all have different offices in Mabee Fine Arts Center. In their new setup, all but video will share a large newsroom in the current location of Evans Banquet Room B, while Banquet Room A will become the new TV studio. A hallway between the two will connect Lile Hall with the student center.

The TV studio will be much bigger, have a higher ceiling and be away from the spontaneous music that can often be heard in their current location because of the music department upstairs. And, they finally have the opportunity

to switch their cameras to a format they have been trying to switch to for a number of years.

"Everything will be High Definition now; everything will be digital," said Dr. Dave Ozmun, professor of communications and video adviser. "We've been kind of hybrid over the last couple of years. It's expensive to completely change everything, but this gives us the chance to do that."

The first wave of construction is planned for next week, when they will mainly be working on the TV studio. The renovations will continue through this semester and during the summer.

"The spring semester is a better time to try to do the work," said Dr. Brett Powell, vice president for administrative services. "There's a little bit less activity, and we have the summer where

see **LILE**, p. 3

'Backwards Now' album release EP is alumna Cornell's second record

By **SAM CUSHMAN**
Signal Writer

Alumna Allison Cornell released her second Christian album Feb. 28 on iTunes. The five track extended play album, "Backwards Now — EP," includes two songs written during her time at Ouachita.

"[The song] 'Family' was birthed out of my experience of community at Ouachita," she said. "'Our Blessed Hope' is based on Titus 2-3. ...I wrote it after leaving my Women in Ministry class where we had meditated on that passage together. So much of my music is tied to my Ouachita experience, so I was definitely a little homesick the week the EP released."

Cornell said the theme that runs deepest on the album is that of hope, especially for those in difficult and trying circumstances and that there is an assured and "blessed" hope that all of us can wait for: Christ's return.

"I want my music to be a vessel for truth," she said. "All of my songs — the good, bad and the ugly — come from my personal ex-



ALLISON CORNELL/Courtesy
BACKWARDS NOW EP, available on iTunes.

perience of walking with God. My heart's desire is that people would find comfort as they listen, that they would be reminded that they aren't alone and, most importantly, that it would draw them closer to God's heart."

see **CORNELL**, p. 2

Scope magazine accepting literary, art submissions for annual issue

By **NOAH HUTCHINSON**
Signal Writer

Scope literary magazine is giving poets, artists and writers of all kinds the opportunity to submit their ideas to the fourth annual issue to be released on Monday, April 16.

Writers or artists looking to have their work published can send it as an attachment to scopesubmissions@gmail.com by Wednesday, March 21 for consideration. Scope has had issues getting the desired amount of usable submissions in the past, and as of right now, still has room for more before the judging begins.

"We will be taking as many submissions as possible," said Emily Davis, a senior English major and co-editor of Scope. "We still have quite a few open spots for every kind of writing."

In addition to written submissions, Scope welcomes art and photography entries. Artists who work with a three di-

see **SCOPE MAGAZINE**, p. 3