

EMU: New path is traffic efficient

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Wildish offered a bid at \$330,000 for construction costs, ASUO Vice President Ben Unger said. This did not include other costs such as permits, which raised the total need to \$415,000.

The amphitheater blueprints underwent minor changes to reduce costs over the summer. As a result of the changes, the stairs from the amphitheater floor to University Avenue will be modified, and a less expensive type of cement will be used.

The EMU Breezeway, an area of heavy traffic in years past, will probably not be open before the

deadline. The ASUO considered taking steps to open it earlier, but that would have delayed the deadline for the project, Unger said.

The ASUO has organized a group to recruit political speakers and student groups for a celebration at the opening of the amphitheater. Speakers, bands and student groups will all be invited for a weekend celebration, according to ASUO President Bill Miner.

"The reason why we have this is that it's [the ASUO's] 100th anniversary and we wanted to celebrate 100 years of student activism," Chen said.

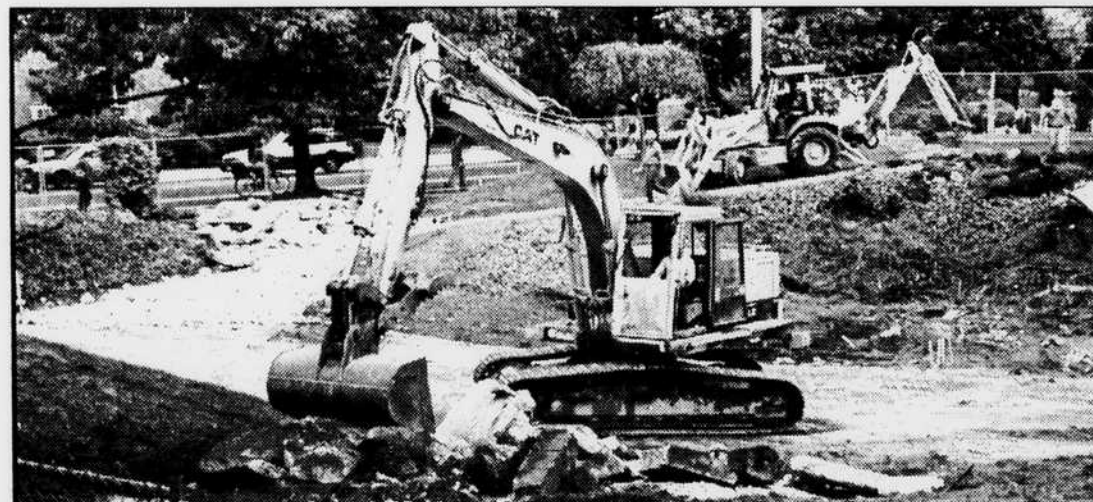
The activism concept was incorporated into the amphitheater

design. The amphitheater will be slightly sunk into the ground, but will include a raised platform and podium.

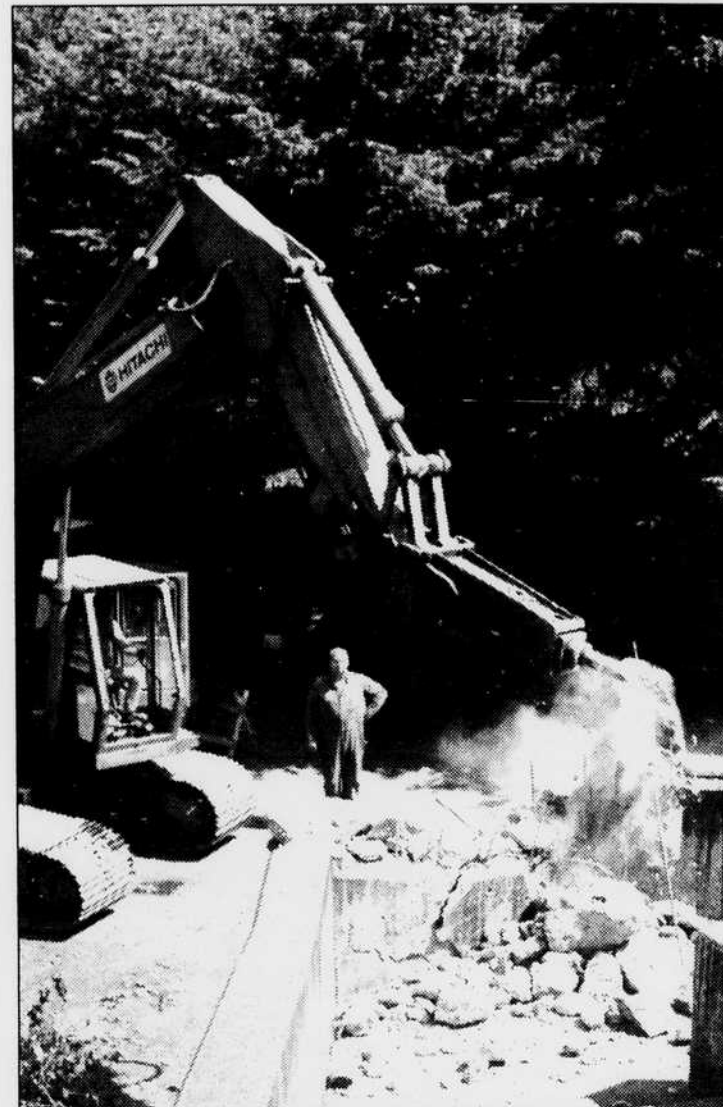
The platform has been placed in the best spot for gatherings and for electronic hook-ups, Chen said. In previous years, the prime pathway for students was to walk through the crowd. The new design directs traffic around the outside edges of the amphitheater.

The space will become more "programmable," Chen said. Student groups will be able to hold gatherings more efficiently.

"It's going to be an avenue for students to exercise their free speech," Miner said.



Construction continues in the EMU Courtyard and may delay the reintroduction of foot-traffic past the proposed March 1 deadline.



Jackhammering of the staircase in May made way for the construction to begin on the amphitheater seating area.

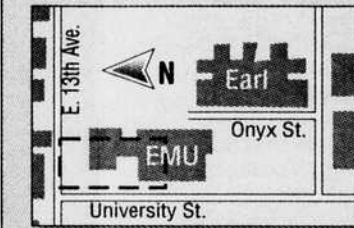
The modified EMU Amphitheater plans

The plans for the new EMU Amphitheater, scheduled for completion in March 1998, have been redesigned.

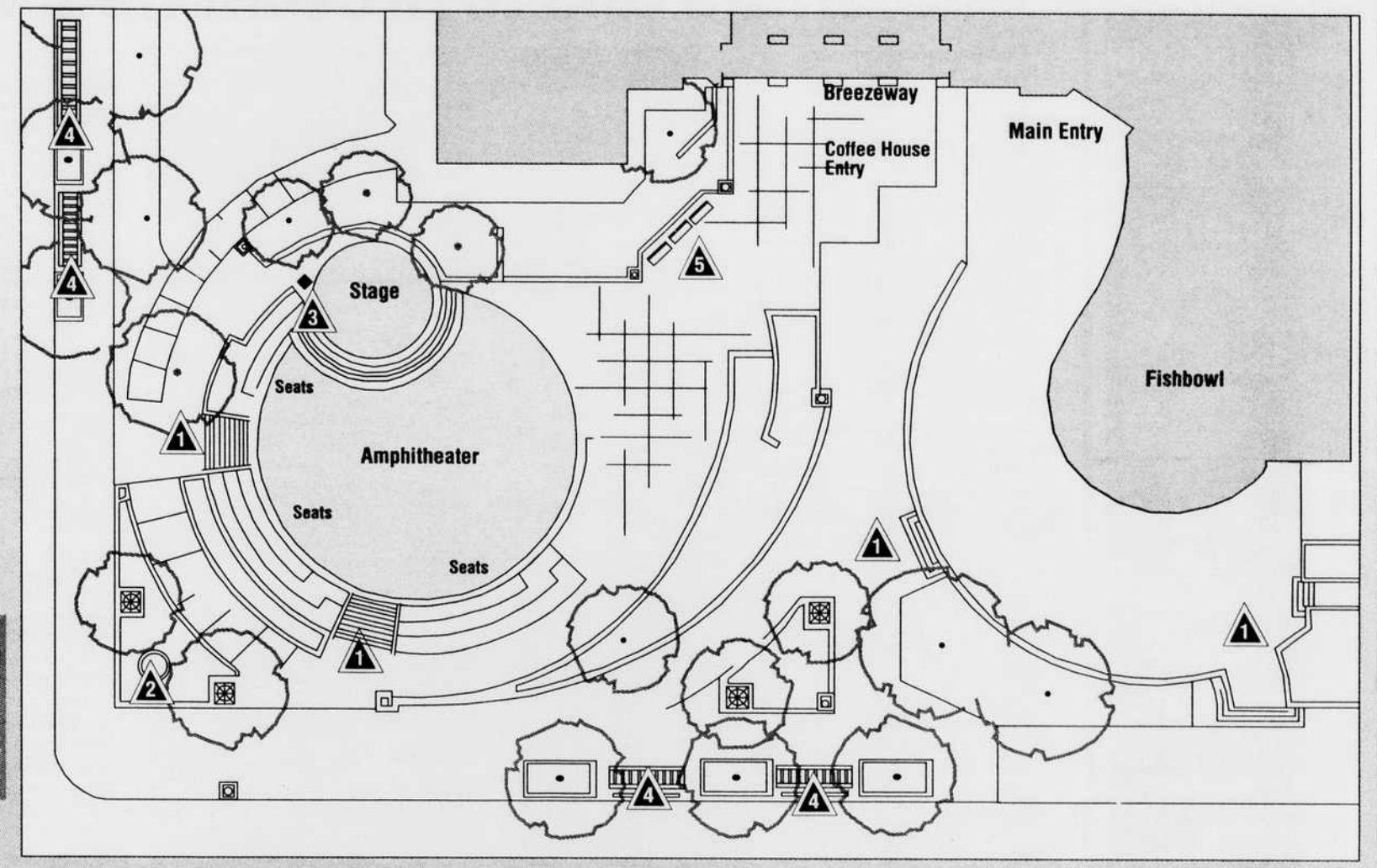
Map key

- ▲ Stairs
- ▲ UO Seal
- ▲ Freedom of Speech Platform
- ▲ Bike Parking
- ▲ Benches
- Trees

Detail Area



Graphic by: Cara Strazzo and Matt Garton



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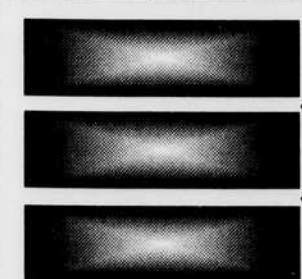
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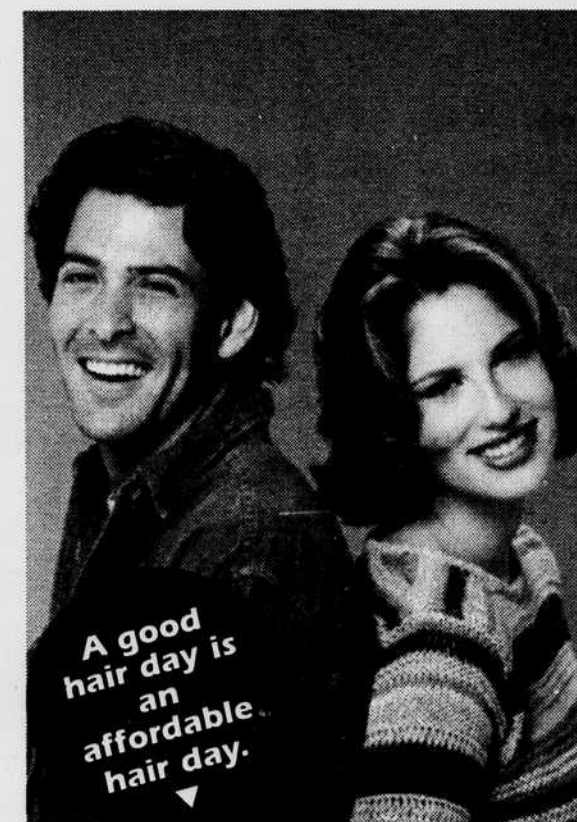
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