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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Three St. Cloud firms were apparent low bidders when bids were opened yesterday for the construction of a 200-bed women's residence hall and commons building at St. Cloud State College.

The firms and their bids were Wahl Construction Company, general construction, \$516,199; Knapp Plumbing and Heating, mechanical installation, \$91,950, and Electric Motor Service, electrical work, \$55,983.

Contracts probably will be awarded later this week and construction will begin early in October, according to Howard Walton, director of physical resources. The building will be completed by next September.

The four-story fireproof brick and reinforced concrete structure will be erected on the south portion of the block bordered by Fifth and Sixth streets and Second and Third avenues. The residence hall will feature single-loaded corridors similar to those in Shoemaker Hall, men's dormitory.

The building project will include a commons to serve both the new dormitory and another 200-bed section to be added later. The commons will house a general office, lounge and utilities. The residence hall will face Sixth street and the commons will face Third avenue.

No tax money is involved in the project, Walton pointed out. The building is being financed by State College Board bonds which will be repaid from revenue received from room rentals.

Building architect is Frank Jackson and Associates of St. Cloud and consulting engineer is Orr-Schelen of Minneapolis.

With an enrollment increase of 500 students over last year, the college could have filled the new residence hall this fall, according to Gerald Ferguson, housing director. At the present time, the college can house fewer than one-third of its full-time resident students on the campus.

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