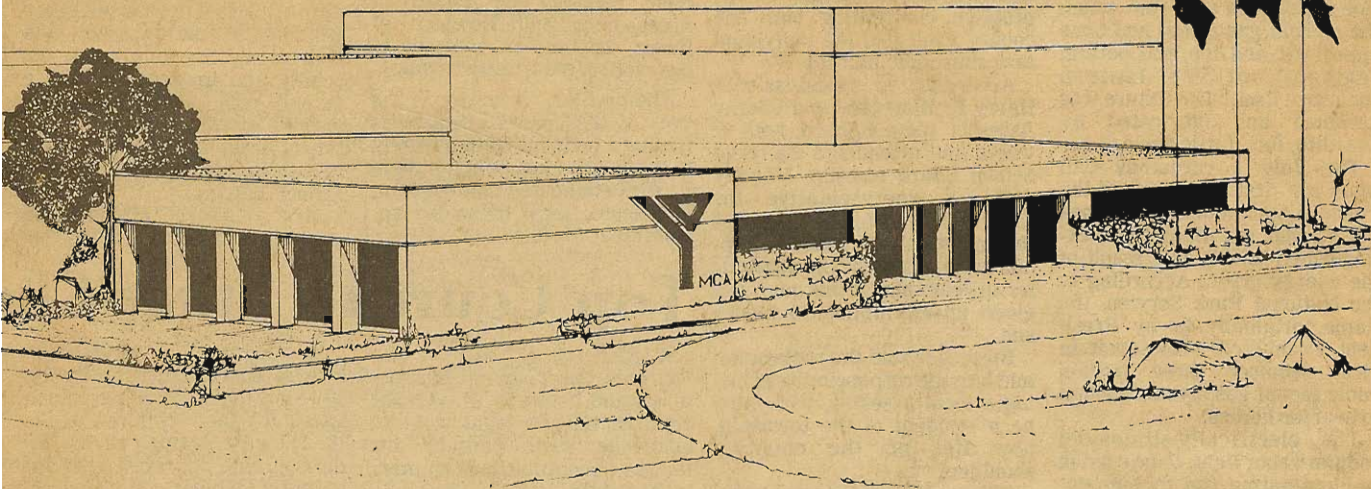


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## Proposed Young Men's Christian Association Building

# YMCA's Biggest Expansion Will Be In Aquatics Program

**CAROL LONG**  
Sun Reporter

Physical fitness seems to be the byword of the Hanover Area YMCA, and it promises to take on new dimensions when that organization finally moves into its new facility.

Currently in the midst of a \$1 million building fund drive, the proceeds of which will be divided equally with the Hanover YWCA, the YMCA is planning the eventual construction of a new facility to be located on a nine-acre plot of land on N. George and Washington Streets.

The YMCA, while presently offering programs ranging from "Kinder Gym" to "Aerobics in

Motion," anticipates some expansion in most areas of programming when it moves into the new facility in 1980, according to Executive Director David Cotten.

Highlighting the new YMCA building, however, and the area envisioned by Cotten as holding the most potential for expansion, will be its swimming pool and aquatics program.

"The aquatics program will certainly be our biggest expansion area," noted Cotten, explaining that the organization hopes to begin swimming programs specifically designed for such groups as senior citizens and the handicapped, as well as expand the present children,

teen and adult instructional swimming classes.

Presently utilizing South Western Intermediate School's swimming pool facilities two nights a week, Cotten explained that such limited availability of pool time "just doesn't provide enough time for a good aquatic program, for a consistent aquatic program."

With its own pool, he said, he also hopes to begin a competitive swimming team, an aquatics ballet program and a lifeguard training class. He also anticipates the use of the pool by various community, school and church organizations.

Another area of growth to be enjoyed by the YMCA in its new

building will be its racquetball and handball programs. Currently housing in its Carlisle Street building two smaller-than-regulation-size, two-wall courts, the YMCA will provide in the new facility two regulation-size, four-wall courts, with capacity for the future addition of two more four-wall courts.

"We see a tremendous amount of expansion in racquetball," Cotten noted, "because it's a growing sport nationwide. We see a great deal of participation in those courts."

Also to be made available in the new facility will be a "mini-fitness" type area, including steam rooms and sauna rooms, a general exercise area, weight-lifting room and a Universal Gym, similar to that presently offered in the Carlisle Street building, which will include a jogging machine, exercise bikes and general exercise equipment.

Shower rooms will be constructed for both men and women, and male-female locker rooms with a 200-locker capacity.

Beyond the \$900,000 facility to be completed with the proceeds from the current fund drive, is the planned future completion of a high school regulation-size gymnasium, the two additional racquetball courts and another locker room area to serve the "mini-fitness" center.