NEWS

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Release: Immediately

December 3, 1974

Ten Southwestern At Memphis freshmen will go to work on Saturday to create an unusual piece of sculpture for the college campus while demonstrating their knowledge of applied mathematics.

As part of a course taught by Jack U. Russell, Professor of Mathematics, the students will construct a geodesic dome using materials and formulas they have been preparing during the term.

The completed dome will be 16 feet in diameter and 12 to 14 feet high, Dr. Russell said. It will stand adjacent to the Chemistry and Mathematics Buildings. The students will begin building the structure at 8 a.m. and are expected to finish about 11 a.m.

The 10 students are members of Dr. Russell's freshman colloquium, which during the term studied domes from mathematical, architectural and practical standpoints. The colloquium program at Southwestern is designed to allow concentrated study of a specific topic by a small group of students who have expressed interest in the topic.

As part of Dr. Russell's course, the students spent about five weeks developing the mathematical basis for domes, working out formulas, studying various design concepts and building models of different types of domes.

Next the class members decided what kind of dome they would build full-scale on campus and began fabrication of the needed parts. Using shop facilities of the Physics Department, the students spent about five weeks manufacturing 270 struts from three-eighths-inch thin-wall galvanized tubing.